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Let me start tonight's notes by welcoming Dennis Wise, Gustavo Poyet and the Swindon Town players, staff and supporters to the Saunders Honda Stadium for this evening's league encounter.

It comes as no surprise to me to see Swindon topping the League 2 table so early in the season. My own view is that under the guidance of Dennis Wise, Swindon will be a massive force to be reckoned with this term and that is why we will have to be at our best tonight if we want to claim all three points.

These are the games that we should be looking forward to, when we can really test ourselves against quality opposition and if we want to be successful this season then these are the games that we need to be winning.

Tonight's game should give me a good indication of how far the squad we have assembled here have come since pre-season. I've been saying that the team is capable of 30% more and I want to see that improvement starting to shine through now. The last few weeks have been disappointing and we will be keener than ever to get back to winning ways tonight. Losing games can become a habit, as too can winning and it's that winning mentality that I am trying to instil here. I don't like to lose at anything. I want to win things and be successful and we want players here to feel that way too.

I've already made my feelings clear following our last home game here and don't want to be seen to be repeating myself so I will refrain from mentioning anybody else's performance in the Wrexham match other than that of my players.

After suffering the double setback of losing a man and goal I thought our players did well to come back into the game but I was disappointed in the way we conceded the second goal. We did well to give Wrexham a battle and deserved the goal back. We probably should have had more too and I don't think we deserved to lose the game

I had a good talk to the defenders in training before the Leeds game and their improvement at Elland Road was clear for all to see. Our defence at Leeds set a benchmark for themselves after making errors in our league games against Hereford and Wrexham. I was pleased about our shape at Leeds, everybody acquitted themselves well. Our performance at Leeds was very good because we had a formation that frustrated and it was hard for them to pick us up when we attacked.

On another day I think we may have got a better result out of the game. It was great to go and play on a big arena, enjoy ourselves and give it a real go - but our bread and butter is league fixtures and to that effect, I was really disappointed by our performance at Torquay last Saturday.

In my opinion it was two points dropped rather than a point gained. I was not happy at all. It may sound harsh on Torquay, but we should be winning those games. I think the three points were there for the taking and defensive errors cost us again.

Mark Wright



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chester city v wrexham 20.08.06







- 1. The pre-match line up.
- Our mascots for the day were Andy Walker age 12, Danny Woodcock age 14 and Ricky Kenyon age 12. They are pictured here with player Drewe Broughton.
- Chester City would like to give a very special thank you to lan McKay Carpets, our Match ball sponsors for the day.





- 4. Our main match sponsors for the day were Sekur Mortgages. Ian Bullock (left) and his colleague Malcolm Prout present Man of the Match Lawrence Wilson with his award in the Executive Lounge.
- Match sponsors Sekur Mortgages, and Man of the Match Lawrence Wilson are pictured here with our loyal fans in the supporters bar.

matchday ACTION







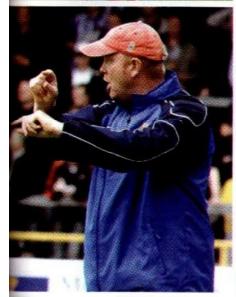




chester city 1 wrexham 2 20.08.06











matchday REPORT

chester city 1 wrexham 2 20.08.06

City lost out in the derby thanks to some curious refereeing decisions from Uriah Rennie.

Chester were forced to play the majority of the game a man short having lost midfielder Ricky Ravenhill after only 25 minutes, and the numbers were levelled 13 minutes from time when Steve Evans also saw red.

The game exploded into life when Ravenhill, making his debut for the Blues, was controversially sent off by Premiership referee Uriah Rennie. Wrexham keeper Michael Ingham had come out of his box to deal with a bouncing ball, chested it down, and then appeared to handle outside his area before he was clattered into by Ravenhill.

The visitors were then awarded a penalty three minutes before the interval when another foraging run by Done was brought to an end by a challenge from Vaughan. Captain Neil Roberts made no mistake from the spot, sending goalkeeper John Danby the wrong way to make it 1-0.

Chester fell further behind on 52 minutes when a delightful ball from Steve Evans played in Mark Jones, who made no mistake in lofting the ball over Danby.

City refused to lie down and die. And they were given hope when Wrexham were also reduced to ten men 13 minutes from time when Evans was dismissed for his second bookable offence.

Jamie Hand managed to pull one back for the Blues on 81 minutes when he hit a thunderous shot from outside the box into the bottom corner, but it proved only a consolation as Wrexham held on for the win.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAID

Wrexham pocketed the points after an incident-packed derby, which left Blues fans furning about the match officials. Referee Uriah Rennie made a controversial decision in the 25th minute when he dismissed Chester midfielder Ricky Ravenhill.

Evening Leader

Contentious decisions from referee Uriah Rennie overshadowed what was shaping up to be a closely fought derby. The Yorkshire official's biggest blunder came in the 25th minute when he failed to spot Wrexham keeper Mike Ingham's deliberate handball outside the penalty area. Ingham went unpunished but Ricky Ravenhill was red-carded for a reckless follow-though.

The Chronicle







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on this day 1st SEPTEMBER

The first day of September has not traditionally been a great one for City. Having played twenty times on this day, the Blues have won only five fixtures and drawn three while the remaining twelve have all been lost.

In fact the last four fixtures on this date have all seen City end up on the losing side. In 2001 an away Conference match at Barnet's Underhill stadium saw Mark Beesley scoring for the Blues but Barnet ran-out 3-1 winners in front of just over 1,000 fans.

In 1998, Cambridge United inflicted a 3-0 defeat on City at the Deva Stadium whilst in 1992 Hartlepool United beat Chester 2-0 at Victoria Park and in 1990 a Graham Abel penalty was not enough to stop City sinking to a 2-1 loss at home to Exeter City.

Chester's last victory on September 1st came in 1984 when Aldershot were despatched 2-1 thanks to goals from Peter Sayer and Owen Brown at the Recreation Ground while the Blues biggest win was their first ever game on this day back in 1934 when goals from John Wallbanks, Jack Hughes and two from Frank Cresswell saw City batter Accrington Stanley 4-0 at Sealand Road.

Two cross-border derby matches have been played on September 1st but like a few weeks ago, these fixtures do not provide happy memories. In 1954 a Roy Halstead goal was not enough to prevent a 2-1 loss at The Racecourse and even more depressingly in 1965 another loss was suffered at the Racecourse. This time it was League Cup-tie and two goals from Mickey Metcalf was only a consolation as the Reds ran-out 5-2 winners.

Tonight sees the first time that Chester City and Swindon Town have met on this day. Let's all hope that City can reverse their recent losing trend on this date to record a win lonight!

half-time QUIZ

- 1. Which Scottish football team is an anagram of "Normal Kick"?
- 2. What English football club was originally known as Newton Heath?
- 3. Out of all the 92 English league football teams official names, which would come first alphabetically?
- 4. Football team Benfica come from which country?
- 5. Which footballer scored the first ever goal in the English Premiership?
- 6. Why was Scottish footballer Willie Johnstone sent home from the 1978 World Cup?
- 7. Who first said "They say football is a matter of life and death. Frankly it's much more than that"?
- 8. Which English football team is an anagram of "Thump A Rotten Shot"?
- 9. Which footballing duo sang "Diamond Lights" in 1987?
- 10. Which seven English League and Conference football teams have names which start and end with the same letter?

welcome to the opposition SWINDON TOWN

THE MANAGER - DENNIS WISE



When new investor Bill Power joined the Town board late in the 2005/06 season, it seemed that the board were set to allow Iffy Onuora to remain as manager into the following season, despite

the Town's relegation to League Two. Within a fortnight of the season's end though, things turned full circle - firstly indicating that Onuora would have to effectively reapply for his position - and ultimately by appointing Wise, an ex-England international, as the club's new player-manager. Wise's only previous managerial role was at Millwall, whom he led to an FA Cup Final and into the UEFA Cup, despite only being a second tier club. Wise has retained his playing registration but has yet to appear for the Robins this term.

PETER BREZOVEN (Goalkeeper)

Iwenty six-year-old Slovakian goalkeeper who was signed on a year's loan from Czech side FC Brno, with an option to sign permanently. Has spent time at Vinohrady Bratislava, Devin, Slovan Breclay, Olomouc and Inter Bratislava (loan) since he started his career at PS Bratislava. Gained international recognition earlier in his career when he was called up for the Slovakian under-21 team. Has been ever-present so far for Swindon this season.

JACK SMITH (Defender)



Signed from Watford in the summer of 2005, Smith added youthful experience to the Town side. Due to the departure of Paul Robinson to West Bromwich Albion he was

thrust into the first-team spotlight at Watford and coped admirably, registering two goals - the first of which a 'Goal of the Season' contender at Sheffield United in front of the Sky Sports cameras. He made 38 league starts for Town last season in a variety of positions including right back, left back and midfield. This term he will be looking to consolidate his favoured spot in the right of defence.

JAMIE VINCENT (Defender)

Left back signed on a year's contract in July 2006, after his short-term contract at Yeovil, where he failed to make a first team appearance came to an end. Began his career at Crystal Palace before having spells at AFC Bournemouth, Huddersfield Town, Portsmouth, Walsall (loan), Millwall (loan) and Derby County. Has missed just one of Swindon's games this season.

JEREL IFIL (Defender)



Powerful defender Jerel Ifil joined Town in the summer of 2004 after enjoying three loan spells with Town previously from 2002-04. Jerel became a fan's favourite during his brief stays in Wiltshire and signed

on a permanent basis in June 2004, 'The Beast' as he is affectionately known to many, has now almost amassed 100 appearances as a Robin and will look forward to forging a partnership alongside the experienced Ady Williams.

ADY WILLIAMS (Defender)

The former Welsh international centre back signed on a one-year deal after being released by Coventry City in June 2006. 35-year old Williams began his career with Reading before going on to play for Wolverhampton Wanderers, Reading, Coventry City and Millwall (loan). Has already missed two of Town's games this season but was involved last weekend as Town earned a 2-0 success against Stockport County at home.

GARETH WHALLEY (Midfielder)

Signed for Swindon Town in July 2005 from Wigan Athletic on a free transfer. Originally a trainee at Crewe, Gareth made over 200 first-team appearances for them before signing for Bradford City in July 1998 for £600,000. Gareth was a regular during their two-season spell in the top flight and in March 2002 went back to Crewe on loan for a few months. An injury kept him out from early-November 2002 until mid-April 2003 but he returned to play a significant role in the Club's promotion through the Play-Offs. Left Cardiff in September 2004 and joined Wigan Athletic and subsequently made nine appearances for The Latics in the march to promotion to the Premiership. During his first season at Swindon,





Whalley settled into the side and made 27 appearances during the 2005-6 campaign. Whalley still has two years to run on his current deal at Swindon and could be a key cog in Town's promotion challenge this term.

AARON BROWN (Midfielder)

A left-sided midfielder, Brown originally signed on a month's loan from QPR, on the loan transfer deadline day in November 2005. Having been rejected after a trial at Barnsley the previous week. Brown's time at Loftus Road had been ravaged by injury - a broken leg keeping him out of the game for fourteen months - and with first team opportunities limited at Rangers, his spell at Swindon was an opportunity to gain much-needed match fitness. Then manager, Iffy Onuora then moved to bring Brown to Swindon on a permanent basis - and he signed an eighteen month deal early in January 2006 - Brown hailing Onuora as having 'rescued him' from his tough period at QPR. During this summer Brown informed new boss Dennis Wise that he didn't wish to play at the lower level. After being prevented from travelling on the club's pre-season tour to Ibiza, Brown turned down a move to Brentford to go on trial at Doncaster - but they sent him back after just one game - on his return to the County Ground, Brown had a change of heart, and withdrew his transfer request.

CHRISTIAN ROBERTS (Forward)



Cardiff-born striker who joined Town in October 2004 in a £50,000 switch from local rivals Bristol City. He is an aggressive runner and will add much needed pace to the Swindon frontline. Formerly with Exeter City where he scored 18 goals in 67 league starts for the Grecians from 2000 - 2002. With 8 goals in 27 starts for the Robins so far, Roberts will be keen to play a big part in

Town's 2006-7 campaign.

LEE PEACOCK (Forward)



Striker Lee Peacock joined Swindon Town in January 2006 on a free transfer from Sheffield Wednesday. The experienced frontman started his career at Carlisle United as a trainee, but after scoring 11 goals in 52

appearances he made the switch to Mansfield Town in October 1997 for £75,000. It proved to be a productive spell with the Stags with 29 goals in 80 appearances attracting Manchester City who parted with £500,000 for his services. However, his time at Maine Road was not as successful as he would have liked due to injuries, but his next stop certainly was. A £600,000 move to Bristol City in August 2000 heralded the start of a

successful four-year spell at Ashton Gate. 54 goals in 131 league starts was the result of his stay with the Robins. Next up was Sheffield Wednesday, who he joined on a free transfer in the summer of 2004. Peacock wasted no time in settling in at Town, scoring on his debut against AFC Bournemouth after coming off the bench in the 4-2 home win. However, he finished the season with just 11 starts to his name after a knee injury ruled him out of the final games of the campaign. After an end of season operation to cure the knee problem, Peacock enjoyed a solid pre-season and will now be looking to cement his spot in the Town frontline.

ANDY MONKHOUSE (Midfielder)

25-year-old left winger who joined Swindon on a year's contract in June 2006, after his release by Rotherham - Monkhouse was Dennis Wise's first signing as Town boss. Wise will be hoping that Monkhouse can supply the ammunition from the left-flank. Began his career with Rotherham United as a trainee before rising to the senior ranks at the age of 17. He scored on his league debut - a 3-0 win over Hartlepool United in September 1998 and went on to make 128 league appearances for the Millers.

RICKY SHAKES (Midfielder)



A tricky winger with plenty of pace, Shakes signed from Bolton Wanderers in a move which also saw Charlie Comyn-Platt join the club. Shakes spent time on loan with Bristol Rovers and Bury during the 2004-5 season and impressed the then Town Manager Andy King during a reserve game for Swindon towards the end of the

2004-5 campaign. Shakes signed on for Swindon in July 2005 and went on to establish himself on the right of the Town midfield during the season. Shakes also took part in a friendly for Trinidad & Tobago against Iceland at Loftus Road, coming off the bench. However, despite his performances for Town and briefly for his country - he narrowly missed out on a World Cup slot at Germany 2006.

ANDREW GURNEY (Defender)

'Gurns' rejoined Swindon Town on loan until January 2006 in the early part of the 2005-6 season after failing to pin down a regular place in the Swansea starting line-up. A versatile player, he can operate anywhere along the back line or in centre of midfield and likes a shot on goal. He joined Swansea City from Swindon Town on a free transfer in September 2004 and lists his other clubs as Torquay United, Bristol Rovers and Reading. He has now made over 385 senior starts and has scored 45 goals. Gurney went under the knife in the summer and is currently

welcome to the opposition SWINDON TOWN (continue

recovering from an ankle operation; he is yet to make an appearance for Town this season.

ANDREW NICHOLAS (Defender)



'Nicho' joined Town in the close season of 2003 following his decision to leave Liverpool, where he came through the youth system but struggled to break into the first team. He was a regular in the Under 19's

side at Anfield and won many plaudits with his performances at left back, which prompted Andy King to snap up the youngster. After working his way into the manager's starting line up with some hard work in training, Andrew seized his chance to become a regular member of the side throughout the 2003/04 season and managed his first senior goal in a 4-2 win at Stockport in February. Despite making such a positive impression during the 2003-4 season, the 2004-5 campaign saw the defender struggle with injuries and was unable to gain a regular starting berth. Nicholas then spent a month here at the Saunders Honda Stadium when Ian Rush took the player on a month's loan. Since then he has only made fleeting appearances for the Robins but will be hoping to make a playing return to Chester this evening.

FOLA ONIBUJE (Forward)

The 21-year-old Nigerian-born striker made an appearance against Chester City last season for Cambridge United in the LDV Vans Trophy. The Giant striker signed for Swindon on an initial three month deal during the Summer, after being released by Cambridge at the end of the 2005/06 season and will be keen to add another appearance against the Blues tonight following three substitute showings for Town so far this term.

CHARLIE COMYN-PLATT (Defender)

Charlie Comyn-Platt joined the Bolton Academy in the summer of 2002 after a long association with the club. The assured defender was called into the first team for the first time in September 2003, and he was handed his debut when replacing Bruno N'Gotty for the final nine minutes of the 3-1 Carling Cup win over Walsall. He also started both the club's FA Cup games against Tranmere Rovers, during the same season. He was loaned to Tony Adams' Wycombe Wanderers in mid-

September 2004, making his debut in a 1-0 home defeat to Swansea City, and returned to Bolton in October, after a month with the Wanderers. After being released by Bolton in the summer of 2005 he made the switch to The County Ground on a one-year contract and went on to make 27 appearances in his first season in Wiltshire, scoring twice against Boston United (FA Cup) and Doncaster Rovers (League One). Despite starting his Town career as a defender, a move under former Boss Iffy Onuora into midfield has proved fruitful and he could well continue in that role as the new season unfolds.

PAUL EVANS (Midfielder)

31-year-old Evans is a former Welsh international midfielder who signed for Swindon on a twelve-month deal in July 2006. He began his career at Shrewsbury Town before going on to appear for Brentford, Bradford City, Blackpool (loan), Nottingham Forest and Rotherham United (loan).

MICHAEL POOK (Midfielder)



'Pooky' signed a professional contract ahead of the 2005-6 season and was a consistent performer for the youth team and reserves prior to joining the professional ranks. With a keen eye for goal, Pook's best effort to date is a 25-yard thunderbolt in the Carling Cup First Round against Wycombe

Wanderers. An energetic 'box-to-box' midfielder, Pook will look to benefit from the wealth of knowledge passed to him by Dennis Wise and Gus Poyet.

ROYCE BROWNLIE (Forward)

Australian striker signed on a year's contract in July 2006, with an option for a second year, after a successful trial spell in which he scored four goals in five pre-season matches. A free agent after being released by A-League side Queensland Roar, who allowed him to pursue a career in Europe - the trial wasn't his first with Swindon, Brownlie previously appeared for Swindon during another trial in 2002, scoring a goal in a 2-2 draw with Sporting Gijon before being released, he returned to Australia after further trials with Sheffield Wednesday and Portsmouth proved unsuccessful.





LUKAS JUTKIEWICZ (Forward)

As a youth team player, Jutkiewicz first came to prominence in 2004, when he ended the Milk Cup tournament in Northern Ireland as top scorer - emulating the feat of Wayne Rooney who participated in the tournament four years previously. Jutkiewicz broke into Swindon's first team during the first year of his scholarship, coming on as a substitute in a 2-1 defeat at Swansea's Liberty Stadium in April 2006, and he was thrust into the starting eleven just a week later, when he gave a hard-working performance in a 2-1 win at Scunthorpe. Eager to hold on to the young star, manager Iffy Onuora promised Jutkiewicz a professional deal, despite him still having a year of his scholarship remaining - but doubt was cast over the deal when Onuora was sacked and replaced with new boss Dennis Wise during May. When Jutkiewicz had no contact with Wise over the summer, he admitted he was "slightly concerned" about his deal - but any fears were dispelled when he signed a three year contract in July 2006.

GUSTAVO POYET (Midfielder)

After being released by Tottenham in 2004, and effectively retiring from the game, Poyet returned to his native Uruguay to become chairman of the Organización Nacional de Fútbol Infantil - the national organisation for youth football in his homeland. Surprisingly though, he was persuaded to return to England by his former team-mate at Chelsea, Dennis Wise, becoming the Town's assistant manager in May 2006, and also registering to play - though only in case of emergencies.

CURTIS WESTON (Midfielder)

Before joining Swindon, Weston became the youngest player ever to appear in an FA Cup Final, when he appeared as a late substitute in the 2004 final for Millwall against Manchester United aged 17 years and 119 days - beating a 125-year-old record set by James Princep of Old Etonians. Weston replaced Millwall player-manager Dennis Wise that day - it was Wise who brought Weston to Swindon two years later.

ASHAN HOLGATE (Forward)

A youth team player who plays either up front or on the right side of midfield, Holgate got his first taste of first team action in the 2004/05 pre-season, when he came on as a late substitute in a friendly against Millwall in August 2004. Within three minutes of coming on, he opened his Town account - scoring with an excellent strike from twenty yards, though the Town went on to lose 2-1.

PHIL SMITH (Goalkeeper)

Goalkeeper signed on a year's contract in July 2006, as backup to loan signing Peter Brezovan. Smith became available after his previous club, Crawley Town, went into administration and breached all of their players' contracts - he signed for the Swindon after a successful trial, despite being one of only five contracted players to return to pre-season training with Crawley.

BEN WELLS (Midfielder)



One of four former Centre of Excellence players who were signed on as professionals in June 2006. A midfielder who impressed in the Under 17's during the 2004-5 season. He was rewarded a squad number in November

2004 and made the bench against Bristol City in the LDV Vans Trophy win. Now signed on as a professional with a year's contract, the energetic Wells will look to make the most of every opportunity that comes his way.

ANDY CATON (Forward)

Son of the former Manchester City defender Tommy, Caton signed for Swindon as a first year scholar during the 2004/05 pre-season, having previously been at the Southampton Centre of Excellence, and also having been top scorer for Hellenic League outfit North Leigh during 2003/04. Has made one appearance for the first team already this season and will be looking to add to that figure tonight.

DAVID STROUD (Midfielder)

Son of former Town legend Kenny, who made over 300 league appearances for Swindon during the seventies and eighties, Stroud made a surprise breakthrough into the first team in October 2005 when still a youth team player. With new manager Iffy Onuora previously responsible for youth development, he gave Stroud a chance in a match at promotion chasing Huddersfield, and he responded with a promising performance that drew praise from the boss - his pace giving the Huddersfield defence problems down the left flank.

LEIGH HENRY (Midfielder)



Son of former Town striker Charlie, Henry came up through the Centre of Excellence ranks at The County Ground. Henry progressed into the reserves last season after catching the eye with a number of dominant performances for the Under 18's. He was rewarded with a six-month.

professional contract in June 2006 and will look to impress under the new management of Wise and Poyet, taking every opportunity available with typical grit and fervour.

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The Chester Chevonicle

BEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE NORTH

A word from the press bench...

I thought this article-writing business was going to be easy -I really did. When asked to provide an occasional column for the Blues' matchday programme, I jumped at the chance. 'Great,' I thought. 'I've always wanted to do something like this.' The ideas were flowing...

It seemed like a great opportunity - I'd be helping the club and giving Blues fans something to read over their half-time cuppa. Oh, and my bosses at the Chester Chronicle would be grateful for the extra publicity. Maybe it would be a good time to ask for a pay rise?

Anyway, it's Tuesday afternoon and, having put the Midweek Chronicle to bed yesterday, we're finishing off the Ellesmere Port Pioneer. Once we've waved goodbyc to this week's Pioneer, it'll be time to take a look at the Friday Chronicle. My brain is, to put in bluntly, frazzled. And I've just sat down to start this article ...

The ideas have dried up but at least I've been granted something of a reprieve - this week's column can be five hundred words long, rather than the seven hundred I'd initially agreed to write! Great.

Putting the sarcasm to one side for a moment, I am actually pleased to be doing this. Most other clubs have regular columns by members of the local media in their matchday programmes, so why shouldn't the Blues? And don't worry, you won't have to read my ramblings too often - a few other local journos will be appearing on this page to have their say throughout the season. It will be done on a rota basis, I've been assured!

So where shall we kick-off? Well, given that this is the Blues' first Friday night game of the season, why not start a little debate about Friday football?

Okay, so we all know that tomorrow's England game is the main reason tonight's match is being played a day earlier than originally planned, but Chester have lined up plenty more Friday fixtures this season. The feeling from the Blues' hierarchy is that playing more Friday night matches at home will boost attendances.

Players involved in local Saturday football - in the West Cheshire League and Chester and District League, for example - will have the chance to watch their local side more often, while those of you who also follow a Premiership club will have the whole weekend to sit back and take in as much Sky Sports as you can handle.

But what about the 'exiled' fans who travel a long way to games and will find it hard to get to the Saunders Honda Stadium on a Friday night? And the youngsters who have to be in bed long before the 9.30pm finish time of a weekday fixture? What do they make of the loss of so many traditional Saturday afternoon matches?

There are so many pros and cons in this debate but there can be no denying the fact that the Friday philosophy worked for Tranmere Rovers and Stockport County in the 1990s, Only time will tell if it proves a crowd-pulling hit for the Blues and it's an issue I'm sure we'll all be following with interest.

Finally, a confession. You will find me at almost every Chester game this season. From pre-season friendlies at Drolysden in the searing summer sun, to Grimsby in what I'm sure will be a freezing cold January, I'll be there. But I'm not here tonight. A former colleague has only gone and arranged to get married today, meaning I've had to send my trusted deputy to tonight's match.

There was no way the marriage could be rearranged, cancelled or postponed (trust me, I tried) but you can be sure I'll be keeping in touch with events from the Saunders Honda as the night progresses.

I must have passed that 500-word barrier by now so it's time

Enjoy the game!



David Triggs Chester Chronicle Sports Editor



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Ionight we continue our look at the new faces with clubs this term and kick off with Hartlepool whose manager Danny Wilson was one of the most frustrated bosses during the summer months. Danny found his hands tied because of the salary capping rules even though he lost several key men. The embargo was finally lifted as the season got underway and the boss moved quickly to snap up ex Cardiff midfielder Willie Boland.

Hereford recruited extensively as they made the step up, signing ex-Gillingham players Richard Rose and John Wallis, forwards Alan Connell (Torquay), Tim Sills (Oxford) and Gareth Sheldon (Kidderminster). Defenders Phil Gulliver and Martyn Giles arrived from Rushden and Camarthen Town respectively whilst fellow custodian Glyn Thompson from Shrewsbury joined former City keeper Wayne Brown.

Lincoln lost striker Simon Yeo to Peterborough but signed experienced front men Jamie Forrester and Mark Stallard who both know this league along with former Crewe defender Adie Moses and youngsters Ryan Semple, a former target of Mark Wright who knew him from his Peterborough days and Ryan Amoo from Northampton.

Macclesfield boss Brian Horton pulled off something of a coup when he acquired another former City target, Jamie Tolley, from Shrewsbury. 21-year-old defender Jimmy McNulty arrived from Wrexham and striker Colin Heath from Chesterfield. Former Manchester Utd youngster Tommy Lee was signed after an impressive loan spell at Moss Rose last term whilst fellow keeper Johnny Brain arrived from Port Vale.

Mansfield also signed a new keeper in Carl Muggleton who made the short journey from Chesterfield with a career tally of 394 league games to his name. Carl is joined at Field Mill by brothers Michael and Rory Boulding, Rory is just 17 but his older brother started his career at Field Mill in 1999 before moving on to spells with Grimsby, Aston Villa, Barnsley and Rotherham. Young defenders John Mullins and Paul Collins have arrived from Reading and Manchester City respectively.

MK Dons already possess one of the hottest properties in the division in England Under 21 striker Izale McLeod but he seems determined to move on. Several new faces have arrived at the National Hockey Stadium including former Swindon captain Sean O'Hanlon, experienced ex-Bristol City defender Jamie Smith, winger Lloyd Dyer from Millwall and ex-Sheffield Wednesday men Jon-Paul McGovern and Drissa Diallo, the latter being a Guinea international defender.

The list of new recruits down at **Notts County** is almost endless and is a mix of younger players like

Gary Silk (ex-Portsmouth), Stephen Hunt (Colchester) and Ian Ross (Sheffield Utd) along with experienced pros such as our former player Tom Curtis, Andy Parkinson, Tcham N'Toya, Jason Lee, Matt Somner (Aldershot), Lawrie Dudfield, Alan White and Junior Mendes - the latter batch are all savvy to what this division is about!

Peterborough cashed in on their young talent Sean St. Ledger who joined Preston for an initial £225,000 and added several players to their ranks. Ex-Lincoln man Simon Yeo was mentioned earlier whist fellow striker Justin Richards has arrived from Woking. One of their former youngsters, Stuart Wall has returned from his spell with Coventry and has been joined in defence by ex-Lincoln man Jude Stirling whilst the man to get you out of a pickle has to be the experienced Guy Branston who has returned for a third spell at the club. A third ex-Lincoln man, Richard Butcher has strengthened the midfield ranks.

Rochdale have proved to be early season strugglers and one of the least active clubs in the market adding just former Mansfield man Adam Rundle to their squad and so to Shrewsbury or should it be ex Chesterbury - Ben Davies, Stewart Drummond, Chris Mackenzie and Derek Asamoah have all landed at Gay Meadow along with Andy Cooke and Michael Symes from Bradford City, Dale Williams (Yeovil), Danny Hall (Oldham) and goalkeeper Ryan Esson from Aberdeen.

Former City players Michael Rose and Adam Griffin have joined Stockport from Yeovil and Oldham respectively whilst County have taken another former Latic, Gareth Owen on a yearlong loan. Carlisle striker Glenn Murray is another who has joined on loan but the best signing for the Stockport faithful has to be ex-Port Vale man Tony Dinning who played close on 200 league games for County earlier in his career before adding a further 200 with Wolves, Wigan, Stoke, Walsall, Blackpool, Ipswich and Bristol City.

To end this edition we have tonight's visitors **Swindon** (who said no planning goes into this!). With talk of Paul Ince joining the club, competition for places will be there. Experienced midfielder Paul Evans has joined the club after a career tally of 431 games and 67 league goals with Shrewsbury, Brentford, Bradford and Notts Forest along with Andy Monkhouse (Rotherham), goalkeeper Phil Smith (Crawley), Ady Williams (Coventry), Fola Onibuje (Cambridge). A young player with a special record has also been recruited by Dennis Wise in Curtis Weston a player who appeared as a substitute for the manager in Millwall's FA Cup Final appearance and in doing so became the youngest to appear in a final at the age of 17 years and 119 days.

More next time. Enjoy the game!

























matchday ACTION & REPORT

City are beaten in the first round of the Carling Cup but put up a brave fight against Championship side Leeds United at Elland Road.

Leeds had all the possession but were ponderous in build up and the hard-working, five-man Chester defence made life difficult for them. With the home support getting more and more frustrated, Leeds huffed and puffed but failed to get a single shot on target in the first half.

At the other end Drewe Broughton was ploughing a lone furrow and had little joy against Foxe, yet there was a scare for Leeds when he was given a free-header only to put it over, and his pass saw Sullivan have to race out and dive on the ball at the feet of Jon Walters.

When the breakthrough finally came it was as scrappy as the game. Robbie Blake's shot was blocked, Jermaine Beckford had a weak effort, a defensive hack flew against the post and Bakke managed to prod it home despite the efforts of Ashley Westwood on the line.

That gave Leeds some momentum and Carole came close to a second when he slammed Lewis' cross into the outside of the post. Chester should have equalised in the 72nd minute when Gregg Blundell had a clear shot on goal but dragged the ball wide of the post.

Chester sent on 18-year-old Chris Holroyd, the young striker being watched by Liverpool, but his only contribution was a yellow card for a foul on Sullivan as the game petered out into a massively forgettable occasion.

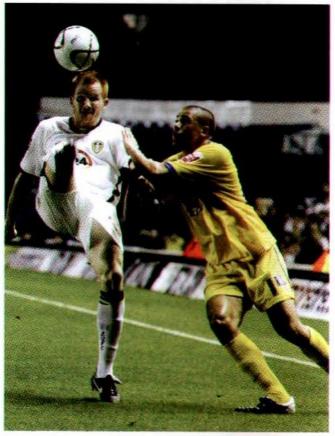
WHAT THE PAPERS SAID

Chester will look back at this Carling Cup first round tie and think 'if only?' One moment during the second half raised hopes that the Blues would force extra-time and penalties but City striker Gregg Blundell's decision to pick out strike partner Drewe Broughton instead of sticking to a striker's shoot-on-sight instinct, saw a golden opportunity wasted.

Evening Leader

Chester City were narrowly beaten by Championship side Leeds United in the Carling Cup at Elland Road last night, but it was Mark Wright's team that took the plaudits after a battling display.

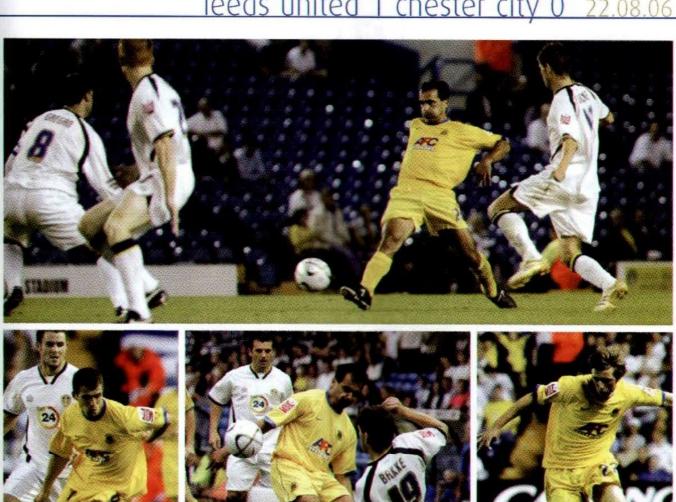
Daily Post







leeds united 1 chester city 0 22.08.06





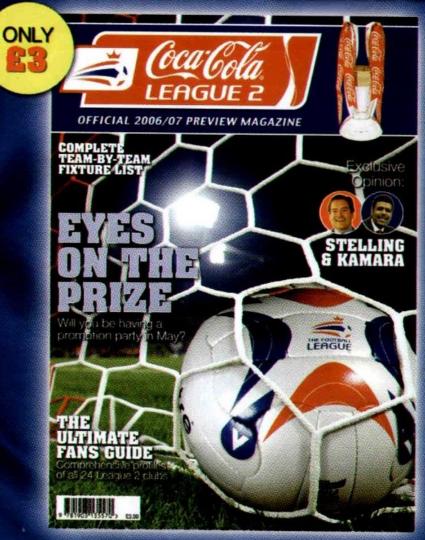








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MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Mark Wright

Played 18 Won 7 Drawn 4 Lost 7 For 19 Against 17 Av Pts/game 1.39

Biggest Win(s) Chester 2 Accrington Stanley 0 (05/08/2006). Biggest Loss(es) Hereford 2 Chester 0 (12/08/2006).

Dennis Wise

Played 5 Won 5 Drawn 0 Lost 0 For 8 Against 2

Av Pts/game 3.00

Biggest Win(s) Swindon 2 Stockport 0 (26/08/2006). Biggest Loss(es) No losses found

MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..0 Draws ..0

Mark Wright...

3

0

0

6

0

0

0

0

5

4

0

0

4

3

Goals 0

GAMES SINCE

a win

a home win

an away win

a defeat

a home defeat

an away defeat

a score draw

a no score draw

conceding a goal

scoring a goal

conceding > 1

scoring > 1

keeping a clean sheet

failing to score

back to back wins

back to back defeats

gaining a point

losing a point

win by > one

loss by > one

Dennis Wise ...

..0 Goals 0

0

0

0

10

6

8

0

0

0

8

2

12

0

1

0

10

Player with the most...

shots

Jonathan Walters 10

shots on target

Jonathan Walters 6

shots off target

Jonathan Walters 4

assists

Laurence Wilson 1

crosses

Roberto

Martinez 8

fouls

Jonathan Walters 13

free-kicks-won

David Artell 11





Player with the most...

shots

Christian Roberts 11

shots on target

Christian

Roberts 7

shots off target

Ricky Shakes 6

assists

Lee Peacock 1

crosses

Jamie Vincent 5

fouls

Curtis Weston

11

free-kicks-won

Christian Roberts 10

CCFL Cup Tot

0

0

2 0 2

SHARP SHOOTERS

Chester	CCFL	Cup	Tot	Swindon			
Drewe Broughton	2	0	2	Christian Roberts			
Jonathan Walters	2	0	2	Aaron Brown			
Gregg Blundell	1	0	1	Lee Peacock			

TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played24	Chester wins10
Draws4	Goals 29 (1.2 per game)
0-0's1	Times failed to score 7

Swindon wins Goals 36 (1.5 per game) Times failed to score 7

Biggest League win at Chester for each team: 01/04/1987 & 30/01/1985 & 27/09/1978 Chester 2-0 Swindon 08/02/1984 Chester 0-3 Swindon





2006/07 LEAGUE STATS



12	Position	1
5	Played	5
2	Won	5
1	Drawn	0
2	Lost	0
8	Goals For	8
7	Goals Against	2
7	Points	15



Record A	Against	Top	Half	of	Table
----------	---------	-----	------	----	-------

		neco	iu Ayamst	Top He	III OI	Idule	
w	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
0	1	2	13	0	0	0	15
	R	ecord	Against B	ottom	Half c	of Tab	le
w	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	0	0	8	5	0	0	1
		Re	cord When	Scori	ng Fi	rst	
w	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	0	0	11	4	0	0	2
		Rec	ord When	Conce	ding I	First	
w	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
0	1	2	10	1	0	0	4
				-			

Match Scores

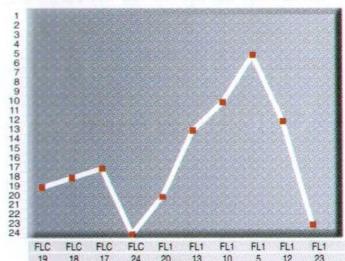
Wins: 2-0[1], 3-1[1], Losses: 0-2[1], 1-2[1], Draws: 2-2[1]

Wins: 1-0[2], 2-0[1], 2-1[2], Losses:

None, Draws: None

SWINDON - TEN SEASON RECORD

96/97 97/98 98/99 99/00 00/01 01/02 02/03 03/04 04/05 05/06



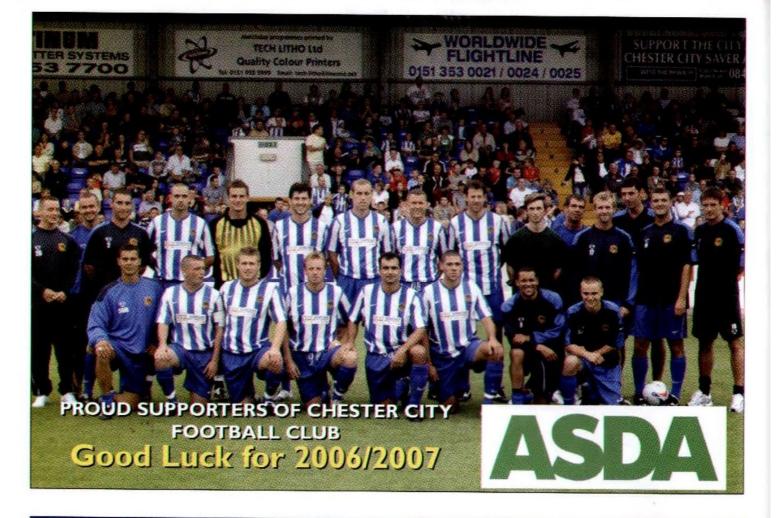
*up to and including 28/08/2006

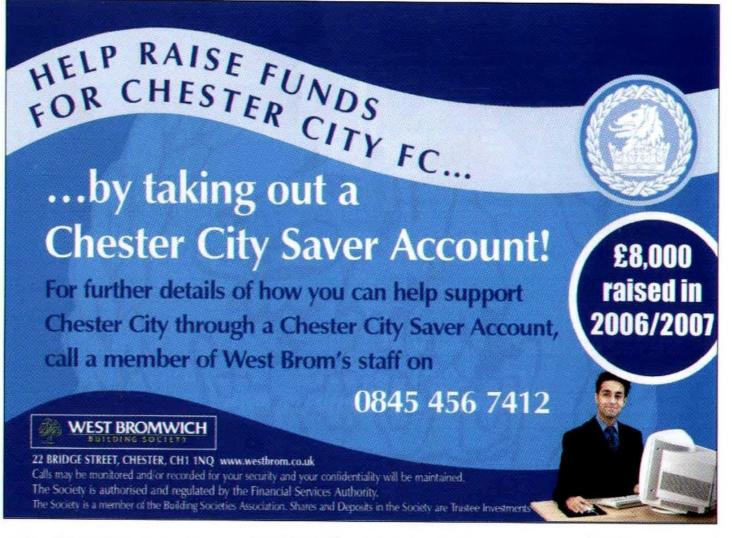


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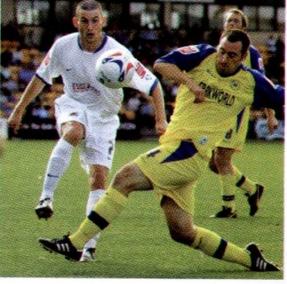














torquay united 2 chester city 2 26.08.06



Last-gasp Roberto Martinez strike earns City a point as The Blues come from behind twice at Plainmoor.

Chester earned a 2-2 draw at Torquay thanks to Spanish midfielder Roberto Martinez when he fired the Blues second equaliser of the game in the 93rd minute. Former Aston Villa starlet Jamie Ward, celebrating his call-up to the Northern Ireland Under-21 squad, hit both Torquay's goals, his first in the Football League while Drewe Broughton grabbed City's first equaliser.

Chester, bigger and stronger, had looked the better side in the first half, but they were encouraged by some sloppy home defending. It was highlighted in the 24th minute when goal-keeper Nathan Abbey misread a Stev Angus backheader and had to scramble across his goal-line to claw the ball away.

The combination of Ward and veteran targetman Mickey Evans always kept Torquay in the game though and they finally broke through in the 43rd minute. Evans flicked on a long ball and Ward finished with a clever, dipping volley over John Danby from 15 yards.

The decision to send on lanky striker Drewe Broughton at half time paid major dividends for Chester manager Mark Wright. Within ten minutes Broughton had equalised, punishing another boob between Angus and Abbey.

Chester piled on the pressure, but in the 74th minute the Evans-Ward combination worked again. Evans broke up a Chester move, went past two defenders and his cross-shot was stabbed home by the alert Ward.

Martinez's late goal, again set up by Broughton, was no more than Chester deserved. And, amazingly, the Blues nearly snatched a winner with seconds to go, sub Chris Holroyd nearly touching in an unmarked header by Blundell from a free kick by defender Daye Artell.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAID

Roberto Martinez clinched the Blues a point but they should have returned home with so much more. The Spaniard grabbed Chester a share of the spoils with just 20 seconds left in the third minute of injury time but it was such a frustrating game for the 217 City fans who made the 500-mile round trip to the English Riviera.

Evening Leader

City's injury and suspension ravaged squad saw defender Ashley Westwood (hamstring) added to the bulging injury list but the point at Torquay arrested a run of three consecutive defeats. In the third minute of injury time Chester grabbed the equaliser. A long ball was headed back to Martinez and the Spanish maestro exquisitely struck it into the corner of the net from 15 yards.

Daily Post

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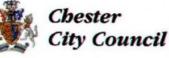
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coca cola league 2 TABLE

26.08.06

200	6/	07 League Two Table											-	-				Augus	t 26, 2	uue
	-				OVER	ш				н	OME				A	WAY				
			9	M	2	1	GS	GA	W	2		65	GA	M	2		GS	-	GD	2
1	•	Swindon	5	5	0	0	8	2	3	0	0	5	1	2	0	0	3	1	6	15
2	•	Waisall	5	4	1	0	8	2	3	0	0	5	0	1	1	0	3	2	6	13
3	•	Milton Keynes Dons	5	4	0	1	8	4	2	0	0	4	1	2	0	1	4	3	4	12
4	*	Peterborough	5	3	2	0	8	2	2	0	0	7	2	1	2	0	1	0	6	11
5	-	Lincoln City	5	3	2	0	11	7	0	2	0	3	3	3	0	0	8	4	4	11
6	•	Wycombe	5	3	1	1	8	3	1	1	0	4	1	2	0	1	4	2	5	10
7	*	Wrexham	5	2	3	0	7	3	1	2	0	4	1	1	1	0	3	2	4	9
8	٠	Hereford	5	3	0	2	8	6	2	0	1	6	3	1	0	1	2	3	2	9
9	•	Notts County	5	2	3	0	4	2	1	2	0	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	2	9
10	*	Shrewsbury	5	2	2	1	10	5	1	1	0	7	2	1	1	1	3	3	5	8
11	*	Torquay	5	2	2	1	6	5	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	0	2	1	1	8
12		Chester	5	2	1	2	8	7	1	0	1	3	2	1	1	1	5	5	1	7
13	•	Darlington	5	2	0	3	8	7	1	0	1	5	2	1	0	2	3	5	1	6
14	*	Mansfield	5	1	3	1	8	9	1	1	1	5	6	0	2	0	3	3	-1	6
15	•	Bristol Rovers	5	2	0	3	4	8	2	0	1	3	2	0	0	2	1	6	-4	6
16		Accrington Stanley	5	1	2	2	4	7	1	1	1	3	4	0	1	1	1	3	-3	5
17		Barnet	5	1	1	3	6	6	1	0	1	3	1	0	1	2	3	5	0	4
18		Grimsby	5	1	1	3	4	10	1	1	0	4	3	0	0	3	0	7	-6	4
19	•	Bury	5	1	0	4	6	10	1	0	2	5	5	0	0	2	1	5	-4	3
20	•	Boston Utd	5	1	0	4	6	11	1	0	2	4	3	0	0	2	2	8	-5	3
21	•	Hartiepool	5	0	2	3	2	7	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	2	1	5	-5	2
22		Stockport	5	0	2	3	2	8	0	1	1	1	3	0	1	2	1	5	-6	2
23		Rochdale	5	0	1	4	1	5	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	2	1	3	-4	1
24		Macclesfield	5	0	1	4	2	11	0	1	2	1	4	0	0	2	1	7	-9	1

Key

GP: Games Played, P: Points, W: Wins, D: Draws, L: Losses, GS: Goals Scored, GA: Goals Against, GD: Goal Difference

■ Moved Up ■ Moved Down ▶ Remained

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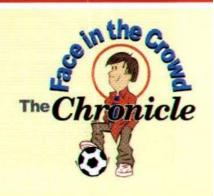
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city interview ROBERTO MARTINEZ

Spanish midfielder Roberto Martinez was brought into the club during City's pre-season schedule when he was invited by the management to watch the team's home friendly game against Blackpool and was impressed enough to put pen to paper on a two-year deal the day before City's fun-day friendly game against Huddersfield Town where he made his debut. Roberto explained to City Review how the move came about.

"Obviously the link with Graham Barrow played a big part in the move, as you know in 1995 when he was the manager of Wigan Athletic, he flew over to Spain and I signed for Wigan. I have always had a huge respect for Graham and I always look up to him, he's a fantastic man who has a superb knowledge of the game. When the option came about to join Chester City, I was always keen to sign so that I could work with him and Mark Wright who is someone who has played at the top level, been involved in a World Cup and is someone who I know wants to be successful and that was the main reason that I decided to join Chester."

Martinez has high hopes for his new club too as he told us about his first impressions of the new surroundings and about how excited he is for the future of the club, "I've always said that I think Chester should be in a higher division than they are and the first impression I got of the club when I came to that pre-season game was just how much potential there is here. It's a fantastic club. Obviously there is a lot of work to be done but you can see the talent that there is in this squad. There has been over seventeen new signings and obviously that takes time for those players to gel. The supporters are a big part of this football club too and I'm excited by the challenge ahead."

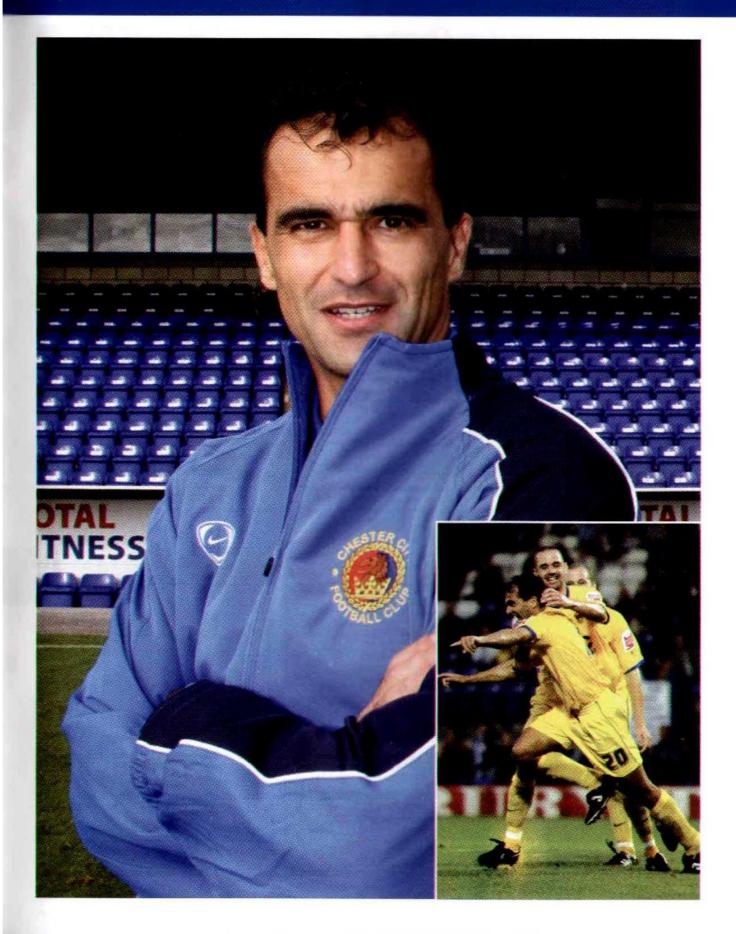
Martinez, who is currently living in a local hotel, then explained to us how difficult it has been to settle off the pitch but on it he is flying as his two goals so far testify. "Footballwise, I have settled really well, everything has fallen into place naturally for me, we have a fantastic almosphere in the dressing room which is always a priority to help you settle in at a new club. It has been a pleasure to be at Chester City since day one. I'm staying in a hotel at the moment so the sooner I can find a place to move into the better because it's always hard to be in a hotel but those things are part and parcel of being a footballer and you just have to get on with it."

"Straight away you can see that there are a few characters in the dressing room and the banter is flying around which is an important ingredient to have in a successful squad. There are a few practical jokers in the squad too so you have to be really prepared and always aware!"

Robert then wasted no time in telling us what qualities he hopes to add to the side, "People don't realise how hard it is to play in League Two, you get many teams who play percentage football and it's really physical. Sometimes it's difficult to try and play football but I always believe to try to play in the right way and I think in the squad we have right now it should be easier for us to try and play that kind of football. I've played in this division twice before and I've been promoted from it twice so in a way I can use that experience to help us get out of this division. I have the knowledge of what to expect and that can only help. If I can help some of the younger players too then that is a bonus for us. I will try to bring the ball down and get the best out of the players that I have around me, as this is the way that I believe football should be played."

The 33-year-old began his career in his hometown of Belaquer Lerida and as he told us, football has always played a huge part in his life due in no small part to his father who played and managed teams when Roberto was a child. "I've always breathed football throughout my life; my Dad was a footballer and manager. Every single image I remember from a young age is of being in a dressing room with my Dad's team and all we ever talked about was football so it was inevitable that I was going to be with a football at my feet since the age of two-years-old. I started playing eleven-a-side football at the age of nine for my home town and then I signed for Real Zaragoza on professional terms at sixteen and spent five years there coming up through the ranks, the B team then the under 19's and onto the first team for my debut against Atletico Madrid in 1993. Then I signed for Wigan in 1995 and spent six years at Springfield Park before signing for Motherwell in the SPL. I signed for three years there but after a year the club went into administration and I moved to Walsall in 2002 then in February 2003 I went to Swansea City."

Finally, we asked Roberto about what qualities he sees in his new manager, he explained, "Mark Wright has a winning attitude and that is a fantastic thing to have. It's something that he passes onto the players in the dressing room. You feel that you can go out and beat anyone, which is very important. He's a well-organised manager as well; he knows exactly how to win games. That kind of motivation he gives to the players and allows them to express their talent and individuality."



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coca cola league 2 FIXTURES 01.09.06

Darlington v Torquay United
Grimsby Town v Macclesfield Town
Hartlepool United v Boston United
Lincoln City v Accrington Stanley
Wycombe Wanderers v Mansfield Town

QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1. Kilmarnock 2. Manchester United 3. AFC Bournemouth 4. Portugal
- 5. Brian Deane 6. For taking drugs 7. Bill Shankly 8. Tottenham Hotspur
- 9. Chris Waddle and Glenn Hoddle 10. Aston Villa, Liverpool, Northampton Town and Charlton Athletic, York City, Stafford Rangers & St Albans

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to meet, eat and celebrate



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- Catering by Paul Heathcote chefs
- Full event planning including florists, photographers and entertainers
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G KEEPER	29.99	34.99	39.99

PRINTED NAME AND NUMBER £10

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POLO SHIRT	-	-	25.00
SWEAT SHIRT	22.00	25.00	30.00
RAINTOP	22.00	25.00	30.00
STADIUM COAT	40,00	45.00	50.00
TRAINING SHORT	-	-	15.00
TRAINING SHIRT	15.00	17.00	20.00
1/2 ZIP FLEECE	25.00	30.00	35.00

SUPPORTERS WEAR

	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON.	
DESCRIPTION	JUNIOR	SENIOR
POLO SHIRT TIPPED	10.00	15.00
POLO SHIRT HOOP	-	20.00
RUGBY SHIRT HOOP	-	25.00
RETRO SHIRTS	-	35.00
FLEECE	15.00	20.00
TEESHIRT	7.00	10.00
TODDL	ERS	
BABY FLEECE up to 36mths	10.00	
BABY GROW	7.00	

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HAT NAMED	5.00
CAP	5/8/10.00
TOWEL	15,00
FLAGS	5.00
FLAG 5 X 3 GEORGE CROSS	10.00
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WYCOMBE WANDERERS away days

09.09.08 coca cola league 2 k.o. 3.00pm

City travel to Buckinghamshire a week tomorrow to face Paul Lambert's promotion chasing Wycombe Wanderers side at the Causeway Stadium.

Ground Name: The Causeway Stadium

Capacity: 10,000

Address: Hillbottom Road, High Wycombe,

Bucks, HP12 4HJ

Main Telephone No: 01494 472100

Fax No: 01494 527633 Pitch Size: 115x75 yards Team Nickname: The Chairboys Shirt Sponsors: Loans.co.uk

Home Kit Colours: Navy & Light Blue Away Kit Colours: White With Blue Trim

Kit Manufacturers: Prostar

Official Web Site: www.wycombewanderers.co.uk

Unofficial website:

www.wycombewanderers-mad.co.uk

Causeway Stadium Guide

On one side of the ground is the impressive looking Frank Adams Stand, opened in 1996. This was named in memory of the man who originally donated to the club their previous ground at Loakes Park. It is a large two-tiered stand, complete with a row of executive boxes and it dwarfs the rest of the stadium. The other three stands are smaller affairs, but are at least all covered. Only the Valley Stand at the home end remains as terracing. Opposite is the Dreams Stand, housing City supporters, a medium sized single tiered stand, with windshields to either side. Along the other side of the ground is the Seymour Taylor Main Stand. This single tiered stand has a raised seating area, meaning that fans access it by climbing a small set of stairs in front of it.

Blues fans will be mostly located at one end of the ground in the Dreams Stand, where just over 2,000 of us can be accommodated. The club has a relaxed friendly feel about it. The ground is situated in a nice setting with a wooded hill over looking the ground (this normally has a small contingent of supporters watching the game for nothing) and with green fields surrounding the other sides. The standard football ground fayre of burgers (£2.30), pies (£2), pasties and hot dogs are available from the refreshments area.

As the ground is on the edge of an industrial estate, there aren't many pubs around. The nearest pub to the Causeway Stadium, is the Hourglass in Sands (about a 15 minute walk, from the end of the road up to the ground). Away fans are normally ok in small groups. Arrive early at the ground and you will be able to go into the Supporters Club at the ground, which costs £2 to enter. The Club is one of the suites at the far end of the Main Stand and is a spacious room with two bars and food. The atmosphere is extremely relaxed and friendly with

both home and away supporters. A marquee has also been erected behind the away end, which contains a bar serving draught beers. It has been specifically provided for away supporters.

Travel Time

The stadium is located on the outskirts of Wycombe on the Sands Industrial Estate. Leave the M40 at Junction 4 and take the A4010 towards Aylesbury. Turn left at the 4th roundabout into Lane End Road and then continue straight down this road. Cross another roundabout and into Hillbottom Road. The ground is down at the very bottom of this road. There a number of AA road signs labelled 'London Wasps' which are helpful in pointing the way to the ground as they share the stadium with Wanderers.

There is a fair sized car park located at the ground which costs £3 per car, or some of the industrial units provide match day parking (also at around £3). As there is only one road that leads from the stadium, it can be a nightmare leaving the official car park at full time. We recommend therefore, parking in one of the industrial units that line Hillbottom Road towards the ground.

If coming by train into Wycombe station, then either take a Taxi (costs about £5) or get the football special bus that runs from the station to the ground on match days. The Football Special (No.501) departs the Railway Station for the stadium at 13.55 (cost about £2.50 return). The Special returns 10 minutes after the final whistle. If you have got the energy, then a walk from the station to the ground along the West Wycombe road takes in several pubs and can make the three quarters of an hour or so walk seem a lot less!! Those in the know will cut across a park just after the last pub on the West Wycombe Road and be there ten minutes sooner.

Tickets

Adult £17 (£15 if purchased in advance)
Senior £14 (£12 if purchased in advance)
Student £13 (£11 if purchased in advance)
Junior/Under 16 £10 (£8 if purchased in advance)

City fans can benefit by saving £2 on the ticket cost by purchasing their ticket in advance. Listen out for Cleggy making announcements to this effect over the tannoy tonight for more details.







coca cola league 2

It's two home games inside five days for City following next Saturday's trip to Wycombe. Notts County provide the opposition on Tuesday 12th September (7:45pm) and Grimsby Town travel down to the Saunders Honda Stadium on Saturday 16th September (3:00pm)



Notts County have gone through something of a revolution since their last visit to Chester in January. A new manager has been installed in the shape Steve Thompson while fourteen players have departed Meadow Lane with thirteen arriving.

After a decent start, Notts County had a very poor end to last season, with the result being that Steve Thompson has embarked on a major overhaul of his squad over the summer, although it is open to question as to whether they look an awful lot better for it. Thompson was not a universally popular choice as manager and a poor season could quickly dent confidence at a club that has been in the doldrums for a few years now.

One familiar face to City fans when Notts journey to Chester in a few weeks will be Iom Curtis who spent last season here at the Saunders Honda before departing for Nottingham during the summer.

Here is the full list of in's and out's

Transfers In: Lawrie Dudfield (Boston United), Jason Lee (Northampton Town), Matt Somner (Aldershot), Alan White (Boston United), Andy Parkinson (Grimsby Town), Stephen Hunt (Colchester United), Gary Silk (Portsmouth), Tcham N'Toya (Chesterfield), Austin McCann (Boston United), Junior Mendes (Huddersfield Town), Tom Curtis (Chester City), Saul Deeney (Burton Albion), Dan Gleeson (Cambridge United), Ian Ross (Sheffield United – Ioan).

Transfers Out: Andy White (Kidderminster Harriers), Chibuzor Chilaka (out of contract), Brian O'Callaghan (out of contract), Noe Sissoko (out of contract), Matty Williams (Tamworth), Stacy Long (Gravesend & Northfleet), Shaun Marshall (out of contract), Kelvin Wilson (Preston North End), Julien Baudet (Crewe Alexandra), Emmet Friars (Tamworth), Steve Scoffham (out of contract), Chris Palmer (Wycombe Wanderers), Lewis McMahon (out of contract), Robert Ullathorne (out of contract).

Last time we met

Two second-half penalties saw Chester slip to another defeat as Notts County moved within touching distance of the play-off positions. The defeat, the eighth out of City's previous nine league games, came after two rash moves in a match were there was little to choose between the two sides.

Chester City: Gillet, McNiven, Artell, Dimech (Vaughan 71), Regan, Lowe, Drummond, Curtis, Richardson (Blundell 61), Asamoah. Subs not used: Curle, Walker, Cordon.

Notts County: Pilkington, Wilson, Baudet, Martin, Palmer, Pipe, Crooks, Edwards, Needham (O'Callaghan 51), Dadi, DeBolla (Scoffham 67). Subs not used: Friars, White, Marshall

After that...

Grimsby are the visitors to the Saunders Honda and are another side under new management. Grimsby came agonisingly close to automatic promotion last season, but the subsequent departure of Russell Slade and a number of players suggests that they may find it difficult to replicate that form this time. With Michael Reddy also having handed in a transfer request, Graham Rodger looks to have a tough task on his hands.

Transfers In: Isaiah Rankin (Brentford), Phil Barnes (Sheffield United), Gary Harkins (Blackburn Rovers), Peter Beagrie (Scunthorpe United).

Transfers Out: Rob Jones (Hibernian), Andy Parkinson (Notts County), Steve Mildenhall (Yeovil Town), Jean-Paul Karnudimba (Yeovil Town), Marc Goodfellow (Bury), Curtis Woodhouse (retired), Thomas Pinault (Brentford).

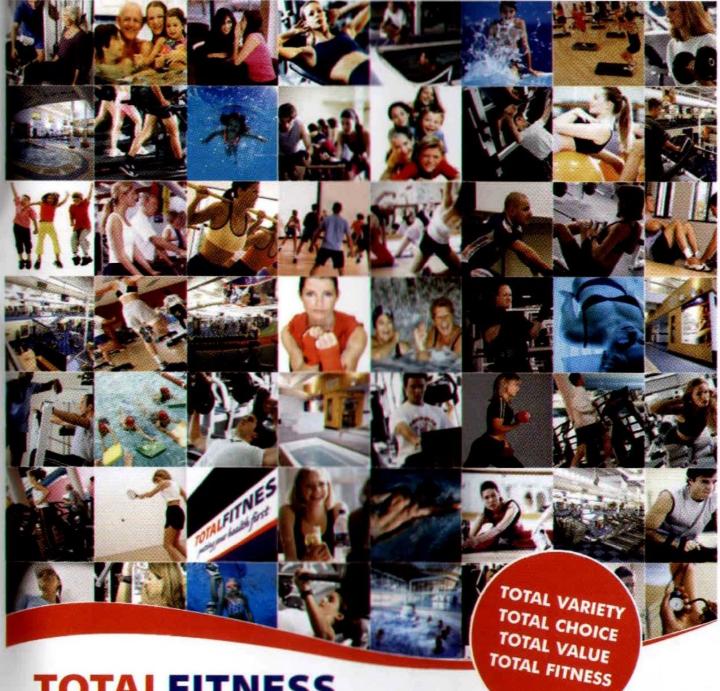
Last time we met

Grimsby underlined the tough task facing new Chester boss Mark Wright after the Mariners completed their League Two double over them, 1-0 at Blundell Park in Wright's first game back in charge of the Blues, It was hardly classic stuff from the Mariners but Chester seldom managed to threaten and, had Grimsby not missed a late penalty, the score line would have been more convincing.

Grimsby Town: Mildenhall, McDermott, Futcher, Jones, Newey, Toner, Bolland, Woodhouse, Parkinson, Jones, Cohen. Subs not used: Mendes, North, Barwick, Goodfellow, Downey.

Chester City: Gillet, Albrighton, Hessey, Ellender (Artell 73), McNiven, Drummond, Curtis, Regan, Lowe, Branch (Richardson 77), Blundell. Subs not used: Harrison, Vaughan, Tait.





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CHESTER CITY

Simon Marples 2

- Kevin Sandwith 3
- Stephen Vaughan 4
 - Phillip Bolland 5
 - Sean Hessey 6
 - Jamie Hand 7
- Jermaine McSporran 8
 - Gregg Blundell 9
 - Drewe Broughton 10
 - Glenn Cronin 11
 - John Danby 12
 - Jon Walters 14
 - Graham Allen 15
 - Dean Bennett 16
 - Laurence Wilson 17
 - Ashley Westwood 18
 - Paul Linwood 19
 - Roberto Martinez 20
 - David Artell 21
 - Michael Branch 22
 - Ricky Ravenhill 23
 - James Vaughan 26
 - Chris Holroyd 27
- Robert Marsh-Evans 28
 - Freddie Potter 29
 - Adam Wade 30
 - Mark Cadwallader 31
 - Paul Rutherford 32
 - radi kutilellulu 32
 - Phillip Palethorpe 33
 - Mark Wright M

SWINDON TOWN

- 1 Peter Brezovan
- 2 Jack Smith
- 3 Jamie Vincent
 - 5 Jerel Ifil
 - 6 Ady Williams
- 7 Gareth Whalley
 - 8 Aaron Brown
- 9 Christian Roberts
- 10 Lee Peacock
- 11 Andy Monkhouse
- 12 Ricky Shakes
 - 14 Andrew Gurney
 - 15 Andrew Nicholas
 - 16 Fola Onibuje
- 17 Charlie Comyn-Platt
 - 18 Paul Evans
- 19 Michael Pook
- 20 Royce Brownlie
- 21 Lucas Jutkiewicz
- 22 Gustavo Poyet
- 23 Curtis Weston
- 24 Ashan Holgate
- 25 Phil Smith
- 26 Dennis Wise
- 27 Ben Wells
- 28 Andy Caton
- 29 David Stroud
- 33 Leigh Henry
 - M Dennis Wise

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee D Foster 1st Assistant C Harwood 2nd Assistant D Storrie 4th Official: C Dunn

GROUND REGULATIONS

The following ground rules and regulations apply to all matches played at the Saunders Honda Stadium this season.

- 1. The club management reserves the right of admission to the ground. On no account will admission be granted to a person who is the subject of an exclusion order.
- 2. The club management reserves the right to refuse admission to the ground, or to eject from thr ground, any person who refuses to be searched by any servant or agent of the club or any Police Officer.
- 3. Fireworks, Flares, Smoke Canisters, Knives, Bottles, Glasses, Cans, Poles & Articles that might be used as a weapon and/or compromise public safety are not permitted within the ground.
- 4. The following are offences under the Football (offences) Act 1991 and are strictly forbidden. "The throwing of any object within the ground. "The use of foul or abusive language, obscene chanting or racial abuse towards any person. "Unauthorised entry onto the field of play or the surrounding track, except in an emergency.
- 5. The moving from one area of the groundto another without the permission of a steward, Police Officer or other authorised agent of the club is strictly forbidden.
- 6. The consumption of intoxicating liquurs is permitted only in places authorised in accordance with the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol, etc) Act 1985.
- 7. The Club Management reserve the right for its servants, agents and Police to remove any person from this ground any person who does not comply with all these rules and regulations, or whose presence within the ground is, or could reasonably be construed as constituting, a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to any other person.