
It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Mr Hoo Haa Harry - 01-05-2008 15:45

Do do do doo, do do do do dooo!

I have keeping my powder dry on the official FA Cup Final thread but the rosettes are in the club shop now so here it is.

As I will not get married again and will have no more children this is likely to be the most exciting day of the rest of my life (unless any of my children play professional sport and/or represent Wales at anything).

I so so so so want us not to be humiliated. I mean I really really really want us to win , like but I want us to make a game of it because this is the first time ever that Cardiff City will be, for a few short hours, at the epicentre of world sport (I know the Cup Final may be lower profile than in the past but is there anything that day that can match it?)

How often is the average adult male meant to think about sex? Every 12 minutes or something? That sounds like how often I have thought about the Final in recent weeks, and sometimes those thoughts last for longer than 12 minutes and I am due to start another one.

It is too, too exciting and I still have over a fortnight left. I might explode.

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Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 01-05-2008 16:08

do we have any pompey fans on here?

I watched the CL semi in a pub in windsor last night, forgot the landlaord was pompey. Hadnt been in there for over a year and he now has a huge england flag with the pompey crest on, name of the pub and Windsor hanging on the wall.

even the lighters he sells has 'Pompey supporters club - Windsor'

He is of course the only Pompey fan in there

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Parsons - 01-05-2008 16:16

I don't think any Portsmouth supporters have made themselves known in the time I've been on here, maybe the WSC.com-era influx will flush out a few?

Otherwise it's all going to be a bit one-sided on here and I did enjoy the Boro, WBA and Barnsley perspectives in the past few rounds.

I am going to blub like a big fat baby when they play 'Abide with Me', it is as inevitable as the lid of the cup being worn on the head of the winning team's "joker".

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fausto Ptang - 01-05-2008 16:20

I was in Cardiff on Saturday and I was caught up in Cup Final fever. Street vendors selling flags, rosettes and thos annoying horns. More CCFC shirts than Liverpool, Chelsea or Man Utd shirts.

Like many people in Swansea I am split between wanting Cardiff to win and wanting them to be humiliated. I've decided that I want them to win. I don't think they will be humiliated. They're too good a team for that.

So come on the Welsh team. Do us proud and I am extremely jealous. I hope you Cardiff supporters on here have a great day and I hope that the day doesn't disappoint.

(There - that wasn't too hard was it?)

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Parsons - 01-05-2008 16:32

I don't think they will be humiliated.They're too good a team for that.

Sometimes we are, on other occasions...er, not so much.

Like I said before the quarter-final, it's the cliché that we need almost all of our players to play to their absolute utmost and a good chunk of Portsmouth's to have off days. Boro obliged so I'm hoping it can happen twice in the campaign (ooh look, we're having a Cup "campaign" now, not a "run").

We also need Paul bloody Parry fit and for Aaron Ramsey to show everything we think he's got (in so doing sealing a summer move probably, as is the way of these things).

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Villain - 01-05-2008 17:40

Well I'll be supporting Cardiff on the day.

Can you lads knock together a 'Beginners guide to Supporting Cardiff City' for us please?

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Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Villain - 01-05-2008 17:44

Oh, and whats Villain in Welsh?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 01-05-2008 17:44

sure

this video should help

<http://welshfootball.blogspot.com/2008/04/cardiff-city-superstars-wembley-mix.html#links>

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 01-05-2008 21:08

this is likely to be the most exciting day of the rest of my life

Come on, Harry, you might surprise yourself one day with a wank.

Actually, I am extremely jealous of you Cardiff boys, but I know what it's like to go to Wembley as a Second Division side....and win. God, it was brilliant. 28 years on I still have the flag (which I dug out for the final with Liverpool) and all the newspaper cuttings. It was a month when things don't get any better. And they haven't.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by stevep - 01-05-2008 22:04

Harry Parsons wrote:

I don't think any Portsmouth supporters have made themselves known in the time I've been on here, maybe the WSC.com-era influx will flush out a few?

Otherwise it's all going to be a bit one-sided on here and I did enjoy the Barnsley, WBA and Barnsley perspectives in the past few rounds.

I am going to blub like a big fat baby when they play 'Abide with Me', it is as inevitable as the lid of the cup being worn on the head of the winning team's "joker".

consider myself flushed out.

greetings from melbourne.

i am flying back for the final along with 50 of us pompey down under types.

looking forward to a fun day and hopefully a good game..

cheers.

steve.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by willie1foot - 01-05-2008 22:43

Have a great trip Steve, and welcome to the board from another 'Down Under' member.

Our club will be having our traditional pre-match curry at Nody's then heading down to The Robin Hood to watch the game. I think I'm swinging towards Cardiff as my preferred winner.

One of our club's Chelsea-supporting players mentioned in the regular 'banter' emails that fly around "Portsmouth v Cardiff, cor that'll be a rip roaring game.....yawn"; I assume because it doesn't have one of the 'top 5' in it. Given that the majority of FA Cup finals involving 'top 5' clubs that have been played in my living memory have been about as exciting as watching paint dry, I'm quietly confident that this will be a cracker.

Well I hope so anyway.....

Best of luck to both sets of supporters on here.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by tratorello - 02-05-2008 00:12

I know it's unlikely but I really, really hope that the FA Cup Final gets tonnes more viewers than the Champions League Final so that hopefully the media will realise that football isn't just about the 'Big Four'.

Not sure who to support but I will be watching with interest, which is more than can be said for last years snoozefest.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by stevep - 02-05-2008 00:40

willie1foot wrote:

Have a great trip Steve, and welcome to the board from another 'Down Under' member.

Our club will be having our traditional pre-match curry at Nody's then heading down to The Robin Hood to watch the game. I think I'm swinging towards Cardiff as my preferred winner.

One of our club's Chelsea-supporting players mentioned in the regular 'banter' emails that fly around "Portsmouth v

Cardiff, cor that'll be a rip roaring game.....yawn"; I assume because it doesn't have one of the 'top 5' in it. Given that the majority of FA Cup finals involving 'top 5' clubs that have been played in my living memory have been about as exciting as watching paint dry, I'm quietly confident that this will be a cracker.

Well I hope so anyway.....

Best of luck to both sets of supporters on here.

thanks for the welcome mate..i do hope its a good game..otherwise it will be slagged for no big '4' etc.
on a side note pompey down under are playing cardiff down under this saturday at Blacktown.
will post the result..
PUP..

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Nogoalsnoglory - 02-05-2008 02:07

Harry's right. It will be the greatest day of his life, especially if they win.

I can remember every single aspect of the whole day in 1978 - something I can't even claim about my wedding or the birth of the kids, where the memories are of course wonderful but nowhere near as detailed.

It was the high point in a relationship with a club that completely dominated the formative years of my life.

I hope everyone has a great day. It is fantastic that different sets of supporters are getting to experience it.

My only advice is to at some stage step back and really let it all soak in.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Parsons - 02-05-2008 10:20

stevep wrote:

consider myself flushed out.
greetings from melbourne.
i am flying back for the final along with 50 of us pompey down under types.

Hmmm, Bluebirds Down Under have been given exactly 50 tickets by the club and are flying that number back as well.

I do hope you're not all on the same flight.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by EIM - 02-05-2008 10:28

How come you lot can get from Australia to London for the FA Cup final, yet I can't get to fucking Manchester on Saturday for our playoff final?

Fucking England, man.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Hot Orangey Thing - 02-05-2008 10:47

If and when the final has a quiet five minutes, or there's a misplaced pass, and the commentators hint at the lack of excitement and quality being down to the lack of big-fourness of the clubs involved, I hope someone reminds them about last year's final.

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Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Parsons - 02-05-2008 11:00

Well, I could try that for my banner?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 03-05-2008 19:31

harry, we have great seats top tier near the front a banner would be great

"sorry world for for not being big 4, just remember though how bad last years final was. FTB4"

we could be modern day heroes, just for one day like

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Aldo Simoncini - 03-05-2008 22:50

Villain - In Welsh, it translates to : Direidyn. There's a few different ones to be honest, but to me, that sounds the most apt.

Hope this helps!

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Bored Of The Dance - 03-05-2008 23:21

Sorry to do this in the atmosphere of bonhomie, stevep, but you didn't post the result

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south_east/7380948.stm

Of course, the real match will be the reverse result now I have posted it.

A big-name OTFers cousin is flying back from Oz to be with us and I have just realised that I haven't checked with my Dad that he is driving me up.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Villain - 04-05-2008 00:12

Cheers for that Aldo, I'll be doing a name change for that week. Not that any will notice.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mnb098mnb - 04-05-2008 00:44

rick derris wrote:
harry, we have great seats top tier near the front a banner would be great

Something unpleasant about Alan Green would go down well I feel.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by stevep - 04-05-2008 01:00

just saw the result of the 'down under game'
the shape of things to come perhaps.
well played the cardiff lads..

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Parsons - 06-05-2008 09:49

But for the fact the whole issue has been sullied by one of the very poor "unofficial" Cup Final songs I would have suggested "Are you watching Leighton James?" for a banner. Had the FA not been so accomodating with our anthem I'd probably be planning something nasty about the queen.

In reality, I am not going to go to all the hassle of making a banner even if it wasn't sure to be confiscated by stewards given Wembley's strict rules on them.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Parsons - 07-05-2008 13:20

Excitement having overridden my critical faculties I have now decided I like the Official Cup Final Song (number 18 in today's official midweek chart, pop-pickers).

The other contributory factor may be the fact that one of my favourite players Kevin McNaughton is wearing a Danger Mouse costume throughout the video. This is for reasons unexplained but that I can only guess must be due to the fact that he already has an exclusive contract with another record label he cannot be seen to be breaking.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Parsons - 12-05-2008 11:46

When was the last time two cities (I presume Portsmouth is doing the same?) geared up for the FA Cup Final like it was a truly important expression of civic pride?;

BBC Wales mental trailer

Poor quality "street furniture"

What was the last Top Twenty FA Cup Final single?

Players actually recording their own songs

The obligatory commemorative FA Cup inflatable farm animals;

<http://i27.photobucket.com/albums/c199/scottpeterthomas/baaa.jpg>

Dear oh dear oh dear;

<http://www.cardiffcity.com/wills.jpg>

It is going to be a long long week.

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Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by EIM - 12-05-2008 11:49

Now that is a proper cup final record. It has it all.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Lyra - 12-05-2008 16:30

This thread is making me ever so nostalgic for 2003.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Mercedes Actros - 12-05-2008 17:47

How about "OTF FAT JERRYL" as the banner?

Come on Cardiff (and I'm a Bristol City Fan). Let the world be full of peace and harmony.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mnb098mnb - 12-05-2008 18:30

Harry Parsons wrote:

BBC Wales mental trailer

It's at times like this all sorts of people out of the woodwork. I knew he was from Monmouth but I hadn't realised Henry V was a Cardiff City fan.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mnb098mnb - 12-05-2008 22:23

A grainy picture of a tearful Elton at the '84 Cup Final.

<http://img67.imageshack.us/img67/1302/eltonrk0.jpg>

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 13-05-2008 11:05

Er, gulp!

<http://i292.photobucket.com/albums/mm14/Delberto7/wembley2.jpg>

<http://i292.photobucket.com/albums/mm14/Delberto7/wembley1-5.jpg>

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by King Mob - 13-05-2008 13:24

The FA Cup Final, and at last, it's not only not between two of the big four, but one of the teams isn't even from the Premier League... and yet, given those criteria, I can't think of two teams I care less about than Cardiff and Partsmouth. Not in a 'I hate them' way, you understand, I just can't think of a reason to have positive or negative feelings towards either of them. Pity, really. Never mind.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Janik - 13-05-2008 19:40

It's worse for me. I kinda don't like either of them. The semis were rather disappointing from that perspective (as well as the poor quality of both games). I could really have enjoyed a West Brom-Barnsley final.

Even so, I'm definitely going to watch the game. For the first time for years.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by stevep - 14-05-2008 07:23

well,not long till i head to the airport.
24hrs time arrive heathrow.
looking forward to a great day out for everyone.
cheers.
steve.
play up pompey.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by statto99 - 14-05-2008 10:31

If there are any London-based Cardiff fans on here who would like to answer a few questions by email that I would then publish on the website I write for please drop me a PM.

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Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by statto99 - 14-05-2008 12:26

Many thanks, folks - vacancy filled!

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Pretend Best Friend - 16-05-2008 09:11

I got sent this link this morning which is rather good.

ftp://84.201.168.162/GAME_ON.FINAL.pdf

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 16-05-2008 09:21

rick, PM for you

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 16-05-2008 10:44

Cardiff fans- what's the chance of Brummie Ultonian- Norwegian Tony Capaldi playing?

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mnb098mnb - 16-05-2008 11:46

Capaldi will play. He is Cardiff's major goal threat after setting up goals in the Quarter Final and Semi Final.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by statto99 - 16-05-2008 11:53

You may be interested in this interview:

http://londonist.com/2008/05/fa_cup_final_a.php

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 16-05-2008 12:12

leave the pub at one? i wasnt planning on being there much before that

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 16-05-2008 14:04

mnb098mnb wrote:

Capaldi will play. He is Cardiff's major goal threat after setting up goals in the Quarter Final and Semi Final.

His "throw is top draw"

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 16-05-2008 14:18

Thanks chaps. Bit of a change from 1927, when there were three ex/ future Crues stalwarts in your team.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 16-05-2008 16:29

It's tomorrow, you know.

I am really very , very excited but the one tiny flaw is that my rosette never turned up from the club shop. Though if it is in the post tomorrow I will take it as some kind of omen, of what I'm not sure.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Mr Kite - 16-05-2008 17:21

I'm so pleased this match is big 4 free. I have no axe to grind with either team, so am just looking forward to enjoying a (I hope) decent game of attacking football. First goal around 20 minutes please chaps...

I had an excellent beery chat with my missus' best mate's Cardiff supporting bloke, so I guess just tip my hat to them in the supporting stakes, although I am enjoying the (strange) grindless axe feeling (won't last). I'm even optimistic that it will banish the memory of last year's horror show.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 16-05-2008 21:31

Good luck to all the Cardiff boys!!

I have got a horrible feeling it's not going to be on the telly here in Spain. Can any of the OTF Spanish Armada prove me wrong?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 16-05-2008 21:47

Hey ant259!

As far as searching the La Sexta website goes, it appears they have no coverage of the match tomorrow ... I assume they are the only channel who would possibly have the rights?? ... The story was, I think, that they didn't show the semifinals because the teams weren't big enough ... Looks like an expensive beery trip down to an Irish bar tomorrow afternoon ...

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Lodzubelieveit - 16-05-2008 21:49

It's definitely on Radio Marca's Marcador Internacional, that I've recommended a few times before, but no TV as far as I can see ...

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Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 16-05-2008 21:58

Bollocks. Bollocks. BOLLOCKS!!!

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 16-05-2008 23:16

its ok ant. will send you texts from wembley

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Broken Clock - 16-05-2008 23:28

Im in the Cardiff camp as well.

Im hoping itll be a bit more entertaining than last years although Im expecting to have to turn off the commentary after five minutes or so.

Best of luck.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Mercedes Actros - 17-05-2008 01:29

Allez Cardiffe!

Come on Cardiff. Tomorrow is a proper cup final day. What suits will the lads be wearing? Do you think you can win the It's a Knockout? Is your captain photogenic, because he's going to have to tell us all about "the lads" in that pre-match video summary? Can you manage to "enjoy the day" without getting pissed before 8 in the morning? Can you get an honest and informed summary from the "expert panel" without any cliches and reference to any premier league kwalitie shite?

Will you remember this day forever? Will this day be unforgettable for some 8 year old boys who manage to watch the game without a pissed up dad telling them what the FA cup meant to them when they were boys? (Thankyou Dad, I finally appreciate you for your egoless non-interference).

I will enjoy this FA Cup final like no other in the past 10 years. Come on Cardiff.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Gambrinus - 17-05-2008 05:36

Does anyone know where I can watch this online (probably illegally)? I'm stuck without a car in a rather small rural town in New Zealand...

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 07:02

Yes, I'm probably going to need to watch it online, too. Can someone please suggest an idiot-proof way of doing it?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 17-05-2008 07:23

<http://www3.myp2p.eu/broadcast.php?matchid=12375&part=sports>

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Gambrinus - 17-05-2008 10:00

Ta, rick. Er, do I have to do anything with it, or will it just work automatically?

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ursus arctos - 17-05-2008 10:10

If you are trying to use a Sopcast or TVAnts stream, you will need to download the client first. Look at the "software" page on the site that rick linked to.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 17-05-2008 10:17

Roger Johnson is in a bullish mood.

Mind you, he's a confident lad isn't he? I was idly flicking through the channels and happened across one of those "how we have sex" type programs on Channel Five and as well as Bianca Gascoigne, Br'er Johnson and his current female accompaniment were on discussing all things bedroom.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by sixmartletsandaseagull - 17-05-2008 10:30

Come on Cardiff!

As a Brighton fan Pompey winning the cup will bring back bad memories of the other south coast "giant" Saints victory in 76. Brrr!

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by twohundredpercent - 17-05-2008 10:57

Another vote for Cardiff here, primarily because I know how much it would mean to the guys on here.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by SamLKelly - 17-05-2008 11:52

Cardiff for me, because... well, because I'll be watching it with a friend (a United fan like myself), her boyfriend - who doesn't have much interest in football but is from Cardiff - and one of my other mates who's a Southampton fan.

Also, a Big Four-less final is great, but for a non-Prem team to win the whole thing would be even bloody better. I can overlook the fact that I don't especially like Cardiff City the rest of the time easily enough if that happens.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Bombanero - 17-05-2008 12:17

I'm supporting Cardiff too, Peter Enckelman to be the hero with a penalty save. Might encourage someone in Finland to treat the Championship TV rights with a little more consideration next year. And it'll be great to see a non-Premiership team win it, too.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 17-05-2008 12:47

I only want Cardiff to win because derris' pissed-up posts afterwards will probably be OTF Gold.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by SamLKelly - 17-05-2008 12:50

Just watched a few minutes of the buildup on the TV in the tea room (I'm doing overtime, finishing at 2:50), and Neil Kinnock was on. Mark Lawrenson was sitting stock still next to him, looking like he very badly wanted to come out with all kinds of terrible jokes, but just didn't have the guts to do it to a Lord Of The Realm.

They then put Kinnock's caption up when Steve Waugh came up, so we had the sight of a former Aussie cricketer introduced as 'Lord Neil Kinnock - Former Labour Party leader'.

I know it's one of the great traditions of watching the thing on TV, but I swear the buildup was never this entertaining when I was a kid...

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 17-05-2008 13:06

Who was the youngish guy who did that film just now about being a Cardiff City supporter in a rugby-obsessed region etc? It was really good.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 17-05-2008 13:51

Impressive generation-spanning double cleavage there for "Abide With Me". Pity Katherine Jenkins' microphone wasn't switched on.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by twohundredpercent - 17-05-2008 14:02

I always think of "Son Of My Father" by Chicory Tip when I hear the name "Land Of My Fathers". In a similar vein, I now have a verbal tic that makes me suggest that Tony Capaldi is the son of the former Traffic drummer, Jim Capaldi, whenever I hear his name mentioned.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by robw - 17-05-2008 14:12

Nice camera work cutting to a man holding up the flag of Ulster during the national anthem.

Lively game so far.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Lyra - 17-05-2008 14:14

I thought I could watch, but I can't. I'm just not confident enough.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by robw - 17-05-2008 14:16

Deflected shot from Whittingham. Might not have been going in but Cardiff have started strongly and Pompey look as poor as they have been for the last month or so.

More happening in 15 minutes of this Final than the entire 120 of last years

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 14:30

Well, I'm watching it on a SopCast thingy. Or trying to. What sort of quality should I be expecting? It's a bit flickery, to say the least...good game, though -Cardiff have had the best of the opening half hour.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Jimski - 17-05-2008 14:31

John Motson just claimed that Portsmouth's 8th place this season was their "best ever". Is he working for Sky these days or something?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by twohundredpercent - 17-05-2008 14:33

Have a look down the bottom of here, Ant:

<http://www.myp2p.eu/broadcast.php?matchid=12375&part=sports>

The ones marked "mediaplayer" should just play in your normal browser.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by robw - 17-05-2008 14:41

Motty seems a little confused by Kanu's goal celebration there. Enkelman is fucking shit isn't he?

Still quite an open game, Parry should have done better with that final ball.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 14:47

Motty did it in 1980: "Oh...and is it a goal? It is!". Totally ruined it then, and totally ruined it again now.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by gerontophile - 17-05-2008 14:50

Portsmouth got away with that: James knocked the ball on to the guys arm.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by robw - 17-05-2008 14:51

Ooo what a let off. Definite handball but what the fuck is James doing? Hasn't he had enough trouble with crosses at Cup Finals?

Decent game, pretty open. Cardiff just need a bit more quality in the final third.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by twohundredpercent - 17-05-2008 14:52

Neither goalkeeper covering themselves in glory, there. Good first half, mind. I still think that Cardiff can get back into this.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Broken Clock - 17-05-2008 14:55

Motson embarrassed himself again didnt he? Goodish game so far. Can Cardiff score twice though? Tough on Sean Bean having his goal disallowed.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by The_Liquidator - 17-05-2008 14:56

Impressive generation-spanning double cleavage there for "Abide With Me". Pity Katherine Jenkins' microphone wasn't switched on.

Hahaha, look at what I posted elsewhere.

That's a fantasy threesome right there - spanning the generations.

Great minds man, great minds.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ursus arctos - 17-05-2008 14:57

We don't get Motty. Instead we have someone I don't know and Ray Clemence. At least he knew it was a goal.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by sixmartletsandaseagull - 17-05-2008 14:59

ant259: I am watching on sopcast on StarSports. It is pretty good qulaity and there is no flickering. My understanding is that the more people that watch a stream the better the quality. Though I am not a technical man and that may be crap.

If the pompey gits were going to score I'd rather Kanu's sumptuous turn and glide round the keeper had gone in.

Far from over I think. I am enjoying it.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Cavalry Trousers Tips - 17-05-2008 14:59

According to Shearer, Parry has been pulling off Campbell time and time again.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by The_Liquidator - 17-05-2008 15:04

'Paul Parry's pulling off Sol Campbell time and time again.'

Alan Shearer, May 2008.

More great minds action.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Cavalry Trousers Tips - 17-05-2008 15:07

We're just reading 40% and copying you Liq.

(I presume that's where you are)

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 15:12

Those StarSports sites don't work for me. I'm on Utd4Life. Thanks anyway.

Motty really is a dick, isn't he?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Jimski - 17-05-2008 15:16

I know it's hardly news, but Motson really is crap, isn't he? He just seemed to think Hreidarsson would get a second yellow for a foul by Kranjcar.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by robw - 17-05-2008 15:19

Lawrenson and Motson just have to go after this fucking mess. The BBC report online says it all.

'1616: Poor old Motty's having a nightmare today. He thought the Pompey goal had been disallowed and now he reckons Hermann Hreidarsson should get his second yellow card for a foul... which is actually committed by Niko Kranjcar.'

At least when Murray Walker cocked up he had James Hunt or Martin Brundle putting him right. Lawrenson is just fucking useless.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 17-05-2008 15:23

Go on young Ramsey lad...

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 15:31

Lawrensen: "I think Nugent might be coming on. For Portsmouth, obviously."

I can do tha! Go on, gizza job!

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 15:39

30 minutes into the second half, those corporate seats either side of the benches are still half-empty. I know we've said this before, but that is an absolute scandal.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 15:55

Come on Cardiff!!

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ant259 - 17-05-2008 15:56

Ah, fuck it.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ursus arctos - 17-05-2008 15:57

Yeah.

Condolences to Harry, Rick, PBF, mnb and the whole 1927 club. Really a shame.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by robw - 17-05-2008 15:57

I would have given MOTM to any of the Pompey defence, but Kanu's got it for scoring.

Second half was a bit flat after the open first 45. That Ramsey lad looks impressive but Distin, Campbell and Johnson won everything that Cardiff threw at them.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by twohundredpercent - 17-05-2008 16:02

I would have given it to Roger Johnson, who was absolutely everywhere for Cardiff, and deserves better than a loser's medal.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 17-05-2008 16:03

What an oddly retro FA Cup Final that was. Trevor Sinclair, Milan Baros, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink (and almost Robbie Fowler), not to mention David James and Sol Campbell. I swear if it had gone to extra time, Tony Cottee and Robert Lee would have come on for someone or other.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by twohundredpercent - 17-05-2008 16:05

Two players with completely grey hair in the Cardiff team, too.

Anyway, a decent enough game - tough lines to the Cardiff mob. Portsmouth just about shaded it, though.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by King On The Rye - 17-05-2008 16:07

Why are they playing pop music as Pompey lift the cup? Why have they ruined everything?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 17-05-2008 16:12

Oh my god, they're playing Mike Oldfield's "Portsmouth"! I thought I was gonna look up and see Blue Tulip Rose Read barking like a dog.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by King Mob - 17-05-2008 16:12

A thoroughly engrossing 90 minutes of what will surely go down as the 'Peter Whittingham wiping the ball on his shirt' Cup Final.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 17-05-2008 16:15

Can barely hear Hansen et. al. for Jeff Beck

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mafu - 17-05-2008 16:19

i thought capaldi did most of the wiping. like riise and a few others, he should have a panel of towelling built into his shirt
crap game i thought, only the fact the cardiff were still in it to the end was in its favour

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Kowalski - 17-05-2008 16:22

Yeah, last year's was much better

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by ad hoc - 17-05-2008 16:25

Great shame. Does English football have a more revolting combination on a bench than the Harry Rednapp / Tony Adams duo? Eeuurggh. It quite puts you off your tea, seeing those two on the screen.

That premiership cynicism really shone out didn't it - every time Cardiff had a counter they just got hacked down at the half way line.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by battylad - 17-05-2008 16:30

Was it over confidence of the cup engraver to be writing Portsmouths name ont he cup with 4 mins plus stoppage to play? Congrates to the Pompey fans on the board and comissorations to the Cardiff ones - at least you got 2 no doubt expensive days out at Wembley this season I guess. Just had confirmation of my tickets for next week and I would very much take a scrappy 1-0 win next Sunday...

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Broken Clock - 17-05-2008 16:31

Commiserations to the Cardiff boys. Although Pompey just shaded it for me. It was ten times better than last years final and Im predicting it'll be better than next wednesdays affair as well.

Ledley & Ramsey look as good as their hype suggests, its the first time Ive seen them and Im impressed. I hope a stretch in the reserve team of a big 4 club isnt their next move though. Ramsey looks about 30 as well tbh.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by E10 Rifle - 17-05-2008 16:43

Shame Cardiff sort of ran out of steam in the second half, and were too jittery in front of goal, but still a better final than four of the previous five - and miles better than last year's of course, as others have said.

Commiserations to the Cardiff crew

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mafu - 17-05-2008 16:49

last year was awful i agree but i fail to see how this was that much better, unless it was purely for the novelty of seeing some different teams there

as for other recent finals, liverpool v west ham and man utd v arsenal were both far better games

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Crusoe - 17-05-2008 17:07

Christ, what was going on with Tony Adams' face? It was like his skin was trying to slink away out of depression; he's going to be one ugly old man.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 17-05-2008 17:36

He's never exactly been Brad Pitt as a young man.

Anyway, it was a pity that both teams - and it was both teams, to be fair - ran out of steam and effort after sixty minutes. I still don't understand why Cardiff's "equalizer" was disallowed just before half time, handball my arse, the ref should have let that stand just to make the second half more of a nailbiter.

(Yeah, yeah, "rules", and all that. Arse. Let's make a spectacle of a game).

It's a pity that tomorrow's papers are going to stress that it was, ultimately, a boring and forgettable final, because there were was more open play and real drama in the first twenty minutes of today than there was in the whole of last year's bore-fest between Man United and Chelsea, the top two teams in Europe over the last twelve months.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by The Moral Animal - 17-05-2008 18:19

Commiserations to Harry, rick, Chairman and the rest; and congratulations to any Portsmouth fans we might have on the board.

I thought Cardiff did about as well as could have been expected, but just missed a few too many of their half-chances. Ramsey looked like he perhaps should have come on a bit earlier, and Hasselbaink was out of legs long before he was taken off.

I watched the game on the big-screen at Cardiff Bay - very nice to see such a properly multicultural crowd down there, which is something you don't really get watching rugby (or football) internationals in Cardiff.

SR: I don't know the name of the guy who did the piece on growing up as a football fan in South Wales, but he presents 'Soccer Sunday' on HTV Wales. From what I could hear, it seemed very good.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by The Moral Animal - 17-05-2008 18:26

Jonathan Owen, apparently.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by statto99 - 17-05-2008 18:37

As many have said, commiserations to the Cardiff folks and congratulations to any Pompey fans on here.

Although it was watchable all the way in retrospect it seems like one of those world title fights where the belt holder is not an explosive puncher but has the edge in experience and reach. They work an opportunity to stagger the lively challenger onto one knee on the canvas in round four of ten. The challenger takes a standing eight count, but is back to normal pretty much straight away and prevents a further counter but the holder does enough long-range jabbing and holding when the challenger does get inside to keep them at bay for a comfortable points victory.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Kowalski - 17-05-2008 18:44

You lot are a tough audience.

It may not have been Brazil V Italy 1982 or Real Madrid v Eintracht but I thought it was very watchable.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by gerontophile - 17-05-2008 18:48

(Commiserations to Cardiff fans. Congrats to Pompey fans)

I think it was an OK game, and I enjoyed it, but that might be because it was one of the few games in my life that I have been entirely neutral.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 17-05-2008 18:51

It was just one of those games where all the real drama and excitement was in the first half.

Nwankwo Kanu should be fucking ashamed of himself for making so much of his fucking tap-in from two yards out to score the goal, my grandmother (who's 91 this year) would have tapped in the one he made a complete arse of himself in missing earlier on. AND she'd have had a better goal celebration for the one she (and he) couldn't have failed to score off Enckleman in the end.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fausto Ptang - 17-05-2008 18:52

Thank God that's over.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 17-05-2008 19:05

The German broadcaster had to show a desperately important handball match, so we had to miss the first 35 minutes.

As luck would have it, we cut in at exactly the moment Kanu scored, and with that weird celebration he did it was hard to make out whether or not the goal stood. Motty should know better, though.

Not the best game ever, but not a complete stinker either and certainly not the worst cup final in recent years. Even so, I doubt that'll stop the broadsheets tomorrow from complaining that if you're going to have cup finals without the elite in them, that's what you're going to get.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 17-05-2008 19:08

Oh, and I thought I was going to be completely neutral, but after seeing one shot too many of that wanker John Portsmouth FC Whatsisname I was firmly in the Bluebird camp.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Big Daves Gussett - 17-05-2008 19:38

Motson was all over the place on the Portsmouth goal.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by robw - 17-05-2008 20:05

What I couldn't fathom at the time was Motty and Lawro banging on about the referee's assistant, as if he'd signaled for some mysterious foul. In the end, they concluded that the assistant might have thought that Kanu handled the ball. An utterly ridiculous excuse given for their cock-up.

Incidentally that comment made by the online BBC reporter of goals and major flashpoints about Motty having a bad day at the office was taken out about 5 minutes after it was posted. Clearly, such a figurehead as Motty can't be criticised.

I wish they'd give Jonathan Pearce the Final next year, and maybe keep Lawro in the studio and have Lee Dixon as the co-commentator.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by gerontophile - 17-05-2008 20:08

When I saw Motson in the studio beforehand, I thought about how I slag the twat off everytime I hear him commentate. So I fellated Rupert instead, and Andy Gray and the other one (Martin Tyler?) were fine. I turned the sound down at half time though (Hodde and Wilkins), I am not that stupid.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Villain - 17-05-2008 22:17

Motto and Lawro are fucking useless. Why the fuck the BBC continue to employ them is beyond me. That booking incident in the second half made folks in the pub I was in look around to see if everyone else had heard he same thing.

Pissed off that Cardiff lost, and comiss etc to the Cardiff fans, but well done any Pompey fans who read this.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 17-05-2008 23:22

just got in

good day etc, thought we had more of the ball and pompey were not that good. 4-5-1 in a cup final against a team a lower divison than you. i didnt see their semi but have it on good account it was similar. still, shouldn't moan.

we didn't really create very much, hasslbank had the good fortune of landing on the biggest thing on the pitch on a regular basis, his arse

shame it was the keepers mistake (he certainly finished out cup final chances)

anyway, we got there. doubt very much it will happen again in my life time. I have manged to get my free wembley flag home in one piece. will show it to my daughter when she is 25

got to be honest, straight out on the final whistle unlike most city fans. no trouble as far as i know (apart from a few pompey on the city end who went up when they scored). all pompey fans i met were spot on

got some good photos

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by SamLKelly - 17-05-2008 23:25

Rogin the Armchair Fan wrote:

my grandmother (who's 91 this year) would have tapped in the one he made a complete arse of himself in missing earlier on.

Could she have danced round the defender and goalie like that to get through on goal in the first place?

robw wrote:

I wish they'd give Jonathan Pearce the Final next year, and maybe keep Lawro in the studio and have Lee Dixon as the co-commentator.

You'll get half your wish - Motty won't be commentating next year. ITV have the rights for the forseeable future.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Jon - 17-05-2008 23:59

i didnt see their semi but have it on good account it was similar.

God yeah, it was a really depressing deja vu of the semi-final for me. Big commiserations to you rick, Harry, cotb and pbf and anyone else I've missed out.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 18-05-2008 01:19

Rogin the Armchair Fan wrote:

It was just one of those games where all the real drama and excitement was in the first half.

Nwankwo Kanu should be fucking ashamed of himself for making so much of his fucking tap-in from two yards out to score the goal, my grandmother (who's 91 this year) would have tapped in the one he made a complete arse of himself in missing earlier on. AND she'd have had a better goal celebration for the one she (and he) couldn't have failed to score off Enckleman in the end.

Oh, come on, it was the opening goal in Portsmouth's first FA Cup Final since Hitler was just a minor faraway nuisance. How do you think he should have reacted?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 18-05-2008 07:12

Fair enough, I suppose, but it wasn't the race toward the crowd, Altobelli-style roar of joy on behalf of the long-suffering fans, was it, nor even the relieved personal expression of joy of a player who has always dreamt of scoring in an Cup Final. It was the "look at me, I'm brilliant, aren't I, and I can dance, too" shuffle that belongs in a Superbowl end zone, not on a football pitch.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 18-05-2008 09:40

Rod Liddle backs Motty

Motson has been the finest television football commentator for the best part of 25 years, and perhaps ever. When he was paired with an expert of the quality of Lawrenson or, better still, Alan Hansen, the BBC wiped the floor with its rivals.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 18-05-2008 10:01

]

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Tactical Genius - 18-05-2008 11:34

Useless Kanu wins cup final.

No doubt Dalliance will come on and cogratulate him.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 18-05-2008 20:15

Can't quite get my head around the whole day yet, perhaps because I haven't recovered and partly because it will take a while to all sink in.

GOOD THINGS;

- The pre-match build-up where I think I saw almost every City fan I have ever spent much time with in our pre-match pub. Old faces from the US, Africa, Australia and all parts of UK & Europe and people who I had never actually met before but knew via the net.

All in a pub we had taken over for the day, the outside of it covered in Cardiff & Wales flags including the huge Red Dragon flag that flew over "old" Wembley, now in the ownership of a 1927 Club member.

- walking down Wembley Way. Though it's actually Olympic Way isn't it? I detoured 15 minutes out of my way to do it but I think your approach to the Cup Final should be like the opening scene to Star Wars.

- Some of the build-up in the ground. The band and the flags are great.

- The anthems, there was some booing of both but much less than I expected. 'Mae Haen Wlad Fyn Hadau' was my unexpected "tearing up" moment (not unexpected because I often do so singing it at major sporting occasions but because I thought I'd already have gone during 'Abide with Me', see below). I was so desperate to show respect for 'GSTQ' that I actually fucking applauded it for the first time in my life.

- Bobby Robson. I had thought it was going to be William Saxe Coburg Gotha meeting the teams and handing over the trophy. This was much better and gave everyone a chance to tell their best Robson gaff stories.

- The teams walking out, the kick-off. Both were real smacks around the head of realisation that it was really happening. Cardiff were in the Cup Final.

- Parts of the game. The opening twenty minutes when we were the better side. Parry making great runs causing problems for Campbell & Distin. Ledley making Glen Johnson look like the "never going to be" useless reject gimp that he is. Our back four mostly playing superbly, particularly Johnson in another EPL worthy display. Aaron Ramsey showing a glimpse of what he might do.

- Our support. A cliché I know but they were excellent, throughout the game and afterwards in actually hanging around to salute our side and applaud Portsmouth's.

- The night after. After a couple of drinks you realise there are far worse feelings in football than losing the Cup Final (in fact you realise this at the final whistle) and you really should go out on a horrendous binge to mark a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

- Realising that our Cup Finals obviously go in cycles so we'll be back in 2010 to win it like we did in 1927 after our 1925 defeat. That's OK then.

BAD THINGS

- Most of the build-up. Unsurprisingly the most choreographed pre and post game I have ever seen. As supporters, you will not, I REPEAT NOT, spontaneously sing or chant anything as we have all of your lines here on our script thank you very much. The terrible "percussion experience" performing on the pitch and all the identikit ladrock music at noise pollution levels for every single minute of the stadium experience except for the actual game.

- Abide with Me. Look, I am going to hear this at a Cup Final for once in my life so if you really have to make it a faux-classical duet (and I would rather you didn't) then give both singers mikes that work. Don't make it so that half the song is feedback and confusion while one of the singers starts "jamming" some kind of banshee wail. Well and truly fucked up.

- Cardiff not making Portsmouth work enough. Not enough shots, not doing anything with superior possession and set-pieces. Not testing the other dodgy keeper on the pitch. Just never (apart an obviously frantic last ten minutes) worrying the opposition after their goal settled them.

- Mike Dean being revealed to be Glen Johnson's biological father. I expect the results of the paternity test to be revealed on 'Trisha' next week. How can you be penalised for fouling the same player five times when he had gone past you and not get at least one booking. "Persistent foul play" anyone?
- Portsmouth just being better than us. They were more cynical and "professional" (their foul count was close to three times ours) but they were also unsurprisingly fitter, sharper and more creative with the ball when they did get it. They weren't THAT much better though and it brings home how you can get to eighth in the EPL without being, you know, all that.
- Enckelman. For fuck's sake, catch the ball once in 90 minutes! I know it's a rainy day, I know it's "a new ball" but you are a goalkeeper and catching things is a rather large part of your job description. His career will now be remembered for two awful errors.
- Hasselbaink. He used to be famous you know, and a forward. No, honest.
- Their goal. If you're going to lose by one goal in the Cup Final, you really don't want it to be to such a weak, spawny one. I know that's how we won our Cup (and did their goalscorer really have to be number 27?) before but it's bloody rubbish.
- Kanu being named MotM. If you didn't give it to Diarra or a Portsmouth central defender you've never watched football. Ever.
- Music over the Cup being presented. Was it bloody Feeder? Can't you just let people cheer and shout and chant their own thing?

Reading the above back it looks too negative actually. I had a fantastic day, I'll remember it for ever and there some massive high points for me that I don't know if I'll ever reach following City again and maybe the whole experience will be a catalyst for the club (and maybe more importantly the fanbase, both active and latent) in years to come.

My hangover is bloody awful though.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 18-05-2008 20:23

Oh, and congratulations to Stevep (and any other Portsmouth lurkers), I presume it made your trip worthwhile.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 18-05-2008 20:51

Cavalry Trouser Tips wrote:
Can barely hear Hansen et. al. for Jeff Beck

A strange replacement for Ian Wright, really.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Pretend Best Friend - 18-05-2008 21:02

I've been looking through the endless pictures from yesterday, and realised how wonderful the whole day was. The post match "depression" lasted for about two pints and then it was all pretty good really.

And we saw club appearance holder Phil Dwyer on the tube from North Wembley back into central London. He was leading the singing too. All absolutely daft, but it cheered me up no end.

I've spent the last two months sorting out tickets for the semi final and final and won't know what to do with my time now it's all over.

On top of it all I have the very pleasant distinction of getting my name into the programme (interview page 41!) which is superb.

The FA Cup is the best.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by The Purple Cow - 18-05-2008 21:28

Back in the day in the mid 1980's, when I still worked at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, I used to occasionally work with a Welsh Consultant who was a fanatical Cardiff City fan.

So one day he and I were doing an E.R.C.P. on an elderly gent, when the Welsh Consultant happens to recognize the Old Bloke's name. (Patient confidentiality prevents me from revealing what it was, but the conversation went as follows.)

W.C. (More than half jokingly) "So are you the Joe XXXXX who played for Arsenal against Cardiff in the 1927 F.A. Cup final?"

O.B. Oh yes, that was me.

W.C. Really?

O.B. Oh yes, I played for the Arsenal for eleven years.

W.C. Well?

O.B. Well, what?

W.C. Was the ball over the line, or not?

O.B. Well, I don't know

Me: What do you mean, you don't know?

O.B. Well, I wasn't looking.

W.C. You weren't looking???

O.B. No, I was talking to my mate.

W.C. How can but.....but....But this was a critical moment in the history of football....How could you not be looking?

O.B. I don't know, I just missed it...

The sheer inadequacy of the response stunned us all into silence.

Here was a guy who had been witness to one of the key incidents in the history of British domestic football and he had missed it because he was 'talking to his mate.'

Anyway that's the story, he had gall-stones nothing worse than that. I see on Wikipedia that he lived another seven years, I'm glad.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Nathan Helena Handcart - 18-05-2008 21:30

Can't you just let people cheer and shout and chant their own thing?

No, they can't. And they can't answer you either. I've asked the last three marketing gimps at the FA why on earth they feel the need to get warblers second-raters to drown out the crowd, and they never give an answer.

I mean, Abide With Me is a hymn, and there were 30000 Welshmen in the house, for fucks sake.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mnb098mnb - 18-05-2008 21:35

When I began watching City we were a Division Three/Four club. In a way I've never really got that out of my mindset. Yesterday was surreal, Cardiff City in a FA Cup Final. I don't think I'll ever truly accept it.

Down Wembley Way they had fairground style pictures where you could push your head through making it look as if you were lifting the FA Cup: <http://img232.imageshack.us/img232/8569/n6940063358557032548ch3.jpg>

I always wonder what happens to all of this stuff (flags used on the pitch / banners outside the ground) after the Cup Final. I once wrote to FIFA asking what happened to the balls used in the World Cup draw when the draw had finished, I had an answer that was deeply unsatisfactory (to me anyway).

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by towohundredpercent - 18-05-2008 21:38

Oh, ha ha ha!

That picture is magnificent!

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 18-05-2008 21:52

The Purple Cow wrote:

W.C. (More than half jokingly) "So are you the Joe XXXXX who played for Arsenal against Cardiff in the 1927 F.A. Cup final?"

O.B. Oh yes, that was me.

W.C. Really?

O.B. Oh yes, I played for the Arsenal for eleven years.

W.C. Well?

O.B. Well, what?

W.C. Was the ball over the line, or not?

I don't think I've ever read or heard of any doubt at the time or since that the ball crossed the line, only if it should have been given as an o.g. for the keeper, Dan Lewis.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 18-05-2008 22:01

The Moral Animal wrote:

SR: I don't know the name of the guy who did the piece on growing up as a football fan in South Wales, but he presents 'Soccer Sunday' on HTV Wales. From what I could hear, it seemed very good.

I've just watched his piece, it is largely excellent but I wish he'd give up with some of his "it's an attitude, two fingers up to the rugby squares, daddy-o" schtick, first aired in the piece below in the Guardian in 2006 along with some other questionable stuff;

There is so much more to being a Cardiff fan than supporting the team. Any Bluebird will tell you we've been nothing but rubbish for decades: the odd promotion from the Fourth Division and winning the old Welsh Cup, but other than that, misery.

Yet to be a Cardiff fan always meant so much more than football. In a rugby-obsessed country, it was a statement of intent. You were different. You belonged to your own tribe. The way you walked, held yourself, dressed, even the music you listened to - it was a whole lifestyle choice.

The club itself became more famous - or infamous - through its fans than its team, and we knew that. Where Manchester United fans sang "you only come for United" to opposing supporters, we knew that people turned out because of us and not our team.

When football went "Sky" after Gazza's tears, Cardiff stayed working-class male while West Ham, Leeds and even Birmingham put in seats and welcomed the families. A Cardiff match was like an away day in 1980s nostalgia: terraces, pay on the gate, special away train and a few pints with the boys.

And then Sam came.

We loved Sam Hammam. He tried to embrace Cardiff and what we were about, but after Leeds in the FA Cup - when a huge TV audience witnessed yet another pitch invasion - things had to change, and change they did.

Cardiff are playing catch-up with the rest of football, yet because of us, the fans, we're the team everyone wants in the Premiership. I spoke to a good friend of mine who is a Liverpool season-ticket holder, and he said: "I'd love to see you lot in the Premiership - a proper club." And I knew what he meant, because we really would thrive in that league.

Now on to Mr Ridsdale. I've no doubt my curly-haired booty James Brown has every reason to be unhappy with how our new chairman departed from Leeds, but my grandfather told me "Always speak as you find" - and Peter Ridsdale has been great for us. He's brought in our manager, Dave Jones, and the striker Michael Chopra - not bad bits of work. He's helped manage the debts and pushed hard for our new stadium, which he says will get final approval by the council next month.

To me, he's the classic poacher turned gamekeeper. The perfect man to know how not to let things spiral out of control. People talk about our debts of £30m - so? Manchester United owe hundreds of millions, Chelsea would go pop tomorrow if the Russian pulled out. Who wanted to be safe old Aston Villa under Doug Ellis, managing their debts and trundling along in mid-table obscurity? Nah, give us a chance to shoot for the stars. We haven't been any good since 1927, so I'll take a season beating Milan, Lazio and Deportivo La Coruña thanks very much.

Some of my closest friends are Leeds fans but what he's done to them is nothing to do with us. As I said, we are our own tribe.

If, by some miracle, we end up in the Premiership with Peter Ridsdale at the helm, that's fine by me. I mean, who better to be in charge of a club which had a dodgy reputation in the past but is now on best behaviour?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by rick derris - 18-05-2008 22:03

place your bets on which OTF 1927er is this? His attire yesterday being based on 1927. seriously

<http://img223.imageshack.us/img223/8905/sl370129vp2.jpg>

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 18-05-2008 22:05

mnb098mnb wrote:

Down Wembley Way they had fairground style pictures where you could push your head through making it look as if you were lifting the FA Cup

I couldn't go near them before the game, worried about cursing us and all that. I'd like one too.

At least I don't have to argue with my wife about my Cup Winners 2008 tattoo and trawl e-bay for a full-size replica of the Cup now though.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by gerontofiel - 18-05-2008 22:07

I guess the Chairman.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 18-05-2008 22:43

Fred Keenor wrote:

I've just watched his piece, it is largely excellent ...

Did you tape it or is it actually online somewhere?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Nogoalsnoglory - 19-05-2008 07:08

Well, that lays to rest the theory that a borefest between two teams outside the top four is any more bearable than a borefest between two of the top four.

Credit to Cardiff for at least trying to attack. Enkelmann might well be the first keeper ever who did not have a save to make and yet still cost his team the Cup.

Credit to Portsmouth for winning me \$100 for correct score on the most predictable 1-0 result in history.

The Abide With Me debacle was a shame as that normally gives me goosebumps.

And enough of the fucking kids coming out with the players nonsense. Just, you know, fuck off back to school or the

orphanage or whatever. Same for players carrying their kids around at the end. Treat them all as pitch invaders and chuck 'em out.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by The Purple Cow - 19-05-2008 07:51

"I don't think I've ever read or heard of any doubt at the time or since that the ball crossed the line..."

That wasn't what the dispute was about. It concerned the ball having crossed the by-line (or not) before a crucial cross.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by mnb098mnb - 19-05-2008 08:06

The "was it over the line" final was in 1932. Newcastle United won the game 2-1 against Arsenal.

From the pictures I've seen the ball was over the line before the cross was made.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 19-05-2008 09:26

Fred Keenor wrote:

The Moral Animal wrote:

SR: I don't know the name of the guy who did the piece on growing up as a football fan in South Wales, but he presents 'Soccer Sunday' on HTV Wales. From what I could hear, it seemed very good.

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in the Premiership - a proper club." And I knew what he meant, because we really would thrive in that league.

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To me, he's the classic poacher turned gamekeeper. The perfect man to know how not to let things spiral out of control. People talk about our debts of £30m - so? Manchester United owe hundreds of millions, Chelsea would go pop tomorrow if the Russian pulled out. Who wanted to be safe old Aston Villa under Doug Ellis, managing their debts and trundling along in mid-table obscurity? Nah, give us a chance to shoot for the stars. We haven't been any good since 1927, so I'll take a season beating Milan, Lazio and Deportivo La Coruña thanks very much.

Some of my closest friends are Leeds fans but what he's done to them is nothing to do with us. As I said, we are our own tribe.

If, by some miracle, we end up in the Premiership with Peter Ridsdale at the helm, that's fine by me. I mean, who better to be in charge of a club which had a dodgy reputation in the past but is now on best behaviour?

The main bit I didn't like about his film was his apologism for Soul Crew violence in the 70s/80s. It went something like "Being a Welsh club in the English league, inevitably you play a lot of your games in England... South Wales is a tough area... You're representing where you come from..." etc.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 19-05-2008 09:40

The symbolism of him looking at his watch and the shot of Cardiff City hall's clock when Portsmouth was mentioned was obviously for the same effect and I am surprised the BBC didn't check up on it.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 19-05-2008 09:42

Jorge Porbillas wrote:

Fred Keenor wrote:

I've just watched his piece, it is largely excellent ...

Did you tape it or is it actually online somewhere?

I recorded it, I don't know if it is on the iPlayer or not. It will turn up on youtube this week I'm sure.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Spearmint Rhino - 19-05-2008 10:02

Fred Keenor wrote:

The symbolism of him looking at his watch and the shot of Cardiff City hall's clock when Portsmouth was mentioned was obviously for the same effect and I am surprised the BBC didn't check up on it.

Hold on, how do you mean? I don't get that.

(Also, who did you used to be?)

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 19-05-2008 10:05

City fans had great time at Pompey

May 10 2008 by Terry Phillips, South Wales Echo

LOOKING BACK - 1983

CARDIFF City set out to dismantle Portsmouth promotion hopes during 1983, but only succeeded in taking away parts of their big clock at Fratton Park's Milton End.

So don't be surprised on FA Cup final day to hear Bluebirds' fans chant: "Pompey, Pompey, what's the time?"

The Bluebirds did earn promotion from Division Three that season, finishing runners-up to champions Portsmouth.

It was on March 12, 1983 that Cardiff went to Portsmouth for a crucial promotion battle and fought out a goalless draw.

City fans were on a big open terrace behind a goal and at the same end was a huge clock.

"There were around 4,000 City fans and one of them decided to climb on the clock," said long-term fan Viv Grandfield, who was at the match.

"Then others joined in and, if my memory serves me well, there were parts taken down.

Another fan recalled: "A few Cardiff fans decided to dismantle the clock.

"There was a little hand and a big hand taken off – I remember one guy hanging off the big hand at one stage."

I'm Harry but I didn't want to use that name last week.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by marsupialman - 19-05-2008 10:29

Am also more and more fed up with the practice of the blaring out of music at these games.

Especially when the Feeder song they used when Pompey lifted the Cup is about (unless I'm sorely mistaken) the suicide of one of the bandmembers.

Not the most uplifting choice perhaps.

Unless the organisers were thinking that the 'feel the moment slip away' lyric was a wry comment on how, even as Sol was lifting the trophy, he understood that the state of bliss he was feeling could only ever be temporary, and he would soon be forced to return to the daily confrontation of his tortured soul.

I can't imagine Brian Barwick thinking that one up though.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Bored Of The Dance - 19-05-2008 10:30

What a great day it was on Saturday. If anyone had said to me beforehand that it would be great even though we lost, I would have said they were talking bollocks and they didn't know anything about football

Brilliant in the pub beforehand, seeing a whole load of mates in one pub is a great idea, why hasn't anyone else thought of it? I was so nervous that I couldn't talk to anyone for more than 30 seconds

I was actually in the Club Wembley seats. I was sitting with a load of blokes in Portsmouth shirts which I was quite happy about until I asked them, at the start, who was at left-back and they didn't know

With the result, I wasn't too worried to be away from the 1927 club(as we still are) but I may be banned from Club Wembley forever though as I was quite animated especially when I realise I was within shouting distance of Joe Jordan.

Personally, I thought the booing of both anthems was excellent from where I was right in the middle of both. It added to the atmosphere and was harmless enough.

When I sat down to watch the match, it was a bit of a shock to realise it was exactly the same format as all the other football matches I have watched. With all the previous month's hype, I was almost expecting the players to have jetpacks or live lions to be introduced onto the pitch.

As for the match, I have to agree with most people. The differences appeared to be Enckleman flapping while James uncharacteristically not and Jimmy Floyd Hasslebank being really old. Ramsey starting or coming on sooner and for Hasselbaink might have made a difference but I think it was just a game too far for a small squad.

Anyway, beforehand, when proper football fans were wishing me luck I was feeling quite proud of being a City fan. At the end, I was definitely proud and, as PBF said, there aren't many times you can say that. I managed to shake hands with all the City players on their way up the stairs and you could tell how gutted they were. Evne a prat in a stupid hat couldn't cheer them up.

I even forgot to say "S'alright, Joe"

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 19-05-2008 15:39

It seems Glen Johnson kept track of his medal about as well as he did Joe Ledley;

FA Cup medals stolen

By JIM MUNRO

Published: Today

TWO Portsmouth players have ended up losers after their FA Cup medals went missing from the team hotel.

Defender Glen Johnson and back-up keeper Jamie Ashdown both used their washbags to hide their winners' medals, but left the bags behind in the plush team hotel by the Thames, a stone's throw from Windsor Castle.

When the bags were returned, the medals were missing.

Johnson said: "I'm devastated, this was the highlight of my career, you can't imagine how much the medal means to me.

"It is something you want to treasure for your whole life and show your kids and grandkids.

"I'm just hoping that if I can't get it back the FA might consider making a replica for me, because it's so soon after the match itself maybe they can see it as exceptional circumstances."

Portsmouth chief executive Peter Storrie confirmed: "It's under investigation.

"No action will be taken if the people return the medals in the next 24 hours.

"It leaves a bad taste in the mouth."

Of course for that analogy to really work he would have had to kick his medal just as it got away from him.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Pretend Best Friend - 19-05-2008 16:30

Jonathan Owen on CCFC

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=WOVme2hs2qo>

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 19-05-2008 16:49

Fred Keenor wrote:

I've just watched his piece, it is largely excellent but I wish he'd give up with some of his "it's an attitude, two fingers up to the rugby squares, daddy-o" schtick , first aired in the piece below in the Guardian in 2006 along with some other questionable stuff;

Yet to be a Cardiff fan always meant so much more than football. In a rugby-obsessed country, it was a statement of intent. You were different. You belonged to your own tribe. The way you walked, held yourself, dressed, even the music you listened to - it was a whole lifestyle choice.

To be fair, it's pretty difficult to argue with that isn't it? I know what it's like as a football fan in north Wales when it comes to the national team ... let alone how it must be for a City fan in south Wales.

And you yourself are the first to admit you grew up in a rugby playing/supporting family so perhaps you just don't see it as much as those of us who don't care for rugby?

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Fred Keenor - 19-05-2008 17:12

Oh, I can understand the focus on rugby turning off people who don't like it (if not the extent that they tend to grizzle about it).

It's just that the lame attempt to link it to "The way you walked, held yourself, dressed, even the music you listened to - it was a whole lifestyle choice." is lame self-congratulatory bollocks. Cardiff City are not The Velvet fucking Underground.

=====

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 19-05-2008 17:23

I think he means more the football fan in general dressed differently and listened to different music, rather CCFC fans inparticular

... and you have to admit there aren't many rugby casuals ;)

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Pretend Best Friend - 19-05-2008 17:27

A wales rugby shirt tucked into a nice pair of slacks. How casual do you want it?

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Bored Of The Dance - 19-05-2008 19:50

A lot of people came out of the pub on Saturday right after watching that in such an "up" mood that I thought I had missed a impromptu stripper in there.

Then they all said "That really got the hairs on the back of your neck tingling".

Having watched it, I can imagine that the last minute and the general lack of cynicism on Saturday meant it did come over as special.

In the cold light of day, I have seen better written about supporting City on the mailing lists etc.

We would have won if the FA Cup Single was "When The Coal Comes Down From The Rhondda"

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by stevep - 27-05-2008 03:22

Fred Keenor wrote:

Oh, and congratulations to Stevep (and any other Portsmouth lurkers), I presume it made your trip worthwhile.

cheers harry,yep it was worth the money i shelled for the flight.now back in aus.

i thought the fans of both the teams were great and made for a good atmosphere.

had a chat with a perth cardiff fan in singapore on the way back,he played against our lot the week before in perth.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Nogoalsnoglory - 27-05-2008 05:43

You really should check in to the Champions League Final and what's a fan threads where you may be surprised to learn that, in the opinion of some, you and your Cardiff supporting acquaintance are not real fans. Insert smiley thing.

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by stevep - 27-05-2008 06:40

Nogoalsnoglory wrote:

You really should check in to the Champions League Final and what's a fan threads where you may be surprised to learn that, in the opinion of some, you and your Cardiff supporting acquaintance are not real fans. Insert smiley thing.

ooohhh must have a look..smiley..

Re:It's the The Final Countdown - 17th May 2008

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 02-06-2008 11:12

Better than Chelsea and Arsenal

"Five years ago the FA Cup was dying on its feet, with poor attendances and TV viewing weak. Fewer than 6 million people watched Arsenal beat Chelsea in the 2002 final. But the tournament has made a dramatic recovery, helped by some smart BBC coverage. In the past three years finals involving the "big four" have peaked at more than 10 million viewers and even an unpromising game such as the Portsmouth v Cardiff City final this year was watched by 7.3 million (8.2 Million at it's peak). With its status restored, ITV and Setanta snatched the rights to the Cup, and England games, in a record £425 million, four-year deal."

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