BOURNEMOUTH SENIOR CUP FINAL

Tuesday 19th December 2017   at the M.A. Hart Stadium, Hurn Bridge

BASHLEY   3-2   VERWOOD TOWN

Kabba Jack   6 mins, 65 mins.   James Guthrie   28mins, 57mins.
Conor Whiteley   50 mins

The first BOURNEMOUTH SENIOR CUP FINAL since 2004 took place at the M.A. Hart Stadium, Hurn Bridge on Tuesday night with Bashley lifting the trophy for the fifth time in their history after a 3-2 success against Verwood Town.

There was plenty to cheer about for supporters of both sides with Bashley leading twice courtesy of Kabba Jack and Conor Whiteley's stunning free kick and Verwood coming back each time through James Guthrie. Kabba Jack's second goal of the game for the Sydenhams Wessex Premier Division side midway through the second was to prove decisive.

Bashley were in front after just six minutes when, following Brad Morris' free kick on the halfway line, a low cross from the right was steered past Verwood goalkeeper Issac Haigh by **Kabba Jack.**

Jack played Conor Whiteley through six minutes later but Haigh came to Verwood's rescue with a brilliant double save to prevent Bashley increasing their lead.

Verwood threatened after 24 minutes with a high ball into the Bashley penalty area which was cleared for a corner but the Wessex Division One side were on terms four minutes later.

Matt Vining was put away down the right in the 28th minute and, when Bashley goalkeeper Joe Coombes could only parry his low shot, **James Guthrie** pounced on the rebound to slot home Verwood's equaliser from close range.

Harry McGrath went close for Bashley after 40 minutes with a 20 yard effort that just cleared the Verwood crossbar then, just before the interval, there was an anxious moment for Bashley when Guthrie's low free kick had Coombes diving to his left to gather the ball at the second attempt.

Bashley were back in front five minutes into the second half when **Conor Whiteley** curled a superb free kick from the edge of the dee into the top corner of the net, giving Verwood goalkeeper Issac Haigh no chance.

Verwood responded with skipper Russell Dyer's drive from outside the box in the 55th minute being deflected just over the bar for a corner.

Verwood were on terms again two minutes later when **James Guthrie** chased a long ball down the right, nicked it away from a defender, before slotted it past the advancing goalkeeper.

Bashley took the lead for the third time in the contest after 65 minutes when **Kabba Jack** latched onto a loose ball on the edge of the Verwood penalty area and drilled a superb shot just inside the post.

Ron Frost was narrowly wide of the post with a free kick at the other end before Bashley were attacking down the right again through Harry McGrath. Haigh managed to stick out a foot to block McGrath's low shot and was relieved to see the follow up shot skim the woodwork.

Haigh produced some excellent saves in the closing stages to keep Verwood in the game, throwing himself to his right to turn a powerful shot round the post for a corner in the 77th minute.

He was quickly off his line in the 85th minute to deny Bashley in a one on one situation and, two minutes later, he resumed his duel with McGrath, pushing the Bashley man's rising shot over the bar.

Verwood goalkeeper **Issac Haigh** was chosen for the Man of Match award by Bournemouth DFA President Mike Fowler.

Bashley :- Joe Coombes, Harry McGrath, Tony Rolls, Brad Strickland (Harry Cooper 90 mins), Dan Thompson, Brad Morris, Sam Jackson, Harrison White, Kabba Jack, Conor Whiteley (Dan Munday 85 mins), Lewis Ross.

Verwood Town :-   Issac Haigh, Callum O'Hare, Jamie Webber (Matt Gilham 80 mins), Martin Smith, Ronald Frost, Russell Dyer, Matt Vining, Sam Joy, James Guthrie, Bradley Gale, Ollie Davies (Joe Manley 40 mins).