



## media release

### **FAREWELL TO VILLA AND NEWCASTLE IN PENALTY DRAMA AT THE PREMIER LEAGUE ALL STARS**

The Premier League All Stars Arena hosted a battle of the North East's finest and Birmingham giants Aston Villa on day four of the tournament.

The first teams to run out onto the silver pitch were Aston Villa and Sunderland. Legends back to play for Villa were David Platt, Dean Saunders, Ian Taylor and Dale Belford. The celebrities joining them were Gareth Gates, Rick Parfitt Jnr and Lord Taylor of Warwick. The three lucky fans completing the squad of ten included a father and son. Parfitt jnr confidently pronounced, "we're ready, Sunderland don't know what's going to hit them." Over in the Sunderland camp were legends Don Goodman, Marco Gabbiadini, Andy Melville and Iain Hesford, celebrities Liam McGough (Big Brother) with soap actors John Nayagam and Joe Simpson. A trio of talented supporters were the final three black cats.

Sunderland took the lead with an own goal from fan player Mark Quinn after just 41 seconds. It wasn't until Power Play that The Villans made a comeback with Dean Saunders belting in a goal worth double to take them straight into the lead. Four minutes into the second half Rick Parfitt Jr took the score to 3-1. One minute later legend Don Goodman scored for Sunderland closing the gap and with two final goals in Power Play from fan Hubbard and Don Goodman they stormed back to take a 6-3 victory.

Aston Villa leave the tournament having won £5,000 for the Acorns Children's Hospice.

Next up was a local derby with Middlesbrough and Newcastle. 'Boro's returning stars were Craig Hignett, Bernie Slaven, Mikkel Beck and Jim Platt, celebrity supporters Alistair Griffin (Fame Academy), actor Mark Stobbart and Speedway champ Gary Havelock, alongside three ordinary fans. The Toon Army invaded the pitch with legends Warren Barton, Rob Lee, John Beresford and Kevin Carr, celebrities Anthony Hutton, Jonathan Edwards and Viz creator Simon Donald with the final three spots taken by three fans.

Newcastle fan Duggie Grant handed his side an early lead. 'Boro came back three minutes into the second half with a goal from Havelock and it was just a minute later that Slaven took them into the lead. Quickly Newcastle replied as Hutton drove home another to equalise. Hignett was floored by Newcastle fan Russo awarding

Boro a Penalty which Hignett took putting Boro up 3-2. Superfan Duggie Grant quickly levelled the scoreline for United. It was left to a dramatic penalty shoot out to decide the result. With the score equal it was left to sudden death. The pressure on, Newcastle legend Barton stepped up to the spot but launched the ball over the crossbar. 'Boro legend Beck's reply was decisive and it was all over for Newcastle.

Newcastle won £5,000 for St Oswald's Hospice.

The ultimate champions will win £100,000 for their Club's nominated charity. The other Clubs' charities will all benefit from the remaining pot of £200,000. All of the action is live on Sky One every night from 8pm.

Free tickets are available from [www.skyone.co.uk/allstars](http://www.skyone.co.uk/allstars) or by calling 08700 60 33 88.