THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

ARSENAL

MOLDE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2020 ▪ 8PM ▪ £3.50

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EDITOR Andy Exley **DEPUTY EDITOR** Josh James **DESIGN MANAGER** Simon Wallis **DESIGNERS** Liam Warr, Owen Pinch, Edward Wilkinson **PHOTOGRAPHY** Stuart MacFarlane, David Price **CONTRIBUTORS** Aidan Small, Joanne Harney, Mike Hammond, Michael Cox, Michael Donlevy, Jon Spurling **THANKS TO** Fred Ollier **PRINTERS** Bishops Printers
COVER *WE TAKE ON MOLDE ON MATCHDAY THREE IN EUROPA LEAGUE GROUP B*

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MIKEL ARTETA

Sunday's win felt like a really good step for this team to take, and what our process is built towards, but we have to build on these results

We absolutely merited the win at Old Trafford, and it was great to finally win there in the league for the first time in 14 years.

Before the game I said to my players 'please, let's be who we are today and play with our identity and style'. And I was so pleased that we were able to do that.

Manchester United are a difficult opponent, but we played how we wanted from the first minute, showed our quality and overall we deserved to win the game.

We were controlling the game well in the first half, but as long as it stayed goalless, I have to admit that what happened against Leicester came back through my mind. Against Leicester we also dominated the first half, and in the second half we couldn't find a way to win the game. But at the weekend we got it done and we looked very mature. The way we manage the last few minutes of games is getting better and better. We have people coming off the bench who really help the team, and individually the players who were required at that stage had a great game.

There were good performances across the park and I'm really pleased with the way our new players have settled in so quickly. They play with a lot of maturity and look like they've been here much longer than they have. Don't forget Thomas and Gabriel are completely new to this league.

"YOU HAVE TO BEAT THE TOP TEAMS IF YOU WANT TO BE FIGHTING WITH THEM"

Honestly I didn't expect this level from them so soon because I know how tough this league is – you cannot compare it to any other league in the world. But we try to pick certain characteristics in the profile of players that we want to find for our club. Then we want to minimise the risk by looking and looking and making sure that they can contribute to what we're trying to do.

I know that there are still some connections and units where they don't have that flow, because they haven't played much together. I can see that. But also I can see the spirit we are creating and the personality that they are showing on the pitch.

Then you've got players like Mo who have been away from the team for a year but he deserves a lot of credit too.

What Mo transmits to the team is special. He has this energy as a person. He goes in the room and he creates a positive atmosphere. I said to him that we needed that energy and positive feeling that he brings all the time. He was tremendous.

But I must say that everybody's ready for the show at the moment and that's how we want to keep it.

We knew the importance of the game on Sunday, we knew we hadn't won there for a while and we also know you have to beat the top teams if you want to be fighting with them. It's something we haven't been able to do in the last few years, especially away from home. We have to improve on that. There is that gap and we have to make it as small as possible, as quickly as possible. That's the challenge we are facing.

To be fair, this season we've already been to Anfield – and we took them on face to face, then we went to the Etihad and we didn't accept to lose the game there. Then at Old Trafford we did the same, except this time we won.

For us now we want to take this on and be consistent, and show the same desire and hunger tonight.

Results like Sunday's generate belief in the squad and it binds everyone together. We want to continue our good form tonight against Molde in the Europa League.

Everyone is going to feel really part of it because players who haven't played so many minutes in the Premier League until recently will be involved. The fixtures are crazy at the moment and the physical demands are huge. Everybody has to be contributing and focused on what they are bringing to the team. That's the question you have to ask of yourself. It's not just on the pitch, it's off it as well and in training. We're looking at what you can bring to the team, how you can help and how you are contributing. I'm really happy with the team and we have another chance to prove we are up for the fight and up for the challenge tonight.

There is a huge incentive – a win will take us clear at the top of the group and closer to the knock out stages, so let's go for it.■

PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG

My last notes were just after we'd lost to Leicester. I'm writing these two days after another 1-0 away win – and a very special one for us!

We are all feeling a lot better after that win on Sunday, and we have to say that everybody on the pitch contributed to the win.

Not just the guys on the pitch at the start, but also the guys who came on from the bench, and also the support we had from everybody on the side. It was a good game and good performance from everyone – you could see how happy we all were afterwards.

I enjoyed my goal too, of course I did! It's funny because I play video games a lot with my friends, and whenever I beat them that's the dance I do. They are always like 'oh no, why are you doing that dance?'

So I just wanted to pay tribute to them when I scored, so they would have seen that and known what it was about. It's a nice dance!

As I said it was a great performance from the whole team, and it was great to see Thomas Partey play like that even though he's not been here long.

Off the pitch he is a really humble guy and you can see that on the pitch as well because he really gives everything in the game. He is really simple and quiet, so humble, and we all really like him. He's really funny too – sometimes he'll do some jokes and we won't be expecting it. So he's settled in really quickly.

On the pitch his strengths are his energy and the way he can stop counter attacks and dangerous situations. That's really important for us. I think he locked down three of Manchester United's midfielders on Sunday – that's my point of view anyway – and that's really important for us.

Also he can play forward really well when he regains the ball and that's a good point for us.

It was also a fantastic performance in midfield from Mo Elneny. I think his loan spell was good for him – to go out and get some more experience. He came back with that experience and that's really important too. How he's been playing since he came back is just unbelievable.

I don't know if you saw the video on Instagram of his sprint at the end of the game? I don't know how he did that! That is the energy he has, that's what we want as a ▸

team and everyone here really wants to play that way. We want to give everything, in every minute and that's exactly what Mo is doing.

He's a funny guy Mo, and I think we are similar people. We are both always smiling and being positive, so when we get together it's always funny – we laugh a lot. It's really, really nice to be around him.

We have got a lot of games at the moment, and we are back at the Emirates tonight in the Europa League. We have a lot of players in the squad this season and I think everyone will get the chance to play games.

We know that with all these games there are concerns about injuries and I think everybody is ready for action when they are needed.

We saw the young boys do well in the last game in the Europa League against Dundalk. They are ready. They showed that in that game. That's why we are doing well – because everybody is preparing properly and ready when needed.

Flo Balogun was one of those who came on in the last game. He is very, very talented, for sure, and he shows every time he plays with us that he is a really great talent. He works hard and is a humble guy as well. I love his

"FLO BALOGUN IS VERY, VERY TALENTED. HE WORKS HARD AND IS HUMBLE. I LOVE HIS STYLE – HE'S LIKE AN AMERICAN RAPPER"

style – he's like an America rapper – he's cool!

We get on well, I don't see him that much, but when he trains with us we have a laugh, with Laca as well.

Maybe I am a mentor now to these younger players, when they watch me training or in the games. I will always try to advise them when I can, but I'm a guy who likes to do jokes first!

But of course if I can give any words to them that will help them, I will always do that. It's nice to be a mentor, because before I was in their place and now I'm older, I think the most important thing is to show an example on the pitch.

It's not about talking all the time, it's about showing what you can do on the pitch, what you can do in training. They just have to see that, put that in their bags, and play their game.

We play Molde tonight, and I have played against Norwegian sides before so I know their style of play. We will study Molde closely before the game but we expect they will come here and go for the three points.

Europa League games can be very different to the Premier League but we have done well in our first two and I'm confident we can play well to beat them.

I know they have a Nigerian centre forward, Leke James, and we see an African influence growing in Europe more and more. I think we've had great examples of African players doing well in Europe before – players like Eto'o and Drogba – and that has inspired African strikers across Europe and everywhere.

Finally, starting today there is another lockdown in England and I find myself saying the same things I did in March. We have to stay safe first of all, take care of each other. The most important thing is the health of everybody. So let's take care, support everybody and remember to do the important things. Wash your hands and wear your mask when you go out places. It's going to be another difficult time but we must stay positive. It's like a fight, where we have to all help each other to win this fight. I'm sure we will come back to normal life very soon. I'm positive, and hopefully this lockdown will not be so long.■

VOICE OF ARSENAL

UEFA RULES REMINDERS

Video Assistant Referees are not being used in the Europa League group stages. However, Uefa have decided that VAR will be used in the knockout stages, which are scheduled to start on February 18, 2021.

Another difference between European and domestic games relates to substitutes. Teams can use five substitutes in Europa League games, drawn from 12 players on the bench. The situation in the Premier League is of course three substitutions from seven substitutes.

GROUP B CURRENT TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
ARSENAL	2	2	0	0	5	1	4	6
MOLDE	2	2	0	0	3	1	2	6
RAPID VIENNA	2	0	0	2	1	3	-2	0
DUNDALK	2	0	0	2	1	5	-4	0

Tonight's two participants are making the early running to qualify from Group B – let's hope the Gunners can maintain their position at the top of the table.

The criteria to decide who qualifies from the group follow the same format as previous seasons:

- Points total
- Goal difference
- Goals scored
- Away goals scored

If teams still can't be separated, the above four criteria will apply exclusively to the matches between the remaining teams to determine final rankings.

The top two teams will qualify for the two-legged knockout stages. The Round of 32 will take place between the 12 Europa League group-winners and the four best third-placed teams from the Champions League group stage, drawn against the 12 Europa League group runners-up and the remaining third-placed teams from the Champions League group stage

- The winners and runners-up of the same group cannot be drawn against each other.
- Teams from the same association can't be drawn against each other
- The UEFA Europa League group winners and the four best third-placed teams from the UEFA Champions League group stage play the return leg at home

Furthermore, from the Round of 16 onwards, teams from the same association can be drawn against each other.

Eddie opens the scoring against Dundalk

PROGRAMME ITK

The matchday programme team go to the depths of the databases to find the ultimate stats and facts...

OUR 99TH PROBLEM

Molde tonight become the 99th different side to play us at Emirates Stadium. Aston Villa were our first ever opponents for an official game, back on August 19, 2006 – a match that ended 1-1 thanks to Gilberto's equaliser. Dinamo Zagreb then became our first opponents in European competition four days later – a game we won 2-1 with Freddie Ljungberg and Mathieu Flamini on the scoresheet. In total there have been 395 matches at our home, against 98 different teams.

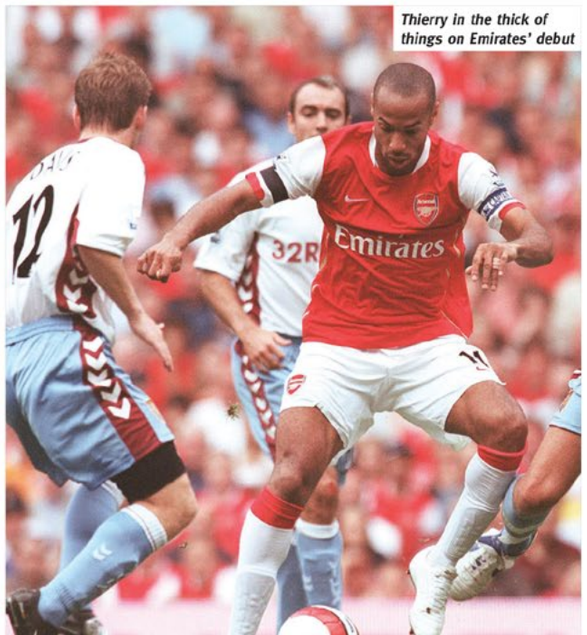
Tottenham have played here most often (18 times) with Liverpool (17) second.

Of the 98 visiting sides, 48 have faced us in domestic competition, while we have played teams from 22 countries in European competition.

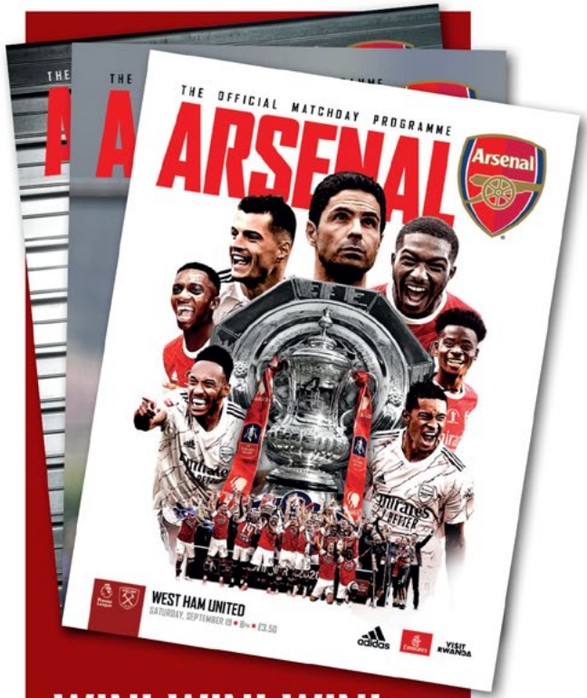
Molde are the first Norwegian side to play here.

We have beaten all but 10 of the 98 opponents at least once – we have recorded most victories against West Ham and Newcastle (12 each) and scored most goals against Tottenham (42).

Rapid Vienna will become the 100th different opposition when they visit early next month.



Thierry in the thick of things on Emirates' debut



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All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning a programme subscription for season 2020/21 is answer the following question correctly.

Which player wrote his captain's notes in the programme from August 12, 2007 until November 15, 2008
a) Cesc Fabregas
b) Thierry Henry
c) William Gallas

Answers to us via programme@arsenal.co.uk or @AFCProgramme on Twitter before Monday, November 9, 2020.

PROGRAMME ITK (2)

Arsenal's **1-0 win at Old Trafford** on Sunday was a significant result for the Gunners in many ways – not least the narrow margin of the victory. Did you know that...

• 1-0 has been the scoreline in our **last six** league wins at Old Trafford:
Nov 1, 2020 Man Utd 0 Arsenal 1 (Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang)
Sept 17, 2006 Man Utd 0 Arsenal 1 (Emmanuel Adebayor)
May 8, 2002 Man Utd 0 Arsenal 1 (Sylvain Wiltord)
March 14, 1998 Man Utd 0 Arsenal 1 (Marc Overmars)
Oct 20, 1990 Man Utd 0 Arsenal 1 (Anders Limpar)
Dec 21, 1985 Man Utd 0 Arsenal 1 (Charlie Nicholas)

• The win in 1998 was **Arsène Wenger's first** victory at Old Trafford and the victory at Old Trafford in 2002 famously clinched us the league

• Prior to 1985, the previous 1-0 win was back in **1925** – when Jimmy Brain scored in what was only the great **Herbert Chapman's third match as Arsenal manager** and first away from Highbury

• Before 1925 we also beat Man United 1-0 on **February 29, 1920** – when Jock Rutherford earned us our **first win** against United since our move **'north of the river'**

• And even further back... the Gunners' very first away win against United (**then Newton Heath**) in the league came on **March 15, 1902**. The score – you guessed it – 1-0 (Walter Anderson)

In all, we have **won 16** league games at Old Trafford in our history, **nine** of them by a 1-0 scoreline – a hefty **56%**.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS
1930/31, 1932/33, 1933/34, 1934/35, 1937/38, 1947/48, 1952/53, 1970/71, 1988/89, 1990/91, 1997/98, 2001/02, 2003/04

FA CUP WINNERS
1930, 1936, 1950, 1971, 1979, 1993, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2020

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS
1986/87, 1992/93

CHARITY/COMMUNITY SHIELD WINNERS
1930, 1931, 1933, 1934, 1938, 1948, 1953, 1991 (shared), 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2020

FAIRS CUP WINNERS
1969/70

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP WINNERS
1993/94

FA YOUTH CUP WINNERS
1966, 1971, 1988, 1994, 2000, 2001, 2009

ARSENAL FOOTBALL CLUB
75 Drayton Park, London, N5 1BU
020 7619 5000

WEBSITE
www.arsenal.com

EMAIL
programme@arsenal.co.uk

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KEN GOLDMAN

It was with great sadness that Arsenal Football Club learned of the recent death of Ken Goldman, aged 81, after a long fight with cancer.

Ken was very well known in Arsenal circles as a frequent and valued contributor to the matchday programme, where he specialised in matters relating to refereeing and the Laws of the game. Indeed, we were still including a regular feature with Ken, a dissection some of the game's new laws, as recently as season 2017/18.

Although a solicitor by profession, his life revolved around football and he still officiated at the occasional game beyond the age of 80.

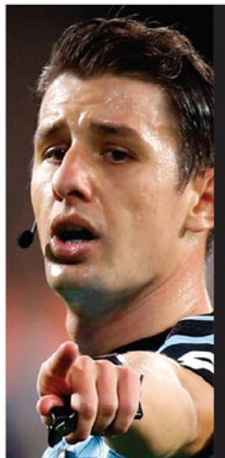
For many years he edited The Normidian, the magazine of the North Middlesex Referees Society and where he was a highly respected figure. From The Referees Association he was awarded in 2017 the Meritorious and Long Serve Award and he exemplified their motto 'service before self'.

His journalistic skills also extended to match day reports for LBC, and to the London Football Coaches Association where he was magazine editor.

His many contacts in, and outside the world of football will remember Ken as a loyal friend and a font of knowledge about the game.

He is survived by his former wife Ruth, son Danny, daughter Emma, four grandchildren and long-time partner Michele, to all of whom we extend our condolences.

Rest in Peace, Ken.■



REF WATCH

This evening's referee is Halil Umut Meler, who is from Turkey.

Halil is in his third season as a Europa League referee and has officiated in one match in the competition this season, CSKA Sofia 0-2 CFR Cluj when the 33 year old showed five yellow cards.■

LAVAZZA IS RED!

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ONE PRIZE IS UP FOR GRABS!

LAVAZZA
TORINO, ITALIA, 1895
Arsenal
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3 The last three players to score on their debuts were Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Cedric Soares and Gabriel Magalhaes

876 Alex Runarsson is the 875th player to represent Arsenal, Folarin Balogun became the 876th

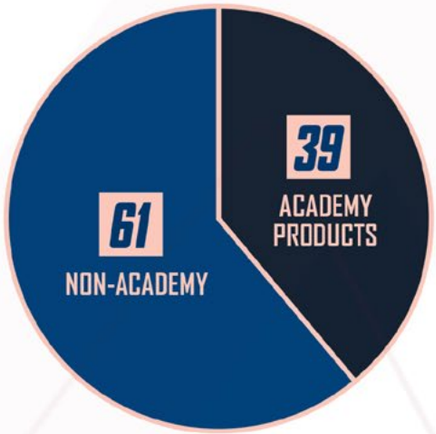
76 Balogun is the 76th Arsenal Academy graduate to make his first team debut since 2000

ARSENAL DEBUTS

DEBUTANTS OVER LAST THREE SEASONS

Player	Date	Opposition	Venue	Comp	Score
Guendouzi	12/08/18	Man City	H	Prem	0-2
Sokratis	12/08/18	Man City	H	Prem	0-2
Lichtsteiner	12/08/18	Man City	H	Prem	0-2
Torreira	12/08/18	Man City	H	Prem	0-2
Leno	20/09/18	V' Poltava	H	UEL	4-2
Smith Rowe	20/09/18	V' Poltava	H	UEL	4-2
Pleguezuelo	31/10/18	Blackpool	H	LC	2-1
Medley	29/11/18	V' Poltava	A	UEL	3-0
Saka	29/11/18	V' Poltava	A	UEL	3-0
Gilmour	29/11/18	V' Poltava	A	UEL	3-0
Suarez	3/02/19	Man City	A	Prem	1-3
Ceballos	11/08/19	Newcastle	A	Prem	1-0
Pepe	11/08/19	Newcastle	A	Prem	1-0
Martinelli	11/08/19	Newcastle	A	Prem	1-0
David Luiz	17/08/19	Burnley	H	Prem	2-1
Tierney	24/09/19	N' Forest	H	LC	5-0
Mari	2/03/20	Portsmouth	A	FAC	2-0
Soares	1/07/20	Norwich	H	PL	4-0
Gabriel	12/09/20	Fulham	A	PL	3-0
Willian	12/09/20	Fulham	A	PL	3-0
Partey	17/10/20	Man City	A	PL	0-1
Runarsson	29/10/20	Dundalk	H	UEL	3-0
Balogun	29/10/20	Dundalk	H	UEL	3-0

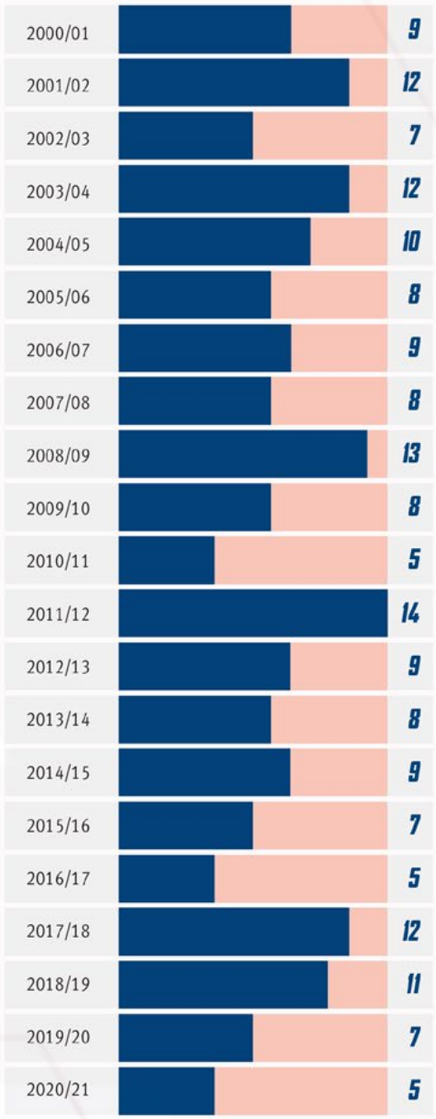
LAST 100 DEBUTANTS



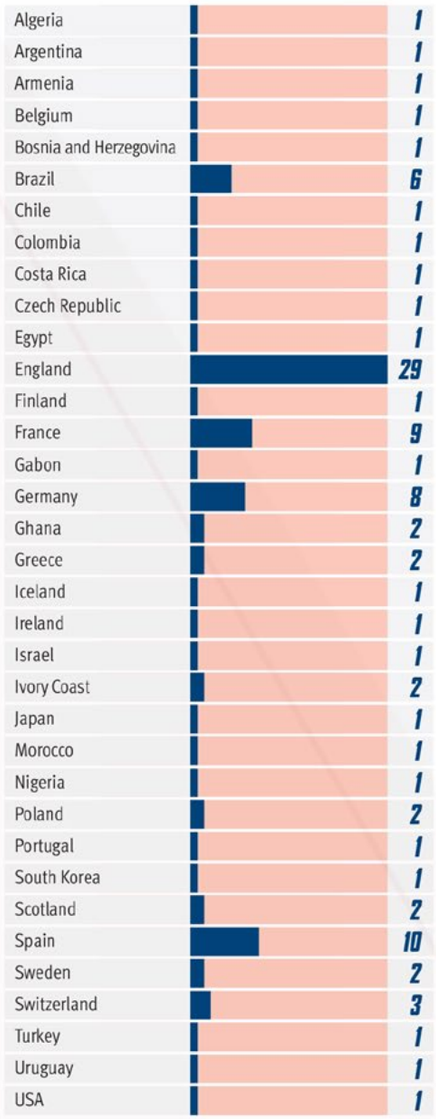
DEBUTANTS IN LAST GAME

Folarin Balogun and Alex Runarsson both made their first team debuts in our last home game against Dundalk

DEBUTANTS PER SEASON



LAST 100 DEBUTANTS NATIONALITIES



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DEVELOPING STRONG YOUNG GUNNERS

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YOUNG GUN

GEORGE LEWIS

Talking to: Aidan Small

BORN
Kigali, Rwanda, June 16, 2003

JOINED ARSENAL
Summer 2020

HEIGHT & WEIGHT
170cm and 65kg

POSITION
Winger

SCHOOL
Stakkevollan Skole
Tromsdalen VGs

My love for football started at a very young age. Growing up, I had my brother to go out and play football with and that's how it all started really – that's my earliest memory of football. But in Norway most kids start by playing futsal, rather than football, because it's so cold in the winter and it becomes difficult to play outside.

That's still quite interesting to me because I feel like playing futsal at a really young age has shaped me into the player that I am today. When you play futsal, it's all about having fun and playing in a very technical way. It's about dribbles, quick combination play and scoring crazy goals, and I've always loved that. Back then, the result wasn't too important. The most important thing for all of us as kids was nutmegging or rainbow flicking someone!

When I was 12, I started playing for my first academy and it was for the biggest team in my city. As a kid, I was always playing for the age group above me and I even used to join in with my brother's team (they were three years older). For as long as I can remember, my head has always been focused on football. Sometimes I used to go to school and bring no books in my backpack, only a football and some spare trainers so I could play during break!

The next few years of my career between the ages of 16 and 19 were quite interesting. I was dropped by my academy and then picked up by a club who were in the championship. I joined their reserve squad and things started going really well for me, and then just a year later I was called up to the first-team when I was 17. I was really young and considered an emerging talent at the club, so I was expecting to get a lot of minutes and that I'd be able to make my mark – but things happened and I found myself on the bench for most of the season. That was really tough for me, so I eventually chose to leave the club for an opportunity elsewhere. All I wanted to do was play.

I took a step down to the second division and joined a senior team there, but despite feeling like I put in some really good performances, I found myself on the bench for the second half of the season. Again, it was really tough for me, but I was brave and never let that impact me. I was just trying to remain focused. In the end I went back to my home city and there was a newly-promoted team called Fløya who wanted me on a trial. They were about to play in the Norwegian third tier and they invited me to a tournament called the iTromsø Cup. To cut a long story short, I finished as top scorer and that's when my journey to Arsenal started. As a team, we played far better than many people expected and I was really happy with my performances, so I thought 'Okay, maybe now it will be easier for me to find a club here and I can kickstart my career with some game time' – but then I received a call that I'll never, ever forget.

"THEN I RECEIVED A CALL THAT I'LL NEVER, EVER FORGET. 'GEORGE, YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS... ARSENAL WANT YOU'"

My agent had been speaking to a few clubs after the tournament and he said 'George, you won't believe this... Arsenal want you for a trial'. In that moment, I lost my head. I didn't know how to react. I genuinely thought he was joking and I asked him to promise me that it's true about five times! It was a dream come true and from there, I did everything I could to make sure that I was ready to come to north London and impress. Being able to tell my family was such a privilege. All of my family are massive Arsenal fans and to be honest, I don't think they believed me! They were joking that it could be an Arsenal C team, but I was like 'No! It's the real Arsenal! I promise!'.

Officially, I've been at the club for just over two months now, and looking back, I'm really happy with the way I've started. I scored against Ipswich in the EFL Trophy and assisted Ben Cottrell against Brighton, but unfortunately I picked up an injury and I've been out for the past month. I just can't wait to get back out there, but on the plus side, it's given me some time to reflect. The other day I was just thinking how I used to watch Ozil, Aubameyang and Lacazette on TV, yet here I am now at Arsenal, training with them! I've trained and grafted so hard over the past few years, so it's amazing to get little rewards and experiences like this. It's something I'll remember for the rest of my life, but right now, I'm focused on having more days like that.■

GEORGE LEWIS

LOWDOWN

Got me into football My big brother

First Footballer looked up to Ronaldinho

Best friends in football
Emil and Mikkel Konradsen Ceide

Best goal I've scored A solo run from my own 18-yard box to the other

Best piece of skill I've done in a game Rainbow flick

Team supported as a child Arsenal

If I could choose a new position Central midfield

The one stadium I'd like to score in Emirates Stadium

One type of goal I'd like to score From my own half

Best training ground tip I've had Train like everyday is your last training session

Another sport I'm good at Table tennis

Favourite training drill Finishing

RATE YOURSELF

SPEED	85
SHOOTING	60
DRIBBLING	99
PASSING	46
DEFENDING	32

Ambitions this season away from the pitch Learn to drive

Biggest lesson learnt off the pitch at Arsenal Greet everybody with a smile

YOU

If I could be any footballer Lionel Messi

Favourite follow on Instagram Cristiano Ronaldo

Most played Spotify artist Drake

Favourite pre-match song Lil baby – How

Best footballing attribute Dribbling

One thing I want in my football career
Win the World Cup

The one thing I need on an away day Sleep!

Player who shaped my game most Neymar

Something not many people know about me
I can speak five languages

If I wasn't a footballer
I'd be a physio

Influential Neymar

LEFT
Havard during his Arsenal days
ABOVE
And in action for current club Hoffenheim

ACADEMY ALUMNI

Catching up with former Arsenal Academy players as they continue their pro careers away from Emirates

HAVARD NORDTVEIT

Havard Nordtveit tells a story about when Arsène Wenger arrived in Vats in north Norway to secure the services of the 16 year old from Haugesund – recalling that the entire village came out on the streets to try and catch a glimpse of the famous Monsieur Wenger. His move to the Gunners was certainly big news in Norway as the best young defender of his generation headed to one of Europe's elite clubs.

In his first season, 2007/2008, he was named on the substitutes' bench for the final Premier League game of the season, against Sunderland, but wasn't called upon – and that was the closest he came to gracing the Gunners first team. He made numerous under-23 and reserve team appearances over subsequent years, but never quite managed to take that final step into the first-team. He also enjoyed loan spells at Salamanca in Spain, Lillestrom in his homeland and FC Nurnberg in Germany before – after three and a half years at Emirates – he headed to Borussia Monchengladbach on a permanent transfer.

Havard flourished in Germany, playing 187 games and scoring 12 goals over six seasons. In fact, his form was so good – playing primarily as a defensive midfielder – that he was even linked with a big money move back to Arsenal!

On May 16, 2016, Havard was back in London, signing a five-year contract with West Ham but after a disappointing season in which he played just 21 times, he was back in Germany, this time to Hoffenheim where he has played 46 times over three seasons, though he did spend the last half of the 2018/19 season back in London on loan at Fulham.

A regular for his country – and capped at every youth level – Havard has 52 full caps for Norway and has scored twice.

MATCH REPORTS

0

5

LAING 23 (OG)
PEUPION 44 (PEN), 90
MILLER 45 / MORAN 59

U-18 Premier League
Saturday, October 17
Arsenal Training Centre

ARSENAL U18s Graczyk, Norton-Cuffy, Laing, Foran, Ogungbo (Awe 26), Cirjan, Patino, Hutchinson (Bandeira 46), Taylor-Hart (Plange 81), Edwards, Flores
SUBS NOT USED: Ejeheri, Sweet

Our under-18s had a day to forget in the Premier League South as they were beaten 5-0 by Brighton at London Colney.

Ken Gillard named a strong side with Kido Taylor-Hart in fine form after assisting on his first start for the under-21s just four days earlier – but the Seagulls took charge of the game early on and we failed to recover.

We got off to the worst possible start when Levi Laing inadvertently cleared the ball into his own net, before Cameron Peupion doubled Brighton's advantage from the penalty spot.

Todd Miller then went on to make it three on the stroke of half-time, catching us out on the break to fire into the top right corner via the woodwork.

Following the restart, Andrew Moran finished coolly inside the area after latching onto a cutback, before Peupion rounded off the scoring with an injury-time strike on the counter.■

"KEN GILLARD NAMED A STRONG SIDE WITH KIDO TAYLOR-HART IN FINE FORM AFTER HIS FIRST START FOR THE UNDER-23S"

3

NELSON 18
BALOGUN 64, 70

3

PUIGMAL 3, 50
HUGILL 56

Premier League 2
Saturday, October 17
Meadow Park

ARSENAL U23s Hein, Saliba, Dinzeyi (McEneff 64), Kirk, Cedric, Cottrell, Willock, Alebiousu (Lopez 86), Nelson, Balogun, Smith Rowe (Azeez 46)
SUBS NOT USED: Okonkwo, Akinola

Folarin Balogun struck twice as our under-23s fought back to draw 3-3 with Manchester United.

Cedric, William Saliba, Joe Willock, Reiss Nelson and Emile Smith Rowe were all named in the starting XI, with the latter playing his first minutes since picking up a shoulder injury in August.

The visitors took the lead inside three minutes when Arnau Puigmal fired into the top corner with a free-kick on the edge of the area.

Nelson equalised through another free-kick, sneakily firing in at the near post with a dipping effort, but just five minutes after the restart, Puigmal grabbed his second, converting the rebound from a missed penalty.

It was three just moments later when Joe Hugill reacted first inside the area to fire past Karl Hein from a set-piece, but we didn't give up and we were rewarded for our positive mindset.

Latching on to a loose pass on the halfway line, Nelson set Willock free down the left wing and the latter picked out Balogun inside the area, who battled with two defenders before poking the ball into the bottom corner.

The 19 year old looked sharp all afternoon and in the 70th minute he completed our comeback, coolly finding the bottom right corner after being teed up by Ben Cottrell.

There was late drama as Alex Kirk was dismissed for a second yellow card, but we held on for the final 15 minutes to secure a share of the spoils.■

4

NMECHA 24
MCATEE 58 / DELAP 84
DIONKOU 90

1

MOLLER 6

Premier League 2
Saturday, October 24
City Football Academy

ARSENAL U23s Hein, Lopez, Dinzeyi, Laing, Alebiousu, Akinola (Foran 9), Azeez, Cottrell, McEneff, Moller, Balogun
UNUSED SUBS Taylor-Hart, Cirjan

Nikolaj Moller scored on his Premier League 2 debut as we were beaten 4-1 by Manchester City.

But the scoreline doesn't tell the story of the game, as we delivered a spirited defensive performance after going down to 10 men and being forced to use an outfield player in goal.

Still hunting for our first PL2 win of the season, we made an exceptional start after Moller combined with Folarin Balogun on the break. Moller won the flick on and set Balogun through on goal, but his effort was saved and our new signing converted the rebound.

Disaster struck just moments later though, as Felix Nmecha raced behind our defence and charged towards goal, before being wiped out by the onrushing Karl Hein.

Our young goalkeeper was shown a straight red card for his late challenge, but the drama didn't end there. With no goalkeeper on our bench, defender Taylor Foran was introduced for his Premier League 2 debut, taking Hein's place in goal.

Shortly after, Moller had a golden chance to double our advantage, firing Ryan Alebiosu's dangerous delivery over the bar, before City equalised through Nmecha, who finished into the bottom corner from a tight angle.

Foran produced an exceptional save to deny Conrad Riley from close range on the stroke of half-time, but shortly after the restart, James McAtee handed City the lead with a cool finish from the edge of the area.

We came close to an equaliser when Miguel Azeez's dipping free-kick from distance forced James Trafford into a difficult save, before Liam Delap furthered the hosts' advantage with a powerful strike into the top corner.

Alpha Dionkou made it four deep in injury-time, latching on to a squared pass to convert from close range.■

Nikolaj Moller scored after just six minutes of his Arsenal career!

ACADEMY NEWS

MORE MONLOUIS!

Zane Monlouis has signed his first professional contract with the club.

The 17-year-old defender is a product of our Hale End Academy as well as an England youth international.

He was called up for England under-17s last year, where he won the Syrenka Cup in Poland. Last month he played 90 minutes in a 2-0 win over the Czech Republic.

He has played impressed for our under-18s with his composure on the ball.

Congratulations Zane!■

CHARLIE SIGNS ON

Charlie Patino has also signed his first professional contract with the club.

The highly-rated 17-year-old midfielder is an Arsenal Academy graduate and England international who has played for a higher age group every season for Arsenal, as well as England.

As a 14 year old, Charlie captained England under-16s against Spain, and in the same year he made his debut for our under-18s against Chelsea.

He has played consistently for our under-18s this season and is known for his technical ability.

Congratulations Charlie!.■

OSEI-TUTU SUFFERS SETBACK

Jordi Osei-Tutu is set for a spell on the sidelines with loan club Cardiff City.

The 21-year-old suffered a hamstring injury and speaking after their 1-1 draw with Derby County, manager Neill Harris said: "We are not going to see him certainly in the next four to six weeks. He is going to be a loss for us because he was just starting to show what a good player he is going to be."

Osei-Tutu made a fine start to life in the Welsh capital, making seven appearances as a right back.

The season prior, he enjoyed a successful loan spell with VfL Bochum, where he often started as a right midfielder, scoring five goals and providing three assists.

Osei-Tutu joined the club back in 2015 from Reading and has since featured in a number of first-team friendlies, in addition to being named on the bench in two Premier League fixtures.■

WELCOME BACK, NATHAN

Our under-18's 3-1 win over West Brom last week proved to be a special moment for Nathan Butler-Oyedeji, as he made his return from an eight-month injury layoff.

The young winger was introduced as a second-half substitute for Ken Gillard's side, replacing Marcelo Flores on the wing.

The youngster (below) will now be keen to make his mark for the under-18s and make up for lost time. A powerful, skilful and direct winger, Nathan scored a brace against Tottenham Hotspur during his first season as a scholar.■

THE BREAKDOWN

YOUTH STATS

UNDER-23 FIXTURES

Fri Sept 11	**Southampton**	**H**	**1-2**
Fri Sept 18	Brighton & HA	A	2-2
Sat Sept 26	**Tottenham Hotspur**	**H**	**0-1**
Sun Oct 4	Chelsea	A	0-3
Fri Oct 16	**Manchester United**	**H**	**3-3**
Sat Oct 24	Manchester City	A	1-4
Fri Oct 30	**Liverpool**	**H**	**7pm**
Fri Nov 6	Blackburn Rovers	A	7pm
Fri Nov 20	**Everton**	**H**	**7pm**
Fri Nov 27	**Derby County**	**H**	**7pm**
Fri Dec 18	**Leicester City**	**H**	**7pm**
Fri Jan 8	West Ham United	A	7pm
Sun Jan 17	Southampton	A	2.30pm
Fri Jan 22	**Brighton & HA**	**H**	**7pm**
Fri Jan 29	Tottenham Hotspur	A	12pm
Fri Feb 5	**Chelsea**	**H**	**7pm**
Fri Feb 12	Manchester United	A	7pm
Fri Feb 19	**Manchester City**	**H**	**7pm**
Fri Feb 26	Liverpool	A	7pm
Fri Mar 12	**Blackburn Rovers**	**H**	**7pm**
Sun Mar 21	Everton	A	1pm
Mon Apr 12	Derby County	A	7pm
Mon Apr 26	Leicester City	A	7pm
Fri Apr 30	**West Ham United**	**H**	**7pm**

PREMIER LEAGUE 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Chelsea	6	4	0	2	12	8	4	12
Blackburn Rovers	5	3	2	0	9	3	6	11
Tottenham Hotspur	5	3	2	0	7	2	5	11
Brighton & Hove Albion	6	3	2	1	9	9	0	11
Manchester City	5	3	1	1	14	7	7	10
Derby County	6	3	1	2	13	13	0	10
Liverpool	5	3	0	2	10	7	3	9
Everton	6	2	1	3	9	6	3	7
Leicester City	6	2	0	4	7	13	-6	6
Manchester United	5	1	2	2	10	13	-3	5
Southampton	6	1	1	4	7	13	-6	4
West Ham United	5	0	2	3	4	9	-5	2
Arsenal	**6**	**0**	**2**	**4**	**7**	**15**	**-8**	**2**

UNDER-18 FIXTURES

Sat Sept 12	**Southampton**	**H**	**4-2**
Sat Sept 19	Tottenham Hotspur	A	0-2
Sat Sept 26	**Crystal Palace**	**H**	**3-2**
Sat Oct 3	West Ham United	A	2-3
Sat Oct 17	**Brighton & HA**	**H**	**0-5**
Sat Oct 24	West Bromwich Albion	A	3-1
Sat Oct 31	**Norwich City**	**H**	**11am**
Sat Nov 7	Reading	A	11am
Sat Nov 21	**Fulham**	**H**	**11am**
Sat Dec 12	**Leicester City**	**H**	**11am**
Sat Dec 19	**Chelsea**	**H**	**11am**
Sat Jan 9	Aston Villa	A	11am
Sat Jan 16	Southampton	A	11.30am
Sat Jan 23	**Tottenham Hotspur**	**H**	**11am**
Sat Jan 30	Crystal Palace	A	11am
Sat Feb 13	**West Ham United**	**H**	**11am**
Sat Feb 20	Brighton & HA	A	11am
Sat Feb 27	**West Bromwich Albion**	**H**	**12pm**
Sat Mar 13	Norwich City	A	11am
Sat Mar 20	**Reading**	**H**	**11am**
Sat Apr 10	Fulham	A	12pm
Sat Apr 24	Leicester City	A	11am
Sat May 1	Chelsea	A	11am
Sat May 8	**Aston Villa**	**H**	**11am**

LEASING.COM TROPHY FIXTURES

Tue Sept 8	Ipswich Town	A	2-1
Tue Oct 13	Crawley Town	A	2-1
Tue Nov 10	Gillingham	A	5.30pm

UNDER-18 PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Aston Villa	6	5	0	1	10	6	4	15
Fulham	5	4	0	1	12	6	6	12
Crystal Palace	5	4	0	1	9	6	3	12
Chelsea	6	3	2	1	15	9	6	11
Tottenham Hotspur	6	3	2	1	14	8	6	11
Arsenal	**6**	**3**	**0**	**3**	**12**	**15**	**-3**	**9**
Brighton & Hove Albion	6	2	2	2	12	8	4	8
Norwich City	5	2	0	3	14	11	3	6
West Ham United	5	2	0	3	9	14	-5	6
Reading	5	1	2	2	13	17	-4	5
Southampton	5	1	1	3	12	11	1	4
West Bromwich Albion	5	0	1	4	7	17	-10	1
Leicester City	5	0	0	5	7	18	-11	0

THE BREAKDOWN

YOUTH APPEARANCES

PLAYER	PL2	EFLT	U18	FAYC	PLIC	TOTAL
Ben Cottrell	6(2)	2	-	-	-	8(2)
Folarin Balogun	6(2)	1(1)	-	-	-	7(3)
Ryan Alebiosu	5+1	2	-	-	-	7+1
Tim Akinola	4+1	1+1	-	-	-	5+2
James Olayinka	4(1)	2	-	-	-	6(1)
George Lewis	4	1(1)	-	-	-	5(1)
Karl Hein	4	-	-	-	-	4
Daniel Oyegoke	3+1	1	-	-	-	4+1
Tolaji Bola	3	1	-	-	-	4
Jonathan Dinzeyi	3	1	-	-	-	4
Jordan McEnuff	2+3	2(1)	-	-	-	4+3(1)
Miguel Azeez	2+3	1+1(1)	-	-	-	3+4(1)
Harry Clarke	2	1	-	-	-	3
Catalin Cirjan	2	+1	1	-	-	3+1
Daniel Ballard	2	-	-	-	-	2
William Saliba	2	-	-	-	-	2
Joel Lopez	1+1	1	-	-	-	2+1
Salah-Eddine Oulad M'hand	1+1	1	-	-	-	2+1
Nicolaj Molier	1(1)	-	-	-	-	1(1)
Reiss Nelson	1(1)	-	-	-	-	1(1)
Mark McGuinness	1	1	-	-	-	2
Levi Laing	1	+1	5	-	-	6+1
Alex Kirk	1	+1	4(1)	-	-	5+1(1)
James Hillson	1	-	-	-	-	1
Matt Macey	1	-	-	-	-	1
Emile Smith Rowe	1	-	-	-	-	1
Cedric Soares	1	-	-	-	-	1
Joe Willock	1	-	-	-	-	1
Mazeed Ogungbo	+1	-	4	-	-	4+1
Taylor Foran	+1	-	2+2	-	-	2+3
Kido Taylor-Hart	-	1	5(1)	-	-	6(1)
Arthur Okonkwo	-	1	-	-	-	1
Matt Smith	-	1	-	-	-	1
Marcelo Flores	-	-	6(3)	-	-	6(3)
Omari Giraud-Hutchinson	-	-	6	-	-	6
Hubert Graczyk	-	-	6	-	-	6
Charlie Patino	-	-	6	-	-	6
Mauro Bandeira	-	-	5+1	-	-	5+1
Khayon Edwards	-	-	4+2(2)	-	-	4+2(2)
Zach Awe	-	-	3+3	-	-	3+3
Luke Plange	-	-	3+2(3)	-	-	3+2(3)
Brooke Norton-Cuffy	-	-	3	-	-	3
Zane Monlouis	-	-	1+1	-	-	1+1
James Sweet	-	-	1+1	-	-	1+1
Henry Jeffcott	-	-	1	-	-	1
Billy Vigar	-	-	+2	-	-	+2
Jack Henry-Francis	-	-	+2	-	-	+2
Nathan Butler-Oyedeji	-	-	+1	-	-	+1
Own goals	-	-	(2)	-	-	(2)

Charlie Patino has signed a pro contract

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*Selected products only

EUROPA LEAGUE MATCHDAY 2

8pm • Thursday, October 29 • Emirates Stadium

3

NKETIAH 42, WILLOCK 44, PEPE 46

0

MATCH STATS

25	TOTAL SHOTS	4
6	SHOTS ON TARGET	1
15	CORNERS	2
1	OFFSIDES	0
20	FOULS	0
62	POSSESSION %	38

ARSENAL

13 Runarssom
15 Maitland-Niles
17 Cedric
20 Mustafi *(61)*
31 Kolasinac
34 Xhaka *(74)*
25 Elneny
24 Nelson
30 Nketiah *(74)*
19 Pepe *(62)*
28 Willock

SUBSTITUTES

Leno, Bellerin, Tierney*(74)*, Ceballos*(61)*, Gabriel, Saka, Willian *(62)*, Partey, Balogun*(74)*, Lacazette, Aubameyang, Hein

DUNDALK

1 Rogers
3 Gartland
44 Boyle
21 Cleary *(53)*
8 Mountney
16 Murray *(45)*
5 Shields *(62)*
11 McEleney *(53)*
23 Dummigan
7 Duffy *(70)*
9 Hoban

SUBSTITUTES

Gannon*(62)*, Hoare*(53)*, Flores*(53)*, Sloggett *(45)*, Leahy, Oduwa, McCarey, Colovic*(70)*, Kelly, McMillan, Corcoran

FIRST HALF

Debutant Alex Runarsson was called into action after just three minutes, making a full stretch low save from Patrick McEleney's 20-yard effort. The keeper would have been pleased to safely claim the resulting corner kick as well. But from that moment on, the rest of the half was played almost exclusively in the visitors' half. Reiss Nelson and Nicolas Pepe had shots off target while Pepe also headed over. Sead Kolasinac had a header tipped over, while Joe Willock's low drive was saved. Eddie Nketiah then missed from inside the six-yard box, but was soon to make amends. Visiting keeper Gary Rogers flapped at a corner and Nketiah pounced to slam home. Without a point to defend, Dundalk now had to change their approach, and were punished immediately. Willock smashed his shot into the roof of the net after Pepe's effort deflected into his path.

SECOND HALF

The half-time break provided only a temporary respite for Dundalk, with Pepe curling home a fine right-footed shot from the edge of the area just seconds after the restart. Ainsley Maitland-Niles could have added a fourth but shot straight at the keeper as we kept our foot on the pedal in search of more goals. Teenage striker Folarin Balogun was introduced for his debut in the final 20 minutes. The young American showed some nice touches in and around the box but was often crowded out by the Irish defence.

LEFT
Alex Runarsson kept a clean sheet on an assured Arsenal debut

THIS PAGE
Joe Willock's superb movement gave Dundalk nightmares all night

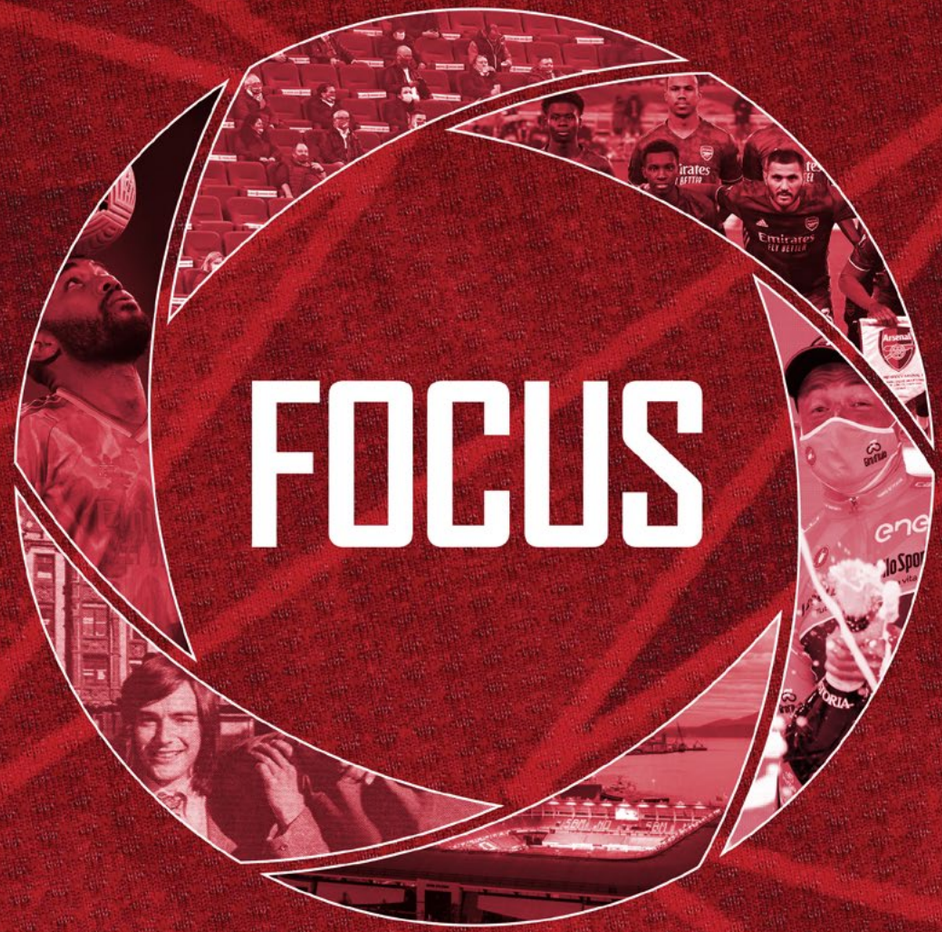
MATCH ACTION

RIGHT
Joe slams the ball past Gary Rogers to make it 2-0

BELOW
Eddie Nketiah would not be denied the opening goal

BELOW LEFT
A moment that Folarin Balogun will never forget

BELOW RIGHT
Celebrations for Nicolas Pepe's third – he's in there somewhere!



FOCUS

16 PAGE PICTURE SPECIAL

GUNNERS POWDER

MAY 7, 2006

As it's November 5 today, here are some fireworks from a truly memorable ocassion. Highbury was given a grand send off on the final day of the 2005/06 season, after 93 years as the club's home

AKERS OF BEAUTY

OCTOBER 4, 2012

The picturesque surroundings of Molde's Aker Stadium, prior to their Europa League match against Stuttgart eight years ago

FIVE STAR
DECEMBER 7, 2004
Goalscorer Thierry Henry celebrates with Jose Antonio Reyes after netting in a 5-1 Champions League win over Rosenborg at Highbury – our last meeting with Norwegian opposition

TRIO ON TOUR

SEPTEMBER 15, 1971

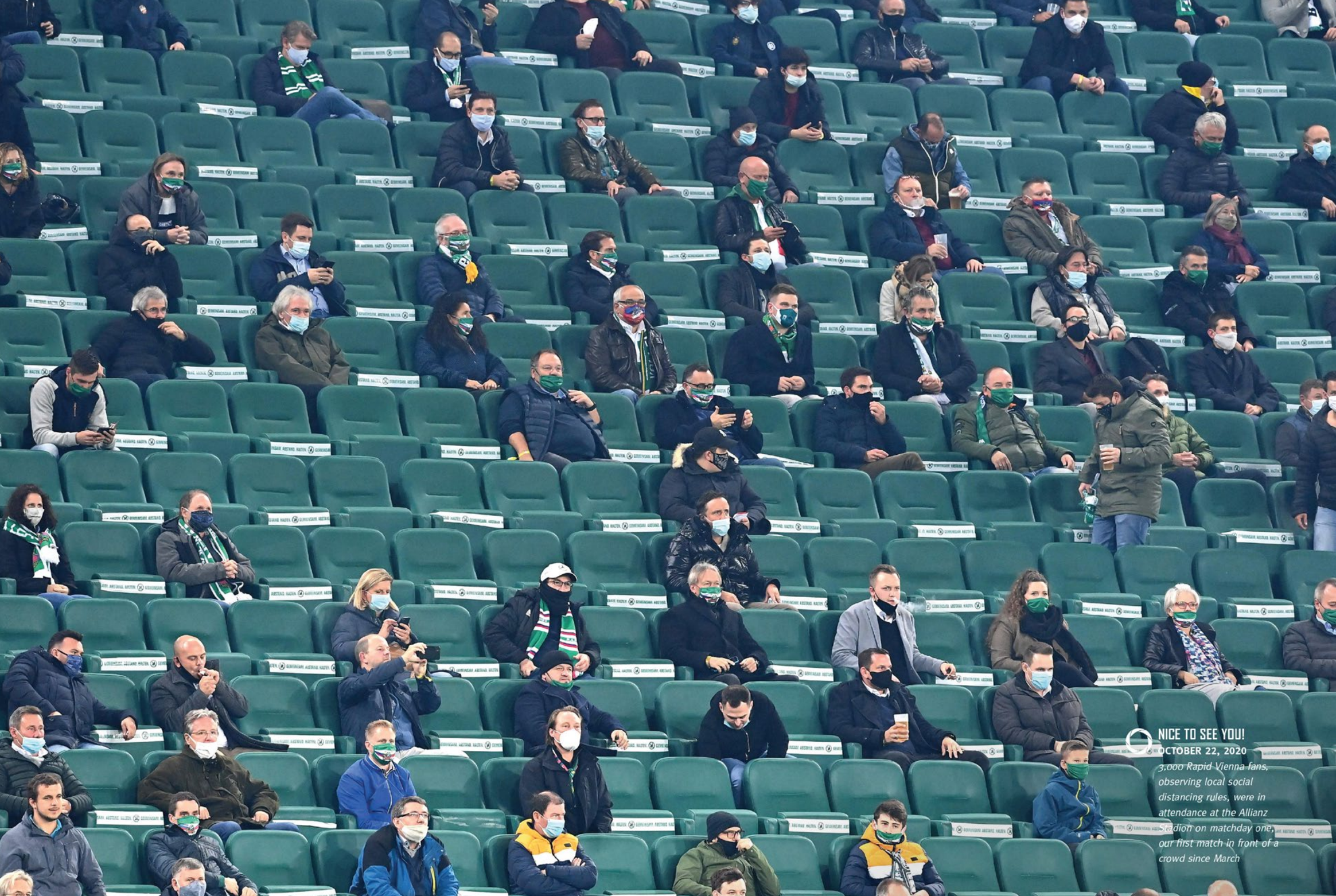
Our first ever match in the European Cup – and first trip to Norway. Peter Marinello is flanked by John Radford (left) and Ray Kennedy as they enjoy the sites of Oslo prior to a 3-1 win over Stromsgodset, with Marinello getting on the scoresheet

TOGETHER

OCTOBER 22, 2020

This was the starting lineup for our opening game in Europe this season – our 36th continental campaign – featuring Thomas Partey making his first start

IN THE PINK
OCTOBER 25, 2020
Tao Geoghegan Hart celebrates in the pink jersey of the overall winner of the Giro d'Italia. A huge, local-born Arsenal fan, Tao is only the second Briton to ever win the presitigious cycling race



NICE TO SEE YOU!
OCTOBER 22, 2020
3,000 Rapid Vienna fans, observing local social distancing rules, were in attendance at the Allianz Stadion on matchday one, our first match in front of a crowd since March

A NEW CLASSIC
OCTOBER 25, 2020
Alexandre Lacazette sported the new adidas/humanrace shirt during the warm up against Leicester at the Emirates last month

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FORWARD ARSENAL

SHKODRAN MUSTAFI

Arsenal Football Club prides itself on always looking forward, so we're asking our players to gaze into the future to see what's on the horizon.

How far in advance is your schedule arranged? What does training look like this week for example?
Well we're doing this interview during an international break, so it's a little different from a week where you've had a game at the weekend. Because of that, we'll make it very intense and there will be a lot of physical training to make up for it, then we have a little break at the end of the week, which is needed because we didn't have a long break over the summer at all. We've been using the international break to put in some really hard work, but also to recover and relax.

What type of training sessions do you enjoy most?
At the moment, I'm enjoying everything. I've just come back from injury, so it's been great fun training with my teammates again because it's so much better than training alone. I love it because it's intense work. During a normal week when you have a lot of games coming, you're not able to do a lot, so you have to do a lot more standing around and tactical work, but in the international break you can put some extra work in. But on the flip side, it's hard because you don't have as many key first-team players with you, so it's harder to work on specific tactics and movements because you need to update them when they return.

What do you do on the night before a big game?
Well, for me, having two kids at home, it's just the best if I can sleep through without being woken up in the night! But now that I'm 28, of course I'm always a little bit nervous and you have that funny feeling in your body, but it's not like it was before because I've played so many games over so many years that I can sleep quite well the night before.

What are your plans for tonight?
I've got nothing on tonight. I've just finished training, so I'll be going home shortly and then I've got to pick my kids up from their play group, so I'm going to spend some time with them, pick them up, bring them home, play a little more, have dinner, then put them to bed. Then I can enjoy the rest of my evening with my wife!

If you had to work in one of the following, which would you choose? Coaching/management, media or outside of football? ▸

IN A DREAM WORLD, WHAT WOULD BE YOUR NEXT...

MEAL

I just love pasta. Something with a nice creamy, cheesy sauce.

NEW CAR

There are so many! But I'd love to have a La Ferrari Aperta

TROPHY YOU WIN

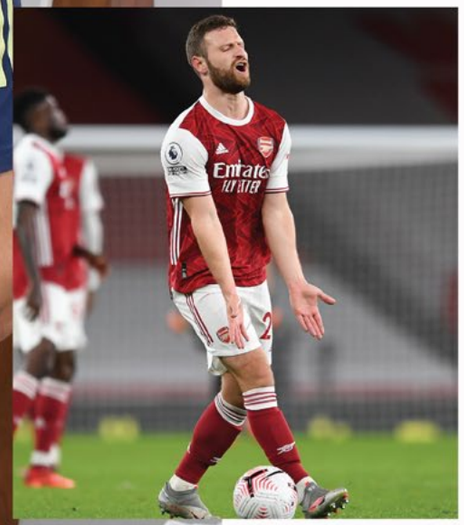
Champions League

HOLIDAY DESTINATION

Dubai

NEW TEAM-MATE

I'd love to have Roberto Soriano. I played with him at Fiorentina (the pair are pictured above) and we have the same head! We've always got on really well.



LEFT
Celebrating silverware at Wembley in August

It's quite difficult to answer, to be honest, because there are so many things in my head. Apart from football, I'm working on something that has nothing to do with football, but I would like to stay in football, so I'd like to go into coaching, but not straight after my career. I want to do something else first and have a break from the game.

"I'D LIKE TO GO INTO COACHING, BUT NOT STRAIGHT AFTER MY CAREER. I WANT TO DO SOMETHING ELSE FIRST"

What do you still want to achieve in your career?
Of course, you play football to win trophies and to be successful, but this is a team sport, so sometimes you can be bad and the team still wins, and sometimes you can be amazing and the team still loses. So, the one thing I want to say that I've achieved when I retire is that I gave it everything I had. It's something that's very difficult to achieve because there are so many games and so many training sessions and you're not always able to give 100 per cent, but it's something I'm trying to do. When I retire, I never want to feel sorry for myself because I could have done this differently, or done better here, or maybe given a little more here so I could have been a little more successful there.

What club would you never sign for?
Tottenham, of course! But let me flip the question, I think there are only a few clubs that I'd like to sign for. I think to sign for a club you have to be committed, it has to suit you, you need to feel comfortable and you need to feel wanted. That's why I've always signed for the clubs that I've played for because I felt like they really wanted me, and I felt comfortable to join them. Arsenal is a massive, massive club, so it was always a dream for me to play in the Premier League. There are only a few clubs I'd join, let me put it like that.

What other profession would you love to try after you leave football?
You know what? I'm very crazy about cars, so I'd love to be on a TV show where you review and try out new cars. In Germany we have a show called 'Grip', but I think you guys have one over here called 'Top Gear', right? That would be great fun, I'd love to give it a try.

What are you looking forward to doing once you retire that you can't do now? ▸

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I'd love to have a bit of time where I can just be flexible with life. I don't think it's exclusive to just football, I think it happens to people in all sorts of other careers too, but the reality is that you're not able to be flexible because you always have places to be and people to see at certain times, and you can't miss those things because they're so important. It's a responsibility, but when you have a family it's something you really miss because sometimes you just want to take a little break and spend some time with your kids. For example, after months of lockdown, I really wanted to do something with my kids and take them to see family in Germany, but I couldn't. This is something that I've always missed in my life and it's hard because I've missed so many special days and moments with my family because of football. I'm looking forward to the day I can wake up and spend time with my family without worrying about when I need to leave or get ready for something.

"RECENTLY I'VE BEEN BUILDING SOMETHING THAT I CAN GROW AND LEAVE BEHIND FOR MY KIDS. IT'S NOT OFFICIAL YET. I'LL REVEAL IT ONE DAY."

What country will you live in once you stop playing football?

I love Italy. I lived there for two and a half years and I loved the people there and their way of life. I love the south of France and Spain too. I guess I'm a child of the world because I've had the privilege of going to so many different countries, and I have to say I've loved every single day I've spent in all these different countries. There's always something new to learn or experience. I wouldn't be able to tell you one place where I can definitely see myself living one day, but I like it sunny!

Are there any countries you've never visited that you'd like to?

To be honest, no! Football has taken me to so many different countries throughout my career, but I guess it would be a really different experience with family and friends, rather than for football. I'd like to revisit a few countries knowing I don't have a game to play out there!

Have your kids started playing football yet?

Oh yes. We had my daughter first and at the start she wasn't really into football and was far more interested in dolls and things like that, but now we've got a few footballs around the house and she's working on her touch! She's only three!

What do you still want to achieve away from football?

When I was younger, I started a little complicated because I was set on inventing something that no one else had done before, but you realise quite quickly that when you're looking for something, we have almost everything and it already exists! But recently I've been building something that I can grow and leave behind for my kids and their children. It's not official yet. I'll reveal it one day. I've always loved the idea of building something up for my kids that they can pick up one day and keep in the family. Football is my career, but I don't know what my kids will want to do, so I'd like to leave them, their children and their grandchildren something that they can all work on together. I want to build something that can be passed on through the generations.

Who is the next big thing in the German national team youth setup?

To be honest, we have a few in Germany, but I'm never a fan of singling out individual players. We have so much pressure already in this sport and I don't want to give them

"WITH THE WAY THE WORLD CURRENTLY IS, WE'RE NEVER HAPPY WITH EVERYTHING AND WE ALWAYS WANT MORE AND MORE AND MORE"

even more pressure, but I also think there are so many talented young players in England right now. I just really hope that they can all make it to the top. Football is crazy and anything can happen, so I wish nothing but the best for all of them.

Do you plan your meals over the week?
No, this is something that I hate! My wife and I always have the same discussions about what we're going to eat for dinner. I like to eat, and we want to mix things up with our dinners sometimes, but neither of us are the most creative people when it comes to the kitchen!

How are you at planning birthdays for family members, kids, partners etc?
Oh, I'm the worst. My wife was born and grew up in Switzerland so she's very organised and prepared with things like that, but I'm probably the worst for it. It's always last minute.

What invention does the world need most in your opinion?
That's a very good question. I would say a drink that calms you down and gives you peace of mind. I think with the way the world currently is, we're never happy with everything and we always want more and more and more, so we forget about what we have and what we've done. We forget about our family around us and our parents because you're so stressed out about doing things and work that you forget to give love to the people around you. It would be nice to have a drink that can really remind you that you're healthy, you have a house, a wife and kids.

Finally, you are told there's a spare seat on the next trip to the International Space Station – do you go? Why? And if there were two seats, who do you want with you?
I think I would be too scared. I'd do it if I was single and had no wife or kids, but now I'd be too worried and it's too much of a risk.■

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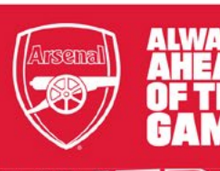

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ARSENAL WOMEN

News and reports from England's most successful women's football team

MORE MONTEMURRO!

Arsenal Media recently conducted a lengthy interview with Joe Montemurro, who spoke in great detail about his coaching philosophy.

It's a fascinating read and certainly confirms the fact that the future of Arsenal Women is in very good hands.

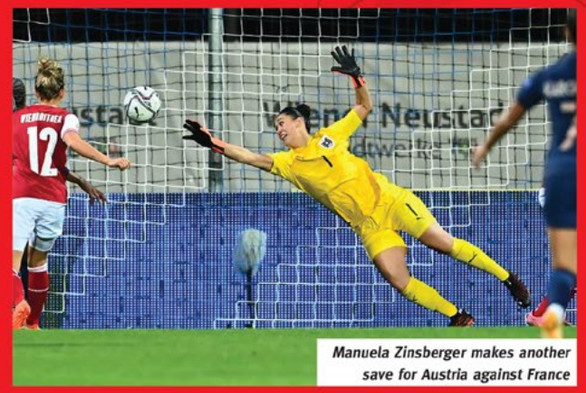
You can find the full interview on arsenal.com but here's a taste of Joe talking about how he sees Arsenal Women's future progress.

"The reality is that I've always thought in long-term scenarios. I've never thought in short-term solutions, it's just not the way I am or the way I do things.

"The biggest thing for me is that most successful clubs and managers usually think long-term. I like that project, I like that process of growth, I like those little layers that you keep adding to get better and better and better.

"I honestly think that in our current situation with women's football, there are these little layers that we've got to keep adding. I'm lucky enough to be part of this growth, I'm lucky enough to be at a club that is forward-thinking in that sense.

"I actually quite like that and the fact that we need to be creative with what we've got, instead of trying to do things that we know we can't do because that comes back to bite you. I like the fact that we have to be creative, grow steadily, grow properly, because once you have those solid foundations they last forever. I'm very clear and positive on that and the project that we've got here at the moment."■



Manuela Zinsberger makes another save for Austria against France

INTERNATIONALS

As usual, a number of Arsenal Women were on international duty – earning some fantastic results for their countries recently.

The most eye-catching was undoubtedly Austria's shut-out of the ever-powerful France side, who are currently ranked the third best team in the world. Viki Schnaderback and Manuela Zinsberger both played 90 minutes, with Manu making a remarkable 10 saves.

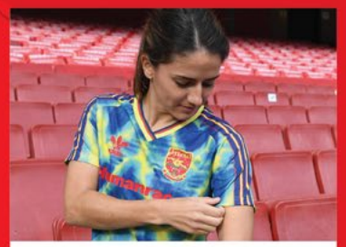
It was a far simpler night for the Netherlands in Kosovo, winning 6-0. To no-one's surprise Vivianne Miedema was on the scoresheet, as was Daniele Van de Donk.

Lastly, Malin Gut and Lia Walti both started for Switzerland in a 2-0 away win over Romania.■

TRAINING HARD?!

With a gap in games due to the international break, Arsenal Women have been keeping up their fitness levels – and their spirits – in training recently.

Let's hope the Arsenal defenders are never as statuesque in front of Lydia and Manu as the pose they are striking!■



2020/21 FIXTURES

SEPT 6	READING	6-1
SEPT 12	WEST HAM UNITED	9-1
SEPT 26	TOTTENHAM (FA CUP QF)	4-0
OCT 1	MAN CITY (FA CUP SEMI-FINAL)	1-2
OCT 4	BRISTOL CITY	3-1
OCT 7	CHELSEA (CC)	1-4
OCT 11	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	5-0
OCT 18	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	6-1
NOV 4	LONDON CITY LIONESSES (CC)	A
NOV 8	MANCHESTER UNITED (12PM)	A
NOV 15	CHELSEA (2.30PM)	H
NOV 18	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (CC)	A
DEC 6	BIRMINGHAM CITY	H
DEC 13	MANCHESTER CITY	A
DEC 20	EVERTON	H
JAN 9/10	ASTON VILLA	A
JAN 16/17	READING	A
JAN 23/24	WEST HAM UNITED	H
FEB 6/7	MANCHESTER CITY	H
FEB 10/11/12	CHELSEA	A
MAR 6/7	BIRMINGHAM CITY	A
MAR 17/18	MANCHESTER UNITED	H
MAR 27/28	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	A
APR 3/4	BRISTOL CITY	A
APR 24/25	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	H
MAY 1/2	EVERTON	A
MAY 8/9	ASTON VILLA	H

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE (AT OCT 29)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
ARSENAL	5	5	0	0	29	4	25	15
EVERTON	5	4	1	0	16	3	13	13
MANCHESTER UNITED	5	4	1	0	14	5	9	13
CHELSEA	4	3	1	0	14	2	12	10
MANCHESTER CITY	5	2	2	1	8	5	3	8
READING	5	2	1	2	6	9	-3	7
BIRMINGHAM CITY	5	2	0	3	7	8	-1	6
BRIGHTON & HA	5	1	2	2	4	10	-6	5
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	5	0	1	4	3	13	-10	1
WEST HAM UNITED	5	0	1	4	5	18	-13	1
ASTON VILLA	3	0	0	3	1	11	-10	0
BRISTOL CITY	4	0	0	4	1	20	-19	0

BRIEF ENCOUNTERS

Only two Norwegian teams have previously taken on the Gunners – and only one player from Norway has featured for Arsenal's first team

EUROPEAN CUP FIRST ROUND
Stromsgodset 1-3 Arsenal (1st leg – Sept 15, 1971)
Arsenal 4-0 Stromsgodset (2nd leg – Sept 29, 1971)

The Gunners' 7-1 aggregate victory over the Norwegian part timers doesn't do justice to the fascinating story behind this tie.

This was Arsenal's first ever European Cup tie, after they qualified having won the League and FA Cup 'double' the season before. Bertie Mee's men travelled to Oslo on September 15 and won comfortably (in the end) thanks to an early goal by Peter Simpson, a beautiful curled effort from Scottish winger Peter Marinello, and a 20-yard drive from midfielder Eddie Kelly. But after Arsenal went 2-0 up, Steinar Pettersen reduced the deficit, and roared on by a passionate home crowd, Pettersen hit Gunners goalkeeper Bob Wilson's post with a great shot. Like Arsenal, Stromsgodset had completed the league and cup 'double' in the previous campaign after a titanic tussle with Rosenborg, managed by former Gunners player from the 1930s, George Curtis.

A decade before, Stromsgodset were mired in the depths of Norway's regional fourth division, but inspirational coach Einar Larsen spearheaded their surge through the Norwegian leagues. Situated in the modest town of Drammen, some 27 miles west of Oslo, Stromsgodset was a multi-sport club with sections for ice hockey, handball and bandy – a winter game played on skis. Several of the football players were also accomplished bandy stars. Like the majority of Norwegian clubs in that era, the players were dubbed 'part time professionals', trained twice a week, and received 100 crowns (£5-£6) for a league win and half that for a draw. For the European Cup clashes with Arsenal, the Drammen based players received double their normal bonuses. The players were an eclectic mix of university students, bank clerks and insurance salesmen with centre back Jan Kristiansen working at a local armaments factory as an explosives expert.

Ray Kennedy scores our first against Stromsgodset in the return match at Highbury

TO NORWAY FOR THREE GOALS IN OUR FIRST MATCH IN THE EUROPEAN CUP

Skipper Frank McLintock wears a confident smile as he greets his Norwegian counterpart in the centre circle before the match.

It's two-nil after 20 minutes as Peter Marinello (seen behind post) lifts his shot over goalkeeper Thun. Peter also had a foot in the first goal.

A great start to our first European Cup match. Peter Simpson, wearing an unfamiliar No. 3, has ...onds.

(Pictures by Monte Fresco, Daily Mirror)

Our third goal in Oslo is a 20-yarder like the first, this time by Eddie Kelly (No. 7), making the final score of the first leg 3-1. And so to tonight . . .

9

How the matchday programme reported our first ever European Cup match

"FOR THE EUROPEAN CUP CLASHES WITH ARSENAL, THE DRAMMEN BASED PLAYERS RECEIVED DOUBLE THEIR NORMAL BONUSES"

In the return leg at Highbury in front of a crowd of 27,146, Arsenal swatted the Norwegians aside with a comfortable 4-0 victory, thanks to goals from Ray Kennedy, John Radford (2) and George Armstrong.

Bertie Mee remarked: "Over both legs, their players have proved themselves to be robust and skilled, and with the right coaching, will only improve as time progresses." Within a decade, the Norway national team shocked England 2-1 in Oslo, during a World Cup qualifier.

Reestablished in 2013 after a 20-year break, Stromsgodset IF remarkably won the top flight (Tippeligaen) once more in 2013.■

Erlink Kagge's climbed Everest – and Highbury!

FABULOUS FANS

Norway has an established Arsenal supporters club with a healthy membership of 5,967. Arsenal Norway has been sending groups across the North Sea to north London for decades – until this season of course. A notable Gooner from the country is Erling Kagge, one of the world's great explorers who, in 1994 became the first person to have reached the North Pole, South Pole and summit of Everest.

Make sure you read our Strong Young Gunners section in the programme where we remember Havard Nordtveit – who came close to being the second Norwegian to play first-team football for us – and George Lewis, the academy star hoping to do just that.

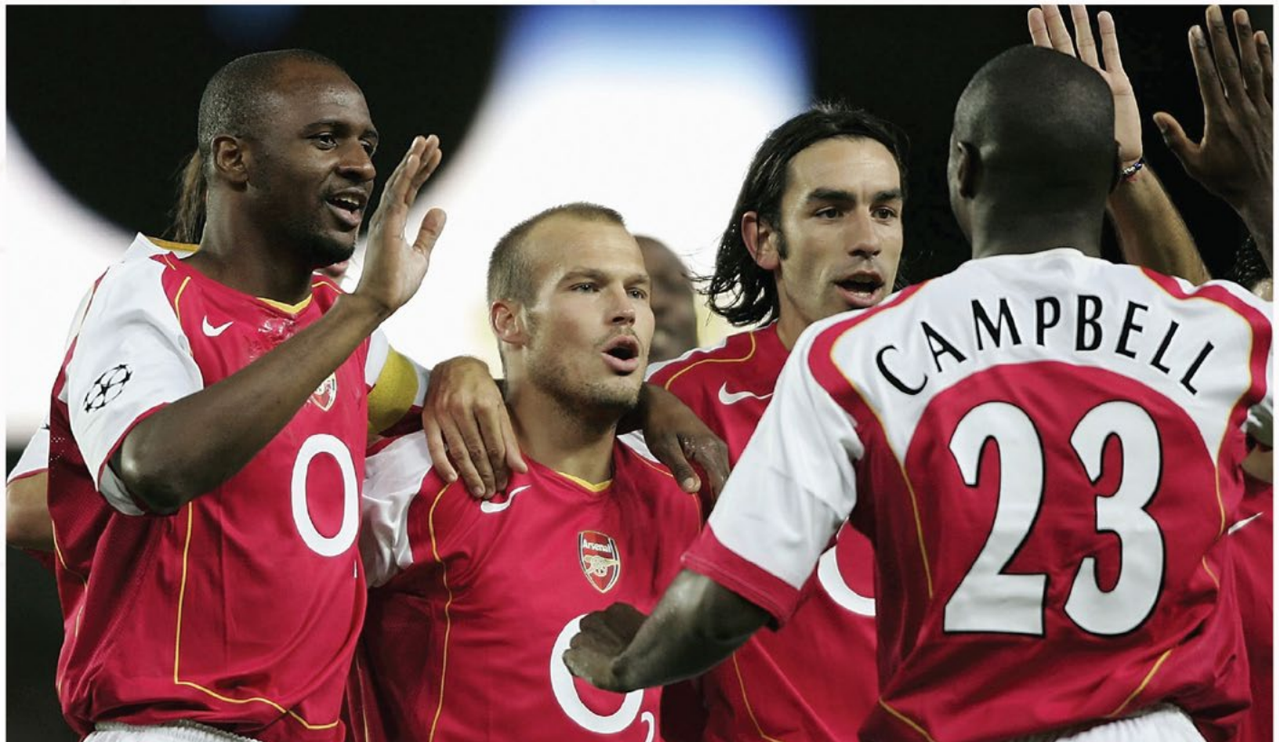
REMEMBER... PAL LYDERSEN

Pal Lydersen holds the distinction of being the only Norwegian to make a first-team appearance for Arsenal.

The versatile IK Start full back was signed for Arsenal by George Graham in November 1991 as cover for both Lee Dixon and Nigel Winterburn. Lydersen, who had played at both left back and right back, spoke excitedly about the challenge which awaited him when he arrived in N5: "There are many talented Scandinavians who I feel possess the physical strength and the guile to succeed at the highest level in England."

But ultimately, Lydersen only made 16 starts for the Gunners (setting up a goal for Tony Adams against Nottingham Forest at Highbury in a 3-3 draw in 1991/92), before returning to IK Start on loan for the beginning of the 1993/94 campaign.

Lydersen was correct in his prediction though, as a raft of Scandinavian stars, including John Jensen (Denmark) followed 'Super Swede' Anders Limpar (who'd joined Arsenal in 1990) across the North Sea to the English top flight during the early 1990s.



ABOVE RIGHT

Cesc Fabregas scores against Rosenborg to become the second youngest scorer in Champions League history

RIGHT

Celebrations after Freddie Ljungberg had given us the lead in Norway against Rosonberg

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP STAGE
Rosenborg 1-1 Arsenal (Sept 29, 2004)
Arsenal 5-1 Rosenborg (Dec 7, 2004)

Following a frustrating draw in the Group E clash in Norway on September 29, Arsenal boss Arsène Wenger admitted: "For all our possession and attacking, they (Rosenborg) were phenomenally well organised and kept us at bay."

Freddie Ljungberg pounced early to poke the ball home for Arsenal (whom many bookies had installed as favourites to win the competition) following a corner, but Thierry Henry, Robert Pires and Ljungberg all missed fine chances to put the game out of reach. In the second half, with a 21,000 crowd at the Lerkendal Stadion, roaring their team on, Rosenborg's neat approach work paid dividends. A swift counter attack allowed Oyvind Storflor space down the left and he superbly cut the ball back for Roar Strand to sidefoot firmly beyond the reach of Jens Lehmann and claim his 10th European goal for Rosenborg. Ten out of 11 players (defender Mikael Dorsin was the exception) were Norwegian.

On December 7, in front of a 35,421 Highbury crowd, Arsenal put Rosenborg to the sword as they cruised into the knock out stages of the Champions League. With just three minutes on the clock, Jose Antonio Reyes latched onto a wonderfully weighted Dennis Bergkamp pass to slalom round a defender and slot home the Gunners' first goal. Thierry Henry then capitalised on a defensive error to nudge Arsenal further ahead, and after a spot of ball juggling, Cesc Fabregas gave Arsenal a 3-0 lead midway through the first half. Rosenborg hit the post before pulling a goal back on 38 minutes through Erlik Hoftun, much to the delight of their 2,000 fans, many of whom were clad in Viking helmets, before goalkeeper Espun Johnsen's foul on Thierry Henry shorty before half time gave Robert Pires the opportunity to put the Gunners 4-1 up at the break.

Arsenal had several chances to pile on the goals in the second half, but Robin van Persie was the only one to take his chance and give the Gunners an excellent 5-1 win.

MY

The Arsenal Foundation

STORY

The work of The Arsenal Foundation and the partners and initiatives it supports have touched the lives of a great number of people in a variety of ways

The Arsenal Foundation's emergency Covid fund has helped SJOG Hospitaller Services, an international charity that supports the disabled, elderly, homeless and people from religious minorities. Miguel Neves, 53, the charity's national lead for homeless & modern-day slavery/trafficking, tells us about their work

I am Portuguese, from Lisbon, and 20 years ago I came to the UK as a migrant looking to restart my life and have new experiences. I have worked in social care since arriving here, including as a home care manager for Islington and a service manager in Camden. In 2015 I joined SJOG at Olallo House, a hostel in central London, and we haven't stopped developing and growing since then.

The Order of St John Of God was founded in Darlington in the 1880s and provides services and housing support for individuals with learning difficulties, mental health issues, the homeless and victims of modern-day slavery and trafficking. When I started with SJOG we supported about 30 people in our homeless services – this has increased to more than 120, not counting victims of trafficking and slavery.

We receive referrals on an almost daily basis, and we have to settle those people in quickly and keep them safe. We didn't see an increase in demand during the first lockdown because the whole homeless population was shielded in hotels, but what we did find was that the ones who were in service couldn't be moved on. That led to a bottleneck where we couldn't accept new individuals because there were no vacancies.

Miguel (standing) and his team

Unfortunately, with the winter looming and respiratory diseases increasing in conjunction with the second wave of Covid, we expect an increase in demand. The lack of spaces is a real issue, especially for those who are most vulnerable because of their age or pre-existing conditions. For us it's about delivering our services in a safe and responsible way.

My proudest moments working here are always when I see someone move on with a job and accommodation – to see individuals regain their independence and leave us with a live future they are happy with and which is long lasting and resilient.

We used the funds from The Arsenal Foundation to buy PPE to protect residents and staff in delivering the services. The money was vital to help us maintain the safety of our residents and colleagues.

Football clubs are important social agents and are able to galvanise their supporters around causes like not many organisations are able to. We all understand that football is a business that moves a great deal of funds and that clubs have to invest in players to stay profitable and visible. But at the same time they are grassroots movements, and as such part of their communities, and must have the willingness to also be a social player and support the organisations that assure the wellbeing and existence of the communities they are part of.

For more info visit sjog.org.uk

Etzaz Hussain during Molde's match against Dundalk

MOLDE

By: Mike Hammond

FORMED

1911 (as International)

NICKNAME

MFK

STADIUM

Aker Stadion ***(11,249)***

HONOURS

Eliteserien (Top Tier) Winners: ***2011, 2012, 2014, 2019***

Runners Up: ***1974, 1987, 1995, 1998, 2002, 2009, 2017, 2018***

Second Tier Winners: ***1938, 1939, 1949, 1954, 1956, 1957, 1973, 1983, 2007***

Norwegian Cup Winners: ***1994, 2005, 2013, 2014***

Runners Up: ***1982, 1989, 2009***

CHAIRMAN

Odd Ivar Moen

SOCIAL FOLLOWERS

Twitter ***14,600***

Instagram ***26,500***

Facebook ***44,800***

Champions of Norway four times in the last decade, the first of them fittingly in 2011, the year of the club's centenary, Molde Fotballklubb are one of the contemporary heavyweights of Norwegian football together with coastal rivals and record champions Rosenborg. For that they owe a large debt to former player Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, who led them to both that 2011 league title and a successful defence in 2012 as well as a Norwegian Cup triumph in 2013.

It was the man who assisted Solskjaer in his second spell as Molde manager – from 2015-18 after the current Manchester United boss's brief and unsuccessful first foray into the Premier League with Cardiff City – who led them to another Eliteserien title in 2019, Erling Moe achieving the feat in his first full campaign in the hot seat. It was a dominant triumph, too, Molde finishing 14 points clear of runners-up Bodo/Glimt with 21 wins from their 30 matches.

The likelihood is that those roles will be reversed when the 2020 league campaign comes to a close, Bodo/Glimt having opened up a large gap at the top of the table and looking firmly on course for their maiden Norwegian championship crown. Because of the Covid-induced delay to the season, Molde's schedule has been practically non-stop since the Eliteserien kicked off in mid-June, with fixtures to fulfil almost every weekend and midweek.

Since late August the club's midweek dates have been filled with European games. Starting out in the UEFA Champions League first qualifying round, Molde beat Finnish champions KuPS 5-0 at home before overcoming Celje of Slovenia (who had already knocked out Dundalk) 2-1 at the Aker Stadion. They then eliminated Qarabag on penalties after a 0-0 away draw and were excruciatingly close to making it through to the Champions League proper only to be denied in the play-offs by Ferencvaros – not just on away goals but by an extremely harsh handball penalty that enabled the Hungarian side to draw the first leg 3-3 in Norway before holding Molde 0-0 in Budapest.

Molde's disappointment at not making it through to Europe's elite club competition for the second time – their one previous involvement was in 1999/2000 – was immense, but they have made a very positive start to the Europa League group stage, where they are competing for the third time – after 2012/13, when they failed to progress, and 2015/16, when they defied the odds by topping a group containing Ajax, Celtic and Fenerbahce before going out in the round of 32 (0-3 away, 1-0 home) to eventual winners Sevilla. An opening 2-1 win against Dundalk in Dublin two weeks ago was supplemented by last Thursday's 1-0 home success against Rapid Vienna, so they visit Emirates Stadium with maximum points, plenty of confidence and genuine aspirations of extending an already lengthy European campaign into the spring of 2021.

REMEMBER KIT WELL

Molde's kit sponsors
1980 – OPEL
1981-1982 – STOREBRAND
1983-1986 – GLAMOX
1987-1989 – NORSK TIPPING
1990 – DNB
1992-1999 – G-SPORT
2000-2002 – COMMIT
2003- – Sparebanken More

MOLDE ENEMIES!

A number of players who list Molde on their playing CVs have played against the Gunners for other clubs. There are some famous names on this list – and some not so famous...

MOHAMED ELYOUNOUSSI (Southampton 2019)
JO TESSEM (Southampton 1999-05)
MAME BIRAM DIOUF (Blackburn, Stoke 2010-18)
EIDUR GUDJOHNSEN (Chelsea, Tottenham 2001-10)
JOSTEIN FLO (Sheffield United 1994)
OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJAER (Manchester United 1996-07)
AGE HAREIDE (Norwich City/ Manchester City 1982-84)
ARTHUR ALBISTON (Manchester United 1975-88)
ROGER NILSEN (Sheffield United 1994)
PAUL MOULDEN (Manchester City/ Oldham Athletic 1986-1993)

Mame Biram Diouf at Stoke

7 THE SKIPPER
MAGNUS WOLFF EIKREM
MIDFIELDER

Born Molde, Norway, 8/8/90
Previously Man United, Molde, Heerenveen, Cardiff, Malmo, Seattle Sounders

The main man in the Molde midfield, Magnus is the central conductor of the team's play as well as a key figure at corners and free kicks. He is also the club captain and the proud owner of three Eliteserien championship-winning medals, the first two won under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, who took him to Cardiff City in 2014. Having started his career with Manchester United's youth teams, the 30 year old has also played in the Netherlands, Sweden and the USA.

19 THE STALWART
EIRIK HESTAD
MIDFIELDER

BORN Aureosen, Norway, 26/6/95
PREVIOUSLY None

A former Norway youth international, attacking midfielder Eirik has spent his entire career to date with Molde, becoming a regular starter over the past five years and fast closing in on his 200th appearance for the club. He had a particularly prolific scoring run in the 2018/19 Europa League qualifying phase, hitting seven goals in seven games, and was Molde's first scorer in Europe this season with the opener in the first qualifying round win against KuPS.

99 THE SPEARHEAD
OHI OMOIJUANFO
ATTACKER

BORN Oslo, Norway, 10/1/94
PREVIOUSLY Holmila, Lillestrom, Jerv, Stabaek

Once renowned as the youngest player ever to score in Norway's top flight – for Lillestrom in 2010 aged 16 years and 300 days – Ohi has developed into one of the most feared strikers in the Eliteserien. He netted 17 league goals for Stabaek in 2017 and two years later, in his debut campaign for Molde, struck 15 times to help his new club win the league title. The 26 year old has also found the net in both Group B matches against Dundalk and Rapid Vienna.

2 THE NO-NONSENSE DEFENDER
MARTIN BJORNBAK
DEFENDER

BORN Mo i Rana, Norway, 22/3/92
PREVIOUSLY Stalkameratene, Bodo/Glimt, Haugesund, Bodo/Glimt

Tall, long-haired and physically imposing, Martin is a rock-solid central defender who joined Molde at the start of the 2019 season and was a key performer in the club's title win, starting 25 of their 30 matches. His title triumph came just two years after he won promotion with Bodo/Glimt to the Eliteserien. On the sidelines with an injury in August and September this year, he gave an eye-catching performance on Europa League Matchday 1 against Dundalk.

1 BETWEEN THE POSTS
ANDREAS LINDE
GOALKEEPER

BORN Helsingborg, Sweden, 24/7/93
PREVIOUSLY Helsingborg, Varnamo (loan), Akademi (loan)

A Molde player since 2015, Swedish keeper Andreas has been the club's first choice between the posts for the past four years, though he missed a large segment of the 2019 Eliteserien triumph through injury. The 27 year old has been immovable in 2020, however, and has played every minute of the club's European campaign so far this season, keeping four clean sheets in seven games. Capped once by Sweden at senior level, he represented his country at the 2016 Olympics in Rio.

27 ARCTIC MAN
MARCUS HOLMGREN PEDERSEN
DEFENDER

BORN Hammerfest, Norway, 16/7/00
PREVIOUSLY Tromso

A celebrated native of Hammerfest, reputedly the northernmost town of 10,000-plus inhabitants in the world, Martin began his career in the Arctic Circle with Tromso, playing 20 matches in the Eliteserien for the club before, still aged 19, he joined Molde in February this year. An attacking right-back who likes to shoot at goal, he is a current Norway Under-21 international having already represented his country at the 2019 European Under-19 Championship in Armenia.

16 THE SWEET LEFT FOOT
ETZAZ HUSSAIN
MIDFIELDER

BORN Oslo, Norway, 27/1/93
PREVIOUSLY Fredrikstad, Molde, Sivasspor, Rudes, Odd (loan)

Born in Oslo of Pakistani descent, Etzaz spent two years at Manchester United's academy before making a name for himself in his homeland over two spells with Molde that were interrupted by stints in Turkey and Croatia. A Norway youth international with 46 European club appearances under his belt, the left-footer has won three league titles with Molde although 2020 has arguably been his strongest year yet.

10 THE MARKSMAN
LEKE JAMES
ATTACKER

BORN Kaduna, Nigeria, 1/11/92
PREVIOUSLY Bridge Boys, Aalesund, Beijing Enterprises

An accomplished Nigerian striker who first made his name in Norway with Aalesund, for whom he scored 45 goals in 101 appearances, Leke arrived at Molde in April 2018 after a couple of years in China and was their top scorer in the following year's domestic title triumph, scoring 17 goals in the league and 24 in all competitions. The 28 year old has continued to score freely in 2020 though missed most of October through injury.

THE BOSS
ERLING MOE

BORN July 22, 1970 in Molde, Norway
PREVIOUSLY Kristiansund (2011), Molde (2015)

Following in the footsteps of a club legend is no easy task, but Erling Moe has done a remarkable job since he replaced Ole Gunnar Solskjaer as Molde head coach, initially as a caretaker, when the ex-Manchester United striker replaced Jose Mourinho as manager in December 2018. Under the Molde-born Moe the team romped to the 2019 Norwegian title, and although there is unlikely to be a repeat in 2020, the new man in charge came very close to achieving Champions League qualification before joing Europa League Group B, where his side have made a perfect start.

REALLY?!

OWL FLIES BACK IN

One member of the Molde coaching staff has some good memories about the Gunners. Current Analysis Manager Petter Rudi played for Sheffield Wednesday between 1997 and 2000 and played three games against Arsenal, 2-0 and 1-0 wins at Hillsborough in season's 1997/98 and 1998/99 and a 3-0 defeat at Highbury in the latter season. The story of the 1-0 win on September 26, 1998 was less about Wednesday beating the reigning champions and more about Paulo Di Canio notoriously pushing over referee Paul Alcock and being sent off – along with Martin Keown. Rudi had joined Wednesday from Molde and returned back to the club after his three year adventure.

Rudi holds back Di Canio

STRANDE AND STRAND

Currently first-team coach Trond Strande is a Molde legend, sitting seventh on their all-time appearance charts with 238 games across 16 seasons. Roar Strand on the other hand will be remembered by Arsenal fans as the striker who equalised against Arsenal for Rosenborg in Norway in 2004 and Roar also had a season at Molde as a young player in 1993. Strand scored in a remarkable 21 consecutive seasons in the Norwegian top flight – his other 20 with Rosenborg. This matches Ryan Giggs European record, though both Pele and Romario jointly hold the world record of 23 seasons!

Roar Strand celebrated for 21 seasons!

EUROPA LEAGUE SO FAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2020
Europa League Matchday 1
Dundalk 1 (Murray 35)
Molde 2 (Hussain 62, Omoijuanfo 72 pen)

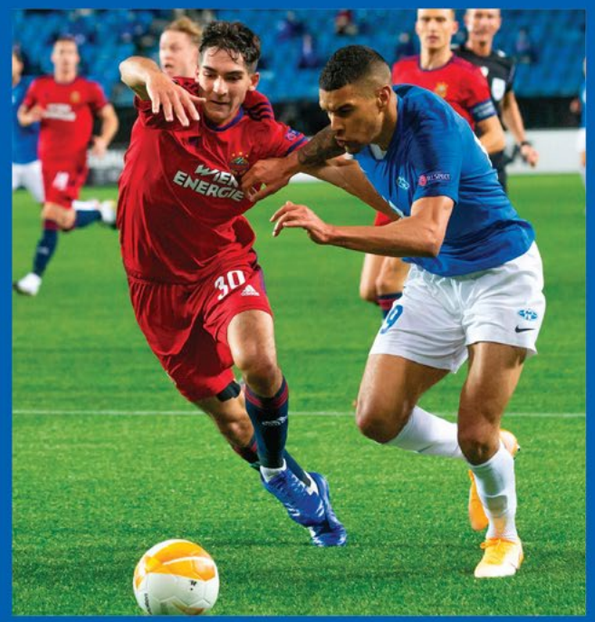
MOLDE: Linde, Haugen, Gregersen, Bjornbak, Pedersen, Hussain, Wolff Eikrem (Ellingsen 82), Aursnes, Bolly (Knudtzon 69), Omoijuanfo (Brynhildsen 90), Hestad SUBS NOT USED Craninx, Ranmark, Risa, Sinyan, Christensen, Andersen, Mostrom

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2020
Europa League Matchday 2
Molde 1 (Omoijuanfo 65)
Rapid Vienna 0

MOLDE: Linde, Haugen, Gregersen, Bjornbak, Wingo, Wolff Eikrem (James 84), Aursnes, Ellingsen, Omoijuanfo, Brynhildsen (Hussain 77), Hestad (Bolly 68) SUBS NOT USED Craninx, Ranmark, Risa, Sinyan, Pedersen, Christensen, Andersen, Mostrom

STATS BREAKDOWN

GOALS	3
GOAL ATTEMPTS	30
ON TARGET	9
OFF TARGET	21
CROSS COMPLETION	42%
PASSING ACCURACY	85%
PASSES ATTEMPTED	1122
PASSES COMPLETED	955
POSSESSION	58%
TACKLES	9
BALLS RECOVERED	86
YELLOW CARDS	4
RED CARDS	0
FOULS COMMITTED	25
FOULS SUFFERED	25



TOP
Ohi Omoijuanfo on the attack against Rapid Vienna

RIGHT
Etzaz Hussein and Marcus Holmgren celebrate after scoring against Dundalk

SCOUTING REPORT

By: Michael Cox

After two matches of Group B, the situation is clear – Arsenal and Molde have two wins apiece, while Rapid Vienna and Dundalk are yet to get off the mark. The Norwegian side are evidently the strongest opposition Arsenal will face in this season's group stage, and may cause the Gunners problems with their speedy attacking into wide positions.

Manager Erling Moe – a lifelong Coventry City fan – was previously Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's assistant at Molde, before succeeding him when Solskjaer departed to take charge of Manchester United two years ago. Thus far, kept things simple and consistent, favouring a 4-2-3-1 formation.

Moe's biggest challenge over the course of 2020 has been injuries, particularly in defensive positions. The entire back four has been out at some stage this season, with the long-term absence of right back Kristoffer Haraldseid a particular problem. Moe has compensated for his absence by rotating youngster Marcus Pederson and American midfielder Henry Wingo.

In the centre, Martin Bjornbak and Stian Rode Gregersen have a reliable partnership, while left back Kristoffer Haugen is capable of pushing forward on the overlap. Molde might start this game relatively cautiously, but at their best their combinations down the flanks can open up opposition defences.

Moe likes to keep things solid in the centre of the pitch, usually fielding a steady combination of Etatz Hussain and Fredrik Aursnes in front of the defence. This allows captain Magnus Wolff Eikrem the freedom to push forward into attack. His career has been closely linked to that of Solskjaer – he was originally spotted by Molde as a teenager at one of Solskjaer's soccer schools, spent five years at Manchester United where Solskjaer was reserve manager, and then played under him in two more stints at Molde and another at Cardiff City. Moe made him captain at the start of this season, and on his day, Eikrem is capable of dominating games in midfield and then pushing forward to provide goals and assists in the final third.

Out wide, Eirik Hestad is a reliable operator and combines well with an overlapping full back, while down the left Moe has used both Mathis Bolly, a speedy but not particularly prolific Ivory Coast international, or Ola Brynhildsen, a youngster who arrived in the summer. Again, he combines well with Haugen, as Molde look to work the ball into crossing situations.

Up front, Nigerian striker Leke James was the star of Molde's 2019 success, scoring 17 goals, although has been less prolific this season and has been working his way back from injury. That means Moe has instead turned to another player of Nigerian descent, Ohi Omoijuanfo, who has led the line so far in the Europa League, scoring the winner in the 2-1 victory over Dundalk and the only goal in the 1-0 win over Rapid Vienna last week. Both are good all-round strikers, but Moe is unlikely to start them both together at the Emirates, in what is likely to be a defensive approach from the Norwegian side.■

JOE WILLOCK

IN HIS OWN WORDS

Our young midfielder is determined to make this a big season as he looks to establish himself further in the first team

As you can see in our squad, there's so much competition right now and there are so many players who are fighting for a spot in the starting XI – and even the bench – so it's really important to keep your mind right and your body fit.

I've tried to take things up a level this season by paying closer attention to my diet and the finer details because it can make such a vital difference at the top. I hired a new chef over the summer, and she's got me eating really well. It's so helpful for me because not only are all my meals structured and planned out in advance to help me with training and match days, but it also gives me time to focus and impressive other areas of my game too. It's only a small change, but sometimes the smallest of changes can make a big difference.

At the tail end of last season, I also started writing in a journal on the night before every game. I thought I'd give it a try and see how it goes, and this season I've really started doing it properly. It could be anything in there! Sometimes I'll write down that I want to score a goal or make five tackles, and other times I'll write down Mikel's instructions or game plan in detail. It all started because I was speaking to some of the other boys and they said that they've been implementing some other similar ideas, so I thought why not give it a try? It's something that's really good for my own mental state because it allows me to set a target, think about it and become familiar with it, and when I'm out on the pitch it really sticks out in my mind. A few have come true already!

I feel like I've really improved my mindset over the past year too. When I'm not playing well or I'm not in the squad, of course it bothers me, but it's all about how you react and how you approach the next day. I'll never stop working hard for opportunities at this club and I'll always persevere to the end.

I feel like that mentality and focus has helped me a lot this season, and when I think back to my first ever training session with the first team, I really believe I've come on in leaps and bounds – both on and off the pitch. I feel like I'm so much smarter on the pitch in my movements and positioning, and I also feel like I'm a better professional ▸

than I ever was before. I put a lot of that down to the manager because ever since he's come in, he's been so precise with everything that he's telling me, and I really appreciate that. I like to have clarification on what people want from me and when I'm given that, I feel like I can be the best version of myself. I can't wait to get some more opportunities and show the fans just how much I've improved under Mikel.

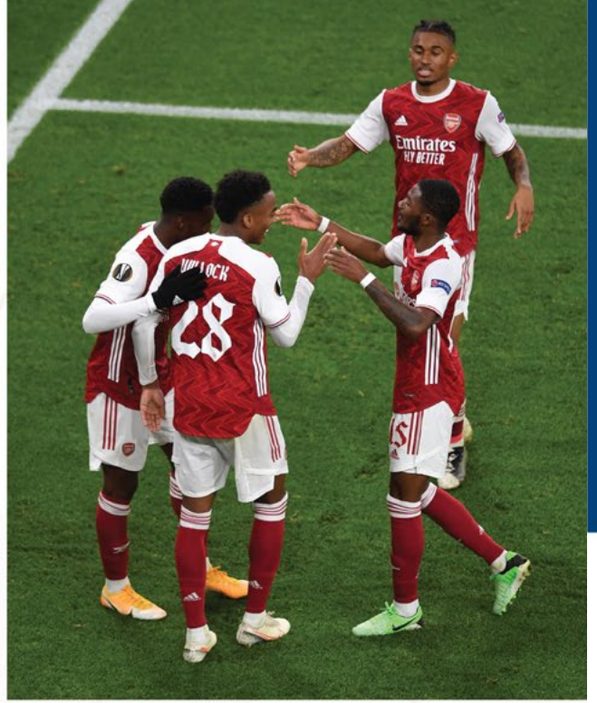
"I'VE STARTED WRITING IN A JOURNAL ON THE NIGHT BEFORE EVERY GAME"

But, of course, I've got a new midfielder to compete with in Thomas Partey, now. We've played Atletico Madrid in a number of ties over the years, so I've seen Thomas in action a few times and I'm a big fan of his. When he arrived at the club, I thought I'd take a moment to tell him just how much I like his style of play and that I'm really looking forward to combining with him. He's a brilliant addition to the team.

Speaking to the lads in the dressing room before he joined, they were all saying that he's such a strong midfielder, but he's so technical too. He's a player that we needed. He can break up play, dish balls out at speed and keep possession ticking over, so he's a really good signing and we've seen that in all of our training sessions so far.

I'm just so excited to be given opportunities under Mikel after all the work that we've been doing on the training ground, and with players like Partey joining the club, I'm even more excited to get out there. He's someone that I can learn from as a younger player in the team.

I'd also like to take a moment to congratulate Bukayo and Ainsley on making their debuts for England last month. Having seen both of them grow up through the academy here at Arsenal, it was amazing to see them get the rewards for their hard work. From the moment I first played with Bukayo in the academy, I knew he was going to go far and never doubted that he could prove himself in the first team.



TOP RIGHT

Joe celebrates scoring against Dundalk in the Europa League last Thursday. It was his ninth goal for the first team

He's such a talented player, but above all else, his mindset, attitude and work rate is spot on. He's already leading by example. As for Ainsley, he's had some difficult moments where things weren't quite going right for him, but he persevered, came through the other side and received his call-up – and that's something that really inspires me to keep working harder.

I'm feeling really strong and mature on the pitch at the moment, so I'm really hoping that I can get out on the pitch and show the results of all my hard work as often as possible. I thought I did well against Dundalk last week, contributed with a fair amount. That's what I want to do, I want to score goals, create goals and to get an assist and a goal, I'm really happy to do that. I just want to push on and do it more in the Premier League. I obviously loved scoring. The ball dropped to me kind of fast but I stayed composed, I looked at the keeper and I slotted it in. I've been working on it in training so I'm happy it paid off that day.

When I look back at my performances, I'm no longer seeing an academy player who's playing within himself or looking nervous. I think I look mature out there and settled on the ball, and that's a really big step to make when you're a young player trying to prove your worth. Now, I just need to keep working hard to make sure I'm ready for any opportunity that's handed my way.■

THE BREAKDOWN CHALKBOARD

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NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE

Our Europa League clash with Dundalk handed our frontline the opportunity to state their case for a starting berth in Mikel Arteta's side – but it was midfielder Joe Willock who made the loudest claim.

The 21 year old posed a constant threat in the final third with his movement, providing a goal and an assist, yet it was his general play and exceptional work-rate that stood out most.

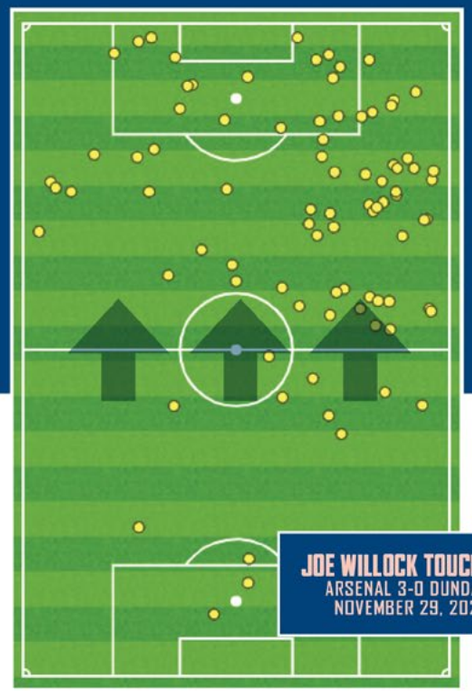
Starting alongside Mohammed Elneny, the Egyptian was responsible for anchoring our midfield and dictating play from deep, while Joe was given greater freedom to push forward and play between the lines.

During our comfortable 3-0 win, the England youth international made three key passes, more than any other player on the pitch, and finished the match with a pass completion rate of 91.1 per cent.

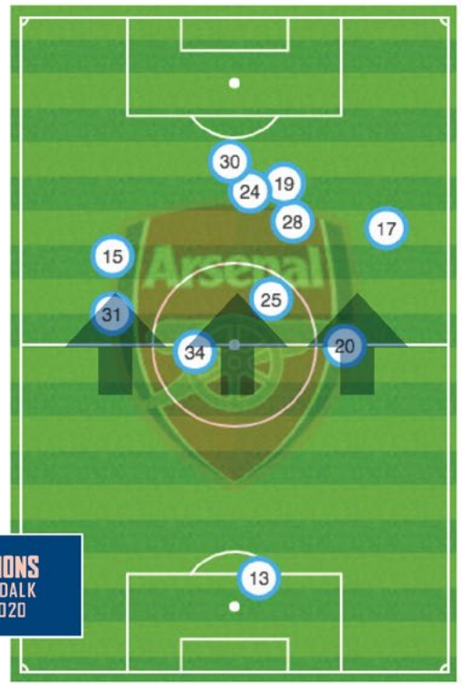
He also registered a total of 86 touches (2nd) and contested for 14 duels (1st).

It's worth noting that Willock lost possession more than any other player too (20) – but this comes with the responsibility of being our only attack-minded midfielder in the starting XI. Not to mention that his response to losing the ball was always positive, racing back at breakneck speed to regain possession.

To gain a greater understanding of Joe's role on the night, take a look at his touch map and average position (No 28) while in possession.■



JOE WILLOCK TOUCHMAP
ARSENAL 3-0 DUNDALK
NOVEMBER 29, 2020



AVERAGE POSITIONS
ARSENAL 3-0 DUNDALK
NOVEMBER 29, 2020

THE BREAKDOWN FIRST-TEAM

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FIXTURES, RESULTS & LINE-UPS

Green = 1st sub
Gold = 2nd sub
Blue = 3rd sub
Burgundy = 4th sub
Pink = 5th sub

● = Win
● = Draw
● = Loss
+ = Won on pens

= Premier League
= UEFA Europa League
= Carabao Cup
= Emirates FA Cup
= Community Shield

Bold fixture = Scorer
Bold player = Goal scored
• = Goal
• = Penalty

* = Own Goal
CAPS = Captain
▮ = Yellow card
▯ = Red card
= Played at Wembley Stadium

	DATE	OPPOSITION	F-A	POS /RND	ATT/KO	STARTING XI											SUBSTITUTES									REFEREE
SEPTEMBER	Sat 29	Liverpool	1-1+ ●	CS	BCD #	Martinez	Bellerin	Holding	David Luiz	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Saka	Nketiah	**AUBAMEYANG•**	Cedric(59)	Nelson(82)	Willock(82)	Kolasinac(83)	Saliba	Smith Rowe	John-Jules	Olayinka	Leno	A. Marriner
	Sat 12	Fulham	3-0 ●	1	BCD	Leno	Bellerin▮	Holding	**Gabriel•**	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Willian	**Lacazette•**	**AUBAMEYANG•▮**	Pepe(75)	Ceballos(78)	Nketiah(87)	Saka	Willock	Kolasinac	Macey			C. Kavanagh
	Sat 19	**West Ham United**	**2-1 ●**	**2**	**BCD**	Leno	Bellerin	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	Willian	**Lacazette•**	AUBAMEYANG	Pepe(64)	**Nketiah•**(77)	David Luiz(89)	M-Niles	Elneny	Willock	Macey			M. Oliver
	Wed 23	Leicester City	2-0* ●	CC3	BCD	Leno	M-Niles	Holding	DAVID LUIZ	Kolasinac	Saka	Elneny▮	Willock	Pepe	Nelson	**Nketiah•**	Willian(72)	Ceballos(78)	Bellerin(87)	Saliba	Lacazette	Xhaka	Runarsson			P. Bankes
	Mon 28	Liverpool	1-3 ●	5	BCD	Leno	Bellerin▮	Holding	David Luiz	Tierney	M-Niles	Elneny	Xhaka	Willian	**Lacazette•**	AUBAMEYANG	Ceballos(60)▮	Pepe(68)	Nketiah(74)	Gabriel	Saka	Kolasinac	Runarsson			C. Pawson
OCTOBER	Thur 1	Liverpool	0-0+ ●	CC4	BCD	Leno	Cedric▮	Holding	Gabriel	Kolasinac	Saka	Willock	XHAKA▮	Ceballos	Pepe	Nketiah	Elneny(68)	Lacazette(82)	M-Niles(86)	Tierney	David Luiz	Nelson	Runarsson			K. Friend
	Sun 4	**Sheffield United**	**2-1 ●**	**4**	**BCD**	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	**Saka•**	Elneny	Ceballos	Willian	Nketiah	AUBAMEYANG	**Pepe•**(58)	Xhaka(81)	M-Niles(87)	Willock	Holding	Lacazette	Runarsson			L. Mason
	Sat 17	Manchester City	0-1 ●	5	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Ceballos	Xhaka	Pepe	Willian	AUBAMEYANG	Lacazette(69)	Nketiah(83)	Partey(83)	Elneny	M-Niles	Runarsson				C. Kavanagh
	Thur 22	Rapid Vienna	2-1 ●	MD1	3,000	Leno▮	Cedric	**David Luiz•**	Gabriel	Kolasinac	**Saka**	Elneny	Partey▮	Pepe	LACAZETTE▮	Nketiah▮	Aubameyang(61)•	Bellerin(61)	Tierney(84)	Willock(84)	Nelson(90)	Mustafi	M-Niles	Xhaka	Runarsson	Macey	P. Kralovec
	Sun 25	**Leicester City**	**0-1 ●**	**10**	**BCD**	Leno	Bellerin▮	David Luiz	Gabriel	Tierney	Saka	Ceballos	Partey	Xhaka▮	Lacazette▮	AUBAMEYANG	Mustafi(49)	Pepe(65)	Nketiah(81)	Elneny	M-Niles	Willock	Runarsson			C. Pawson
	Thur 29	**Dundalk**	**3-0 ●**	**MD2**	**BCD**	Runarsson	Cedric	XHAKA	Mustafi	Kolasinac	M-Niles	Elneny	**Willock•**	Nelson	Pepe•	**Nketiah•**	Ceballos(61)	Willian(62)	Tierney(74)	Balogn(74)	Gabriel	Saka	Partey	Aubameyang	Bellerin	Lacazette	Leno	Hein	F. Glova
	Sun 1	Manchester United	1-0 ●	8	BCD	Leno	Bellerin	Holding▮	Gabriel▮	Tierney	Saka	Elneny	Partey	Willian	Lacazette	**AUBAMEYANG*▮**	Nketiah(76)	M-Niles(86)	Mustafi(87)	Xhaka	Pepe	Ceballos	Runarsson			M. Dean
NOVEMBER	**Thur 5**	**Molde**		**MD3**	**8pm**																					
	Sun 8	**Aston Villa**			**7.15pm**																					
	Sun 22	Leeds United			4.30pm																					
	Thur 26	Molde		MD4	5.55pm																					
	Sun 29	**Wolverhampton Wanderers**																								
DECEMBER	**Thur 3**	**Rapid Vienna**		**MD5**	**8pm**																					
	Sun 6	Tottenham Hotspur																								
	Thur 10	Dundalk		MD6	5.55pm																					
	Sun 13	**Burnley**																								
	Wed 16	**Southampton**																								
	Sat 19	Everton																								
	T/W 22/23	**Manchester City**		**QF**																						
	Sat 26	**Chelsea**																								
	Mon 28	Brighton & HA																								
JANUARY	Sat 2	West Bromwich Albion																								
	T/W 5/6	Carabao Cup SF		SF																						
	Sat 9	FA Cup R3		3																						
	T/W 12/13	**Crystal Palace**																								
	Sat 16	**Newcastle United**																								
	Sat 23	FA Cup R4		4																						
	T/W 26/27	Southampton																								
	Sat 30	**Manchester United**																								
FEBRUARY	T/W 2/3	Wolverhampton Wanderers																								
	Sat 6	Aston Villa																								
	T/W 9/10	FA Cup R5		5																						
	Sat 13	**Leeds United**																								
	Thur 18	UEL R32 L1		R32																						
	S/S 20/21	**Manchester City**																								
	Thur 25	UEL R32 L2		R32																						
	S/S 27/28	Leicester City/CC Final																								
MARCH	Sat 6	Burnley																								
	Thur 10	UEL R16 L1		R16																						
	S/S 13/14	**Tottenham Hotspur**																								
	Thur 17	UEL R16 L2		R16																						
	S/S 20/21	West Ham United		FAC 6																						
APRIL	**Sat 3**	**Liverpool**																								
	Thur 8	UEL QF L1		QF																						
	S/S 10/11	Sheffield United																								
	Thur 15	UEL QF L2		QF																						
	S/S 17/18	**Fulham**		**FACSF**																						
	Sat 24	**Everton**																								
	Thur 29	UEL SF L1		SF																						
MAY	S/S 1/2	Newcastle United																								
	Thur 6	UEL SF L2		SF																						
	S/S 8/9	**West Bromwich Albion**																								
	T/W 11/12	Chelsea																								
	Sat 15	Crystal Palace/FA Cup Final																								
	Sun 23	**Brighton & HA**																								
	Wed 26	UEFA Europa League Final																								

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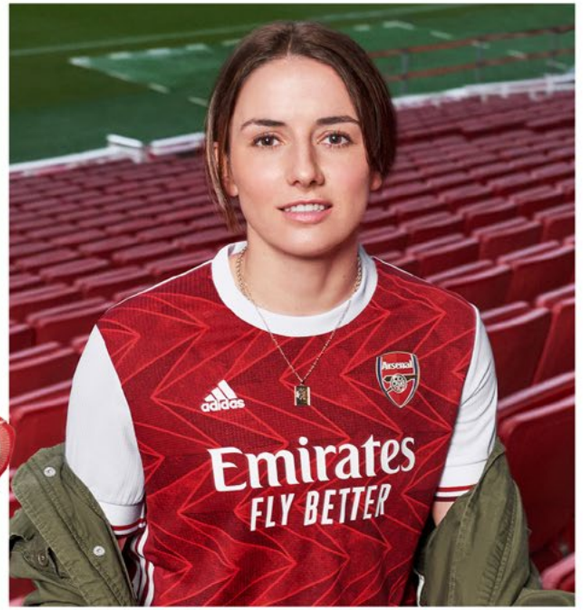
FIXTURES, RESULTS & LINE-UPS

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1. Liverpool	7	5	1	1	2	16
2. Tottenham Hotspur	7	4	2	1	9	14
3. Everton	7	4	1	2	4	13
4. Southampton	7	4	1	2	2	13
5. Wolves	7	4	1	2	0	13
6. Chelsea	7	3	3	1	7	12
7. Aston Villa	6	4	0	2	6	12
8. Leicester City	6	4	0	2	5	12
9. Arsenal	**7**	**4**	**0**	**3**	**2**	**12**
10. Manchester City	6	3	2	1	1	11
11. Newcastle United	7	3	2	2	-1	11
12. Leeds United	6	3	1	2	3	10
13. Crystal Palace	7	3	1	3	-3	10
14. West Ham United	7	2	2	3	3	8
15. Manchester Utd	6	2	1	3	-4	7
16. Brighton & HA	7	1	2	4	-3	5
17. West Brom	6	0	3	3	-8	3
18. Sheffield United	7	0	1	6	-7	1
19. Fulham	6	0	1	5	-9	1
20. Burnley	6	0	1	5	3	1

FIRST-TEAM APPEARANCES (GOALS)

PLAYER	PL	UEL	FAC	CC	CS	20/21
Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang	7(2)	+1(1)	-	-	1(1)	8+1(4)
Hector Bellerin	7	+1	-	+1	1	8+2
Bernd Leno	7	1	-	2	-	10
Gabriel	6(1)	1	-	1	-	8(1)
Kieran Tierney	6	+2	-	-	1	7+2
Willian	6	+1	-	+1	-	6+2
Alexandre Lacazette	5+1(3)	1	-	+1	-	6+2(3)
David Luiz	5+1	1(1)	-	1	1	8+1(1)
Granit Xhaka	5+1	1	-	1	1	8+1
Bukayo Saka	5(1)	1	-	2	1	9(1)
Dani Ceballos	4+2	+1	-	1+1	-	5+4
Mohamed Elneny	4	2	-	1+1	1	8+1
Rob Holding	4	-	-	2	1	7
Ainsley Maitland-Niles	2+2	1	-	1+1	1	5+3
Thomas Partey	2+1	1	-	-	-	3+1
Eddie Nketiah	1+6(1)	2(1)	-	2(1)	1	6+6(3)
Nicolas Pepe	1+5(1)	2(1)	-	2	-	5+5(2)
Sead Kolasinac	1	2	-	2	+1	5+1
Shkodran Mustafi	+2	1	-	-	-	1+2
Cedric Soares	-	2	-	1	+1	3+1
Reiss Nelson	-	1+1	-	1	+1	2+2
Joe Willock	-	1+1(1)	-	2	+1	3+2(1)
Alex Runarsson	-	1	-	-	-	1
Folarin Balogun	-	+1	-	-	-	+1
Emiliano Martinez	-	-	-	-	1	1

ARSENAL ARE HOME



NEW 20/21 HOME KIT
ON SALE IN-STORE & ONLINE

ARSENAL

MANAGER MIKEL ARTETA

RED SHIRTS WITH WHITE SLEEVES, WHITE SHORTS AND SOCKS

P	S	SQ	
○	○	1	BERND LENO (GK)
○	○	2	HECTOR BELLERIN
○	○	3	KIERAN TIERNEY
○	○	4	WILLIAM SALIBA
○	○	5	SOKRATIS PAPASTATHOPOULOS
○	○	6	GABRIEL
○	○	7	BUKAYO SAKA
○	○	8	DANI CEBALLOS
○	○	9	ALEXANDRE LACAZETTE
○	○	10	MESUT OZIL
○	○	12	WILLIAN
○	○	13	ALEX RUNARSSON (GK)
○	○	14	PIERRE-EMERICK AUBAMEYANG
○	○	15	AINSLEY MAITLAND-NILES
○	○	16	ROB HOLDING
○	○	17	CEDRIC SOARES
○	○	18	THOMAS PARTEY
○	○	19	NICOLAS PEPE
○	○	20	SHKODRAN MUSTAFI
○	○	21	CALUM CHAMBERS
○	○	22	PABLO MARI
○	○	23	DAVID LUIZ
○	○	24	REISS NELSON
○	○	25	MOHAMED ELNENY
○	○	28	JOE WILLOCK
○	○	30	EDDIE NKETIAH
○	○	31	SEAD KOLASINAC
○	○	32	EMILE SMITH ROWE
○	○	33	MATT MACEY (GK)
○	○	34	GRANIT XHAKA
○	○	35	GABRIEL MARTINELLI
○	○	38	FOLARIN BALOGUN

Helping young people fulfil their potential through education and sport

The Arsenal Foundation

MOLDE

MANAGER ERLING MOE

BLUE SHIRTS AND SHORTS WITH WHITE SOCKS

P	S	SQ	
○	○	1	ANDREAS LINDE (GK)
○	○	2	MARTIN BJORNBAK
○	○	3	BIRK RISA
○	○	5	SHERIFF SINYAN
○	○	6	STIAN GREGERSEN
○	○	7	MAGNUS WOLFF EIKREM
○	○	9	MATTIAS MOSTROM
○	○	10	LEKE JAMES
○	○	11	MARTIN ELLINGSEN
○	○	12	ALEXANDRO CRANINX (GK)
○	○	14	ERLING KNUDTZON
○	○	15	TOBIAS CHRISTENSEN
○	○	16	ETZAZ HUSSAIN
○	○	17	FREDRIK AURSNES
○	○	19	EIRIK HESTAD
○	○	20	HENRY WINGO
○	○	22	OLA BRYNHILDSEN
○	○	23	EIRIK ULLAND ANDERSEN
○	○	26	MATHIAS RANMARK (GK)
○	○	27	MARCUS HOLMGREN PEDERSEN
○	○	28	KRISTOFFER HAUGEN
○	○	30	MATHIS BOLLY
○	○	34	OLIVER PETERSEN (GK)
○	○	37	OLE SEBASTIAN SUNDGOT
○	○	40	ADRIAN UGELVIK
○	○	43	LLOYD ADRIAN DAHLE FAGERLIE
○	○	44	JACOB JACOBSEN BOLSO
○	○	46	OLA HOEL LERVIK (GK)
○	○	47	SIMEN BECK
○	○	49	DAVID SISSOKO
○	○	54	MATHIAS FJORTOFT LOVIK
○	○	99	OHI OMOIJUANFO

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE
Halil Umit Meler (Turkey)

ASSISTANT REFEREES
Ibrahim Caglar Uyarcan (Turkey)
Martin Margaritov (Bulgaria)

FOURTH OFFICIAL
Bahattin Simsek (Turkey)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

5.55pm unless stated

GROUP A
Roma v CFR Cluj
Young Boys v CSKA Sofia (8pm)

GROUP B
Rapid Vienna v Dundalk

GROUP C
H. Beer-Sheva v Bayer Leverkusen
Slavia Prague v Nice

GROUP D
Lech Poznan v Standard Liege
Benfica v Rangers

GROUP E
PAOK Salonika v PSV
O. Nicosia v Granada

GROUP F
Rijeka v Napoli
Real Sociedad v AZ

GROUP G
Leicester v Braga (8pm)
Zorya v AEK (8pm)

GROUP H
Celtic v Sparta Prague (8pm)
Milan v Lille (8pm)

GROUP I
Sivasspor v FK Qarabag
Villarreal v Maccabi Tel Aviv (8pm)

GROUP J
Ludogorets v Tottenham
R. Antwerp v LASK (8pm)

GROUP K
Dynamo Zagreb v Wolfsberg (8pm)
Feyenoord v CSKA (8pm)

GROUP L
Hoffenheim v Slovan Liberec (8pm)
Red Star v Gent (8pm)

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