

STONES

WEALDSTONE v CHELMSFORD
5-MINUTE INTERVIEW

Shaquille Hippolyte-Patrick was both delighted and dismayed by his Stones debut at St Albans City last week.

Delighted that he was able to cause the Saints enough problems on the right wing to be fouled nine times in the first half, yet dismayed that we ran out of ideas in the second half and were ultimately beaten.

Shaq also had a shot smash against the crossbar in that first half - and another good chance blocked by a despairing defender - to add weight to his assertion that "we should have won that game four or five-one".

"I must be the most fouled player in the Conference South" he said when I caught up with our new right-winger in the middle of his Tesco Home Delivery round last week. "I couldn't believe the number of times I was sent flying at St Albans."

It was from one of those freekicks that Danny Green sent in the perfect delivery for a flying Josh Hill to convert at the far post.

"I thought we started really well, the midfield moving the ball quickly through to myself and Elliot and Abs on the other wing. We looked dangerous. The sending off actually hindered us as they kept nine men back and there was no space to get the ball through. But we had so many chances! I tried to so hard to keep my shot down, the one that hit the crossbar, but I probably hit it too sweet. A bit of a shank and it may have found the corner. If our penalty had gone in for 2-1 we'd have definitely won as they would have had come out at us - so disappointing".

So how has Shaquille found his move to The Vale? "I've really en-

First rule of attack: You've gotta get Shaq round the back!

TIM PARKS is impressed by SH-P's debut at St Albans

joyed it, to be fair. The club is well organised, very professional and the fans here are different class. Very noisy, very passionate. Hampton's fans were quiet by comparison. I really enjoyed the atmosphere at St Albans when we were winning... a proper game. I was at Sutton United for a couple of years and I think the atmosphere is better here."

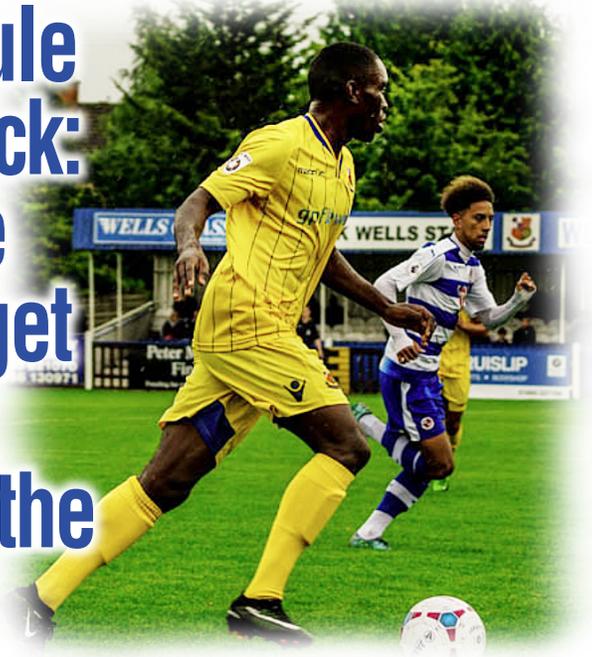
Shaq started his career in the Barnet Youth set-up, alongside Ryan Sellers, before signing for Sutton. He started in the reserves but manager Paul Doswell soon promoted the 18-year-old winger to the first team squad. He didn't get many games as Sutton were flying towards the Vanarama South title, but went out on loan to Tonbridge in the Evo-Stick Premier ("that was a terrible journey from

my home in Ladbroke Grove' laughs Shaq) and then on loan to Hampton, where he signed last season.

He's now 22 and looking to establish himself in the Stones' starting XI. "I think we proved that it works with two wide players" said Shaq, "but it depends who you are playing and if the opposition just want to sit back and defend. There are lots of variables but I think you have to get round the back to hurt teams".

When he's not delivering for the Stones, Shaq is in his Tesco van delivering to the home shoppers of West London and it's a new job he's really enjoying. "I'll be finished today by 12 and I started at 8.30am - I didn't get much rest after St Albans last night" he said.

"I've been doing this for six months and it keeps me fit and focused on the next game. Let's just hope we can bounce back against Gloucester".





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**Shaquille
Hippolyte-Patrick**

PIC. STEVE FOSTER