



Wolverhampton Wanderers

LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

founded 1966

<i>Pos</i>	<i>Team</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>GD</i>	<i>Pts</i>
12	Fulham	38	12	10	16	39	46	-7	46
13	Sunderland	38	11	11	16	48	56	-8	44
14	Bolton Wanderers	38	10	9	19	42	67	-25	39
15	Wolverhampton W	38	9	11	18	32	56	-24	38
16	Wigan Athletic	38	9	9	20	37	79	-42	36
17	West Ham United	38	8	11	19	47	66	-19	35
18	Burnley	38	8	6	24	42	82	-40	30
19	Hull City	38	6	12	20	34	75	-41	30
20	Portsmouth	38	7	7	24	34	66	-32	19

!!!MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!!

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FROM THE CHAIR



WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

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Honorary President

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Honorary Member

Sir Jack Hayward OBE

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Well, well, what a season that was. Despite amassing only 32 goals in 38 games, and being everybody's favourites to go straight back down to the Championship, Wolves survived to fight another day alongside the "Big Boys". Throughout the season it was certainly nerve-wracking and exciting in equal measure. Many congratulations, therefore, to the manager, Mick McCarthy, and the boys. They put in some quite amazing performances, not least the home and away games against the Spurs of Tottenham, and the away games at Wigan and West Ham, when the Wolves were anything but favourites to collect anything in the points department.

The squad visibly grew in stature as the season progressed and served Mick well. They justified his faith in them that they would be good enough to take their place among the elite, and surprised quite a few on the way. Of course, there were some members of the side that stood out more than others. London Wolves' Player of the Year, Kevin Doyle, Club Captain, Jody Craddock, Marcus Hahnemann and Matt Jarvis particularly catching my eye, along with Christophe Berra and Ronald Zubar coming into their own in the latter part of the campaign. No doubt there'll be some changes made to the playing personnel in the close season, so a big thank you to all those that will be leaving and a big welcome to the new boys who will be strengthening the squad.

On the club front, we've had another great season, with Messrs Woodfield and Slape steering the good ship, London Wolves, to games spread far and wide with their usual efficiency.

Our Annual General Meeting takes place on Saturday 26th June at 3.00pm, and the venue is once again the Brockley Social Club in Brockley, details of which are published elsewhere in the Newsletter. Many thanks to Leo Masters for, again, making all the arrangements. Refreshments will be provided, and drinks are available at the club's well stocked bar. I hope that you can make it as good a turnout as last year when we were well supported.

Another date for your diaries is Saturday 16th July 2011, the day we will be celebrating the 45th Anniversary of our foundation. We have already booked the Millenium Suite in Charlton Athletic's home, The Valley, and as with our 40th bash, we are expecting to have a great night. Roy Eagles, Stef Leonard and I are working on a night that should be quite unforgettable. Details of our guest list are going to remain secret, but I can assure you that the names attending will both surprise and amaze you. When the details are eventually published, book early to avoid any disappointment of missing out.

All that's left to say is to wish you all a great summer as a Premiership supporter, enjoy the World Cup, and let's hope that Messrs Hahnemann, Guedioura and Milijas also enjoy their World Cup outings but that they don't do anything silly and foil England's chances!

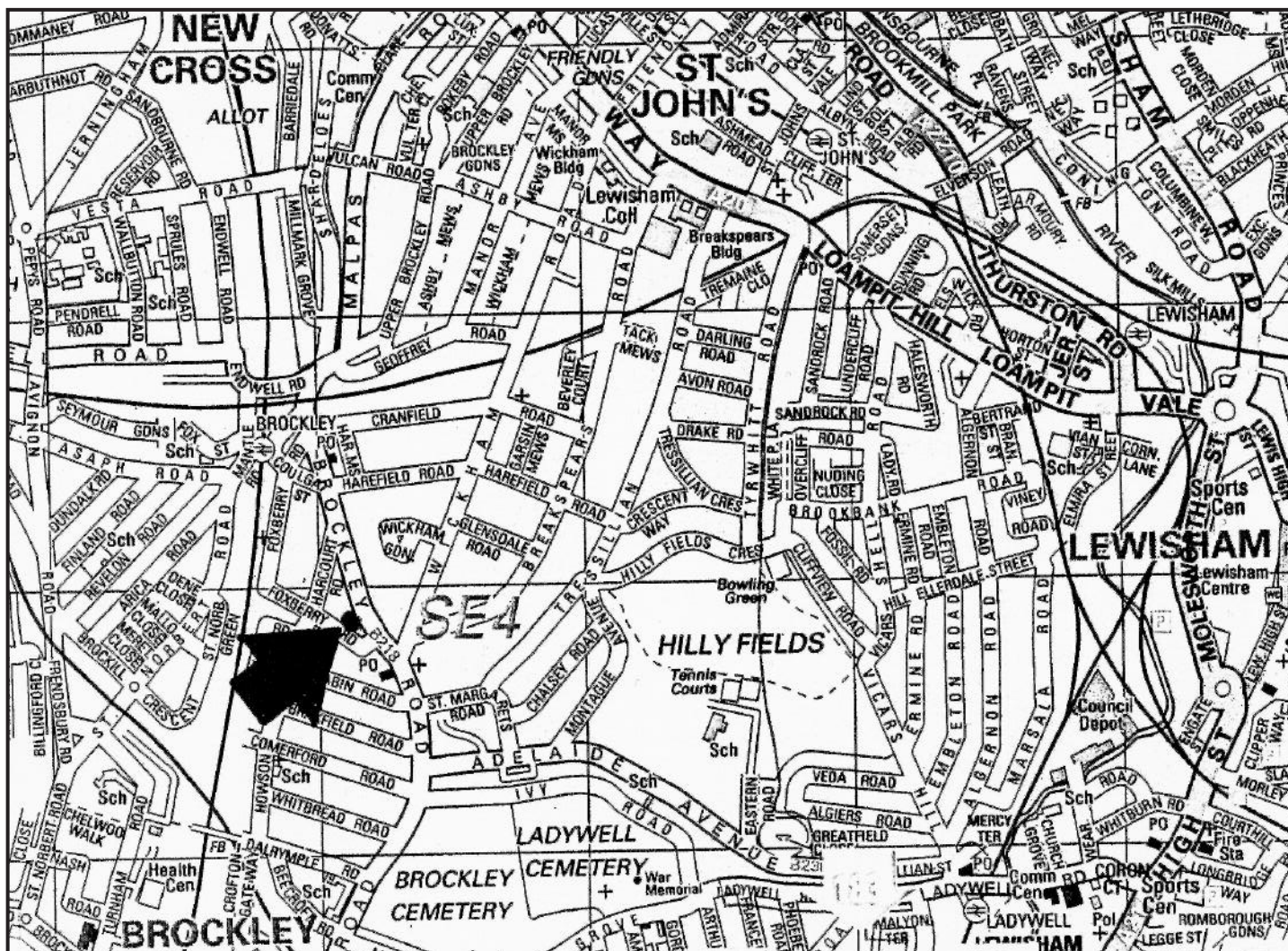
Stuart



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 26th June 2010

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 2009 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 |

FROM THE EDITOR



Further to the Chairman's comments in his "From The Chair", with my Deputy Chairman's hat on, I too would like to congratulate Mick, all the players, the backroom staff and the management, for pulling together and securing our stay in the Premier League. It truly was a complete team effort. Yes, we may have had a few sticky patches during the season, but good management and a recognition of where it was going wrong, saw us come through in the end, and can count the season as a great success. After all, being honest, how many of us at the start would have settled for a 17th place finish? Even Mick at the beginning of the season said that as long as there were three other teams below us at the season's end, 17th place would be just fine.

Looking at it another way, the Premier League can be justifiably split into a top 6 division, a middle 7 division, and a bottom 7 division. As far as I am concerned, we finished the season as runners-up of the bottom division, in a season that was always going to be a difficult one. By finishing in 15th place, we exceeded our expectations, netted an extra £1.5million in prize money, and managed to reward the whole squad which won the Championship and promotion, by allowing them to show us if they could hack it in the top league. Most did and some didn't, but all their CV's could now contain the words "Premiership experience", something that would help when moving excess players on.

As I write, we have secured new playing personnel in defence and in the forward line. A warm welcome, therefore, to Jelle Van Damme (how do you pronounce his christian name?) and Steven Fletcher. I hope Jelle will forgive me for printing below a Scape-ism that I found on the internet. I read in the newspapers that there appear to be more signings on the way, namely in defence and midfield so, with a bit of luck, we could be vying for a runners-up spot in the middle 7 division next season.

At this point, I'd like to heap praise on our Entertainment Officer, Roy Eagles, for the fabulous job he's done in organising social functions throughout the season. The variety of events has been fantastic - horse racing nights, dog racing nights, ten pin bowling, Christmas party, etc, etc. At all of the functions he's run fund-raising bits and pieces, with all the proceeds going towards our 45th Anniversary celebrations next year. Well done Roy and all those who have participated. For those of you who may have missed any of the above, try and come to one or two next season - you'll have great fun.

Regarding our 45th Anniversary, the date and venue is Saturday 16th July 2011 in the Millenium Suite at Charlton Athletic's home, The Valley. If it'll be half as successful as our 40th bash in the same venue, it'll be a great success. Your committee is in the early stages of organising the event, but already things are in the pipeline that will ensure that it'll be an event not to be missed. On that point, when details of the event are published, do get your orders in as early as possible. At the 40th bash, quite a few people missed the cut-off date for booking tickets and were duly disappointed when they couldn't be 'fitted-in'.

Enjoy the World Cup; I hope your team is successful; and I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM which is on Saturday 26th June.

STEF

JELLE VAN DAMME

1. Let's hope his form doesn't desert him.
2. He's apparently got a sweet left foot.
3. Hopefully he can cut the custard.
4. Is he the man to cure a sometimes wobbly defence?

Yes, because he has Claude his way to the top and he's guaranteed to send the Chivers down any defender's spine.

In fact, it's said that they broke the mould when they made him.

5. He's Mick's sort of player, not someone to trifle with. You know exactly what he's going to bring to the party.

Having said that, he's still young enough not to be set in his ways. Hopefully, he'll immediately gel with the rest of the team.

6. Ice creamed with (angel) delight when we finally signed him.

MEET THE PLAYERS



London Wolves Meet the Players 2010

The 2008-9 fixture list produced no London Saturday game after the 6th December's match at Loftus Road, which meant we missed our annual meeting with the Wolves players in the Championship winning season. But, come April in the Premiership, Mick McCarthy very kindly allowed us to hold the meeting at the team hotel the night before the Fulham match at the Cottage. We had a record turnout of over 60, with many of our younger (and not so young) members able to meet and chat with a marvellous group of people. Many Wolves shirts won't ever be washed again.

Jody Craddock sported his scar from Stoke, and Captain Karl Henry, still serving his ban from the Arsenal fiasco, were there to support the team. Dave Edwards, just back from that awful injury at the Lane reckons he covers about 15km in a match but was just so pleased to be back in action. Marcus Hahnemann lectured Chairman Stuart on the vagaries of football agents (and how he now deals through the PFA), also that he has just won a year's contract extension after having the best shot-stopper ratio in the Premiership. Chris Iwelumo seemed to find everything humorous, while Matty Jarvis thought he probably wouldn't get Goal of the Month because the competition was too good. Ronnie Zubar commented on how nice and friendly the Club is and on the change from his former club Olympique Marseille. With all air traffic over the British Isles halted due to the ash cloud, Stef found himself stranded in the west of Ireland (for six days as it turned out) and missed the event. Mick wondered why Stef hadn't come back by ferry. ("I (expletive deleted) tried!")

Chairman Stuart donned his chain of office and thanked Mick for bringing the players and congratulated them for staying in the Premiership. He commented on the number of times the award had gone to a goalkeeper since 1976 and thanked Marcus for his heroics before announcing that Karl Henry came third in our poll, veteran Jody Craddock second, and that Kevin Doyle was the London Wolves Player of the Season.



WOLVES ALLSTARS



WOLVES ALLSTARS

Many former Wolves legends have banded together to support local and national charities by staging fundraising matches... already in 2010 they've raised over £15,000 from the first four matches. Their matches often correspond with a Wolves home match so it's well worth making a weekend of it.

Mel Eves, 1980 League Cup winner with Wolves, manages the team and tells us how pleased he has been with the turnout and support from Wolves fans at all of the matches – ranging from 250 to 600 attending, and especially with the amount of money they have helped raise for the charities.

2010 Results

- Wyrley Old Boys - Wolves Allstars (May 22nd) (Walsall Hospice)*
- Stoke City Old Boys 5 - Wolves Allstars 2 (Don Goodman, Andy Turner) (April 25th) (NACCPO)*
- PeoplePlus 1 - Wolves Allstars 12 (April 9th) (Haiti Earthquake Appeal)*
- Forest Falcons 0 - Wolves Allstars 5 (March 21st) (Help the Heroes)*
- All Saints Allstars 2 - Wolves Allstars 3 (March 7th) (Cancer Research)*



Here are the Wolves Allstars before the Stoke match

Back L/R: ANDY TURNER; TONY DINNING; DON GOODMAN; TIM CLARKE; CYRILLE REGIS, DARREN SIMKIN
 Front L/R: SHANE TUDOR; MEL EVES; NEIL EDWARDS; CHRIS BRINDLEY AND MARK DUNCOMBE.
 SUBS. PAUL JONES; BRETT HAYWARD; MARTIN PRENTICE; EDDIE JOHNSON
 [MATCH ORGANISER] WAS THE GUEST SUBSTITUTE GOALKEEPER.

Full match reports are on the Wolves Allstars web site – you can link to it from our London Wolves Allstars page where we have more pix and the occasional video but here they are in action.

Wolves 1st goal against Peopleplus; Andy celebrates the 10th (or maybe 11th!); Mel confirms £4,000 raised; Star Wars at Stoke; Don says “put it there” from the kick off and scores within 20 seconds; Cyrille meets hungry hippo (Pottermus) from Stoke; Cyrille and Mel in action; Mel surrounded, Ian Dyer sings his World Cup Anthem, Brett Hayward in action, both teams at Stoke and finally PeoplePlus captain Jason Guy seen here with our own Mark Feehan at the www.footballaid.com match at Vicarage Road,



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MEGA MIL'LION SERBIAN

WOLVES 2-1 BOLTON W

Saturday 5th December 2009



Following the Birmingham fiasco the previous week Wolves regained a bit of pride when they won their first game since September against fellow strugglers Bolton. Nenad Milijas was the man pulling all the strings as he created one and scored another in the 2-1 victory. Wolves dominated the play for well over an hour and were cruising to victory until a late Bolton goal made it a repetition of the Fulham game with the visitors nearly snatching a draw in a frantic finale.

Wolves got off to a dream start with a goal in the third minute, Doyle was clattered from behind by O'Brien and when Milijas swung in the resulting free-kick Berra flicked on to Craddock who was on hand to smash it in. It was the perfect way to settle the nerves and allowed Wolves to dictate the play with Milijas in the thick of everything, but despite having the lion's share of the possession they failed to turn their domination into goals. Chances went begging and Ebanks-Blake went close with a shot that was deflected wide by Cahill, Doyle had a header just over the bar and Jaaskelainen then held on to a fierce volley from Milijas.

Wolves continued the second half where they left off at the end of the first, and within a minute of the restart Milijas let fly with a shot that was just deflected off target by the foot of Cahill. Inevitably it was that man Milijas who extended the lead in spectacular fashion in the 63rd minute, the midfielder latched on to a loose ball and strode forward before lashing in an unstoppable shot from 30 yards that gave Jaaskelainen absolutely no chance.

Bolton threw caution to the wind following Milijas's cracker and pulled a goal back in the 79th minute after some shocking defending by Wolves. A corner from the right was sent over to the back of the six yard area where Klasnic was left on his own to head back into the danger area,

and Elmander beat eight Wolves players to the ball to bundle it over the line from two yards. The goal set up a grandstand finish and Wolves desperately hung on as Bolton surged forward. But even though there were a few scares, including one almighty goalmouth scramble at the death, Hahnemann and his defence stood solid as Wolves hung on for a massive win that took them above their opponents in the drop zone.

Opinion: A bit of pride restored after the Birmingham shambles.

Man of the match: Milijas

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 27,362

Team: Hahnemann, Stearman, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Milijas, Henry, Edwards (Mancienne 84), Jarvis, Doyle, Ebanks-Blake (Maierhofer 80)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Keogh, Surman, Foley, Castillo

Bookings: Stearman (15 – foul), Hahnemann (90 – time wasting)

LONG OVER'JEW

TOTTENHAM 0-1 WOLVES

Saturday 12th December 2009



After failing to notch a single point in November Wolves made it six points out of six for December with their first win at White Hart Lane for 36 years. After taking an early lead it was a backs to the wall job and hanging on for dear life for the rest of the game. Spurs may have scored nine in their last home game but there was no way they were going to get even one against our boys, and the fickle home supporters were soon on the backs of their own players to the amusement of the 2,900 away fans who were having a party in the away end.

Wolves opened the scoring after only three minutes following a foul by Huddlestone on Karl Henry on the right flank, Milijas swung over the free-kick and Doyle got in front of Dawson to get the slightest of touches and past Gomes into the net. From that point Spurs had the lion's share of the possession but chances were far and few between, and when they did get anywhere near goal Craddock and Berra stood firm and

suffocated the life out of the home attack. It was obvious McCarthy had done his homework and the threat from Spurs in-form danger man Aaron Lennon was stifled by the close attention of Ward and Jarvis. For all their possession only a long range shot from Defoe and a couple of off-target efforts from Wolves old boy Robbie Keane was all Spurs had to show for the first 45 minutes.

Just like the first half Wolves also started well in the second and Doyle turned provider for Ebanks-Blake's just after the restart when the striker's angled shot was just saved at the near post by Gomes. Spurs again tried to force the issue but Hahnemann remained an on-looker as he watched a headed effort from Crouch go over the crossbar and one from Kranjcar stabbed wide when he well placed six yards out. The Wolves keeper was finally called into serious action when Huddlestone forced him into a fine stop with the clock ticking down, but that was Spurs last and probably best effort of the afternoon. With a few minutes remaining Ebanks-Blake almost finished affairs when a Foley cross was headed down into his path by Iwelumo, but his low shot was deflected just behind.

As the clock hit the 90 minute mark the fourth official put up a board for six additional minutes, a figure that even Alex Ferguson would have settled for, but Wolves hung on even though their fans finger nails were much shorter at the end.

Opinion: A great afternoon slightly marred when David Edwards suffered ankle ligament damage after falling awkwardly.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 9/10

Attendance: 36,014

Team: Hahnemann, Stearman (Iwelumo 79), Craddock, Berra, Ward, Milijas (Mancienne 70), Henry, Edwards (Foley 59), Jarvis, Ebanks-Blake, Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Surman, Maierhofer, Castillo

Bookings: Henry (28 - foul), Jarvis (45 - diving), Ward (74 – time wasting), Hahnemann (90 – time wasting), Mancienne (90 - foul)

YOU'RE TAKING THE MICK

MANCHESTER UTD 3-0 WOLVES

Tuesday 15th December 2009

Mick McCarthy showed his total contempt to the supporters who follow Wolverhampton Wanderers when he played a team that contained TEN changes to the one that

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gained a superb win at Spurs only three days earlier. By resting most of his first choice eleven he basically threw in the towel before the game had even kicked off.

With points to stay in the Premier a priceless commodity McCarthy decided that we could afford to potentially throw away three that could be the difference between being relegated and staying up. He, in effect short changed 3,000 supporters who had paid £42.00 for a ticket, plus the cost of travel, plus the time off work, plus the cost of everything else that goes with a day out watching football these days. McCarthy blamed the "exertions of Saturday's battling win at Tottenham" as his reasoning in his team selection. I was one of those supporters who paid all that money, and then after getting back to London at four in the morning then got up at seven to go to work to help pay for the cost of watching a second string eleven, now that's what you call tired Mick.

As far as the game is concerned the new look team made a good account of themselves in the first half, even though they were mainly on the back foot, and they actually missed a glorious chance to take the lead in the 20th minute when Friend blasted over from eight yards following a long throw from Halford, but that was about the best chance they had all night. The resistance finally ended in the 30th minute when Rooney fired home from the penalty spot following a needless hand ball by the ever erratic Zubar. Two minutes from half time the points were in the bag for United when Vidic made it 2-0, he got in front of two Wolves defenders from a corner to head home through Hahnemann's hands and into the net.

With the points all but wrapped up the second half became a non-entity as United went into cruise mode and they completed the scoring in the 66th minute. Scholes found Berbatov on the right hand side of the Wolves box and his overhead kick fell into the path of Valencia who rifled a shot into the roof of the net from 12 yards.

Opinion: Let's hope the managers team selection doesn't come back to haunt him....

Man of the match: Mancienne

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 73,709

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Mancienne, Elokobi, Hill, Halford (Jones 76), Foley, Castillo, Friend (Jarvis 61), Surman, Maierhofer (Iwelumo 54)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Henry, Ebanks-Blake, Berra

Bookings: Zubar (41 - foul)

NO BURN'T FINGERS FOR MAC THE KNIFE

WOLVES 2-0 BURNLEY

Sunday 20th December 2009



Following his controversial midweek team selection at Man United nothing other than a win would have sufficed for Mick McCarthy in this crunch match against Burnley. On this occasion he played a full strength team and Wolves ended up comfortable 2-0 winners against opposition which at best could only be described as substandard. Unlike Tuesday when he put two fingers up to the away supporters McCarthy was able to put them up to the media, Arsene Wenger and everybody else who had put their oar in over the previous four days prior to the game.

Wolves showed all the early initiative in freezing conditions and took the lead in the 16th minute, and it was all down to the never say die attitude of Kevin Doyle. The striker's perseverance paid off when he dispossessed Carlisle on the left hand side and laid the ball back into the path of Jarvis who rifled in a low show that Jensen parried away, but Milijias was first to react to the rebound and he side-footed the ball into the gaping net. Doyle then had a great opportunity to double the lead when he beat the offside trap after running onto a chip from Milijias, but he was foiled by Jensen who blocked his shot with his legs. With just five minutes of the second half gone Wolves doubled their lead, Craddock pumped the ball forward from inside his own half and Doyle shrugged off the challenge of Caldwell and cut inside Duff before firing past Jensen. Burnley almost pulled one back on the hour mark, but

Foley who was the only outfield player to keep his place following the Man United game, came to the rescue when he cleared a Caldwell header off the line following a corner on the left.

Jensen then saved twice in a matter of minutes to deny Wolves a third. Firstly he produced a superb save to turn aside a close-range header from Ebanks-Blake and then he quickly came off his line to block a shot from the same striker. With nothing to lose Burnley flew caution to the wind in the final minutes in search of a consolation goal, but Wolves never looked threatened against a team that looks destined for relegation.

Opinion: McCarthy has the last laugh at the expense of the fans.

Man of the match: Doyle

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 27,410

Team: Hahnemann, Stearman, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Foley, Henry, Milijias (Mancienne 68), Jarvis (Iwelumo 87), Ebanks-Blake, Doyle (Elokobi 90)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Surman, Maierhofer, Castillo

Bookings: Henry (35 - foul),

Doyle (50 - goal celebration)

DO DEY CHEAT? YES, DEY DO DO DAT DON'T DEY

LIVERPOOL 2-0 WOLVES

Saturday 26th December 2009



Liverpool finally ended up 2-0 winners in this Boxing Day clash, but it was a different story for almost an hour as Wolves held their own and looked the more comfortable of the two teams. It was Happy Christmas Stephen Ward from Rafa Benitez and all the lads at Liverpool as they were collectively instrumental in getting the Wolves player sent off in the second half to help tip the scales in their favour.

During the opening period Liverpool just about edged the possession and briefly threatened with shots from Johnson, Gerrard and Torres, but the latter was the only one of the three to force Hahnemann into any kind of save. As the game progressed Wolves grew in confidence and

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gradually imposed their presence with Karl Henry playing a dominant role in midfield and pushing his team forward, and midway through the first half both Ebanks-Blake and Milijas had good efforts saved by Spanish cheat Reina.

Wolves continued the better of the two teams at the start of the second half, but then came the sending off incident which changed the whole pattern of the game. Ward who had earlier been booked was penalised for a foul on Lucas, and even though it appeared he hardly touched the Liverpool player the man in red went down as if he'd been taken out by a snipers bullet. Clueless referee Andre Marriner at first mistakenly booked Berra, but before you could blink an eye he was completely surrounded by all of the Liverpool team waving imaginary cards in his face in a desperate effort to get Ward a second yellow card, they were even joined by keeper Reina who sprinted the whole length of the field in support of his cheating team mates. After consulting his linesman Marriner reversed his decision and Ward was shown the red card.

The disgraceful antics paid dividends for Liverpool eight minutes later when they opened the scoring, Insua crossed from the left and Gerrard climbed above Milijas and headed past Hahnemann. It was ironic that it was Gerrard who scored, he was one of the main instigators in Ward's dismissal and was still on the pitch after escaping unpunished following a two footed lunge from behind that left Ward needing lengthy treatment in the first half, funnily enough no booking or Wolves players waving imaginary cards in the referee's face on that occasion. Benayoun settled the issue after 70 minutes when his drive deflected off the unfortunate Karl Henry for the second.

Opinion: As far as referees are concerned there seems to be one rule for the so called top four and one for everyone else in the Premier.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 41,956

Team: Hahnemann, Stearman, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Foley, Henry, Milijas (Mancienne 62), Jarvis, Ebanks-Blake (Iwelumo 66), Doyle (Elokobi 58)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Surman, Maierhofer, Castillo.

Bookings: Ward (48, 53 – fouls)

Sent Off: Ward (53 – second bookable)

WHA'VEV'ER HAPPENED THERE

WOLVES 0-3 MANCHESTER CITY

Monday 28th December 2009

The scoreline In the last game of 2009 suggests an easy win for the new rich kids on the block from Manchester, but nothing could be further from the truth as Wolves more than held their own against their star studded multi-million pound opposition. A deflected own goal gave City the initiative after Wolves had the better of the early play and another two goals in the second half sealed the win for visitors.

Wolves enjoyed more than their fair share of the early possession but lacked the killer touch in the final third, and this was summed-up when Surman was set up by Iwelumo after ten minutes and he failed to keep his shot down when well placed 15 yards out. City should have scored with what was their first real chance on the half hour but Bellamy skied his shot over the bar from six yards after Tevez had set him up. Wolves luck did run out three minutes later though, Bellamy crossed for Tevez and his half-hit shot deflected off the unlucky Berra and past Hahnemann to give City the lead.

Wolves made a real go of it and went for broke in the opening twenty minutes of the second half and both Iwelumo and Doyle went close, but they always looked vulnerable on the break with Bellamy nearly punishing them on two separate occasions. However Wolves did concede a second in the 69th minute when a controversial free-kick was given against them when Mancienne fouled Barry outside the area, Bellamy became involved in the move that led to the free-kick after coming back from an offside position in the first place, but appeals to the referee from the frustrated Wolves players fell on deaf ears. Garrido stepped up and curled the free-kick around a badly lined-up wall and past the flat-footed Hahnemann. Tevez finished the scoring with three minutes remaining when he latched onto a pass from Robinho and beat Hahnemann with a shot from the edge of the area.

Opinion: Not too bad a performance and scoreline somewhat flattered the visitors.

Man of the match: Mancienne

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 28,957

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra (Stearman 46), Elokobi, Foley (Jarvis 79), Henry, Mancienne, Surman, Iwelumo, Doyle (Ebanks-Blake 73)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Milijas, Maierhofer, Castillo

Bookings: Foley (63 – foul), Mancienne (68 – foul), Hahnemann (70 - dissent)

TRANMERE ROVERS 0-1 WOLVES

Sunday 3rd January 2010 (FA Cup 3rd Round)



League One team Tranmere more than matched Wolves with the recalled Hennessey making three decent saves in a five minute spell midway through the first half, and when he was eventually beaten Foley was on hand to clear the ball off the line from a Thomas-Moore header. The near miss seemed to spark Wolves into life and they should have taken the lead two minutes later but Jarvis somehow fired wide with only goalkeeper Daniels to beat.

Daniels produced an outstanding save on 54 minutes to keep his side in the tie, Ebanks-Blake thought his close range header was in but Daniels somehow got a hand to it to divert it behind. Jarvis eventually scored the all-important winner in the 77th minute when he slammed the ball home after a precision through ball from Milijas. With nothing to lose Rovers piled on the pressure in the last ten minutes but Wolves easily hung on even though there was a scare when Curran fired straight at Hennessey in the dying minutes.

Team: Hennessey, Foley, Stearman, Craddock, Ward, Milijas (Halford 89), Henry, Mancienne, Jarvis, Ebanks-Blake (Elokobi 89), Iwelumo (Vokes 76).

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Surman, Jones, Zubar. **Bookings:** Milijas (84 - foul).

Man of the match: Hennessey.

Attendance: 7,476.

WIGAN STEAR'ED TO VICTORY

WOLVES 0-2 WIGAN ATHLETIC

Saturday 16th January 2010

Wolves looked all at sorts from the off and were given the run around for most of the afternoon with Rodallega and N'Zogbia causing bedlam up front for Wigan. It was N'Zogbia who had the first real chance after a quarter of an hour when he intercepted a poor backpass from Foley, but he was

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rescued by Hahnemann who pushed the shot around the post. Two minutes later Ebanks-Blake missed a golden chance to put Wolves ahead, Milijas put him through with a peach of a pass that carved the Wigan defence in two but the striker poked the ball wide with only the keeper to beat.

Rodallega was giving Mancienne a nightmare of a time and he passed the Wolves centre back with regular ease, but the last line of defence in the form of Hahnemann wasn't quite so obliging and he saved from the tall centre forward on more than one occasion. When Hahnemann was eventually beaten by a fierce 25-yard drive from Rodallega fortunately for Wolves it cannoned off a post and to safety.

With the first half reaching its conclusion came the defining moment that swung the game in Wigan's favour. Stearman was sent off following his second yellow card of the game when he gave away a needless penalty after tugging the shirt of McCarthy in the area as they both chased a ball heading out of play. Hahnemann brilliantly saved the resulting spot kick from Rodallega and then had a large slice of luck when Scharner sent the rebound wide to keep ten-man Wolves on level terms at the break.

Wigan finally made the breakthrough on the hour mark, N'Zogbia squared the ball back to Rodallega who was once again denied by Hahnemann at close range, but this time the rebound fell to McCarthy who slotted the ball home from ten yards. Wigan were also reduced to ten men after 66 minutes when Thomas lunged in at Ward and was given a second yellow followed by a red card, but all hopes of Wolves even salvaging a point ended with 18 minutes left after Wigan scored a second. Rodallega again shrugged off the weak challenge of Mancienne as if he wasn't there and the ball fell into the path of N'Zogbia who cut in from the right before sending a left-footed drive into the corner of the net, game over....

Opinion: Beaten by a poor team who were helped by a moment of madness by Stearman.

Man of the match: Hahnemann

Team Rating: 3/10

Attendance: 27,604

Team: Hahnemann, Stearman, Craddock, Mancienne, Ward, Foley, Henry, Milijas (Surman 82), Jarvis (Jones 46), Doyle, Ebanks-Blake (Iwelumo 68)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Berra, Vokes

Bookings: Stearman (13 – foul), Henry (70 – foul), Ward (87 – foul), Doyle (88 – foul)

Sent Off: Stearman (45 – second bookable)

WOLVES 2-2 CRYSTAL PALACE

Saturday 23rd January 2010 (FA Cup 4th Rnd)



The fringe team players picked by McCarthy couldn't have made a worse start when Lee was left completely unmarked to head Palace in front from a corner with less than three minutes on the clock. With the ground only half full there was a subdued atmosphere which seemed to affect the players resulting in a general lack of urgency, and there wasn't much to cheer the crowd up until the 36th minute when David Jones swept in a low left foot shot from just inside the box to level the scores.

Wolves obviously didn't learn any lessons from their first half mistakes because right at the start of the second half they again conceded an early goal when Ambrose curled a 25 yard free-kick into the bottom corner. As the game entered the last quarter and with not much happening Wolves brought on Doyle, and he almost made an immediate impact when hitting the bar with his first touch. As the game entered the last ten minutes Wolves finally started to apply a bit of pressure and Berra should have levelled the scores, but he somehow headed over from two yards when it looked easier to score. However it was only brief respite for Palace, a few moments later the ball was recycled on the left and Foley sent a cross to the back post which Zubar chested down, turned and then volleyed past Speroni for the equaliser.

Team: Hennessey, Zubar, Berra, Mancienne, Elokobi (Stephen Ward 72), Foley, Henry, Jones, Surman (Mujangi Bia 63), Ebanks-Blake (Doyle 63), Vokes.
Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Craddock, Iwelumo, Milijas.

Bookings: None.

Man of the match: Jones.

Attendance: 14,449.

LETS ALL RAFA SLEEP

WOLVES 0-0 LIVERPOOL

Tuesday 26th January 2010



Wolves more than held their own against Champions League wannabe's Liverpool to earn a valuable point in their battle to avoid relegation. Mick McCarthy abandoned his usual policy of playing with a 4-4-2 formation and played Michael Mancienne as an extra midfielder with Kevin Doyle operating on his own up front. It was a move that Liverpool struggled to get to grips with and Wolves were the better team in terms of chances created, and they will ultimately feel they should have won the match.

Liverpool just about shaded the possession in the first half but the best chance in fact fell to Doyle after 33 minutes. Jarvis looked constantly lively on the left, and not for the first time he left Carragher in his slipstream before sending in a low cross to the near post, Doyle made his run across the Liverpool defenders to attack the ball at the near post but poked his shot just wide. Jarvis continued to look the most likely to create the decisive opening and just before half time another teasing centre picked out the run of Foley at the far post, but unfortunately his header was directed straight at Reina.

At the start of the second half Hahnemann had to be alert when back-peddalling to palm away a looping first time effort from the edge of the area by Riera, and then Ward almost played his defence into trouble again with a mis-timed back pass, but Hahnemann raced 20 yards out of his box to clear from Kuyt. Wolves started playing with increased fluency and belief with Doyle causing the Liverpool defence most of the problems despite often being outnumbered. He fired just over the bar after 57 minutes and then had a header saved by Reina 60 seconds later. Reina then had to dive bravely at the feet of Foley on the hour as he closed in on goal

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following a neat flick by Doyle, but that elusive goal proved beyond Wolves.

Opinion: A well deserved point against a Liverpool side living in the past.

Man of the match: Jarvis

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 28,763

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Foley, Henry, Mancienne, Jarvis (Guedioura 88), Milijas (Jones 73), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Stearman, Vokes, Iwelumo, Mujangi Bia

Bookings: None

WOLVES SUNSHINE BAND GRAB A POINT AT THE K.C.

HULL CITY 2-2 WOLVES

Saturday 30th January 2010

Wolves twice came from behind to grab a point in this foot of the table six pointer. It was a game devoid of real quality but with plenty of goal scoring chances for both sides, and in the end it could have gone either way. Hull opened the scoring in the 11th minute, Altidore held off the challenge of Berra and found Vennegoor of Hesselink who hit a first time left-footed shot into the bottom corner of the net from the edge of the area. Within a few minutes of going behind Wolves almost equalised when a Jarvis corner found the head of Foley, but with time to pick his spot he flashed his header wide of the post. Ward then tried his luck from 25 yards but his left-footed strike flew just wide of the left-hand post.

Wolves were on level terms within three minutes of the second half, Hunt did well to keep the ball in play and gifted it to Zubar who put a poor cross into the box, but Gardner who was under no pressure attempted to clear the ball and it spun off his left foot and looped over Myhill into the net. The joy was short lived as Hull regained the lead only three minutes later, and it was Zubar who went from hero to zero when he unnecessarily bundled over Altidore to gift Hull a penalty, and up stepped Wolves transfer target Hunt to smash the spot-kick past Hahnemann.

It was end to end and David Jones had a good chance to level the scores again when he beat McShane in the area but Myhill stood up well to save. However Wolves did equalise just a minute later, Hull twice missed chances to clear a Foley cross and when the ball fell to Jarvis he rifled his shot past Myhill into the bottom right hand corner. Both sides continued to push forward in search of a winner and Foley flashed a powerful drive wide from the right. As the game reached its conclusion



new signing Geoffrey Mujangi Bia had a chance to win it for Wolves but Myhill produced a fine save.

Opinion: Could easily have been all three points, but one point could still be vital next May.

Man of the match: Foley

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 24,957

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward (Stearman 90), Foley (Guedioura 90), Mancienne, Jones, Henry, Jarvis (Mujangi Bia 90), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Ebanks-Blake, Vokes, Milijas

Bookings: None

CRYSTAL PALACE 3-1 WOLVES

Tuesday 2nd February 2010
(FA Cup 4th Round Replay)



This game really was the pits from start to finish, it was an absolutely shocking first half in which neither goalkeeper was threatened, Wolves didn't even manage a single shot in the first half hour and when it did come Mujangi Bia's effort from the corner of the Palace area flew high and wide.

The second half continued in the same manner as the first, but then on the hour mark came six minutes and 48 seconds the Wolves players should have nightmares about for some time to come, and makeshift striker Danny Butterfield a full back who had scored just one goal in the last six seasons was the one responsible. In the 61st minute he nodded in from close range after Hennessey could only parry Lawrence's header from a corner. Three

minutes later Palace went two up, Lee headed the ball onto Ambrose, he then prodded it into the path of Butterfield who slotted the ball past Hennessey. It was route one again in the 68th minute when Speroni's long kick was once again won in the air by Lee, Butterfield continued his run and slipped the ball through the legs of Hennessey.

Wolves grabbed a consolation goal with their first notable effort on goal when Karl Henry struck a left-foot shot into the top corner of the net in the 90th minute, but many of the supporters had long gone by then.

Team: Hennessey, Stearman, Craddock, Berra, Zubar, Foley, Mancienne (Jones 76), Henry, Milijas, Mujangi Bia (Ebanks-Blake 59), Vokes (Iwelumo 58).

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Surman, Halford, Castillo.

Bookings: Ebanks-Blake (71 - foul).

Man of the match: Away Support.

Attendance: 10,282.

Overall FA Cup Team Rating: 3/10

PHILLIPS TURNS THE SCREW

BIRMINGHAM CITY 2-1 WOLVES

Sunday 7th February 2010

After the abject midweek performance against Palace in the cup Wolves put in a much better shift against local rivals Birmingham City and were unlucky to be on the end of a 2-1 defeat after leading with only ten minutes left. History repeated itself as the old nemesis Kevin Phillips was again the tormentor with two goals that gave Birmingham all three points. It showed that Wolves haven't learned anything from previous encounters in that you can't give Phillips an inch of space and that he needs to be closely marked.

It was all Birmingham straight from the off and only two superb blocks in the first five minutes by Zubar and Mancienne denied Bowyer and Jerome a goal respectively. Even though Birmingham forced six corners in the first 15 minutes Wolves hung on in there and as the half progressed the more comfortable they looked. After weathering the early storm Zubar wasted a golden opportunity to open the scoring for Wolves in the 32nd minute, a free-kick from the left by Jarvis found its way to the unmarked defender at the far post, but he sent his header back across goal and wide when he should have at least hit the target. However Wolves did open the scoring three minutes before half time, Henry swept the ball to Jarvis on the left and his shot come cross into the area was deflected onto his own post by Johnson, but as the

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ball came back into play Doyle was in there as quick as a flash to knock in the rebound.

Having got their noses in front just before the break Wolves looked much more confident at the start of the second half and they could have extended their lead in the 53rd minute but Jarvis's shot was blocked after a breakaway instigated by Doyle. With the clock ticking down Guedioura nearly sewed up the points when he hit a screamer from 25 yards that just went over the bar, but with just ten minutes left the game was turned on its head by Phillips. Firstly he levelled the scores after Gardner had turned a Fahey centre back across goal and he netted from close range. Five minutes later he found the net again, Carr went on a right wing run from inside his own half and when he finally crossed from just outside the area who should get on the end of it but the unmarked Phillips, and he had all the time he needed to chest the ball down before lashing it past Hahnemann.

Opinion: Second from bottom now and looking desperate.

Man of the match: Doyle

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 24,165

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Foley (Ebanks-Blake 88), Henry, Mancienne, Jones (Guedioura 67), Jarvis (Surman 88), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Vokes, Mujangi Bia

Bookings: Mancienne (45 - foul), Jones (47 - foul), Henry (87 - foul), Berra (90 - dissent)

WOULD JEW BELIEVE IT

WOLVES 1-0 TOTTENHAM

Wednesday 10th February 2010

Wolves completed their first ever double in the Premiership after a thoroughly deserved 1-0 win over Spurs at Molineux. It was the perfect response to the disappointment of Sundays defeat at Birmingham where they led for most of the game and then lost to two late goals.



Wolves started the more workman like of the two teams but there were no real chances of any note until the 20th minute when Spurs had the first real opportunity of the evening to score, Defoe flicked on a pass from Gudjohnsen to put Kranjcar in the clear but Hahnemann stood firm and deflected his shot wide from 12 yards. It was Wolves turn a few moments later when Doyle broke through on the right, but his first touch gave him too narrow an angle and as Dawson got across to challenge he fired a shot wide across the six-yard area.

However Wolves did take the lead with a superb goal in the 27th minute, Jones collected the ball some 30 yards from goal and fed Jarvis on the left wing, the midfielder then surged into the area to meet Jarvis's cross with a neat finish from 12 yards. It should have been even better two minutes later when Wolves appealed for a penalty after Dawson clipped Jarvis's heels in the area but referee Clattenburg waved play on. Jarvis was proving to be a constant threat to the Spurs defence and only a smart save from Gomes down to his right in the 34th minute prevented Wolves doubling the lead.

Spurs took the game to Wolves in the second half but never really created anything clear cut, and as the final fifteen minutes approached Wolves were quite prepared to invite Spurs forward, even though it had proved costly in the previous game against Birmingham. However the gamble paid off and the closest the visitors came to scoring was in the dying seconds when Bassong's flick lacked enough power to divert the ball past Hahnemann from Palacios's shot.

Opinion: McCarthy's game plan outsmarts Redknapp.

Man of the match: Jones

Team Rating: 8/10

Attendance: 27,992

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward (Elokobi 60), Henry, Foley, Guedioura (Mancienne 72), Jones, Jarvis (Milijic 80), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Vokes,

Ebanks-Blake, Mujangi Bia

Bookings: Doyle (29 - dissent), Elokobi (67 - foul)

PETR KEEPS WOLVES IN CEC

WOLVES 0-2 CHELSEA

Saturday 20th February 2010

After the fine win against Spurs in the previous home game it was business as usual as Wolves threw away the chance of an even bigger scalp in the form of Chelsea. As with the Birmingham game two weeks earlier they gifted their opponents' two goals whilst having the majority of the chances, and Marcus Hahnemann's only two real touches involved picking the ball out of his net. At the other end Petr Cech was in good form and he single handedly kept Wolves at bay with a series of outstanding stops.

Chelsea had most of the early possession but it was Doyle who had the first attempt at goal in the 15th minute when he forced Cech into a diving save after cutting in from the wing and hitting a low shot from the edge of the area. A few moments later the lively Doyle then flicked the ball into the path of the overlapping Foley, but his shot from a narrow angle just flew wide and into the side netting. With things evenly balanced Wolves fell behind five minutes before half-time following some sloppy defending. Zhirkov was given oceans of space on the left and he played a one-two with Ballack who squared a low ball across the six-yard box, the ball found Drogba who had the easiest of tap-ins at the back post where Ward had left him all on his own.



Ten minutes into the second half Wolves went agonisingly close to an equaliser, Jarvis sent in a deep cross from the left that was met with a well timed volley from Guedioura, but somehow Cech kept it out with a superb reflex save. Cech then produced another vital stop when former England Captain John "Shag Yer Teammates Missus" Terry miskicked an attempted clearance and Foley found himself clean

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through, but somehow the keeper managed to beat out his fierce shot.

Three minutes later some more shocking defending and it was game over. A long clearance by Cech was taken in his stride by Drogba and he passed Berra as if he wasn't there before rounding the helpless Hahnemann and side-footing the ball into the net. There was no way back for Wolves after the goal and the only other chance of note came in the last minute when Terry cleared the ball off the line after Cech had failed to gather a long throw from substitute Halford.

Opinion: Suprised the mob from down at "Swingers Bridge" had the energy to play any football. Another harsh lesson showing that if you don't take your chances in the Premier you get severely punished.

Man of the match: Doyle

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 28,978

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Foley (Halford 76), Guedioura, Henry, Jones (Ebanks-Blake 76), Jarvis (Mujangi Bia 76), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Vokes, Milijas

Bookings: None

POST MORTEM

BOLTON 1-0 WOLVES

Saturday 27th February 2010



Not for the first time this season Wolves were their own worst enemies after conceding another goal to some appalling defending, and the goal couldn't have come at a worst time with Knight scoring in the first minute of stoppage time at the end of the first half. Marcus Hahnemann was in great form and it was mainly down to him that Wolves remained in the game throughout.

Bolton kept Wolves constantly pinned back in their own half and even with Hahnemann on top form they should still have opened the scoring on the half-hour mark. Berra made a real hash of a headed clearance and Hahnemann did well to

block out Davies, with the keeper still on the floor Elmander followed up to smash the loose ball goalwards but Craddock was on hand with a superb block to save an almost certain goal. When the ball was finally cleared Wolves went straight onto the offensive and created their best chance of the half when a fierce angled shot from Jarvis was beaten behind by Jaaskelainen. Bolton scored their first premier goal for over eight hours in first half stoppage time, Lee chased the ball to the by-line and skipped past Guedioura before laying it back across the six yard box where Knight was all on his own two yards out to slip it through Doyle's legs and into the net.

Davies should have capitalised on a mistake in midfield by Henry early in the second half but his shot from the edge of the area lacked pace and was easily dealt with by Hahnemann. On the hour mark Wolves were desperately unlucky not to equalise when the woodwork saved Bolton, Jones hit a free-kick from 25 yards that beat Jaaskelainen all ends up but the ball agonisingly rolled back across the goal line before being cleared. It was much better from Wolves and another chance went begging when a good ball from Doyle allowed Jarvis a clear run into the box, but Ricketts made the block just as the winger was about to shoot.

With twenty minutes remaining it was obvious it wasn't going to be Wolves day when they were again denied by the woodwork, Foley hit a dipping volley from the edge of the box that again crashed against the upright and along the goal line to safety. With Wolves pouring forward in search of an equaliser the game opened up and there were further chances at both ends but Bolton held on to move above Wolves in the table.

Opinion: Another game and another lapse of concentration in defence prove very costly.

Man of the match: Hahnemann

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 21,261

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Henry, Guedioura (Ebanks-Blake 68), Foley (Keogh 73), Jones, Jarvis, Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Vokes, Milijas, Mancienne

Bookings: Henry (47 - foul), Keogh (73 - foul)

HOW THE VOKE DID HE MISS THAT?

WOLVES 0-1 MANCHESTER UTD

Saturday 6th March 2010



The game was evenly balanced early on and although there was one or two half chances at either end from Doyle and Gibson neither keeper was forced into a save. In fact it was referee Peter Walton who was the providing the entertainment and showing that top teams do get the majority of decisions against ones lower in the league. After a series of joke decisions Walton excelled himself when he failed to show at least a yellow card to Nani who nearly took off Zubar's head with his boot. Doyle who was playing on his own up front yet again was in great form and an early surging run left three United defenders in his wake and ended with Van der Sar saving a half blocked effort from Jones. With 36 minutes on the clock Ward missed a glorious chance to put Wolves ahead, a move that was again started by Doyle ended with Jarvis sending over a cross that left Ward with a free header only six yards out, but with all the goal to aim at the left back headed straight into the hands of Van der Sar.

United looked marginally better at the start of the second half and even though the fans got behind them the home team lacked that cutting edge, and with Doyle labouring on his own up front it never looked like Wolves scoring. In the 73rd minute Scholes fed Nani on the right and he drilled in a low cross into the area, Craddock cleared the ball about two yards into the path of Scholes who side stepped the centre back and lashed it into the net from ten yards giving Hahnemann no chance.

With his team 1-0 down McCarthy threw on Keogh, Ebanks-Blake and finally Vokes in a desperate attempt to salvage a point, and with only a few seconds of injury time remaining it was Vokes who missed a golden opportunity to grab an equaliser that Wolves more than deserved. There was an almighty scramble in the United area

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and Zubar's cross deflected off a couple of players into the young Welshman's path, but somehow he managed to lift the ball over the bar from four yards out with only Van der Sar to beat.

Opinion: Worth a point, but that's the third game in a row lost following a needless defensive error.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 28,883

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward (Keogh 84), Henry, Foley, Guedioura (Ebanks-Blake 84), Jones, Jarvis (Vokes 88), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Milijas, Mancienne

Bookings: Craddock (58 – foul), Jones (61 – foul)

MATT FINISH

BURNLEY 1-2 WOLVES

Saturday 13th March 2010



With both teams in the bottom four before the start of play it was a must win game for both and for once it was Wolves who had that bit of luck as they won with two goals which were both caused by dreadful Burnley defending, that similar to defending usually accustomed to our back four this season.

With so much at stake the early stages of the game was lacking any real goalmouth action, however Wolves did take the lead in the 26th minute following a real howler by the Burnley defence. Mears tried to head a clearance back to Jensen but it was short and intercepted by Jarvis who touched the ball past Jensen before finally running on and tapping the ball into the empty net. Wolves were having all the luck and must have known it was going to be their day right on the stroke of half time when a free-kick was headed back across their area by Carlisle to Nugent, but his volley into the ground bounced back up and hit the bar.

Within two minutes of the second half it was Christmas time again when Wolves went two up. Burnley failed to clear and Jarvis knocked the ball to Zubar who

helped it on to the unmarked Guedioura on the edge of the area, his shot was going nowhere near goal but fortunately it hit Carlisle's heel and fled past the large frame of Jensen into the bottom left hand corner. Wolves came within a whisker of sewing things up on the hour mark when Doyle beat Jensen with a shot across goal but the ball went inches wide. Just minutes later Blake went even closer for Burnley but luckily for Wolves it came back off the post before being cleared.

It wouldn't be Wolves if they didn't do things the hard way, and they did just that with a quarter of an hour remaining. A cross from Mears was weakly headed out by Craddock to Alexander who mishit his shot back into the area, but it found Thompson who was left all on his own to head the ball past Hahnemann. As the panic set in Burnley laid siege on the Wolves goal but it was all to no avail as fortune favoured the brave and Wolves hung on for a precious three points in their battle for survival.

Opinion: Very Lucky but who cares, nobody felt sorry for us in the last two games against Bolton and Man United when we were rattling the post and missing open goals.

Man of the match: Jarvis

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 21,217

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Foley, Guedioura (Mancienne 59), Henry, Jones (Keogh 70), Jarvis (Ebanks-Blake 79), Doyle
Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Vokes, Milijas

Bookings: Guedioura (45 foul), Mancienne (74 foul), Berra (76 – foul), Keogh (84 – time wasting)

UN-DUNNE BY DOYLE

ASTON VILLA 2-2 WOLVES

Saturday 20th March 2010

In a real roller coaster of a local derby it was so near and yet so far for Wolves. After conceding an early goal Wolves fought back to go in 2-1 up at half time and were then within seven minutes of pulling off their first win against Villa for 30 years. Yet again Wolves were on the wrong end of some shocking decisions by an incompetent referee and his two linesmen, Villa's first goal was a mile offside and the equaliser looked off as well. In between Petrov kicked Doyle all over the park and after being booked in the early stages he should have been given a red card for at least one of two other crude challenges on the striker.



Villa had most of the play in the early stages with Young and Milner dominating proceedings, but they were helped by the Wolves defence who gave them far too much space. The two combined in the 16th minute to create the opener, Milner found Young on the left and his low cross was turned home by Carew who came back from an offside position to tap in from close range. To their credit Wolves fought back well and they deservedly equalised in the 23rd minute following a crude tackle by Petrov from behind on Doyle. From the resulting free-kick Jones played the ball into the area and although Zubar failed to make proper contact with his shot Craddock was on hand to beat Friedel from close range.

Even though the referee continued to give all the 50-50 decisions in Villa's favour not even he could do anything to help them in the 38th minute when Wolves went 2-1 up. Jones pushed forward into the Villa area before releasing the ball to Jarvis on the overlap, the winger got to the byline and pulled the ball back across the six yard area where Milner was on hand to deflect the ball into his own net.

McCarthy brought on Elokobi at the start of the second half to reinforce the defence and the tactic worked as Wolves comfortably held onto their lead. Hahnemann's goal was rarely threatened although there was one mighty goalmouth scramble in the 70th minute which ended with Henry clearing off the line for a corner. With just eight minutes left it was heartbreak for Wolves when Villa equalised to make it 2-2. A long kick out of his hands from Friedel found Heskey in the box who tapped it back to Sidwell whose shot was deflected in by Carew in an offside position.

Opinion: Great fight back but another defensive howler cost us another two valuable points.

Man of the match: Doyle

Team Rating: 8/10

Attendance: 37,562

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Ward (Mancienne 64), Foley, Guedioura (Elokobi 46), Henry, Jones, Jarvis (Iwelumo 89), Doyle.

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Unused Subs: Hennessey, Ebanks-Blake, Keogh, Milijias

Bookings: Guedioura (41 foul), Zubar (75 – foul)

GREEN STREET PAVED WITH GOLD

WEST HAM UNITED 1-3 WOLVES

Tuesday 23rd March 2010



This was the third consecutive away game, all against teams who play in claret and blue, and by the showing in this game it's a pity we can't play teams in claret and blue every week. In their most important game of the season so far Wolves gave their best performance by a mile and moved seven points clear of the relegation zone.

It all started a bit cagey and the nearest to a goal came when Foley rattled the crossbar in the eighth minute, but as soon as Wolves opened the scoring it was Christmas all over again. Player of the season Kevin Doyle led the front line on his own again and started the party in the 28th minute, a mistake by Tomkins let in the striker who ran into the box and beat Green in the West Ham goal with a great shot across the face of goal into the bottom right hand corner. From that point on Wolves had West Ham scrambling around and chasing shadows, and the only real scare came just before half time when Parker hit the inside of the post and Hahnemann just managed to stop the ball crossing the line before Elokobi hoofed it clear.

Wolves continued to control the game after the break and scored a killer second goal in the 58th minute, Jones was the creator when he slotted an inch perfect pass for Zubar to run onto and dispatch with clinical accuracy into the bottom left hand corner of the net. Three minutes later it was game over and Wolves sealed the three precious points. Jones was the creator again and this time it was Jarvis who latched onto his through-ball into the box to fire Wolves into a 3-0 lead. With only seconds of time added remaining Franco

scored a consolation goal for West Ham with a chip over Hahnemann, but the victory had already been deservedly sealed in the ninety minutes of normal time.

Opinion: Long time coming but well worth the wait.

Man of the match: Doyle

Team Rating: 10/10

Attendance: 33,988

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar (Halford 80), Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Foley, Mancienne (Guedioura 86), Henry, Jones, Jarvis (Ward 71), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Ebanks-Blake, Iwelumo, Milijias

Bookings: Mancienne (29 - foul), Zubar (48 – foul)

TOFFEE'S KEPT ALL WRAPPED UP

WOLVES 0-0 EVERTON

Saturday 27th March 2010



Everton turned up at Molineux as the form team and confident of adding three points to their European qualification campaign, but for all their lions share of the possession it was Wolves who made it four games without defeat with a battling performance that gave them another precious point towards Premier League safety. Even England manager Fabio Capello was in the stands watching, presumably looking at Jody Craddock as a possible replacement for that perennial philanderer John Terry.

Everton should have taken the lead after just six minutes but Hahnemann saved a weak Osman shot from five yards after he was put through by Piennar. Everton created the best chance of the half five minutes before the break when Saha rattled the top of the bar from just outside the area but Wolves still had time to create two half chances in first half stoppage time when Craddock shot well over and Jones curled a free-kick straight at Tim Howard.

Saha should have scored early in the second half but Craddock did just enough to put him off and the striker headed over. Wolves were continually frustrated by

some of the decisions made by another poor referee at Molineux but this only had the effect of making them more determined. Midway through the half they had their best attacking spell with Foley lifting a shot just over the bar and Zubar blasting over when presented with a similar chance to the one from which he scored in the previous game against West Ham. With ten minutes left Wolves were agonising close to breaking the deadlock when a ten man goalmouth melee ended with Doyle shooting wide after stretching to reach the ball.

Everton nearly snatched the lead in the last minute when Gosling was one on one with Hahnemann but the keeper bravely claimed the ball at his feet. That wasn't the end though and there were more heart attacks to come in the 94th minute when Cahill clipped a shot past Hahnemann but Craddock raced back to clear off the line.

Opinion: Not very pretty but blood and guts all the way and another precious point.

Man of the match: Hahnemann

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 28,995

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Foley, Mancienne (Guedioura 70), Henry, Jones, Jarvis (Ward 90), Doyle (Iwelumo 90)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Ebanks-Blake, Keogh, Milijias

Bookings: Jones (14 – taking free-kick before whistle)

MUPPET MARRINER STEERS CHEATING GOONERS ONTO VICTORY

ARSENAL 1-0 WOLVES

Saturday 3rd April 2010

After spending most of the game camped in their own half Wolves came desperately close to grabbing a point at the new North London Library otherwise known as The Emirates Stadium. They defended heroically for 94 minutes and then conceded a goal with just sixty seconds left of the five minutes time added on. However this game was decided just after the hour mark following a shocking decision by referee Andre Marriner who gave Karl Henry a straight red card for a tackle that hardly warranted a yellow. It was the second time that Marriner has cost us this season following another crap decision to send off Stephen Ward at Liverpool. Both dismissals were in similar fashion with the referee quick to flash the red card when surrounded by players from a top four club, some of them waving imaginary cards at him, and Mick McCarthy quite rightly summed up the decision as a "Disgrace".

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It was Hahnemann who was to be the man in the thick of everything during the afternoon and he made the first of a string of great saves in the sixth minute. Walcott who gave Elokobi a horrid time early doors sent in a low cross from the right and Eduardo's shot from six yards was somehow turned round the post by the new USA hero of the Wolves fans. That was to be the general pattern of the game and Hahnemann was a busy man as he marshalled his defence and made further good saves from Sagna and Walcott. Apart from an early long range effort from Mancienne, who easily had his best game of the season, Wolves best spell came at the end of the first half which ended in a flurry of corners, one of which saw Almunia punching out an in-swinger from right underneath his crossbar.

Arsenal continued to pile on the pressure at the start of the second half but Wolves stood solid and looked more and more confident as Arsenal became more and more frustrated. Then came that appalling decision with Henry given his marching orders with 25 minutes left, it was real backs to the wall stuff as the Arsenal players took advantage of their influential part in Henry's sending off. In a rare break Wolves nearly snatched the lead with 12 minutes left, Rosicky who had made a miraculous recovery when needing an ambulance one minute to a complete recovery the next was on hand to clear off the line when Zubar had climbed above everybody else following a Jarvis corner on the right.

After all the courageous defending came the killer blow, with most of the fickle Arsenal fans already leaving for the exit, and with just one minute left, a cross from the right was met by Bendtner who got in front of Zubar to head past the unlucky Hahnemann.

Opinion: Wenger was quick to question the integrity of Mick McCarthy after the Man United fiasco, he made eight changes for this game apparently to rest players for their next game against Barcelona. Do you think the FA will fine Arsenal like they did Wolves, somehow I don't think so.

Man of the match: Hahnemann

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 60,067

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Foley, Henry, Mancienne, Jones (Edwards 69), Jarvis (Ward 83), Doyle (Keogh 70)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Iwelumo, Milijas, Guedioura

Bookings: Jarvis (64 - foul),

Mancienne (79 - foul)

Sent Off: Henry (66 - foul)

THROW-IN UP MATERIAL

WOLVES 0-0 STOKE CITY

Sunday 11th April 2010



This was definitely not a game for the purists and lovers of the beautiful game as Wolves and Stoke fought out a mundane goalless draw at Molineux. Stoke have a reputation of using the long throw of Rory Delap as part of their armoury but they took their favourite weapon to the ultimate level against Wolves with the stats showing that the tactic was used 25 times during the 90 minutes.

Stoke were the better side in the opening stages of the game but they were unable to turn the pressure into a breakthrough. Central defender Faye twice headed Delap throw-ins wide and then saw another effort drift just over the bar from a Whelan cross. Despite Stoke's pressure it was Wolves who created the best chance of the first half in the 27th minute, Edwards ghosted in front of the Stoke defenders to meet a corner from Jones only to see his near post header saved by Sorensen.

While goal scoring opportunities were hard to come by in the first half, they were virtually non-existent after the break, the best chance from either team came in the 53rd minute when Sidibe blazed the ball over the bar when left totally unmarked on the right hand side of the six yard box. Nearly all the goalmouth incident worthy of note came from Delap's throw-ins but Hahnemann and his defenders stood solid and defended commendably in the face of the constant Delap bombardment.

Foley nearly snatched it for Wolves in the last minute of normal time but his snap-shot from the edge of the area flew just wide of the far post with Sorensen stranded, and then a Milijas's free-kick right at the death was palmed into the air by Sorensen before the keeper grabbed it at the second attempt. The game inevitably ended with Hahnemann hanging onto the ball following a throw-in by Delap.

Opinion: Horrible game to watch, but another precious point in the battle to avoid relegation.

Man of the match: Craddock

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 28,455

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Mancienne, Jones (Milijas 79), Edwards (Iwelumo 59), Foley, Jarvis, Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Ebanks-Blake, Ward, Halford, Guedioura

Bookings: None

BLOCKAGE AT THE COTTAGE

FULHAM 0-0 WOLVES

Saturday 17th April 2010



It's now been over four games... that's nearly 6.5 hours since Matt Jarvis scored the third goal against West Ham and with only Kevin Doyle on his own up front these days don't expect a deluge of goals as we reach the back end of the season. It was a another fully committed performance from Wolves in front of another superb turnout by the following faithful, and in the end another point earned in the quest to keep their Premiership status.

As far as the game was concerned not a lot happened throughout and it was Doyle who had Wolves only worthwhile chance in the first half when he reacted quickly to get on the end of a blocked shot from Jones that fell into his path, but after making himself six inches of space he screwed his shot wide.

The second half continued in the same manner as the first with Wolves keeping their discipline and shape and not allowing

MATCH REPORTS



Fulham an inch of space, this especially applied to Craddock who marked the allegedly dangerous Zamora out of the game. Not even flaying elbows and mini tantrums could buy the over-rated striker a sniff at goal, the only chance he was allowed all game was when he let fly with an optimistic shot from 25 yards that hit the outside of the post.

Craddock was well supported by Berra, Zubar and Elokobi and it was good work from Elokobi that helped keep Wolves on level terms halfway though the second half, Duff was through on goal down the right but when he tried to turn onto his left foot Elokobi mugged him to steal the ball away with a great challenge.

Opinion: Only one shot on target all game between the two teams says it all.

Man of the match: Craddock

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 25,597

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Mancienne, Jones (Milijas 72), Foley, Jarvis (Iwelumo 79), Edwards (Guedioura 70), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Ebanks-Blake, Ward, Halford

Bookings: None

EBANKS'S SAFE CRACKER

WOLVES 1-1 BLACKBURN

Saturday 24th April 2010



The forgotten man at Wolves Sylvan Ebanks-Blake entered the arena and scored his first goal in open play for the season to all but guarantee premiership football at Molineux for another year. It was a hard earned point against a Blackburn side with nothing to play for except the sum of £750,000 for each place they climb between now and the end of the season.

Despite the significance of the massive awards awaiting them by winning it was a low-key start to the game for Wolves and they nearly paid the price for their lacklustre effort when Rovers came within a whisker of scoring in the 19th minute when the unmarked Kalinic headed against a post

with Hahnemann beaten. But just before the half hour mark their luck ran out when a corner on the right from Pedersen was missed by Hahnemann and Nelsen ghosted in leaving his marker behind him to force the ball over the line with his knee. Wolves were struggling to find a way back into the game but they missed a great chance to equalise in added time at the end of the first half when Craddock volleyed across goal from a narrow angle after Doyle had flicked on.

There were signs that Wolves might be starting to take the initiative at the start of the second half and in a two minute spell they went close on three occasions. First up was Jones whose free-kick went close when he bent the ball over the defensive wall but it was turned around the post by Robinson. Next was Craddock who volleyed over the bar after Iwelumo had flicked on a long throw from Elokobi and lastly the ball was kicked off the Rovers line following a corner on the left.

With time running out McCarthy brought on Ebanks-Blake for Foley, and 60 seconds later the substitute got Wolves back on level terms when he headed Ward's centre back across Robinson into the corner of the net. The noise at Molineux was deafening and as Wanderers played out the last few minutes the noise got even louder until the last whistle when thousands of fans invaded the pitch knowing that only an act of god would stop their team playing in the Premiership for another season.

Opinion: First goal for 469 minutes and from the noise you would have thought it had won us the Premier League rather than keeping us in it.

Man of the match: Ebanks-Blake

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 28,967

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Mancienne (Milijas 66), Foley (Ebanks-Blake 79), Edwards (Iwelumo 37), Jones, Ward, Doyle

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Stearman, Halford, Guedioura

Bookings: None

TAKEN FOR GRANT'ED

PORTSMOUTH 3-1 WOLVES

Saturday 1st May 2010

The final away game of the season brought zero points against probably the worst team in the Premier League since it was formed in 1992. Portsmouth have only won seven games all season and two of them were against us, perhaps we should



have asked them to play in claret and blue and then we may have stood a chance.

Pompey opened the scoring after 20 minutes when Brown floated a free-kick into the Wolves area and Dindane scored with a header, he was given so much space that you would have thought he had some kind of deadly incurable disease. Wolves drew level ten minutes before the break, Zubar forced a diving save from James who then reacted quickly to deny Doyle, but Doyle pounced again and bundled the ball into the net at the third attempt. The teams were only level for five minutes though before Pompey went back in front, Utaka was given acres of space on the right wing and allowed to cut inside before firing a low shot past Hahnemann from the edge of the penalty area.

James pulled off another great save early in the second half to turn Doyle's acrobatic effort over the bar and then Wolves should have been level on the hour mark, Doyle was in the thick of it again when his shot hit the post, but when the rebound fell to Ebanks-Blake he scuffed his effort wide when it seemed easier to score. With twenty minutes left Pompey put the game out of Wolves reach when they made it 3-1, Piquionne broke down the right and his cross was nodded down into the path of Brown who sent a low shot into the far corner that Hahnemann would have been disappointed not to keep out. With their goal scoring record over the season Wolves were never going to get two more and the fans waited for the final whistle to acknowledge the players in what was the final away game of the season, so many thanks to Zubar, Elokobi and Hahnemann who were the only ones who could be bothered to walk over to applaud the fantastic away support at the end.

Opinion: At least we won't have to come back to this crap hole next year.

Man of the match: Zubar

Team Rating: 3/10

Attendance: 19,213

Team: Hahnemann, Zubar, Berra, Craddock, Elokobi, Foley (Guedioura 78),

MATCH REPORTS



Henry, Mancienne (Ebanks-Blake 56), Jones, Mujangi Bia (Iwelumo 46), Doyle

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Edwards, Stearman, Milijas

Bookings: Berra (50 - foul)

SUNNY END TO SEASON

WOLVES 2-1 SUNDERLAND

Sunday 9th May 2010

The last game of the season ended with a fully deserved 2-1 win for Wolves against Sunderland at Molineux. Wolves ended the campaign in 15th position on 38 points and had the comfort of already being safe from relegation at this end of season knees-up.

Sunderland put an early dampener on affairs when they grabbed the lead after eight minutes, Richardson linked up with Kenwyne Jones and his shot deflected off the unlucky Craddock and looped over Hahneemann into the back of the net. However the lead lasted only two minutes as Wolves went straight up the other end and were awarded a penalty when Hutton tripped Jarvis, Doyle stepped up to send the spot-kick low to Gordon's left. Malbranque came close to restoring Sunderland's lead in the 14th minute when he met Hutton's cross with a scissor-kick, but his effort struck the outside of the post.



Wolves came close to a second in the 25th minute when an excellent through ball by Ebanks-Blake put Jarvis in the clear but Gordon was quickly off his line to block the midfielder's shot. Then a mix-up in the Sunderland box presented a chance for Doyle who stuck in a foot but saw his looping effort drop just wide of the far post.

Wolves had the first chance of the second half when Henry lofted a ball into the left side of the Sunderland box which fell for Guedioura, but he completely mis-kicked from only six yards out. But man of the match Guedioura had the last laugh when he found the back of the net with 12 minutes remaining, he latched onto the end of Zubar's inch-perfect cross before rifling home from the edge of the area.

Sunderland went into meltdown and Wolves went into party mode and the score would have been even greater had substitute Iwelumo not headed over the bar from four

yards out and then Berra not been denied at point blank range by a reaction save from Gordon. Sunderland's misery was completed when Turner got a second yellow card for a foul on Jarvis and late substitute Colback was sent off for clattering Zubar with a crude tackle from behind.

Opinion: Well deserved win to end the season in style.

Man of the match: Guedioura

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 28,971

Team: Hahneemann, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Guedioura, Henry, David Jones (Edwards 61), Jarvis (Foley 85), Doyle (Iwelumo 79), Ebanks-Blake

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Stearman, Milijas, Mancienne

Bookings: Jarvis (22 - foul)

That's all for Another Season Folks.....

All match reports by Steve Ray

Barclays Premier League : Table 2009/10

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Chelsea	38	17	1	1	68	14	10	4	5	35	18	71	86
2 Man Utd	38	16	1	2	52	12	11	3	5	34	16	58	85
3 Arsenal	38	15	2	2	48	15	8	4	7	35	26	42	75
4 Tottenham	38	14	2	3	40	12	7	5	7	27	29	26	70
5 Man City	38	12	4	3	41	20	6	9	4	32	25	28	67
6 Aston Villa	38	8	8	3	29	16	9	5	5	23	23	13	64
7 Liverpool	38	13	3	3	43	15	5	6	8	18	20	26	63
8 Everton	38	11	6	2	35	21	5	7	7	25	28	11	61
9 Birmingham	38	8	9	2	19	13	5	2	12	19	34	-9	50
10 Blackburn	38	10	6	3	28	18	3	5	11	13	37	-14	50
11 Stoke	38	7	6	6	24	21	4	8	7	10	27	-14	47
12 Fulham	38	11	3	5	27	15	1	7	11	12	31	-7	46
13 Sunderland	38	9	7	3	32	19	2	4	13	16	37	-8	44
14 Bolton	38	6	6	7	26	31	4	3	12	16	36	-25	39
15 Wolves	38	5	6	8	13	22	4	5	10	19	34	-24	38
16 Wigan	38	6	7	6	19	24	3	2	14	18	55	-42	36
17 West Ham	38	7	5	7	30	29	1	6	12	17	37	-19	35
18 Burnley	38	7	5	7	25	30	1	1	17	17	52	-40	30
19 Hull	38	6	6	7	22	29	0	6	13	12	46	-41	30
20 Portsmouth	38	5	3	11	24	32	2	4	13	10	34	-32	19

Portsmouth deducted nine points for going into administration -17-

SALES & PRE-SEASON



We have for sale a few copies of an excellent colour montage of Wolves' players, recent and not so recent. The prints have been genuinely autographed by Billy Wright, Steve Bull, Bill Slater, Mike Bailey, Bert Williams, Ron Flowers, Eddie Stuart, Roy Swinbourne and John Richards. Each print measures 900mm x 600mm, or 35.5in x 23.5in for those of you still using the old imperial system of measurement. Pricewise, an unframed print will cost you £250.00 and a framed one £310.00. Anyone interested should contact Stuart Earl.

Here are some dates for your pre-season diaries:

Thursday 17th June - Premier League fixtures published

Monday 28th June - Pre-season training starts

Wednesday 14th July - Wolves travel to training camp in Ireland

Saturday 17th July - Bohemians v Wolves

Tuesday 20th July - Walsall v Wolves

Saturday 24th July - Charleroi v Wolves

Tuesday 27th July - Reading v Wolves

Saturday 31st July - Leeds v Wolves

Tuesday 3rd August - Hearts v Wolves

Saturday 7th August - Wolves v Athletic Bilbao

Saturday/Sunday/Monday 14/15/16th August - Season kicks off

If anyone is interested in going to any of these matches, whilst there are no club trips planned, do get in touch with Peter Woodfield as there may well be small groups that will travel independently.

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.

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SPONSOR'S LUNCH



LONDON WOLVES SPONSOR'S LUNCH

Our annual invitation to this event occurred on Monday 8th March. Peter Woodfield, Tim Richards, Roy Eagles, Paul Coles, John Golding and Trevor Read represented us and started the day by watching the first team training on the Molineux pitch. All were impressed at the intensity of effort which the players put into it. There then followed an autograph signing session which, because of the numbers of people attending, appeared as tiring for the players as the training itself.

All sponsors were then taken to the International lounge for pre-meal drinks. Very nice they were too! On our lunch table were our sponsored player, George Elokobi, and Club Captain, Jody Craddock. Two very nice, chatty, genuine guys. After an excellent meal, all were treated to the wise-cracking, Liverpudlian wit of After Dinner speaker, Alan Kennedy, the ex-Liverpool player. It was a great day out.

