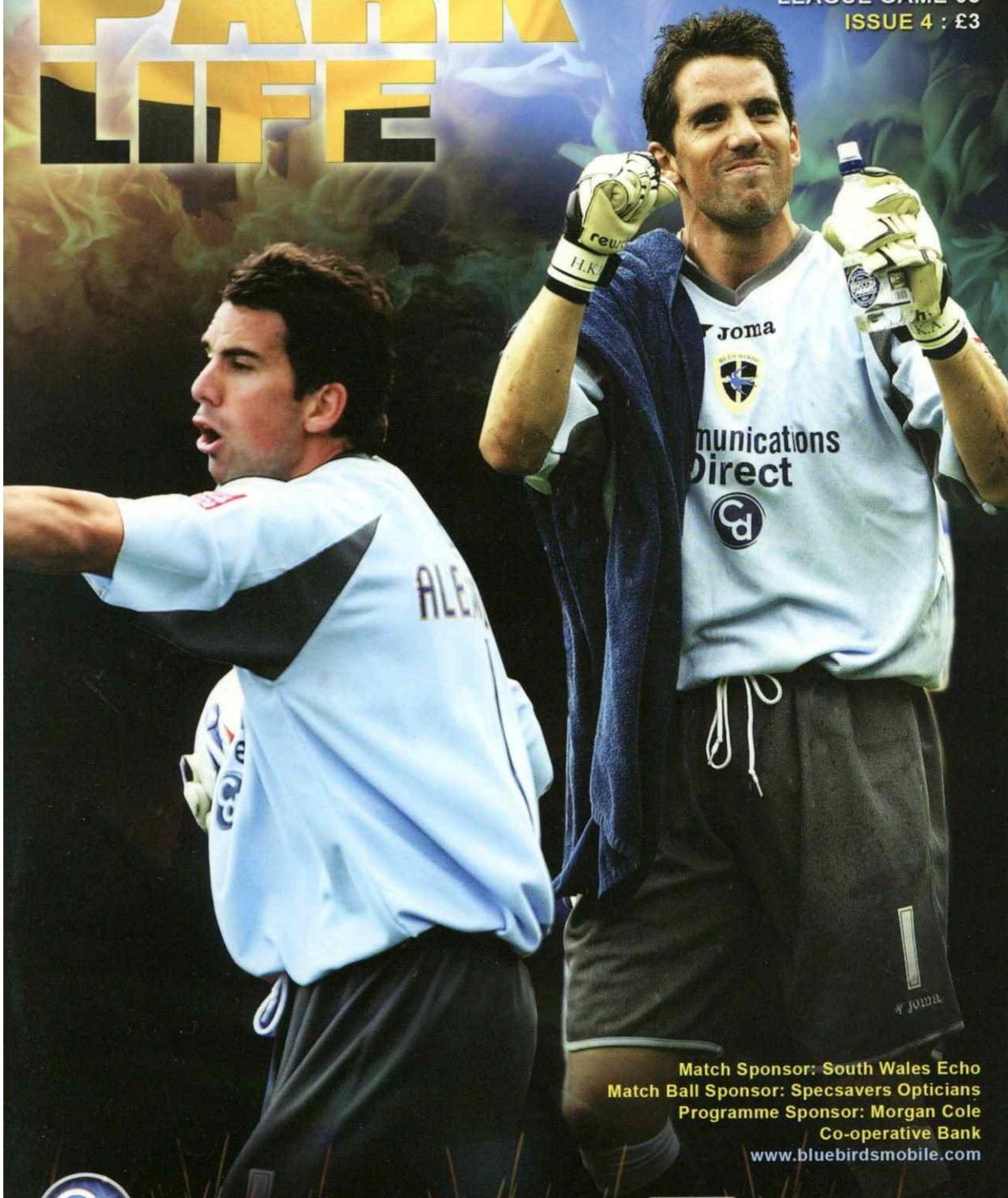


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LUTON TOWN : 16 SEPTEMBER : 3.00PM



POSITIVES, AND NEGATIVES

IT was disappointing that we didn't come away from Plymouth on Tuesday with a win after leading 3-0 with about seventeen minutes left, but there were plenty of positives coming out of that game because we played really well until that last quarter of an hour of the match – we got at them with power and pace, and scored some good goals.

The negatives are that, for fifteen minutes we allowed them back into it, and once they got their momentum going, with the crowd behind them, it was hard for us to stem the tide. So it was a bit disappointing to get only a point after all we had done, but it was difficult for me to have a go at our players when they played so well for such a long period of the game. I suppose you could sum it up by saying that to score five goals away from home and only come away with a draw is a little bit hard to take!

Mistakes Will Happen

Things like that Plymouth comeback are always going to happen in Football – don't ask me why. We experienced the good side of it last season when we drew 3-3 at today's opponents Luton. So hopefully it will only happen against us once a season, and we will be able to learn from what happened. It's not the end of the world, we will make mistakes, we are a young side, and the only way we can learn is by making mistakes, not deliberately. But we have made some mistakes in the last couple of games – at Preston last Saturday and then again on Tuesday, although we corrected Saturday to a big extent in the way we started at Plymouth and continued on until that last part of the game.

A Great Atmosphere Last Time

Although most of the other results involving sides around us in the table on Tuesday went for us, you can't rely on other results, and if you had said to me, or discussed it amongst yourselves before the first match in early-August, that we would be second in the Championship at this stage of the season, I don't think you would really have believed it. Now all of a sudden, everybody is

becoming a critic and an expert in what we should be doing and where we should be. So we'll just carry on, continuing to do what we have been doing, which hasn't been too bad so far, especially against Birmingham City here three weeks in a great atmosphere with a capacity crowd.

The Ledley "Row" - And A Warning!

I want to refer to the so-called "row" which I am supposed to have had with the F.A. of Wales over Joe Ledley's appearance against Brazil when he was under treatment for a toe-infection. This is something that follows a manager around with the Press a great deal. You say something, they interpret it how they want to interpret it, and then they write their headlines. For the record, as manager of this football club, I am entitled to ask questions about a player's treatment when he is away on International duty. There was no argument, no wrap, no disagreement with the F.A. of Wales or their management whatsoever.

One of my players was injured, he was put on antibiotics, I asked a question about it – it's as simple as that. Then the Press make a big issue of it, but that tends to be the way with the Press they want to make more of something that isn't there, and all that will happen as a result of what went on recently, as they will find out, is that I will clamp up, won't tell them anything, and the only way that our supporters will find out what is happening here is through our own official sources and outlets. I've done that before at other clubs, and I'll do it again if necessary. So if people want to continue making spectacular headlines and distorting the truth, than I promise them that they won't get anything from me in the future.

Mike Has Done Well

As for today's opponents, Mike Newell has done a great job at Luton since going there four years ago. There was talk of him leaving at one stage, but Mike decided to stay and he has done well with them. They are a good side, we had two really good battles with them last season when they beat us well 2-1 here and we came back to draw 3-3 at their place. It should be a good game this afternoon.

Good Experience For Andrea

We have two players out on loan at present – Chris Barker at Colchester, and he played against Luton on Tuesday, and Jeff Whitley at Stoke City. We are keeping an eye on how Chris and Jeff are doing, while Andrea Ferretti has just returned from a loan-spell at Scunthorpe where he had several appearances from the bench. That month at Scunthorpe seems to have done him the world of good because he has come back looking stronger, a bit more mature – and you only get that by playing first-team football. Andrea played in our reserve-team friendly against Fulham on Wednesday and did really well. So hopefully that little bit of experience with Scunthorpe will leave him wanting more first-team football rather than be happy just to be involved in the reserves.

Best Wishes To Rhys

One departure since my last column is that of Rhys Weston who had been with us for nearly six years. I wish him and his family well for the future – he was a good servant to this club, but as a manager you make decisions about players, and that's the nature of the job. There is never any animosity on my part towards any player that I let go. I have a job to do, I try and do it to the best of my ability. Along the way during my career as a manager, people might agree or disagree with decisions that I make about players. In Rhys's case, there was never any fall-out between us, and I've been quite lucky as a manager in that when I have let players go, because I have treated them in the right way, there has not been any comeback from them.



04/05 - DAVE JONES

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Welcome to Ninian Park for the return of the Hatters. Last year Luton left Cardiff the happier after coming back with style from a goal down. We'll be hoping for a better result today, with expectation higher for both teams after defying the pundits last time. Both of us have also come here today hoping to bounce back from an unwanted midweek draw, so it's set to be a great match. Let the games begin!!

Dave - Manager of the Month
 Congratulations to Dave Jones on being named Coca-Cola Championship Manager of the Month for August. Four wins and a draw during the month gained him the award, and that run of results over the opening five start-of-season League games was our best-ever opening to a season since we were elected to the Football League in May 1920.

SUPER SCOT



Kevin McNaughton has run away with the John Smiths August Player of the Month award, taking over fifty percent of the votes based on our first five games. As will be every month, we will also have one fan winner who will be invited to present the winning player with his award in person. The winner this month is Vic Parker.

City fans voting in our Official Messageboard have been quick to praise the Scottish International, with warm words on his performances so far. To view how the voting went in detail, go to www.ninianpark.com and follow the Official Messageboard link. The voting is then one of the main subjects in our City Talk section. Thanks very much to everyone who took the time to vote.

Our Ambassador winner today

As promised, our Ambassador Winners will continue for every home game this season. Our winner today is Saverio Risoli from Pontprennau, with Saverio winning a new Joma home shirt, just for being an Ambassador. Well done Saverio; you can collect your prize from Bluebirds Retail. Ambassadors should know that we will also be releasing details of our forthcoming first Ambassador Day very soon, so watch this space.

RED RETAINED

Dave Jones' appeal to the FAW in relation to Glenn Loovens' red card last Saturday in Preston had been considered but denied. This meant that Glenn was ineligible to play against Plymouth at Home Park on Tuesday night, though due to the nature of the card (deemed a professional foul) he will be in contention to play today.

Rhys Leaves For Norway

Rhys Weston, who left us on August 31st to join Norwegian side Viking

Stavanger, initially on a short-term contract, was our longest-serving player following the departure in the summer of Willie Boland, now at Hartlepool United. Rhys, who made one appearance for us this season against Barnet in the Carling Cup First Round, had been with us since November 20th 2000 when he was signed from Arsenal. Capped for Wales at Schools, Youth, Under-21 and Senior levels, he made 214 League and Cup appearances for us. We wish Rhys all the best in his future career.

The Athletics Stadium

The proposed development of the new Athletics Stadium that will be on the other side of Leckwith Road from the existing athletics stadium, has taken a step forward, with Cardiff Council, Cardiff Amateur Athletics Club and ourselves issuing the following joint statement on August 31st: It had been widely reported in the media that Cardiff Athletic Stadium would have to be out of action for up to 11 months in order that the development of Cardiff City Football Club's new stadium could go ahead. But Cardiff City Stadium Ltd, the developers of the new football stadium, have informed all parties that this is now not the case and it is still working towards the original plan of having new athletics facilities in place before demolition starts, so the transition is as seamless as possible.

Euro Bluebirds

No International break for several of our players who were in fact on International duty. Joe Ledley came on as substitute for Wales a fortnight ago in their 2-1 defeat by the Czech Republic, and that was quite an ex-Bluebirds re-union with Rob Earnshaw (Norwich City) and the West Ham United pair of Danny Gabbidon and James Collins in the squad, not forgetting Mark Delaney of Aston Villa who was with us in 1998/99 after being signed from Carmarthen Town. Unfortunately Paul Parry had to withdraw from the squad because of an ankle injury

sustained against Birmingham City on August 26th. Joe also played as substitute in Wales' 2-0 defeat by Brazil at Tottenham eleven days ago. Also on International duty was Neil Alexander who was on Scotland's bench for their 6-0 win against the Faroe Islands on September 2nd and their 2-1 victory against Lithuania on September 6th. As for our Under-21s, Joe Jacobson played for Wales in their 0-0 draw against Turkey here at Ninian Park a fortnight ago, with Chris Gunter on the bench, while Willo Flood was in action for the Republic of Ireland Under-21s on the same day.

**PITCH INCURSION:
 POLICE ADVICE**



Simon Insole, the Football Intelligence Officer for South Wales Police has this week provided some advice in relation to pitch incursions following an incident on Tuesday night. The message is clear – it just isn't worth it.

He said, "It appears lately that there have been a number of incidents where fans have felt it necessary to make their way onto the playing area or the pitch to celebrate goals scored. As Cardiff are having an excellent run at the moment this is giving cause for concern as it not only affects the individual but also the Club. There can be financial penalties imposed on the Club if they are deemed unable to control their fans at any subsequent disciplinary hearing.

"This was highlighted at the end of last Season at Southampton and again at Plymouth on Tuesday. This offence is so unnecessary as a Football Banning Order will be applied for on every occasion. The South Wales Police will also enforce any pitch incursion as can be seen from the number of arrests and persons charged from the

Community Shield fixture in August. The minimum Banning Order a Court will impose will be three years for this Offence. This Season appears to be one of Cardiff City's most promising for years, Please don't miss out just for a moment of madness."

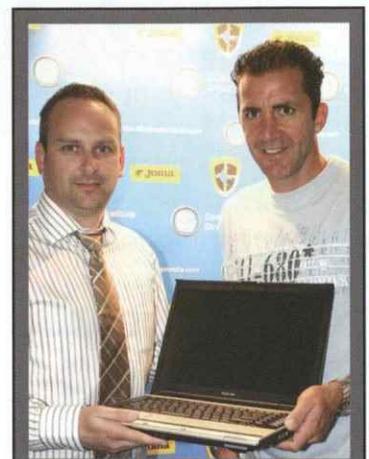
Liam Richards is celebrating his 8th birthday with us here today. Liam goes to St Paul's school in Grangetown. He enjoys playing football, playing golf, playing on his Play station and collecting football stickers. His favourite player is Michael Chopra. Happy Birthday Liam love from Mum, Dad, sister Cerys and all the family.



Issac Taylor



Our Birthday Box for Birmingham was booked for Issac Taylor who was celebrating his eighth birthday. Issac attends St.Patrick's School and can be seen here with Jamal Easter and Mark Howard.



New sponsors of the City News section are HAAC Ltd who have kindly donated reserves manager Paul Wilkinson with a laptop to make his life and job a lot easier. He told owner Simon Burnett, "People think that football coaching is all on the field, but we also have a lot of research to do and a lot of paperwork too. Until now I've struggled, but thanks to this equipment I can watch scouting DVD's, compile reports and lots more to improve my output. Thanks HAAC!"

HAAC Ltd is delighted to be involved with Cardiff City during the 2006/07 season as it continues to prove to be Wales number one football club, both off and on the pitch.

As the official club IT and Digital supplier HAAC Ltd aims to continue to provide an exceptional service and supply at cost effective prices for laptop and digital equipment to all its customers. These customers include a business client base and one-to-one customers of which Bluebird supporters are always welcome. We would like to wish the best of luck to Dave Jones and the players for what is hoped to be an outstanding season.

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Half Time skills



The Aberdare Grasshoppers were showing their skills on the field when Birmingham came to Ninian Park. The Grasshoppers supplied a great game for us to enjoy with some excellent skills on display. Today we have the Cadoxton Imps, so make sure to give them some great support.

Crossbar challenge



Half Time Wayne has finally managed to get a Cardiff City winner in the half time challenge (we were starting to worry). For the Birmingham game Kathrin Ceri came first and can be seen here with her prize. Pictured also are Josh Williams, Hayden Pit, Josh Jenkins and Michael Miller – well done all! The kids involved today will all get a free City DVD for taking part, with a Bluebirds prize for the best of the bunch.

Settling The Arguments

A little knowledge can be a dangerous thing, especially when it comes to facts and figures regarding large attendances at Ninian Park. Certain newspapers (not the South Wales Echo, Western Mail and Wales On Sunday) had it all wrong in connection with our 20,109 crowd

against Birmingham City three weeks ago. So let's put the record straight – it was our biggest crowd for any first-team game since the 22,009 that saw our F.A. Cup win over Leeds United in January 2002. It was our biggest League crowd since December 1980 when 21,198 saw our 3-3 draw against Swansea City. It was Ninian Park's first sell-out crowd since March 1961 when the turnstiles were shut on a Saturday evening 45,463 attendance against Tottenham Hotspur. The capacity of the ground in those days was just over 60,000 but safety-considerations for an evening match prevailed. We know that there have been bigger attendances than 20,000-plus between 1961 and the present, but the capacity of the stadium has been considerably reduced over the years. And just for the record, the last time we were top of the second tier of domestic football was in mid-March 1971 in the original Second Division, while four wins and a draw from our first five League matches is our best-ever start since we were elected to the Football League in the summer of 1920.

And The Band Played On

When Luton Town first came to Ninian Park on Good Friday, March 22nd 1913, both clubs were challenging strongly for promotion from the Second Division of the Southern League, and our 3-0 victory that day saw us confirm promotion and the Championship of the division. The game attracted what was then the best attendance so far in our short professional career –

22,000 amongst whom were 1,500 Luton fans all wearing straw boater-hats, Luton being the centre of the boater-industry. They also brought with them a brass-band which headed their procession from Cardiff General Station to Ninian Park, playing loudly along the way. Since it was Good Friday, and society in general tended to be quite respectful to such occasions at that time, it did not go down too well amongst the residents of Tudor Street and Ninian Park Road. No band ever again headed a supporters procession along that route, until our appearance in the May 2003 Play-Off Final.

Change Of Date For Q.P.R

Our Championship home fixture against Queen's Park Rangers, originally scheduled for Saturday, November 18th, has now been brought forward to the previous evening – Friday, 17th November (7.45pm) as the game will be featured on Sky.

The Brian Clark Story

The autobiography of Bluebirds goal-scoring legend Brian Clark will be published a fortnight today when we are at home to Wolverhampton Wanderers. Brian, who scored the goal when we defeated Real Madrid 1-0 at home in the first leg of the European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final in March 1971, will be present in our Club Shop from 10.00am on the morning of the Wolves fixture to sign copies of his book (£10.99p).

EXTRA TIME ANSWERS FROM BIRMINGHAM

QUICK QUIZ

1. DJ Campbell is squad number 14
2. The letter that starts most Championship teams is S. Sheffield Wednesday, Southampton, Southend United, Stoke City and Sunderland.
3. Our shirt sponsor this year is Communications Direct.

ROAD TO: RICCARDO SCIMECA
Aston Villa, Nottingham Forest, Leicester, West Brom, Cardiff City

We have to say that the quality of submission to our August writing competition was first class, making selecting an eventual winner very difficult indeed. It took a while, but after some in depth consideration, we have a winner. To refresh, the challenge was to summarise the month of August in words, with a rough limit of one hundred and fifty words to keep it tight and to the point. After the closing day on Monday September 11th, we revealed that our winner had been selected as ccfc_jr1927, with The Wingnut coming in a close second.

ccfc_jr1927 is ironically living in Luton but can't make it today to join us as a member of the press. In his place steps the Wingnut who will go behind the scenes as our guest with the press, watch the post match press conference and then conduct an exclusive interview himself with one of our players after the game. We have also scheduled the same for ccfc_jr to do the same when Southampton come on October 17th.

Congratulations to our winners and thanks very much to everyone who took the time to submit an entry. To view every entry, go to <http://www.ninianpark.com> though until then, here is the winning entry, followed by the second place entry.

*Cardiff City have made it to the summit of tier two,
And the whole of the capital is at last, a massive sea of blue.
Reading did it last year and ran away from the chasing pack,
Definitely what we need to do to bring the good times back.
In the month of August we cast aside the likes of Leeds & Brum,
For all of us the journey had only just begun.
Finding out who we could beat and really worry teams*

*Cometh the next eleven men, they'll be worried, so it seems.
If the rest below are thinking its a fluke that we are top,
Try watching our boys in action and those rumours will then stop.
Years ago was the last time that we sat where we are now.*

*And Dave Jones and all his staff should take a massive bow.
Records already broken for our best start to a campaign ever,
Easy title win for us, Never say "Never".*

*The table doesn't lie,
Only one team leading the way,
Perhaps the skies in September will be blue instead of grey.*

ccfc_jr1927

*Newcomers Barnsley our first match be
Away to the team who put paid to Swansea.
Chopra, McNaughton, Gilbert, McPhail
Boost the Bluebirds towards the Holy Grail*

*A Thommo volley, Ledley after a break
Of such quality and pace, Barnsley couldn't take.
Good win to start and performance to boot
Still no Koumas, has Sam found the loot?*

*Hartson's in town on a Tuesday night
18000 crowd is a wonderful sight.
Brom take the lead but City look mean
And they share the spoils in the best game I've seen.*

*Coventry battled hard for a draw
With Chopra up front, bound to score.
Leeds kick off after our blood
But fail to stop the mighty Flood.*

*We crash out to Barnet in the Carling Cup
But a top of the table clash sees tickets sell up.
The stars of Birmingham fail to shine bright
And awesome City top the table outright.*

The Wingnut



PREDICTION WINNERS

Our online Communications Direct and Bluebirds Mobile sponsored Predictions League at www.ninianpark.com has given us our first monthly winner in OZZY who managed to get the most points from August to claim a techno prize. We also have weekly winners and will be featuring all of them more heavily in our next issue of Park Life. Join today and you could still be a weekly, monthly of overall winner.



You Bluebirds

There's more than one way to get inside a copy of Park Life. Of course you could be lucky or unlucky

enough to get caught by our roving You Bluebirds snappers – failing that you could send in your pictures for inclusion right here. It really is that easy. In this issue we've got a baby bluebird in Eleri Williams. Eleri was born in June 2006 and has been a fan ever since! We've also got Liam Murphy with his grampy Ray. Liam lives in North Wales but has aspirations of playing for City when he's older. Keep up the practice Liam; we hope to see you soon. Our final photo today is of Chris Jenkins from his recent trip to Ibiza, with Chris a lifelong fan. To add your face to these pages, send either by email to youbluebirds@cardiffcityfc.co.uk or drop off the photo to our reception.

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Many thanks to our neighbours Hewdens who kindly donated the Cardiff City Media Department two video gantries for the University of Glamorgan Training Ground. This donation will mean subscribers of Bluebirds TV will be able to watch highlights of Academy games and that our Analysis department will be able to give valuable feedback to Coaches and our future stars.

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Richer Sounds

The word that Richer Sounds provide great discounts to City fans is getting around. Not only are you taking advantage of our friends in Cowbridge Road but former players are getting involved too. Former Ninian Park favourite Neil Cox popped in to say hello to his old colleagues and ended up going home with a 42" top of the range plasma.

He said, "It's going well at Crewe after a bit of an average start and it's great to see the start that's been made here. I like to keep in touch with the lads at Cardiff as I really enjoyed my time in Wales. I'm not too sure how I'm going to get this new TV in my car".

Anthony Stevens of Treharis won a Richer Sounds DVD player following City's win over Birmingham. Anthony said, "Nice one!! A DVD player for 50p you can't go wrong".



HMV

Ben Rees of Llandaff in Cardiff won a signed Dogs 'Turn against this land' album after successfully answering a question in the weekly HMV competition on the www.cardiffcityfc.co.uk. Ben was thinking of buying the CD after hearing one of the tracks on the radio.

Ben said, "This is great news; you've saved me a few quid there. It's also a great bonus that the band have signed it".

Madden NFL 06 on the PSP is currently at the top of the most bought games at HMV. Why buy when you can win a copy thanks to your Club and HMV. Simply answer this question.

Q. Who scored the Academy U18's goal against Chelsea last week?

E-mail your answer and contact details to HMV@cardiffcityfc.co.uk



Cineworld

Who's that watching a film is it Michael Chopra? Chops went to see Adrift last week, however he was not overly impressed. He said, "It was a bit stupid. No famous actors - give me Jaws any day." Movie critics beware!!

If you would like to be in with a chance winning a family pass for the movie of your choice at Cineworld, just answer this question.

Q. What can you claim for free if you join Bluebirds TV?

E-mail your answer and contact details to Cineworld@cardiffcityfc.co.uk

10/11- MEDIA NEWS

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THE ART OF GOALKEEPING

One of the players collecting rave reviews in our early part of the season is Neil Alexander, who is arguably showing his best ever form since arriving from Livingston in 2001. With the level of football around us at a high standard, mistakes and flaws can be easily exposed, but to his credit and after a period of uncertainty at Ninian Park, Neil has continually improved over the last two seasons. His performances have thankfully been in tune with higher levels from his new team mates, helping us to maintain a good start. Park Life caught up with the Scottish International to ask how it all began, how the changes have benefited his game and what he hopes for the future.

PARK LIFE: Was it always a case of wanting to be a goalkeeper as a kid, or did you like the rest of us want to be up front and get all of the glory?

Neil: I always wanted to be a striker, but from just kicking about in the park with my dad, he told me to get in goal to take a few shots at me. I had a bit of a knack for it and liked to dive around, getting all muddy and making spectacular saves. My dad said that I had a good eye for the ball; good hands. It really just progressed from there as my dad thought that there was something there that made me stand out from being an outfield player. I progressed from there and I've not looked back. To be honest though, I wish that I had been an outfield player because as you said, those boys get all the glory.

PL: Of course in Canada you had a good run out against the University team, with Dave looking on to see your prowess at the other end for a change

Neil: Yeah, in Canada it's just made it even worse, scoring two goals and giving me the bug again – even Dave looked quite impressed with my performance. It was a good laugh, but in all seriousness I know my position and I think I'd be better off sticking to it.

PL: Growing up, who were the goalkeepers you looked up to and who from today stands out?

Neil: Peter Schmeichel and Andy Goram in Scotland were big influences on me as I was growing up. Andy was Scotland's number one at the time and was fantastic for Rangers. These days you have to look at Petr Åech at Chelsea as the benchmark to meet, but there are also keepers like Shay Given who stand out because he's obviously not the tallest like me. Shay and I are similar players.

PL: Is there anything in particular you look out for as the best attributes of being a good shot stopper?

Neil: If you're a goalkeeper training every day it's easy to see them making fantastic saves from average shots; but in fact they are the easier ones. It's the goalkeepers who have got a great pair of hands who make great saves look easy from having a good position, good feet and good decision making. I look up to the latter rather than the showboat keepers.



12/13- BIG FEATURE

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NEIL ALEXANDER

01



PL: Can you watch a game and just enjoy it for what it is, or is it hard to switch off from 'work mode' looking at whether or not only the goalies are doing ok?

Neil: Well I enjoyed the Celtic and Manchester United game on Wednesday. I thought that the Celtic keeper made some spectacular saves and it's always good to appreciate some good goalkeeping. But I can easily switch off and enjoy a game for what it is rather than being in work mode.

PL: Moving on to this season, there are always changes in personnel. This season has been a little harder for you however with Rhys going. To his credit he could have just stayed around getting a wage, but he just wanted to play

Neil: Yeah, I think you've summed it up there. Rhys was just desperate to play and he obviously knew that it was too difficult to get a chance here anymore. He had got it into his head from that he needed to look elsewhere, making the brave decision to go to Norway with a view to regular first team football. He snapped it up and he's really enjoying it over there, being a part of the first team setup. His first game is tomorrow so I'll be keeping an eye out. Hopefully he'll do well and I hope that he does as he's a fantastic player in my eyes.

PL: There was also the change behind the scenes with Marg' (Martyn Margetson) stepping up to a new coaching position. Tell us about the transition and how things have been so far

Neil: First and foremost I was disappointed to see George Wood leave as he was my mentor, a fantastic coach and a great friend. He helped me to get through a lot of lows at Cardiff and I owe him so much. I was sorry to see him go, but now Martyn stepped up and has been fantastic also in his first coaching position. We've always got along ever since he came in. We've worked well together in competition, but now he's a coach he's stepped it up another notch. I've enjoyed coming in every morning to train with Marg' and that makes it a better place to work and a little better all around.

PL: Is it easier for keepers to move from being a team mate to a coach due to the differences in training?

Neil: It depends on the initial relationship really. Obviously competing for places there has to be a rivalry, but with us it's always been friendly and it's never been the case of, 'I hope he doesn't do well' or anything like that. We've always wanted the best for each other and I think it's made it easier for the pair of us as roles have changed here. I respect him greatly and he's brought in some new fresh ideas and drills. I've enjoyed every day and I hope that he has too.

PL: We've also got some good prospects coming through in Mark Howard and Scott Allison

Neil: Yeah, Mark has come in from Arsenal and I think that he's got a great future ahead of him. He's young and still has a lot to learn, but that's the case for all professionals and hopefully with time he will progress. Young Scott has been here for a few years and with each season he improves, getting better and better. He's a good future prospect and should do well.

PL: We're not dwelling on it even slightly, but Mark has come back stronger after the disappointment of the Carling Cup game

Neil: These things happen to everyone; regardless of how long they have been playing of the level they're at. He knows that and has been positive since the game as it would be foolish to dwell on it. As a keeper you also have to be strong minded and get over it. As a goalkeeper these things can happen more often than not, and he's tough enough to brush it off and learn from the experience.

PL: On a personal level, your levels seem to be that much higher again this year with some great saves and some solid performances. After a good year last year it's looking like you're raising the bar even more

Neil: I'm absolutely delighted in my form at the start of this season. I felt from the opening day that I have carried on from the positives of the last campaign and that was a massive thing for me. I think that I've even raised my standards even





more as every game has gone on and I feel more confident, getting better and better, while producing saves that maybe last season I would have missed. It just shows how far I've come and is also a testament to the coaching side under Marg' with him maybe adding some aspects to my game that could have been missing before. Any praise that I get is praise for praise for Martyn and he deserves it. I'm delighted with how I'm playing and I don't think that I've played as well as this in my whole career.

I said after the Preston game that the two save that I'd made there have got to be up there with the best I've pulled off in my career. It's early days yet but I hope that I can continue this form then the team will benefit as well as myself.

PL: Even if the camera angle at Preston didn't show it as you would have liked – something of course you didn't moan about!

Neil: Yeah, I knew that you'd bring that up! Yes the camera angle didn't help me out too much as far as showing the one save, but from my view and the view on the bench we were all delighted with it. That'll do me.

PL: Not to get carried away at an early stage, but the football we've been producing this season so far has been on occasion breathtaking – some of the most entertaining displays seen here in a long time. Would you agree?

Neil: We've set the standards from the opening games, playing some fantastic football. I've been here for six years or so now and I have to say that I think it's arguably the best we've played since I've been here. We've got players here who can do that on a consistent basis and the manager has brought in some quality signings to help us push for what we all want. The key is to keep everyone fit and to keep the squad together, we've got a great bunch of lads here who can play great football, create chances and score goals. It's no fluke that we're at the top end of the league and there's no reason that we can't continue.

PL: The last fifteen minutes against Plymouth aside, or maybe especially because of the last fifteen minutes, you wouldn't want to be the visiting team today based on the positives of

our game that everyone is talking about
Neil: I hope that Luton will feel threatened today based on the displays that we've made so far; and I hope we can go out and show them why they should feel threatened and our football batters them. The best way to get Tuesday night out of our system is to go out in front of an enthusiastic home crowd and collect three points. If we do that and are in the top spot or a close second then everyone connected to the club is happy. The only way we can do that is to turn up the heat and show everyone why we are where we are. I really do believe with the players and ability that we have, we can do that quite comfortably.

PL: Of course Luton today have a certain penalty taker in their ranks – an ex Bluebird in Richard Langley. How do you fancy your chances if it came down to it?

Neil: Well he missed in midweek, so I don't know if he'll be still taking them for Luton today. If he is then I'd relish the challenge, though it would be best not to give away a penalty in the first place. Richard may get another hostile reception here, but he'll enjoy it and rise to the occasion. Hopefully he'll be just as concerned with our playing. At the end of the ninety minutes I'll enjoy having a chat with him again. He's a good lad and footballers have to move on in their careers. You've got to look after yourself in this industry and I've seen a lot of players come and go in my time here.

PL: Of players leaving, we don't want to make it sound like your farewell speech at all, but you're one of the last left of the players from our promotion season. Is that something you are aware of?

Neil: I'm not sure if that's a good or bad thing for me, as with Barker on loan I'm the last one left. It's been a fantastic six years for me and even if this is my last year I've enjoyed myself immensely and I hope that I can finish in the best way possible, by helping the club gain promotion to the Premiership. For now I'm glad to be here and I've seen some players move on from Ninian Park to do some fantastic things. I'd love to be here longer, but obviously my contract is up at the end of this year, so you can naturally see that there is a potential for this to be my last year here. If it is my last year I'll want to go out with a bang, but I would love to stay and the best way to do that is by playing well every Saturday. That's what I'll aim to do.



Hello and welcome to the game everyone. My name is Callum McKenzie and I work alongside Scott Young in our development areas around South Wales. Today it's down to me to be bringing you our latest Football in the Community report, which I hope that you find informative. I also hope that it plays a part in spurring on you Junior Bluebirds to getting involved with Scott and the rest of the Cardiff City development team to learn new skills under the eyes of qualified coaches connected to the Bluebirds!

Theme Day Successes

We have had a very long but positive summer period that has included six weeks of summer camps involving over three hundred and fifty players. The object was for everyone to enjoy themselves, and to learn new skills. They also took part in some special "theme-days" that included a Scott Young Skills Day - and our former Bluebirds defender is still a very popular figure amongst young followers of the Club.

There was also a fancy dress "World Cup" day with youngsters turning up in their World Cup colours and various hair-styles, with faces painted to match. The Scott Young Day was held at Leckwith Stadium, Scott taking time to say hello to everyone and donating a couple of signed shirts.



Macauley Preece on the run in our Fancy Dress FA Cup final

We are currently preparing for the running of courses over the October half-term holiday. So if anyone would like to be involved, please call our Ticket-Office hotline on 0845 345 1400.

New Courses On Offer

Our Cardiff City Coaching-Centres restart next week at Leckwith Stadium, beginning September 18th. We have one on Tuesday 19th September for boys at Under-8, Under-9, Under-10 and Under-11. On the Wednesday 20th September, we are running a goalkeepers' course – the only specialist goalkeeping course in Cardiff. It's all open to everyone under the Community Scheme. And on Thursday, 21st September, we have a girls' course at Under-10s, Under-12s, Under-14s and Under-16s level. This course will be conducted by Mark Cahill who is our "Girls Officer".

Club Nights Are GO!

We will also have our Club Night initiative on Thursdays. This involves junior clubs from the Cardiff area, again at Leckwith Stadium, coming to have specialist coaching from the Cardiff City coaching staff. The training can be tailored to the needs of any particular junior club. If the team's coach feels that his players need to work on their passing, for example, then we can design a special session for them, do it with them, and give the team's coach advice on how to proceed when he goes back to do his own sessions with his players.

If you want to book on any of these courses on the Club Nights, please contact me, Callum McKenzie, on 02920 348050 (office-hours) or on my mobile 07949 758906.

Primary School Links

The Football in the Community scheme will be delivering PPA time coaching next term at Treorchy, Treorbert, Abertaf, and Parc Lewis Primary Schools. Curriculum time coaching has been arranged to be delivered to forty primary schools in RCT next season, and all schools have agreed to participate in a Penalty Shoot initiative out to raise much needed funds for their school.

Any school interested in the scheme can contact Scott on 029 20 348014



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SCOTT YOUNG
FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

ACADEMY NEWS

We played West Ham United this morning at Treforest at both Under-18 and Under-16 levels, and these matches were likely to have been one of our hardest tests so far this season. West Ham are probably in the top four of Academy set-ups together with Chelsea, Manchester United and Manchester City. West Ham's youth side came to us not having lost a game this season at Under-18 level, having scored four or five goals in every game, so it will have been interesting encounter for us.

Several players will have been missing from our regular line-up. Aaron Ramsey, Jon Brown and Sam Wade are with the Wales Under-17 squad in Slovakia, Kyle Bassett was unfortunately suspended, while James Simpson will have been out through injury.

We had lost our three previous Under-18 matches going into this morning's game – against Manchester City (0-2), Crystal Palace (2-4) and last Saturday against Chelsea (0-2). Those fixtures provided different problems for us against Premiership Academy sides. Manchester City, whom we played at their Moss Side training-ground, were a big strong physical team, and it was a good test for us because we fielded our younger trainees, mostly sixteen year-olds, against a side of eighteen to nineteen year-olds. The rules say that you can play three nineteen year-olds at Under-18 level, but we tend not to do that because we push our older and stronger lads on to the reserves. This is illustrated by Darcy Blake and Chris Gunter being in or near the first-team squad.

The home game against Crystal Palace a fortnight ago saw us winning 2-1 with about five minutes left. With time running out, we had changed our formation to give a few more players the chance of a game, and that proved to be a wrong decision as it turned out. It changed the shape of the game, and Palace scored three times in the last five minutes. So it's a learning process not just for our players, but also for the coaches, and that result was a disappointing one.

Last Saturday we were at Chelsea's training ground in Cobham and it was a good game for us against a side that had strength all round. Chelsea's youth set-up apparently cost between ten and fifteen million pounds – probably a small sum to them, but quite a large one as far as we are concerned! We competed to the best of our ability, and after going 1-0 down in

the first half, we changed things tactically in the second half and got it back to 1-1 through substitute Sam Wade. But when one of our defenders was off the pitch having treatment after a rash challenge by an opponent, they took advantage of his absence in the middle and scored to make it 2-1. It was all the more disappointing as we had dominated the second period, as was illustrated when their bench was desperate for the referee to blow up for time.

You have to look at the longer-term development of these young players, despite recent results, and it's good that the first-year trainees have had a chance to play against this kind of opposition. They've been thrown straight in to playing against these teams. We could have been stronger if we had included players such as Chris Gunter and Darcy Blake, but Under-18 Coach Geraint Twose and myself would rather they be at reserve and first-team squad level, rather than coming back to play at Under-18 level. There may be times when they come back under our umbrella for matches such as F.A. Youth Cup-ties.

The Under-16s play the same fixtures as the Under-18s. For James McCarthy, who is the under-16s coach, the situation is similar to the Under-18s whereas he includes a number of young players for his group – we don't have an Under-15 group, so a number of James' players come from the Under-14s group, and while the physical differences at that age can be a factor, we have a good bunch of fifteen and sixteen year-olds who are making very good progress.

As far as our Academy set-up is concerned, we now have our part-time coaches in place to back up our full-time staff. Each age-group at Academy level has to have two coaches from Under-9s to Under-14s as per Premier league academy-requirements. We have recruited the best coaches in South Wales, all of them holding UEFA "B" or "A" coaching-licences. It has taken a little time to get everyone in place, but we now have everyone that we want.

As regards our Under-9s to under-14s groups, they have all had two great sets of matches over the last two Sundays. The first weekend was when we played Aston Villa – the 9s to 13s won their matches, the 14s lost. But whether it's a win or defeat, we don't look too much at results at those age-levels, we look more at technique and performance.



Our young guns battle it out against Chelsea's stars of tomorrow

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RECENT LINE-UPS.....

Aug.19th v. BOLTON WANDERERS (H) (U-18s)

Drawn 1-1 (h.t.1-0)

Allison, Carlile, Smith, Chunuonsee (sub.Upcott), Middleton, Simpson, Brown, Ramsey, Jones, Bassett, Wade(1)(sub.Buswell).

Aug.26th v. MANCHESTER CITY (A)(U-18s)

Lost 0-2 (h.t.0-1)

Allison (sub.Herring), Upcott, Buswell (sub.Kelleher), Chunuonsee, Evans, Middleton, Wade (sub.Hughes), Carlile, Jones, Bassett, Smith. Subs not used – Hudson, Mason.

Sep.2nd v. CRYSTAL PALACE (H) (U-18s)

Lost 2-4 (h.t.2-1)

Herring, Upcott, Buswell, Carlile (sub.Wade), Chunuonsee, Middleton, Brown, Ramsey, Jones (1) (sub.Mason), Bassett, Smith(1). Subs not used – Anderson, Hudson, Hughes.

Sep.9th v. CHELSEA (A) (U-18s)

Lost 0-2 (h.t. 0-1)

Herring, Upcott, Buswell (sub.triallist), Chunuonsee, Evans, Middleton, Brown, Ramsey, Jones (sub.Carlile), Bassett (sub.Wade(1)), Smith.

BLUEBIRDS ACADEMY SCHEDULE 2006-07

(Under-18s and Under-16s in F.A. Premier Academy League)

Date	Opponents	Venue	KO	U-18 F-A	U-16 F-A
Sat 19 Aug	Bolton Wanderers	H	11.00am	1-1	-
Sat 19 Aug	Portsmouth	H	11.00am	-	2-2
Sat 26 Aug	Manchester City	A	11.00am	0-2	-
Sat 2 Sep	Crystal Palace	H	11.00am	2-4	0-2
Sat 9 Sep	Chelsea	A	12.00am	0-2	1-2
Sat 16 Sep	West Ham United	H	11.00am		
Sat 23 Sep	Leicester City	A	11.00am		

To be continued.....



20/21- LEE ROBINSON
ACADEMY NEWS



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As with all of our aspiring Academy and reserve players, the current aim of SCOTT McCOUBREY, a first-year professional with us, is to get a regular place at reserve-team level. The forward or wide midfielder player, appeared in most of our pre-season reserve matches, and has already made a competitive start when we drew 0-0 at home to Weymouth in the Pontins Holidays Combination eleven days ago. Scott was in the line-up that played Fulham in a friendly at Motspur Park last Wednesday.

He signed scholarship-trainee forms nearly three years ago, and with the change in format for trainees, the third-year level now having been disbanded, Scott is now a first-year professional. He is a Wales Schools Under-15s and Under-16s International, and has also played at Under-17 and Under-19 level, so Welsh shirts and caps are prominently displayed at home. There were a few reserve appearances for Scott last season, and he has enjoyed his inclusions at that level because of the chance of playing alongside and against senior players.

Park Life caught up with Scott earlier this week to ask how he was enjoying the step up, with the carrot of seeing players like Joe Ledley, Darcy Blake and Joe Jacobson involved after breaking through the ranks there to spur him on.

Scott: Whenever you step up to reserve-team level, it's the chance to test yourself with players who have done it a higher level. When we played at

Carmarthen in that pre-season friendly in July we had a number of first-team squad players in the side because the manager sent two equal sides to Carmarthen and Merthyr. I came on as substitute at Carmarthen and helped to set up Paul Parry's goal. The more experienced lads helped me out, and gave me a bit of stick, but that's all part of growing up as a pro, and I always give it back if I get it.

Park Life: You're a Swansea boy Scott, born there and still currently living there; although in the near future we understand that you'll be moving to Cardiff, sharing an apartment with colleague Michael Corcoran (Micky featured in our Birmingham edition).

Scott: Yeah, we've got a place sorted out, so it's just a case of getting everything tied up before we move in. Micky and I are really good mates, although we'll have to see how we get on after a few weeks of unwashed dishes. It should be a good laugh although of course we'll no doubt be getting in too worn out from training to do much else.

PL: We understand that you're not the only sports-mad member of the family either. Your sister Sarah is very much into athletics, right? Who's the fastest and is there any sibling rivalry?

Scott: She's not as quick as me, but she thinks she is! Our parents have always been very supportive in our involvement with our respective

sports. I've been connected with Cardiff City since I was twelve, and I came up through the Centre of Excellence before we got Academy status. I had a very bad illness that kept me out of things for just over a year some time ago. I had to come to Cardiff several times each week for training when I was in school and my parents were always there for me when it came to the travelling. I can't thank them enough for that. But I've now been driving for just over a year and I've got my own car. I'm eighteen at present – I'll be nineteen next April.

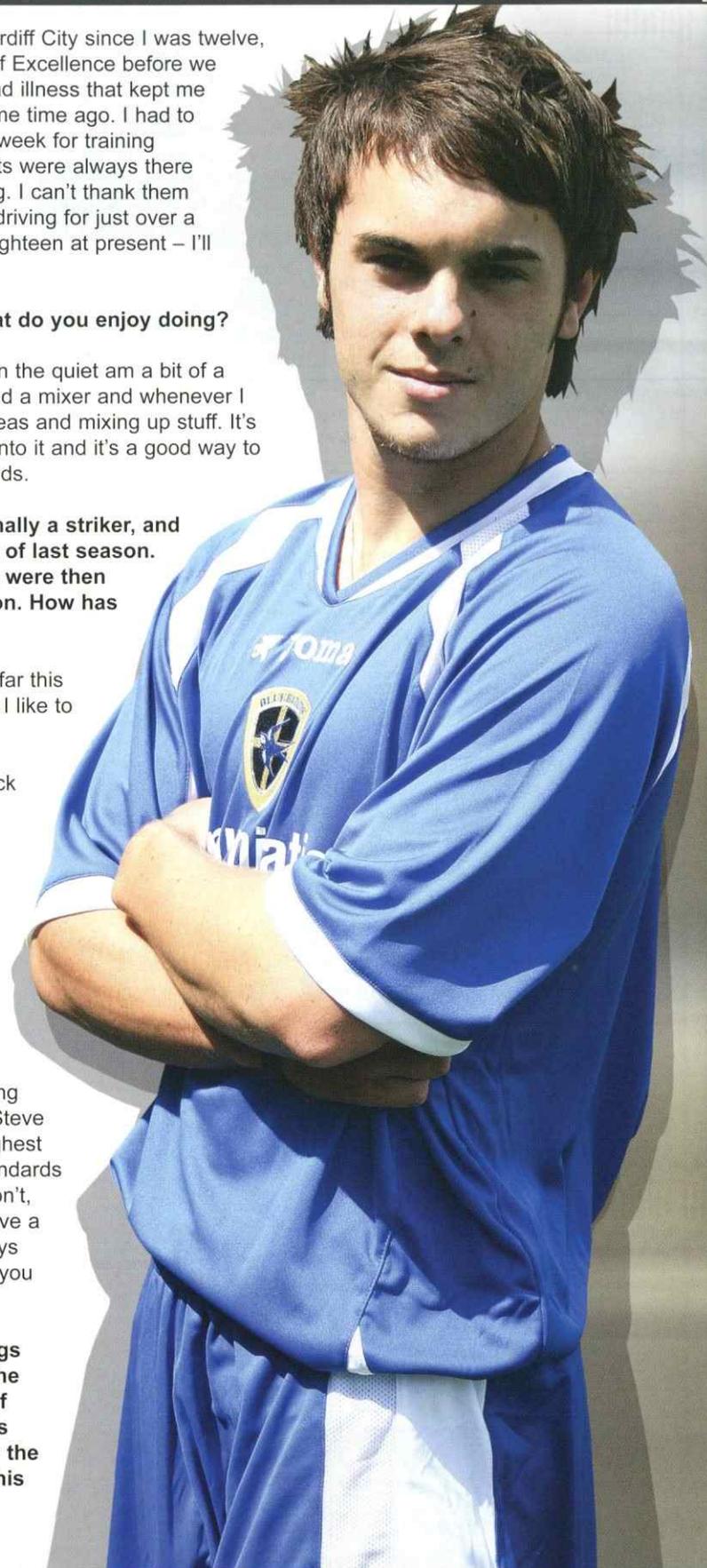
PL: What about off the field? What do you enjoy doing?

Scott: I'm well into my music and on the quiet am a bit of a budding DJ. I've got some decks and a mixer and whenever I get a chance I'm trying out some ideas and mixing up stuff. It's not everyone's thing, but I'm really into it and it's a good way to relax while creating some nice sounds.

PL: We know that you were originally a striker, and were used in that role at the start of last season. During the course of 2005/06 you were then tried in a left-side midfield position. How has that been for you?

Scott: I've continued in midfield so far this season and I'm enjoying it because I like to try and set up chances for my team-mates. I was training with the first-team squad when we came back for pre-season training, and occasionally some of the lads from our level get a call to train with the squad. It's something you aim for, so I'm hoping that if I can keep progressing I'll get that chance. What happens is that our reserve-team manager Paul Wilkinson will tell you when you come in that you are required for first-team training. It's quite a big thing for a young player to be training with lads like Michael Chopra and Steve McPhail who have played at the highest level. We have to maintain high standards for Paul Wilkinson because if we don't, then he'll soon let us know. He'll have a go at us if necessary, but he's always quick to encourage you and praise you when you are doing things right.

And if Scott continues to do things right, watch out for his name as he looks to follow in the footsteps of Darcy Blake, Joe Jacobson, Chris Gunter, all of whom have been in the first-team squad at some stage this season so far.



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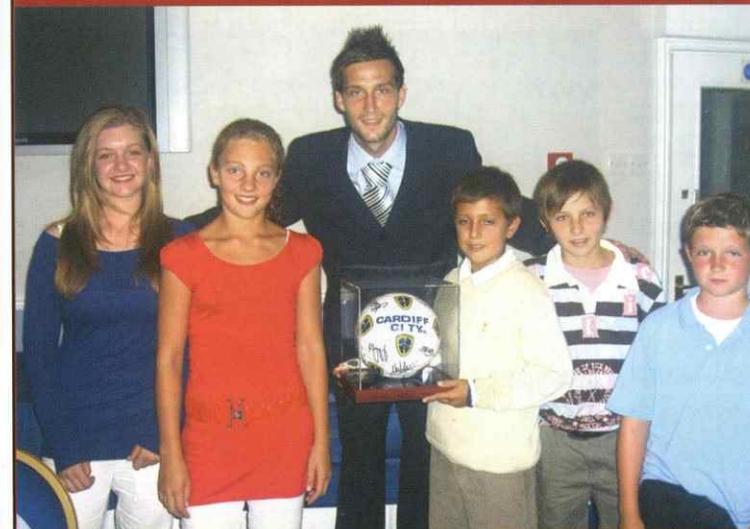
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It's been a brilliant time for our fans so far this season, being top of the league and having a lot to cheer about. Obviously over the last two games we haven't done ourselves justice and more importantly we feel that we've not done them justice either. It's always harder for them when we get to a stage in front and they're having a bit of banter with the opposition, only for us to then let them get back into it. As club Captain I can only apologise to the fans for that and let them know that their contribution and commitment isn't taken lightly at all. We know that we are there for them and aim to make amends quickly to repay the excellent support they've given us so far.

If anyone was at the game on Tuesday night they could see that we absolutely tore Plymouth apart the first seventy minutes. Probably our downfall on the night was that we were going for that fourth goal. Rather than keeping our shape and killing the game off we became too confident and went for that fourth goal, getting sloppy and giving away needless free-kicks – and it cost us.

For the last goal, my header to give Plymouth a share of the points, it was disappointing and at the end of the day down to a lapse in communication between Neil and myself, which we can sort out in training. Neil said that he had given me a shout and I was expecting him to come out, smash me and collect the ball. From there I just tried to clear the danger and the ball, though while aiming for conceding a corner I knocked it into the net. It's a lesson learned for the two of us and we'll work hard to stop it happening again.

On the other side of the coin, you have to remember the goals at least from our perspective. Thomo's one was a great team build up before Parry sent the perfect cross in for him to knock in with style. After that both of Chops' goals were first class also. He took them really well and it's just a shame for them that their defence has let them down after doing so well; doing their job at the other end.

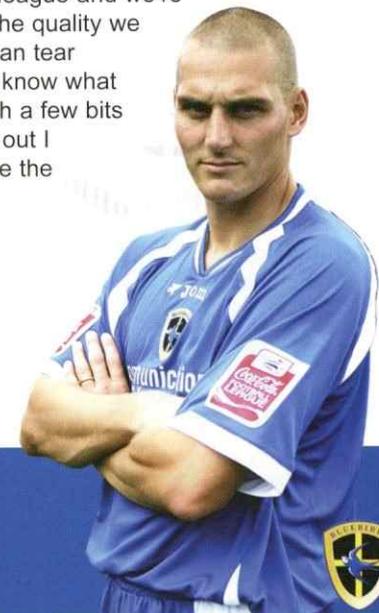
One thing that remains true is that you never stop learning in football. It's as true for young players as those elder statesmen who have been around the professional game for fifteen or sixteen years. On

Tuesday we should have killed the game off at 3-0. It's as simple as that. At the end of last year we had become really good at doing just that, but that's fallen away a little and we need to address it in training. Doing so, and learning from these mistakes will make us a bigger and better squad.

For Luton today, I don't mind admitting that we probably owe them one from last year. Last season we had those two incredibly tough games. They beat us at our place very early on and then as everyone knows we had that massive game at their place, which we should have won apart from a referee's decision. We'll be keen to address the matter today for sure, with the added incentive that a win at home puts us right back on track to what we're aiming to achieve.

We'll be speaking to Barks, who trains with us for part of each week before going up to Colchester late in the week to continue his loan spell. With his team pulling off a draw on Tuesday night against expectation, we'll be asking for a bit on an insight into what kind of formation they play and for the players he thinks may be ones to cause us problems. They'll pretty much come here in a 4-4-2 formation, much like ourselves. It'll be up to us to match them.

From our own perspective we're looking at today as a great opportunity to bounce back from what is now looked at as a disappointing result on Tuesday. Of course, a point away in the long term is a half decent result – but if you look at the game overall we should have wrapped it up. When it comes down to it, we're still second in the league and we're there because of the quality we have shown that can tear anyone apart. We know what we can do and with a few bits and pieces ironed out I wouldn't want to be the opposition.



DARREN PURSE CAPTAIN'S NOTES

Celtic

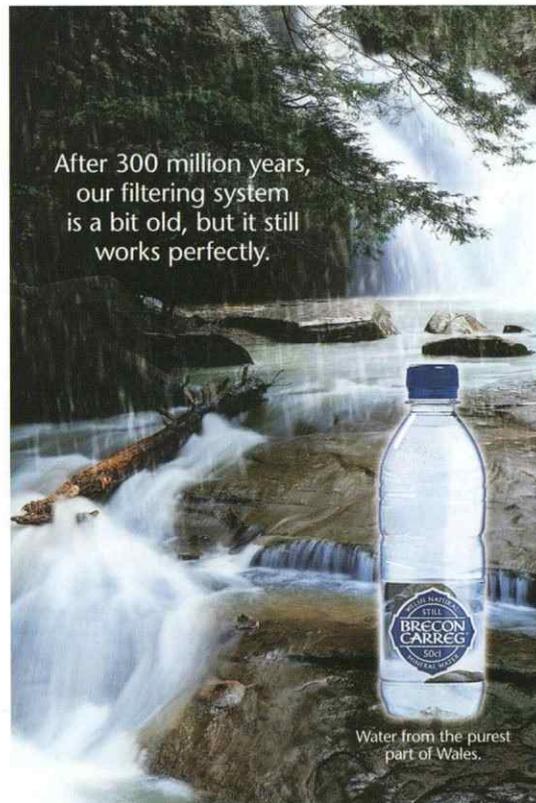
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After 300 million years,
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Replacing the Answering Back feature from last season is an open door for questions to anyone you like, whenever you like. That way, if something happens throughout the year, you know that you can always ask a question to the person you want to ... and it'll have a good chance of getting answered also. To ask your question, sign up to our FREE Official Messageboard and go to the OFFICIAL Q & A section.

The address for the messageboard is www.ninianpark.com/fans and can be also accessed via the link on the home page of the Official Website. From there the players and coaching staff, along with other Club departments will answer your questions throughout the season. We'll publish some of them here and more exclusively online. So make sure to get online to check for updates and extra answers, while of course also asking the burning question of your own!

bluebird_d3 asks Darren Purse
Why did you choose Cardiff over Southampton?

It's simple; because I think Cardiff have better ambitions than Southampton. With the new stadium coming I think within the next couple of years we'll be in the Premiership. I saw Cardiff as a team that hopefully I could captain and take them to the Premier League. We've got the potential here and it's a club that can go places.

Gahan asks Kevin Cooper
Were you disappointed that Koumas robbed all the free kicks last season off you?

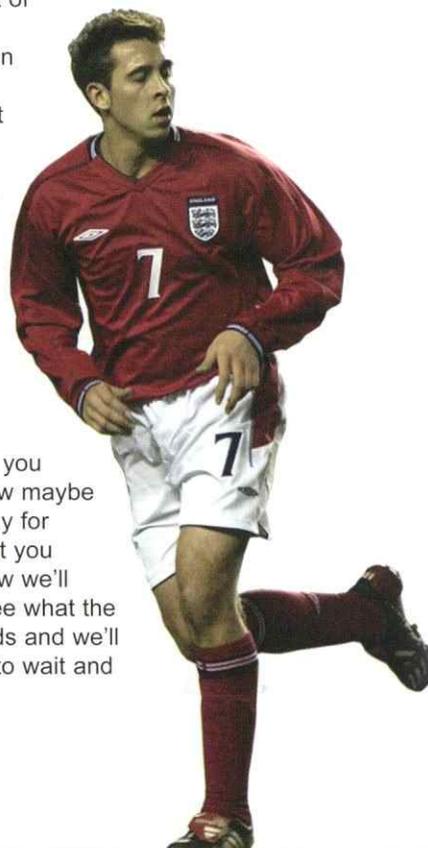
Well as you know the free-kicks were Koumas' speciality so we didn't mind. I have to admit though it is nice to get the chance to have a go in and around the box. Sometime they go forty-five rows up into the stand but sometimes they do go into the top corner. I've only scored a few in my career, so yeah I was happy to leave them to Jason last year. We've got a few of us all aiming to have a go now with Stephen getting to try a few. It's the same with the penalties; Percy (Daren Purse) takes them. As much as we play around taking penalties in training we know who'll be taking them on the Saturday.

bluerobert2k5 asks Joe Jacobson
Who has the worst taste in music?

Scott Allison has got to be up there, he's got some really bad taste in music at the moment. He's listening to a lot of rock but he's just going too far with it all.

pembroke bluebird asks Michael Chopra
Have you still got England ambitions?

Yes I would love to play for England. I came through all the way from the Under-15's through to the Under-21's. I've had one appearance for the 21's and scored and that was great for me. To play in the proper national team would mean so much to me. If I work hard and score a lot of goals for Cardiff then you never know what could happen. You never know, hopefully if I'm still here in two years time and then I qualify for Wales, so you never know maybe I could play for Wales. But you never know we'll have to see what the future holds and we'll just have to wait and see.



bluebirdrich2k4 asks Dave Jones
How extensive are your scouting links, it seems you pop up trumps all the time with bargain finds e.g. Loovens for example?

A lot of it is over the years with people you've met. It's all about getting out and about and being prepared to travel anywhere. Sometimes you go to see a player and you say no to him but there's someone else there. I don't think any scouting trip is a waste of time because you can go to a game - I've been all over the world to places that no one has ever heard of and they are never wasted opportunities. You can go and look at twenty two players and if all of those are not good enough then that's your scouting mission. I've been all over and I'm just lucky that I've picked up the bargains that I have. I've been prepared to get out and about and you've got to be prepared to back your own judgement. I'll never sign a player that I've never seen; I think that's a recipe for disaster. It's important that I do get to see that player because it's my head that's on the chopping block.

DLC asks Roger Johnson
Did your fiancée have a big say in your move to Cardiff?

No not at all, I wanted to come it's as simple as that. She didn't have an input at all, but of course she's pleased for me. When I came here to do my medical everyone made me welcome which I liked. Just playing with all the players, it's a good standard and with respect to Wycombe it's obviously a higher level than what I have been playing at.

Welshie asks Michael Chopra
What was it like scoring for Newcastle against Sunderland last season?

Yes that was a dream come true - especially when we were being beat 1-0. The manager brought me on and within fifteen seconds I've scored and got the equaliser. If you ask all the fans how important that was then it would be like down here scoring against Swansea. If you imagine that then that was exactly the same feeling for myself. Just to get that opportunity to play in derbies, it's a dream and hopefully I'll get to play in a lot more.

charlie01061962 asks Roger Johnson
Do you play Football Manager 2006, if so who is your top buy?

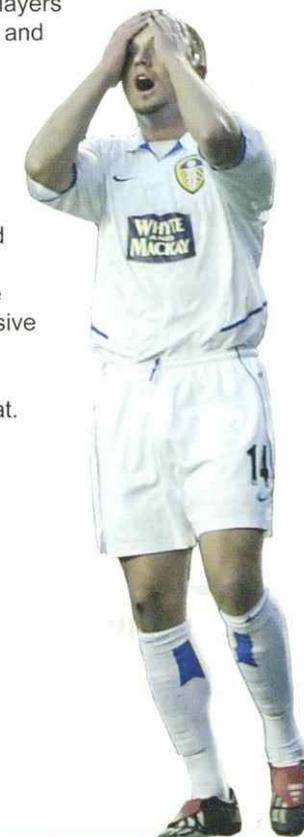
No I don't play that, I'm a Pro Evo' man myself. You play this one rather than manage. You sort out your squad and you get to play against each other.

vic parker asks Joe Ledley
Who is your all time favourite Cardiff City player?

I've got two. It's got to be Carl Dale or Nathan Blake. Carl scored a lot of goals for Cardiff City and then Nathan Blake, who moved onto Sheffield United who were in the Premiership at the time.

Ozzy asks Stephen McPhail
When you were at Leeds they were one of the best teams in England. Were you shocked to see a side with that much quality get relegated? What were your thoughts on it?

Well obviously players left at that stage and the squad was depleted by the time they got relegated, so it was a big shock with a big club getting relegated like that. It's a shock to anyone so it was a massive disappointment for me to be involved with that.



28/29- THE HOT SEAT

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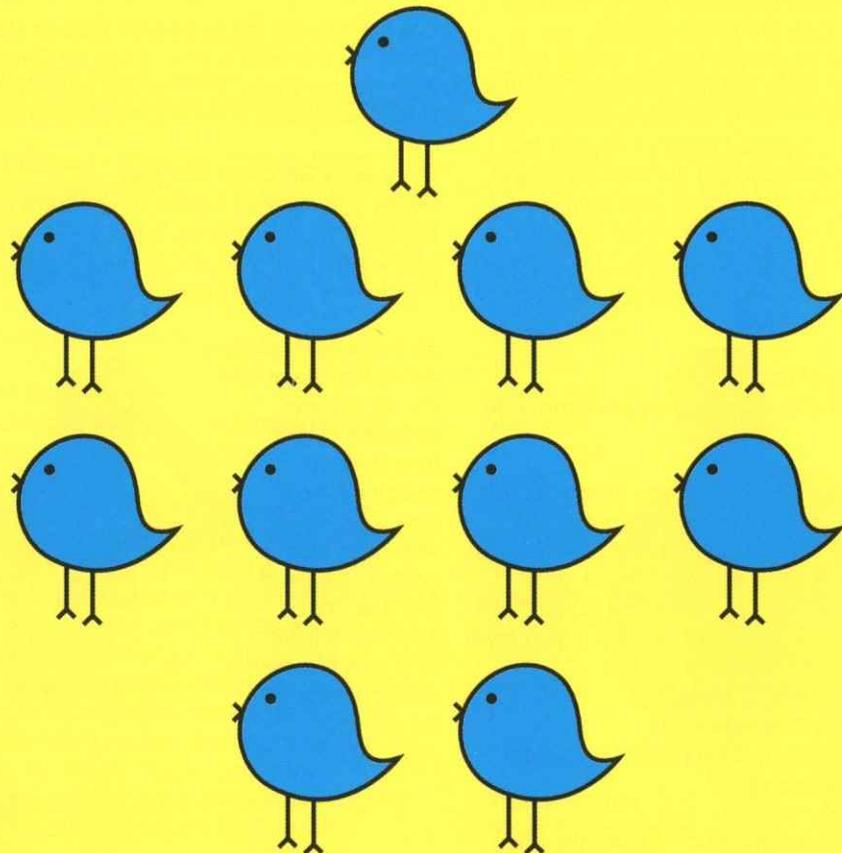


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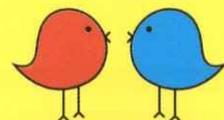
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CARDIFF & VALLEY R.A.M.S

R.A.M.S

A very warm welcome is extending to the fans of Luton Town Football Club. This match is being featured on the Championship tomorrow morning so let's all help to make it another fantastic atmosphere inside the ground. Good luck to the Hatters this season and we wish you all a safe journey back to Luton.

International duty in the Czech Republic

Following our tremendous win over Birmingham in our last home game we were treated to a two week break from league football. Two weeks guaranteed as "top of the league" a great feeling as hundreds of Bluebirds headed out to Prague to follow the national team.

What a great time everyone had out there, although a tremendous amount of organising was required due to the match venue being switched from Prague to Teplice (a ninety kilometre each way trip).

I managed to sort transport for over 400 fans, with outstanding help from all the coach reps. FSF Cymru played a massive role again in helping fans and Melanie Richard, Vince, Gwyn, Gareth, and Paul deserve a special mention for all their hard work out there - many fans were helped by the FSF Cymru volunteers.

Thanks also to the British Embassy and the South Wales Police who also aided our fans when required.

Finally, well done to Snowy; everyone who travelled with the R.A.M.S. owes you again mate...top organising as usual...Roll on the Republic of Ireland in March.

R.A.M.S membership and travel prices

There is still time to get your R.A.M.S. membership, either at the R.A.M.S. office (outside the pop bank entrance) or on the coaches at away games.

Membership costs £7 adult £3 concession for annual membership. Non members will pay more for away travel.

Purse is ours!!

We are now proud to be sponsoring the Captains' page in the match day programme this season, so look out for the R.A.M.S. logos in this programme. For up to date information about all away games go to www.valleyrams.co.uk

Cardiff City Supporters Club

PO Box 1927, Cardiff, CF11 8YH

Website www.cpsc.co.uk

Away Travel Bookings: 029 2056 6793 / 078 1477 9441

The Hatters of Luton will provide another strong test for us today. We at CCSC would like to extend a warm welcome to two of our former players Richard Langley and Russell Perrett. Both players served Cardiff City well and we wish them both all the very best. A bit like Preston, Luton are one of those teams we find difficult to claim a victory against. The Bluebirds will have to be at their very best to



CARDIFF CITY SUPPORTERS CLUB

I'll be there!

claim the 3 points against Mike Newell's well organised team today. They had a cracking win over Palace last weekend and any complacency from us will surely play into their hands. We at CCSC would also like to welcome to Ninian Park all the Luton fans who have travelled along the M4, it is good to see you here and we hope you enjoy the Ninian Park experience.

Do you want the good news or the bad news first? We'll go with the bad first to cheer ourselves up later on.

Preston

No team can win every game. At Deepdale it was a funny game, first of all Glenn should never have been sent off. If it was a foul at all it was never intentional and therefore should not have been categorised as a professional foul. The re-organisation that followed probably took its toll as the game wore on. When it was 10 v 11 the 10 were the better side and looked as though they could upset the 11. However when it became 10 v 10 and Agyemang took the field then we have to say Preston edged it and probably deserved the points. On a positive note there were periods of the game where we saw that slick passing and movement that put Preston back on their heels. But unfortunately Deepdale is one of those grounds where we can't buy a win and once again it wasn't to be.

Birmingham - Big crowd and another big win

Whoooo-oooohh!! How often has it been said in the past that when City attract a big crowd they fluff it!! Following the absorbing West Brom game we had an equally high tempo, scintillating encounter with Birmingham. Those fans who turned up outside of the hardcore can't have failed to be impressed with the football that was on offer so please, please keep coming to Ninian Park to follow our club. Cardiff City serves not only the City of Cardiff but also the whole South Wales, and in some instances beyond, e.g our London based 1927 Club. Our Davie Jones has miraculously assembled a squad of players who wear the blue shirt of Cardiff City with pride and give their all for us the citizens of Cardiff and South Wales. We are proud of our club and we know they are proud of us, their fans. (Doesn't it bring a tear to the eye?) So even if you can't get to every game feel a part of us when you do come to Ninian Park, we are all friends and we want you here, we are all living the dream together!!

Sunderland 31/10/2006

There will be an early coach leaving Ninian Park at about 7.30am. This coach will go to the game via Catterick races. So if you want a cracking day out book for the early coach now. You never know a good afternoon on the horses may pay for your trip. Also we need more numbers to make an overnight stay viable. At the moment there is not enough interest, so if you want to stop overnight let us know.

Our next 2 away games are at Southend and Crystal Palace. At the time of writing the pick up times for Southend have not been decided so either check with our shop or on our website. (See Ticket News Page 43)

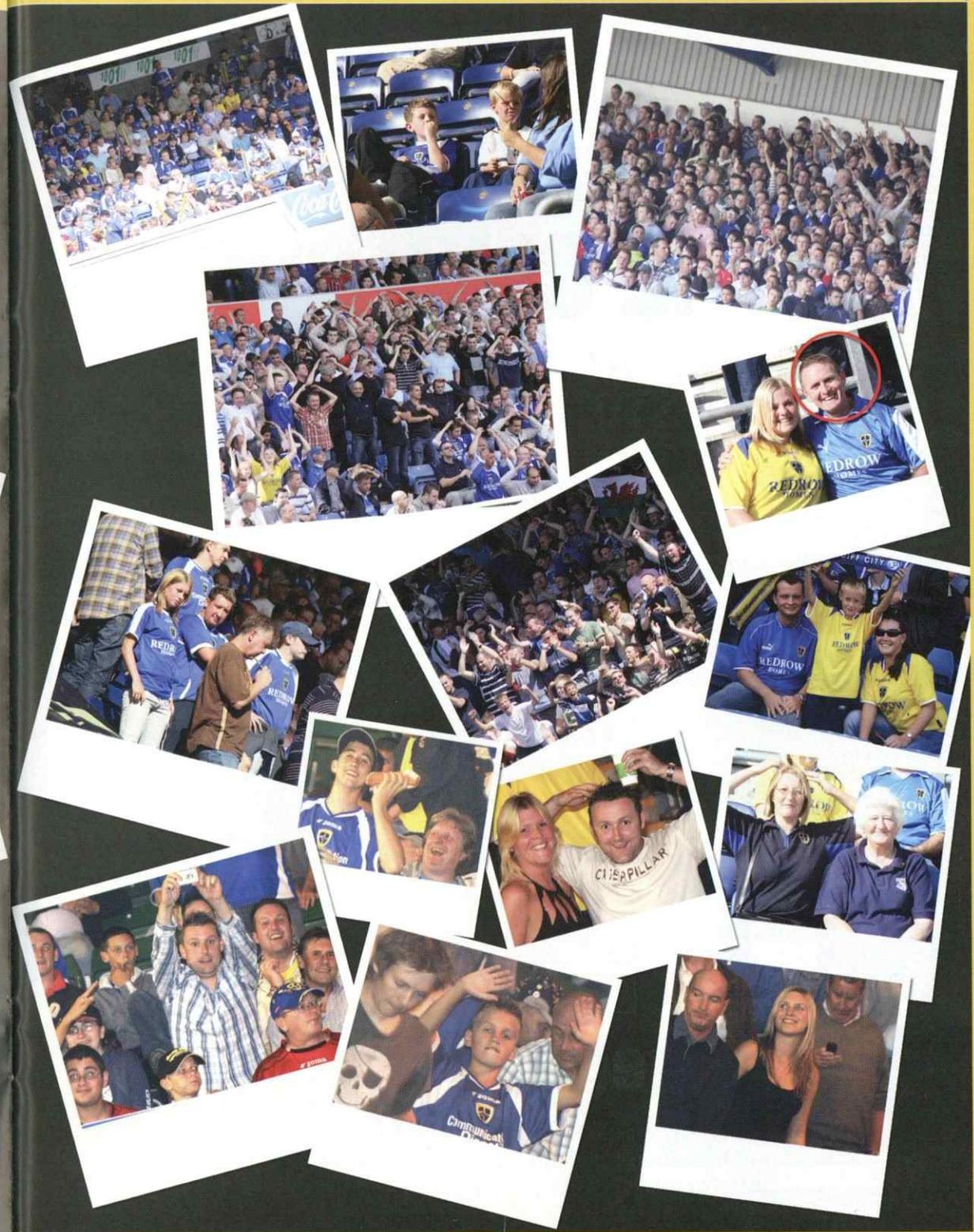
FANFARE

WITH THE CARDIFF CITY SUPPORTERS CLUB & THE CARDIFF & VALLEY RAMS





The word must be getting around on our You Bluebirds feature, as now, unlike our early shots being met with an expression of 'Why is that bloke with daft hair pointing a camera at me', we now pounce both home and away to be met with many 'Oi mate' comments and Bluebirds posing for their picture with big smiles. What a difference a month makes eh? In this issue we have three fixtures to focus on since our last home encounter. If you were at Ninian Park for Birmingham, or away at Preston or Plymouth then there's a chance that you could be featured right here. As you can see, it's not only fans who get the limelight as we've also captured a certain Mr.Purse when out of action at Preston. If you haven't made it this time, then keep an eye out for our snappers today! Remember, the red circle means that you're a John Smiths winner – so get yourself to reception after the game to notify our sales team!



32/33 - YOU BLUEBIRDS!!!

GET IN THE FRAME! SEND YOUR PICTURES TO YOUBLUEBIRDS@CARDIFFCITYFC.CO.UK

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For more information on our club shop and website please contact:

info@bluebirds-shop.co.uk

Stephen McPhail 05



Date of Birth:	09-12-1979
Nationality:	Irish
Squad Number:	10
Position:	Midfield
Joined City:	14-06-2006
Former Clubs:	Leeds, Millwall (loan), N. Forest (loan), Barnsley

Autograph:.....

Glenn Loovens 07



Date of birth:	22-10-1983
Nationality:	Dutch
Squad Number:	6
Position:	Defender
Joined City:	09-05-2006
Former Clubs:	Cardiff (loan), Feyenoord

Autograph:.....

Cardiff Vs Leeds 06



Game:	Leeds 0 - 1 Cardiff
Date:	Saturday 19th August 2006
Comp:	Coca Cola Championship
Venue:	Elland Road
Goals:	Flood 83 mins
Attendance:	18,246

Autograph:.....

Cardiff Vs Birmingham 08



Game:	Cardiff 2 - 0 Birmingham
Date:	Saturday 26th August 2006
Comp:	Coca Cola Championship
Venue:	Ninian Park
Goals:	Ledley, Parry
Attendance:	20,109

Autograph:.....

extra time

FOR ALL YOU JUNIOR BLUEBIRDS

Welcome to every single one of our Junior Bluebirds and Hatters to our exciting Championship game today. We hope that you've all had a great week in school and that you are looking forward to some top class football at Ninian Park.

This edition of Extra Time in our Park Life magazine is a little bit special.

Why? Well, on top of our usual mind bending quizzes, fun cartoons and special cut-out mask (this time it's Neil Alexander, otherwise known as Neil the Cat . . . ok, not really) we have gone back through the first three editions to relaunch every single one of our exclusive collector cards so far.

On top of the brand new Glenn Loovens and Birmingham City match cards, we've included all of the cards that have appeared in the West Brom, Coventry and Birmingham issues of Park Life. There are eight for you to enjoy today, with more to come over the rest of the season. Make sure to get every copy of Park Life as we won't be repeating this chance to catch up on cards you may have missed. There will be prizes for those with a full set, so keep an eye out for details soon.

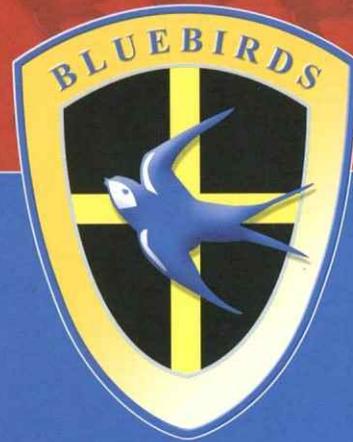
Hopefully we'll have another great game today – and remember to play your massive part in cheering, singing and helping us to a win! Whether it's your first time or one thousandth time to Ninian Park, we really do love you supporting your local football club. Tell your TV watching friends that they'll be seeing us soon, hopefully in Premiership action!!

Billy

by AL



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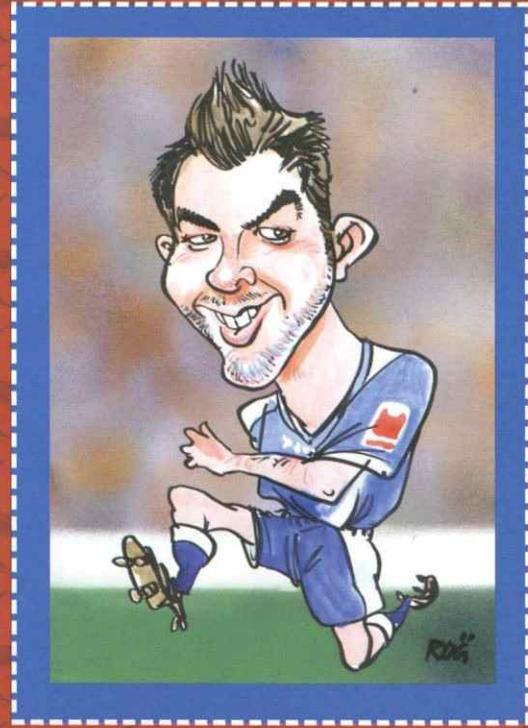
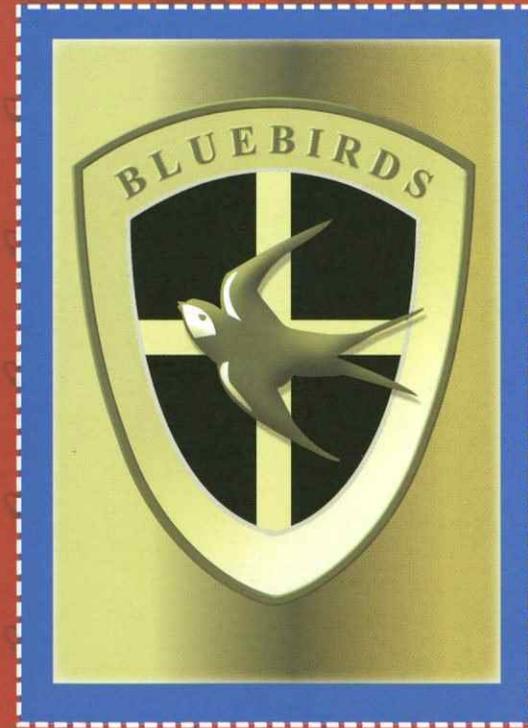
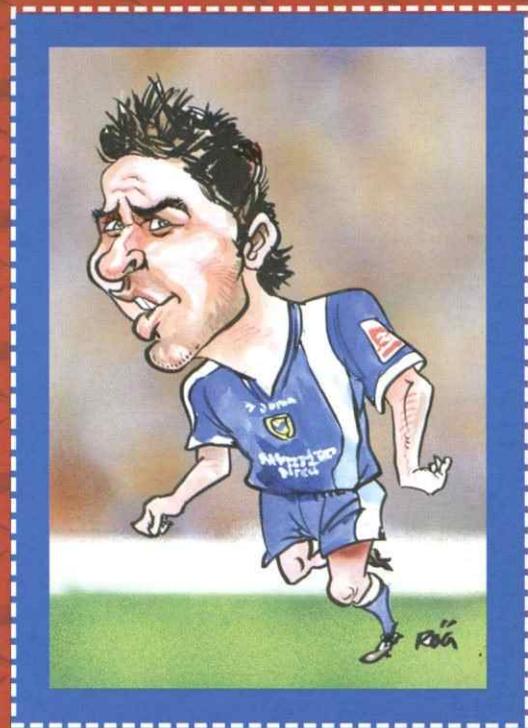
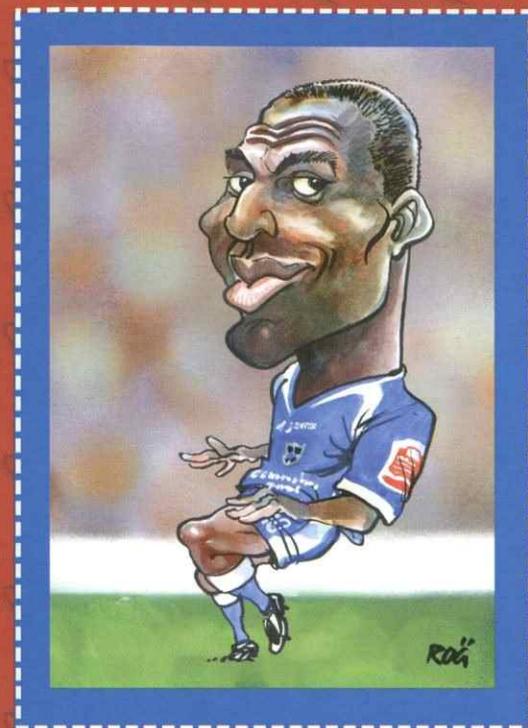


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CARDIFF CITY COLLECTABLES

Michael Chopra 01


Date Of Birth: 23-12-1983
 Nationality: English
 Squad Number: 8
 Position: Striker
 Joined City: June 2006
 Former Clubs: Newcastle, Watford (loan),
 N. Forest (loan), Barnsley (loan)

Autograph:.....

Kevin Campbell 03


Date Of Birth: 04-02-1970
 Nationality: English
 Squad Number: 20
 Position: Striker
 Joined City: August 2006
 Former Clubs: Arsenal, L. Orient, Leicester, N. Forest,
 Trabzonspor, Everton, W. Brom

Autograph:.....

Joe Ledley 02


Date of Birth: 21-01-1987
 Nationality: Welsh
 Squad Number: 16
 Position: Midfield
 Joined City: Trainee
 Former clubs: none

Autograph:.....

Cardiff Vs West Brom 04


Game: Cardiff 1 - 1 West Brom
 Date: Tuesday 8th August 2006
 Comp: Coca Cola Championship
 Venue: Ninian Park
 Goals: Gera (WBA) 4 mins,
 Scimeca 33 mins
 Attendance: 18,506

Autograph:.....

Featured Member - Brecon Carreg Natural Mineral Water



Brecon Beacons Natural Waters is the home of the best-selling Welsh water Brecon Carreg. Based in Trap in Carmarthenshire, our bottling plant and offices are located close to the imposing crag on which Carreg Cennen Castle sits.

From this beautiful location, at the western edge of the Brecon Beacons National Park, around 35 million bottles of Brecon Carreg are filled every year, ready to be despatched to supermarkets, cash and carries, and delivered wholesalers. Brecon Carreg is a great favourite in the capital, and is proud to sponsor Cardiff City Football Club as part of its commitment to supporting cultural and sporting life in Wales. The Cardiff Bluebirds drink a huge amount every year to fuel their activities, and Brecon Carreg continues to be extremely popular in its homeland.

However, there is still plenty left for it to be an important export over the border and almost half of all bottles are sold in England and Scotland, with many important national accounts supporting this growing regional champion brand. Luton visitors will perhaps like to know that its available through Bookers, or, if they aren't cash and carry members, through Greggs the Bakers, just two of the ever increasing outlets across the country where the number one Welsh water can be found.

Business Club Roll of Honour

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 COST: £850 + vat

On purchase of the "Two for the City" scheme you will then automatically be entered into the Cardiff City Business Club and receive all of the benefits associated with what will become South Wales' premier business and networking club. The Cardiff City Business Club aims to open the door to new opportunities for South Wales business. We look to do this through a number of mediums:

Networking training
 Find new suppliers and distributors
 Develop your people and your business organically
 Share business experience and best practice
 Corporate entertainment and hospitality opportunities
 Be inspired and motivated
 Meet new contacts

The benefits of becoming a member of the Cardiff City Business Club are really in tune with the changing and challenging environment business is today.

They are:

Quarterly business meetings breakfast/lunch
 Programme advertising
 Online section with the opportunity for open discussions
 Monthly e-newsletter
 Discounted conferencing facilities at the club
 First access to new stadium products
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 Guaranteed cup tickets matches home and away
 Discounts with key suppliers
 Two Grandstand Season Tickets for the 2006/2007 season

BUSINESS CLUB

ROLL OF HONOUR



Troed ar y Bêl

Syrffio mewn Cariad

I lawer o bobl, mae enw Lorraine Chase yn bwrw'r meddwl ar unwaith i gyfeiriad yr opera sebon, "Emmerdale". Wrth gwrs, mae 'na gysylltiad bêl-droedaidd weddol gryf yn fanna, gan fod y cymeriad y mae Ms Chase yn chwarae, Steph Stokes, yn fam i gymeriad Tricia Dingle, ac mae pawb yn gwybod, diolch i bumed cyfres "Rydw i'n Seleb, mynnwch fi mäs o 'ma", fod yr actores sy'n chwarae'r rhan yma, Sheree Murphy, yn briod i'r Awstralian sy'n chwarae i Lerpwl, Harry Kewell.

Grêt – ond does dim lot o gysylltiad nôl at ein gwrthwynebwy'r heddiw eto, nag oes ? A yw'r ddiod "Campari" yn help o gwbl fel clw i unrhyw un ? Wrth gwrs – i'r rhai aeddfetach yn ein mysg, fe fydd y cysylltiad rhwng Ms Chase a Luton yn grisial glir 'nawr.

Fe allwch weld mwy am Faes Awyr Luton yma;

<http://www.luton-airport-guide.co.uk/>

Yn bersonol, faswn ni ddim yn poeni amdano'n ormodol, ond yna dwi ddim yn berchen ar anorac pethe sy'n hedfan – beth bynnag yw eich ffansi.

Efallai byddai wedi bod yn well dilyn trywydd y diddanwyr – Eric Morecambe, a oedd yn cefnogi Luton, a Jim Bowen, oedd yn cefnogi Morecambe – ond hefyd a gefnogodd Morecambe a Wise mewn cyfres deledu cynnar.

Neu gwell fyth, fe allwn fod wedi edrych ar y gwasanaeth fendigedig mae amgueddfa Luton yn rhoi i'r rheiny yn yr ardal sy'n dod o hyd i bethe metalig, sef gwasanaeth archaeolegydd i geisio datrys hanes y "pethe";

www.luton.gov.uk/internet/leisure_and_culture/local_history_and_heritage/Archaeology%20Mornings

Ond efallai ddim eto.....

Os oes gennych chi wefannau yr hoffech rannu gyda'ch cyd gefnogwyr dros gydol y tymor yma, cysylltwch drwy e-bost i; Bugail@cc4web.tv, neu drwy'r post at Creu Cynnwys i'r We, Siabrau Gogleddol, Arcêd y Castell, Caerdydd CF10 1BX.

Yn y cyfamser, cofiwch - Cefnogwch yr Adar Glas drwy ganu mäs yn fräs !

Y Bugail

To most people, the name of Lorraine Chase is synonymous with the soap opera, "Emmerdale". This has an interesting football connection – the part Ms Chase plays is that of a mother to a character played by Sheree Murphy, who all reality TV buffs will know, since her appearance in "I'm a Celeb etc" is the real life wife of Liverpool footballer Harry Kewell. Interesting connection – but nothing to do with Luton....

However, if the drink "Campari" was given as a clue, then many will immediately recognise the connection. The Luton Airport website can be seen at;

www.luton-airport-guide.co.uk/

And for those of you who actually go to visit this website, then this week's picture is for you....

Of course, we could have had an Eric Morecambe supporting Luton, Jim Bowen supporting Morecambe as well as Morecambe and Wise in one of their early TV series' connection – but we didn't.

Or we could have bought to your attention the services of the archaeologist offered by Luton Council to local residents who find interesting things with their metal detectors to your attention as well;

www.luton.gov.uk/internet/leisure_and_culture/local_history_and_heritage/Archaeology%20Mornings

But we couldn't find enough anoraks to go around....

If there are other websites, or web articles, that you'd like to bring to the attention of your fellow football fans over the course of the season, then do please let us know via the e mail address below.

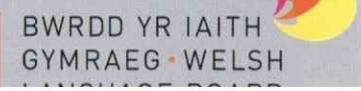
If you want some help translating this page, or want to contribute to it, then either ask your Welsh teacher, a Welsh speaking friend, contact us at Bugail@cc4web.tv or contact the Welsh Language Board – www.bwrdd-yr-iaith.org.uk

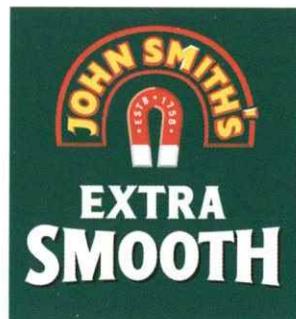


WEAR IT WITH PRIDE



The new Cardiff Team kits from JOMA are available from the Club Shop or online at www.bluebirds-shop.co.uk





COURAGE WEST & WALES

Supplying and supporting the Bluebirds throughout the season



After a great attendance and a cracking atmosphere a few weeks ago when we welcomed Steve Bruce and his ex-Premiership Blues to Ninian Park, once again we have been expecting another bumper crowd for today's game against Luton Town.

Our last home game saw us achieve one of the biggest league crowds against Birmingham when 20,109 came to see the Bluebirds claim victory and move to the top of the Championship. Long may the high numbers and great support continue.

With all of our tickets selling in the week leading up to the Birmingham game, supporters were also thankfully listening to the Clubs plea to come early. Our queues for the most part were kept to a minimum and everybody entered the ground prior to kick off with relative ease.

We would like to thank all our supporters who came to the game and also for turning up early. We are sure you will agree that it makes for a better day all-round for all concerned. Especially when we're all leaving at the top of the league!

If you have any questions or feedback, please call us, pop in or make use of the Official Q&A section on our Official Messageboard at www.ninianpark.com/fans While you can ask players questions online, you can also request assistance from our ticket office staff, who are all happy to help.

Next on the road



Southend United v Cardiff City Coca Cola Championship

After this afternoon's fixture our next game is away to Southend on Sunday the 24th of September, kick off at 1.15pm. The game is also to be televised live on Sky and tickets are now on sale for the game. They are priced as follows, with travel available through the CCSC and Cardiff & Valley R.A.M.S:

Adults £20
Senior Citizens £12
Junior Concessions £10

Next at Ninian Park



Cardiff City v Wolverhampton Wanderers Coca Cola Championship

Our next home game is against Wolves on the 30th of September, kick off at 3pm. We will be expecting another big crowd when new boss Mick McCarthy arrives from the Midlands. Once again, as with today and against Birmingham, if you can get your tickets early and arrive at the ground on the day of the game with plenty of time we should have no problems at all.

All tickets ordered after 4pm Thursday 28th September will be held for collection



Cardiff City v Southampton Tuesday 17th October 06 Kick-off 7:45pm



Cardiff City v Derby Saturday 28th October 06 Kick-off 3pm

	Pre-match Discounted	Matchday Price
Grandstand Upper - Premium		
Adult	£26	£28
Concession*	£20	£20
Grandstand Upper - Standard		
Adult	£22	£24
Concession*	£15	£15
Lower Grandstand		
Adult	£22	£24
Concession*	£15	£15
Spar Family Stand		
Adult	£18	£18
Senior Citizen	£10	£10
Child under 16	£5	£5
Popular Bank Seating		
Adult	£20	£22
Concession*	£14	£14
Popular Bank Terrace		
Adult	£15	£15
Concession*	£10	£10
John Smiths Grange End Terrace		
Adult	£20	£20
Concession*	£15	£15

CCSC COACH PICK-UP TIMES

Price Category	A	B	C	D	E
Adult Member	£14	£16	£17	£20	£22
Unaccom child/ OAP	£12	£14	£15	£18	£20
Accompanied Child	£10	£11	£12	£13	£14
Adult Non Member	£17	£19	£20	£23	£25



Date	Vs	Price Category
Sun 24th Sep 1.15pm	Southend	D
Sat 14th Oct 3pm	Crystal Palace	C

Pick Up Point	Southend	Crystal Palace
Bridgend, Council Offices	TBA	7.30am
Cowbridge, Town Hall	TBA	7.40am
Barry, Jenner Park Turnstile	TBA	8.00am
Penarth, Merrie Harrier	TBA	8.10am
Ninian Park	TBA	8.20am
Gabalfa Flyover	TBA	8.40am
High Cross, M4 Roundabout	TBA	8.55am
Malpas, Fire Station	TBA	9.00am
Pencoed, Monument	TBA	7.55am
Talbot Green, Bus Station	TBA	8.05am
Llantrisant, Cross Inn Roundabout	TBA	8.10am
Church Village, Bebbs	TBA	8.15am
Pontypridd, Bus Station	TBA	7.55am

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FRIDAY AND LUTON - A WELL REMEMBERED GESTURE



A brilliant footballer who, in different circumstances, could have played at top level and perhaps even for England - but Londoner ROBIN FRIDAY was a self-destructive character who attracted trouble on and off the field.

He was with us for just twelve months and there were enough incidents during that time for the former Reading striker to leave himself indelibly imprinted in the memories of his team-mates and Bluebirds fans who were following us in the mid-1970s, especially the occasion when we defeated today's visitors Luton Town 4-2 at Ninian Park thirty years ago this season on April 16th 1977.

It was on December 30th 1976 that our manager Jimmy Andrews signed Friday from Reading for a £25,000 fee. Other clubs had looked at him, but his reputation had put them off, so it was something of a surprise when the mild-mannered Jimmy Andrews took him on.

Harry's Memories

The late Harry Parsons - kit-man, scout, youth-team organiser etc over a thirty-year period to his retirement in 1996, and who died earlier this year at the age of 87 - would often recall in his latter years the Robin Friday saga, especially that match against Luton.

"I told Jimmy Andrews not to sign him because he was trouble," he said. "Jimmy said that Reading's manager Charlie Hurley could handle him, so Jimmy reckoned that he could as well. But I told Jimmy that Big Charlie would land one on Robin to keep him in order - I couldn't see Jimmy doing that! Anyhow, the day that Robin was coming down to sign for us I was going to meet him off the train at Cardiff General, but I couldn't find him. So I've come back to the ground, intending to go back an hour later to meet the next train. Then British Transport Police rang to say that they had him in custody at the station for travelling on a platform-ticket! I squared it up with them and the Club paid his return fare. The Police said that they wouldn't take it any further if he behaved himself in future - but it was the start of plenty of trouble.

Two On His Debut

"Things were alright on the pitch at first. He scored two on his debut here against Fulham on New Year's Day 1977 and we had over 20,000 for the game because George Best was due to play for them only he was injured for the match and didn't play. But they did have the ex-West Ham and England captain Bobby Moore, and Robin took him to the cleaners, scoring twice in our 3-0 win. Do I remember that game against Luton a few months later? Oh yes, because Robin was about to start a two-match ban after getting sent off at Hereford ten days earlier. Luton were doing quite well at the time under their manager Harry Haslam and they were fifth, four points behind the leaders Wolves, we were two off the bottom. We'd won promotion the previous year, we hadn't won for seven games and we were struggling.

"Luton's goalkeeper was Milija Aleksic and there'd been a bit of bother between him and Robin in the first half. I well remember the referee saying to Robin before the game that he didn't want any trouble. Well, Robin scored in the first half, and nine minutes before the interval had been pulled up by the ref for a high challenge on Aleksic. When Robin stretched out his hand in apology, Aleksic reacted angrily. Seconds after that, Robin hit a great shot past him for his second goal and in celebrating, he made a gesture towards Aleksic - a photographer got the picture and it's been



Harry Parsons -
he always had a tale about Robin Friday

"That's my second!" is what Robin Friday appears to be indicating to Luton 'keeper Milija Aleksic when we beat them 4-2 in April 1977.



used many times over the years. The referee wasn't too happy about it - I thought that he was going to send Robin off because he'd already been booked. As it happened, Robin did go off with a leg-injury in the second half, saying that it was from Aleksic coming out to claim the ball with his foot up. We won 4-2 and managed to avoid the drop.

Nothing Ever Worried Him

"Robin used to come and go as he pleased, sometimes he wouldn't turn up for training, he would get fined, but nothing ever seemed to worry him. He knew where he stood with me, though - I could tell you of incidents in hotels on away trips, and I'd be the only one who could sort him out.

"The next season (1977/78) he didn't turn up for pre-season training and didn't show until mid-October. He said that he'd been in hospital in London recovering

from a virus - we believed that one alright! So he makes his come-back at Brighton and gets sent off in the second half for kicking Mark Lawrenson in the throat as he was on the ground, and we lose 4-0. He was suspended for that one, and got another club-suspension on top. He had one more game for us at Bolton six weeks later when we lost 6-3, and just before Christmas 1977 he told Jimmy Andrews that he was quitting the game. We never saw him again, and when I heard in December 1990 just before Christmas that he'd been found dead in his Ealing flat at the age of 38 after years of alcohol and drug abuse, I was sad but not surprised. The Club sent a wreath to his funeral. Funnily enough, I liked him - I know he was unpredictable, lived his own life-style and you could never rely on him. But when he played, he could play, and the fans loved him - but I'll never forget that gesture against Luton".

April 16th 1977 - Division Two
CARDIFF CITY 4(3) LUTON TOWN 2(1) - Att.10,460

BLUEBIRDS - Ron Healey, Brian Attley, Freddie Pethard, Alan Campbell, Paul Went, Albert Larmour, Steve Grapes, Phil Dwyer(1), Robin Friday (2)(sub.Doug Livermore), Peter Sayer(1), David Giles.

HATTERS - Milija Aleksic, Paul Price, Steve Buckley, Brian Chambers(1), John Faulkner, Paul Futcher, David Geddis, Alan West (sub.Jimmy Husband), Ron Futcher(1), Lil Fucillo, John Aston.





REPORT
BIRMINGHAM

Report

Cardiff City took top spot going into a two week break as they turned on the passion, style and goals at Ninian Park to go points clear at the expense of fellow chasers Birmingham. Two goals were enough to separate the previous joint league leaders, who met in an early kick-off with ten points apiece. In a storming first half owned by the Bluebirds, Chopra came close, but Ledley was the player to open the home account with a well taken goal after twelve minutes. The goal clearly lifted the Cardiff City tails further both on and off the pitch, as further chances came, but none could be finished off to ease the pressure from the ex-Premiership side. New boy McSheffrey came close for our guests, but was denied by a great save from Alexander.

Birmingham came out of the blocks quickly after the break, but were then hit with a sucker punch as Steven Thompson made the most of a bad clearance to give Paul Parry a chance to shoot for goal number two. The introduction of old boy Cameron Jerome added some spice to the already heated game, but his addition couldn't turn the tide, despite a good effort going close to the top corner soon after coming on.

Dave's Verdict

We started like a house on fire after taking a bit of flak following Tuesday's defeat to Barnet. We will get better and we will get stronger, but in the last few weeks we have matched the top two teams in this division in every department and we didn't freeze in front of a huge home crowd.

The noise was electric and the crowd deserved the cheers as much as the team at the end. In the past as a manager I have had seasons when we didn't have a win in the first seven games yet still went up. I've also had seasons where we started well but didn't win a thing so we'll keep everyone's feet on the ground and make preparation the key.

STATS

	CCFC	BIRMINGHAM
Goals:	2	0
Possession:	52%	48%
Shots On Target:	8	6
Shots Off Target:	10	5
Corners:	7	5
Fouls:	14	16
Most Fouls:	Chopra (3)	Bendtner (3)
Yellow Cards:	1	2
Red Cards:	0	0

Squads

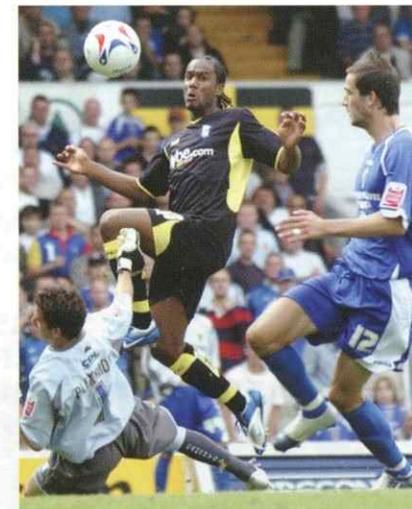
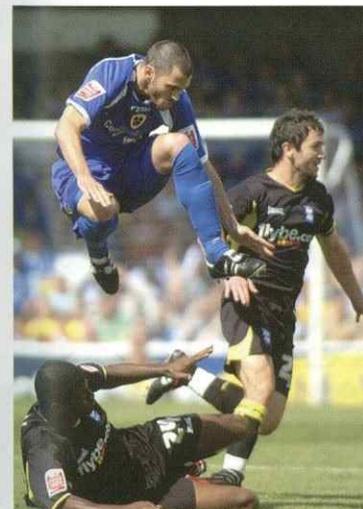
Cardiff: Alexander, Gilbert, Loovens, Johnson, McNaughton, Parry, McPhail, Scimeca ©, Ledley, Chopra, Thompson (Campbell 89). Subs Not used: Flood, Glombard, Kamara, Gunter. Booked: Chopra

Birmingham: Doyle, Kelly (Larsson 58), Sadler, N'Gotty, Jaidi, D. Johnson ©, Bendtner, Nafti, Dunn, McSheffrey, D. Campbell (Jerome 58). Subs not used: Legzdins, Forsee, Tebily. Booked: N'Gotty, Johnson.

Att: 20,109 (inc. 1,776 Birmingham)
Ref: P Crossley (Kent)

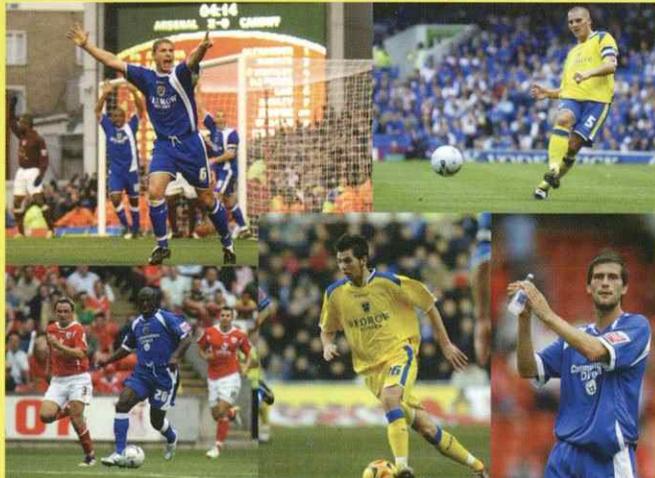
Richer Sounds Fans Man of the Match:
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Winning SMS vote by Anthony Stevens of Treharris.

Details on page 11. Vote your MOTM today and win!



46/47- **CARDIFF 2 - 0 BIRMINGHAM**
26th August 2006 1.00pm, NINIAN PARK

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REPORT
PRESTON

Report

The referee made no friends from Lilywhites or Bluebirds alike at Deepdale after having dismissed both Glenn Loovens and David Nugent in the first half to reduce both teams to ten men. Both dismissals came in a crunching first half that first saw Loovens sent off for a soft challenge to send Nugent tumbling. The challenge looked a fair and light shoulder charge, but with the England U21 striker the last man, the referee felt he had no option. Then twenty five minutes later, Nugent himself was sent packing for picking up two quick yellows - the first for words of anger, then another in a fifty fifty with McNaughton that the Preston striker was at most over enthusiastic.

The second half and introduction of Agyemang proved to be the catalyst to give Preston the points. Agyemang himself opening the goals before Michael Chopra excellently equalised. The winner unfortunately followed as PNE successfully stretched our defence to give Pugh a free shot at goal to claim the winner. City battled to get the late equaliser, but our Preston depression continued to give us our first loss of the campaign.

Dave's Verdict

Glenn has been punished for being stronger than their boy as the challenge was shoulder to shoulder. Anywhere else on the pitch, as the ref said, he wouldn't have given a caution. There were two sendings-off that I didn't think should have really happened.

There are lots of things for us to work on without worrying about what officials have done or have not

done. That's where our leaning curve has to come in. When it was 1-1, we could have got our noses in front. They got in front and it became an uphill battle from there. But we are up there on merit and because we have one loss it doesn't mean it's the end of the world. For me, Preston turned it into a cup final. There are going to come days when it just doesn't come for you.

Squads

Preston: Nash, Alexander, Chilvers, Wilson (Hill 45), St. Ledger, Sedgwick, McKenna, Whaley (Jarrett 85), Pugh, Nugent, Dichio (Agyemang 45). Subs Not Used: Lonergan, Anyinsah. Booked: Nugent. Sent Off: Nugent (35). Goals: Agyemang 48, Pugh 65

Cardiff: Alexander, Gilbert, McNaughton, Johnson, Loovens, Parry (Kamara 76), Ledley, Scimeca, McPhail (Flood 85), Thompson, Chopra. Subs Not Used: Campbell, Glombard, Blake. Booked: Chopra, Parry. Sent Off: Loovens (10). Goals: Chopra 51

Att: 12,435

Ref: E Ilderton (Tyne & Wear)

STATS	PRESTON	CCFC
Goals:	2	1
Possession:	57%	43%
Shots On Target:	5	3
Shots Off Target:	9	4
Corners:	11	7
Fouls:	11	7
Most Fouls:	Nugent (3)	Gilbert (2)
Yellow Cards:	1	2
Red Cards:	Nugent 35	Loovens 10

MATCH REPORT IMAGE SUPPLIED BY WALES NEWS SERVICE

PRESTON 2 - 1 CARDIFF

9th September 2006 3.00pm, DEEPPDALE



REPORT
PLYMOUTH

Report

Pleasure and pain were on the menu at Home Park the Bluebirds turned on the style in the opening sixty eight minutes before letting the world fall apart to allow their hosts to draw level. Cardiff City were responsible for five goals in a Home Park six goal thriller - the only problem being that two of those goals were gifts to the Pilgrims as we twice managed to hit the back of our own net. Reflection paints a better picture however when considering the positives from the game. The goals from City to initially notch a three goal advantage were all created and finished with such style that you can't help feeling that with a little luck we could have left with a bag full. Thompson was first, finishing with composure. The build up from Chopra to Parry before a great low cross was also first class. Thomo's strike partner also bagged two; Chopra taking two very different goals, but both real individual gems. In the first half some link play with McPhail was first class before Chops pulled off an amazing solo effort to make it two nil. Then after Plymouth came out hungry, he was well served by Paul Parry to make it three. City looked to be cruising to an easy win, but an unlucky own goal from McNaughton gave life to our hosts both on and off the field. Somehow they managed to claw back, and to their credit unsettled us enough to force further errors - the first a pinball session in our six yard box that could have seen the ball going anywhere. Then, as it looked as if we were heading to a nervous but assured win, confusion between Darren Purse and Neil Alexander made for the second own goal of the night.

Dave's Verdict

Even at 3-2 I thought we would be all right, but we have got a young side, a young defence. They learned from Saturday's defeat at Preston and I thought that showed here the way we played for the first 75 minutes because we pulverised Plymouth. Our finishing, movement, power, and certainly the pace we showed for every goal was electrifying. Last weekend we never got to that level and we talked about it and said this is what we had to learn from. I thought we did that, but now we've got to talk about this last 15 minutes and what we do to shut down a game. They have not got experience but I have and that's what I must pass on to them.

STATS

	PAFC	CCFC
Goals:	3	3
Possession:	48%	52%
Shots On Target:	6	6
Shots Off Target:	7	5
Corners:	6	5
Fouls:	14	16
Most Fouls:	Ebanks-blake(5)	Johnson (3)
Yellow Cards:	1	5
Red Cards:	0	0

Squads

Plymouth: McCormick, Barness (Buzsaky 56), Doumbe, Aljofree, Hodges, Norris, Wotton (Nalis 56), Summerfield, Capaldi, Ebanks-Blake (Chadwick 84), Hayles. **Subs Not Used:** Seip, Reid. **Booked:** Hayles. **Goals:** McNaughton 69 og, Hayles 74, Purse 88 og.

Cardiff: Alexander, Gilbert, Purse, Johnson, McNaughton, Parry (Flood 81), McPhail, Scimeca, Ledley, Chopra, Thompson (Campbell 80). **Subs Not Used:** Glombard, Kamara, Blake. **Booked:** McNaughton, Ledley, Chopra, Gilbert, Johnson. **Goals:** Thompson 8, Chopra 29, 49.

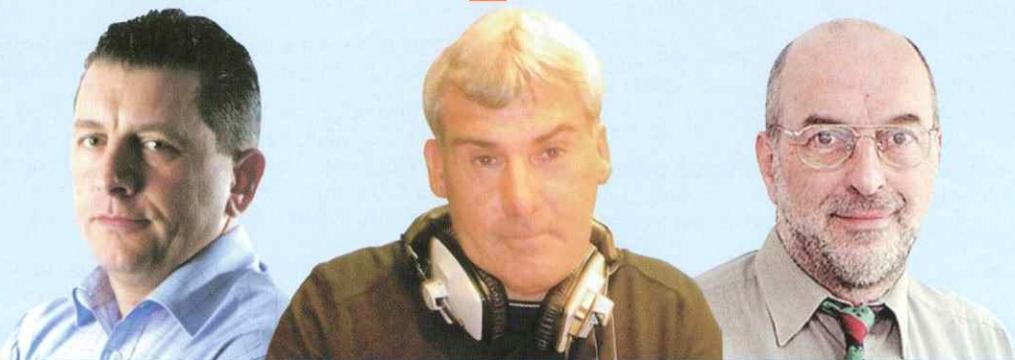
Att: 11,655

Ref: S Tanner (Somerset)



50/51- PLYMOUTH 3 - 3 CARDIFF
12th September 2006 7.45pm, HOME PARK

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Anyone coming to Ninian Park on match-days will be familiar with their own particular area of the stadium and the staff on duty in that section. But life goes on here throughout the week and we all have to be fed and watered. For that there is a fully equipped kitchen providing lunch for everyone as well as looking after sponsors, guests etc on match-days.

The kitchen-area comes under our Food and Beverage Department, and is staffed by four chefs. The youngest member of the group **ANDY "Spud" DRAPER**, and Park Life called into the kitchen just before lunch earlier this week to find out about his background:

Spud: I'm a local boy from Roath and I'm 21 years old. I've lived in Cardiff all my life, and I've been at Ninian Park for over eight years. I started before I left school as a ball-boy. My Dad Robert has always been a supporter and he was also a steward a few years ago. When I first started watching the Club there were people like Carl Dale and Steve White in the side – that was in the mid-1990s.

PL: If you started as a ball-boy, how did you get "transferred" to the kitchen?

Spud: Well, I was sixteen and a bit too old to be a ball-boy, so someone asked me if I would work on match-days helping out in the kitchen. That became a full-time job when I left school; actually it was three days in the kitchen and the rest of the time assisting the ground staff in their work. A few years ago I was asked to move to full time in the kitchen, and I've been in there ever since.

PL: What's your official title?

Spud: My title is "Chef de Partie" which means that I'm under our Head Chef Matt Canning. He's a little bit quieter than that TV chef Gordon Ramsey, so he doesn't get uptight if I were ever to drop all the vol-au-vents on match-days! I've just finished my course at Coleg Glan Hafren – NVQ2 in Catering and Hospitality. I've passed all my exams and have got my qualifications, so it's now a case of getting plenty of experience.

PL: Describe a typical day in the world of Spud

Spud: We start by preparing breakfast each morning. It's nothing elaborate, but the coaching-staff and the manager like tea or coffee and toast while they read the papers and discuss their day's work before training. If some of the players are in for treatment, they like something as well, so we do it for them. The players and coaching-staff have their lunch at the training-ground, so I'm involved in preparing that, and it's taken there in our catering-van. We also do food for the rest of the staff here at the ground, and the trainees usually eat here in the week. Dave Jones always gives us a bit of "stick" when he comes in first thing each morning – he's very down to earth, and when you meet him you wouldn't think that he's a top football manager.

PL: No doubt with home matches, it can be extremely busy for everyone involved in the kitchen

Spud: Yeah, we have to cater the sponsors and guests and then prepare food for the players and coaching-staff after the game. On top of that there's getting the various rooms ready for numerous meals. Matt and I discuss the menus with our Manager a few days before, so that we can get our supplies ordered and prepared

PL: You've been a supporter and ball-boy, so how much of a home game do you ever see these days?

Spud: Five or ten minutes of a match if I'm lucky. But I always know what's going on because it's on the TV with commentary, and I can always nip down the corridor to the players' tunnel and have a quick look from there. That's the one disadvantage of the job, but I love the work.

PL: Chefs often move on in their careers. Would you ever think of leaving Ninian Park to work in a hotel or restaurant?

Spud: Well, as long they think I'm doing a good job I'm happy to stay with the Club. As for moving on to any bigger catering establishment, my ambition is to be working in our new stadium when it's built because we'll have bigger and better facilities.

PL: You see the staff on a regular basis during their lunch-breaks, and you can get a good idea of the spirit within the Club

Spud: It's a great atmosphere here, and not just because we are currently top of the Championship. It's been like this over the last couple of years. I used to go with the first-team on away matches up to last season, doing the refreshments on the coach, but I had to give that up because of my college-commitments and the time away from the ground, especially for midweek away games. The lads didn't half give me some friendly "stick", and they still do whenever they are eating at the ground.

PL: You've seen a few changes over the years also . . .

Spud: Especially on the pitch, because when I first started watching the Club we were in the lowest division, and now we're hopefully going to keep up a challenge to reach the top. You can see what it means to supporters from the atmosphere in our hospitality-areas on match-days. No one ever seems to want to go home after a game if we've had a good result, as we have in the early part of this season.



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HOME AWAY



Numbers 1-11 indicate starting line up
Substitutes (if used) replaced Number in brackets ● Goalscorer ● Own Goal

DATE	OPPONENTS	VENUE	KO	F-A	PTS	POS	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tue 29 Aug	Bristol Rovers	A	19:00	2-2	1	-	Howard	Gunter	Smith	Blake	Corcoran	Middleton
Tue 5 Sep	WEYMOUTH	H	14:00	0-0	2	-	Howard	Gunter	Jacobson	Blake	Corcoran	Middleton
Wed 20 Sep	SWINDON TOWN	H	14:00									
Tue 26 Sep	Plymouth Argyle	A	19:00									
Tue 3 Oct	Cheltenham Town	A	19:00									
Tue 10 Oct	Bristol City	A	19:00									
Wed 8 Nov	SWANSEA CITY	H	14:00									
Wed 15 Nov	EXETER CITY	H	14:00									
Wed 13 Dec	YEOVIL TOWN	H	14:00									
Wed 10 Jan	Weymouth	A	19:00									
Tue 23 Jan	Swindon Town	A	19:00									
Wed 7 Feb	BRISTOL CITY	H	14:00									
Wed 21 Feb	Swansea City	A	19:00									
Tue 6 Mar	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	H	14:00									
Wed 21 Mar	BRISTOL ROVERS	H	14:00									
Wed 4 Apr	Yeovil Town	A	14:00									
Wed 11 Apr	CHELTHENHAM TOWN	H	14:00									
Tue 24 Apr	Exeter City	A	19:00									



7 Kamara
8 McKoy
9 Glombard
10 Campbell
11 Cooper (booked)
S Allison (GK)
S Buswell
S Coombes (6)
S Brown
S Bassett (11)

GOOD COMEBACK AT FULHAM

In addition to our Pontins Holidays combination fixtures, we have been getting in games with Premiership opposition, and we were at Motspur Park on Wednesday to play Fulham at their training-ground. The facilities were superb and Fulham looked after us very well.

It was a 2-2 draw, and for the record, our side was as follows: Allison; Gunter, Corcoran, Jacobson, Smith; Bassett (sub.Middleton), Chunuonsee (sub.Coombes), McKoy, McCoubrey; Ferretti, Easter (sub.triallist)

Recovered After Poor Start

It was, overall, a good performance by our lads, though we did not start too well. We conceded two poor goals in the first fifteen minutes, but from then on we pulled ourselves together, and got one back before the break through Andrea Ferretti who scored then minutes before half-time.

Lively Performance From Andrea

Andrea looked very lively following his loan-spell at Scunthorpe, and he scored a second goal midway through the second half. If he can continue like that, then he'll be pushing for a place in the first-team squad, which is what the manager wants from him. We played some good football following that poor opening, we had further chances, and we could have gone on to win the match against a Fulham side that proved very good opposition, with a number of players more experienced than us.

Good Cross-Section

This type of fixture is good for us, supplementing our Pontins Holidays Combination matches, and it gives us a good cross-section of opposition. We did well against a physically stronger Weymouth side in our last home match when we drew 0-0 eleven days ago, and we now have four consecutive weekly league matches, starting with a home game against Swindon Town at Ninian Park next Wednesday at 2.00pm.

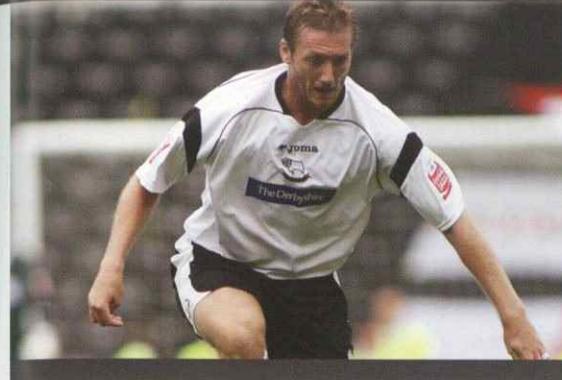
We are currently negotiating with Wolves for a friendly match at their place, and as long as we are prepared to travel for these games, then clubs are usually quite happy to accommodate us.

NOW SHOWING AT CINEWORLD CARDIFF

ADRIFT (15), BEERFEST (15), BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S (PG), CARS (PG), CRANK (18), JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE (12A), LITTLE MAN (12A), LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE (15), MONSTER HOUSE (PG), NACHO LIBRE (12A), PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST (12A), PULSE (15), RIGHT AT YOUR DOOR (15), SEVERANCE (15), SNAKES ON A PLANE (15), SNOW CAKE (15), TALLADEGA NIGHTS - THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY (12A), THE SENTINEL (12A), THE WICKER MAN (12A), VOLVER (15), YOU, ME AND DUPREE (12A)



Micky Corcoran gets forward against Weymouth

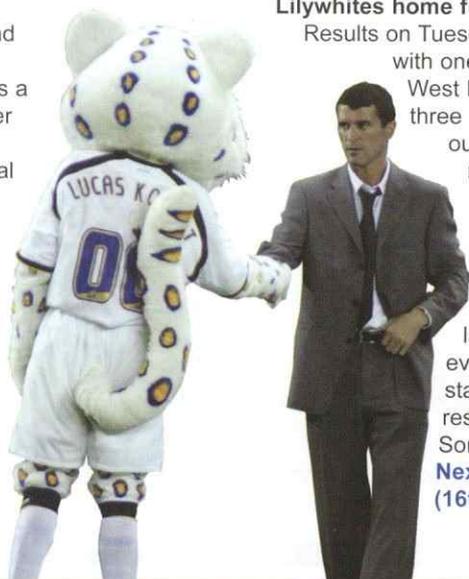


We take a look at the main events in the Championship over the last few days, with results going against form all over the shop. As always there were a few surprises to help us realise that we're not alone on the rollercoaster that is Championship Football. Remember that you can be a Bluebird manager yourself by signing up to our Prediction League online at www.ninianpark.com registration is free with weekly and monthly form prizes up for grabs.

Black Cats are back

Come on now, admit it. You never really thought that Sunderland were really going to be in trouble this season did you? Ok, maybe we did too, but it's starting to turn around based on a plot it would be difficult to see brought into one of the many dreadful soap operas on TV. We've heard it all before right: 'Big club does good gaining promotion, big club gets the drop, big club sacks Manager, big club brings in former player as untested Manager/Chairman, Manager/Chairman can't win a raffle, Manager/Chairman sacks himself and brings in untested ex International colleague (who had publicly called him a Muppet) as Manager (who also by the way has a grudge against the former Manager when he was his International Manager, who now manages a rival in the League), untested Manager wins two on the bounce, the last of which sends Leeds into the bottom three while elevating his new club to thirteenth.'

Joke if you will, but Roy Keane seems to be adapting well to his new position in the football spotlight. Of course, Nail Quinn got the win in his last game, so really it's all down to him. It may make for a humorous read, but



you can bet the Leeds boss Kevin Blackwell isn't laughing as the pressure is surely mounting at this early stage. The Championship like mere cats are all standing in attention to see what Keane does next. Are his new players really that scared to see what happens if they lose. It may be a formula for success.

Next for Sunderland (13th): Leicester (21st) at home. Next for Leeds (22nd): Coventry (11th) away

Canaries like Bluebirds throw it away

Anyone at Home Park on Tuesday will sympathise with Robert Earnshaw and his fellow Norwich team-mates. Like the Bluebirds it seemed they were cruising to an expected victory at newly promoted Southend. Earnie, like Chopra had his double for the night, but as in our case the table topping hopefuls in yellow seemed to lose the plot to allow Southend back from a 3-1 lead to match our result of 3-3 after injury time.

Next for Southend (17th): West Brom (11th) away. Next for Norwich (5th): Crystal Palace (12th) at home

Lilywhites home fun continues

Results on Tuesday were relatively kind to us, with one of the most favourable being West Brom being overturned at Preston three days after we fell to the Lilywhites ourselves. Preston are on a good run, though his time there was no referee drama on either side to throw the game into chaos. All that was required was a nice overhead kick from the on form Agyemang to send the star laden Baggies packing. And not even that chap who's surname starts with a K could change the result after coming on as a sub. Sorry Jase.

Next for Preston (4th): Derby (16th) away.

Howard Rams in his first

Derby are finally seeing a return from new signing, former Hatter Steve Howard who bagged his first for his new club to give the Rams a valuable home win over Mick McCarthy's Wolves. It should have been there for the taking for wolves, who had a chance from the spot to go ahead. Despite recent good form however, Jay Bothroyd missed the penalty and Derby pounced to get the first half winner, then hold on for the win. The result has kept Wolves a place and a point behind us, adding another team to a growing list of those who will be aiming to 'bounce back from disappointment'.

Next for Wolves (3rd): Barnsley (18th) at home

Saints punish falling Eagles

Find a Championship prediction forecast and you'll no doubt see Crystal Palace as near to the top as anyone else of the projected 'big hitters' – a prediction looking good value after three wins from their first three games. Since then however, the Eagles wings have been clipped as their position in the league now reflects. Losses to Birmingham, Notts County in the Cup, a draw against Burnley and now two straight losses to Luton and Southampton have made it a difficult few weeks for new boss and England U21 moonlighter Peter Taylor. On Tuesday two goals from the visiting Saints were despatched without reply, leading Taylor to admit, "It was not good enough. At the moment, we do not look like keeping a clean sheet. We conceded goals at the start of each half, and we began each half poorly. We have to hold our hands up. People were too nervous. The players lacked confidence when they were in possession, and the passing was not good enough."

Next for Southampton (9th): Plymouth (10th) at home

Full list of results over the last five days:

12th Sep 2006

Burnley 4 v 2 Barnsley
Ipswich 2 v 1 Coventry
Leicester 0 v 1 Hull
Luton 1 v 1 Colchester
Plymouth 3 v 3 Cardiff
Preston 1 v 0 West Brom
Sheffield Wednesday 1 v 1 Stoke
Southend 3 v 3 Norwich
Wolverhampton 0 v 1 Derby
Crystal Palace 0 v 2 Southampton
QPR 0 v 2 Birmingham

13th Sept 2006

Leeds 0 v 3 Sunderland



Championship Top Scorers

Robert Earnshaw	Norwich 6
Grzegorz Rasiak	Southampton 5
Michael Chopra	Cardiff 4
Jamie Cureton	Colchester 4
Paul Hayes	Barnsley 4
Barry Hayles	Plymouth 4
Nicklas Bendtner	Birmingham 3
Jay Bothroyd	Wolves 3
Freddy Eastwood	Southend 3
Michael McIndoe	Barnsley 3
Gifton Noel-Williams	Burnley 3
Jon Parkin	Hull 3
Marc Richards	Barnsley 3
James Scowcroft	C. Palace 3

Top Ten Form: Home

Team (pos)	Pld	W	D	L	Pts
1Norwich (5)	3	3	0	0	9
2West Brom (8)	3	3	0	0	9
3Birmingham (1)	3	3	0	0	9
4Luton (7)	4	2	2	0	8
5Southend(17)	4	2	2	0	8
6Preston (4)	4	2	2	0	8
7Coventry (11)	3	2	1	0	7
8Cardiff (2)	3	2	1	0	7
9Crystal (12)	4	2	1	1	7
10Ipswich (13)	4	2	1	1	7

Top Ten Form: Away

Team (pos)	Pld	W	D	L	Pts
1Plymouth (10)	3	2	1	0	7
2Wolves (3)	3	2	1	0	7
3Cardiff (2)	4	2	1	1	7
4Birmingham(1)	4	2	1	1	7
5Sunderland(14)	4	2	0	2	6
6Derby (16)	4	2	0	2	6
7Barnsley (18)	4	2	0	2	6
8Southampton (9)	4	1	2	1	5
9Burnley (6)	3	1	2	0	5
10Sheff Wed (19)	3	1	2	0	5

For a full list of the weekend fixtures, turn to page seventy where you can also view a condensed league table and the squads available for selection today.

SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Robert Earnshaw	Norwich	6	0	6
Freddy Eastwood	Southend	3	2	5
Grzegorz Rasiak	Southampton	5	0	5
Barry Hayles	Plymouth	4	0	4
Jamie Cureton	Colchester	4	0	4
Paul Hayes	Barnsley	4	0	4
Michael Chopra	Cardiff	4	0	4
Jon Parkin	Hull	3	0	3
Billy Clarke	Ipswich	2	1	3

WHERE TO SEE GOALS (By Ground)

Total number of goals scored on each ground - All competitions

Ground	Home Team	M	Gls	G/Mt
Carrow Road	Norwich	3	13	4.33
Oakwell Stadium	Barnsley	3	11	3.67
Layer Road Ground	Colchester	3	11	3.67
Home Park	Plymouth	4	13	3.25
Turf Moor	Burnley	4	12	3.00
The KC Stadium	Hull	3	9	3.00
St Andrews	Birmingham	3	9	3.00
Loftus Road Stadium	QPR	4	12	3.00
Selhurst Park	Crystal Pal	4	11	2.75
Roots Hall	Southend	4	11	2.75
Kenilworth Stadium	Luton	4	11	2.75
Stadium of Light	Sunderland	3	8	2.67
Pride Park Stadium	Derby	3	7	2.33
The Hawthorns	West Brom	3	7	2.33
Portman Road	Ipswich	4	9	2.25
Ricoh Arena	Coventry	3	6	2.00
The Walkers Stadium	Leicester	4	7	1.75
Molineux Stadium	Wolves	4	7	1.75
Ninian Park	Cardiff	3	5	1.67
Deepdale	Preston	4	6	1.50
Hillsborough	Sheff Wed	4	6	1.50
Britannia Stadium	Stoke	3	4	1.33
St Marys Stadium	Southampton	3	4	1.33
Elland Road	Leeds	3	3	1.00

TEAM LEADERS

Team with the most..

shots on target 56 Barnsley. **shots off target** 58 Southampton. **corners** 54 Plymouth. **hit woodwork** 5 Sheff Wed. **offsides** 37 Cardiff. **fouls** 120 Plymouth. **yellow cards** 16 Preston. **red cards** 2 Preston.

PLAYER POWER

Player with the most..

Shots 39 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Shots on target** 16 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Shots off target** 23 Robert Earnshaw (Norwich). **Assists** 4 Vincent Pericard (Stoke). **Crosses** 45 Lee Croft (Norwich). **Offsides** 21 Matt Fryatt (Leicester). **Fouls** 31 Barry Hayles (Plymouth). **Free-kicks won** 20 Patrick Kisnorbo (Leicester).



2006/07 SEASON



GOAL COUNTER 202

RIGHT FOOT 103 goals

51.0%

LEFT FOOT 55 goals

27.2%

HEADERS 39 goals

19.3%

Own goals 5 (2.5%), Other body part 0 (0%)

QUICK-FIRE GOALS

From the start of a match
Daryl Murphy (Sunderland vs Plymouth) 0:31

By a substitute after coming on
Dean Morgan (Luton vs Norwich) 3:16

DISCIPLINARY



3.0 cards per match 0.2 cards per match

QUICK-FIRE BOOKINGS

From the start of a match
Dexter Blackstock (QPR vs Southend) 0:15

By a substitute after coming on
Andrew Surman (Southampton vs Ipswich) 1:30

SUB TOTALS

Subs used421

Offsides518

Corners948

Shots Off Target904

BEAT THE TRAFFIC

Total number of goals you would have missed by leaving every match ten minutes early

0 3 0

RESULTS

How many times each result has occurred this season - home sides score shown first

0-0	7
1-0	8
2-0	10
3-0	1
4-0	-
5-0	-
0-1	11
0-2	2
0-3	-
0-4	-
0-5	-
1-1	9
2-1	9
3-1	3
4-1	-
5-1	1
6-1	-
1-2	7
1-3	2
1-4	-
1-5	-
2-2	6
3-2	1
4-2	1
5-2	-
2-3	2
2-4	-
2-5	-
3-3	2
4-3	1
5-3	-
3-4	-
3-5	-
4-4	-
5-4	-
4-5	-
5-5	-

*up to and including 12/09/2006

Looking to the most memorable games of last season, one that often is recalled as the rollercoaster game was our Kenilworth Road trip, where after looking dead and buried we came back to first level the score at 3-3. The game however is also highly remembered due to the dying moments when a penalty was denied by the referee that kept honours even, with even our Luton counterparts admitting that we were robbed at the death.

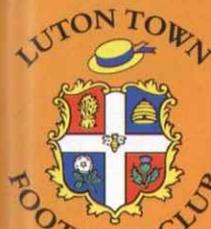
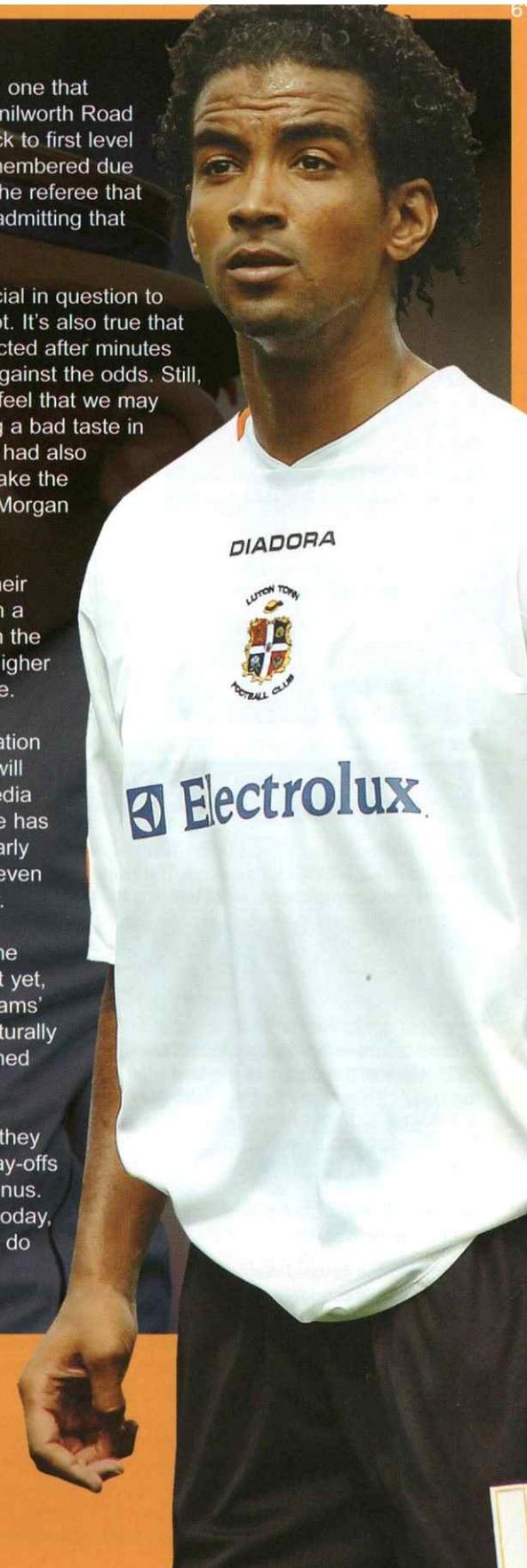
It's true that we can't play every game against the official in question to make matters 'right' after his refusal to point to the spot. It's also true that it's not the fault of Luton Town that we left feeling dejected after minutes before being ecstatic to have managed to claw back against the odds. Still, it's a fair guess to say that more than a few Bluebirds feel that we may owe Luton one with the Kenilworth Road game leaving a bad taste in the mouth - that coupled with the fact that the Hatters had also come from behind from a Michael Ricketts opener to take the spoils in a 2-1 away win courtesy of goals from Dean Morgan and Peter Holmes.

Luton of course have done phenomenally well since their promotion in 2005. Last year they ended the campaign a place and a point above us with sixty one points. From the teams promoted they more than held their own at the higher level after going up as clear champions the year before.

With relative league success coming their way expectation will be naturally higher for the Hatters this year. Fans will have been happy to see Mike Newell shrugging off media claims of his possible leaving over the summer, and he has carried off where he has left off, guiding Luton to an early stage respectable seventh - one of four teams with eleven points, just three behind us going into the fixture today.

With the league looking as tight as ever and none of the reported 'big guns' able to pull away from the pack just yet, the season could again be one by which the 'lesser teams' could pull off a Watford or Reading; and by that we naturally include ourselves alongside Luton in that media assigned label.

With Luton refusing to fear the ex-Premiership giants, they could hope to go a few steps further this year - the play-offs the goal for most in the league with anything else a bonus. We'll be hoping that their hold over us can be broken today, though wish them the luck they probably don't need to do well for the rest of the season.



LUTON TOWN

2006/07 FORM



Luton line-up v. Colchester United last Tuesday:

Beresford; Foley, Barnett, Heikkinen, Davis; Edwards, Robinson, Langley, Emanuel; Parkin, Vine. Subs not used – Brill (gk), Keane, Morgan, Brkovic, Feeney

It couldn't have been a better start for The Hatters with an opening-day 2-0 home victory over Leicester City followed by a 1-0 victory at Sheffield Wednesday; a repeat in fact of the previous season when Luton marked their return to the higher divisions with wins from their first two games of 2005/06. Since those successes of early last month however, Mike Newell's boys have gained just one victory in their last five Championship matches when they beat Crystal Palace at home last Saturday; Carlos Edwards and Rowan Vine both scoring their second goals of the current season.

Their only two defeats so far have been at Norwich City where they lost 3-2, and at Wolves where they were beaten 1-0. Maximum points from the last two matches would have seen them further up the table than seventh position, but after that win over Palace seven days ago, they could only draw 1-1 at home to Colchester United last Tuesday, despite having a number of chances

during the game, including an early second-half penalty when our former midfielder Richard Langley, signed from Queen's Park Rangers in the summer, saw his spot-kick hit the bar.

For their positives, that match saw a first goal for the Club from striker Sam Parkin, making his third appearance following his transfer from Ipswich Town on August 25th for an initial £340,000. Two of The Hatters' squad have been involved in the recent Euro 2008 opening qualifiers – defender Markus Heikkinen with Finland and Warren Feeney with Northern Ireland.

After today's game The Hatters, who beat Bristol Rovers 5-3 on penalties in the First Round of the Carling Cup after a 1-1 draw at the Memorial Stadium, go to Brentford next Tuesday in Round Two before continuing their Championship programme with a home game against West Bromwich Albion next Saturday.

BOSS WATCH: MIKE NEWELL

Now in his fourth season as Luton Town manager, 41 year-old MIKE NEWELL has made The Hatters an established Championship side, bringing them to Ninian Park this afternoon in seventh place even though they have won only one of their last five League games following victories in their opening two fixtures.

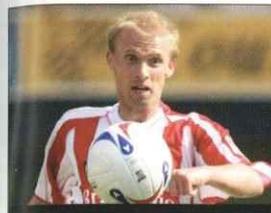
A former England Under-21 and B International, Mike took over at Kenilworth Road under unusual circumstances when he succeeded Joe Kinnear in June 2003. He was the choice of the fans after coming out on top in a poll organised by the Club's Managing-Director at the time. In Mike's first season (03/04), they finished tenth in what was then Division Two, but the following season (04/05) The Hatters won the League One title, and after an excellent start in 2005/06 were always in the top half of the Championship, finishing in a creditable tenth place.

A goal-scoring forward during his career, Mike began at Liverpool as a youngster, and then played for Crewe Alexandra, Wigan Athletic, Luton, Leicester City, Everton, Blackburn Rovers, Birmingham City, Aberdeen, Crewe (second spell), Doncaster Rovers and Blackpool. He was manager at Hartlepool United before taking on his present role.

As for The Hatters' most recent performance – that 1-1 home draw against newly-promoted Colchester four days ago, Mike told his Club's website after the match, "You could say that we deserved better. In the second half we had a number of chances, but their goalkeeper has had a world-class performance and we haven't been able to get the ball into the net. Even when we had an early second-half penalty, I just had the feeling that it wasn't going to go in. We scored a very good goal, but didn't play particularly well in the first half when we gave Colchester the initiative. We weren't giving the ball to Carlos Edwards in the first half, and when you've got someone so much in form like the way that he has been playing, it's a complete waste of time. At the end of the day we should have won the game."



FORM FACTOR - THE LAST FOUR



Luton 2-2 Stoke Sat, 19 August 2006

Luke Chadwick's 70th minute goal earned Stoke a point against Luton at Kenilworth Road. The Potters led 1-0 at the break thanks to Peter Sweeney's 10th-minute strike, but the hosts demonstrated their character with a second-half fightback. Leon Barnett headed home an equaliser before Richard Langley's penalty on the hour put the Hatters on course for a third win from four matches. Chadwick however levelled the scores after heading home from close range.



Wolves 1-0 Luton Sat 26th August 2006

Jemal Johnson's second half strike set up Wolves' victory over Luton. Carl Cort threatened early on for Wolves, drawing a save from Marlon Beresford, then miscontrolling another chance, before he sent a header wide. On 47 minutes Cort's persistence was rewarded when he flicked on for Johnson, who beat Beresford with a low shot that went in off the post. Luton new-boy Sam Parkin had a penalty claim turned down and late on Johnson fired a shot straight at Beresford.



Luton 2-1 Crystal Pal Sat 9th Sept 2006

Luton comfortably defeated Crystal Palace to extend the Eagles winless streak to four games in all competitions at Kenilworth Road. Goals from Carlos Edwards and Rowan Vine were enough to ensure Luton maintained their unbeaten record at Kenilworth Road this season. And James Scowcroft's injury-time header was little more than a consolation for struggling Palace. Shefki Kuqi, meanwhile, made little impression on his Palace debut.



Luton 1-1 Colchester Tues 12th Sept 2006

Sam Parkin grabbed his first goal for Luton, but Jamie Cureton rescued a draw for Colchester at Kenilworth Road. Rowan Vine fired just wide before Parkin opened the scoring after the half-hour mark, heading home six yards out from Carlos Edwards' fine cross. But their joy was short-lived, as Chris Iwelumo teed up Cureton and he slammed in a thunderous shot from 25 yards. Richard Langley hit a penalty against the bar after he was fouled and Edwards struck the bar, but Colchester held on.

OUR LAST ENCOUNTER

Luton 3 – 3 Cardiff

Tuesday, 14 February 2006. Kenilworth Road. Att: 7,826 Ref: K Woolmer (Northamptonshire)

Luton began the game at pace and from the kick-off were causing Cardiff a few problems. Rowan Vine had been making a nuisance of himself and after 25 minutes he grabbed two goals in two minutes to put Luton in control to the break, heading home a left-wing cross then clipping in Carlos Edwards' pass. Luton came out in the second half and carried on where they left off, exposing holes in the Cardiff defence. City however refused to go quietly, with their resilience triggering quite a second half of football.

Jason Koumas in open play ran from twenty yards and smashed the ball past Beresford ten minutes into the second half to set up a possible City fight back. But Vine again put a stop to any thoughts of a

revival as he created an opening to set up Brkovic. Barker tried to clear but put the ball into his own net. Cardiff did make another return; this time by way of Neal Ardley picking out Riccardo Scimeca whose header gave City their second. Then, with only four minutes left and a loss on the books, up popped Koumas with another long range drive to restore parity and send the travelling fans wild.

Chances for Jerome came in the dying minutes, but seconds before the full time whistle Koumas made a great run past two players into the box and was brought down. The referee astonishingly refused to award the clear penalty and then blew for full time. The City players protested and as a result Neil Cox received a booking.

Luton: Beresford, Foley, Davis, Heikkinen, Barnett, Edwards, Nicholls, Brkovic, Morgan (Holmes 82), Vine, Howard. Subs Not Used: Perrett, Showunmi, Stevens, Brill. Booked: Barnett. Goals: Vine 25, 26, Barker 60 og.

Cardiff: Alexander, Barker, Ardley, Purse, Cox, Koumas, Ledley, Cooper (Whitley 64), Scimeca, Jerome, Ndumbu-Nsungu (Ferretti 82). Subs Not Used: Weston, Boland, Margetson. Booked: Scimeca. Goals: Koumas 55, Scimeca 71, Koumas 86.

62/63- BRING IT ON:
LUTON TOWN



KNOW YOUR OPPONENT



TOP BOY: ROWAN VINE - FORWARD

Basingstoke-born Rowan has played in every Championship match so far for Luton, though he wasn't included for the Carling Cup First Round match against Bristol Rovers. He had netted twice prior to last Tuesday's match against Colchester, and scored in last Saturday's 2-1 home win over Crystal Palace. It was with Portsmouth that he began his career as a trainee before becoming a full professional. But he only made 13 League/Premiership appearances for them and had loan-spells in the past four years with Brentford and Colchester United. He originally joined Luton on loan in August 2004 and signed for the Club on a full transfer at the start of last season. He was a regular in the Luton line-up from the start of November, and scored 10 goals in 31 League appearances, including two against us when we drew 3-3 at Kenilworth Road during February 2006. And when The Hatters beat runaway leaders Reading 3-2 in the next match, he scored another two.

THE LIKELY LADS



MARKUS HEIKKINEN DEFENDER

The Finland International is now in his second season with Luton whom he joined from Aberdeen in the summer of 2005. It was with Portsmouth that he first came into British football after playing for Finnish sides TPS Turku, MyPa and HJK Helsinki. But he was only at Fratton Park for the 2002/03 season, making just two League appearances, before moving to Scottish Premier League club Aberdeen. He was a regular with them for two seasons before his move to Kenilworth Road, and last year he missed only seven Championship matches for The Hatters. Capped over twenty times at senior level for Finland, he was in their side a fortnight ago on September 2nd for the Euro 2008 Group A Qualifier when they gained a 3-1 victory away to Poland, and was in the line-up that drew 1-1 at home to Portugal on September 6th. An ankle-injury kept him out for three Championship and Carling Cup games last month, but he has now been back for the past three matches.



RICHARD LANGLEY MIDFIELD

A free transfer in July 2006 following his release by Queen's Park Rangers, Harlesden-born Richard is a familiar name at Ninian Park from his spell with us. Originally with Q.P.R. whom he had joined as a trainee, he was with them at the time of Play-Off Final victory against rangers in May 2003, though he did not play in that match because of suspension. He joined us for £250,000 in August 2003 and made 69 League appearances before returning to Rangers in August 2005. A regular in their line-up last season, he is a Jamaican International through family links. He has played in all seven of Luton's Championship matches to date, his only absence being when he was rested for Carling Cup First Round penalty shoot-out win over Bristol Rovers. Having scored from a penalty in the 2-2 home draw against Stoke City on August 19th, he hit the bar from the spot last Tuesday against Colchester early in the second half.



SAM PARKIN FORWARD

The Hatters' most recent signing on August 25th 2006 at an initial fee of £340,000 from Ipswich Town, Roehampton-born Sam made his debut as substitute in Luton's 1-0 defeat at Wolves three weeks ago, and he made his first Luton start seven days ago against Crystal Palace. He was again in the starting line-up last Tuesday against Colchester and opened the scoring after 32 minutes in that 1-1 draw with what was his first goal for the Club. Originally with Chelsea, he did not make any Premiership appearances for them, and had loan-spells with Millwall, Wycombe Wanderers, Oldham Athletic and Northampton Town before joining Swindon Town in the summer of 2003. He had two very successful goalscoring years with them, netting over 20 goals in each season, before going to Ipswich in the summer of 2005. A former England Schools International, he has represented Scotland at "B" level.



MARLON BERESFORD GOALKEEPER

One of the most experienced 'keepers in League football, Lincoln-born Marlon has been with thirteen clubs including various loan-spells. He is now in his second period with Luton, having been re-signed in July 2004 after being with Barnsley whom he had joined from Luton in January 2004. He made his League debut back in 189/90 with his first club Sheffield Wednesday, and has been The Hatters' regular choice since his return to Kenilworth Road. The 1-0 win at Sheffield Wednesday on August 8th was Marlon's 450th League appearance of his career, and he is ever-present so far for The Hatters including last Tuesday's home game against Colchester United.



SOL DAVIS FULL-BACK

Cheltenham-born Sol began his career as a trainee with Swindon Town before becoming a full professional in May 1998, having made his first-team debut in that '97/98 season. He became a semi-regular with Swindon over the next four seasons, and moved to Luton for an initial £600,000 fee in August 2002. He was almost ever-present in the side that won the League One title in 2004/05, and played in just under half of Luton's Championship matches last season, injury keeping out for several months from mid-October 2005. He is ever-present this season to date.



LEON BARNET DEFENDER

A former trainee with the Club, Stevenage-born Leon has been a full professional since September 2004. He made his senior debut in an LDV Vans Trophy match that month, and later had a loan-spell at Aylesbury. Leon's League debut came last season when he came on as substitute in the 1-0 victory at Hull City during September 2005, and he made twenty League appearances last season, eight of them from the bench. He was a regular in the starting line-up for the final four matches of 2005/06 and is ever-present so far, having scored twice in the first four matches of 2006/07.



CHRIS COYNE DEFENDER

Born in Sydney, Australia, Chris is a former Australian Youth and Under-23 International who was with Western Australian club Perth SC before joining West Ham United in 1995/96. He made only one Premiership appearance for The Hammers in four years at Upton Park and had 1 loan-spells with Brentford and Southend United. He then had just over one season with Dundee before a £50,000 fee brought him to Luton in September 2001 and since then has been a regular in the side. A knee-injury towards the end of 2005/06 meant an operation, and he has made several appearances so far this season as he looks to regain full match-fitness.



CARLOS EDWARDS WIDE MIDFIELD

The Trinidad & Tobago International looked impressive in this season's World Cup and his performances were a highlight of his country's efforts, although they failed to get past the group stages. Born in Port of Spain, Trinidad, Carlos was originally with Defence Force FC. Wrexham signed him for £125,000 in 2000, and he joined Luton in the summer of 2005. He missed very few matches last season, and has appeared in every League and Carling Cup match so far on 2006/07, scoring in the opening-day 2-0 home win over Leicester and in last Saturday's 2-1 home win over Crystal Palace.



STEVE ROBINSON MIDFIELD

Originally with Tottenham for whom he made two Premiership appearances in 1993/94, Robinson was then with Bournemouth and Preston, before joining Luton for £50,000 in 2002. He has been a regular in the side over the past few seasons, having now played well over 100 League games for the Club. Robinson will soon make the 400th League appearance of his career, and has played in all but two of this season's first-team games - his only absences to date being for the mid-August matches against Stoke and Bristol Rovers because of an ankle injury.



LEWIS EMANUEL WIDE MIDFIELD

A summer signing from his local club Bradford City who he had originally joined as a trainee, former England youth International Lewis can play on the left of midfield or at left-back, though he has been in a left-side midfield role this season. It was in 2001/02 that he made his debut for Bradford City and went on to make 139 League appearances for them, missing only nine League matches in 2005/06. His only absence so far this season was when he was rested for the Carling Cup match against Bristol Rovers, and he has already been on target with the winner in the 1-0 victory at Sheffield Wednesday on August 8th.



WARREN FEENEY FORWARD

A current Northern Ireland International, Belfast-born Warren joined Luton for a £150,000 fee from Stockport on transfer-deadline day in March 2005. Previously with Leeds and Bournemouth before going to Stockport, he scored 17 goals in 32 League and Cup appearances before his move to Kenilworth Road. He was a regular last season for Luton, and has played in almost every Championship match so far for The Hatters in 2006/07, including last Saturday when he came on from the bench. He was non-playing substitute last Tuesday against Colchester.

LEON BARNET - 25
Date of birth 30/11/85 - Stevenage
Position - Defender
Nationality - English
Ex-trainee, signed full pro September 2004.

ZACH BARRETT -34
Date of birth
Position - Goalkeeper
Nationality - English

DAVID BELL - 28
Date of birth 21/4/84 - Kettering
Position - Right midfielder
Nationality - Republic of Ireland
Ex-Rushden & Diamonds trainee/full pro. Signed mid-January 2006.

MARLON BERESFORD - 1
Date of birth 2/9/69 - Lincoln
Position - Goalkeeper
Nationality - English
Ex-Sheffield Wednesday trainee/full pro, Northampton (loan - two spells), Crewe (loan), Burnley, Middlesbrough, Sheffield Wednesday (loan), Burnley, York, Burnley, Bradford City, Luton (Oct.2003), Barnsley. Re-signed July 2004.

ADAM BOYD - 20
Date of birth 25/5/82 - Hartlepool
Position - Forward
Nationality - English
Ex-Hartlepool United trainee/full pro. Bradford City (loan - Nov.2003). Signed £500,000 summer 2006.

DEAN BRILL - 33
Date of birth 2/12/85 - Luton
Position - Goalkeeper
Nationality - English
Ex-trainee, signed full pro 2003/04.

AHMET BRKOVIC - 18
Date of birth 23/9/74 - Dubrovnik, Croatia
Position - Wide midfielder
Nationality - Croatian
Ex-HNK Dubrovnik, Leyton Orient. Signed free October 2001.

CHRIS COYNE - 4
Date of birth 20/12/78 - Brisbane, Australia
Position - Defender
Nationality - Australian
Ex-Perth SC (Australia), West Ham United, Brentford (loan), Southend (loan), Dundee. Signed £50,000 September 2001. Ex-Australian U-23 International.

SOL DAVIS - 3
Date of birth 4/9/79 - Cheltenham
Position - Full-back
Nationality - English
Ex-Swindon Town trainee/full pro. Signed initial £600,000 August 02.

CARLOS EDWARDS - 7
Date of birth 24/10/78 - Port of Spain, Trinidad
Position - Midfield/winger

Nationality - Trinidad & Tobago.
Ex-Defence Force (Trinidad), Wrexham. Signed free August 2005.

LEWIS EMANUEL -16
Date of birth 14/10/83 - Bradford
Position - Midfield/winger
Nationality - English
Ex-Bradford City trainee/full pro. Signed summer 2006. Ex-England Youth International.

WARREN FEENEY - 10
Date of birth 17/1/81 - Belfast
Position - Forward
Nationality - Northern Ireland
Ex-Leeds United, AFC Bournemouth, Stockport County. Signed March 2005 £175,000. Northern Ireland Under-21/Current Senior International.

KEVIN FOLEY - 2
Date of birth 1/11/84 - Luton
Position - Full-back
Nationality - Republic of Ireland
Ex-trainee. Signed full pro March 2004. Republic of Ireland Under-21 International.

MARKUS HEIKKINEN - 26
Date of birth 13/10/78 - Finland
Position - Defender
Nationality - Finnish
Ex-TPS Turku, MyPa, HJK Helsinki, Portsmouth, Aberdeen. Signed summer 2005. Current Finland International.

PETER HOLMES - 27
Date of birth 18/11/80 - Bishop Auckland
Position - Midfield
Nationality - English
Ex-Sheffield Wednesday trainee/full pro. Signed free August 2000.

KEITH KEANE - 21
Date of birth 20/11/86 - Luton
Position - Full-back
Nationality - English
Ex-trainee. Signed full pro August 2004.

RICHARD LANGLEY - 17
Date of birth 27/12/79 - Harlesden
Position - Midfield
Nationality - Jamaican
Ex-Queen's Park Rangers trainee/full pro, Cardiff City (August 2003 - 72 Lge/Cup apps). Re-joined Q.P.R. August 2005. Signed summer 2006. Ex-England Youth/Full Jamaican International.

MICHAEL LEARY - 14
Date of birth 17/4/83 - Ealing
Position - Midfield
Nationality - Republic of Ireland
Ex-trainee, signed full pro August 2001.

DEAN MORGAN - 11
Date of birth 3/10/83 - Enfield
Position - Winger/forward

Nationality - English
Ex-Colchester trainee/full pro, Reading. Signed summer 2005.

STEVE O'LEARY - 15
Date of birth 12/2/85 - Barnet
Position - Midfield
Nationality - Republic of Ireland
Ex-trainee, signed full pro August 2004. Ex-Republic of Ireland Youth International.

SAM PARKIN - 19
Date of birth 14/3/81 - Roehampton
Position - Forward
Nationality - Scottish
Ex-Chelsea trainee/full pro, Millwall (loan), Wycombe (loan), Oldham (loan), Northampton (loan), Swindon Town, Ipswich Town. Signed initial £340,000 Aug.25th 2006. Scotland B International.

RUSSELL PERRETT - 5
Date of birth 18/6/73 - Barton-on-Sea, Hants.
Position - Defender
Nationality - English
Ex-Lymington, Portsmouth, Cardiff City (£10,000 July 1999 - 35 Lge/Cup apps.). Signed free August 2001.

STEVE ROBINSON - 8
Date of birth 10/12/74 - Lisburn, Northern Ireland.
Position - Midfield
Nationality - Northern Ireland
Ex-Tottenham trainee, full pro, AFC Bournemouth, Preston, Bristol City (loan). Signed £50,000 June 2002.
Northern Ireland Schools/Youth/U-21/B/Full International.

DANNY STEVENS - 22
Date of birth 26/11/86 - Enfield
Position - Right midfield
Nationality - English
Ex-Tottenham trainee. Signed summer 2004.

PAUL UNDERWOOD - 6
Date of birth 16/8/73 - Wimbledon
Position - Left-back/left midfield
Nationality - English
Ex-Kingstonian, Molesey, Sutton United, Carshalton Ath., Enfield, Rushden & Diamonds. Signed free March 2004. Ex-England semi-pro International.

ROWAN VINE - 9
Date of birth 21/9/82 - Basingstoke
Position - Forward
Nationality - English
Ex-Portsmouth trainee/full pro, Brentford (loan), Colchester (loan), Luton (loan - August 2004). Signed summer 2005.

THEIR 2006-2007 RECORD

Date	Opponent	Venue	F-A	Att.
Aug 5	Leicester City (CCC)	H	2-0	8,131
Aug 8	Sheffield Wed. (CCC)	A	1-0	22,613
Aug 12	Norwich City (CCC)	A	2-3	23,863
Aug 19	Stoke City (CCC)	H	2-2	7,727
Aug 22	Bristol Rovers (CC.1)	A	1-1*	2,882
Aug 26	Wolves (CCC)	A	0-1	19,378
Sep 9	Crystal Palace (CCC)	H	2-1	9,187
Sep 12	Colchester Utd. (CCC)	H	1-1	7609

*Won 5-3 on pens

THIS SEASON'S SCORERS:

L Emanuel (1) - L Barnett (2) - R Langley (1) - C Edwards (2)
A Boyd (1) - S Parkin (1) - D Morgan (1) - R Vine (2)

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES:

Date	Opponent	Venue
Sep 19	Brentford (CC.2)	A
Sep 23	West Bromwich Albion (CCC)	H
Sep 30	Barnsley (CCC)	A

(CCC) Coca Cola Championship
(CC1) Carling Cup Round 1



MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Dave Jones	Mike Newell
Played 53 Won 20 Drawn 14 Lost 19 For 69 Against 66 Av Pts/game 1.40 Biggest Win(s) Cardiff 6 Crewe 1 (22/10/2005). Biggest Loss(es) Reading 5 Cardiff 1 (02/01/2006).	Played 145 Won 66 Drawn 38 Lost 41 For 232 Against 189 Av Pts/game 1.63 Biggest Win(s) Luton 5 Bristol City 0 (05/03/2005). Biggest Loss(es) Preston 5 Luton 1 (11/02/2006).

MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..2	Dave Jones.....0	Mike Newell.....1
Draws ..1	Goals 4	Goals 5

Player with the most... shots

Michael Chopra 28

shots on target
Michael Chopra 13

shots off target
Michael Chopra 15

assists
Michael Chopra 3

crosses
Paul Parry 23

fouls
Kerrea Gilbert 9

free-kicks-won
Kevin McNaughton 11



GAMES SINCE

2	a win	1
0	a home win	1
2	an away win	3
1	a defeat	2
1	a home defeat	4
1	an away defeat	0
0	a score draw	0
16	a no score draw	59
0	conceding a goal	0
0	scoring a goal	0
0	conceding > 1	4
0	scoring > 1	1
2	keeping a clean sheet	6
3	failing to score	2
4	back to back wins	6
10	back to back defeats	8
0	gaining a point	0
0	losing a point	0
2	win by > one	7
3	loss by > one	26

Player with the most... shots

Rowan Vine 17

shots on target
Rowan Vine 9

shots off target
Rowan Vine 8

assists
Lewis Emanuel 2

crosses
Carlos Edwards 21

fouls
Rowan Vine 16

free-kicks-won
Carlos Edwards 12

SHARP SHOOTERS

Cardiff	CCFC Cup	Tot	Luton	CCFC Cup	Tot	
Michael Chopra	4	0	4	2	0	2
Joe Ledley	2	0	2	2	0	2
Steven Thompson	2	0	2	2	0	2
			Rowan Vine	2	0	2

TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played.....54	Cardiff wins.....17	Luton wins.....21
Draws.....16	Goals 71 (1.3 per game)	Goals 104 (1.9 per game)
0-0's.....6	Times failed to score 15	Times failed to score 13

Biggest League win at Cardiff for each team:

26/12/1931 Cardiff 4-1 Luton
28/04/1934 Cardiff 0-4 Luton

Stat Pack



2006/07 LEAGUE STATS

2	Position	7
7	Played	7
4	Won	3
2	Drawn	2
1	Lost	2
11	Goals For	10
7	Goals Against	8
14	Points	11

Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	2	1	3	1	0	2	12

Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	0	0	17	2	2	0	10

Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
4	1	0	1	3	1	1	6

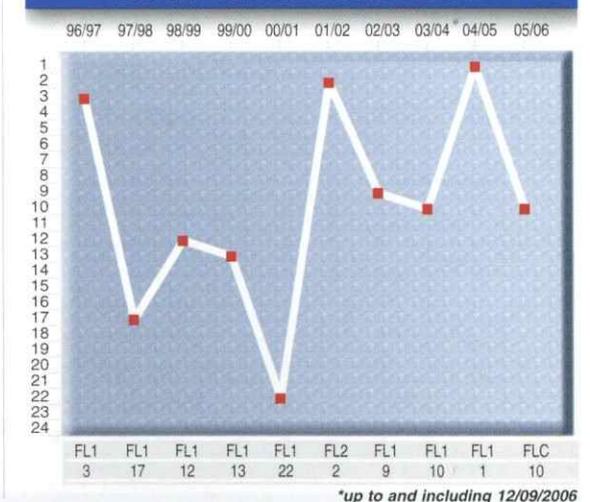
Record When Conceding First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
0	1	1	22	0	1	1	21

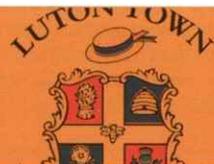
Match Scores

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

LUTON - TEN SEASON RECORD



66 - LUTON WHO'S WHO 2006/07



The Football League's Fans of the Future initiative is aiming to attract the next generation of supporters to watch live football at their local club

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AUGUST		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat05	Barnsley	A	12082 (1680)	W 2-1	3	-
Tue08	West Brom	H	18506 (986)	D 1-1	4	-
Sat12	Coventry	H	13965 (594)	W 1-0	7	4
Sat19	Leeds	A	18246 (564)	W 1-0	10	-
Tue22	Barnet	H	3,305 (150)	L 0-2	-	-
Sat26	Birmingham	H	20,109 (1,800)	W 2-0	13	1

SEPTEMBER		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat09	Preston	A	12,435 (1,136)	L 1-2	13	1
Tue12	Plymouth	A	11,855 (948)	D 3-3	14	2
Sat16	Luton	H				
Sun24	Southend	A				
Sat30	Wolves	H				

OCTOBER		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat14	C Palace	A				
Tue17	Southampton	H				
Sat21	Norwich	A				
Sat28	Derby	H				
Tue31	Sunderland	A				

NOVEMBER		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat04	Colchester	A				
Sat11	Burnley	H				
Sat18	QPR	H				
Sat25	Sheff Wed	A				
Tue28	Stoke	A				

DECEMBER		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat02	Colchester	H				
Sat09	Ipswich	H				
Sat16	Hull City	A				
Sat23	Leicester	A				
Tue26	Plymouth	H				
Sat30	C Palace	H				

JANUARY		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Mon01	Luton	A				
Sat13	Southend	H				
Sat20	Wolves	A				
Tue30	Leicester	H				

FEBRUARY		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat03	Barnsley	H				
Sat10	Coventry	A				
Sat17	Leeds	H				
Tue20	West Brom	A				
Sat24	Preston	H				

MARCH		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat03	Birmingham	A				
Sat10	Norwich	H				
Wed14	Southampton	A				
Sat17	Derby	A				
Sat31	Sunderland	H				

APRIL		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat07	Sheff Wed	H				
Mon09	Burnley	A				
Thur19	Stoke	H				
Sat21	QPR	A				
Sat28	Hull City	H				

MAY		Att (away)	R	F-A	Pts	Pos
Sat06	Ipswich	A				

Player	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Neil ALEXANDER	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kerrea GILBERT	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kevin McNAUGHTON	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Jeff WHITLEY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Darren PURSE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Glenn LOOVENS	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Michael CHOPRA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Steve THOMPSON	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Stephen McPHAIL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Paul PARRY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Roger JOHNSON	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mark HOWARD	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Willo FLOOD	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Joe LEDLEY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kevin COOPER	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Luigi GLOMBARD	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Riccy SCIMECA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Kevin CAMPBELL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Chris BARKER	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rhys WESTON	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Marty'n MARGETSON	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Nick McKOY	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Malvin KAMARA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Andrea FERRETTI	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Joe JACOBSON	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Michael CORCORAN	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Chris GUNTER	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Darcy BLAKE	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●



Coca-Cola CHAMPIONSHIP
2006/07 LEAGUE TABLE

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Birmingham City	7	5	1	1	9	5	4	16
2	Cardiff City	7	4	2	1	11	7	4	14
3	Wolves	7	4	1	2	6	5	1	13
4	Preston NE	7	3	3	1	8	6	2	12
5	Norwich City	7	3	2	2	13	10	3	11
6	Burnley	7	3	2	2	11	8	3	11
7	Luton Town	7	3	2	2	10	8	2	11
8	West Brom	7	3	2	2	7	5	2	11
9	Southampton	7	2	4	1	10	7	3	10
10	Plymouth Argyle	7	2	4	1	11	10	1	10
11	Coventry City	7	3	1	3	7	6	1	10
12	Crystal Palace	7	3	1	3	10	10	0	10
13	Ipswich Town	7	3	1	3	9	9	0	10
14	Stoke City	7	1	5	1	8	7	1	8
15	Derby County	7	2	2	3	9	11	-2	8
16	Southend Utd	7	2	2	3	8	10	-2	8
17	Barnsley	7	2	2	3	13	18	-5	8
18	Leeds United	6	2	1	3	4	5	-1	7
19	Sheffield Wed	7	1	4	2	4	5	-1	7
20	Colchester Utd	7	2	1	4	10	12	-2	7
21	Leicester City	7	2	1	4	4	7		



SATURDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER 2006 KICK-OFF 3.00PM

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 01 NEIL ALEXANDER | <input type="checkbox"/> 01 MARLON BERESFORD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 02 KERREA GILBERT | <input type="checkbox"/> 02 KEVIN FOLEY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 03 KEVIN McNAUGHTON | <input type="checkbox"/> 03 SOL DAVIS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 04 JEFF WHITLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> 04 CHRIS COYNE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 05 DARREN PURSE | <input type="checkbox"/> 05 RUSSELL PERRETT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 06 GLENN LOOVENS | <input type="checkbox"/> 06 PAUL UNDERWOOD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 07 | <input type="checkbox"/> 07 CARLOS EDWARDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 08 MICHAEL CHOPRA | <input type="checkbox"/> 08 STEVE ROBINSON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 09 STEVE THOMPSON | <input type="checkbox"/> 09 ROWAN VINE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 STEVE McPHAIL | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 WARREN FEENEY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 PAUL PARRY | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 DEAN MORGAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 ROGER JOHNSON | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 MICHAEL LEARY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13 MARK HOWARD | <input type="checkbox"/> 15 STEVE O'LEARY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 14 WILLO FLOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 LEWIS EMANUEL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 RICHARD LANGLEY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16 JOE LEDLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 AHMET BRKOVIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17 KEVIN COOPER | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 SAM PARKIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 LUIGI GLOMBARD | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 ADAM BOYD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 19 RICCARDO SCIMECA | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 DANNY STEVENS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 KEVIN CAMPBELL | <input type="checkbox"/> 23 KEITH KEANE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 21 CHRIS BARKER | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 LEON BARNET |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 MARKUS HEIKKINEN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 23 MARTYN MARGETSON | <input type="checkbox"/> 27 PETER HOLMES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 24 NICK McKOY | <input type="checkbox"/> 28 DAVID BELL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25 MALVIN KAMARA | <input type="checkbox"/> 29 CALVIN ANDREW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 26 ANDREA FERRETTI | <input type="checkbox"/> 33 DEAN BRILL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 34 ZACH BARRETT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 35 CHRIS PENDLETON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

MATCH NOTES

Referee:
P MELIN

Assistants:
S P Snarrt
M G West

Fourth Official:
W Barratt

TICKETS CALL: 0845 345 1400

Also Today:

- Barnsley v Wolverhampton
- Birmingham v Ipswich
- Colchester v QPR
- Coventry v Leeds
- Derby v Preston
- Norwich v Crystal Palace
- Southampton v Plymouth
- Stoke v Burnley
- Sunderland v Leicester
- West Brom v Southend

Last Night:

Hull City v Sheffield Wednesday

Our Forthcoming Matches:

Wednesday, 20th September
Cardiff Res. v Swindon Res. 2.00pm

Sunday, 24th September
Southend v Cardiff 1.15pm

Saturday, 30th September
Cardiff v Wolverhampton



Pos	Team	P	Pts
1	Birmingham City	7	16
2	Cardiff City	7	14
3	Wolves	7	13
4	Preston NE	7	12
5	Norwich City	7	11
6	Burnley	7	11
7	Luton Town	7	11
8	West Brom	7	11
9	Southampton	7	10
10	Plymouth Argyle	7	10
11	Coventry City	7	10
12	Crystal Palace	7	10
13	Ipswich Town	7	10
14	Stoke City	7	8
15	Derby County	7	8
16	Southend Utd	7	8
17	Barnsley	7	8
18	Leeds United	6	7
19	Sheffield Wed	7	7
20	Colchester Utd	7	7
21	Leicester City	7	7
22	Sunderland	6	6
23	QPR	7	6
24	Hull City	7	4

SQUAD - TABLE - STATS



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