



30 years ago . . .

Saturday 2nd March 1974 witnessed a Wolves team comprising Gary Pierce, Geoff Palmer, Derek Parkin, John McAlle, Frank Munro, Kenny Hibbitt, Alan Sunderland, John Richards, Derek Dougan, Dave Wagstaffe and led by Captain Mike Bailey take to the pitch at Wembley Stadium in the Football League Cup Final. They were pitched against a very strong Man City team including Law, Bell, Lee, Marsh and Summerbee. Wolves were the slight underdogs but triumphed on the day by 2 goals to 1 and on Thursday 11th March 2004 a 30th anniversary dinner was held in Wolverhampton to remember and celebrate the achievement.



Stefan Leonard was personally invited to host a table at the dinner and he gathered a motley crew (thanks for the invite Stef) together to spend an evening reliving a Golden day in the lives of all Wolves supporters. Some 300 Wolves fans attended the dinner despite the terrible weather, it snowed, and the vast majority claimed to have been at Wembley on the day.

Nearly all of the team were assembled for the dinner – the only exceptions being Derek Dougan, Derek Parkin and John McAlle – and they were joined by the substitute, Barry Powell, Willie Carr – who had yet to sign for Wolves in 1974, and Phil Parkes - who kept goal for all the cup matches but was injured for the final.

Mike Bailey opened the evening with a cracking speech highlighting the

lengths the Wolves management, Bill McGarry and Sammy Chung, went to to help the team relax for the day including, surprisingly, a glass of champagne each in the dressing room prior to kick-off.

Highlights of the game were shown between courses and the goal scorers, Kenny Hibbitt and John Richards were interviewed about their memories of the day. Gary Pierce (who was celebrating his 23rd birthday on Final day) gave a moving tribute to Phil Parkes and the evening concluded with Mike Bailey parading the League (now Carling) Cup around the room.

I managed to have a few minutes conversation with Mike Bailey and he explained how big a day it was for him and how alive the memory of lifting the cup is still with him. I quizzed him about the track-suits the players wore – for those who can't remember they wore black tops and bright yellow bottoms – and he revealed that they had seriously considered playing the match in a one-off kit of black shirts and gold shorts to unsettle City. They would not have been allowed to do this due to the clash with the referee, in those days the ref always wore black, but it demonstrates the lengths the club were prepared to go to in order to win the match. In the end, all they needed was the belief they could win and the performance to match it.

There was some debate amongst the players and guests as to who was the



“man of the match” on the day. Gary Pierce nominated Frank Munro. Frank Munro nominated John McAlle. Mike Bailey nominated Gary Pierce as did Kenny Hibbitt. To me, having watched the match on video, they were all great and no one player can, or should, be singled out.

As you can see from the photos the former players enjoyed the evening as much as the fans did and I for one, having been only 7 at the time, will hold memories of meeting our heroes of '74 for a very long time.

Hopefully, many of the '74 team will be joining WWLSC members at our end of season party on the evening of the match with Tottenham on the 15th May – look out for more details of this on the website – www.londonwolves.com - invitations will be sent out to all members once the arrangements are confirmed.

Phil O'Connor



Dave Wagstaffe

NEWSLETTER

From the chair



Welcome to the penultimate issue of the season, and one that finds the team in much the same position as before I left for my annual holiday, and having the chance to get away from the relegation zone against Villa on Sunday. A chance we now know which has been blown. What a shambles, but as David Jones is reported as stating is not totally hopeless.

We, (the royal 'we' on t' committee), have a couple of offerings for you in the near future. Firstly, David Jones has kindly agreed to allow London Wolves the opportunity to “Meet The Players” on the eve of the match against Chelsea. This will take place at The Kensington Marriott Hotel on Friday 26th March from 19.00.

Also, we are in the process of organising our “Annual Function,” and following the success of our event with The Wolves Former Players Association, we are having a similar evening after the match against Spurs on 15th May.

We have already received assurances that several former players will be attending, including several from the 1974 League Cup winning side, and also we hope to make our annual Player Of The Year award presentation. In order to make this presentation we will need your votes, so either send it to Dave Slape, or e-mail me at londonwolves.66@btinternet.com .

Let's hope that the evening of the 15th turns out to be one at which we can celebrate another season in The Premiership.

Stuart.

Wolverhampton Wanderers London Supporters Club
“Meet the Players”
Friday 26th March 2004
7pm
at the
Marriott London Kensington Hotel
147 Cromwell Road London UK SW5 0TH
Nearest tube: Earls Court (0.3m) and Kensington Olympia (1.1m)





WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS

LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

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Derek Dougan

Honorary President
John Richards

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My profuse apologies to you all for the delay in getting this issue of the magazine published.

Several times this season I have heard the so-called football experts write Wolves off as "relegation certainties" – a tag which has only spurred the team on to some terrific results and almost out of the relegation zone. As I write we are 3rd from bottom with several teams above us still very much in touch. The only disappointment is that we haven't won an away match yet. That may change before the end of the season but far more importantly, in our bid to retain Premiership status is our incredible home form. Molineux had become a fortress (until the Villa game) since the drubbings by Charlton and Chelsea having lost only once, to Arsenal. It's disappointing to note that when the wheels do fall off at home the team go completely to pieces... 0-4 to Villa, 0-5 to Chelsea, 0-5 to Charlton, 1-3 to West Ham. Let's hope that the Villa match is the last reversal we see there this season.

The highlight of the season thus far was the magnificent victory over Manchester United and it is the collection of 'bonus' points like those that will keep Wolves up come the end of the season. Of the remaining games this season I anticipate wins against Man City, Bolton, Birmingham, Everton and Spurs to give us 38 points and safety. If the team can pick up anything from the trips to Anfield, Stamford Bridge and St James Park then they will be well-earned 'bonus' points and guarantee safety.

Your committee have been busy organising a "meet the players" do for the evening before the match with Chelsea. Dave Jones has agreed to give us an hour after dinner to meet and chat with the players. Please see advert inside this issue for details.

The end of season party has been arranged for the evening of the home match with Spurs match on 15th May. The committee have approached the Former

Players Association to gain their support and have been assured of several appearances. It is also anticipated that a few of the current players and officials will make appearances during the evening. Again, details are available on the website www.londonwolves.com and a separate mailing will go out advising ticket and venue details.

The next issue will be out in early June and will contain the match reports of the Premiership run-in as well as write-ups from the social events. I've put advanced notice of the Annual General Meeting in this issue just in case there are any delays in getting the next magazine out and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at that event.

If anyone would like to contribute an article to the next issue of the magazine please get in touch with any of the committee and I will do my best to find space for it.



Mike Bailey and The Ed



Wolves Player Statistics Premiership Season 2003-2004

No.	Player name	Signed From	Date of Birth	League Apps	League Goals	Cup Apps	Cup Goals	% Goals per Apps	Yellow Cards	Red Cards	% Cautions per Apps
1	Michael Oakes	Aston Villa	30 Oct 1973	21 (0)	-	4 (1)	-	-	-	-	-
2	Denis Irwin	Man United	31 Oct 1965	24 (0)	-	1 (0)	-	-	3	-	12.0
3	Lee Naylor	Youth	19 Mar 1980	26 (1)	-	2 (2)	-	-	6	-	19.35
4	Alex Rae	Sunderland	30 Jun 1969	23 (1)	5	3 (1)	3	28.57	9	-	32.14
5	Joleon Lescott	Youth	16 Aug 1982	0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Paul Butler	Sunderland	2 Nov 1972	26 (0)	1	4 (0)	-	3.33	6	-	20.0
7	Shaun Newton	Charlton	20 Aug 1975	13 (5)	-	2 (2)	-	-	-	-	-
8	Paul Ince	Middlesboro	21 Oct 1967	21 (0)	2	3 (0)	8.33	-	11	-	45.83
9	Nathan Blake	Blackburn	27 Jan 1972	10 (3)	1	1 (0)	7.14	-	3	-	21.42
10	Colin Cameron	Hearts	23 Oct 1972	18 (3)	3	3 (0)	-	12.5	4	-	16.67
11	Mark Kennedy	Man City	15 May 1976	17 (3)	1	4 (1)	-	4.0	-	-	-
12	Jody Craddock	Sunderland	25 Jul 1975	27 (0)	-	5 (1)	1	3.03	2	-	6.06
13	Matthew Murray	Youth	2 May 1981	1 (0)	-	1 (0)	-	-	-	-	-
14	Jorge Silas	Uniao Leiria	1 Sep 1976	2 (7)	-	3 (2)	-	-	-	-	-
15	Kevin Cooper	Wimbledon	8 Feb 1975	0 (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Kenny Miller	Rangers	23 Dec 1979	14 (5)	2	5 (0)	3	20.83	3	-	20.83
17	Henri Camara	Sedan	10 May 1977	18 (1)	1	2 (0)	-	4.76	1	-	4.76
18	George Ndah	Swindon	23 Dec 1974	0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Steffen Iversen	Tottenham	10 Nov 1976	11 (4)	4	3 (1)	-	21.05	1	-	5.26
20	Ioan V Ganea	VfB Stuttgart	10 Aug 1973	2 (6)	2	2 (1)	1	27.27	1	-	9.09
21	Paul Jones	Southampton	18 April 1967	5 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22	Oleg Luzhny	Arsenal	5 Aug 1968	3 (2)	-	4 (0)	-	-	2	-	22.22
23	Mark Clyde	Youth	27 Dec 1982	2 (2)	-	3 (0)	-	-	-	-	-
24	Keith Andrews	Youth	13 Sept 1980	1 (0)	-	2 (0)	-	-	-	-	-
25	Isaac Okoronkwo	Shaktar	1 May 1978	0 (0)	-	1 (0)	-	-	-	-	-
26	Joey Gudjonsson	Real Betis (L)	20 May 1980	5 (4)	-	4 (1)	1	7.14	1	-	7.14
27	Carl Cort	Newcastle	1 Nov 1977	5 (0)	1	-	-	20.0	-	-	-
29	Dean Sturridge	Leicester	27 Jul 1973	2 (3)	-	0 (1)	-	-	-	-	-
31	John Melligan	Youth	11 Feb 1982	0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Sammy Clingan	Youth	13 Jan 1984	0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Jimmi Lee Jones	Youth		0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Ian McGrane	Youth		0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Marlon Walters	Youth	24 Dec 1983	0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Carl Ikeme	Youth	8 June 1986	0 (0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	Leon Clarke	Youth	10 Feb 1985	0 (0)	-	0 (3)	-	-	-	-	-

Players on Loan

15	Kevin Cooper	Sunderland	Current	0 (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Keith Andrews	Stoke City	13 Nov 2003	16 (0)	-	-	-	-	5	-	31.25
29	Dean Sturridge	Sheffield Utd	Current	3 (2)	-	-	-	-	1	-	20.0
31	John Melligan	Kidderminster	7 Nov 2003	5 (0)	1	-	-	20.0	1	-	20.0
31	John Melligan	Doncaster	Current	12 (0)	2	-	-	16.67	1	-	8.33
33	Jimmi Lee Jones	Forest Green	19 Sept 2003	3 (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Players Loaned in

24	Andy Marshall	Ipswich Town	Jan 2004	0 (0)	-	1 (0)	-	-	-	-	-
31	Hassan Kachloul	Aston Villa	Jan 2004	0 (4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



London Wolves Sales

WWLSC enamelled badges £2.50 +sae
 WWLSC car fobs £1.00 +sae
 WWLSC large key rings £1.00 +sae

A Load of Bull (fanzine) £1.50 +34p p&p
 A Load of Bull – back issues no. 75, 83, 85, 91 & 97 – 10p + 34p postage each.
 Wolves Official Magazine £2.99 available quarterly

OLD PROGRAMMES

A few 60's and 70's plus, more from the 80's and 90's are available. Prices from 10p.
 1986-87 Fourth Division play-off v Aldershot home and away - £1 the pair.
 1993-94 FA Cup Quarter Final – Chelsea v Wolves - £1.

125 Years of Wolves - Commemorative badge set £35.00 + £1.00 p&p

11 badges commemorating: - 4 FA Cup wins; 3 Football League titles; 2 Football League Cup wins; 2 Second Division titles; 1 Third Division title; 1 Third Division North title; 1 Fourth Division title; Sherpa Van winners; Texaco Cup winners; FA Charity Shield and League Founder Members.

All the above are available from: Dave Slape, 26 Brockenhurst Way, London SW16 4UD

BEWARE OF THE BLACK & GOLD PERILS (Stef Leonard)

If you've ever travelled any distance, for any length of time in the company of Dave Slape, you'll know what a Wolves nutcase he is. Time after time, no matter where we are, be it in Newcastle, London, or on the south coast, no matter that its not even a match day, if Dave spots anybody dressed remotely in black & gold/yellow, or perhaps carrying a black & gold/yellow bag or whatever, the words "...look, there's a Wolves supporter" ring out from him. In the end, one gets indoctrinated into these observations and thus for some time now my first thoughts upon seeing any traffic warden are that they must be Wolves supporters. Well, that myth changed forever on the day I drove up to Wolverhampton for the match against Liverpool.

From a heavy and prolonged morning's business in Dartford, which required an early start and no time for lunch, I had a hectic 180 mile or so dash up the M25 & M40, getting into Queen Street, opposite the Express & Star, at about 5.35. I saw an empty space at the end of the row of bays and reversed into it, just as two female 'Wolves supporters' were walking away from the car behind me, one that they had just ticketed. I'd just about come to a stop, switched off the engine and started an almighty, well deserved, stretch, when they began tapping on my window. "Are you going to buy a ticket from the

machine, and if you are, could you hurry up and do so now please". Hell, talk about being over zealous! Now, I've never liked their role in society, but at a stroke they turned my view of them being amusing 'Wolves supporters', to downright b*****d's. What have you done to me, Dave? Stop it!!



The Banks's Brewery "Dream Team"

The Banks's Brewery Dream Team Competition, which created much conversation in pubs and clubs throughout the West Midlands (and on the London Wolves train journeys) has been revealed. The final selection of the judges was:

Steve Ogrizovic – Coventry – Goalkeeper

Brendan Batson – Albion – Full-Back
Derek Statham – Albion – Full-Back
Paul McGrath – Villa – Centre-Half
Gareth Southgate – Villa – Centre-Half

Denis Mortimer – Villa – Midfield (Captain)

Tony "Bomber" Brown – Albion - Midfield

Bryan Robson – Albion – Midfield
Dave Wagstaffe – Wolves – Midfield

Trevor Francis – Birmingham – Striker
Andy Gray – Villa/Wolves – Striker

Ron Saunders – Villa – Manager

Can 't say that I agree with them but there's some decent players there. How close Bully, John Richards and Kenny Hibbitt got to making the team is not revealed.



Wolverhampton Wanderers London Supporters Club

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 10th July

3pm

at the:

PIED BULL public house
 498 Streatham High Road
 London
 SW16 3QB
 Tel: 020 8764 4003

Nearest trains: Streatham and Streatham Common

The Agenda will include:
 reports from officers of WWLSC and election of the committee.

notice

So... who is the greatest Midlander?



The BBC West Midlands poll has now closed and the votes are in!

Sadly our Billy failed to top the list and came in a rather disappointing 4th

place overall with just 11% of the total votes cast.

The winner, with 25% was R J Mitchell. Who? The man who designed the Spitfire, the world's most famous fighter plane. Interestingly, he died before the plane went into production.

In second place came the Bard, William Shakespeare, with 17% followed by Wolves fan Sir Edward Elgar with 12%.

The full result was:

- 1 R J Mitchell – 25%
- 2 William Shakespeare – 17%
- 3 Sir Edward Elgar – 12%
- 4 Billy Wright – 11%
- 5 Sir Frank Whittle – 10%
- 6 Sir Stanley Matthews – 9%
- 7 Jasper Carrott – 8%
- 8 Ozzy Osbourne – 5%

- 9 Neville Chamberlain – 2%
- 10 A E Housman – 1%

Just for the record here are some facts about Our Billy...

Billy Wright was awarded the CBE for services to football.

A memorial statue of Wolves legend Billy Wright presides outside Molineux Stadium.

He was the first player in the world to win 100 caps and one of only four England players to have done so.

William Ambrose Wright played 105 games for England - 90 of them as captain.

He played for his country in a world record 70 successive matches, all as captain.

Won the FA Cup & 3 League Championships with Wolves his only team as a player.

What's in a name... (Jack Leonard)

Did anyone notice this snippet in a recent copy of the Daily Mail?

Firstly, Charlton Athletic had a defensive line-up that went: Young, Fish, Costa, Fortune.

On the other hand, Nottingham Forest once played a match which included Viv Anderson, Kenny Burns, Lee Smelt and Einar Aas. On this one occasion when all four played together, the public address system at the stadium announced to the crowd that Forest's line-up was "Anderson; Smelt; Burns; Aas!!"

Not to be outdone, and highly topical at the time of writing, our own Wolves fielded the quartet: Mutch, Downing, Streete, Bull!

Acknowledgements to the Daily Mail, J.Black and C.Legge, together with J.Taylor, T.Walker and P.Shaw.

A very welcome new member - Stuart Earl

Whilst it is always a pleasure to welcome new members to our Club, the match against Liverpool saw one such member travelling with us. Mr Rick Hayward became the second member of the family to enrol, and kept the travelling few busy for a couple of hours, answering questions, and even visited our "haunt," "The City Bar" for a glass.

I then had the pleasure of Mr Hayward's company in the directors lounge at the match with Charlton, when Stefan sneaked us in, via a friend who is on the board.

No prizes for guessing who were the last to leave the lounge. Yes, it was a free bar! (The Leonards and Earl).

I wonder if we only need to send one magazine for father and son!





LONDON WOLVES TRAVEL NEWS

Provisional travel arrangements for matches during March, April & May are:-

Home Matches

Meet on the Station concourse outside main ticket office, at least 20 minutes before train departure.

Fare from Euston:

Members £16; Guests £19

Sun 14/3/04 v Aston Villa (k/o 2.30 pm)

LONDON WOLVES TRAVEL NEWS

We will be running a minibus to/from this match. Anyone wishing to travel to this match please contact Travel Secretary for further details.

Sat 6/4/04 v Southampton
Sat 17/4/04 v Middlesbrough
Sat 1/5/04 v Everton
Sat 15/5/04 v Spurs

Outward Depart Euston 09.55
Arrive Wolves 12.16

Return Depart Wolves 17.19
Arrive Euston 19.41

Easter Mon 12/4/04 v Bolton

Outward Depart Marylebone 09.40
Arrive Birmingham
Snow Hill 12.01
Depart Birmingham New
St 12.10
Arrive Wolves 12.32

Return Depart Wolves 17.14/17.19
Arrive Birmingham New
St 17.30/17.42
Depart Birmingham Snow
Hill 18.10
Arrive Marylebone 20.37

Away Matches

The following times are provisional. Please contact Travel Secretary for confirmation of travel arrangements. Please also note that the majority of away matches are likely to be all-ticket for Wolves fans.

Sat 20/3/04 v CHELSEA

ALL-TICKET MATCH

No club trip arranged. Nearest underground station is Fulham Broadway (District line). The ground is about 5 mins walk from station. Turn left outside

station & walk along Fulham Rd. The ground is on the left-hand side.

Sat 27/3/04 v Liverpool

ALL-TICKET MATCH

Fare TBA

Outward Depart Euston 08.20
Arrive Liverpool Lime St 12.01

Return Depart Liverpool Lime St 17.32
Arrive Euston 21.39

Sat 10/4/04 v Manchester City

ALL-TICKET MATCH

Fare TBA

Outward Depart St Pancras 09.00
Arrive Manchester
Piccadilly 12.16

Return Depart Manchester
Piccadilly 17.47
Arrive St Pancras 21.06

Sun 25/4/04 v Birmingham City

ALL-TICKET MATCH

(k/o 12.00)

It is likely that a minibus will be run to/from this match. Details not yet finalised. Any member wishing to travel to this match, please contact Travel Secretary.

Sat 8/5/04 v Newcastle Utd

ALL-TICKET MATCH

Fare TBA

Outward Depart Kings Cross 09.00
Arrive Newcastle 12.02

Return Depart Newcastle 17.27
Arrive Kings Cross 20.35

Any member wishing to book a train ticket for travel to home or away matches from Euston, must now contact Travel Secretary AT LEAST 9 DAYS prior to the match. Bookings for travel with other train operators, must be made 3-4 weeks before the match. This is because early booking is essential in order to obtain the cheapest tickets. Fares will be collected on the outward journey. Payments in advance are accepted. Cheques/PO's payable to WWLSC.

Any member booking a train ticket, who subsequently cannot travel, must contact the Travel Secretary at least 9 days before

the match to cancel, or they will have to pay for the ticket. This also applies to members who book a ticket and fail to show up on the day, as the train companies will not offer any refunds on unsold tickets, except in exceptional circumstances.

Members requiring match tickets for HOME matches please contact Travel Secretary AT LEAST 16 DAYS prior to match. Please enclose s.a.e. with postal applications.

Please note that for all-ticket away matches, ONLY AWAY SEASON TICKET HOLDERS CAN BE GUARANTEED A MATCH TICKET. Tickets for every away match go on sale to home season ticket holders 10 days before the match. Home season ticket holders can apply for away tickets, by ringing the ticket office on 0870 442 0123 between 6 - 10 pm, and giving their Supporter Number.

There are 7 club season tickets available to members on a match to match basis. Full match day price will be charged. Members must travel on the official club trip for the particular game for which the ticket is required.

Please also note that dates and times of matches are likely to be changed because of live TV coverage by Sky Sports.

TRAVEL SECRETARY -

PETER WOODFIELD
94 FARNHAM CLOSE
RAINHAM
KENT
ME8 8NS

Telephone – 01634 363704
E-mail - peteraw@globalnet.co.uk



Dave Slape's Wolves Diary of 1965-1966 continued...

29/1/66: Wolves 0 v Coventry City 1 (Pointer)

Team:- MacLaren; Wilson; Thomson; Flowers; Woodfield; Holsgrove; Wharton; Hunt; McIlmoyle; Woodruff; Wagstaffe.

Position: 4th P W D L F A W D L F A PTS
28 10 2 2 39 14 4 4 6 27 29 34

Goalscorers: Knowles 17; McIlmoyle 11; Wagstaffe 8; Wharton 7; Woodruff 7; Own Goals 5; Hunt 5; Holsgrove 2; Woodfield 2; Flowers 1; Buckley 1.
FA Cup: Hunt 2, McIlmoyle 1, Woodruff 1, Own Goal 1.

5/2/66: Carlisle United 2 (Garbutt, Harland) v Wolves 1 (Wagstaffe)

Team:- MacLaren; Wilson; Thomson; Flowers; Woodfield; Holsgrove; Wharton; Hunt; McIlmoyle; Woodruff; Wagstaffe.

Position: 4th P W D L F A W D L F A PTS
29 10 2 2 39 14 4 4 7 28 30 34

Goalscorers: Knowles 17; McIlmoyle 11; Wagstaffe 9; Wharton 7; Woodruff 7; Own Goals 5; Hunt 5; Holsgrove 2; Woodfield 2; Flowers 1; Buckley 1.
FA Cup: Hunt 2, McIlmoyle 1, Woodruff 1, Own Goal 1.

12/2/66: FA Cup 4th Rd: Wolves 3 (Knowles 2, McIlmoyle) v Sheffield United 0

Team:- MacLaren; Wilson; Thomson; Flowers; Woodfield; Holsgrove; Wharton; Hunt; McIlmoyle; Knowles; Wagstaffe.

Position: 4th P W D L F A W D L F A PTS
29 10 2 2 39 14 4 4 7 28 30 34

Goalscorers: Knowles 17; McIlmoyle 11; Wagstaffe 9; Wharton 7; Woodruff 7; Own Goals 5; Hunt 5; Holsgrove 2; Woodfield 2; Flowers 1; Buckley 1.
FA Cup: Hunt 2, Knowles 2, McIlmoyle 2, Woodruff 1, Own Goal 1.

14/2/66: FA Cup draw: Wolves v Rotherham United or Manchester United

19/2/66: Wolves 2 (Wharton 2) v Cardiff City 1 (Andrews)

Team:- MacLaren; Wilson; Thomson; Flowers; Woodfield; Holsgrove; Wharton; Hunt; McIlmoyle; Knowles; Wagstaffe.

Position: 4th P W D L F A W D L F A PTS
30 11 2 2 41 15 4 4 7 28 30 36

Goalscorers: Knowles 17; McIlmoyle 11; Wagstaffe 9; Wharton 9; Woodruff 7; Own Goals 5; Hunt 5; Holsgrove 2; Woodfield 2; Flowers 1; Buckley 1.
FA Cup: Hunt 2, Knowles 2, McIlmoyle 2, Woodruff 1, Own Goal 1.

21/2/66: Wolves like Mike Bailey of Charlton Athletic, valued at £60,000

24/2/66: Mike Bailey expected to sign for Wolves

26/2/66: Derby County 2 (Thomas 2) v Wolves 2 (Hunt, McIlmoyle)

Team:- MacLaren; Wilson; Thomson; Flowers; Woodfield; Holsgrove; Wharton; Hunt; McIlmoyle; Knowles; Wagstaffe.

Position: 4th P W D L F A W D L F A PTS
31 11 2 2 41 15 4 5 7 30 32 37

Goalscorers: Knowles 17; McIlmoyle 12; Wagstaffe 9; Wharton 9; Woodruff 7; Hunt 6; Own Goals 5; Holsgrove 2; Woodfield 2; Flowers 1; Buckley 1.
FA Cup: Hunt 2, Knowles 2, McIlmoyle 2, Woodruff 1, Own Goal 1.

28/2/66: Mike Bailey transferred from Charlton Athletic for £40,000

The failure to score against Coventry City was the first of the season for free-scoring Wolves. Mike Bailey was to make 436 appearances for Wolves, leading the Club back to the First division in 1967 and to win the League Cup in 1974. Also, Wolves appeared in two semi-finals and were runners up in the UEFA Cup during this period. In fact, Mike was unlucky not to add to the two England caps he won with Charlton before going to the USA in 1976.

(continued from page 8)

looked like a head-butt from Dickov. Both players were spoken to at length by the referee but no further action was taken.

Opinion: A good point from a relatively, poor performance.
Man of the match: Jones – some great saves.
Team rating: 5/10
Team: Jones, Irwin (Clyde 68), Naylor, Ince, Craddock, Butler, Rae, Miller (Ganea 64), Cort, Camara (Newton 82), Kennedy.
Unused subs: Oakes, Iversen.
Bookings: Rae (85 – foul).
Attendance: 31,768.



ASTONISHING VILLA

Wolves 0-4 Villa

14th March 2004

Wolves chose this derby match to remind the Molineux faithful of the disastrous start they had to the season and to prove that not a lot had changed in the interim period.

Villa could, and probably should, have been 6 up in the first half instead of only 3 and even an injury time penalty for Wolves was woefully taken by Ganea and saved.

The second half saw Villa increase their lead and then have a 30 minute training session which only occasionally included the Wolves players. There haven't been many times this season where the stadium has been deserted before the end of the match but this, sadly, was one result even the staunchest of Wolves fans couldn't stomach.

With the next two games away to Liverpool and Chelsea it is hard to remain positive.

Opinion: Oh dear!
Man of the match: Camara – only player to try and take the game to Villa.
Team rating: 3/10
Team: Jones, Irwin (Clyde 65), Naylor, Ince, Craddock, Butler, Rae, Ganea, Cort (Iversen 65), Camara, Kennedy.
Unused subs: Oakes, Newton, Miller.
Bookings: Ganea (70 – late challenge).
Attendance: 29,386.

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1965-66 continued. . .



Clarke missed when it would have been easier to score.

Opinion: Lets hope this cup defeat keeps us in the Premiership.
 Man of the match: We're not worthy!
 Team rating: 5/10
 Team: Oakes, Luzhny (Craddock 45), Naylor, Cameron, Clyde, Butler, Silas (Gudjonsson 66), Ince, Miller (Clarke 59), Ganea, Kennedy.
 Unused subs: Ikeme, Iversen.
 Bookings: None.
 Attendance: 24,413.

FARCEBALL

Portsmouth 0-0 Wolves 31st January 2004

So, the weather put in it's usual appearance at Pompey as we sat in the open in rain and gale-force nine winds, which almost made football impossible. It would not have taken much of a fluke for one side or the other to have scored an all-important relegation saving goal.

Wolves gave a gutsy performance and played at times some good football along the ground with new signing Carl Cort having a couple of opportunities. On the whole, chances fell few and far between for them.

The other new signing saw Paul Jones back between the sticks and what a show he gave to the home fans who had baited him all afternoon, even when he was beaten the luck held, as the woodwork was rattled three times, the final time when a shot took a vicious deflection off Naylor and struck the far upright.

Opinion: Gritty performance in extremely difficult conditions.
 Man of the match: Jones. Several world-class saves.
 Team rating: 6/10
 Team: Jones, Irwin, Naylor, Cameron, Craddock, Butler, Rae, Ince, Miller (Ganea 90), Cort (Iversen 67), Kennedy, Oakes, Silas, Clyde.
 Unused subs: Naylor (64 – late challenge).
 Bookings: 20,112.
 Attendance: 20,112.



A GAME OF TWO HALVES

Wolves 1-3 Arsenal 7th February 2004

Arsenal came to Molineux with their star-studded table-topping side and were expected to stroll to a comfortable victory. In the end they did but only

after Wolves battled hard and made them feel very nervous.

Typically, Wolves went behind in the opening 10 minutes of the match to make life as difficult as possible for themselves. They struck back with an equaliser through a wonderful effort from Ganea following a Cameron corner. Ganea was then promptly yellow-carded for over exuberance in his goal celebrations.

Wolves dominated the remainder of the half but failed to add to their tally and half-time couldn't come quickly enough for Arsenal.

Unfortunately, the second half saw a revitalised Arsenal emerge from the dressing room and they stepped the pace of the game up and wrestled control of the match from Wolves. Two Arsenal goals in quick succession around the hour mark saw Wolves left with a mountain to climb and they never really looked like getting out of base camp.

Opinion: A good performance against the Premiers form team.
 Man of the match: Ganea – for his goal.
 Team rating: 7/10
 Team: Jones, Irwin, Naylor, Cameron, Craddock, Butler, Rae, Miller, Cort (Iversen 76), Ganea, Kennedy.
 Unused subs: Oakes, Silas, Gudjonsson, Clyde.
 Bookings: Kennedy (9 – foul), Ganea (25 – over-celebrating), Irwin (67 – foul).
 Attendance: 29,392.

'ELL AND BACK

Leeds 4-1 Wolves 10th February 2004

Wolves travelled to Leeds knowing a win would elevate them out of the bottom 3 for the first time this season and a defeat would bring Leeds, the bottom side, back within touching distance.

Wolves managed to contrive a terrible performance and revitalise Leeds flagging campaign. Wolves continued their cunning plan of trying to stay up by not winning any away games and gifting points to fellow strugglers with, what can only fairly be described as, a thumping at the hands of Leeds.

Wolves went behind, again, within the first 15 minutes of the match only for Ganea to equalise in the 21st minute. Was this going to be a repeat of the heroics at the Molineux match between these sides? Frankly, no! Leeds regained the lead within minutes and were 2-1 up at half-time.

The second half saw Leeds dominate proceedings and extend their lead to 3-1 on the hour and wrap things up with a 4th goal in the final minutes. Desperately disappointing stuff and a great confidence gift to a Leeds team that were starting to look certainties for relegation.

Opinion: Dreadful
 Man of the match: Ganea – kept trying to score.
 Team rating: 4/10
 Team: Jones, Irwin, Naylor,

Unused subs: Cameron, Craddock, Butler, Rae, Miller, Cort (Iversen 76), Ganea, Kennedy.
 Bookings: Oakes, Silas, Gudjonsson, Clyde.
 Attendance: Cameron (63 – foul), Irwin (72 – foul), 36,867.

CORT SENTENCES FULHAM

Wolves 2-1 Fulham 21st February 2004

Carl Cort scored his first goal for the Wolves as they demolished a Fulham side that appear to be floundering following the loss of star striker Saha to Man Utd.

The match was dominated by Wolves and the opening goal came in the 20th minute when Paul Ince drilled a low drive into the corner of the Fulham goal. Their lead was well-deserved. Numerous further chances fell Wolves way through Kennedy, Miller and Camara but half-time saw only 1-0 lead.

Six minutes into the second half saw Cort score with a 15 yard screamer and Wolves settled into a comfortable period and absorbed the increase in pressure from Fulham. Until, that is, the 83rd minute when Malbranque knocked in a goal for Fulham to give them hope after Jones had only parried a shot. Fortunately, Wolves nerve held strong and they held on for a well deserved victory.

Opinion: Fortress Molineux restored.
 Man of the match: Ince.
 Team rating: 8/10
 Team: Jones, Clyde, Naylor, Ince, Craddock, Butler, Rae, Miller (Ganea 78), Cort (Cameron 90), Camara, Kennedy.

Unused subs: Oakes, Iversen, Luzhny.
 Bookings: Ince (17 – foul).
 Attendance: 28,424.

STALEMATE AT CRISP BOWL

Leicester City 0-0 Wolves 28th February 2004

Another relegation scrap, this time at the Walkers Stadium, saw the teams second (Leicester) and third (Wolves) from bottom battling it out to escape the zone.

The match was hardly a classic with chances few and far between. The only goal mouth incidents of note fell mainly to Leicester but Jones was equal to everything they threw at him.

Wolves had a terrific chance to steal a lead late in the first half when Miller rose to glance a header into the corner of the Leicester goal but Walker somehow managed to keep it out. In the second half, a similar style save from Jones kept the score level.

The most controversial incident of the game happened late in the first half when Dickov and Rae were involved in a contretemps that saw Rae go down heavily in the Wolves box following what



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BOXING DAY REDS

Arsenal 3-0 Wolves 26th December 2003

It is well known that the team that is bottom of the Premiership league table on Christmas day has always gone on to be relegated. Wolves found themselves in that unenviable position this season and judging by their performance at Highbury are unlikely to find much to cheer about come the end of the season.

Irwin and Blake missed out through injury and Luzhny made an emotional return to Highbury and they were given a big pre-match hug by Thierry Henry. It wouldn't be too unfair to say that was the closest Luzhny got to him for the rest of the day! From the moment the game kicked off you could sense that Arsenal were in dominant mood and it didn't take long for them to start creating chances around the Wolves goal. It took only until the 13th minute for them to take the lead through a well-worked corner which saw Viera's close-range shot deflect off Craddock with Oakes nowhere to be seen.

Craddock compounded his bad day by being caught, when under no pressure, with the ball by Viera who passed to Henry who comfortably scored from near the penalty spot with only Oakes to beat.



Wolves only real chance of the game came on the half hour mark when Miller was sent clear by Cameron however, despite having time on his side he managed to shoot close enough to the keeper for him to make a comfortable save.

Arsenal dominated the second half but failed to add to their tally until the 89th minute when Henry slipped the ball under Oakes to compound another miserable day in North London for the Wolves.

Opinion: On this performance we will not defy history.
 Man of the match: Kennedy – spent most of the day in defence.
 Team rating: 5/10
 Team: Oakes, Luzhny, Naylor, Cameron, Craddock, Butler, Camara (Sturridge 85), Rae, Miller (Newton 76), Ince, Kennedy.
 Unused subs: Iversen, Clyde, Marshall.
 Bookings: Butler (12 – foul), Rae (28 – foul), Ince (66 – foul), Naylor (79 – foul), Luzhny (80 – foul).
 Attendance: 38,003.



STEF LEEDS FORWARD

Wolves 3-1 Leeds Utd 28th December 2003

Three goals and all scored, for the first time this season, by forwards, albeit one of them an own goal.

Wolves, with Camara in particular, often looked dangerous, as they attacked as if their lives depended on it, and at this stage of the season, they possibly do.

They went a goal down after just three minutes, as the defence fell asleep, to allow Duberry to rise unchallenged, to meet a corner from the left, and power a header past the stranded Oakes.

But Wolves did not buckle, and took the fight to the visitors, and twelve minutes later, were on equal terms, as Smith sliced a Camara corner wildly into his own net.

Luck had certainly played its part, and for once Wolves took advantage of the rub of the green, and nearly went ahead before the break as Camara had efforts well saved.

Seconds into the second period, Newton and Camara combined on the right, and Newton sent over a cross which Iversen steered over Robinson. The latter then saved well from a lively Miller, who was causing lots of trouble in the Leeds defence.

But in stoppage time, it was all wrapped up, as once again, Camara streaked away from the United defence down the right, and thundered a cross shot against the far upright, which left the easiest of tap-ins for Iversen.

Opinion: Spirited performance, of which more are needed.
 Man of the match: Miller. Always a menace
 Team rating: 7/10
 Team: Oakes, Luzhny, Naylor, Cameron, Craddock, Butler, Newton (Kachloul 82), Camara, Miller, Ince, Iversen.
 Unused subs: Gudjonsson, Marshall, Silas, Clyde.
 Bookings: Naylor (58 – foul).
 Attendance: 29,139



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RAE TEACHES THE KIDDIES

Kidderminster Harriers 1-1 Wolves (FA Cup 3rd round) 3rd January 2004

It was cold and damp, and that was not only the weather, as Wolves turned in a dire performance, and only a late goal from Rae rescued the tie.

Wolves had the only three shots on target in the first half, and only Rae, Clyde and Naylor looked in the slightest bit interested in playing.

The second period was slightly better, and Miller troubled the home Keeper from just outside the area, but with the introduction of substitute Williams, The Kiddies came forward with some urgency, and Williams drew Oakes out of the area, only for the defence to clear for a corner.

The relief was, however, short lived as with ten minutes left, and the ball bobbing around the area and Wolves failing to clear, Williams thumped a low drive into the bottom corner of the net.

Hope appeared to be fading fast, and Wolves threw everything forward in search of an equaliser, and, after several corners, the ball fell to Cameron, who crossed from the left into the path of the rampaging Rae, whose cross shot had everyone beaten to secure a less than convincing draw.

Opinion: There is a need to perform in these matches
Man of the match: Clyde
Team rating: 4/10
Team: Oakes, Irwin, Naylor, Rae, Clyde, Craddock, Newton, Cameron, Iversen, Miller (Ganea 72), Kennedy (Silas 78).

Unused subs: Luzhny, Gudjonsson, Ikeme.
Bookings: Irwin (55 – dissent), Craddock (80 – holding), Cameron (86 – foul).
Attendance: 6,005

ROVERS AND OUT?

Wolves 2–2 Blackburn Rovers 7th January 2004

The second half of the fixture list started with a repeat of the opening fixture, the difference was that

this time it was Wolves who pounded the opposition for most of the match.

However, it was during one of many of the first half bombardments, that Rovers came out of defence with such speed that Wolves were caught out of position, and Cole was able to fire an angled shot past Oakes.

Wolves were not disheartened by this setback, and continued to apply the screws, and, shortly after the break, got their just deserts, as Butler rose at the far post to head home past Friedel.

Justice appeared to have been done when Rae fired his eight goal of the season, picking up a loose ball, charging forward and sending a diagonal shot across into the far corner, but Rovers had other ideas, as Yorke, who had turned down a loan move to Wolves during the day, pounced on a defensive lapse, to fire past Oakes.

Wolves did not give up, but the closest they came to snatching a winner, was when Camara slammed a shot against the post.



Opinion: Great Spirit, and effort can't be faulted
Man of the match: Rae
Team rating: 7/10
Team: Oakes, Irwin, Naylor, Cameron, Craddock, Butler, Newton (Gudjonsson 83), Camara, Iversen (Blake 32), Rae, Kennedy, Miller, Clyde, Ikeme.

Unused subs: Luzhny, Gudjonsson, Ikeme.
Bookings: Cameron (30 – foul).
Attendance: 27,393

INTO THE VALLEY OF DEATH?

Charlton Athletic 2-0 Wolves 10th January 2004

To say that luck doesn't run for you when you're down would be an understatement for this match, and even the Charlton supporters in the directors box were in agreement with that statement after a blatant offside decision cost Wolves a goal just before the halftime whistle, and a second half onslaught, which lasted over half an hour, during which time, Charlton rarely crossed the half way line.

Euell scored, despite clearly being over a yard offside, to deny Wolves the chance to go into the

break on even terms. But the attitude in the second half could not be faulted, as Wolves threw everything at the home



side, only to find Keilly ever alert to any danger, as he threw himself around the goalmouth, to produce a succession of tremendous saves, denying Camara, Newton, Rae and Ince.

Euell pounced with ten minutes left to settle the affair and leave Wolves pointless despite a great fighting effort.

Opinion: Not going down without a fight.
Man of the match: Rae
Team rating: 7/10
Team: Oakes, Irwin, Naylor (Luzhny 45), Cameron (Kennedy 69), Craddock, Clyde, Newton (Ganea 83), Rae, Blake, Ince, Camara.

Unused subs: Ikeme, Gudjonsson.
Bookings: Cameron (36 – foul), Ince (45 – dissent), Rae (66 – foul).
Attendance: 26,198



WHO ARE WE KIDDING?

Wolves 2-0 Kidderminster Harriers FA Cup 3rd round replay 14th January 2004

This replay produced all the boredom of the original tie, but Wolves narrowly shaded it, thanks to a couple from Miller, one of which eventually proved to be the talking point of the match.

Having survived some early pressure from the visitors Wolves eventually got ahead in this



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lacklustre match when Miller rose at the far post to head home after new Romanian signing Ganea had headed on a Newton centre.

But far from being convincing against lower division opposition (as usual), Wolves allowed the visitors to stop a few hearts and Oakes was put under a deal of pressure as the Harriers pressed for an equaliser.

The closest Wolves got to looking superior was when the spirit of visitors was finally broken by Miller as he hit a shot against the post and despite heavy visiting protests the assistant referee (linesman) ruled that the ball had crossed the line and the referee signalled a goal.

Opinion: Miller backs in the goals, but we need some against Premiership opposition.

Man of the match: Miller, if only for his goals.
Team rating: 5/10
Team: Oakes, Clyde, Luzhny, Craddock, Butler, Andrews, Newton, Gudjonsson, Miller, Ganea (Iversen 82), Kennedy (Silas 90).

Unused subs: Ikeme, Rae, Cameron.
Bookings: Butler (31 – foul), Clyde (62 – holding), Oakes (67 – ungentlemanly conduct), Andrews (67 – ungentlemanly conduct).

Attendance: 25,808



I RED THE NEWS TODAY, OH BOY!

Wolves 1-0 Manchester United 17th January 2004

So, they finally made the grade. And what a performance it was, effort, commitment and passion were among the attributes that were shown in a display of pure grit, with every man on the pitch showing that Wolves can perform with the best.

Playing five across the midfield, Wolves snuffed out most of the threats posed by the visitors' attacking efforts and Miller was a constant threat with darting runs at the heart of their defence. At the back, Butler and Craddock dealt admirably with the dangers of Scholes and Van Nistelrooy.

Ince and Rae showed that they are capable of competing at the highest level with Ince thumping a long-range effort against the United upright minutes before Miller put Wolves ahead.

A forward header from Irwin found Miller out on the right, turning inside he wrong footed Brown, which left him slithering in the mud, before placing a shot, which Howard got a hand to but failed to save, into the net, to set Molineux alight.

United had gained most possession and the final ten minutes were even more intense as they piled forward in search of the equaliser almost as if they had been shell shocked to think that THIS team could have the indignity to score against THEM. But Wolves, even with legs flagging, held out for a memorable victory.

Opinion: Many performances like this, and "Europe here we come."

Man of the match: All of them, But Rae once again just shaded it.

Team rating: 9/10
Team: Oakes, Irwin, Naylor, Rae, Craddock, Butler, Newton, Ince, Miller, Iversen (Ganea 80), Kennedy, Ikeme, Clyde, Kachloul, Cameron.

Unused subs: Butler (8 – foul), Ganea (84 – foul).
Bookings: Butler (8 – foul), Ganea (84 – foul).

Attendance: 29,396.



MILLER LITES UP MOLINEUX

Wolves 1-1 Liverpool 21st January 2004

So Wolves can hold their own with the top sides!

And, given a little luck, and some decent refereeing, could beat teams like this, who are challenging for European qualification.

A second period, during which Wolves were almost entirely camped in the opposition area, ended with Miller drilling an angled shot past Dudek for the equaliser, which was no more than they deserved.

Wolves fell behind shortly before halftime when Heskey scored against the run of play, as Wolves tested the visiting defence, but it was the second half that looked more likely to produce the goods, as Ince and Rae drove forward, and only inches stopped the leveller, as a Cameron shot thudded against a post.

As Wolves piled forward in numbers, it appeared that even the Liverpool fans could tell that their side were fortunate to still be level, as I have never heard them so quiet.

Opinion: Another fine showing.
Man of the match: Rae
Team rating: 7/10

Team: Oakes, Irwin, Naylor, Rae, Craddock, Butler, Newton (Cameron 20), Ince, Miller, Iversen (Ganea 82), Kennedy (Silas 72).
Unused subs: Ikeme, Clyde.
Bookings: Ince (35 – foul), Rae (53 – foul).
Attendance: 29,380.



CUP HOPES GO WEST. HAMMERED

Wolves 1-3 West Ham United FA Cup 4th round 24th January 2004-01-28

The scoring was over and done with before the break and although Wolves applied all the pressure in the second half, it never really looked as if they were capable of breaking down a stubborn rear-guard action by the visitors despite going close on several occasions and hitting the post.

Wolves were a goal down inside three minutes as the ball fell to Deane on the edge of the area and his shot left Oakes grasping at thin air. On twenty minutes the dominating Deane headed back into the Wolves area and Harewood scored spectacularly with a bicycle kick.



Three minutes later Ganea gave Wolves hope as he lashed home from inside the area but it was game, set and match when Connolly finished superbly to curl a shot around Oakes.

Wolves piled forward in an effort to salvage the match, Cameron hit the foot of a post and debutant