

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2006 F.A. Carlsberg VASE –Third Round Proper

# SWANS INTO LAST THIRTY-TWO

BRACE DOUBLE FROM STRIKE PAIR SEAL WIN

**Calne Town 1, Slimbridge 4**

**Slimbridge eased their way into the Fourth Round draw of the F.A. Carlsberg Vase for the first time. Strike duo Kacey Johnstone and Robbie Colwell grabbed two goals apiece in a strong second half performance that saw 'the Lilywhites' sole reply come from Kevin Banks.**

A tight but safety-first opening half from both sides finished goalless on a very heavy pitch, although 'Toolstation' Western Premier Calne should have gone ahead on eight minutes when 'livewire' striker Luke Gullick was brought down by the unfortunate Allton Axton on a charge down the left cutting into the visitors box. Glenn Armstrong's resultant spot-kick hit the diving Ryan Chandler's right hand post and skewed away from goal.

Slimbridge conceded a lot of mid-field territory in the opening twenty minutes as Calne tried without success to make home advantage count with most of their attacking play coming through mid-fielder Armstrong trying to feed Gullick and Banks. By mid-half however, Slimbridge went more on the offensive themselves with one particular run from Will Morford finding a gap to feed Colwell for a strong blocked effort from just inside the area. Johnstone fired over after being set up by Johnny Meadows, before Calne's Gullick crossed to the back post and an incoming Armstrong put a firm header straight at Chandler.

The first half petered out a little, but on the resumption the visitors asserted themselves more with Meadows and Tim Haddock finally getting on top, aided and abetted by some strong flank play from John Cant and Morford. After Johnstone had slipped the ball to Colwell, who went close with an angled effort, building pressure on the home defence broke the deadlock on 54 minutes.

Colwell was brought down in the area by a rash challenge from goalkeeper Steve Allison. After treatment both players rose, but Colwell was denied taking the penalty as he had to leave the field. Goalkeepers don't of course under the rules! Subsequently, Johnstone stepped up only to see his spot kick deflected up on to the bar by the diving Allison, but with quick reaction, headed the re-bounce into the net over the unlucky prostrate goalkeeper.

On 65 minutes it was 2-0, Meadows long diagonal cross from the right saw Morford get on the end of it with a strong downward header at the back post, and although Allison got a hand to it, he couldn't stop Johnstone netting from close range after the ball ran loose.

Two minutes later and Colwell broke through the, by now, struggling Calne back line and posted goal number three with a low sweet finish after drawing Allison.

The old adage then applied, the one about being vulnerable defensively when you've just scored! From the restart a long throw into the box saw the visitors stand off, Banks volleying high into the net through a crowded area, a goal which naturally lifted the home side. For ten minutes, Calne had their best spell of the match, Gullick twice forcing good saves from Chandler, before a run from Colwell to the other end saw his shot kicked off the line with Allison beaten.

With a minute left on the clock, goalscorer Banks picked up only the second caution of a physical, but well-humoured contest. Unfortunately for him, he had earlier also picked up the first, so was forced to make the exit for an early shower, missing the final action of the game. Johnstone's booming clearance in added-on time was chased by Colwell to run on and drive into the roof of the net to complete a good afternoon's work for the Wisloe Road Club.

**Calne Town; S.Allison, J.Jeffries, J.Messenger (C.King 64), S.Pearson, S.Casey, S.Gardner (M.Messenger 71), B.Moore, D.Jones, L.Gullick (O.Bryan 79), G.Armstrong, K.Banks.**

**Slimbridge; R.Chandler, L.Sterling, J.Embling, T.Haddock, Ashley Thomas, A.Axton, W.Morford (Matt Green 79), J.Meadows (J.Inch 85), K.Johnstone, R.Colwell, J.Cant.**

**Referee; Mr.T.Lawrence (Bridgwater)**