



# Wolverhampton Wanderers

## LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

founded 1966

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE



*Spot the London Wolves?*

- ▶ Chairman's Report
- ▶ Meet the Players
- ▶ News of AGM
- ▶ Match Reports
- ▶ Sales



# FROM THE CHAIR



## WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

### Honorary Life President

Derek Dougan

### Honorary President

John Richards

### Chairman

Stuart Earl

### Honorary Member

Sir Jack Hayward OBE

### Secretary

Dave Slape

### Treasurer

Peter Bartlett

### Travel Secretary

Peter Woodfield

### Entertainment Officer

Sarah Knapp

### Minutes Secretary

Leo Masters

### Committee Members

Stef Leonard

Stan Armett

Steve Ray

### Club Contacts

Stuart Earl

01760 756278

Dave Slape

0208 764 8023

Peter Woodfield

01634 363704

### e-mail

[londonwolves.66@btinternet.com](mailto:londonwolves.66@btinternet.com)

### website

[www.londonwolves.com](http://www.londonwolves.com)



designed & printed by  
ALP Printers, Bromley,  
T: 020 8466 6462

E: [alpprintservices@btconnect.com](mailto:alpprintservices@btconnect.com)

So, the season that we were all dreading back in August has come to a close. A season where we were seen as relegation candidates, but ended in a play-off semi-final defeat at the hands of our A\*\*\*\*n neighbours. I have to say that the journey from August to May has been one of the most satisfying for many a year. Mick McCarthy, with some shrewd wheeling and dealing, put together a young side that gelled together more and more as the season progressed. Some of the football was breathtaking and exciting. But even in a defeat or in a poor game, the way the team fought and tried their hardest for the whole game brought standing ovations from the crowd in appreciation of the effort that had been put in. With experience, and one or two improvements in some positions, the way forward can only be up and up. Well done the management team and the players. Roll on the new season.

As for events in our Club, whenever I meet people, our 40th anniversary 'do' still manages to be talked about, and our 'Meet the Players' evening before the Crystal Palace game was one of the best ever. We had an excellent turnout of members, and the squad and management team were a delight to meet. We hope they enjoyed it as much as we did. Stef has a full account of it at the back of this issue.

Our web site, which is fabulously produced by Peter Bartlett, is one of the best available and continues to draw lots of favourable comments from other supporter's clubs as well as our own members. Nice one, Peter.

In the week of writing, I am sure you are all aware that it has been announced that our Club, Wolverhampton Wanderers FC, is passing to new ownership, with our friend and fellow London Wolves member, Sir Jack, stepping down as Chairman. Sir Jack's contribution to our beloved Wolves is immense and needs no clarification from me. However, it would be remiss of me not to express our sincerest thanks to him for what he has done in the past, to wish him all the best for the future and hope that we see him soon on one of our trips.

As it is early days yet in the ownership transfer, we can only report that Sir Jack is transferring all his shares to Steve Morgan, a Liverpool businessman who attempted the purchase of Liverpool FC last year. As I understand it, Sir Jack is selling the Club for a crisp £10 note, and Steve Morgan is committing some £30million to the Club. I'm sure the deal is as good as it looks and, therefore, in welcoming Mr Morgan to Wolves, I hope he has huge success and helps to get Wolverhampton Wanderers FC back to where we belong.

'The Doog' tells me that on the day he heard of the tenner takeover, he called Frank Munro to ask if he would lend him a fiver so that he could bid £15 for the Club, but Frank, being a Scot, thought it was too much!!

Have a great summer break, and I look forward to seeing you at our AGM which is being held on the 28th July at our usual venue.

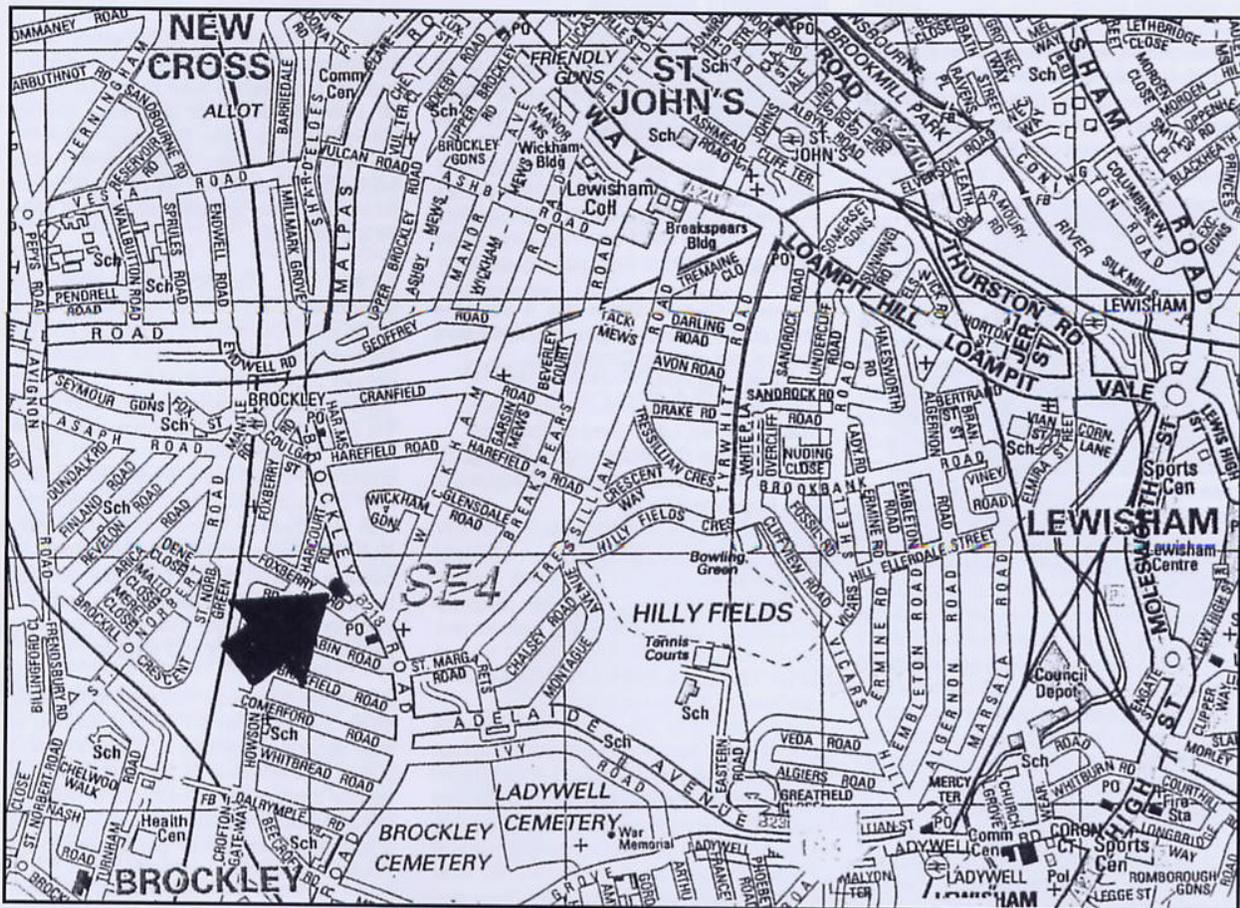
*Stuart*



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 28th July 2007

This year's AGM is again being held at the Brockley Social Club, 240 Brockley Road, London SE4 at 3.00pm sharp. As you can see from the location map, it is a 5 minute walk from Brockley mainline station.



### THE AGENDA FOR THIS YEARS AGM

- |                          |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS    | 7. TRAVEL SECRETARY'S REPORT      |
| 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | 8. ENTERTAINMENT OFFICER'S REPORT |
| 3. MINUTES OF 2006 AGM   | 9. NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT     |
| 4. MATTERS ARISING       | 10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS          |
| 5. SECRETARY'S REPORT    | 11. MEMBERSHIP FEE                |
| 6. TREASURER'S REPORT    | 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS            |

# MATCH REPORTS



## A CUT ABOVE THE REST

### **SOUTHEND 0-1 WOLVES**

Saturday 2nd December 2006

Wolves kept their sights on the Championship play-offs after earning their first win in five games even though it was a lacklustre performance against bottom team Southend. Michael McIndoe started in the opening line up for the first time and Michael Kightly made his debut against his former club, Lewis Gubern and Daniel Jones were the players left out and Jay Bothroyd returned for Leon Clarke in attack.



In a first half that was best forgotten both teams failed to get a grip on a game that became a scrappy affair with chances at both ends few and far between. It wasn't until the 24th minute that Wolves created their first real chance and should have grabbed the lead when McIndoe cut in from the left and raced clear of the home defence, instead of shooting he chose to square the ball to Johnson but it was too far ahead of the onrushing striker who could only watch as the ball fled past him. Southend striker Freddy Eastwood wasted the home team's best chance moments later when the sought-after striker controlled the high ball in an instant but sent his shot high over the crossbar from eight yards.

Wolves started in a more determined fashion at the start of the second half and should have been ahead within five minutes of the restart when Southend keeper Flahavan pulled off a superb save to keep out Bothroyd's low drive. McIndoe then missed an absolute sitter when he smashed the ball against the left-hand post from six yards after connecting with Bothroyd's cross from the byline.

Johnson headed another Bothroyd cross wide before Wolves finally took the lead on the hour. Craddock bravely dived in among a sea of bodies to head McIndoe's inswinging free-kick past Flahavan before coming off worst following a collision with Sodje. After lengthy treatment Craddock, although conscious was stretchered out of the action with a nasty gash above his left



eye and taken to hospital as a precautionary measure, it was the defenders third goal of the season but he is unlikely to remember too much about it.

At the end of this forgettable game Wolves held on for four minutes of stoppage time to secure their first victory since Southend were the visitors to Molineux last month and finally secure all three points after throwing away good winning positions in their last two games.

**Opinion:** One to forget but a valuable three points to keep the play off hopes alive

**Man of the match:** Craddock

**Team Rating:** 5/10

**Attendance:** 9,411

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Craddock (Edwards 64), Clapham, Kightly, Henry, Olofinjana, McIndoe, Johnson (Davies 86), Bothroyd (Clarke 73).

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Potter.

**Bookings:** Henry (89 - Foul)

## OUT FOXED

### **WOLVES 1-2 LEICESTER CITY**

Saturday 9th December 2006

For the third home game in a row Wolves dominated the majority of the play and failed to convert a host of goal scoring chances put in front of them before conceding a late goal. The final statistics showed that the home team had 13 goal attempts with only three managing to hit the target whereas Leicester had two attempts scoring two goals and ending a four match losing streak.



Wolves picked up where they finished off the previous weekend at Southend with a shocking first half display against a Leicester side who on this showing will be battling against relegation at the end of the season. It was dire watching and we had to wait until the 21st minute to

see the first real chance and it was Wolves striker Bothroyd who duly squandered it, Gubern delivered a good cross which was met by Bothroyd six yards out but he managed to place his header wide when it seemed easier to score.

The visitors had hardly ventured into the Wolves half but still took the lead against the run of play in the 38th minute with the first shot on target from either side. Hammond ran onto a pass from Breen before he hit a low angled shot past Matt Murray. Wolves tried to raise the tempo following the shock of going behind and nearly equalised in first-half injury time when Gubern saw his spectacular 30-yard drive hit the crossbar.

At half time Wolves manger McCarthy introduced Craig Davies for Johnson in a bid to spark his strike force into life and get his side back into the game. Despite the greater urgency and effort there was still a general lack of quality up front and for all the chances created the home team never really looked like converting those chances. However the incessant second-half pressure was eventually rewarded with an equaliser in the 81st minute from Gubern. A corner taken by McIndoe was partially cleared by the Leicester defence but the ball fell to Gubern on the edge of the box and his right foot volley bounced before it hit the post and went in.

Just when it seemed that the teams would share the spoils at 1-1 Wolves wasted all their second half efforts by gifting the three points to Leicester. In the last minute of normal playing time Porter cut in from the left and beat defender Little before hitting a low shot that Murray got a hand to but couldn't keep out.

**Opinion:** Could regret all these late goals conceded as the season nears its conclusion

**Man of the match:** Gubern

**Team Rating:** 3/10

**Attendance:** 18,600

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Craddock, Clapham, Gubern, Olofinjana, Henry, McIndoe, Bothroyd, Johnson (C Davies 46).

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Edwards, Potter, Jones.

**Bookings:** Henry (69 - Foul)

# MATCH REPORTS



## HIGH AS A KIGHT

### **QPR 0-1 WOLVES**

Saturday 16th December 2006

This certainly was a game of two halves with Wolves continuing their recent poor form with a dire performance in the first half but then playing probably their best 45 minutes of football for the season in the second half.

Neither team showed much quality in the early stages of the game and supporters had to wait until the 23rd minute for the first real goalmouth action. Wolves were looking susceptible when defending set pieces on or around the area and it was one of these dead ball situations which was only half-cleared by the defence allowing Bircham to head back across the area where Smith found himself unmarked only to head straight at Matt Murray. Soon after another free-kick was pumped into their box, Murray came to punch but collided with Breen, the ball fell to Rowlands on the volley but he could only scoop his effort over the bar. Seven minutes later the visitors once again found themselves unable to defend a free-kick, this time Murray was forced into a spectacular reflex save to keep out a Jones header from Smith's cross.

After failing to record a single shot on target in the whole of the first half Wolves looked like a different team after the break and immediately laid siege on the QPR goal, they were soon rewarded in the 49th minute when they took the lead. McIndoe played a low ball in from the left which found Kightly who turned his man to drill the ball into the bottom right hand corner of the net. That was his first goal for the club and he nearly scored a second on 58 minutes when he broke clear in midfield and hit a stinging shot which took a deflection and forced Royce into a flying save. Three minutes later the 20-year-old again found himself in the thick of the action when he was one on one with the keeper but when he hesitated and tried to setup Potter he underhit the ball allowing the keeper to clear.



Royce was kept busy until the very end by an inspired Wolves side as Rangers struggled to get out of their own half and was forced into saves from a Potter 25 yard shot and a Craddock header. Kightly missed a sitter in the closing stages but a single goal was enough to keep McCarthy's side in the play-off hunt.

**Opinion:** Need to carry the enthusiasm of the second half into the next game.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 12,323

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Craddock, McNamara, Kightly, Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe, Bothroyd, C Davies (Clarke 76).

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Edwards, Johnson, Ricketts.

**Bookings:** Breen (59 - Shirt Pulling), Bothroyd (90 - Kicking Ball Away)

## CRADDOCK SHOWS DELIA HOW TO ROAST CANARIES

### **WOLVES 2-2 NORWICH CITY**

Saturday 23rd December 2006

Wolves Centre-back Jody Craddock grabbed an injury-time equaliser as Wolves twice came from behind to share the spoils with Norwich. A point was the least that Wolves deserved as they dominated most of the game but again failed to convert a host of goal scoring chances.

Norwich had most of the early possession and opened the scoring on 10 minutes when Wolves old boy Carl Robinson created the opportunity for Earnshaw to lob the ball home from close range. Following the setback of conceding an early goal the home side pushed forward and created their first real chance on the quarter hour when a free-kick was awarded 25 yards out, Kightly stepped up to take the kick but couldn't keep it down and the ball flew into the crowd. Kightly was proving to be Wolves main threat and had two efforts in quick succession, firstly he hit a rising shot that flew just over before drilling another long range effort that was blocked by the Norwich defence.

Wolves were now beginning to take control of the game but were given a sharp reminder that Norwich were still dangerous on the break when Earnshaw saw his shot rebound off the crossbar in the 22nd minute. That was the wake-up call Wolves needed and they moved up a gear and deservedly equalised nine minutes before

half-time when Henry volleyed home from the edge of the area following a blocked shot from Kightly. The goal signalled the start of almost total Wolves domination in which Kightly and McIndoe were the outstanding performers causing continuous panic in the visitors defence.

The home team continued to lay siege on the Norwich goal after the break but after soaking up all the pressure Norwich gave warning of what was to come when Dublin had the ball in the net 16 minutes from time only to have the effort ruled out for offside. The respite for Wolves was only temporary as Earnshaw scored with an overhead kick two minutes later.

Norwich keeper Gallacher made two good saves as Wolves pressed for an equaliser. When it looked like the home side were going to finish pointless Craddock continued his recent goal scoring form to grab the



levelled three minutes into stoppage time when he netted with a low drive from Mark Little's cross.

**Opinion:** Earnshaw shows the benefit of having a striker who can convert chances

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 22,910

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Craddock, McNamara (Ricketts 89), Kightly, Olofinjana (Potter 89), Henry, McIndoe, Clarke, Craig Davies (Johnson 73).

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Edwards.

**Bookings:** Kightly (45 - Foul), McNamara (48 - Foul).

## RAMPANT

### **DERBY COUNTY 0-2 WOLVES**

Tuesday 26th December 2006

Derby's biggest crowd in nearly three years saw their team beaten by a solid and resilient Wolves team who sealed the points with two second-half goals from Seyi George Olofinjana and Michael Kightly at Pride Park. Neill Collins the on-loan Sunderland centre-half made his Wolves debut as a replacement for injured Jody Craddock

It was Kightly who produced the first shot of the game with six minutes gone when he cut in from the right but fired a left-footed

# MATCH REPORTS



shot well over the Derby crossbar. Wolves threatened again three minutes later when Leon Clarke collected a pass from McIndoe but failed to get any power on his shot after being forced wide. Kightly who seemed to be in the thick of the action again came close on the quarter hour when he had a shot saved by Bywater from the edge of the box, moments later the same player saw another long range effort drift just wide.

Matt Murray in the Wolves goal had hardly been threatened when on 20 minutes he pulled off a superb save to deny Johnson, but just moments later he could only watch as a deflected free kick struck the defensive wall and looped onto the top of the crossbar with the keeper rooted to the spot.

There were no substitutions made during the break and within a minute of the restart Wolves had loud appeals for a penalty turned down after Edworthy appeared to handle the ball in the area when challenged by McIndoe. Derby almost went in front five minutes later when Oakley crossed from the left and the incoming Howard hit the inside of the post before the ball was cleared.

Derby started to push forward and just when it seemed they were taking the initiative Wolves took the lead in the 67th minute, Mark Little crossed from the right and Olofinjana directed a downward header back across Bywater and into the corner of the net. The home team pressed forward in search of an equaliser but the Wolves defence stood solid, denying Derby any real goal scoring chances. During stoppage



time and with Derby committing players forward Kightly made the game safe when he ran clear after a clever pass from Davies and clipped the ball over Bywater in front of the delighted travelling fans.

**Opinion:** Great disciplined performance against a good Championship team.

**Man of the match:** Breen

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 31,920

**Team:** Murray, Little, Collins, Breen, McNamara, Kightly, Henry, Potter, Olofinjana, McIndoe, Clarke (C Davies 77).

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Clapham, Edwards, Ricketts.

**Bookings:** Collins (48 - Foul), Clarke (75 - Deliberate Handling), Little (89 - Foul).

## CONFINED TO BARRACKS

### COLCHESTER UNITED 2-1 WOLVES

Saturday 30th December 2006

It was a case of "After the Lord Mayor's Show" during a rain swept afternoon at Layer Road Colchester. Following the superb victory at Derby on Boxing Day all the hard work was undone in 90 minutes of tedium at a ground not fit to host Sunday morning football never mind Championship standard.

Colchester went straight at Wolves from the kick off and could have opened the scoring after only 18 seconds when Cureton was denied by Murray who reacted smartly to tip the strikers shot around the post. Colchester only had to wait until the fourth minute to take the lead, Cureton was adjudged to have been fouled on the edge of the penalty area by Collins and the Colchester striker stepped up himself to fire the free-kick through the defensive wall and into the net.

Murray remained busy in a fast and furious opening 15 minutes and produced two fine saves from Garcia and McLoud. Wolves looked to have weathered the early onslaught and were now beginning to enjoy a lot more of the possession. In the 26th minute they created their best effort when a Mark Little cross was headed goalwards by Leon Clarke only to be palmed away by the home keeper Gerken. Colchester were looking dangerous on the break and right on the stroke of half time proved the point when Iwelumo blatantly used his hand to control the ball before brushing off Breen and driving the ball between Murray's legs to make the half time scoreline 2-0.

Wolves had a series of half chances early in the second half and midfielder Olofinjana was guilty of missing twice from close in, he scuffed wide from a cross by Ricketts and was then unable to convert



McIndoe's free-kick from point-blank range. Murray then denied Jamie Guy from close range before Wolves did

manage a goal in stoppage time when Collins got on the end of a free-kick from Potter and steered the ball home, the goal was too little, too late and gave Colchester their 11th successive home win.

**Opinion:** Thanks to Matt Murray for keeping the scoreline respectable.

**Man of the match:** Murray

**Team Rating:** 4/10

**Attendance:** 5,893

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Collins, McNamara (Clapham 86), Ricketts (Edwards 89), Potter, Henry, Olofinjana (Craig Davies 63), McIndoe, Clarke

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Finkler.

**Bookings:** Ricketts (72 - Foul), Little (73 - Foul).

## BARNSELY GIVEN THE CHOP

### WOLVES 2-0 BARNSELY

Monday 1st January 2007

Wolves scored two second half goals to claim their first home win since the beginning of November. It was a comfortable victory and would have been a much bigger margin except for the form of Barnsley goalkeeper Nick Colgan who denied the home team with a series of fine saves. Prior to kick-off Wolves had confirmed the permanent signings of loan wingers Michael Kightly for a nominal fee and Michael McIndoe for a fee reported to be in the region of £250,000 with both players contracted until the end of the 2008-09 season.

Wolves took the initiative from the opening whistle and the Barnsley defence were soon under pressure when an early free kick from Kightly had to be blocked by the Barnsley defensive wall. It was the woodwork which saved Barnsley in the ninth minute when Darren Potter fired in a long-range shot which hit the base of Colgan's right-hand post and bounced to safety. The Barnsley keeper was constantly in the thick of the action and when he managed to keep out a McIndoe angled drive Craig Davies followed up only to see a defender clear the ball off the goal line. In the 27th minute Wolves were awarded a penalty after Atkinson hauled down McIndoe. But after Potter had overruled McIndoe to claim the spot-kick, Colgan dived low to his left to turn ball around the post. Further chances went begging as half time approached but Barnsley held on to go into the break on level terms.

Both sides ran out unchanged for the start of a second half which was just seven minutes old when the Barnsley defence was unlocked as Olofinjana worked the ball into Henry, the midfielder took the ball in his stride and then showed a cool head as he slotted the ball past Colgan's outstretched right hand from 10 yards out. The lead was

# MATCH REPORTS



nearly doubled moments after the restart when Colgan again saved from a position close to where Henry had just scored from.

Olofinjana sent  
Kightly clear in



the 68th minute, but the wide man could only fire wide after racing in from the

right ahead of Colgan saving from Jackie McNamara. At the other end, Murray saved spectacularly to deny Atkinson before Olofinjana made it comfortable for Wolves when he tapped home from a Davies pull-back in the 78th minute to make the points safe.

**Opinion:** Easy victory against a team destined to be in the relegation dog fight.

**Man of the match:** Henry

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 20,064

**Team:** Murray, McNamara (Edwards 88), Collins, Breen, Little, McIndoe, Olofinjana, Henry, Potter, Kightly (Mark Davies 90), Craig Davies (Johnson 79).

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Clarke

**Bookings:** McNamara (83 - Foul),  
Johnson (90 - Dissent)

## OLDHAM HICCUP

### **WOLVES 2-2 OLDHAM ATHLETIC**

Saturday 6th January 2007 (FA Cup 3rd Round)

Oldham deservedly shared the spoils in the FA Cup third round tie against Wolves at Molineux. Striker Chris Hall stepped off the bench to earn the Coca-Cola League One side a replay with a late header in a 2-2 draw.

The game started lively but goal scoring chances were far and few between until the lower league team took the lead in the 19th minute with a goal from Warne, he collected a quickly taken free-kick from the right by-line and hit a low right foot shot past Murray from 15 yards.

The home side responded well and found an equaliser thanks to the persistence of McIndoe, the winger played a one-two with Olofinjana before hitting a shot from the edge of the penalty area which beat

Oldham goalkeeper Pogliacomini and came off the far post to leave the Nigerian midfielder with a simple tap-in from the rebound. Wolves went ahead with three minutes of the half remaining when Craig Davies scored his first goal for the club, Ricketts sent over a cross and Davies got across his marker to power a header into the roof of the net.



On the hour mark injured defender Gary Breen was replaced by Rob Edwards before Oldham also made a change when they bought on Hall, he immediately made his presence felt when he went close with a powerful header from 10 yards. In the 78th minute Hall got on the end of Liddell's right wing free-kick to flick a header over Wolves goalkeeper Murray from 12 yards to confirm the draw and book a replay at Boundary Park.

**Opinion:** All of the usual late scares but did enough to remain in the hat for the next round.

**Man of the match:** Potter

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 14,524

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen (Edwards 62), Collins, McNamara, Ricketts (Mark Davies 73), Olofinjana, Henry, Potter, McIndoe (Johnson 84), Craig Davies.

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Clarke

**Bookings:** Potter (31 - Dissent)

## McCARTHY SUFFERS BOUT OF WIND

### **STOKE CITY 1-1 WOLVES**

Saturday 13th January 2007

On a wind swept afternoon the honours were shared at the Britannia Stadium when Stoke grabbed a point with a late equaliser conceded from yet another set piece, this proved a disappointing end to the game after some robust second half defending from Wolves.

Despite doubts regarding his fitness Wolves

received a boost when defender Gary Breen was deemed fit to start despite struggling with an ankle injury sustained in the cup clash with Oldham. Breen's presence had an immediate impact when the popular centre-half was on hand to clear a menacing Sidibe cross after just two minutes.

There were no real clear cut goal scoring opportunities until the 19th minute when Fuller looked to have given the home side the lead, only for the woodwork to intervene. Fuller broke forward and past Collins before hitting a left-footed shot from the edge of the area against Matt Murray's near post. Stoke were equally fortunate 10 minutes later when Michael Kightly picked up a loose ball 25 yards out and struck a fierce shot against the bar in what was the last real chance of the half.

Wolves were forced to change their line-up during the break when Clapham replaced the injured McNamara. As the hour mark loomed Stoke looked to be celebrating the opening goal when Murray charged out from his goal line. The Wolves keeper was left flapping at thin air as Lawrence lifted the ball towards an unguarded net only to watch the swirling wind drag his effort inches wide.



Wanderers then took the lead in the 63rd minute from a Michael McIndoe right-wing corner. McIndoe swung the ball in left footed and Collins darted ahead of the home defenders to score with a near-post header for his second league goal of the season. The same combination almost led to a second goal four minutes later, but this time Stoke goalkeeper Simonsen produced a point blank save and tipped Collins' header over the bar. The save had extra significance five minutes from time, when Hill netted Stoke's equaliser. A disputed free-kick by Lawrence found Hill who was given a free header and the simple task of heading in at the far post.

**Opinion:** Another late equaliser and two more points dropped after having most of the possession

**Man of the match:** Collins

**Team Rating:** 7/10

# MATCH REPORTS



**Attendance:** 15,882

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Collins, McNamara (Clapham 46), Kightly, Olofinjana, Henry, Potter, McIndoe (Edwards 89), Craig Davies.

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Johnson, Mark Davies.

**Bookings:** Breen (42 - Unsporting Behaviour), Henry (78 - Foul), Edwards (90 - Unsporting Behaviour)

## **LANCASHIRE HOT POTTER** **OLDHAM ATHLETIC 0-2 WOLVES**

Tuesday 16th January 2007 (FA Cup Third Round Replay)

Midfielder Darren Potter scored his first senior goal for Wolves on the way to a replay victory over Oldham and set up a local derby against rivals West Brom in the fourth round. The sides drew 2-2 at Molineux and Oldham once again gave Wolves a scare by having the best of the first half before the visitors took control of matters in the second half.

On a night of heavy rain in Lancashire Wolves started with five men in midfield giving them plenty of early possession, but making it difficult for themselves to get bodies forward during an uneventful opening period. The hosts settled quickly and created the first real chance when Porter fired high and wide from 20 yards in the ninth minute. The visitors finally managed an attack of note when Henry blocked a goal bound shot and gave the ball to Potter, he progressed to the edge of the box before feeding the ball to Ricketts who cut in from the left and curled a shot narrowly over.

The chance of the half came with just over 20 minutes gone when a long ball found Stam in the box and the Oldham defender's shot was turned wide by Murray. On the half hour Wolves forced Oldham Keeper Pogliacomi to save for the first time when lone striker Craig Davies glanced in a goal ward header from McIndoe's cross. Oldham continued to stretch the Wolves defence and Porter looked odds on to score but somehow failed to get a head on Warne's cross in the final minute of the first half.

It was a scrappy start to the second half but the turning point came nine minutes after the restart. Murray pulled off another fine low stop, this time from Haining, and following the resulting corner, there were furious Oldham protests about Henry's challenge on Wellens in the box. Referee

Kevin Wright waved play on and Wolves broke the length of the pitch to earn a corner themselves. Ricketts whipped the ball in but it was cleared only as far as Potter who lashed the ball into the top right hand corner from 25 yards.



Oldham continued to battle but the goal settled Wolves nerves and the visitors were now looking comfortable and keeping possession to frustrate the home team. With just over 15 minutes left a Ricketts cross was headed home by Craig Davies to make the tie all but safe. Substitute Mark Davies then saw a drive pushed away by Pogliacomi and Oldham were a beaten side. Ricketts could even have added a third after Pogliacomi's slack clearance and Wolves eased through the five minutes of added time.

**Opinion:** Comfortable win after the expected early barrage from Oldham.

**Man of the match:** Potter

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 9,628 (1,777 Away Fans)

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Collins, Clapham (Edwards 46), Ricketts, Potter, Henry, Olofinjana, McIndoe (Mark Davies 60), Craig Davies (Johnson 87).

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Rosa

**Bookings:** None

## **IS THAT ALL YOU TAKE AWAY?** **WOLVES 1-2 CARDIFF CITY**

Saturday 20th January 2007

A Football League backed decision by Wolves Chief Executive Jez Moxey meant that there were no Cardiff fans at Molineux, travelling supporters were banned following trouble in the corresponding fixture last year. On a sad day for genuine football supporters the game was played in a morgue type atmosphere and proved an embarrassing own goal for the Wolves board in front of their lowest home crowd of the season.

Wolves took control from the off and the first real chance came in the ninth minute when Craig Davies surged into the Cardiff penalty area only to be denied a goal by Alexander's outstretched boot. The pressure continued and moments later the home

team again went close when Little's cross from the right rattled the visitors' crossbar. Wolves then had a perfectly good goal disallowed for a foul on the goalkeeper, Davies charged down an Alexander clearance and fired the ball home but the strike was disallowed by referee Moss who ruled the keeper had been fouled. More chances went begging and Davies side footed over the Cardiff bar after being set up by Kightly who himself then stabbed wide after being sent clear by Olofinjana. After seeing chance after chance go begging wolves paid the ultimate price in the 27th minute when Cardiff scored against the run of play, Chopra hooked the ball over keeper Matt Murray from 20 yards following a hopeful punt forward from defence.

Three times at the start of the second half Chopra was denied a second goal for Cardiff, twice he was frustrated by Murray before the woodwork then came to the rescue. Wolves pressed forward and moments later Olofinjana hit the post from a Davies cross. However a minute later Wolves were deservedly level when the same pair combined in identical fashion with Olofinjana finishing the move and slotting home from point-blank range. His goal owed everything to the direct play of Kightly who was always in the thick of things and running the Cardiff defence ragged with his pace and enthusiasm. Drawing level sparked a spell of intense pressure that also saw Craig Davies hit the post and Neil Alexander pull off a stunning save from Kightly.

Wolves' failure to convert a host of chances proved their undoing two minutes from time when Chopra rounded Murray and found the unmarked Byrne who tapped the ball into an empty net. After playing some of their best football of the season it was a disappointing end for Wolves with valuable points again being thrown away in the dying moments of a game.

**Opinion:** Desperately need a striker to convert chances into goals.

**Man of the match:** Kightly, an absolute gem of a find.

**Team Rating:** 6/10



# MATCH REPORTS



**Attendance:** 16,772

**Team:** Murray, Little, Neill Collins, Fleming, Clapham, Kightly, Olofinjana, Henry, Potter, McIndoe (Johnson 82), Craig Davies (Ward 80).

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Mark Davies, Lee Collins

**Bookings:** None

## SWEET FA CUP

### **WOLVES 0-3 WBA**

Sunday 28th January 2007 (FA Cup 4th Round)

The less said about this shambles the better. On another day when Jez Moxey showed his total lack of ability in the art of Public Relations Wolves fans were treated like second class citizens by their own club. Season Ticket holders located in the South Bank suffered the indignity of being moved from their own seats to make way for rival supporters and then being asked to pay higher ticket prices to watch the game from the Steve Bull Stand. A free pie and pint at the game were offered as a sweetener in the aftermath of the PR disaster but only to those lucky enough to get their vouchers through the post in time.

As kick off approached in this fourth round FA Cup tie the noise was deafening from an expectant home crowd, inevitably Wolves picked a day where they were playing their bitter rivals to turn in a performance that can only be described as inept. Both teams started at 100mph but neither keeper was threatened and while there was plenty of possession, effort and heart from the home team the final ball and lack of control let them down with the ball constantly given away to the opposition.



The deadlock was broken on the stroke of half time when a McNamara shot was charged down in the opponents box

and the subsequent breakaway resulted in a goal for the visitors giving them the lead at the break. In a bold attempt to get back into the tie Mick McCarthy made two changes at the interval bringing on Mark Davies and Stephen Ward for Craig Davies and Ricketts, but to no avail as the lead was increased with a second goal four minutes into the second half, this virtually killed off any hopes of a Wolves revival against opponents looking to win back to back away games for the first time

in three months. A third goal from substitute Gera in the 78th minute finished the scoring, confirmed Wolves exit from the cup for another year and ultimately ended a day to forget.

**Opinion:** It just doesn't get any worse than this.....

**Man of the match:** McNamara

**Team Rating:** 3/10

**Attendance:** 28,107

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Neill Collins, McNamara, McIndoe, Olofinjana (Johnson 57), Henry, Potter, Ricketts (Ward 46), Craig Davies (Mark Davies 46).

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Edwards

**Bookings:** Little (31 - Foul)

## SMASH AND GRAB

### **NORWICH CITY 0-1 WOLVES**

Tuesday 30th January 2007

New signing Andy Keogh made his Wolves debut and Michael Kightly returned to the side following the home defeat by WBA two days earlier, Craig Davies and Rohan Ricketts were the players to make way.

It was backs to the wall from the off for Wolves and with the exception of an early corner they were on the defensive for most of the first half. As early as the fourth minute the visitors had an escape when McNamara received a booking when he could easily have been sent off for a foul on Huckerby. Wolves continued to live dangerously and midway through the first half the star of the show Murray was called upon to make two crucial saves, firstly denying Wolves old boy Carl Robinson low down and then producing a breath taking one handed stop to keep out a Huckerby piledriver from just eight yards out.

The relentless pressure on the Wolves goal continued and Norwich chances continued to go begging and it was Murray who saved the day again four minutes before the break when Etuhu hit a shot towards the far corner only to be denied by the keeper's brilliant reflex save. In first half stoppage time Kightly produced Wolves first decent chance of the game but his mis-hit shot was easily saved by Norwich keeper Marshall.

Wolves seemed to improve after the break and eight minutes into the second half Kightly beat the offside trap and pulled the ball back for Henry whose shot came back off the left-hand post, the ball bounced



back to Kightly who made no

mistake from the edge of the six-yard box. Breen saw red for a professional foul two minutes later when he tugged down Huckerby, the popular defender didn't even wait for the referee to produce the red card before he trotted off. Just after the hour mark Norwich were lucky not to have been reduced to ten men themselves when Wolves were denied a stone wall penalty. Marshall kicked a clearance straight to Keogh and then looked to have brought down the Irishman who only needed to tap the ball into the empty net, incredibly neither the referee or linesman seemed to think anything was untoward.

In the final minute Wolves were reduced to nine men when McNamara picked up the red card when he was shown a second yellow for a foul on Drury, however they hung on during the five minutes of added time for a win that owed everything to outstanding display of Murray.

**Opinion:** Back in the play off hunt with a gutsy performance following the disappointment of Sunday.

**Man of the match:** Murray, on this form would even have stopped a kitchen sink thrown at him.

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 23,311

**Team:** Murray, Little, Neill Collins, Breen, McNamara, Kightly, Olofinjana, Henry, Potter (Ward 74), McIndoe (Edwards 57), Keogh (Bothroyd 82).

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Mark Davies.

**Bookings:** McNamara (4 - Foul), Potter (67 - Unsporting Behaviour).

**Sent Off:** Breen (55 - Professional Foul), McNamara (90 - Second Booking).

## NEW STRIKE DUO GIVE INSTANT RETURN

### **WOLVES 2-2 PLYMOUTH ARGYLE**

Saturday 3rd February 2007

Wolves twice came from behind to earn a 2-2 draw with Plymouth at Molineux. The hosts started the better of the two teams but created little in the way of chances

# MATCH REPORTS



despite the greater share of possession. As in previous games they were punished for not making the pressure tell when Plymouth took the lead against the run of play in the 27th minute. Wolves gave the ball away when attacking and in the subsequent counter attack Scott Sinclair cut into the box to fire a shot through the unsuspected Matt Murray's legs.

The goal seemed to rock the confidence of the home team and Plymouth enjoyed their best spell as Murray was forced to save at the feet of Gosling and then watch as Summerfield's twenty-yard free kick rattled the Wolves upright. But the hosts were level in the 34th minute when Ward scored his first senior goal for Wolves when he slotted into an open net after being set up by Keogh. The game had only been level for two minutes when Plymouth restored their lead. Timar headed home a left wing corner with the goal only being allowed after the linesman indicated the ball had crossed the line despite Jamie Clapham's attempts to clear.

Both sides ran out unchanged for the start of the second half and Wolves continued where they left off in the first half, on the attack. A host of chances went begging and Wolves almost levelled when McIndoe set up Kightly for a goal bound effort that goalkeeper McCormick got his fingertips to before Timar headed the ball off the line and onto the post.



Wolves pressure eventually told in the 68th minute though when a quick free kick put McIndoe clear into the Plymouth penalty area from where his chip was met by the head of substitute Olofinjana for the equaliser. The home team piled on the pressure in search for a winner but despite close efforts from Kightly and Keogh were forced to settle for a point.

**Opinion:** Need to make home advantage tell after only one home win in the last nine attempts.

**Man of the match:** Keogh

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 19,082

**Team:** Murray, Little (Olofinjana 62), Neill Collins, Edwards, Clapham, Kightly, Henry, Potter, Jones (McIndoe 57), Ward (Bothroyd 78), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Lee Collins.

**Bookings:** Neill Collins (54 - Foul), Edwards (90 - Foul).

## HEY PRESTO

### PRESTON NORTH END 0-1 WOLVES

Saturday 10th February 2007

Wolves took all three points against Preston in what was probably their best display of the season. Recent signings Andy Keogh and Stephen Ward teamed up in attack for only the second time since joining the club and it looked like they had years of understanding between them as they ran the Preston defence ragged.

Despite Matt Hill's best efforts Wolves got their noses in front in the eighth minute. McIndoe, who had earlier shot wide from 20 yards, broke down the left and fed Keogh who beat Preston keeper Andy Lonergan only to see his shot cleared off the line by Hill. The full-back also blocked a follow-up from Ward but was powerless to stop Olofinjana's effort hit the bottom right hand corner of the net from 15 yards. The hosts came close to a response 10 minutes later when Ricketts was fouled just outside the area, the free-kick beat Matt Murray only to bounce away off the angle of the post and crossbar.

It continued to be an even encounter after the break and Ward hit a shot wide a couple of minutes into the half. Further chances were traded and with 58 minutes gone Lonergan saved superbly when he pushed Keogh's powerful drive around the post for a corner and just after Ricketts headed narrowly wide for Preston at the other end. Wolves were in no mood to defend their slender advantage and Lonergan was forced into another good save from Darren Potter's long-range strike. With 16 minutes left Preston hit the woodwork again when Alexander's half-volley from 10 yards came back off the post.

With five minutes to go Wilson held back the outstanding Keogh as he was running down the right wing and the referee immediately showed the Preston player the red card. Two minutes later Ward



knocked the ball into the net from two yards from a Keogh centre, only to see it flagged for offside. The game was now all over barring the shouting as the Wolves defence comfortably held their own for the last few minutes and the subsequent four minutes of time added on. It was a great performance from the visitors and was highlighted by the fact that Murray hardly had a save to make the entire match.

**Opinion:** Best of the season so far.

**Man of the match:** Keogh

**Team Rating:** 9/10

**Attendance:** 15,748

**Team:** Murray, Henry, Neill Collins, Edwards, McNamara, Kightly, Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe (Mark Davies 80), Ward, Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Bothroyd, Little, Lee Collins.

**Bookings:** None

## CLARET CRACKED OPEN

### WOLVES 2-1 BURNLEY

Saturday 17th February 2007

Wolves held on for a narrow home win despite a strong second half fight back from Burnley. The new attacking trio of Kightly, Keogh and Ward have suddenly provided the pace missing up front in the earlier part of the season and their first half contributions were enough to seal victory.

Wolves could not have wished for a better start. Just inside four minutes Jackie McNamara cut in from the left and clipped in a pin-point cross which Kightly headed into the top corner of the



net giving goalkeeper Danny Coyne no chance. Burnley's best efforts came in a limited spell of pressure that followed the goal with an Elliott shot well off target and former Wolves boy Joey Gudjonsson firing a free kick just over the bar. Another Wolves old boy Ade Akinbiyi then saw another effort blocked before strong claims for a penalty against McNamara for handball were waved away by the referee.

# MATCH REPORTS



Wolves again took the initiative and five minutes before the interval the pressure nearly paid dividends when Keogh had a header saved on the line by Coyne. However, seconds later the home team stretched the gap to two goals when Kightly fed Ward who brought the ball forward and rode a defensive challenge before toe-poking the ball low past Coyne.

Burnley brought on Kyle Lafferty and Chris McCann at the start of the second half in an attempt to salvage something from the game. In the 53rd minute of a contest that should have been over at half time the visitors were revived when McCann latched on to a dreadful error from Olofinjana to hit a low drive past Matt Murray from the edge of the area. Despite the direct approach from Burnley they couldn't find another way through and Olofinjana should have made up for his earlier error when he headed wide when well placed in the 68th minute. With three minutes left Caldwell headed against the crossbar from Elliott's corner but Wolves held on without any more scares to record a welcome three points at home.

**Opinion:** New strikeforce starting to show potential.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 19,521

**Team:** Murray, Henry, Neill Collins, Edwards, McNamara, Kightly (Craddock 65), Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe (Bothroyd 77), Ward, Keogh (Mark Davies 90).

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Clapham.

**Bookings:** None

## MURRAY STALLS TRACTOR BOYS

### **IPSWICH TOWN 0-1 WOLVES**

Tuesday 20th February 2007

Wolves went to East Anglia for the second time in three weeks and put in another smash and grab performance. They took all three points with a goal from Stephen Ward after Ipswich had dominated the majority of the play, but the win was down to Matt Murray who put in another outstanding performance by keeping out everything that the home team could throw at him.

Ipswich started the livelier of the two teams and in the fifth minute Murray performed the first of the evening's heroics when he kept out a powerful header from Alan Lee. On the half hour mark Murray

produced an even better save when he acrobatically kept out Peters' dipping volley from the edge of the area. Against the run of play Wolves took the lead in the 33rd minute, Ward cleverly linked up with strike partner Keogh before slotting past Ipswich goalkeeper Price from the edge of the six yard area. But the home side almost grabbed an immediate equaliser when a Walters cross to the far post found Lee who saw his header tipped away by the superb Murray.



The home side again took the initiative after the break and Richards had the first chance of the half when a cross was only half cleared, but he blasted his drive over the crossbar from 12 yards. The home side were controlling possession but Wolves almost scored a killer second goal on the break. Olofinjana won the ball in midfield with a stiff challenge and spread the ball out wide to Keogh, the striker showed a lightning change of pace to easily go past Bruce and his powerful cross found Ward arriving at the far post, but at full stretch he could only guide his shot into the side netting.

Murray was again in match winning form with 15 minutes remaining, Ipswich substitute Haynes crossed to Walters and his volley from the edge of the area looked destined for the back of the net but Murray somehow got across to parry it away to safety. Garvan then saw a decent shot blocked by Neill Collins as McCarthy's men hung on to move level on points with the play-off pack.

**Opinion:** Three wins on the spin and starting to look more clinical up front.

**Man of the match:** Murray.

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 20,602

**Team:** Murray, Henry, Neill Collins, Edwards, McNamara, Kightly (Bothroyd 84), Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe, Ward (Mark Davies 90), Keogh (Craddock 82).  
**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Clapham.

**Bookings:** McIndoe (48 - Kicking Ball Away)

## WISED UP KIGHTLY LEEDS THE WAY

### **WOLVES 1-0 LEEDS UNITED**

Saturday 24th February 2007

Wolves were well worth the three points at home to bottom of the table Leeds at Molineux. The home team made it four wins in a row and would have won by more than a solitary Michael Kightly goal but for some very poor refereeing decisions and the woodwork twice denying defender Rob Edwards.

It was a tremendous atmosphere as the teams kicked off and Wolves immediately laid siege on the Leeds goal. The first chance came in only the second minute when McIndoe fired a cross-shot wide from left to right and Keogh just failed to get a touch on it. Wolves continued to push forward and again went close when Olofinjana's header from a 22nd minute corner was tipped over by Leeds goalkeeper Ankergrén. As Wolves pressed for the all important first goal referee Michael Jones waved away appeals for what seemed a blatant



penalty when Kightly was tripped in the box by Rui Marques, a second penalty appeal was also waved away by the official in the 38th minute after Kightly's cross struck Eddie Lewis. Six minutes before the break, in a rare Leeds attack, Cresswell went close when he fired over after connecting with a free kick from the right. Then on the stroke of half time the Leeds defence again led a charmed life when Edwards hit the post with a header from a McIndoe free-kick.

Both sides ran out unchanged for the start of the second half which opened with Leeds trying to get a foothold in the game and they forced back-to-back corners, but without threatening Murray. Wolves threatened again in the 56th minute after another McIndoe corner kick was met at the back post by Edwards who this time thundered his header against the bar before the ball bounced clear to safety.

Wolves piled on the pressure and both McIndoe and Kightly both came close with efforts which just cleared the crossbar.

# MATCH REPORTS



McIndoe was in the thick of the action once more as he and Keogh combined to open up Leeds on the left flank but Kightly was unable to direct his header on target from the penalty spot. The deadlock was finally broken in the 76th minute when McNamara advanced from his left-back position, through the centre of the park and to the edge of the Leeds box, he played the ball to his right for Kightly who cut in and fired home through a crowded penalty area. Leeds saved their best effort for the 88th minute as Eddie Lewis saw his shot tipped over the bar by Matt Murray, but it would have been harsh on a Wolves side who had dominated proceedings for most of the afternoon.

**Opinion:** New blend of youth improving with every game and play-offs now looking a reality.

**Man of the match:** Edwards

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 24,314

**Team:** Murray, Henry, Edwards, Neill Collins, McNamara, Kightly (Bothroyd 85), Potter, Olofinjana, McIndoe (Craddock 88), Ward, Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Clapham, Mark Davies.

**Bookings:** Kightly (28 - Dissent), Potter (62 - Foul), Henry (87 - Foul).

## **BERESFORD JOINS MAD HATTERS TEA PARTY**

### **LUTON TOWN 2-3 WOLVES**

Saturday 3rd March 2007

Wolves came into this match having collected 13 points from their previous five league games, leaving them just outside the play-off places on goal difference. They showed all the signs of the team in form and it came as no surprise as they took the game to Luton in the early stages. As the visitors went looking for their fifth win on the trot they were inches away from taking the lead in the fourth minute when Olofinjana's rising drive from 25 yards bounced back off the crossbar. Six minutes later Wolves inevitably went in front as Breen evaded the Luton marking to head Kightly's free-kick past the helpless Beresford.

However, against the run of play and with their first shot of the match Luton equalised. The goal came in the 22nd minute and they needed a huge amount of luck, Emanuel's low strike from 25 yards took a massive deflection off the unlucky Breen leaving

goalkeeper Matt Murray wrong footed and with no chance of keeping the ball out. That slice of good fortune sparked the home team into life and Wolves were stunned again right on the stroke of half-time when Barnett rose the highest to head a left-wing corner past Murray and give the home team an undeserving 2-1 lead at the break.

Wolves regained their composure after the break and were level within seven minutes of the restart. Stephen Ward's 25-yard shot ricocheted into the path of Kightly who was denied from close range by Beresford's block, but Keogh reacted as quick as a flash to slot the loose ball into the empty net.



Luton goalkeeper Beresford was now at the centre of all the action and on the hour he produced a superb save from a 20-yard Kightly pile driver that seemed destined for the top left hand corner. But Beresford wasted all his good work with a dreadful error five minutes later, he gifted Wolves the lead when allowing Henry's relatively tame shot from 30 yards to squirm under his body and into the net. The goal was enough to seal a comfortable Wolves victory and lift them up to fifth place in the Championship table and only four points behind an automatic promotion place.

**Opinion:** First half complacency could have been costly against a better team.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 10,002

**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Breen, Neill Collins, McNamara, Kightly, Henry, Olofinjana, McIndoe, Ward (Bothroyd 76), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Craddock, Clapham, Gleeson.

**Bookings:** Kightly (45 - Unsporting Behaviour).

## **HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN**

### **WOLVES 1-0 WEST BROMWICH**

Sunday 11th March 2007

Substitute Jay Bothroyd's fifth goal of the season made it six wins on the trot for Wolves and extended their unbeaten run to eight games in front of a sell-out crowd. They have now amassed 22 points out of

a possible 24 to go fourth in the Coca-Cola Championship promotion race.

Both teams played a cagey game early on with the emphasis on possession, and it took 12 minutes for Wolves to register the first chance when Kiely was forced down to his right to stop Olofinjana's snapshot from 20 yards. Wolves new young attack always looked capable of unlocking the visitors defence and Keogh should have done better after being played in by McIndoe, but he saw his way blocked when he was slow to react. In a relatively even first half Wolves just edged proceedings and it came as no surprise when the teams went in goalless at the break.

The game opened up in the second half and Kamara seemed certain to score in the 50th minute after racing clear down the left but found Matt Murray in inspired form, the Wolves keeper superbly smothering his shot before the ball was cleared. Wolves, cheered on by their vociferous home support came straight back at the visitors and Keogh's delightful curling effort crept inside Kiely's left hand post only for the goal to be chalked out for offside



Mick McCarthy made a double substitution in the 67th minute in a bid to gain the upper hand, the injured Gary Breen was replaced by Jody Craddock and Jay Bothroyd replaced Michael McIndoe. And Bothroyd almost made an instant impact with his first touch as Kiely needed a strong hand to divert his fierce shot wide of the right hand post. Kamara twice came close for the visitors, both times being denied by the outstanding Murray before Bothroyd had the final say on matters with a strike eight minutes from time. The striker received Ward's pass before spinning his marker and firing a low shot into keeper Kiely's bottom-right corner, it was no more than the home side deserved having dominated for large spells of the game. Kamara did his best to force an equaliser late on but again found Murray in top form as the home side held on to give Mick McCarthy's side their sixth straight win.

**Opinion:** Sweet revenge following the cup debacle.

# MATCH REPORTS



**Man of the match:** Murray  
**Team Rating:** 8/10  
**Attendance:** 28,016  
**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Breen (Craddock 68), Neill Collins, McNamara, McIndoe (Bothroyd 67), Olofinjana, Potter, Kightly (Mark Davies 90), Ward, Keogh.  
**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Clapham.  
**Bookings:** Boothroyd(83 - Goal Celebration)

## SENT TO COVENTRY

### COVENTRY CITY 2-1 WOLVES

Tuesday 13th March 2007

Due to the volume of traffic outside the ground the game kicked off 15 minutes late. It was a nervous start by both teams and the only early effort of any note came from a routine shot from the edge of the box from Doyle which was spilled by Murray, but the Wolves goalkeeper recovered to smother the loose ball. Doyle then spurned another clear opportunity to open the scoring when he snatched at a chance from 12 yards out and screwed his shot wide. It was just approaching the half hour mark and Wolves were just gaining a foothold in the game when Coventry went the into the lead, the visiting defence failed to deal with a Hughes free-kick and Adebola pounced on the bouncing ball to poke it past Murray from six yards out.

Wolves had created little in the way of chances in the opening period but did have the ball in the net 10 minutes before the break, but Stephen Ward's effort was ruled out for offside. In the last minute of the first half Wolves were reduced to ten men when McNamara was sent off when harshly given a second yellow card for tripping Osbourne. In first half stoppage time came an unexpected equaliser when Kightly slammed the ball into the roof of the net after home keeper Andy Marshall had parried an Olofinjana header into his path.



Coventry started the second half as they began the match and pressurised ten men Wolves in an attempt to press home their numerical advantage. Adebola had a near-post header unwittingly blocked by Collins immediately after the restart before Doyle lifted a shot over the crossbar from the edge

of the area. Hughes' goalbound effort was deflected wide as Coventry continued to apply the pressure. The home team finally cracked the over-worked Wolves defence when they took the lead in the 70th minute. A Hughes corner ran through to Ward on the far side of the six yard box and he side footed the ball past Murray. Wolves nearly snatched a last minute equaliser but Marshall produced a superb fingertip save to deny Wolves substitute Boothroyd from 20 yards.

**Opinion:** Run had to come to an end some time.

**Man of the match:** Collins  
**Team Rating:** 4/10  
**Attendance:** 22,099  
**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Breen, Neill Collins, McNamara, Kightly (Clapham 46), Potter, Olofinjana, McIndoe (Mark Davies 78), Ward (Bothroyd 73), Keogh.  
**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Craddock.  
**Bookings:** Kightly (6 - Unsporting Behaviour), McNamara (14 - Foul), Edwards (43 - Foul).  
**Sent Off:** McNamara (45 - Foul, Second Bookable Offence).

## HILLSBOROUGH HEROICS

### SHEFFIELD WED 2-2 WOLVES

Saturday 17th March 2007

Mick McCarthy's side looked to be heading for a second successive defeat after winning the previous six on the trot when up stepped Andy Keogh to hammer home a last-minute equaliser for Wolves, all had seemed lost as ten man Sheffield Wednesday looked to have hung on under a late Wanderers onslaught.

Wolves entered this contest as the form team and started confidently with Stephen Ward firing into the side-netting early on. In the 18th minute the visitors were nearly gifted an own goal but goalkeeper Turner leapt high to stop fellow defender Wood's header flying into his own net. The home team went ahead four minutes later when Simek's throw was headed on into the box and Burton was quickest to react, toe-poking the ball beyond Matt Murray. Brunt's curling free-kick skimmed the crossbar soon after and when Keogh beat Turner to a through-ball to prod the ball goalwards Wood did well to sprint back and hook the ball off the goal line. It was end-to-end stuff and Wolves deservedly drew level in the 35th minute when McIndoe headed Kightly's cross into the top corner of the net for his first goal of the season.



Jan Budtz replaced the injured Murray in goal at the start of the second half and his first touch was to pick the ball out of his net as Wednesday scored within seconds of the restart. MacLean swapped headers with Burton in midfield before racing clear and firing home from the edge of the penalty area. Brunt should have given the home team a two-goal cushion in the 57th minute when he found himself unmarked and in space in the area, but his shot was well smothered by the on-rushing Budtz.

Wolves picked up the tempo with a quarter of an hour to go and piled the pressure on the Wednesday danger area, but the home defence held firm. Wolves were now susceptible to the counter-attack and were nearly caught out on the break when MacLean headed Brunt's cross over the bar. With 10 minutes to go Wednesday were reduced to ten men when Simek's clattering challenge on McIndoe earned the defender a straight red card. It looked like Wednesday were going to hold on to their slim lead, but in the 90th minute Keogh found himself clear in the area and kept his nerve to fire the ball across the keeper and into the far side of the net to earn a deserved point for the visitors



**Opinion:** Could be a precious point at the end of the day.

**Man of the match:** Keogh  
**Team Rating:** 7/10  
**Attendance:** 24,181  
**Team:** Murray (Budz 46), Neill Collins, Breen, Clapham, Edwards (Craddock 71), Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe, Kightly, Ward (Bothroyd 72), Keogh.  
**Unused Subs:** Mark Davies, Craig Davies.  
**Bookings:** Clapham (25 - Foul), Keogh (90 - Goal Celebration).

# MATCH REPORTS



## ALL AT SIXES

### **WOLVES 0-6 SOUTHAMPTON**

Saturday 31st March 2007

Wolves promotion hopes and goal difference suffered a massive blow as they were beaten 6-0 at home by a Southampton team missing eight first team players through injury, it was Wolves worst home defeat since being beaten 6-0 by Liverpool in 1968. Wolves remained in the play off places in sixth place but Southampton moved up to seventh closing the gap between the two teams to just three points.

Wolves dominated the first 25 minutes of play and it looked only a matter of time before the breakthrough would come, then against the run of play the visitors went ahead in the 24th minute when a right wing cross was headed in at the back post by Saganowski. Before the shock of going behind had sunk in Wolves found themselves 2-0 down three minutes later when Skacel eased past Rob Edwards before passing into the six-yard box where the unfortunate Breen ran the ball into his own net. Wolves responded positively to the setback and nearly pulled one back when Saints goalkeeper Bialkowski denied them when saving a point-blank header from Keogh.

In the 36th minute things went from bad to worse when Saganowski turned in the box and lifted the ball over Matt Murray to make the score 3-0. Five minutes before the break Wolves were unlucky when Keogh hit the bar with a powerful header and on the stroke of half time the referee offered Wolves a lifeline when he awarded a penalty for handball, from the resulting spot-kick Bialkowski dived to his left to save Kightly's weakly struck shot.

Mick McCarthy went for broke in the second half playing a three-man defence in an attempt to salvage something from the game, it was all to no avail as the visitors continued to make the most of the chances that came their way. Leon Best made it 4-0 in the 55th minute and in the 79th minute an unmarked Surman claimed a fifth goal when he met a cross from the left with a powerful half-volley. The rout was completed in the 84th minute when Murray



made a real mess of a clearance and Saganowski took full advantage to crash the ball into the top right hand corner for his hat trick.

**Opinion:** Woeful defending for all six goals.

**Man of the match:** Potter

**Team Rating:** 2/10

**Attendance:** 24,804

**Team:** Murray, Edwards (Bothroyd 59), Neill Collins, Breen, Clapham (Craddock 59), McIndoe, Olofinjana, Potter, Kightly, Ward (Craig Davies 65), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Gleeson.

**Bookings:** Potter (58 - Dissent).

## ALL DARK AT THE STADIUM OF LIGHT

### **SUNDERLAND 2-1 WOLVES**

Saturday 7th April 2007

Wolves can have no complaints about the result as they were always second best to in-form Sunderland at the Stadium of Light. The visitors arrived on Wearside still smarting from the 6-0 home defeat to Southampton the previous weekend and looking to get their play-off aspirations back on track.



Sunderland started the brighter of the two sides and put Wolves to the sword in the early stages. The home team inevitably took the lead in the 15th minute when Murphy collected possession inside the area with his back to goal and with two Wolves defenders right behind him he flicked the ball over both their heads before chesting the ball forward and then volleying it into the far corner. Wolves were forced to play largely on the counter attack and Michael McIndoe's low drilled shot in the 25th minute forced Darren Ward into his only save of the opening period. Right on the stroke of half-time Wolves had a big let-off when Whitehead's low cross from the right flank was cut back to Stern John who's low shot rebounded off the post and back into Matt Murray's grateful arms.

Wolves again battled strongly during the second half but lacked penetration in the last third of the field. Olofinjana briefly troubled the Sunderland defence when his close range header was tipped onto the top of the crossbar by Ward and behind for a corner. However, Sunderland continued to push forward and they increased their lead after 63 minutes when Murphy reached the right-hand by line and crossed for Wallace to head in at the far post. Wolves immediately hit back and within two minutes cut the deficit to 2-1 when Keogh stooped to head in McIndoe's left-wing cross. But it was Sunderland who came closest to adding to their tally and replacement goalkeeper Jan Budtz produced a couple of fine saves to ensure the score remained respectable.

**Opinion:** Need to get back to winning ways if play-offs are to be achieved.

**Man of the match:** Keogh.

**Team Rating:** 5/10

**Attendance:** 40,748

**Team:** Murray (Budtz 72), Little, Breen, Neill Collins, Clapham, Kightly (Bothroyd 62), Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe, Ward (Craig Davies 82), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Craddock, McNamara.

**Bookings:** Keogh (85 - Unsporting Behaviour)

## EASTER HULLBALOO

### **WOLVES 3-1 HULL CITY**

Monday 9th April 2007

Following the tally of one point from their previous four matches including two successive defeats it was vital that Wolves got back to winning ways. They warmed to the task as they took complete control against Hull City at Molineux, ending up comfortable 3-1 winners to get their promotion push back on course.

It was Wolves who were on the attack in the early stages but Andy Keogh's glancing header lacked the power to trouble Hull keeper Boaz Myhill. In the 10th minute it was Keogh again who threatened when he collected a clearance from Olofinjana and raced past two Hull defenders only to see his shot saved by Myhill. Following a long range effort from Potter which Myhill again saved Wolves took the lead in the 19th minute. McIndoe looked up when attacking down the left flank to see Boothroyd unmarked on the edge of the six yard box, he delivered a perfect cross for the striker to head back across Myhill and into the net.

# MATCH REPORTS



Hull produced their first shot of the game 10 minutes later when Forster was released by Windass but Jan Budtz saved easily and in the 38th minute the same pair combined again but Forster fired his shot wide. Those misses came back to haunt the visitors seven minutes before half time when Olofinjana doubled Wolves advantage when he nodded home Michael Kightly's right sided cross at the far post.

Hull made two substitutions at the start of the second half as Peltier and Vaz Te were replaced by Marney and Elliott. The re-shuffle from the visitors proved to little avail as Wolves soon increased their advantage just two minutes after the re-start as Keogh crossed from the by-line for Bothroyd to fire home his second of the afternoon and his seventh of his season. Forster pulled one back for the visitors on the hour when he muscled his way past Gary Breen to power the ball past Jan Budtz who was deputising for the injured Matt Murray. Shortly after Marney burst clear to threaten Wolves once more but this time Budtz parried the shot, it was token resistance by Hull who by this point were well beaten and had been totally out-played.

With just over ten minutes left Stephen Gleeson replaced McIndoe and Stephen Ward replaced Bothroyd before Olofinjana squandered the chance to stretch the home advantage when he could only apply the faintest of touches to head Kightly's right-wing corner wide.

**Opinion:** Bank Holiday stroll in the park.  
**Man of the match:** Keogh  
**Team Rating:** 8/10  
**Attendance:** 20,772  
**Team:** Budtz, Little, Breen, Craddock, McNamara (Neill Collins 57), Kightly, Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe (Gleeson 78), Bothroyd (Ward 78), Keogh.  
**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Mark Davies.  
**Bookings:** Olofinjana (68 - Foul), Ward. (85 - Foul).

## A LITTLE MALICE AT THE PALACE

**CRYSTAL PALACE 2-2 WOLVES**  
Saturday 14th April 2007

Two goals from Jay Bothroyd helped Wolves share the spoils and grab a point against Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park and keep them in the Championship play off places. It was a fantastic first half of football in which the action went from end to end and included four goals, a disallowed goal and a sending off for Wolves defender Mark Little. The red card ruined the game as a spectacle as ten men Wolves were put on the defensive in the second half and forced to soak up the pressure from the home team.

Wolves started the brighter as both Boothroyd and Andy Keogh squandered early chances, but it was Palace who took the lead in the 13th minute when Hudson connected with a free kick and headed firmly past Budtz. Wolves hit back instantly and within 30 seconds of the restart were level when Michael McIndoe charged down the left and crossed for Bothroyd to finish with a well-placed header past Kiraly into the top corner. It was end to end football and things got even better for Wolves in the 22nd minute when Bothroyd scored an absolute gem when he latched onto Keogh's clever pass and then left Hudson for dead before rifling the ball over Kiraly and into the roof of the net.

Michael Kightly nearly added a third on the half hour when he jinked along the edge of the Palace area before firing in a low shot which Kiraly saved. Wolves then had a let off when Kuqi had the ball in the net moments later but the goal was disallowed for a push on Budtz. However, Kuqi made up for the disappointment by playing a big part in Palace's 37th minute equaliser, he latched onto a long ball out of defence and squared the ball to the incoming McAnuff who rifled a first time shot past Budtz. The game took another twist when Wolves defender Little was shown a second yellow card and given his marching orders after bringing down McAnuff two minutes before the interval.



The second half failed to match the excitement of the first half as Wolves defended deeply limiting the Palace attack any kind of space or goal scoring opportunities, but Wolves, although shaky, survived and it was a point won which may be useful come the end of the season.

**Opinion:** Defence solid as a rock in the hour of need.

**Man of the match:** Boothroyd

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 17,981

**Team:** Budtz, Little, Breen, Craddock, McNamara, Kightly (Mark Davies 83), Potter, Olofinjana, McIndoe (Neill Collins 45), Bothroyd (Ward 64), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Gleeson.

**Bookings:** Little (34 - Foul), Boothroyd (57 - Unsporting Behaviour).

## ROBBED BY THE BRADY BUNCH

**WOLVES 2-3 BIRMINGHAM CITY**  
Sunday 22nd April 2007

In a fast and furious local derby at Molineux Wolves were unlucky not to claim a point at all as the visitors came from behind to grab an undeserved win. Wolves dominated the game for long periods but an outstanding man of the match performance from Birmingham goalkeeper Doyle and some controversial refereeing decisions from referee Graham Laws made sure the home team went home empty handed.

Wolves stormed forward from the kick off and had a good shout for a penalty within the first minute when Olofinjana looked to have been tripped inside the area only for the referee to wave play on. The first real chance came when Michael Kightly weaved his way into the area only to miss his shot, Olofinjana immediately followed up but could only watch on as his shot was blocked in a melee of defenders. Four minutes later Bothroyd's cross was only cleared as far as McIndoe whose fierce shot found the side netting, play then switched quickly to the other end and Matt Murray was forced to save from McSheffrey.

Birmingham nearly snatched the lead on the half hour mark when Clemence's looping shot hit the bar and the rebound hit Bendtner's head and trickled wide. A minute later Bothroyd fired over before Doyle somehow saved a point-blank Keogh header. The home crowd urged their side

# MATCH REPORTS



on and after Cole had seen his shot pushed wide by the diving Murray, Doyle denied McIndoe and Kightly at the other end. Bothroyd took on the entire defence in the 34th minute but could only watch as Doyle again somehow managed to palm away his shot. The teams went in goalless at half time with Wolves left wondering what they had to do to get the ball past the inspired Doyle in the Birmingham goal.



Wolves started the second half with the same urgency as which they finished the first and McIndoe soon had another effort saved in the 50th minute before Keogh's shot on the turn flashed wide of the target. The home team then fell for the sucker punch when Birmingham went ahead in the 54th minute as Cole got on the end of a long free kick and tapped it over Murray as the keeper went to ground. Wolves continued pushing forward and they got a deserved equaliser in the 67th minute. Kightly beat the full-back and swung in a cross from the byline which McIndoe rose highest to head in off the post. A carbon copy goal four minutes later then put Wolves in front, Keogh this time crossing from the right side of the area and McIndoe leaping unmarked to head past a stationary Doyle.

Then came controversy in the 77th minute as Birmingham equalised against the run of play. Kightly burst through into the Birmingham area and was bundled over for what looked a stonewall penalty. To the amazement of all watching the referee waved play on and within 90 seconds Bendtner headed Birmingham level from a corner at the other end. In the 88th minute salt was well and truly rubbed in the wounds as Wolves were again caught on the break. Jerome who was on as a substitute seemed to be fractionally offside when he ran on to a long ball and slipped the ball past the helpless Murray from a tight angle. There was one more piece of drama to come as Wolves were awarded a penalty in the first minute of time added on. McIndoe stepped forward to take the spot-kick but was denied his hat-trick as Doyle guessed the right way and leave Wolves ruing their fifth penalty miss of the season.

**Opinion:** A great performance that deserved better rewards.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 22,754

**Team:** Murray, Collins, Breen (Clapham 62), Craddock, McNamara, Kightly, Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe, Bothroyd (Ward 86), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Budtz, Mark Davies, Gleeson.

**Bookings:** Breen (5 - Foul), Olofinjana (37 - Foul), Collins (77 - Dissent), Bothroyd (77 - Dissent).

## KEOGH A PAIN IN THE GREGORY FOR QPR

### **WOLVES 2-0 QPR**

Saturday 28th April 2007

Two seconds half goals and their first clean sheet since mid March made sure that Wolves claimed all three points in their penultimate game of the season at home to QPR. A win in the final game of the season at Leicester will ensure a top six finish and a place in the end of season play offs.

It was an untidy start to the game and there was a general lack of flow to the action with both teams too easily giving away possession. If anything QPR marginally had the better of the early exchanges without really creating any clear cut chances and the first real opening came as Keogh crashed a 20 yard drive narrowly wide of Cole's right hand post. Soon after Olofinjana volleyed wide from an unmarked position on the edge of the penalty area and then McIndoe sliced a close range shot wide when put clean through by Collins.

The home team started to dictate proceedings and as the half progressed Potter again came close with a long range effort which went just wide. The half ended with Wolves in total control and two more chances went begging as McIndoe's left foot volley careered wide and right on the break Olofinjana headed wide from six yards.

The expectant Wolves fans were given a sharp reminder that nothing should be taken for granted when on loan Chelsea midfielder Jimmy Smith rattled the home team's crossbar two minutes into the second half. It was to be the visitor's only real chance as Wolves made the most of their let off and responded immediately with Bothroyd heading just wide. Keogh then somehow

managed to shoot wide from six yards when it looked easier to score. In the 57th minute Keogh, who had been the best player on the pitch and a constant menace to the QPR defence made amends when he broke the deadlock. Rangers keeper Cole initially kept out Keogh's header with a fine stop but the striker lashed in the rebound from six yards.



The impetus really was with the home side now and Keogh was only denied a second goal a minute later when Cole tipped his looping header round the post. Cole was working overtime to keep the rampant hosts at bay and he needed to be at his best to keep out Kightly's close range effort in the 63rd minute. But there was little Cole could do to prevent Wolves doubling their advantage just a minute later, Bothroyd's inswinging cross was somehow allowed to travel all the way through to Kightly at the back post and he coolly slotted past the exposed Cole to kill off the hopes of a QPR revival.

**Opinion:** Nearly denied for the second time in a week by an inspired display from an opposing goalkeeper.

**Man of the match:** Keogh

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 24,931

**Team:** Murray, McNamara, Breen, Craddock, Potter, Kightly (Gleeson 83), Olofinjana, Neill Collins, McIndoe, Bothroyd (Ward 79), Keogh (Little 90).

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Mark Davies.

**Bookings:** Breen (69-Unsporting Behaviour).

## FOXTROT TO THE PLAY-OFFS

### **LEICESTER CITY 1-4 WOLVES**

Sunday 6th May 2007

Wolves turned in one of their best performances of the campaign just when it mattered in the last game of the season at Leicester City. The 4-1 advantage gave them the win they needed to secure a fifth place finish and a play-off showdown against bitter rivals West Bromwich Albion. Wolves started nervously and got off to the worst possible start when they fell behind

# MATCH REPORTS



within the first three minutes, Hume was given acres of space allowing him to pick his spot and volley past the helpless Matt Murray. The visitors immediately struck back and only a last ditch tackle from City defender Kisnorbo prevented Andy Keogh levelling the scores after six minutes. Wolves should have equalised in the 15th minute when City keeper Logan spilled Kightly's shot straight into the path of Keogh who looked certain to score until his heavy first touch allowed the keeper to recover and block his shot from point-blank range.

Leicester should have doubled their advantage midway into the first half, but McAuley who was unmarked somehow lifted the ball over the crossbar from just three yards out. It proved to be a costly miss as Olofinjana brought Wolves level with their next attack when he lashed the ball into the roof of the net from close-range after a corner had caused confusion inside the Leicester box. Things got even better for Wolves on 32 minutes when Logan could only parry a Kightly volley into the air and the midfielder was quickest to react and tuck the loose ball into the empty net. Olofinjana was unlucky not to extend the lead just before the break when his shot from the edge of the area rebounded back from the crossbar and to safety with Logan beaten all ends up.



Wolves again hit the woodwork at the start of the second-half when Keogh's cross shot drifted over Logan and hit the far post. But the visitors didn't have to wait long before finally giving themselves the breathing space of a two-goal cushion, Keogh crossed low from the right looking for Bothroyd, but as McAuley stretched to intercept the pass he diverted the ball into his own net.

Leicester were reduced to ten men on the hour when Kisnorbo was sent off for his second yellow card of the game. It was all Wolves now and Keogh twice went close before he was presented the opportunity to score Wolves fourth from the penalty spot, he coolly chipped the ball down the centre of the goal as Logan dived to his left.

**Opinion:** Absolute superb performance after the early setback.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 9/10

**Attendance:** 30,282

**Team:** Murray, McNamara (Little 57), Breen, Craddock, Potter (Gleeson 88), Kightly, Olofinjana, Neill Collins, McIndoe, Bothroyd (Ward 62), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Mark Davies.

**Bookings:** Potter (37 - Kicking Ball Away), McNamara (54 - Foul) and Craddock (66 - Dissent).

## DEFENSIVE BLUNDERLAND

### WOLVES 2-3 WEST BROM

Sunday 13th May 2007  
(Play-Off Semi-Final First Leg)



Wolves left themselves with an uphill task if they are to qualify for the Championship play-off final at Wembley when they lost the home leg of the semi-final 3-2 against local rivals West Brom. Both sides held the lead in a game that ebbed and flowed, but was mostly dominated by the home team who will reflect that matters weren't helped by the fact that all three goals were caused by defensive errors which should have been avoided. Manager Mick McCarthy suffered a devastating blow ahead of the clash when goalkeeper and player of the season Matt Murray was ruled out with a broken shoulder, so untried youngster Wayne Hennessey was brought in for his Wolves debut.

Wolves started well and Keogh had already headed weakly at Dean Kiely before he played in Kightly whose attempted chip over the sprawling keeper was palmed away. The home side came even closer in the 12th minute when McIndoe's corner was headed goalwards by Olofinjana but Koren was on hand to nod the ball off the goal line, a few minutes later Breen also saw a header from McIndoe's right-wing free-kick flash narrowly wide of the post. Against the run of play Phillips put the visitors into the lead in the 25th minute, he fired home from 20 yards after Breen mis-kicked a clearance straight back into the strikers path. Wolves continued to push forward and had a chance to level on the half-hour when Olofinjana played in Kightly, but again the on-rushing Kiely palmed away his effort.

McIndoe turned creator again the 38th minute but his back-post cross was headed over by Bothroyd. Just before the break the ground erupted when the home team deservedly equalised. Bothroyd's free-kick bounced back off the defensive wall to McIndoe who sliced a misplaced cross to the edge of the penalty area, Keogh chased the ball and just kept it in before floating over a perfect cross that was powerfully headed home at the near post by Jody Craddock.



Wolves then looked to have put themselves on course to take control of the tie when they took the lead six minutes into the second half. Once again

a Bothroyd shot caused chaos, McNamara floated the loose ball back into the area and a knock-down by Collins was forced home from close range by Olofinjana. But any hopes that Wolves had of quickly finishing off their opponents disappeared three minutes later, Phillips took full advantage of being totally unmarked to head home a 54th minute corner from close range. The visitors regained the lead again in the 72nd minute when Breen was once more at fault when playing Kamara on-side and allowing the striker to race clear and place his shot past rookie keeper Hennessey from an angle. West Brom keeper Kiely had the last say when he made a smart injury time save to deny Kightly for the third time ensuring they kept their advantage ahead of the second leg.

**Opinion:** Superb performance but punished for schoolboy errors in defence.

**Man of the match:** Olofinjana

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 27,750

**Team:** Hennessey, Neill Collins, Breen, Craddock, McNamara (Little 78), Kightly, Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe, Bothroyd (Ward 78), Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Mark Davies, Gleeson.

**Bookings:** None.

# MATCH REPORTS



## FINAL CURTAINS

### WEST BROM 1-0 WOLVES

Wednesday 16th May 2007  
(Play-Off Semi-Final Second Leg)

The Wembley play-off dream is now over after Wolves lost 1-0 on the night and 4-2 on aggregate to their local rivals in the end of season Championship play-off semi-final. After his man-of-the-match performance in the Molineux meeting Dean Kiely was hardly tested as Wolves never reached the height of attacking play achieved in the first leg. They were made to pay the ultimate price for not making the most of the domination they enjoyed in the first leg and the host of missed chances that went begging on that occasion, and instead of taking a lead to the second leg they took a 2-3 deficit to the Hawthorns which in the end proved a bridge too far.



Wolves started the brighter with four corners in as many minutes but without threatening or causing any real scares, and it was the

home team that launched the evenings first worthwhile attack when Koumas supplied a cross which Phillips just failed to connect with. Wolves split the home defence in the ninth minute when a fine three man move created an opening for Andy Keogh, but his touch deserted him and he could only blaze the ball over the crossbar. It seemed that the Wolves defence had learned nothing from the first leg and in the 22nd minute had a lucky escape when the clinical Phillips was left wide open only for the striker to miss the target from a Koumas cross.

After the break the stalemate continued and Wolves were still in the tie but creating very little in the way of goal scoring chances. In the 62nd minute as West Brom started to apply the pressure Hennessey dived to his right to save Kamara's curling effort but three minutes later the deadlock was broken. Koren crossed from the left and this time Breen was made to pay for the lack of marking when Phillips rose unchallenged to pick his spot and head home. Moments later though Wolves nearly grabbed a dramatic equaliser when West Brom defender Sodje miss hit a back pass that left Kiely stranded, but the defender scampered back to prevent an own goal as the ball was just about to cross the line.

Hennessey's heroics again denied Koren at point-blank range, while at the other end

Bothroyd failed to capitalise on a high bouncing opportunity to square affairs on the night when he hooked the ball over the bar with 10 minutes remaining. That was basically it for the season as far as Wolves were concerned. On a brighter note the current squad of youngsters brought together by Mick McCarthy, even though failing at the final hurdle to get to the Promised Land bodes for a promising future, which couldn't have been said for the prima donna's that Glenda Hoddle left at the end of the previous season.



**Opinion:** Come on you Rams.....

**Man of the match:** Craddock.

**Team Rating:** 4/10

**Attendance:** 27,415

**Team:** Hennessey, Neill Collins, Breen, Craddock, McNamara (Mulgrew 76), Kightly (Ward 84), Olofinjana, Potter, McIndoe (Gleeson 59), Bothroyd, Keogh.

**Unused Subs:** Oakes, Little.

**Bookings:** Potter (38 - Foul).

## CHAMPIONSHIP 2006/2007

Team	P	HOME			L	F	A	AWAY			L	F	A	GD	Pts
		W	D					W	D						
Sunderland	46	15	4	4	38	18	12	3	8	38	29	29	88		
Birmingham	46	15	5	3	37	18	11	3	9	30	24	25	86		
Derby	46	13	6	4	33	19	12	3	8	29	27	16	84		
West Brom	46	14	4	5	51	24	8	6	9	30	31	26	76		
Wolves	46	12	5	6	33	28	10	5	8	26	28	3	76		
Southampton	46	13	6	4	36	20	8	6	9	41	33	24	75		
Preston	46	15	4	4	38	17	7	4	12	26	36	11	74		
Stoke City	46	12	8	3	35	16	7	8	8	27	25	21	73		
Sheffield W	46	10	6	7	38	36	10	5	8	32	30	4	71		
Colchester	46	15	4	4	46	19	5	5	13	24	37	14	69		
Plymouth A	46	10	8	5	36	26	7	8	8	27	36	1	67		
C Palace	46	12	3	8	33	22	6	8	9	26	29	8	65		
Cardiff City	46	11	7	5	33	18	6	6	11	24	35	4	64		
Ipswich Town	46	13	2	8	40	29	5	6	12	24	30	5	62		
Burnley	46	10	6	7	35	23	5	6	12	17	26	3	57		
Norwich	46	10	5	8	29	25	6	4	13	27	46	-15	57		
Coventry	46	11	4	8	30	25	5	4	14	17	37	-15	56		
QPR	46	9	6	8	31	29	5	5	13	23	39	-14	53		
Leicester	46	6	8	9	26	31	7	6	10	23	33	-15	53		
Barnsley	46	9	4	10	27	29	6	1	16	26	56	-32	50		
Hull City	46	8	3	12	33	32	5	7	11	18	35	-16	49		
Southend Utd	46	6	6	11	29	38	4	6	13	18	42	-33	42		
Luton Town	46	7	5	11	33	40	3	5	15	20	41	-28	40		
Leeds United	46	10	4	9	27	30	3	3	17	19	42	-26	36		

# SALES NEWS



We have some autographed copies of "The Doog's" book, 'The Sash He Never Wore...Twenty Five Years On' for sale, as well as some signed limited edition prints of him celebrating his goal for us in the 1974 League Cup Final. If you'd like to be the proud owner of one of these rare items then contact Dave Slape. Hurry, though, as these are the last of the bunch. The book is £10.00 + p&p (or can be purchased at the AGM) and the picture is £35 framed or £20 unframed.



**WWLSC**  
**large key rings**  
**£1.00.**

**WWLSC**  
**enamelled badges**  
**£2.50 + sae.**

**WWLSC**  
**car fobs**  
**£1.00 + sae.**

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

## Pre-Season Fixtures

Saturday 14th July	(A) v Grays Athletic	K.O. 15.00
Wednesday 18th July	(A) v Bray Wanderers	K.O. 19.45
Sunday 22nd July	(A) v Bohemians	K.O. 15.00
Wednesday 25th July	(A) v Doncaster Rovers	K.O. 19.30
Saturday 28th July	(A) v Cheltenham Town	K.O. 15.00
Tuesday 31st July	(A) v Northampton Town	K.O. 19.45
Saturday 4th August	(H) v Reading	K.O. 15.00

## Stop-Press: Selected League Fixtures

Saturday 11th August	(H) v Watford	K.O. 15.00
Tuesday 14th August	(H) v Bradford City (CC rd 1)	K.O. 19.45
Saturday 18th August	(A) v Sheffield Wednesday	K.O. 15.00
Wednesday 26th Dec.	(A) v Hull City	K.O. 15.00
Sunday 4h May	(A) v Plymouth Argyle	K.O. 13.00

## FEEDBACK

Please do write to us on all, or any, aspects which you feel would be of any interest or benefit to the Club from a supporter's perspective.

**address:** 26 Brockenhurst Way, London SW16 4UD

**e-mail:** londonwolves.66@btinternet.com

**contacts:** Stuart Earl 01760 756278 Dave Slape 0208 764 8023 Peter Woodfield 01634 363704

# MEET THE PLAYERS



## ANNUAL MEET THE PLAYERS



It is regarded in many circles that Friday 13th is an unlucky date in the calendar, but as our annual event always takes place on the eve of Wolves' last away game in/around London, we had no say in the timing as this was the date in April that we met up with the team in Croydon. It was the eve of the Crystal Palace match at Selhurst Park.

As it turned out, the only bad fortune that was going fell on the team bus, which was somewhat delayed getting through London's notorious traffic during rush hour. But notwithstanding that, once the team had checked into their rooms, they joined us in the excellent bar area of the hotel. What was very pleasing was to see so many members in attendance (50-60?). However, even more pleasing was to see virtually the whole squad being so accommodating for long chats, photos and autographs. With such a new, young, squad that Mick McCarthy and Taff Evans have brought to the Club, many saw the funny side of several encounters which occurred. After all, with so few players being household names or faces, mistaken identities were quite common. It wasn't quite..." Andy Keogh, can I have your autograph, please"...."I'm not Andy, I'm Seyi George", but you get my drift. Several mistakes were made on those lines but at the same time, it was followed by much laughter. What was evident though, to us, the supporters, was how well all the players were comfortable with each other. The camaraderie showed through in this social arena, and it was quite clear why the team were doing so well on the football field. Fair play to Mick and his team, it just goes to show what good management is.

Before the team left for the dining room for their evening meal, Stuart expressed his thanks to them all for being so accommodating and wished them well for the remaining games of the season. As it turned out, they were prophetic words as the team put on a fabulous performance the next day in a 2-2 draw, and saw us finish the season in 5th place with a two match play-off against the Baggies. Friday the 13th ? ..... PAH!!!!



*STEF LEONARD*

