
PLAYER OF THE SEASON

Mark Schwarzer

It is all too easy to take good goalkeepers for granted – it is their job to make sometimes spectacular saves that bring gasps from the crowd, but which are promptly forgotten minutes later when a cross is fumbled and grumbles echo around the stadium. The difference between Mark Schwarzer and some of his fellow goalkeepers is the way that he reacts to such adversity. In the Carling Cup final, rather than go to pieces after his awful error handed Bolton a lifeline, Schwarzer turned in a breathtaking performance to keep Middlesbrough in the game. Other creditable performances, notably in the 5-3 win against Birmingham City, exemplify what an important part the captain of Australia played for his club this season.

Shaun Keogh

