

The Falcon is ready for take-off

SUMMER signing Craig Faulconbridge plans to get selfish as Wanderers kick off their 2002-3 campaign at Meadow Lane tomorrow.

The Nuneaton-born hitman has played the role of provider rather than chief goal grabber in Blues' pre-season campaign but now he wants to get greedy.

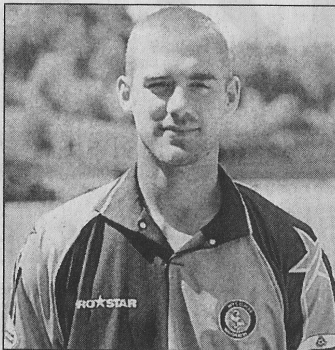
He opened his account, with a cheeky backheel in last Saturday's 5-4 reversal at Barnet, and now the former Wrexham striker is anxious to explode out of the blocks like he did last season.

The 24-year-old scored in all three of Wrexham's opening matches – and he fancies his chances of repeating that sprint start with the Blues tomorrow.

He said: "I don't set myself targets but I know I can score goals in this side. I'm in a better side than last season and I feel confident.

"The lads have accepted me really well and I've started to find my feet."

Falconbridge has operated with three



Going for goal: Craig Faulconbridge

different strike partners and played in two different systems during the pre-season campaign but despite impressing with his hold up play, the Falcon says scoring is what he does best.

He said: "I can do the other side of the game but I want to be on the end of things. I want to be in the box and when the season starts you will see a lot more of me there.

"In pre-season I've been coming out to get touches, but when it kicks off the priority is to get goals and be direct."

Chairboys boss Lawrie Sanchez beat off competition from Division two rivals Crewe and Stockport for Faulconbridge's signature ending a two-year chase for the striker who came in on a Bosman. And Faulconbridge, who was relegated to the third division with Wrexham last term, is determined to be fighting at the other end of the table this time.

He said: "I know the pre-season results have been a bit mixed, but that will count for nothing tomorrow. There is a lot of potential and a lot of quality here. I really think we can win promotion with the quality of players we've got here.

"I don't mind who I'm playing with or in what system. It doesn't bother me. I just want to be playing and scoring goals."

And the Falcon has got a score to settle tomorrow.

Notts' victory over Huddersfield on the last day of the season relegated Wrexham to the basement division and left a huge cloud over the Racecourse Ground and Faulconbridge would like to strike a blow for his former team-mates tomorrow.

He said: "Notts will be a big test for us. I was surprised they struggled as badly as they did last season in the position they were last year."

And he has another reason to want to get off to a flier tomorrow.

He said: "They've got Danny Allsopp who I used to play alongside at Wrexham and the big centre half Craig Ireland who I used to play with at Dunfermline. It would be nice to put one over them."