

A WALK IN

Jason returns to haunt Hatters

CHAMBERS MADE:
York's Ashley
Chambers celebrates
his first goal
PICTURES: Gareth Owen



By **Stuart Hammonds**

GARY MILLS saw his York side produce some sexy football to end Luton's unbeaten start to the season – then promised wife Sue a treat in bed this morning.

For the second Saturday in a row, the Minstermen were 3-0 up by half-time against a table-topping side and, just like at Wrexham last week, Mrs Mills was promised a Sunday morning cuppa – with something saucy thrown in.

After Ashley Chambers scored twice and ex-Hatter Jason Walker the other to remind travelling fans what they lost in the summer, Mills said: "Yes, the wife will get a cuppa and she might get a sausage sandwich as well this week. I shouldn't say that actually. I should say bacon, shouldn't I?"

It was nice to close a clash between these two clubs with smiles. Since the acrimonious end to the 2009-10 play-off semi-final at Kenilworth Road, all we've talked about is police, prison, postponements and plenty of petty little things that take away from two top footballing teams going head-to-head in Non-League's top-flight.

The only coins worth mentioning here were the 60,000 little gold ones City paid to lure Walker north after he failed to settle in Bedfordshire following his switch from Barrow last term.

He came within a lick of paint of taking Luton back into the Football League in the play-off final against AFC Wimbledon in May, when a last-minute header hit the post.

But sometimes the margins between hero and villain are that thin, and when his chipped shoot-out penalty was easily saved by the Don's Seb Brown, his exit was always likely to be the best way forward.

"He's come here and no disrespect, but I think Jason is probably better with a less pressurised club where he can enjoy his football a bit more," said Luton manager Gary Brabin.

And enjoying himself Walker most certainly is. His ninth-minute flick-on from goalkeeper Michael Ingham's long kick enabled Jamie Reed and Patrick McLaughlin to set up Chambers, who curled a left-footer into the far corner from 18 yards.

MATCH STATS	
YORK v LUTON	
6 SHOTS ON TARGET	4
7 SHOTS OFF TARGET	4
5 CORNERS	5
3 OFFSIDE	2
11 FOULS CONCEDED	17
2 YELLOW CARDS	3
0 RED CARDS	0

YORK CITY: 4-3-3: Ingham 7, Challenor 7, McGuire 7, Pyfield 7, Meredith 7, Kerr 7, Burtwell 6, McLaughlin 6, Reed 7 (Mills 66, 68), Chambers 8 (Hall 76, 78), Walker 9 (Harrison 80). Subs not used: Smith, Parlane.

LUTON: 4-3-3: Tyrer 6, Keane 7, Antwi 5, Kivuvu 6, Howells 6, Lawless 6 (Mokone 46, 65), Harrell 6, Kinsack 5 (O'Connor 45, 55), Clarke 6, Williams 6, Farnsworth 6 (Cox 80, 85). Subs not used: Aspin, Adjei, Pilkington.

THE PARK!

and sends Mills' pulses racing

Reed wasted two glorious chances to increase the lead before Walker did just after the half-hour, swivelling to fire a right-foot shot across Mark Tyler from just inside the area.

The ex-Hatter didn't celebrate, but how his team-mates and the home faithful did. "Easy easy" they chanted, before breaking out in a rendition of "There's only one Jason Walker".

It seemed like there were more than one out there because the little Cumbrian was winning everything in the air, pulling off clever little back-heels and, together with fellow frontmen Reed and Chambers, giving Hatters centre-half Will Austin nightmares.

The ex-Dagenham defender failed to clear his lines just before the break, getting the ball to Chambers. He sent Walker scampering forward,

then made his way inside to volley home the striker's delicious cross.

The Hatters had been completely over-run in midfield and Brabin responded by dragging off John Paul Kinsack before the whistle.

Alex Lawless, already booked against his former club, did not appear for the second half

after breaking his hand and although the isolated Stuart Fleetwood created a chance for Jamie Hand before Jake Howells and Janos Kovacs went close, it was the hosts who continued to threaten most.

Andre Boucaud and Scott Kerr were untouchable in midfield but Walker remained the main threat,

clipping the crossbar with an audacious 54th-minute chip before going close when meeting Chambers' cross at the near post.

Subbed in the 90th minute to a standing ovation from the majority of the crowd – including one of the travelling Luton directors – Walker had been outstanding, though he wasn't alone as York walked merrily into the play-off places.

In contrast, it was Luton's first defeat in 17 games over 90 minutes since losing 1-0 at Bootham Crescent in April.

Brabin said: "We've had all records broken today. It's not great and we are disappointed, but it's still early days. We know we've got a lot of improving to do."

STAR MAN: Jason Walker (York)
ATT: 3,570
ENTERTAINMENT: *****
REF RATING: Tony Harrington 7/10



"Yes, the wife will get a cuppa and she might get a sausage sandwich as well this week. I should say bacon though shouldn't I?"

GARY MILLS, York manager

"We've had all records broken today. It's not great and we're disappointed. We know we've got a lot of improving to do."

GARY BRABIN, Luton manager



WALK ON: Ex-Hatter Jason Walker sets up a York attack