

SUNDAY 19TH AUGUST 2001

* - SUBSTITUTED

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY MATCH AWAY TO CHESHUNT (SUNDAY) AT CHESHUNT FC

KICK OFF 10.30 AM. (PITCH AT REAR OF STADIUM)

SCORE: CHESHUNT (SUNDAY) 3 EDMONTON ROVERS 3

HAZ-TIME: 1-0

TEAM	MARKS OUT OF 10	SCORES
1. GK Daryl JOHNSON	7	
2. RB Robin PRYKE	6	
3. LB Steve BEASLEY (CAPTAIN)	6½	
4. RM/CM Paul REBAIRO	6	
5. SW Tony SPELLER	6	
6. CH Alan BARNARD	6	
7. CM Scott ROBERTSON	6½	
8. CM Marco ELLERKER	7	71 mins,
9. CF Gary ODELL	6	
10. CF/RM Paul ELLERKER	7	
11. LM John BEASLEY	8	67 mins,
12. CF Anuj BHARDWAJ	5½	
14. CF Kevin DEDMAN	6½	91 mins,
15. —	—	
16. —	—	
17. —	—	

OPPONENTS GOAL TIMES: DANNY WADE (40 mins), ADAM NORMAN (63 (PEN), 64 mins)

OTHER CLUB MEMBERS PRESENT: L. HUGHES, T. BEEDEN

CROWD: 14

CLUB LIFEMAN: TREVOR HUGHES

BOOKINGS: —

SENDING OFF: —

WEATHER CONDITIONS: TORRENTIAL THUNDERSTORM DURING MIDDLE OF FIRST HALF, CLOUDY WITH OCCASIONAL RAIN. LIGHT RAIN IN 2ND HALF. QUITE FIRM BUT WET ON TOP. NO WIND.

STATE OF PITCH: LONG GRASS + WEEDS WITH LINES NOT MARKED OUT!

Report: As we were missing no less than seven 'regulars' and numerous prospective new players due to holidays and various social or family commitments, we always had the intention of treating this game as just a chance to keep players match fit and to give one or two others a run-out without the final scoreline really mattering. That meant Kevin Dedman was able to come on for a 'stroll-about' as a second half substitute to put a temporary end to his enforced 'retirement', whilst three players made their Rovers debuts in the starting line-up, these being Goalkeeper Darryl Johnson and Defensive Midfielder Scott Robertson from the now-defunct Beehive (Wormley) and Centre-Half Alan Barnard from Edmonton Cricket Club.

Of course a 3-3 draw against a side who finished in mid-table in Division 4 last season would have been a very disappointing result had this been a competitive match and when we found ourselves 3-0 down at one stage it definitely gave cause for concern, especially as we had the bonus of Marco Ellerker playing in his first (11-a-side) match for six months and our other regular players in this game being sober this time! Obviously the lack of teamwork played a part in us going behind, but once everybody started remembering each others' names (and Kevin Dedman was introduced to the fray) things then started to click and that saw us grab a deserved draw in the end after Cheshunt (Sunday)'s only Saturday First Team (Ryman League Division Two) regular Adam Norman had threatened to destroy us almost single-handedly.

However, this match will be best remembered for the torrential thunderstorm that we had to play (and film!) through which resulted in chances galore at both ends as defenders struggled to control the ball, but for us, the likes of Gary Odell, Paul Rebaire and Anuj 'Nuj' Bhardwaj in particular were guilty of some of the most comical bad misses ever captured on video at a Rovers match which really should have been 'buried' despite the difficult conditions and there were certainly several candidates for our Clip of the Week on the website from some of those, although we settled for John Beasley's goal in the end because of his man-of-the-match performance for us.