

The



# Halfway Line

Number 10's



In this month's issue we feature some of the world's best number 10's in the game



UEFA  
CHAMPIONS  
LEAGUE

as well as much more including:

- Champions League features
- How good was Paolo Maldini?
- Like Father Like Son
- Missing Men
- And much much more



# Editors note: Pre-match pep talk

We're back! Like a Claudio Pizarro transfer to Werder Bremen, we are back for a fourth time! If The Halfway Line comes anywhere near Pizarro's career longevity we'll retire happy! The Peruvian joined Werder first in 1999 and he will retire at the end of the 2020 season.

A great retirement story we heard recently was when Paul Scholes returned to Manchester United in 2012. Assuming his boot sponsorship deal had lapsed when he first hung up his boots, when deciding to turn out again for United he realised his training boots were rather shabby. So he decided to head to his local sports shop and reportedly picked up a pair of £50 Nike boots to play in! We need more Paul Scholes characters in football.

But no retirement plans (yet) for The Halfway Line. We're still having too much fun and still so much more to share with you.

Firstly as you'll see from the front cover, in the is issue we are looking at some of the finest number 10's of the past and what makes them good enough to wear the holy grail of shirt numbers.

Also in this issue we focus on the Champions League; the winners, the losers and the iconic players in it, and the absent players from previous finals.

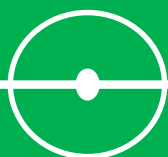
Father's Day in the UK has recently passed and it got us to thinking who has taken on their Father's footballing ability and are trying to make a name, or have, for themselves independently.

Fear not our usual collection of Best Nations XI, Treatment room, Quizzes, the 'Forgettables,' the Boot room and Classic Kits all return in our 4<sup>th</sup> issue and we have filled the remainder of the 100 pages with fun, facts and all sorts of other content to keep you entertained.

Right, on with the Champions League tune, straighten up your Corinthians figure collection and pause your attempt at the Baggio 7 and enjoy!

And we dare you not to sign along;

"The Champioooooonsssss, ba ba baaaab baaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!"



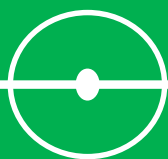
Rogério Ceni - Most goals scored by a professional goalkeeper & the most games played for just one club (Sao Paulo)



# The Halfway Line Up

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Christian Panucci – Former winner of the Bravo Award (1994) and also the first Italian to play for Real Madrid



# The Mercurial Number 10 shirt and its wearers

The Playmaker, the Fantasista, the Trequartista, the Meia Atacante, the Enganche, the one behind the front two, playing in the hole.

It doesn't matter what you call it, or where you are from, you just know.

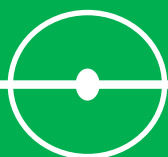
The one that dons the jersey is the influencer, the game changer, the captain, the voice, the conductor, the freekick maestro, the go to one. The number 10.

When you list the greats the number 10 dominates. As did the players that wore it. It's the holy grail, it's symbolic and you don't keep it for long if it doesn't fit.

The list is lengthy but the graphic on the opposite page looks like a who's who of greats.

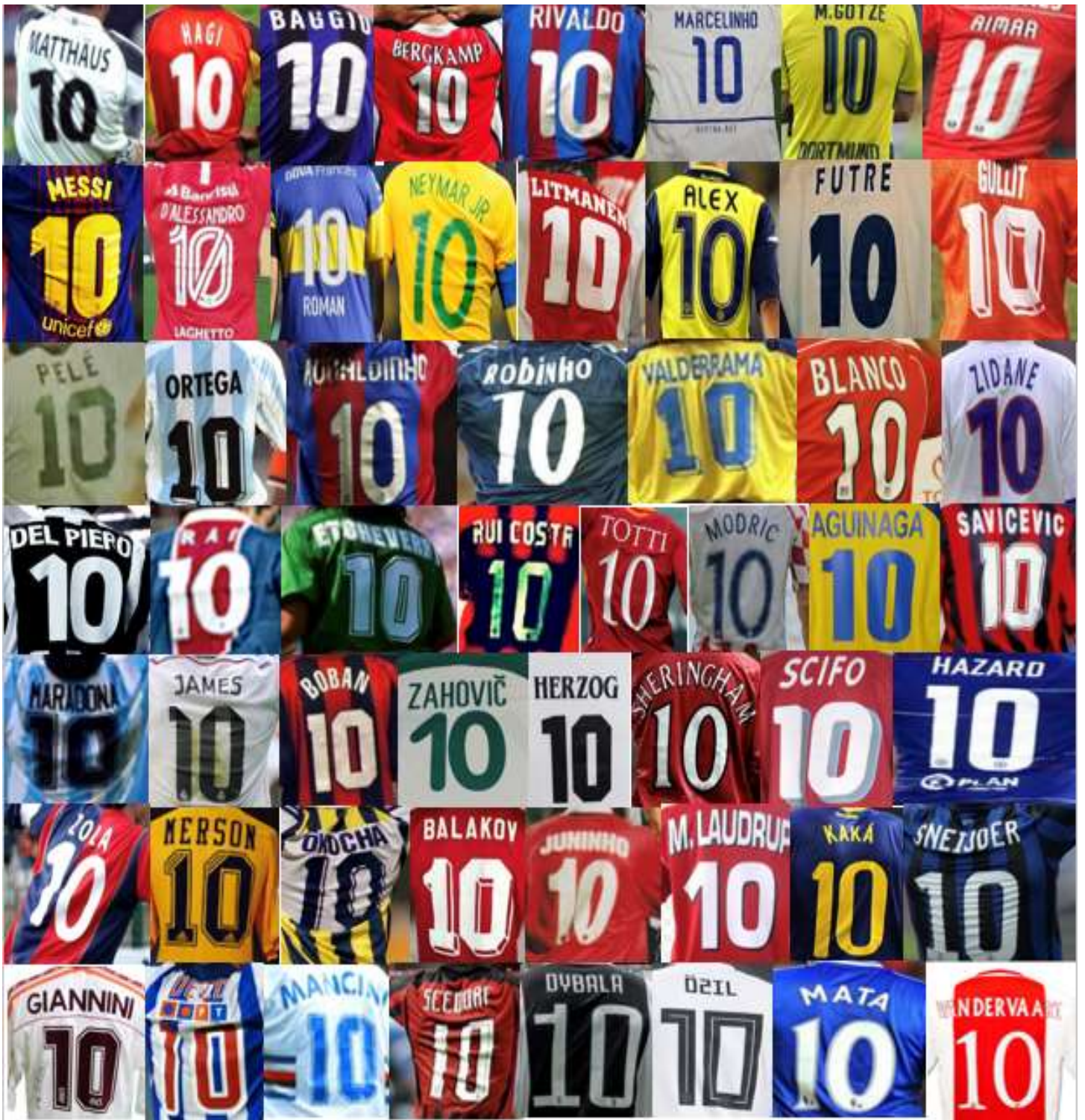
Matthaus, Hagi, Baggio, Bergkamp, Rivaldo, Marcelinho, Gotze, Aimar, Messi, D'Alessandro, Riquelme, Neymar, Litmanen, Alex, Futre, Gullit, Pele, Ortega, Ronaldinho, Robinho, Valderrama, Blanco, Zidane, Del Piero, Rai, Etcheverry, Rui Costa, Totti, Modric, Aguinaga, Savicevic, Maradona, Rodriguez, Boban, Zahovic, Herzog, Sheringham, Scifo, Hazard, Zola, Merson, Okocha, Balakov, Juninho, Laudrup, Kaka, Sneijder, Giannini, Deco, Mancini, Seedorf, Dybala, Ozil, Mata and Van Der Vaart.

For this article we thought we would select 6 great number 10's from the list above. 3 perhaps more obvious than the other 3, and write about them and why they deserve the trophy of all shirt numbers.



Gareth Bale – Joint most European Cup/Champions League winner (Phil Neal also 4) and first substitute to score twice in a final





Rafael Marquez – First player to play as captain in 5 World Cup finals and only the third to play in 5 finals.



# Zinedine Zidane



The irony here is that Zizou never actually wore the number 10 shirt at club level. His time at Cannes, Bordeaux, Juventus and Real Madrid saw him wear the shirt numbers 11, 7, 21 and 5.

Yet for a decade he took the number 10 shirt for the French national side, and it is at that level we celebrate Zinedine Zidane as a true great, number 10.

As France's number 10 at Euro '96, Zidane was the youngest member of the French squad, who despite not impressing overall, found themselves good enough for a semi final elimination. 2 years later, it got better, way better for Zidane and France. Hosting the World Cup carries it's own burdens, and getting send off in the second group game adds to those pressures. Zidane becoming the first Frenchman to receive a red card at the World Cup and a subsequent 2 match ban.

Upon his return Zidane fired home in the quarter final penalty shoot out, just as he had in the Euro '96 tournament and the team then successfully navigated the semi final to book a show down with World Cup favourites Brazil and a certain Ronaldo.



Fernando Redondo – Held in high esteem in Spain for his time at Real Madrid, perhaps known more in England for his assist for Raul @ Old Trafford in 2000 against Manchester United



The Ronaldo story of 1998 we do not know the full details, but the Zizou one we do.

2 goals in the first half, both headers from corners, set France on their way to victory on home soil and to be crowned World Champions for the very first time.

Zidane was a national hero. Fast forward 2 years to the European Championships, hosted jointly by Belgium and the Netherlands, and you have a show case for how to play the number 10 role. Seldom are players ever completely unplayable.

Zidane's performance at the tournament puts that theory to test.

Slalom runs, step overs, free kicks, first touch controls, turns – he bought the full repertoire.

In the semi-final against Portugal Zidane continued his masterclass, ultimately scoring a golden goal penalty to secure France a shot at the trophy, which they were successful in doing so. Zidane took home the player of the tournament to go alongside his FIFA World Player of the year award for the year 2000.



Marcel Desailly – First player to win the Champions League in consecutive seasons with different clubs



The character shown for the golden goal penalty was matched, albeit not so pressured in the next Euro's tournament in 2004. France, trailing the arch enemy England 1-0 in their opening match pulled back to 1-1 with a 90<sup>th</sup> minute free kick from, yes, you guessed it, Zidane.

3 minutes later, the French were awarded a penalty that Zidane coolly dispatched. Victory from the arms of defeat.

2 years later, a World Cup semi final. France get a penalty, who are you putting money on to score? Correct. Too easy.

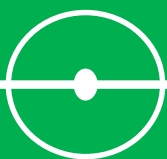
Can we up the ante?

What about being faced with a penalty in the World Cup final, after a mere 7 minutes on the clock. Facing you in goal, former club team mate and world's best goalkeeper.

No problem, Zizou's on the case. A chipped penalty in off the bar. What pressure? Zidane becoming only the fourth player in history to score in 2 World Cup finals, and tied for the most goals scored by a player in the final of a World Cup.

The game ended in a draw, and went to penalties, so of course who do you back to set France on their way.

Oh wait, another characteristic of a successful number 10? You need an edge, an aggression and dare I say, a temper. You know the rest.



Javier Saviola – Third youngest player to score 10 goals in Champions League history behind Kylian Mbappe and Karim Benzema





# Ronaldinho



It was the summer of 2003. Barcelona's new president was trying to galvanise the club. No La Liga title since 1999 and no European Cup since 1992 (their only victory at the time)

On the shopping list to assist in the revolution was Thierry Henry, David Beckham and a smiley and somewhat goofy Brazilian who'd been pulling off a few tricks some 600 miles north in Paris, Ronaldinho Gaúcho.

Henry stayed at Arsenal and Real Madrid pull one over arch rivals Barcelona and signed Beckham, leaving Barcelona fighting with Manchester United to sign Ronaldinho.

Barca won that battle, and thank God they did. Look at what he did.



Wayne Rooney – Only Englishman (with Michael Carrick) to win Premier League, FA Cup, Champions League, Europa League and FIFA Club World Cup



In the 2003-04 season, Barcelona did not win La Liga, but of equal importance neither did Real Madrid. The signing of Ronaldinho was the start of something for Barcelona and the magical number 10 was going to have a hell of a lot of fun in taking part.

The smile was infectious, the skills were outrageous and for 2 seasons (2004/05 & 2005/06) at Barcelona, Ronaldinho was the best footballer on the planet.

Ronaldinho won his first league title in 2004-05 at the Nou Camp, and was named FIFA World Player of the Year in 2004. His captain at the time, Carles Puyol, stated, "The greatest compliment I could give him is that he's given Barcelona our spirit back. He has made us smile again."



The following season he embarked on re-writing football scripts. The back to back league title was secured, as was the 2<sup>nd</sup> FIFA World Player of the year award. In the process of winning La Liga, 'Ronnie' single handedly destroyed Real Madrid on their own patch, as the Catalan's beat Los Galacticos (including David Beckham). He scored 2 great goals and the Madrid team could simply not get close to him. He was ultimately clapped of the pitch by Madrid supporters. Unheard of.

Then the clubs great hunger was finally fed. Ronaldinho lit up the European Champions League and defeated Thierry Henry's Arsenal in the 2006 final, back in the city of Paris where Barcelona originally took him from.

To be a great number 10 you have to be an entertainer, and you have to be better than the rest. Ronaldinho for those 2 seasons, simply was that



Jorge Campos – Former Mexican goalkeeper famed for his outrageous goalkeeping kits and tendency to see himself as a part-time centre forward



# Roberto Baggio



What do you think of when asked about Roberto Baggio?

The introduction to the footballing world at the 1990 Italian World Cup?

The heartache of the World Cup in 1994?

The courage of the World Cup comeback in 1998 and the penalty against Chile?

Or what about at club level?

His controversial transfer from Fiorentina to Juventus becoming the most expensive footballer in the world at the time?

Transfers to San Siro giants AC Milan at the time of their domination or to Inter Milan to play alongside Ronaldo?

Each of course would make for a wonderful read, but a true number 10 can lead any team and they make OK players into better players and OK teams better teams.

This is the Roberto Baggio story – For Bologna and Brescia.



Roberto Baggio – Played at the highest level for Juventus, AC Milan, Inter Milan as well as the Italian national team, amongst others (see above)



At 30 years old, after league title success at both Serie A giants Juventus and AC Milan, Roberto Baggio was at a crossroad in his career. Out of favour with the returning Milan manager Fabio Capello, Baggio needed a fresh start.

In the 1996-97, newly promoted Bologna had finished an incredibly respectful 7<sup>th</sup> place in the league and managed to persuade Baggio to join them for the coming season.

This appeared a slightly odd choice for Baggio, who had aspirations to play in the upcoming 1998 World Cup for Italy.

It proved a genius choice, another extremely vital characteristic of a great number 10.

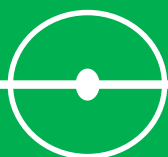


Perhaps it was the Diadora kit – who knows! But the statistics do not lie. Baggio produced his finest Serie A goal scoring return with 22 strikes, only bettered that season by Oliver Bierhoff and Brazilian superstar Ronaldo.

He guided Bologna to an eighth place finish in the table allowing the club to qualify for the UEFA Intertoto Cup.

He also secured his place in the Italian World Cup squad, scoring 2 goals at the finals to add to his 7 goals scored across 1990 and 1994.

He also secured his transfer back to the San Siro, this time to Inter Milan.



Miroslav Klose – The record holder for the most goals scored at the World Cup finals (16 goals)



Although the 'Divine Ponytail's' time with Inter Milan (2 seasons) was not deemed a success but he showed his true qualities in his last ever appearance for the club. Finishing the 1999/00 season in 4th place but tied with Parma, a play off game was required to see who qualified for the Champions League the following season. Just 18 league games and 4 goals in his last season as a return meant no new contract for Baggio but he scored 2 goals in the play off game to secure a 3-1 win and Champions League qualification. Great number 10's never write themselves off.



Where to next? Newly promoted Brescia were Baggio's next surprise choice. Could the then 33 year old help to stave off relegation.

Baggio re-found his form and managed ten goals and ten assists in the 2000-01 season. Brescia finished in a joint seventh place, their best Serie A finish since the league's re-establishment in 1946, and qualified for the UEFA Intertoto Cup.

At the start of 2001-02 season, Baggio scored eight goals in the first nine matches, before injuries curtailed his season. Upon recovery and with 3 games remaining of the season, in the first game after his comeback, Baggio came on as a substitute to score two goals against Fiorentina, helping Brescia win the match. He scored again against Bologna, saving Brescia from relegation on the final matchday, and bringing his seasonal tally to 11 goals in 12 Serie A matches.

Baggio maintained a high level of performance managing a further 12 goals and 9 assists during the 2002-03 season, helping Brescia to an eighth-place finish and another UEFA Intertoto Cup spot.

In the 2003-04 season, the final season of his career, Baggio recorded 12 goals and 11 assists



Marcelo – 14 seasons with Spanish giants Real Madrid winning 4 La Liga titles, 4 Champions Leagues and 4 FIFA Club World Cups



With Brescia, Baggio scored 46 goals in 101 appearances in all competitions. Baggio's number 10 shirt was retired by Brescia in his honour, and he can be considered the club's greatest ever player. Before Baggio had joined Brescia, they had never been able to avoid relegation after being newly promoted to Serie A, in over 40 years. During the four years under Baggio, Brescia recorded their best ever Serie A run and were never relegated.

His former teammate Andrea Pirlo perhaps put it best when saying, "Baggio was a silent leader, and above all, he was a leader on the pitch. When he played for the team, he made you win the games."



That is what great number 10's do.



Maicon – Brazilian full back, hugely successful at Inter Milan but perhaps more famous for getting a taxi ordered for him by Gareth Bale



Genius, maverick, team carrier, aggressive - all traits that are a necessity to succeed as a true number 10.

It seems to also help if you are South American! Think about this from an English national team point of view. Who was the country's last special number 10? The spark and the creativity is missing and it is a weak link in terms of the offerings of the national team. If you don't believe me remember both Gareth Barry and Tom Cleverley have won the number 10 shirt for the English national team and now try to argue the point!

Back to South America. Of the following 3 players you have definitely heard of one, you may have heard of the other, and you probably haven't heard of the third.

## Juan Roman Riquelme

There is something to be said about great number 10's not actually looking like footballers. Their build, their athletic style and general demeanour. Take Etcheverry, and Aguinaga, and of course Diego In the latter years. In fact it's a travesty that Le Tissier wasn't ever a number 10.

But they don't need to sprint, glide or have a pace of 95 on FIFA. It's been said many times before, they are a step ahead of the rest on the pitch in their brain. Riquelme is firmly in this category. We've an image in our heads of the great number 10's flicking away a cigarette after one last drag before casually curling a 25 yard free kick into the top corner! They're that good!



Luka Modric – First player to win the Ballon D'or other than Cristiano Ronaldo or Lionel Messi in more than a decade, taking the award in 2018



Riquelme understandably was burdened with the Maradona brush. A youngster at Argentinos juniors, moving onto Boca, then Barca and then finding a home at an unfashionable lesser known European team taking them to unprecedented successes. A well trodden path it seems.

Diego Maradona is of course idolised at Boca but it's worth noting in his two spells he mustered a mere 70 odd appearances. A true hero at CABJ is Juan Roman Riquelme. He played a significant more games, and he is our focus here.

As mentioned the number 10 is cherished in South America and perhaps more so in Argentina then anywhere else. Riquelme or Roman as he often wore on the jersey , made the number his own.

Riquelme was not only a hero at Boca but a returning hero as well. Something heroic about returning to your true home and reigniting the success once again.



In his first spell at the club (he made his debut at 18) Riquelme won Argentine Primera titles with Boca as well as 2 Copa Libertadores in successive years, 2000 and 2001. Both finals went to penalties in which Riquelme kept a cool head in both shoot outs. Standard protocol for a number 10.

In the winter of 2000, Boca headed to Tokyo for the Intercontinental Cup to face UEFA Champions League winners Real Madrid. Boca triumphed and although Martin Palermo scored both goals, Riquelme orchestrated the performance. Boca were World Club champions. The fans who's passion is perhaps unrivalled had their success story. Hero status firmly acquired.

Fast forward to 2007 and after a falling out with Villarreal staff and management a loan back to La Bombonera was secured.



Nemanja Vidic – His 4 red cards against Liverpool are the most for one player against a single opponent in the Premier League





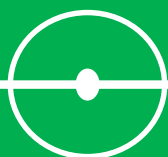
In the preceding Copa Libertadores in 2007 Riquelme scored 6 goals in 8 games, including 3 in the two legged final and Boca were crowned champions again.

Returning hero status acquired!

Further domestic success followed and as he choose to leave in 2014 he left behind a true legacy.

The ability of Riquelme was almost frustrating. He knew he was the best at the time in his peak in his position. It felt like he could turn it on or off when ever he fancied it, perhaps the frustration for an on looker was it didn't always appear he wanted it the whole time. The flicks, the nutmegs, the free kicks, the incredible ball retention and his strength were the attributes that made him so special.

As with the likes of Gullit and Matthaus in the autumns of their careers, we envisaged Riquelme to start playing deeper, like a quarter back almost. He was that good and held in such esteem he could probably have even gotten away with playing in goal if he wanted, providing he could do so in the number 10 shirt of course.



Sergio Aguero – The highest scoring non-English goal scorer in the Premier League and holds the record for most hat-tricks in the league (12)



# Andres D'Alessandro

In issue #1 of The Halfway Line, we featured players who have been looked at as successors to Diego Maradona's throne. Perhaps unfairly left out was Andres D'Alessandro. A fellow number 10, short, stocky, a 'cultured' left foot and more importantly Argentinian. Sounds familiar right?

It's actually slightly symbolic him being left out of that list, as in his early career in his homeland he tended to be in the shadows of others, namely Aimar, Gallardo, Ortega and Saviola at River Plate. But it's not his time in Argentina we are focusing on, not either his relatively flat spell in Europe with



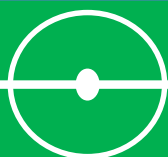
Wolfsburg, Portsmouth and Real Zaragoza.

However it would be amiss of us not to mention D'Alessandro's sole strike for Pompey during his loan spell in 2006.

A feature of this playmaker's goals, ala Arjen Robben was the ability to cut in from the right and unleash a howitzer of a strike into the top corner with his left foot.

As with Robben, the defenders and the goalkeeper know it's coming and where it's going to go but there is no stopping it.

Against Charlton Athletic, at the Valley, D'Alessandro did just that, starting from an even more advanced angle



Joaquin – The oldest player to score a hat-trick in La Liga (for Real Betis) at the age of 38 years and 140 days



near the touch line, having to retreat back to almost outside of the penalty area before unleashing an unstoppable effort. The quality of the goal allows us to forgive him for doing it in a number 4 shirt!

Quickly before moving on, somehow that isn't Portsmouth's best ever goal at the Valley. Google Patrick Berger's effort in 2004, a criminally underrated goal that deserves way more praise and acknowledgement.



Where D'Alessandro has made his real mark as an influential number 10 is back in South America, in Brazil with Internacional.

Arriving in 2008, and still at the club now some 12 years later, D'Alessandro has been pivotal to one of the club's most successful periods.

The captain's armband never falls far from the number 10 shirt, and D'Alessandro carries the duty for Internacional. He is an idolised figure at the club and significantly helped his popularity ratings in 2010 helping the club with the Copa Libertadores and taking home the title of South American footballer of the year. Of those he was in the shadow of at River, only Saviola managed such acclaim, some 11 years previously to his award.



Harry Kane – The first Premier League player to have scored a goal against every Premier League team he has faced



Multiple state league championships have been won as well as other regional trophies with the Clube do Povo.



Number 10's when on the pitch tend to have a swagger, almost over confidence if you like but when the end product is there it's accepted. D'Alessandro has this, but he is also a grafter. Willing to work hard for the team. A sulk as well of course. Geniuses are if it doesn't go their way. If he loses you want to avoid him for the next 2 days, but if he wins, he is infectious. When he scores, or assists, or his team wins he roars and the veins stick out on his neck.

Passion and desire are a must for the ultimate number 10 and D'Alessandro has this in abundance as well as the idolisation of the Internacional fans.



Mauro Zarate – Argentine who has played for 3 Serie A clubs, 4 Premier League clubs, 2 UAE clubs and 2 Argentinian clubs



# Marcelinho

If you dye your hair bright colours and you wear lairy boots, you had better be a good footballer.

If you dye your hair bright colours and you wear lairy boots, and you wear the number 10 shirt we are confident you are good. Luckily Marcelinho Paraiba is in the second bucket.

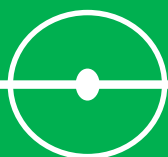
Some common themes here to discuss before going into details. Firstly, it is not uncommon for Brazilians to excel in Germany.

Read Ailton, Dede, Renato Augusto, Diego, Elber, Emerson, Firmino, Rafinha, Paulo Sergio, Ze Roberto, Naldo, Grafite etc.

Why? I'm assuming it's less about the cuisine and warm weather and maybe the Christmas winter break helps? Who knows?

Second theme. Brazilians abroad don't always work out the first time. A cult hero from Issue #3 of The Halfway Line, Alex, left Brazil and failed with Parma before returning to Fenerbahce and the rest you know.

Marcelinho is no different. He first tried his luck at Marseille after a successful spell in Brazil with São Paulo.



Enrico Chiesa – Part of the famous Parma team in the late 90's, and successful also at Sampdoria and Fiorentina. He is also the record holder for goals scored by a substitute for the Italian national team (with Del Piero)



He returned home just six months later. Then with Gremio further success secured a move to Hertha Berlin in 2001.

Hertha's previous silverware before Marcelinho's arrival was promotion from the second tier as champions in 1990.

During his 5 year spell at the club he played a vital part in winning 2 (successive) Ligapokal. This is a pre-season tournament undertaken before the Bundesliga commences involving the 6 teams from the previous season in the Bundesliga, cup winners and promotion winners.



It wasn't only those 2 trophies that set Marcelinho above the rest. In his first season at the club he scored an impressive 13 goals and helped Hertha finish fourth in the league.

Such was his form he was primed for a spot on the plane with Brazil for their attempt to win the 2002 World Cup in Japan/Korea. Sadly for him a drink driving offence put him not only on the wrong side of Luis Felipe Scolari but also not on the plane with the rest of the squad.



Pablo Aimar – League title success in Argentina, Spain, Portugal and Malaysia



In the second victorious Ligapokal tournament, as well as semi final goals and assists, he struck twice in the final and to date this is Hertha's latest silverware in the cabinet.

The 2nd season ended with 14 goals, plus more assists than the previous year and a 5th place finish meaning European qualification once again. He bettered this in the 2004/05 season with 18 goals and 13 assists and a 4th placed finish for the club. The goals were combinations of solo runs, free kicks, chips, all full of arrogance - all the flavours you'd expect from the number 10.



The winter break mentioned earlier, was perhaps not long enough after all. Known for his antics, partying and ill discipline, Marcelinho returned to Hertha late one time too many after the Christmas period and the club cut their losses and the maverick was gone.

Before he left, just 3 years in to his stay, Marcelinho was voted into the club's team of the century. That is how highly regarded he was by the fans, who flocked in their thousands to honour him at a testimonial match held for him some 11 years after he left.



Faryd Mondragon – The oldest player to play in a World Cup at 43 years and 3 days until record broken in the 2018 World Cup by Egyptian keeper Essam El-Hadary (45)



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Marco Materazzi – Aside red cards and Zidane controversy he holds the record for most goals scored by a defender in one Serie A season, 12 in 1999





# Fashion Faux Pas

Football and fashion have become intrinsically linked in the modern world. The launch of merchandise megastores, the hype surrounding kit launches and footballers are now the targets of corporate companies to launch clothes ranges and fragrances on a grand scheme and scale.

All the above show no signs of slowing down but what goes along side this are the faux pas where players look to stand out from the rest, but in doing so often stand out as fashion failures instead!

We take a look at some of our favourite disasters....

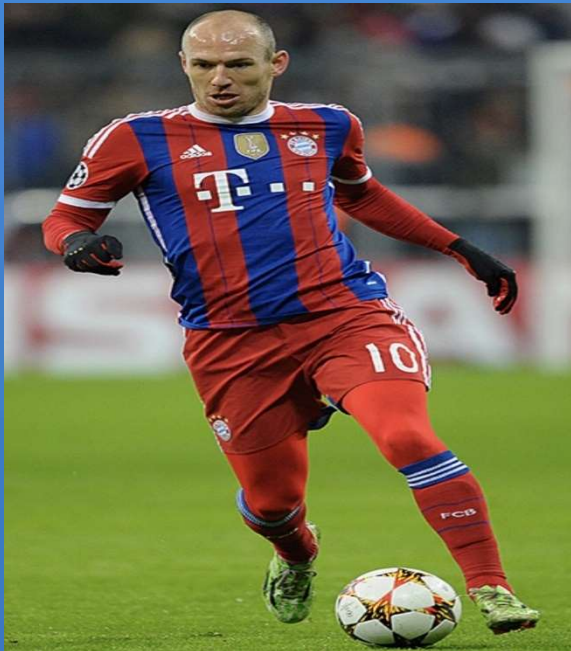
The nose strip. Sold as being able to aid breathing during games. Are we really led to believe the stick on like plaster would really open up the nasal passage? These guys must have thought so....



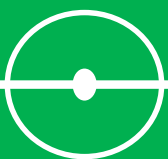
Duncan Ferguson – 8 red cards in the Premier League sees him hold the joint record for most received with Richard Dunne and Patrick Vieira



Tights. We are open minded, and quite often have marvelled at the skill involved in stage dramatics where costumes will involve the use of tights. Quite whether there is a place on the football pitch is another question.....



Maybe tights are worn when it's cold? Like the snood? Fashionable around 2010 with the likes of Nasri, Tevez and Touré. The Football Associations soon banned the accessory for it looking utterly ridiculous. Well actually more for safety reasons but the former wouldn't be far off the truth!



Nwankwo Kanu – Won the Premier League, FA Cup, Champions League, UEFA Cup & an Olympic gold medal. Also the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest used substitute in the Premier League



At The Halfway Line we have a shown our hand for our favourite type of football boot and the less is more approach ticks our box. But don't get us wrong, add a discreet personalisation and we are a buyer. The marketing mans dream, David Beckham, was well known for donning his name, number and or his kids names on his boots. No issue with that. So when he struck his most iconic goal from *the halfway line*, what had Adidas dreamed up for his boot tongue design? Had he had his own boots for the game that would have helped! Indeed he didn't so he had to borrow a pair from his sponsors and they gave him a personalised pair actually meant for Charlie Miller, the central midfielder plying his trade for Glasgow Rangers at that time!!!!



Fashion & make up? Go hand in hand right? Chuck in football and what do you get? Well, an attempt to mitigate the effects of stadium floodlights apparently or to perhaps look more fearful to the opposition? Ask Rustu Recber, the ex-Turkey goalkeeper. It may well have impaired his version when he took out Kieron Dyer back on 2003, remember that?



Edgar Davids – The tenacious midfielder plied his trade at Ajax, AC Milan, Juventus, Barcelona and Inter Milan amongst others. Wore glasses due to a glaucoma issue



Ok last one. We've heard many times it can be the pinnacle of your career to represent your country at the World Cup. But what if it messes with your hair? Excuse me!?

Reports suggest that Fernando Redondo refused a call up to the Argentina squad in 1998 as the then manager Daniel Passarella demanded all players have their long hair cut. A man of principles and fan of his own locks Redondo refused and didn't make the squad.



David Alaba – Youngest player to appear for Bayern Munich as well as the youngest ever Austrian international



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Jordi Alba – Spanish left back of Barcelona who scored in the 2012 European Championship final against Italy

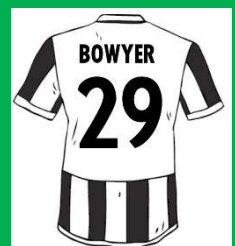




## Never won the Champions League XI



Lee Bowyer – When moving from Charlton Athletic to Leeds United in 1996 for £2.8 million, he held the record for most expensive British teenager at the time



# No Champions League Trophy wins XI

The Champions League is the ultimate club trophy to win in Europe. Domestic wins are of course epic, but to win the most prestigious European trophy, in front of millions watching across Europe and the World, it is going to rate as pretty special.

The list of eleven players below may very well surprise you as none of them, despite the clubs they have played for and the successful nature of their careers, not one of them has a Champions League winners medal to show for it. Djimi Traore, Scott Carson and Igor Biscan all do which is worth a thought as you go through the below list.

**Gianluigi Buffon.** Played for Parma, Juventus and Paris Saint-Germain across 25 seasons, and made 123 Champions League appearances, and sadly has 3 runner up medals for his troubles, but no wins.

**Lilian Thuram** – Over 500 career games for Monaco, Parma, Juventus and Barcelona but not one Champions League winners medal.

**Giorgio Chiellini** – 17 domestic trophies won with Juventus including 8 Serie A titles in a row. Yet not one European medal in the cabinet to show for that domination.

**Fabio Cannavaro** – Also successful with Juventus, as well as a prosperous career with Parma, Inter Milan and none other than Real Madrid yet no success in the Champions League.

**Gianluca Zambrotta** – So if you fail to win it with Juventus and Barcelona, your next best shot will be to head to AC Milan. Even making that move failed to see Zambrotta add the Champions League to his list of honours.

**Michael Ballack** – The German midfielder has won plenty in his career but in the 2001/02 season he finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the league, lost a domestic cup final and lost in the Champions League final with Bayer Leverkusen and in 2007/8 season he finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the league, lost a domestic cup final and lost in the Champions League final with Chelsea!

**Cesc Fabregas** – Domestic trophies in mass and international success with Spain, but no Champions League success with either Arsenal, Barcelona or Chelsea.

**Pavel Nedved** – Didn't even get to play in the final with Juventus back in 2003, and the Czech midfielder never tasted success in the competition and that may surprise a few.

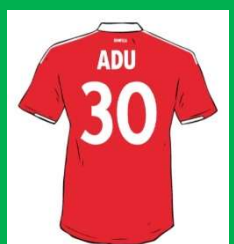
**Zlatan Ibrahimovic** – Ajax, Juventus, Inter Milan, Barcelona, AC Milan, PSG and Manchester United, but not even a final appearance to show for it. He has played for the most clubs in the competition and scored for them all in the competition but not won it.

**Ronaldo** – As with Zlatan, a multitude of high calibre European clubs, but also no trophy or even final appearance to show for it.

**Roberto Baggio** – The Italian left Juventus in 1995 after a hugely successful time there, and Juventus promptly won the Champions League the following year and it continued to evade his grasp throughout his career.



Freddy Adu – 'Teenage sensation' who made his MLS debut at the age of 14 years old for DC United



# Classic Kits

Every issue The Halfway Line will feature some classic kits. It maybe purely kit based, it could be a classic kit being worn by a classic player, or a classic kit in a classic match. In this month's issue we are focusing on a particular kit design. And it is an absolute classic, so it is fitting in perfectly.

In most walks of life, if you split something up you are likely causing heart break or reversely trying to keep the peace. It's a fine line. And ironically so is the focus of this feature!! A fine line, that splits up the kit!

In this issue we are focusing on just how good a kit looks when it has a diagonal strip through the middle of it. Something so simple but so effortlessly successfully. There are so many to exhibit we could have seriously dedicated some more pages to this, but we have picked a great sample to show off the design.

We've Premier League champions Manchester City and La Liga big hitters, old and new, Barcelona sporting the look, (both away kits). Fellow La Liga side Rayo Vallecano feature and look out for the inclusion of the goalkeepers kit, that makes us fall deeper in love with the design!!!

National sides Sweden and Norway model the look as well as original 'Strip-stars' Peru, who were the trend sitters for this particular look. Add to this a multiple of variations from the LA Galaxy, more Premier League Champions in Leicester City, Ecuadorian club side Emelec, Serie A giants Roma, as well as a Peru copy on the South coast of England in Southampton, and further North with Middlesbrough both adopting the style with great success. Add a bit of Legia Warsaw, a favourite club side at The Halfway Line, Vasco De Gama, River Plate and Bayer Leverkusen and as promised you have a great sample to indulge yourself in.



Simao Sabrosa – Portuguese attacker who stood out for Benfica and Atletico Madrid, and also featured for Sporting, Barcelona, Besiktas and Espanyol







Andrei Kanchelskis – One of only 13 non-British/Irish players to play on the opening weekend of the Premier League in August 1992



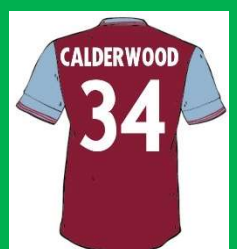


Darjo Srna – He is the most capped player in the history of Shakhtar Donetsk with 339 appearances and is the most capped player in the history of the Croatia national team with 134 caps





Colin Calderwood – As a player he won Division 4 promotion, Division 3 promotion, Division 2 promotion and Division 1 promotion all with Swindon Town





Stefan Jovetic – Scorer in Serie A, Premier League, La Liga and Ligue 1 and was the captain of Partizan Belgrade at 17 years old





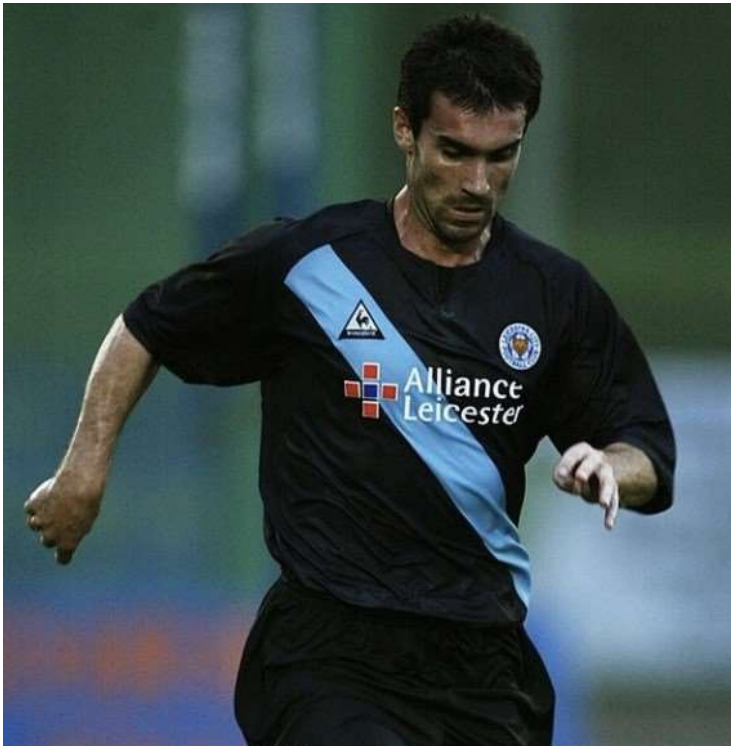
Dean Ashton – Injury cruelly ended Ashton’s career at the age of 26. Another product of the successful youth development policy at Crewe Alexandra





Timothy Weah – In August 2018 he scored his first goal for PSG and his goalkeeper team-mate in that game was Gianluigi Buffon. When Buffon made his debut for Parma in November 1995 he faced AC Milan and the striker playing at the time for Milan was George Weah





Ryan Mason – A fractured skull by an accidental clash of heads saw Mason requiring surgery and deemed unfit to play professional football ever again



# Pet Hates

Regular readers will know here at The Halfway Line we have a thing for Football Kits.

We could easily spend more time on features detailing the design of kits, hidden gems, or even feature the complete rascals that have been produced in the past (i.e., Chelsea's orange & grey attempt).

We are content with our Classic Kits feature so we leave it as it is, but in this instance we wanted to highlight a particular Pet Hate of ours when it comes to kits.

In previous articles we've highlighted the delights of Opel and Parmalat as shirt sponsors, and we would be further delighted to feature more like Coca-Cola, McEwans Lager, and Nintendo but we are trying to be a magazine not a catalogue, so we are learning where to stop.

We've also in the past put the kit designers in the limelight and how a particular designer just seems a perfect marriage with a clubs kit.

However, if it is the sponsor of the kit, and the make of the kit are all of a sudden the same.....we have ourselves a Pet Hate.

I am not confessing to know rhyme and reason behind the decisions, but as football fans, we feel let down. Where is the effort? Surely any other sponsor would be an improvement than the kit designer. It immediately strikes us as a training kit, and it is just wrong.

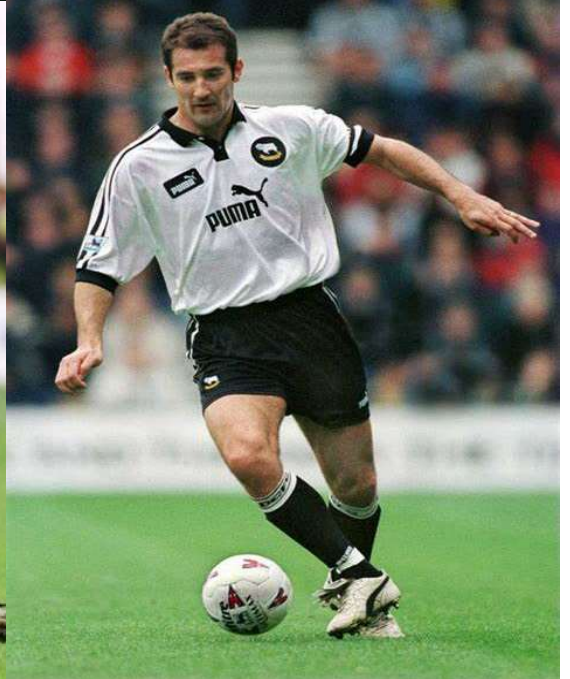
Scottish giants Celtic took the easy route from 1997-99 when kit designer Umbro took centre stage on the kit as well, as did Reebok when they sponsored and made the Bolton Wanderers' kit for over a decade from 1995. Chuck in Derby County from 1995-97 with a double act from Puma and you have our latest Pet Hate!



Darren Bent – Scored in his first 4 appearances for Charlton Athletic, making him one of only 6 players to achieve the feat for a club in the Premier League







Charlie Adam – Scored a belter of a goal for Stoke City against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge from 65 yards out. A proper ‘Halfway Line’ goal



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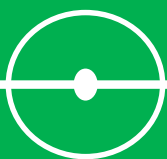
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Martin Odegaard – Youngest player to feature in the Norwegian first division, the Norwegian national team and the Real Madrid first team



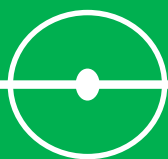
## The Premier League Greatest XI Nationalities

Featured here are the greatest line ups that only include players from one nation. In the this issue we are looking at a South American representation with Brazil, Argentina, Colombia and Chile.



These are not based on statistics, appearances, goals, records, these are merely the view of the author. That said some are self-explanatory and would imagine would not ignite too much debate, but others, perhaps less fashionable positions could irk the reader and encourage a discussion as to why the their favourite right back is not in the starting XI. I have intentionally not included a subs bench, as I fear I'd not have much space left. It should be noted, the feature sticks to a rigid 4-4-2 formation and won't be changed to fit in players of the same position.

At the end of the feature, why not play out your favourite XI from one nation and share it around for a conversation starter.



Michy Batshuayi – First player to score in the top leagues in France, Germany, England and Spain in the 21<sup>st</sup> century



# BRAZIL XI

Would you rather one £20 note or 2 £10 notes? Not a lot of difference right? Well that could also be said for who to pick in goal for Brazil's Best Premier League XI, Alisson Becker or Ederson Moraes. There really is no wrong answer. Ederson arrived first and immediately proved his worth, and then Alisson, for over double the money came and seemingly conquered. We are going to pick Alisson here based on the impact he has made on the Liverpool team. The last time he lost at Anfield he was playing for Roma! City were winning trophies prior to Ederson coming on board, whereas Alisson has added that strength to the Liverpool spine since his arrival. Beyond those two, the debate is pretty short, other than Heurelho Gomes fairing far better in London than Julio Cesar did.

At right back, Rafael Da Silva plays. 3 Premier League titles is nothing to be sniffed at and was far more than a bit part player, which is how I would describe the likes of Julian Belletti, Maicon and Danilo. Centre back should in theory be difficult, as surely no Brazilian aspiring footballer growing up wanted to be a central defender! The 2 that take the starting line positions are based on their time at Stamford Bridge with Chelsea. Alex and David Luiz offer the defensive cover, and an option at free kicks as well. Emerson Thome was worth a shout based on appearing for 5 Premier League clubs, that is no mean feat, and offered way more than Gabriel Paulista and Roque Junior ever did.

At left back, the 90's football fan in us wanted to play Branco, but he never hit any decent heights at Middlesbrough. In fact other left backs seemed to follow that theme. Fabio Aurelio, Andres Santos, Felipe Luis and Rafael's twin Fabio all flattered to deceive, and so almost by default we are selecting Sylvinho for the number 3 shirt.

Midfield is one hell of a debate. We are not even sure at the time of print we have nailed the 4 selected. The central midfield pairing has us scratching our heads. The defensive/holding midfielder could have been one of many. Lucas Leiva and Fabinho are real crowd favourites at Anfield, but the two pushing for one spot were Gilberto Silva and Fernandinho. 'Invincible versus Multiple.' Of course the league were lucky to have had both, but we are going for the Arsenal World Cup winner. The second midfield role has contenders like Edu, Anderson, Oscar and even the forward thinking Robinho, but the little magician, who bought smiles to Teesside, Juninho gets our vote. He actually joined the club on three separate occasions.

On the flanks it was slightly easier to pick. In on the left is the fresh faced Richarlison, who has produced at both Watford and Everton. Kenedy appears to have the talent, but yet to find the reliable performances and discipline to excel at this level. On the right wing ousting former club team mate Ramires, is Willian, who has been a really consistent performer at the Bridge for 7 seasons.

Up top it is less of a debate to pick 2 names. Embracing the 2012 model of false nines we are pairing Roberto Firmino with a more traditional number 10, Philippe Coutinho. Both extremely popular and successful during their time at Liverpool. In a year or twos' time we think Gabriel Jesus will be pushing for the starting XI. Outside of these players up front there are not a huge number of Brazilian forwards banging on the manager's door. Let's call it Scolari's door in the spirit of the XI.

Alfonso Alves, Jo, Pato and Joelinton all Brazilian front men, all of which have failed to bring the goals and performances expected of them.



John Fleck – Debuted for Glasgow Rangers at 16 years old and in 2008 became the youngest player to play in a senior British Cup final (Scottish Cup final)





Ross McCormack – Signed by Championship sides Cardiff City, Leeds United, Fulham and Aston Villa for a combined total of approximately £23.47million



# ARGENTINA XI

High profile Argentine goalkeepers, Willy Caballero and Sergio Romero have performed solidly for Manchester City, Chelsea and Manchester United in recent years, but have done so for the majority of these teams in the domestic cup competitions, as has Paulo Gazzaniga for Tottenham Hotspur. But, not all selections have to be for the top teams, it's about the best performers in their positions in the Premier League, and so in goal we are going for Julian Speroni, between the sticks for Crystal Palace for over 15 years.

For right back, we revert to the no-brainer discussion. Surely no argument for Pablo Zabaleta. Not only his level displayed at Manchester City but that fact former Boca players Nelson Vivas and Juan Cobian are his competition!

Centre backs is a better discussion. For the grief he took at the early part of his career, Nicolas Otamendi has proved the critics wrong. Martin Demichelis seemed tarnished by the same brush, and never fully recovered. Horacio Carbarnari, under the radar at Derby County, in 1998 became the first Argentinian to play in the Premier League along with Cobian, and did a pretty decent job in keeping the Rams in the league. Though a greater fan favourite plays instead. Newcastle United's Fabio Coloccini slots in as the second centre back.

At left back there are again few choices. Manchester United tried the versatile Gabriel Heinze and Marcos Rojos in that position, the former more effective than the latter. However our left back choice goes to perhaps another unfashionable choice in that of Julia Arca. The Argentine spent 7 years in the Premier League with Sunderland & Middlesbrough and 13 seasons overall at the clubs.

Midfield throws up some odd ones. You could be looking at a strong four of Maxi Rodriguez, Juan Sebastian Veron, Esteban Cambiasso and Angel Di Maria, but you're not going to be. A combination of wrong time in their careers or simply not fitting into the style and pace of the Premier League means no hugely positive lasting impression from that quartet.

Instead you have Roberto Pereyra, a surprising transfer to Juventus to Watford but has performed admirably. Javier Mascherano easily put aside his spell at West Ham United and grew into a monster of a player at Liverpool. His move to Barcelona was a big loss for the Premier League. This could ruffle a few feathers, but we are putting in Claudio Jacob alongside him in the centre of the pitch. The 2 cap wonder appeared (not all Premier League) 160 times for West Bromwich Albion, in what we would call the water carrier position.

On the left, Eric Lamela has yet to prove his worth at Spurs and so we are selecting Jonas Gutierrez. Defeated more significant battles off the pitch in his career, but as with Coloccini, a fans' favourite with the Toon Army and worthy of the team.

Up front it is an easier selection. The highest scoring Argentine in the league's history, Sergio Aguero needs no more of an introduction. 180 goals and counting. Carlos Tevez has the honour of 2 Premier titles with 2 different teams, and hero status at West Ham United also, for the contribution to the great escape.

Fellow league title winners Hernan Crespo and Leonardo Ulloa can play second fiddle but no great challengers to Aguero and Tevez.



Hugo Viana – Transferred to Newcastle United to June 2002 from Sporting Lisbon for £8.5 million, a record for a player of his age at the time





Aaron Wan-Bissaka – His transfer to Manchester United from Crystal Palace, for an initial £45 million made him the most expensive English player uncapped by the senior national team



# COLOMBIA XI

When there are only 18 players from the Country to choose from, picking the XI should be a relatively easy task and there shouldn't be any surprises in the selection.

The only goalkeeper eligible for selection is the former Arsenal shot stopper David Ospina. Could argue he never got the chance to establish himself as the clubs No.1.

The defence also picks itself but the centre back pairing are no cheap options. Yerry Mina and Davidson Sanchez costing Premier League clubs close to £70m. Bernardo at Middlesbrough did nothing to warrant a vote.

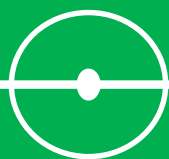
The full backs are also not high profile imports from Colombia! Neymar back breaker Juan Zuniga (Watford) and Pablo Armero (West Ham United) make up the back four.

On the right of the midfield is the first Colombian to win the Premier League, Juan Cuadrado, who has excelled post his Premier League career, at Juventus. His medal beats off completion from Jose Izquierdo.

Centre midfield adds the steal. Carlos Sanchez (clearly a fan of claret & blue) partners tough tackling Jefferson Lerna, who has become a firm favourite with the Bournemouth faithful.

Left wing, is a traditional number 11, and a favourite at The Halfway Line, Faustino Asprilla. Perhaps a surprise signing by Kevin Keegan at Newcastle United and not with the desired effect, but as an entertainer, he is a must for the XI. He was also the first Colombia to grace the Premier League.

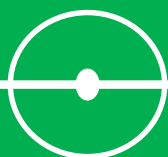
The front line we would argue has effort and endeavour, but perhaps not a great deal more. The highest scoring Colombian in the league's history, Hamilton Ricard, from his time at Middlesbrough plays alongside (no not Falcao) Juan Pablo Angel. It was between him and Hugo Rodallega, and the former Aston Villa number 9 takes it (that is despite his penalty record in the Premier League.)



Aboubakar Kamara - Supposedly chose the squad number as so his initials and number would read AK47. Oh dear.







Ibrahim Afellay – Remains the youngest player to win 4 Eredivisie titles. Won his 4<sup>th</sup> with PSV Eindhoven by 22 years and 18 days old



# CHILE XI

If 18 was tough to pick from, try 14!! But continuing our South American theme to this issues best XI we had to go for it!

Claudio Bravo was bought to Manchester City by Pep Guardiola due to concerns Joe Hart could not play with this feet. Seemingly forgot to check if Bravo could play with his hands! Nevertheless, he starts in goal for our Chile best XI.

Mauricio Isla (Q.P.R) and Gonzalo Jara (W.B.A) take on the full back roles and are joined in defence by the distinct look of Javier Margas. Often more noted by the colour of his hair, than his ability on the pitch, he was the first Chilean to play in the Premier League. Gary Medel fills in at centre back although he spent most of his time at Cardiff City in the centre of midfield.

On the wings we have Mark Gonzalez and Jean Beausejour. Injuries and work permits sadly robbed the Premier League of seeing Gonzalez's true worth.

In the middle we play Clarence Acuna. He played for Newcastle United for 4 seasons, and covers the defensive side of things, allowing David Pizarro to be the creator. He was unable to create too much during his time at Manchester City, but gets the nod over West Ham's Luis Jimenez and Blackburn Rovers' Carlos Villanueva.

Up front, the 9 shirt undoubtedly goes to Alexis Sanchez. Seen as a transfer coup for Arsene Wenger when he signed Sanchez from Barcelona to Arsenal and he did not disappoint. 4 very impressive seasons averaging almost a goal every other game was a great return, however the spell ended on a very sour note, as he joined arch rivals Manchester United. The consolation for Arsenal fans was seeing the move fall very flat for Sanchez, who got nowhere near his previous levels.

Partnering Sanchez up front is Eduardo Vargas, who joined QPR on loan in 2014 from Napoli. Despite Angelo Henriquez signing for Manchester United in 2012, he is not selected as that was also the case for United in his 3 years there!



Giuseppe Rossi – Ever so unfortunate with (knee) injuries throughout his career. Wore the 49 number as a tribute to his late Father's year of birth



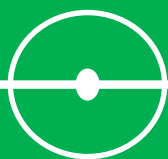


Nordin Wooter – The first teenager ever to score in a Champions League semi final, for Ajax in 1996



Do you disagree? Why not have a go yourself and fill in your best ever Nation XI to play in the Premier League

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John Bostock – The youngest ever player to play for Tottenham Hotspur at 16 years old and 295 days.



# The Missing Men

A lot was mad of Gazza's tears in 1990, and they still are today in fact.

Truth of the matter is, after Paul Gascoigne was booked and knew he would miss the World Cup final, England lost and the only thing to do after Waddle's penalty miss was to watch his team mates lose again in a dead rubber match against the Italians. The 3rd place 4th place play off match at the World Cups are like a Bounty bar being included in a box of celebrations. No one wants it and no one cares! Pointless and please scrap it!

Got us thinking here at The Halfway Line who are the unlucky ones that have been suspended or injured for the big games. A few came to mind.

## Laurent Blanc

One can't imagine Laurent Blanc has Slaven Bilic on his Christmas card list.

The semi final of a World Cup, France versus Croatia, in your home country. You're 32 so a fair assumption this is your last chance at glory.

2-1 up with 16 minutes to go...

A jostle in the penalty box as Croatia defend a ball into the box. Blanc, on reflection foolishly pushes Bilic off of him, to get space as opposed to anything aggressive or of malicious intent.

At the exact same time someone in the crowd inexplicably shoots Bilic in the head!! Oh, no, wait scrap that. The rock and roll, hard nut, rugged Balkan defender fell to the floor claspings his face, assuming with the intention of tricking the officials into sending Blanc off. Remarkably it worked and Blanc was dismissed, along with his chances of a World Cup final appearance. France won and Blanc has his medal but the opinion held of Bilic is as low as Slaven's hair line before the transplant!



Glen Little – In Reading's Championship winning season (2005/06) he set up a league high 14 goals and contributed 5 goals



# Michael Ballack

2002 was not a vintage year in terms of winning things for Michael Ballack. At least with his Bayer Leverkusen cup and league defeats he had a chance to try to impact them.

He didn't get the chance to impact the 2002 World Cup final as he was suspended.

He received a yellow card in the final group game against Cameroon. Pretty much everyone else in the game got one too! 16 yellow cards were dished out in that game!

Then in the round of 16 game against Paraguay in the 92nd minute he was booked once more. We've watched the sequence of play that led to Ballack's booking multiple times and we'll come back to you in later issues with the reason, as we are still trying to work it out.

Then in the 71st minute of the semi final (he scored the winner in the quarter finals) Ballack picked up another yellow card. It was another Gazza moment. If Germany were to qualify he knew he'd be suspended.



What stands him out from Gazza is 4 minutes later Ballack went on to score what would be the winner, in Seoul against the co-hosts South Korea.

Once he'd hit the back of the net, Ballack went off to celebrate and it looked like was about to rip off his shirt with elation!! Perhaps mindful a second yellow card in the game would end his World Cup journey even sooner he refrained and the shirt remained on.

Germany saw out the game and went the onto to final, and as with the rest of Ballack's 2002, Die Mannschaft were on the losing side against Brazil.



Oguzhan Ozyakup – Former Arsenal youngest has gone on to make over 250 appearances for Besiktas



**Pavel Nedved** was the European Footballer of the year in 2003. Juventus took home the 2002/03 Serie A title. He was instrumental in also guiding Juventus to the Champions League final in 2003. But he could not help them in the final. A build up of yellow cards, including one in the semi final meant Nedved was suspended for the final against rivals AC Milan, in which they lost. Would have it been different had he played?



**Xabi Alonso's** absence in 2014 for Real Madrid was not felt as with Juventus' above. Alonso, again suspended due to his yellow card collection in the tournament meant he missed the final that saw Real Madrid win their La Decima.



**Dani Alves and Eric Abidal and Rafael Marquez**

All 3 players were absolute mainstays in the 2008/2009 season for Barcelona in which saw them win the first treble in Spanish football history.

However the team's defensive line up was very different for the Champions League final against Manchester United in 2009.

Marquez was sadly injured, Dani Alves received too many yellow cards in the build up and was suspended and Abidal received a red card in the semi final so none featured in the final. Amazingly it mattered little as the Catalan club played Manchester United (without Darren Fletcher, also suspended) off the park and the treble was completed.



Sheyi Ojo – Signed for Liverpool from MK Dons as a 14 year old for a reported £2 million



## John Terry & Branislav Ivanovic & Ramires & Raúl Meireles - 2012

One of the more known suspensions in a Champions League final was that of John Terry in 2012. After Chelsea won he promptly got changed into his full kit to lift the trophy with his teammates.

But also missing from the squad that day were Ivanovic, Ramires and Meireles. All suspended for their yellow card count. The team that played however secured a huge achievement in lifting the trophy, sorry, allowing Terry to lift the trophy. None of them were far from the trophy!!!!



## Paul Scholes and Roy Keane - 1999

Writing this trying to imagine Roy Keane crying on the pitch in Turin knowing if his Manchester United team beat Juventus he'll be suspended for the final. Don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with crying. Jesus, put Toy Story 4 on, and I'm a goner, like I'm cutting onions!!

But don't see it with Keane. His reaction instead was to ensure the team got there, and they did. And then in the most dramatic of circumstances they won it, without having Keane or the also suspended Scholes to aid them.



Brahim Diaz – Former Manchester City youth player, who played 5 games for the club in over 3 years and then secured a £15 million transfer to Real Madrid





## Alessandro Costacurta and Franco Baresi

The Italian champions versus the Spanish champions. The 1994 Champions League final was on paper probably supposed to turn out differently.

Barcelona had just won La Liga for a fourth season in a row under the tutelage of Johan Cruyff. The 'Dream team' had scored an impressive 91 goals in the league and well over 100 in all competitions. The firepower, amongst others was provided by Romario and Hristo Stoichkov.

On at least 19 occasions in the league that year they scored at least 3 goals.

Milan were a different machine. They won Serie A by scoring a mere 36 goals. They were so mean defensively, leaking only 15 goals. On no occasions in the league that season did they ever score more than 2 goals, scoring 2 goals only 11 times.

Bare in mind the Milan team scored 36 league goals that season. Romario himself scored 30 league goals for Barcelona that season! Add to that, a favourite at The Halfway Line, Ronald Koeman, the Barca defender, went into the final as the competitions joint leading scorer!

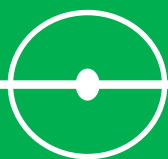
Not having Marco Van Basten available will always hit your goals for column and he, alongside Gianluigi Lentini, Jean-Pierre Papin, Florin Raducioiu and Brian Laudrup all missed the final as a result of either injury or selection based on EU status (at the time only 3 non National players permitted in the match day squad.)

But what should have hurt Milan was the absence of their defensive rocks - the equivalent of the Italian Alcatraz!! Franco Baresi and Alessandro Costacurta both cruelly robbed of fitness before the final and were not able to play. That's like going to see the Jackson 5 play, and Michael and Jermaine not being on stage. Surely Romario et al would run riot.



It was indeed a massacre. 4-0. The winning margin in Champions League finals, to date has not been matched or bettered some 25 years on. Van Basten and Gullit matched this 5 years earlier for Milan defeating Steaua in 1989 and you have to go back to 1974 for another 4-0 white wash.

Barcelona were crowned.....oh no wait. AC Milan won 4-0!!! That makes no sense! The goal shy Italians led beautifully by Dejan Savicevic, and marshalled superbly by Paulo Maldini in defence ignored the absence of their key defenders and striking options and turned the Barca Dream team to the Lean team and took home the trophy back to Milan.



Jay Fulton - Started his career at Falkirk as did his Father and his 2 Brothers who also played for the Scottish club



# CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



## FACTS



- Most Semi Final appearances – Real Madrid with 29
- Only player to win the trophy 6 times – Francisco Gento (played in 8 finals)
- In the Champions League era, Manchester United in the 1998/99 and 2007/08 campaigns, went unbeaten on the way to being crowned Champions, the only team ever to do so.
- In the 1987/88 campaign, winners PSV Eindhoven won a total of just 3 games!
- Arsenal are believed to be the first club to field 11 players of different nationalities (Hamburg Away in 2006) in a Champions League game.
- Edwin Van Der Sar is the only goalkeeper to win the competition with 2 teams
- All time appearance record holder is Iker Casillas with 177 games, where as Xavi has the most games for representing just one team (151 games for Barcelona)
- Youngest ever player to play in the Champions League was Celestine Babayaro, for Anderlecht. It was memorable, as he was sent off!



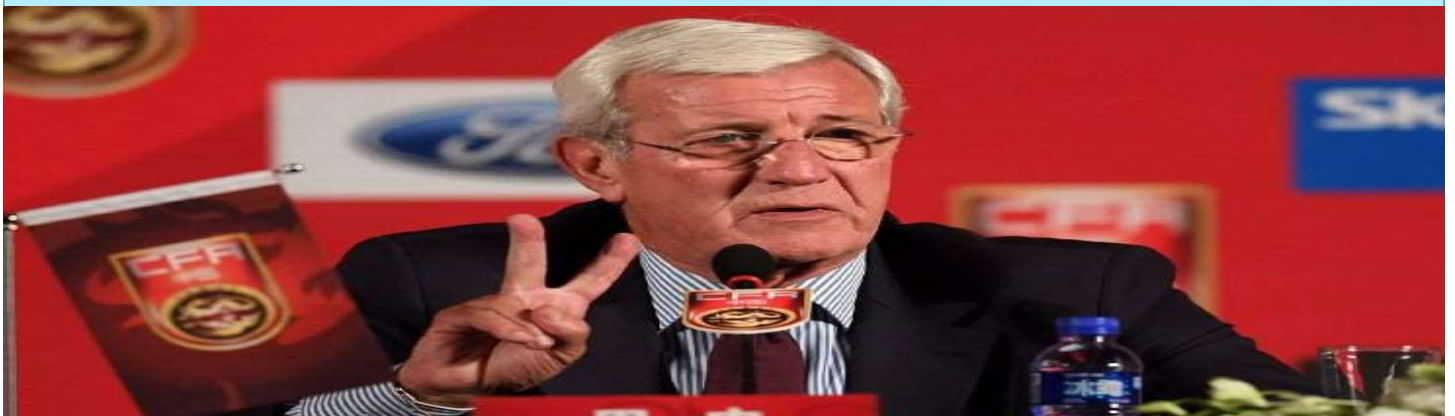
Stephy Mavididi – The first English player to play for Juventus (2019) since David Platt did in 1992



- Raul Gonzalez was the first to play 100 games.
- The fastest goal scored in the Champions League was by Roy Makaay, for Bayern Munich, against Real Madrid in 2007, scoring after just 10.12 seconds!!



- Michael Ballack has played in the quarter finals with 4 different teams.
- Zlatan Ibrahimovic has played for 7 teams in the group stages.
- The manager who has overseen the most games is Alex Ferguson.
- Marcello Lippi has won the UEFA Champions League and Asian Champions League as manager.



Ben Woodburn – At 17 years old and 45 days he is the youngest ever goal scorer for Liverpool, having overtaken Michael Owen's previous record



## The Treatment Room

### Broken Leg

A broken leg (leg fracture) will be severely painful and may be swollen or bruised. You usually will not be able to walk on it.

If it's a severe fracture, the leg may be an odd shape and the bone may even be poking out of the skin. There may have been a "crack" sound when the leg was broken, and the shock and pain of breaking your leg may cause you to feel faint, dizzy or sick.

The type and severity of a bone fracture depends on the amount of force that caused the damage. A lesser force that just exceeds the bone's breaking point may just crack the bone. An extreme force may shatter the bone.

#### Treatments for a broken leg

How your doctor treats your broken leg depends on the location and type of fracture. Part of your doctor's diagnosis is determining which classification the fracture falls into. These include:

- Open (compound) fracture. The skin is pierced by the broken bone, or bone emerges through a wound.
- Closed fracture. The surrounding skin isn't broken.
- Incomplete fracture. The bone is cracked, but not separated into two parts.
- Complete fracture. The bone is broken into two or more parts.
- Displaced fracture. The bone fragments on each side of the break aren't aligned.
- Greenstick fracture. The bone is cracked, but not all the way through.

The primary treatment for a broken bone is to make sure the ends of the bone are properly aligned and then to immobilize the bone so it can properly heal. This starts with setting the leg.

If it's a displaced fracture, your doctor may need to manoeuvre the pieces of bone into the correct position. This positioning process is called reduction. Once the bones are properly positioned, the leg is typically immobilized with a splint or cast made of plaster or fiberglass.



Omar Habdellaoui – Former Manchester City youngster who moved to Greece to play for Olympiakos and has earned 44 international caps for Norway



## Surgery

In some cases, internal fixation devices, such as rods, plates, or screws, need to be surgically implanted. This is often necessary with injuries such as:

- multiple fractures
- displaced fracture
- fracture that damaged surrounding ligaments
- fracture that extends into a joint
- fracture caused by a crushing accident
- fracture in certain areas, such as your femur

In some cases, your doctor may recommend an external fixation device. This is a frame that's outside your leg and attached through the tissue of your leg into the bone.

## What to expect during recovery from a broken leg?

It could take several weeks to several months for your broken leg to heal. Your recovery time will depend on the severity of the injury and how you follow your doctor's directions.

If you have a splint or cast, your doctor might recommend you use crutches or a cane to keep weight off the affected leg for six to eight weeks or longer.

If you have an external fixation device, your doctor will most likely remove it after about six to eight weeks.

During this recovery period, the chances are good that your pain will stop well before the fracture is solid enough to handle normal activity.

After your cast, brace, or other immobilization device is removed, your doctor may suggest you continue to limit movement until the bone is solid enough for you to return to your typical activity level.

If your doctor recommends physical therapy and exercise, it may take several months or even longer to complete the healing of a severe leg break.



Gelson Martins – Portuguese attacking midfielder who started his career at Sporting before moves to Atletico Madrid and now Monaco



# Like Father Like Son

When you read in the last two years Gianluigi Buffon has lined up in the same game as Weah, Thuram, Maldini, Chiesa, Simeone and Kluivert you would be forgiven for thinking we are talking about an all time world XI reunion for a get together to play in a charity match!

But no, that is not the case. Buffon has actually been playing with the new generation! This highlights Buffon's incredible career, that spans decades, and also that the footballing genes are strong in some of these footballing families.

We've picked 2 footballing XI's for you. First up are the seniors, and the second is the offspring who, I am in no doubt would give the old guard a run for their money.

The trend appears to be somewhat attacking for the son team, so perhaps not a sustainable XI but nevertheless would be fun to watch.

To make you feel really old, if you didn't already; In the 1994 World Cup finals when Brazil defeated The Netherlands, a famous celebration was born. Romario, Bebeto and Mazinho celebrated a goal with the swinging baby arms, as a tribute to Bebeto's as yet, unborn child. Reach for your slippers as we tell you that in 2017, the baby they were celebrating actually signed for Sporting Lisbon! Bebeto's son, Matheus Oliveira made his way from the domestic league in Brazil to the European leagues!



To add to the age factor, Mazinho, who was part of that celebration sees two of his son's make the son XII!!



Paulinho – Portuguese midfielder was unable to make the breakthrough at Liverpool or Wolves before moving back to Portugal via the Czech Republic



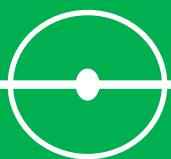
# The Fathers!



Abdul Razak – Ivorian international who came through the ranks at Crystal Palace and Manchester City before a nomadic career commenced



# The Sons!



Diniyar Bilyaletdinov – Former Russian international who transferred to Everton in 2009, in between playing for three Moscow clubs (Lokomotiv, Spartak & Torpedo)





In goal you have 2 Premier League winning goalkeepers. I am in no doubt Manchester United fans have been quick to remind Liverpool fans, their most successful goalkeeper won the league with Manchester United, had a baby boy, retired and then the baby boy grew up and then also won the Premier League, all in the time period when Liverpool failed to win the league!! The Schmeichel's take the #1 jersey.

In defence are club legends and captains; Bruce (Man United), Blind (Ajax) and Maldini (AC Milan) ensure goals conceded are at a minimum, and Thuram sees his position cemented at right back, though his son has other ideas.... In the future son XI, we have to abandon the 4 at the back, as its not cool to defend these days...so the kids tell us.

The Fathers' midfield is a tough one to break through, with South American influence with Simeone and Mazinho and some more Premier League knowhow with Alf Inge Haaland.

Not brave enough to break it to him face to face, but Simeone only makes the bench for the son XI, as Mazinho's boys play their part in the middle.

Up front for the Dads, there is no shortage of goal scoring quality. Listing the players Weah, Chiesa and Kluivert means there are goals and significant threat amongst these forwards.

Thuram and Haaland are the main position changes, with Kluivert shifting out to the left and supporting from the bench are Hagi, Cruyff and Ince, along with Simeone.

We wonder, just wonder what would come of a game against these Fathers' and Sons'.

Lets take a closer look at some of these break through players.



Nicolo Zaniolo – Never made a first team appearance for Inter Milan and was used as part of a player/cash swap transfer with Roma for Radja Nainggolan





## FIorentINA

We can think of worse scouting techniques than signing up the off spring of some of the great players from the 1990s/2000s. The players in the son XI make for a great team and 3 players that stood out for the same reason were Hagi, Simeone and Chiesa. Only the latter has a father with an affiliation with Fiorentina but La Viola have had all 3 on their books. Chiesa remains, Simeone is currently getting game time out on loan and Hagi having moved on.

All attacking minded, international players, but the one who remains at the club appears to be the one of most promise. Federico Chiesa has had the more settled career of the three, having started his career at Fiorentina and progressing through the ranks. Both Simeone Jnr and Hagi Jnr seemingly yet to settle and loan spells away perhaps not helped. Chiesa has more Fiorentina appearances than his Father did and is closing on the international caps total also (Federico 17 & Enrico 22)

The fear, no doubt for Fiorentina is a 'bigger' club start to monitor his progress further and pounce.

But as scouting methods evolve we note Fiorentina trying a new technique of family relationship based signings, by enticing Steve Gerrard's cousin, Bobby Duncan, to sign for the club in 2019.



Tom Clayton – Young centre back on the books of Liverpool, but yet to make his breakthrough



# MARCUS THURAM

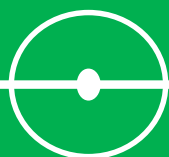
Marcus Thuram at the moment has the claim to fame as his Father, Lillian Thuram being undoubtedly one of the finest defenders of his time, a legend of the modern game.

His desire, we're in no doubt is to create his own legacy. For that you need confidence, belief, talent and of course luck. We can say for certain he has the first 3, in abundance. The 4th attribute is in the lap of the Gods.

Thuram's career to date has been all about progression. Bedding himself in as a professional with Sochaux in the second division in France before moving to Guingamp in the first division. Each season at Sochaux & Guingamp he has played more and scored more than in the previous and this has continued at Borussia Mönchengladbach post his big money move to Germany in the summer of 2019.

He's hit the floor running there, winning the Bundesliga Rookie of the month for September, October and November. The next progression is club success and selection for the senior French national team.

We don't see either being that far off.



Nicola Legrottaglie – Italian centre back amassing over 250 Serie A appearances over a 12 season career



# TIMOTHY WEAH

Timothy Weah has an association to his Father's playing career that Marcus Thuram doesn't. He has played for a club his Father, George did. Timothy Weah was poached from the New York Red Bulls Academy by Paris Saint-Germain at 14 years old. Weah senior had a very successful spell with the Parisian club from 1992-1996 before he took to his Italian adventure.

At this stage I imagine Weah junior's hope is to match his Father's football career, including a World Footballer of the year award, as opposed to his Father's post footballing career that sees him currently acting as the President of Liberia!

We'll stop with the comparison shortly but like his Father and Thuram, Weah is a forward but at this stage his career hasn't progressed as smoothly. Joining a team of superstars at PSG has pros and cons and a significant con is that game time is at a premium, especially when the forward line consists of the likes of Neymar, Cavani and Mbappe.

Seeking that game time Weah first moved to Scotland and played for Celtic on loan before deciding to leave PSG and make a permanent move, domestically to Lille.

On the international front, Weah decided to represent the country of his birth, the USA, and when he debuted in March 2017 he became the first USMNT player to have been born in the 2000's to represent the nation.

If the paths are followed that means we are looking at the future president of the USA, the leader of the free world. But for now, let's see how Weah gets on at Lille at the Stade Pierre-Mauroy as opposed to the White House!



Fraser Forster – Holds the Scottish record for most minutes for not conceding a goal, timed at 1,256 minutes



# ERLING HAALAND

Which Scandinavian teenager had an almighty break through year in 2019?

If you were reading Time magazine the answer is probably different but at The Halfway Line we give that accolade to Erling Haaland.

A few notable achievements in 2019 to mention. He scored 9 goals in one game (for Norway in the Under 20 World Cup) He scored 3 hat-tricks for his club side Red Bull Salzburg in the league followed by a hat-trick on his Champions League debut for the Austrian club.

He didn't look to save the environment but my days he announced himself on the world football stage.

He has since joined Borussia Dortmund, and naturally scored a hat-trick on his debut.

In his last 40 games (to date 08/07/2020) Haaland has scored 44 goals.

His Father, Alf-Inge, scored 23 in his career.

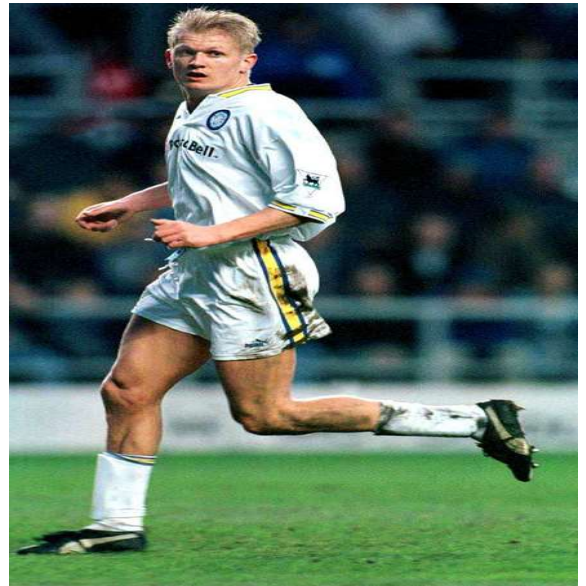
So with above hat-tricks mentioned, his son scored more goals in those 6 games then he did in his entire career!!

2 points to clarify to make this a lot less harsh on the Father here.

1, Alf-Inge was a defensive midfielder not known for his goal scoring ability and 2, Erling is an absolute monster of a goal scorer.

Borussia Dortmund have looked to entice young, hungry footballers to the club in recent years, some successful (Dembale, Sancho) and some less so (Isak, Mor) but with Haaland it appears they've struck gold.

His Father's career is symbolic in how it sadly ended but what we are experiencing with Erling is the excitement of how his career is just starting. If the start is a sign of things to come, gee whizz, he could even help with climate change at this rate!!!



Christian Manfredini – Was a member of the surprise success of Chievo in 2000 as the 'flying donkey's' finished 5<sup>th</sup> in Serie A





If you want to get a kick out of your sport — no matter whether you play or watch — you want Bovril. You need it in your training — you'll enjoy it in the bar at half-time!

*It really **does** something*  
*— this* **BOVRIL**



Angelino — Spanish left back, joined Manchester City only to leave for PSV Eindhoven and then for Manchester City to buy him back the following season



# Historical Line Ups

In this feature we pick a team, be it an international side, or domestic teams and pick 5 historical line ups to trigger memories of the good, or bad or even ugly times.

In this issue, we are going back to the 1990's and reliving Champions League finals, and showing the winning teams line up.

We've selected 5 games, each 2 years on from the last to give an even spread.

Take a look at the line ups, remember the players, can you remember the games, with some here upsetting the apple cart and the underdogs sneaking a victory,

Test yourself – can you spot the players in the line ups that are multiple winners of the European Cup/Champions League with different teams? Can you get the full 9?

We'll reveal the answers in the quiz section later on in this issue.

- 1) Red Star Belgrade versus Marseille
- 2) Marseille versus AC Milan
- 3) Ajax Amsterdam versus AC Milan
- 4) Borussia Dortmund versus Juventus
- 5) Manchester United versus Barcelona



Joao Cancelo – Upon joining Manchester City in 2019, the fee and the player exchange (Danilo) makes him the most expensive right back of all time



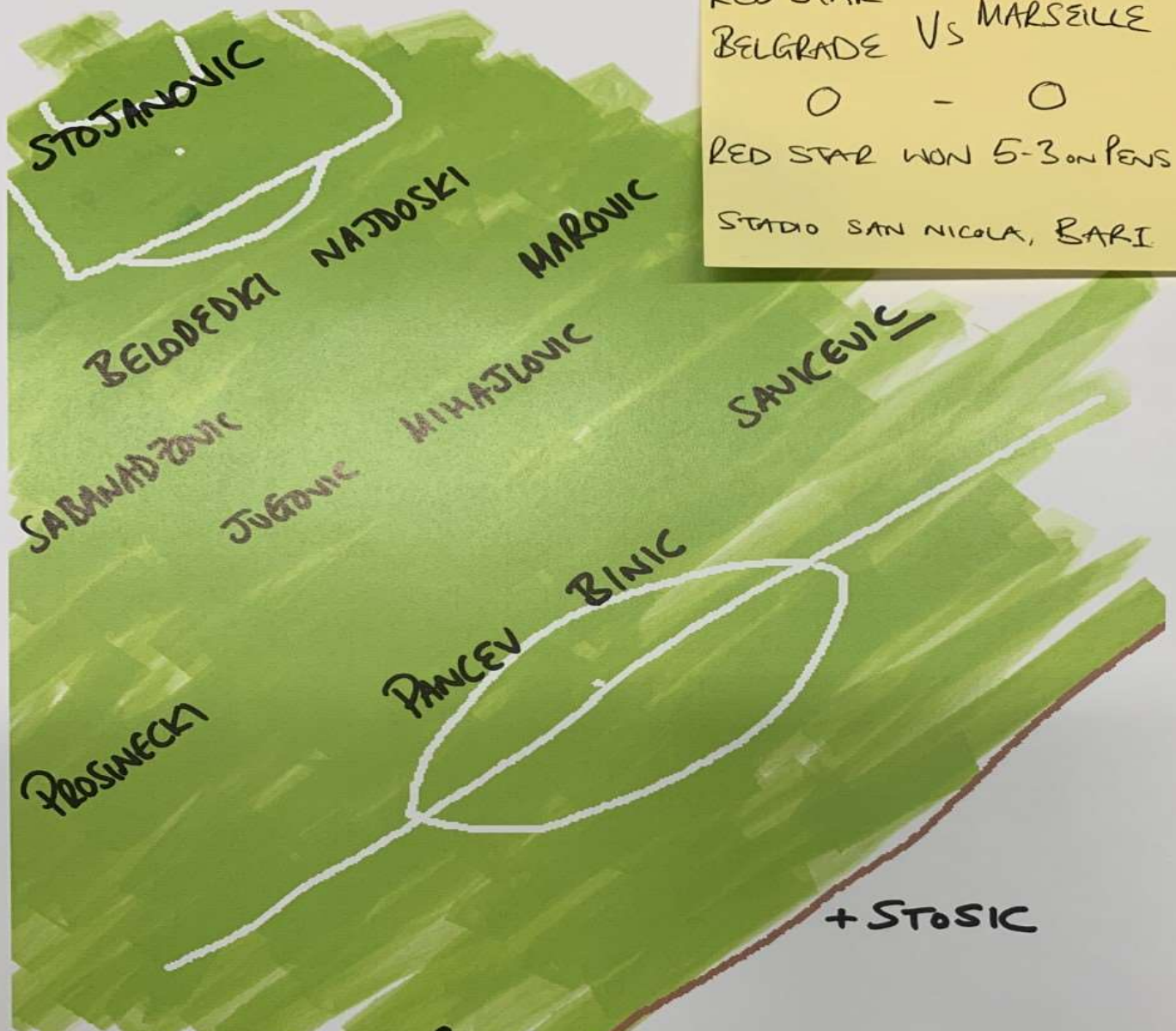
29<sup>th</sup> MAY 1991

RED STAR  
BELGRADE VS MARSEILLE

0 - 0

RED STAR WON 5-3 ON PENS

STADIO SAN NICOLA, BARI



MANAGER: LJUPKO PETROVIC



Panagiotis Glykos – Greek goalkeeper represented Greece in the 2014 World Cup and a solid performer in the domestic league for PAOK, winning the 2018 title without losing a game





26<sup>th</sup> MAY 1993

MARSEILLE Vs AZ MILAN

1 - 0

BOLI

OLYMPIASTADION, MUNICH

BARTHEZ

BOLI

DESAILLY

ANGRAMA

DI MECO

EJDELIE

SAUZEE

DESCHAMPS

VÖLLER

PELE

BOKSIK

+ THOMAS  
+ DURAND

MANAGER: RAYMOND GOETHALS



Cristiano Doni – Italian who won 3 Serie B titles with 3 separate clubs, but also banned from football in 2011 for involvement in match fixing



24<sup>th</sup> MAY 1995

AJAX Vs AC MILAN

1 - 0

KLUINERT

ERNST-HAPPEL STADION, VIENNA



Nicolae Stanciu – When moving from Steaua Bucharest to Anderlecht in August 2016 he became the then most expensive player bought by a Belgian club



28<sup>th</sup> MAY 1997

BORUSSIA  
DORTMUND 3 - 1 JUVENTUS  
DEL PIERO  
RIEDLE  
RIEDLE  
RICKEN  
OLYMPIASTADION, MUNICH



Viktor Kovalenko – Ukrainian midfielder who currently plays for reigning champions Shakhtar Donetsk



26<sup>th</sup> MAY 1999

MANCHESTER UNITED Vs BAYERN MUNICH

2 - 1

SHERINGHAM  
SOLSKJAER

BASLER

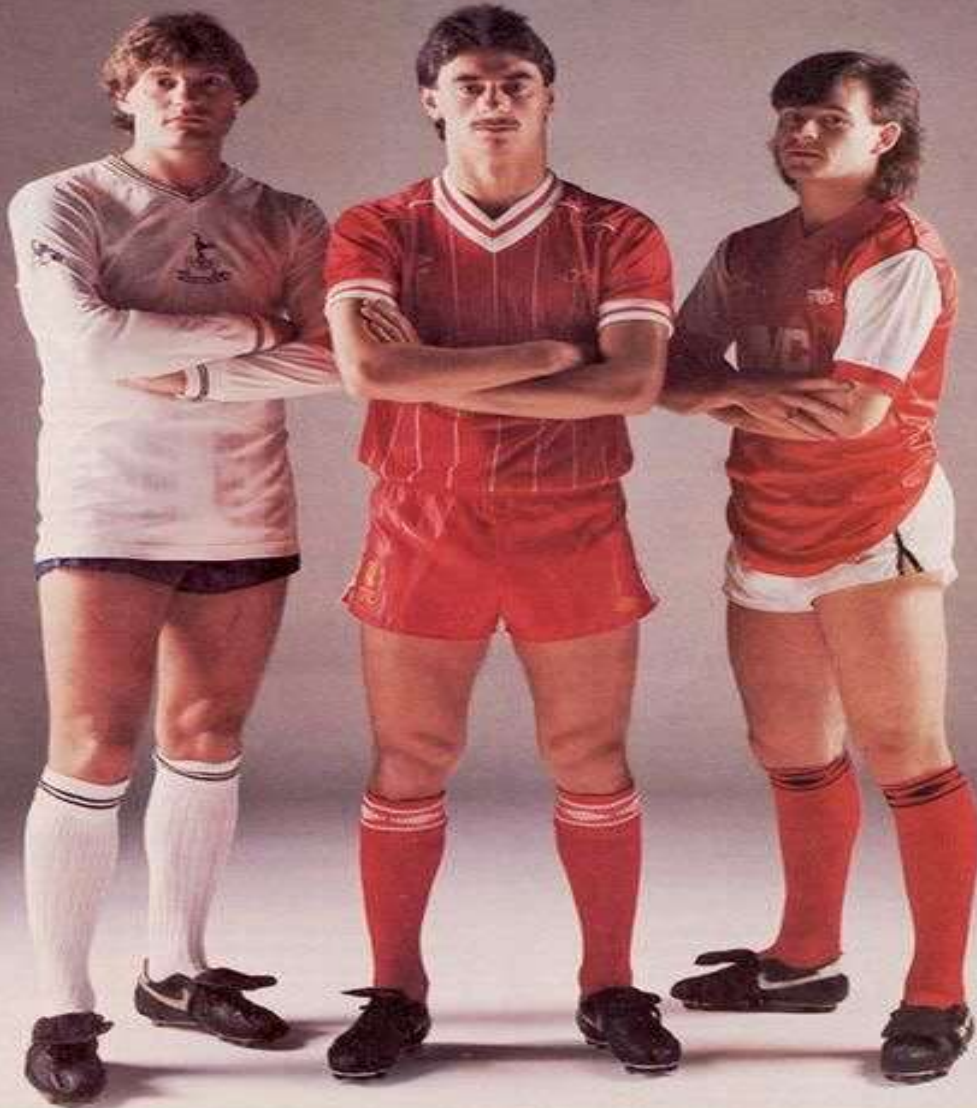
CAMP NOU, BARCELONA



Bruno Xadas – Came through the ranks at Porto but moved to Braga without ever having made a first team appearance



**ONLY THE FINEST MATERIAL GOES INTO A PAIR OF NIKE BOOTS.**



Ricardo Sa Pinto – In March 1997, upon hearing he had not been selected for a match he travelled to the training session and punched the manager in the face. This resulted in a year ban from all football competitions.



# TUBE MAPS IDEA

At The Halfway Line we like to explore our artistic side. We aren't necessarily saying we have one, but it never hurts to look!

We have talked previously about our love for the iconic elements of football. It got us to thinking can you mix these iconic elements with other subject matters.

We are very much of the opinion, yes you can.

So off we set to combine. We are London based, so our first thought when thinking what is arty, iconic and London-ish, we immediately thought of the London Tube Map.

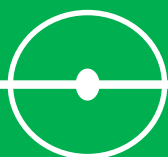
Our thoughts on the most iconic international team focused straight on Brazil. We have a huge soft spot for the Brazilian national team and the absurd amount of talent that the country has produced. When thinking how to link Brazil to the Tube, it was easy. Brazil = Green and Yellow.....District and Circle Line = Green and Yellow. Check out our 'mash up' of the tube stations as Brazilian superstar footballers!

Next thought (or stop as it is Tube based) was a bit out there, but stay with us...

What colour is the Central Line? Red. How many stops on the Central Line? 49.....

Which team in Red went 49 games unbeaten, including an invincible season? That's right, Arsenal.

We replaced all the stations with the 49 opponents in their unbeaten sequence and where there is a station stop, we've replaced with the 22 players that took part in the 38 matches that saw the Gunners avoid defeat in an entire league campaign. Take a look, let us know what you think?



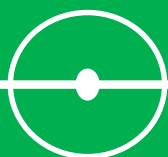
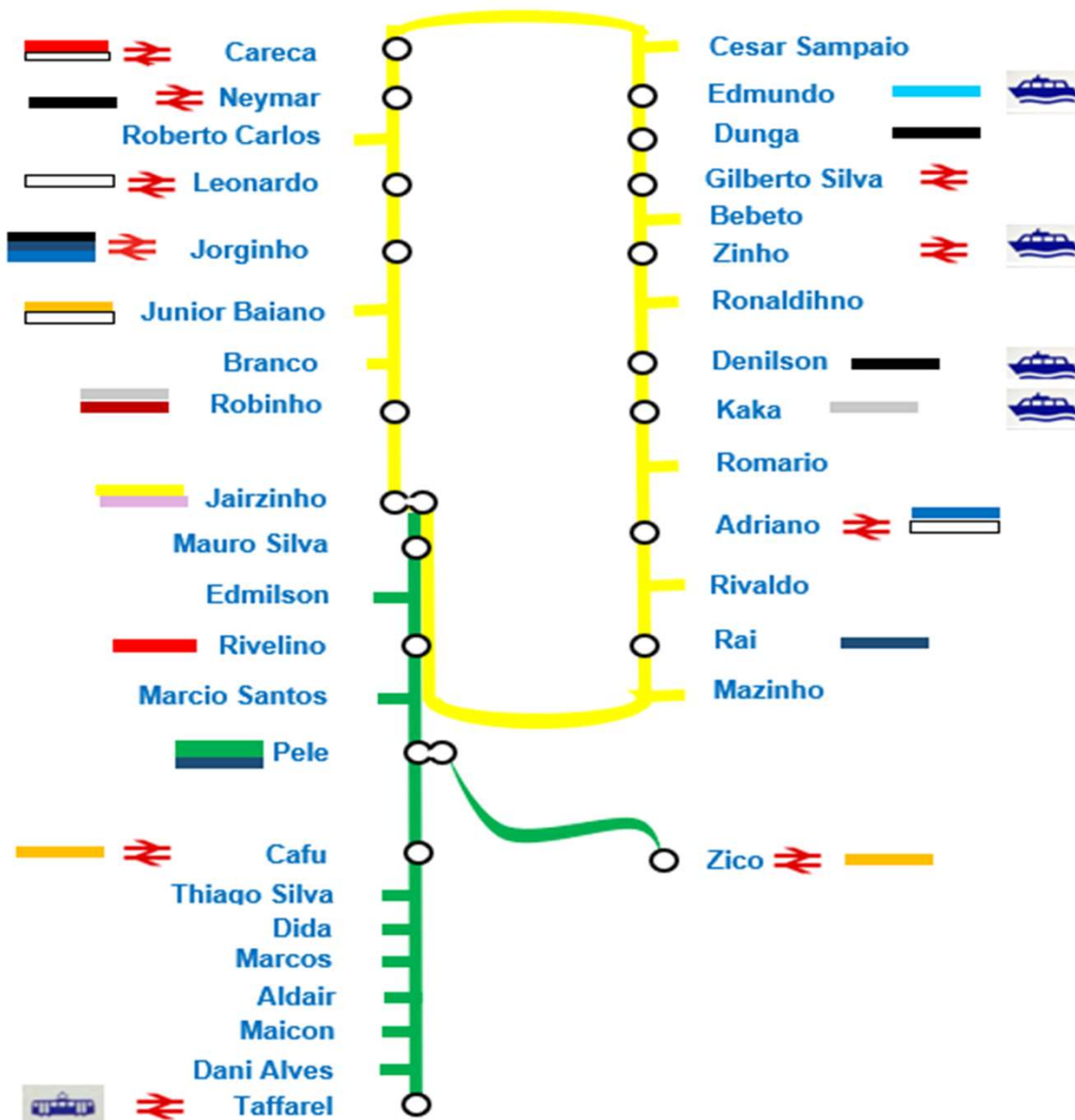
Ricardo Quaresma – Pacey and skilful Portuguese winger has made the 'trivela' shot his own, the bending of the ball when shooting with the outside of the boot



# Brazil's Seleção Lines

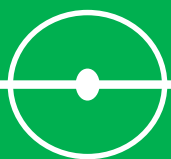
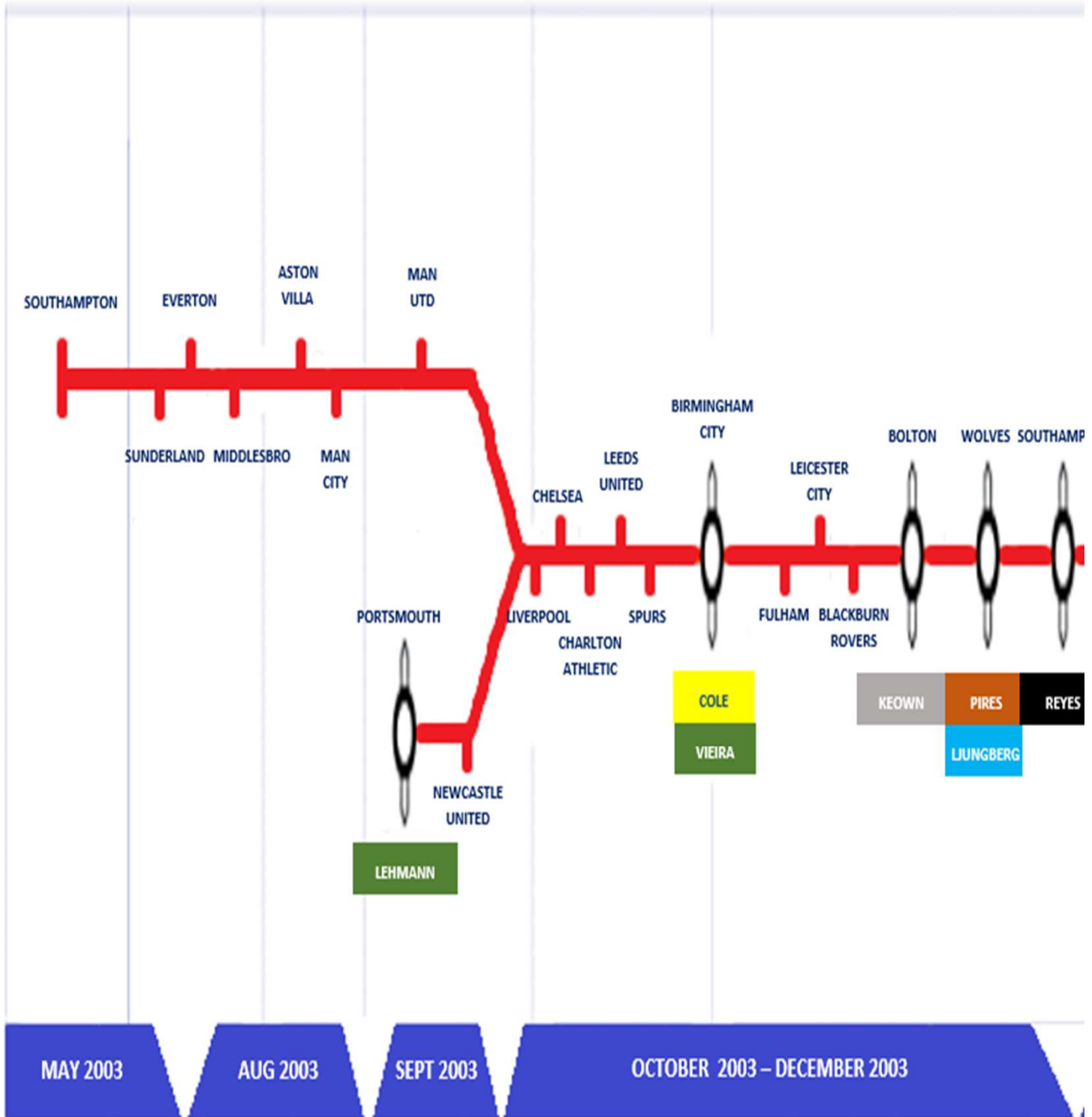
FIFA World Cup: Winners (5): 1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, 2002

South American Championship / Copa América: Winners (9): 1919, 1922, 1949, 1989, 1997, 1999, 2004, 2007, 2019



Goncalo Guedes – Scorer of the winning goal in the first ever Nations League final, against the Netherlands in 2019

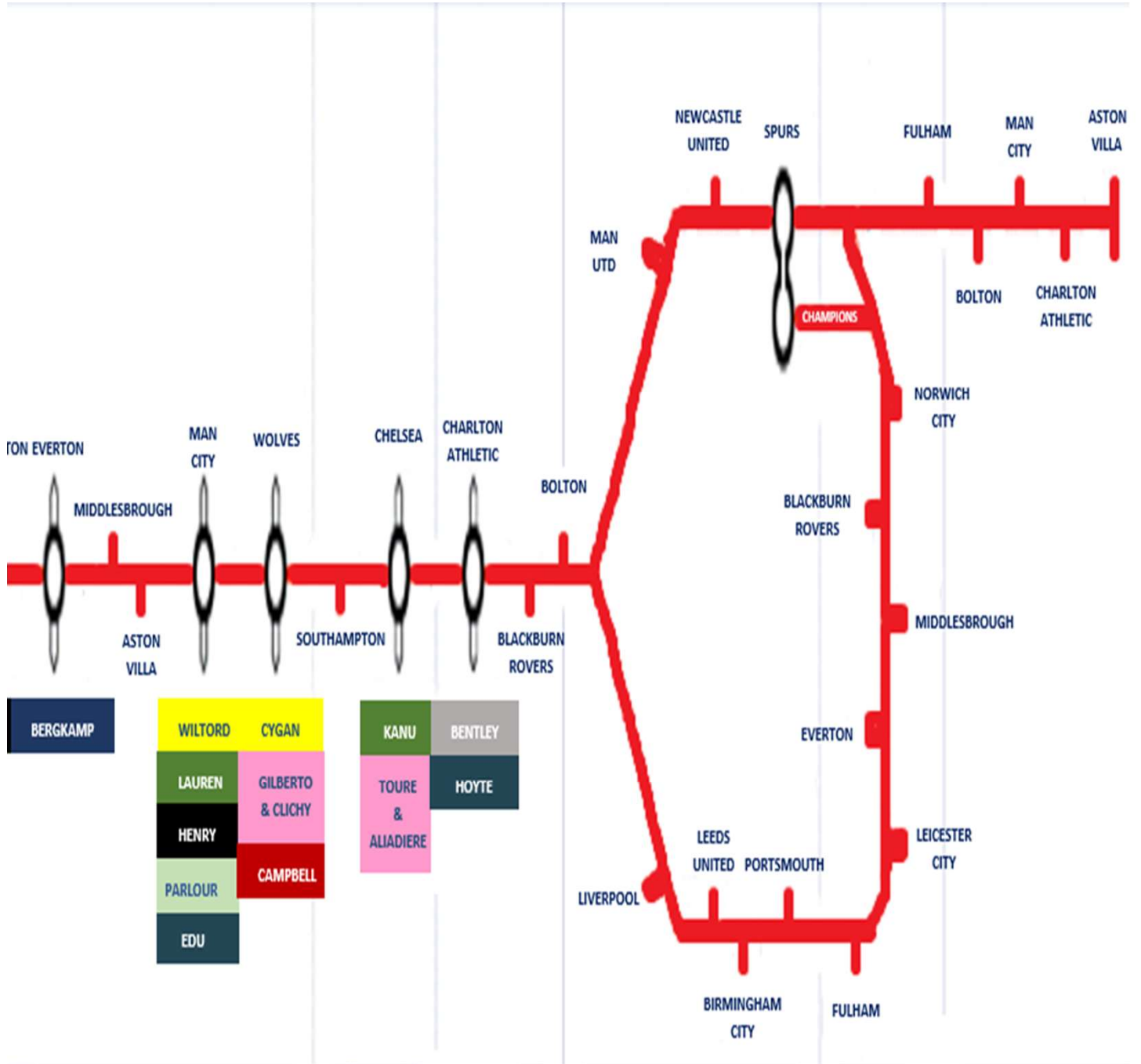




Vincenzo Iaquinta – World Cup winning centre forward for Italy. 5 years after retirement he was sentenced to prison for possession of firearms & his Father sentenced for 19 years for mafia association







JANUARY 2004 – FEBRUARY 2004

MARCH 2004 – AUGUST 2004

SEPT 2004 – OCT 2004



Mario Pasalic – Signed by Chelsea in 2014, he is on his 5<sup>th</sup> loan spell away having yet to play a game for the West London team



# THE BOOT ROOM



We could give you approximately 260 reasons for this inclusion. The boot of choice of the Premier League's highest ever goal scorer. Alan Shearer, amongst others styled this classic Umbro boot. We've once again, like in issue #3, selected a relatively plain and basic style. You don't need to add a spoiler on the boot of a Ferrari right? Why mess with simplicity if it's perfection? The black leather with white features strike at the core of a traditional football boot and this pair of boots warrants a record goal scorer to be wearing them.

To add an element of individuality Umbro added the Wishbone feature to the sole of the boot that to us never got the attention it properly deserves. As with the boot we'll keep the analysis simple. Classic boot, classic design and next time I get a wishbone in my chicken dinner I will actually wish for a pair of these beauties.

Shearer is in some very good company at the Umbro boot room, namely Michael Owen, Mark Hughes and worth mentioning a certain free kick scored by Roberto Carlos was done so wearing a pair of Umbro Specialis.



Cristian Zaccardo – Another World Cup winner for Italy in 2006 and also helped Wolfsburg win their first ever Bundesliga title in 2008-09



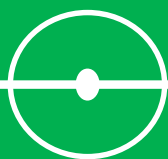


Can you call a football boot legendary? I think you can, and we're putting it out there for the Puma King boot.

We will venture from the simple, black leather design of a classic football boot in the Boot Room feature at some stage but we could not move on until the Puma King was submitted.

It's such a lovely boot, in fact Diego Maradona in the 1986 World Cup didn't want to scruff his pair and mess them up so he went to extreme lengths not to actually use them and tried alternative methods to score!!!

In addition to Maradona, other legendary players to don the Puma Kings were Johan Cruyff and a certain Edson Arantes do Nascimento...aka Pelé. A king boot for a king player.



Alberto Gilardino – One more Italian World Cup winner, who is in the top 10 all time scorers in Serie A (188 goals) and the all time top scorer for the Italian U21 side





## THE PAOLO MALDINI APPRECIATION SOCIETY

There are just some players that you can't dislike. Like Gianfranco Zola, or Juninho, or Pavel Nedved. Just really likeable players.

Add to that list Paolo Maldini, and welcome to the Paolo Maldini Appreciation Society Members Club.

At The Halfway Line we wanted to try to show off just how good of a player he really was.

We are assuming he was the kid at school that was good at everything he turned his hand to. Tennis, Cricket (is that a thing in Italy), Swimming, Rugby. You bet he was able to just pick it up and be great at it.

His looks and that hair! He could no doubt chuck on any old clobber and would like a model in it.

Oh, and it just so happens he was pretty darn good at football. Yet still we can't not like him.



Antonio Floro Flores – Italian striker who played for Napoli, Udinese and Genoa amongst others throughout this career





Pretty handy he was good at football, as he had pretty big shoes to fill. His Father, Cesare Maldini made 412 appearances for AC Milan as a defender and won four league titles with Milan. He later became the team's captain in 1961, and went on to capture the club's first ever European Cup as team captain in 1963, as Milan defeated Benfica. Milan became the first Italian side ever to win the trophy, while Maldini became the first Italian captain to lift the cup. No pressure then Paolo. It clearly didn't phase him and in the 1984/85 season he made his first team debut for AC Milan at the age of just 16. (This makes Maldini the youngest player to make an appearance for the club.) Readers may not have known this, but Maldini, as a right footer actually began his AC Milan at right back. At the start

of the 1985/86 season, Maldini became a regular at the club, soon switching to the left full back position, and being handed the number 3 shirt, which had previously belonged to his Father.



Stephane Sessegnon – Benin's all time top goal scorer and appearance maker with 24 goals in 82 games



Then came the success.

Under the management of Arrigo Sacchi marked Maldini's first trophy, the Serie A title in 1987/88 and the first of seven league titles with AC Milan.

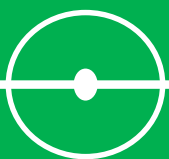
The period of dominance coincided with the defensive dream team of Maldini, Franco Baresi, Alessandro Costacurta and Mauro Tassotti.

The defensive giants then began to dominate European football, with the attacking flair being added by the

Dutchmen Ruud Gullit and being added by the Dutchmen Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten. The Rossonari won back to back European Cups in 1989 & 1990.

With Sacchi going, the task was given to Fabio Capello to continue the dominance, and this proved no issue. AC Milan and Maldini won the 1991/92 Serie A title and went on a remarkable 58 league unbeaten run! This league victory was the first of three consecutive titles under Capello for Maldini.

A European Cup final defeat in 1993 against Marseille was remediated a year later, beating Cruyff's Barcelona comprehensively 4-0 that started to show that Milan could cope without Baresi and Costacurta and instead rely on Maldini.



Giannelli Imbula – Stoke City's record signing from Porto in 2016. Massively flopped and after just 28 game played he had his contract terminated in 2020



Maldini added one more (5<sup>th</sup>) league title before Fabio Capello moved on. International success was so almost achieved at the 1994 World Cup with Italy, losing out to Brazil in the Los Angeles heat in America. Maldini, Baresi and co, the only team in the tournament to stop the Brazilians scoring on route to their victory.



Post the retirement of Baresi, Maldini took the captaincy at the San Siro and lifted his first title in the role in 1999. Maldini also took over the captaincy of the national team, again coming agonisingly close to a tournament victory, losing in another final, this time to France in the European Championship final of 2000.

Back in Milan and under the new management of Carlo Ancelotti, and with new defensive partner Alessandro Nesta, Maldini won his fourth Champions League trophy defeating Juventus in 2003 and being named as the games Man of the Match, and a further Serie A victory followed in 2004, his 7<sup>th</sup>, and final, winning the league championship some 16 years after his first!

Maldini went on to captain Milan to two further Champions League finals. One in 2005, in which he scored (the oldest player to score in a final) but ultimately ending on the losing side, and in 2007 when Maldini became the oldest captain to lift the trophy, as Milan took revenge on Liverpool, winning 2-1.



Kamil Zayatte – At the time for signing for Hull City in 2009, he was their joint record signing (£2.5m)





The 2008/09 Serie A season was to be the last as a professional for Maldini. In a career that spanned 25 years, the classy defender racked up 902 first team appearances for AC Milan. Unsurprisingly this is a club record. Remarkably in his last season he mustered 30 league appearances, a number he only beat 5 times in the previous 24 seasons. His longevity is further proven by the remarkable statistic of being the player to have played the record number of minutes at the World Cup. 2216 if you were wondering! He won a total of 126 caps for the Italian national team, captaining the Azzuri for 74 of those appearances.

As with his predecessor's (Baresi), number 6 shirt, AC Milan announced the retirement of the number 3 shirt. He stated he is happy for it to be reintroduced, if either of his son's make the first team. For the record, his son Daniel made his debut this season for AC Milan. Move over Grandad and Dad, there's a new Maldini in town.



Mikhail Bakaev – Russian defensive midfielder whose list of career clubs would make an outstanding scrabble score





Oh, and by the way, as described at the beginning of the article, it seems Paolo Maldini is 'that' guy.

In June 2017, post his retirement from football, Maldini qualified for the Aspria Tennis Cup in Milan, a professional tennis tournament on the ATP Challenger Tour, along with his doubles partner Stefano Landonio, after winning a qualifier in Italy!!

Our only really surprise at that is the perennial winner didn't bring home that trophy as well!!!



Gary Hooper – Scored goals in the Premier League, Championship, League 1, League 2, FA Cup, League Cup, Football League trophy, FA trophy, Champions League, Europa League, Scottish Premiership, Scottish Cup, Scottish League Cup, The Conference National and The Conference South. A remarkable and unique achievement



## COUNTRY FOCUS

At The Halfway Line, we are aware, although it may not seem it, that football is wider than just the Premier League, statistics and transfers within Europe. Our feature here will be a country focus on the less fashionable countries around the globe and you can learn a little more about the football, teams and players from the chosen country.

This issue focuses on Japan.

The Japan Football Association or the Japan FA is the governing body responsible for the administration of football in Japan.

The J1 league or J1 is the top division of the Japan Professional football league. Until 2014 it was known as J League Division 1. The J League was formed in 1992 and actually kicked off it's first season in 1993.



There are currently 18 clubs in the league and the current champions are Yokohama F. Marinos. The most successful team in the J1 is Kashima Antlers with a total of 8 league titles.

These 2 clubs are the only 2 to have competed in the top flight every season since it's inception.

The highest goal scorer in J1 history is Yoshito Ōkubo who scored 185 goals in the league.

The Japan national team, the Samurai Blues, as they are known had their highest FIFA ranking of 9th in 1998.

The record cap holder is Yashuhito Endo with 152 caps and their record goal scorer is Kunishige Kamamoto with 80 goals in just 84 appearances.

Japan's most successful World Cup campaigns are split across 3 tournaments. They reached the knock out stages in 2002, 2010 and 2018.

The nation team have won the Asian Cup 4 times, the most recent in 2011.



Sofiane Feghouli – Algerian midfielder who has spent time in France, Spain, England and now Turkey with Galatasaray



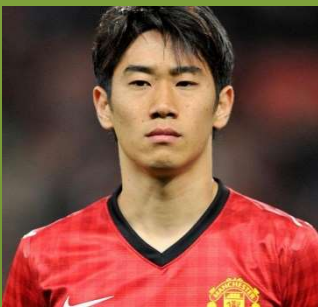
Since 1992 there have been a handful of English players to grace the J1 League, most famously Gary Lineker who was bought by Nagoya Grampus Eight for the inaugural season. Others include Don Goodman, Jay Bothroyd, Ian Crook plus a number of less high profile names.



On the flip side, there have been 9 Japanese players to play in the Premier League. First to sign was Junichi Inamoto in 2001 for Arsenal though he never played a league game for the club, before moving on to Fulham and West Bromwich Albion. Those who followed were Kazuyuki Toda, Hidetoshi Nakata, Ryo Miyaichi, Shinji Kagawa, Maya Yoshida, Shinji Okazaki, Yoshinori Muto and most recently Takumi Minamino.

Of these, Kagawa has a Premier League winners medal and Premier League hat-trick to his name, Okazaki also has a Premier League winners medal and most goals (14) and by the end of the 2019/20 season so will Minamino.

In terms of longevity, the 154 games for Yoshida at Southampton sees him down as the most successful of the imports, to date.



Rolando Bianchi – The first signing by Sven Goran-Eriksson at Manchester City, and would be judged as a big money flop



# Clive Tyldesley Commentary charts

FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION  
ANFIELD  
FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1989  
LIVERPOOL v ARSENAL

1	ERLICE GROBBELAAR	31	1	JOHN LUKIC	20	1	EVER PRESENT - 12 YRS
2	GARY ABLETT	23	0	LEE DIXON	25	1	TOOK OVER P. DENNING'S END (84 - 328,000 LICK)
3	STEVE STAUNTON	20	1	NIGEL WINTERBURN	25	4	1 <sup>ST</sup> FULL SEASON (FROM 1 <sup>ST</sup> DIV) (LAST YEAR)
4	STEVE NICOL	27	2	MICHAEL THOMAS	21	7	2 <sup>ND</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON
5	RONNIE WHELAN	27	4	DAVID O'LEARY	31	0	NOT PASSED A Q&A (88,200)
6	ALAN HANSEN	33	0	TONY ADAMS	22	4	2 <sup>ND</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON
7	RAT HOUGHTON	27	8	DAVID ROCASTLE	22	7	2 <sup>ND</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON
8	JOHN ALDRIDGE	30	31	KEVIN RICHARDSON	26	1	1 <sup>ST</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON
9	IAN RUSH	27	11	ALAN SMITH	26	24	1 <sup>ST</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON
10	JOHN BARNES	25	14	STEVE BOULD	26	2	1 <sup>ST</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON
11	STEVE McMAHON	27	7	PAUL MERSON	21	14	1 <sup>ST</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON

ENGINEER: NEIL - PHIL HOOPER, GARY GILLBERG, DAVID WINTERBURN, NIGEL WINTERBURN, DAVID WINTERBURN, ENGINEER: NEIL - BRIAN HAWOOD, PAUL DAVIS

12	BADY VENISON	34	1	PERRY GROVES	24	5	1 <sup>ST</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON
14	PETER BEARDSLEY	26	12	MARTIN HAYES	23	1	1 <sup>ST</sup> DIV 1 <sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON

MANAGER: KENNY DALGLISH  
BORN 1948, NOT ON 74 SHEET (SINCE SEPT 1988) IN MEMORIAL CH. 6 CELLS A MONTH AGO  
6 YRS ON FROM HULLINGBOROUGH, MANY PLAYERS  
- 7 YRS IN 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV (8 WINS, WON LAST 6)  
WON 7 LG TITLES (LPOOL, ANOTHER 4 CELTIC)

MANAGER: GEORGE GRAHAM  
PART OF LAST ANGLIAN CHAMPION 1<sup>ST</sup> OF 1971 (WAT)  
BORN NOV 15 1917, BORN HULLINGBOROUGH COACH  
2<sup>ND</sup> DIV 1<sup>ST</sup> & LAST SEASON (WIMBLES)  
TRAVELLED UP TO HULLINGBOROUGH TODAY  
3 YRS IN CHARGE - LG CUP WIN - LPOOL (3 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV)

1 LIVERPOOL 76 65/26 +39  
2 ARSENAL 73 71/36 +35

COCKED UP APR 23 (8 DRS) (FIRE HULLINGBOROUGH) - AND 9 DRS (FIRE, 14, 3)

LIVERPOOL NOT WON A CUP AT ANFIELD BY 2 CLEAR GOALS FOR OVER 3 YRS (1<sup>ST</sup> DIV)

ARSENAL NOT WON AT ANFIELD FOR 13 YRS - 10 VISITS WITHOUT A WIN (12 DRS)

RAY KENNERT SHOWED LAST ARSENAL WINS HERE - NOV 1974 - A BALL, L. BRADY, P. RICE IN 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV (1<sup>ST</sup> DIV)

LIVERPOOL CHAMPIONS 2 TIMES IN LAST 10 SEASONS (1<sup>ST</sup> DIV) (1<sup>ST</sup> DIV)

LIVERPOOL CAN BECOME 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV CHAMPION WAY 2<sup>ND</sup> LG CUP DOUBLE (1<sup>ST</sup> DIV - 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV, SPURS)

LIVERPOOL PHASED TOP OF 10 TO TIMES 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV ARSENAL CHAMPIONS '71 (1<sup>ST</sup> DIV SEASON - 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV)

LIVERPOOL WENT IN LG SINCE 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV, WON 12 OF LAST 13 - ARSENAL 1<sup>ST</sup> DIV FROM LAST 2 MATCHES

REPORTER: DAVID HUTCHINSON

Another great find by the team on their Internet travels. Check out the detail Clive Tyldesley goes to in preparing for games! The players, the goals scored, intricate facts about each player and different facts to reference during the commentary. Right up our street, and available to buy as prints!

<https://www.commentarychart.com/products>



Duvan Zapata – After joining Atalanta he scored 4 goals in an away fixture, the first Atalanta player to achieve this since 1952



# Adidas United



Found your favourite team?  
 There are 40 different adidas replica kits to choose from, each one an authentic copy of the original. Go round and see them at your local adidas stockist – today!

adidas replicas may be modified in accordance to the actual playing strip.

**adidas**   
*The mark of a winner*



Pedro Obiang – Former West Ham United centre midfielder who switched his allegiances from Spain to Equatorial Guinea



# Quiz time

Try your luck with the following questions and find out the answers next month, or email me at [Stan@thehalfwayline.com](mailto:Stan@thehalfwayline.com) to submit your answers

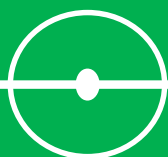
1. Name a player to play for Barcelona, Liverpool, AC Milan and Bayern Munich between the years 1999-2018 but has never won the Champions League?
2. Who has won more FA Cups, Chelsea or Liverpool?
3. Name 5 teenagers to have scored Premier League hat-tricks?
4. Which club shares a stadium name with one club and a nickname with another club?
5. Who has played in a Merseyside, West London, Manchester, North London, and Tyneside derby?
6. Who was the first player to win the top 3 divisions with the same club, in the Premier League era?

## Teammates

1. I have been a teammate of, Hernan Crespo, Samir Nasri, Kevin Prince-Boateng, Raheem Sterling and Dimitri Payet. Who am I?
2. I have been a teammate of John Jensen, Eric Cantona, Joao Pinto, Nicolas Anelka and Paul Merson. Who am I?
3. I have been a teammate of Clinton Morrison, Cesc Fabregas, Daniel Sturridge, Mantil Pantic, Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Mason Mount. Who am I?
4. I have been a teammate of Mario Melchiot, Rivaldo, Hakan Sukur, Charlie Adam and Sonny Anderson. Who am I?
5. I have been a teammate of Claudio Pizarro, Benni McCarthy, Craig Bellamy, Joaquin, and Isco. Who am I?

## What club links the following players?

1. Gabriel Heinze, Patrice Evra, Fabian Barthez and Steven Fletcher?
2. David Hirst, Dan Petrescu, Gordon Watson and James Beattie?
3. Sylvain Distin, Louis Saha, Gabriel Obertan and Mathieu Debuchy?
4. Rodrigo, Fernando Hierro, Ivan Campo and Mario Jardel?
5. Michele Padovano, Nicola Ventola, Attilio Lombardo and Tomas Brodin?
6. Joe Max-Moore, Brian McBride, Landon Donovan and Tim Howard?
7. Danny Dichio, Lee Sharpe. Clarence Seedorf and Ariel Ortega?
8. Claudio Canigga, Fabrizio Ravanelli, Gavin Rae and Ivano Bonetti?



Kemar Roofe – Former Leeds United striker who made the surprising move to Belgium side Anderlecht as one of Vincent Kompany's first signings as player manager



# Last Issues Quiz answers

- 1) Which player is highest in terms of most goals scored in the Premier League, that has done so for scoring for only one club? **SERGIO AGUERO**
- 2) Name the five players to have scored a hat-trick for three different clubs in the Premier League? **YAKUBU, NICOLAS ANELKA, TEDDY SHERINGHAM, LES FERDINAND and KEVIN CAMPBELL**
- 3) Name 4 players to have played for Chelsea in the PL and to have scored in a World Cup Final and/or a European Championship final? **RUUD GULLIT, JUAN MATA, EMMANUEL PETIT and FERNANDO TORRES**
- 4) Which active Premier League player has scored for 5 PL clubs (PL at the time of scoring)? **JAMES MILNER**
- 5) Since 1990, the World Record Transfer Fee has been 'broken' 17 times. Can you name the 6 (out of the 17) that have played for Juventus at some point in their careers? **ROBERTO BAGGIO, GIANLUCA VIALLI, CHRISTIAN VIERI, ZINEDANE ZIDANE, PAUL POGBA and RONALDO**
- 6) Since the year 2000, name the 7 players to wear the number 10 shirt for Real Madrid? **LUIS FIGO, LASSANA DIARRA, WESLEY SNEIJDER, MESUT OZIL, ROBINHO, LUKA MODRIC, JAMES RODRIGUEZ**

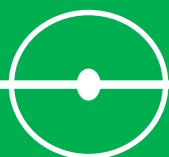
## Teammates

- 1) I have been a teammate of Roberto Baggio, Marcel Desailly, Fabio Cannavaro, Alan Stubbs and Des Walker – who am I? **PAOLO DI CANIO**
- 2) I have been a teammate of Nick Barmby, Peter Beardsley, Brian Laudrup, Karl-Heinz Riedle and Christian Ziege – who am I? **PAUL GASCOIGNE**
- 3) I have been a teammate of Juan Sebastian Veron, Robinho, Mark Van Bommel, Heung-Min Son and Isco – who am I? **RUUD VAN NISTELROOY**
- 4) I have been a teammate of Rui Costa, David Seaman, Kevin Phillips, Andrei Kanchelskis, Gaizka Mendieta – who am I? **STEFAN SCHWARZ**
- 5) I have been a teammate of Nwankwo Kanu, Nicolas Anelka, Mikel Arteta, Benik Afobe, Paul Dickov and Sol Campbell, but I have never played for Arsenal – who am I? **SYLVAIN DISTIN**

## What club links the following players?

- 1) Karim Benzema, Michael Essien, Mahamadou Diarra and Julien Faubert? **REAL MADRID**
- 2) Phil Babb, Peter Schmeichel, Alan Mahon and Cedric Soares? **SPORTING LISBON**
- 3) Shkodran Mustafi, Gabriel Paulista, Francis Coquelin and Jeremy Mathieu? **VALENCIA**
- 4) Paul Ince, Robbie Keane, Ivan Cavaleiro and Joleon Lescott? **WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS**
- 5) Marc Overmars, Dennis Bergkamp, Wim Jonk and Yaya Sanogo? **AJAX**
- 6) Thibaut Courtois, Kevin De Bruyne, Divock Origi and Christian Benteke? **GENK**
- 7) Gheorghe Hagi, Arda Turan, Gheorghe Popescu, and Hamit Altintop? **GALATASARAY**
- 8) Javi García, Javier Saviola, Pablo Aimar and Ezequiel Garay? **BENFICA**

**Answers from Historical Line ups – BELODEDICI, JUGOVIC. SAVICEVIC. DESAILLY, DESCHAMPS, VAN DER SAR. SEEDORF. RIJKAARD and SOUSA.**



Anderson Talisca – Brazilian forward making very stereotypical career moves from his homeland to Portugal, then Turkey and now China



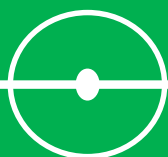
# Forgot they played for them?

They'll always be a healthy chat when it comes to naming your favourite player to represent your club. For some club's obvious candidates will dominate (top goal scorer or club captain) and perhaps some fans will have a random favourite who is their choice for special reasons (Scored in first game you went to).

But for a selection of current and former Premier League teams it is also possible to name a starting line up of players that it is very easy to forget they actually played for the club, let alone become a fan favourite.

In this issue we look at clubs from the top end of the table. Premier League winners **Chelsea** and **Manchester City** and **Liverpool** provide the line ups making up the feature.

Have a look at the line ups and see if you remember the players pulling on the shirt, and when you can't, try to rack that memory bank work out when and perhaps more relevant, why???



Andres Pereira – Porto striker yet to find form with the Portuguese giants and so is out on his third loan move, this time at Real Zaragoza





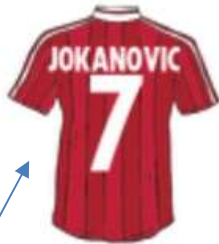
# Liverpool



Free transfer  
No surprise



3 apps

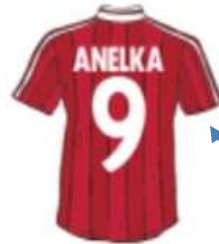


10 games  
0 goals

7 apps

Another free  
transfer and  
another flop

Managed 60  
games!!!



Loan star



Sebastiano Luperto – Italian defender who currently plays for Napoli in Serie A



# Chelsea



Lyanco – Brazilian centre back who plays for Bologna in Serie A, on loan from Torino



# Manchester City

0 apps



Wow. Most league apps out of all his 5 PL clubs



1 app



5 apps



Loan star  
15 apps

Loan star  
4 apps  
0 goals

7 apps  
1 goal

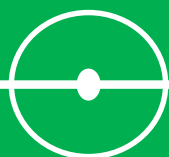


Dodo – Brazilian right back with the unenviable task of trying to fill the shoes of departed club legend Darjo Srna at Shakhtar Donetsk



## Page number glossary: Shows player and season they wore the associated number

1	Rogério Ceni	Sao Paulo	1998-2015	51	John Bostock	Tottenham Hotspur	2008-2011
2	Christian Panucci	Real Madrid	1998-1999	52	Glen Little	Reading	2008-2009
3	Gareth Bale	Tottenham Hotspur	2008-2012	53	Oguzhan Ozyakup	Arsenal	2011-2012
4	Rafael Marquez	Barcelona	2003-2010	54	Sheji Ojo	Liverpool	2015-2020
5	Fernando Redondo	Argentina	1991-1994	55	Brahim Diaz	Manchester City	2017-2019
6	Marcel Desailly	Marseille	1992-1993	56	Jay Fulton	Swansea City	2013-2018
7	Javier Saviola	River Plate	2000-2001	57	Stephy Mavididi	Arsenal	2016-2017
8	Wayne Rooney	Manchester United	2004-2007	58	Ben Woodburn	Liverpool	2016-2020
9	Jorge Campos	Mexico	1996-1997	59	Omar Elabdellaoui	Manchester City	2010-2011
10	Roberto Baggio	Juventus	1990-1995	60	Gelson Martins	Sporting Lisbon	2014-2017
11	Miroslav Klose	Germany	2001-2014	61	Paulinho	Liverpool	2016-2017
12	Marcelo	Real Madrid	2006-2020	62	Abdul Razak	Manchester City	2011-2013
13	Maicon	Inter Milan	2006-2013	63	Diniyar Bilyaletdinov	Lokomotiv Moscow	2002-2009
14	Luka Modric	Tottenham Hotspur	2008-2012	64	Nicolo Zaniolo	Inter Milan	2017-2018
15	Nemanja Vidic	Manchester United	2005-2014	65	Tom Clayton	Liverpool	2019-2020
16	Sergio Aguero	Manchester City	2011-2015	66	Nicola Legrottaglie	AC Milan	2010-2011
17	Joaquin	Real Betis	2001-2006	67	Fraser Forster	Celtic	2019-2020
18	Harry Kane	Tottenham Hotspur	2014-2015	68	Christian Manfredini	Lazio	2005-2011
19	Mauro Zarate	Boca Juniors	2017-2020	69	Angelino	Manchester City	2014-2017
20	Enrico Chiesa	Parma	1996-1999	70	Joao Cancelo	Benfica	2013-2014
21	Pablo Aimar	Valencia	2001-2006	71	Panagiotis Glykos	PAOK Thessaloniki	2008-2019
22	Faryd Mondragon	Colombia	2014	72	Cristiano Doni	Atalanta	2006-2010
23	Marco Materazzi	Inter Milan	2001-2011	73	Nicolae Stanciu	Anderlecht	2016-2017
24	Duncan Ferguson	Everton	2000-2001	74	Viktor Kovalenko	Shakhtar Donetsk	2014-2019
25	Nwankwo Kanu	Arsenal	1998-2004	75	Bruno Xadas	FC Braga	2016-2017
26	Edgar Davids	Juventus	1997-2004	76	Ricardo Sa Pinto	Standard Liege	2006-2007
27	David Alaba	Bayern Munich	2009-2020	77	Ricardo Quaresma	Inter Milan	2008-2009
28	Jordi Alba	Valencia	2009-2011	78	Goncalo Guedes	Benfica	2014-2015
29	Lee Bowyer	Newcastle United	2003-2005	79	Vincenzo Iaquinta	Udinese	2002-2004
30	Freddie Adu	Benfica	2007-2008	80	Mario Pasalic	AC Milan	2016-2017
31	Simao Sambrosa	Besiktas	2010-2011	81	Cristian Zaccardo	AC Milan	2012-2016
32	Andrei Kanchelskis	Fiorentina	1996-1997	82	Alberto Gilardino	Genoa	2011-2012
33	Darjo Srna	Shakhtar Donetsk	2003-2018	83	Antonio Floro Flores	Udinese	2007-2012
34	Colin Calderwood	Aston Villa	1998-2000	84	Stephane Sessegnon	Genclerbirligi Ankara	2017-2018
35	Stevan Jovetic	Manchester City	2013-2015	85	Giannelli Imbula	Lecce	2019-2020
36	Dean Ashton	Norwich City	2004-2005	86	Kamil Zayatte	Istanbul Büyükşehir Belediyespor	2011-2013
37	Timothy Weah	Paris Saint-Germain	2017-2018	87	Mikhail Bakaev	Shakhtar Karaganda	2019-2020
38	Ryan Mason	Tottenham Hotspur	2012-2015	88	Gary Hooper	Celtic	2010-2014
39	Darren Bent	Aston Villa	2010-2014	89	Sofiane Feghouli	Galatasaray	2017-2020
40	Charlie Adam	Glasgow Rangers	2004-2005	90	Rolando Bianchi	Torino	2008-2009
41	Martin Odegaard	Real Madrid	2014-2015	91	Duvan Zapata	Atalanta	2018-2020
42	Michy Batshuayi	Borussia Dortmund	2017-2018	92	Pedro Obiang	Sampdoria	2008-2009
43	John Fleck	Glasgow Rangers	2007-2009	93	Kemar Roofe	Anderlecht	2019-2020
44	Ross McCormack	Fulham	2014-2016	94	Anderson Talisca	Besiktas	2016-2018
45	Hugo Viana	Newcastle United	2002-2004	95	Andre Pereira	Porto	2017-2018
46	Aaron Wan-Bissaka	Crystal Palace	2016-2018	96	Sebastiano Luperto	Napoli	2014-2017
47	Aboubakar Kamara	Fulham	2017-2020	97	Lyanco	Torino	2017-2018
48	Ibrahim Afellay	PSV Eindhoven	2003-2004	98	Dodo	Shakhtar Donetsk	2017-2020
49	Giuseppe Rossi	Fiorentina	2012-2014	99	Djibril Cisse	Lazio	2011-2012
50	Nordin Wooter	Panathinaikos	2004-2005	100	Andreas Herzog	Austria	1988-2003



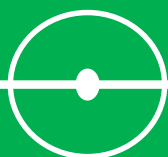
Djibril Cisse – Twice top goal scorer in France (Auxerre) and once in Greece (Panathinaikos) but never hit those heights in the 3 separate spells in the Premier League



# What's coming up in the next issue of The Halfway Line?

\*\*\*

- The world most hotly contested Derbies
- Quirky happenings in football: Take 2
- Premier League yo-yo teams
- Premier League managerial analysis
- Lines ups but for which team?
- Dissecting club badges & crests
- The Boot Room
- Classical kits
- Historical line ups
- Country focus
- The treatment room
- Forgotten men
- And much much more



Andrea Herzog – Earnt 103 caps for the Austrian national team, a record, and wore a commemorative 100 numbered shirt to celebrate when earning his century cap





26 05 1989 90m 22s