

THE ADAMS FAMILY

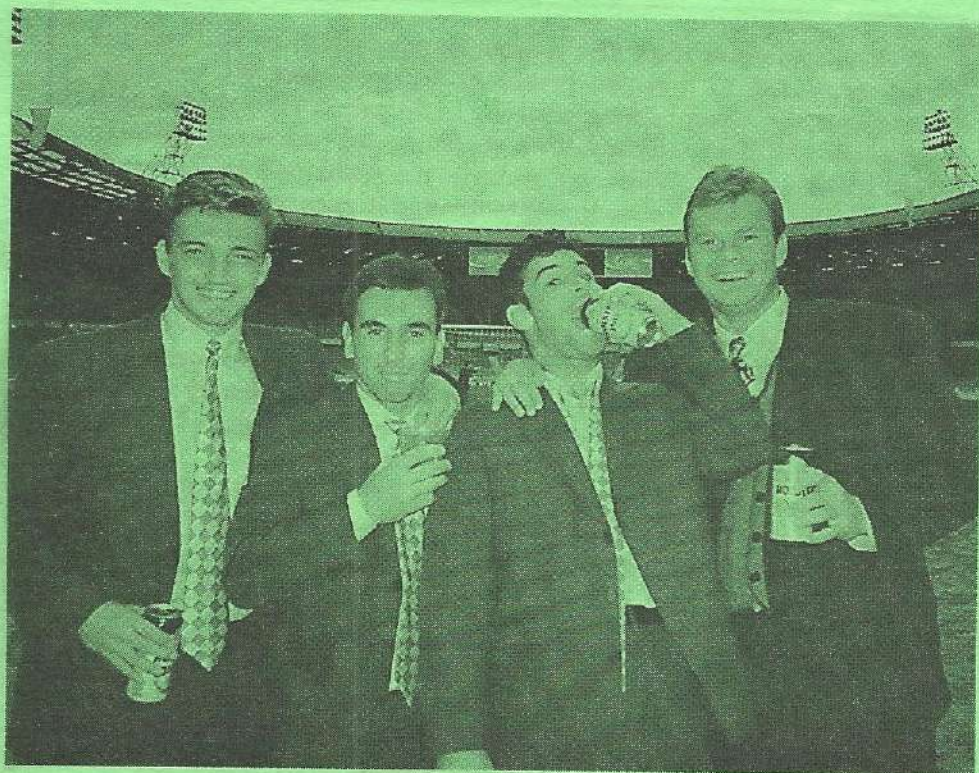


ISSUE 15

SEPT 94

STILL ONLY 50.P

GOING UP.....GOING UP



GOING DOWN.....

WYCOMBE WANDERERS FANZINE

THE ADAMS FAMILY

**P.O. BOX 394 HIGH WYCOMBE
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Welcome to issue 15 of The Adams Family, which as you will see has expanded to a record breaking 28 pages, and yet somehow retains it's inflation busting price tag of 50 pence. How do we do it you ask ? Well it's a little known secret shared exclusively between ourselves and the kebab van outside the guild hall in Wycombe high street, and we're not going to divulge it to anyone else.

WWFC may have been quiet in the transfer market this summer but TAF has been busy courting the evil souls of corporate business in order to supply an outlet for this fanzine that is acceptable to quaker's and ex-alcoholics, who don't fancy popping into Wycombe Wines. So now you can buy your copy at Wycombe's coolest record emporium Scorpion Records. Not only is this store the only place in the area where vinyl can still be purchased, it also does CD's for those of you who aren't sad old techno-fear luddites.

Well they do say that everyone becomes the thing that they loathe, so before we turn into 1170am we'll leave you to read on about the football, (Think there's some in here !).

Enjoy.

CONTRIBUTORS: Andy Dickinson, Dave Chapman, Jon Dickinson, Neil Peters, Floyd Dove-Edwin, Doug Peters.

TAF IS AVAILABLE FROM... *Wycombe Wines*, Crendon Street, High Wycombe. *Scorpion Records*, London Road. *WWFC Corner Flag shop*, and our *PO Box*, address above (50p + sae).

THANK YOU'S... Bucks Free Press for use of photos. Catford Copy Centre for fine printing. All of you who entered the TAF awards.

ISSUE 13 sold approx 970 copies.....

Good afternoon and welcome to Terrace Tattle here in your number one Adams family, bought to you in association with the 'Wycombe Bakery'..... "If you're short of 'bread' our loaves don't cost much 'dough'. Ooops sorry, I'm getting a bit carried away sat here listening to 1170am (radio that lives here allegedly) and their live coverage of the Bradford City match. Actually it's a great service to part time supporters and those of us with colleagues who have the nerve to get hitched during the football season. The service is, of course, provided by Wycombe's answer to the Dimpleby brothers Alan 'mobile' Hutchinson and a fine job he does too. Alongside the excitable broadcaster are veritable footballing gods, such as Simon Hutchinson and Lee Turnbull, who provide wit, wisdom, nicknames and in Turnbull's case a stack of well worn cliches. One final thought on the subject, WWFC has already lost one of it's top stars to our musically dubious local radio station, namely Alphonso Kerr, can we expect to see 'Hutch' and 'the Bull' being taken into the world of the wireless too ! Could 1170 be Buckinghamshire's very own Bermuda triangle and if so I'm having a tenner on it being the reason of Jim Melvin's mysterious, nay sinister disappearance.

Are we at TAF the only ones who are a trifle concerned at the lack of information on this subject, the last I heard was that Mr. Beeks would be making a statement next week. As that was over a month ago one would have to assume that our leader has either forgotten or is indulging in something involving the words carpet, under and sweeping. I mean it's not like the car park attendant has got the boot, this is a man who had a seat on the bench alongside M o'N and was generally in the thick of the action as much as anyone. Maybe it's a subject for the dear Ivor column. Lastly anyone unfortunate to have bought issue 2 of this fanzine, (yes we're still ashamed) will have seen the head of Steve Walford spookily proclaiming, "I'll be back" and regardless of the circumstances any man who stops for a smoke whilst taking a throw-in is welcome at Wycombe.

So where did we leave it last time ? Well I'm sure enough has been said on the play-offs but I'd just like to mention Carlisle (away); I'm never overnighing in Morecombe again, Saturday night and the only action is sitting in a dingy pub listening to some horrific heavy metal, masquerading as blues. The TAF clan shared a b&b in the exclusive company of a party

from the Taunton branch of the salvation army, and the proprietor and his wife. They claimed to be called Donald and Valerie Ford when in fact they were probably Fred and Rose West. Actually they probably weren't but you have to be suspicious when the door to where your room is situated says "Rooms 13 - 14" and there's only one room and a dodgy looking loft hatch with a padlock on it. Also the wallpaper was peeling, so I think we've proved that one.

The match, well that was ace and you know I never realised how fast I could run! Seriously though, it wasn't one of the most savoury moments in my life, but I think we did very well to stay calm. On the way home a BBC radio journalist tried to persuade us that the Carlisle fans were more incensed at the antics of the security firm on the day, not too sure about that one myself. Had the security firm been Thora Hird, Alan Titchmarsh and Mother Theresa, the cumbrian twats would still have been spoiling for a ruck. (Mind you in Titchmarsh's case it could easily be justified !)

And so onto the new season. It's been a cracking start so far, unbeaten until todays game at Bradford and lets face it, how can you compete with a team that has spent around £700,000 pounds in the last year. For once Wycombe supporters have been talking realistically about our chances this season. It seems almost bizarre to see people cheerily talking about finishing in the top ten at the end of the season, but this understated attitude could be our key to success. For the first time in years we're not being tipped to do anything special and anyone who complains about this is an absolute pillock. OK so maybe some of us wonder why we sell so big but never seem to spend it, but there's no point in wasting cash for the sake of it, just ask the Bros. lads !?!

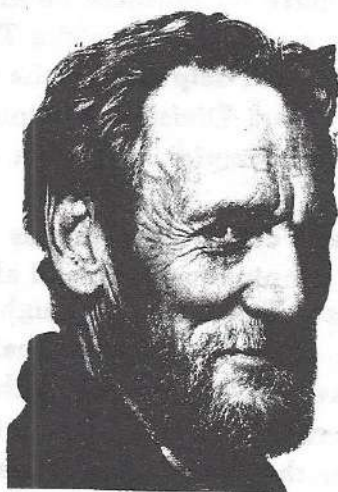
Anyway Cyrille Regis didn't cost anything and he's starting to look pretty supersonic alongside the Godfather. Apart from the Cambridge game the service to the front men has hardly been top-notch, our results being borne from solid defending rather than wild attacking abandon. Despite this our two 'Wily old pro's' (John Motson 1975-present) are certainly doing as well as any expensive partnership could, maybe with the exception of Klinnsmann and Sheringham.

Finally I'd like to mention the Birmingham match. Thankfully the limited tickets were distributed to season ticket holders and not any old fool who happened to purchase a bus ticket (cheers). However I was able to give mine to a worthy individual and sit in the press box alongside such luminaries as..... erm Alan Hutchinson. After arriving a few minutes late thanks to the fine directions of our mate Adrian Wood, my colleague

proceeded to upset a BRMB radio presenter by shouting, "Is anyone sitting here" into his microphone. If that wasn't bad enough he then kicked the aforementioned presenters can of Coke over. The two presenters were without doubt footballs answer to Smashie and Nicey, at half time they sat in stony silence not even glancing at each other. Suddenly one of them let out a large cackle and enthused, "You're certainly right there mate, it's been a cracking first half." How false can you get, if anyone from Birmingham is reading this then spread the word, your two genial 'Soccer Night' hosts hate each other. (and TAF)

The only problem was that you can't really celebrate goals up there, although Alan H was having trouble holding back when big Cyrille put us in the lead. Still every cloud has a silver lining, and mine arrived as City managing director and Fantasy Football celebrity Karren Brady's arm brushed mine as she passed me on the way out. My life is complete, I shall want for no more. (You tragic sex-pest ...ed) See you soon.

OLDMANN'S OFFERINGS



OZZY...THE
F.A SPRING
CHICKEN.

As the T.A.F. has become more appealing to the masses we find that our P.O. box is full of many wonderful and interesting letters. One of the recent letters we received was an invitation for an informal chat with Sir Oswald Oldmann from F.A. Headquarters, to discuss possible new rules dreamt up by these underpaid gentlemen. As Sir Oswald tells me "there's always room for improvement". Well he certainly has the credentials to work for the F.A. , being a spring chicken at 97, and playing well over 12

games for Doncaster in the 1920's. He believes football was harder in the olde days "with balls being heavier, and boots weighing like lead". Well lets see what Sir Oswald and his chums have come up with.

Firstly, we are hoping for next season to introduce the policy that away goals count as double. This is perfectly fair as each team will play each other on home and away grounds as per normal. It will make each game more exciting as home teams will really have to perform in front of their home crowd. Also it gives teams like Crystal Palace a better chance to have a more cheery journey home from away games such as Liverpool and Newcastle.

My second idea will generate a much more exciting close season. All teams that have gained promotion plus the Premier champions will all meet in a final play off. Two semi finals will take place then the final. The overall prize will be the place in the Premier league. If for example Man Utd took part this year, if they truly are great they would have no problem holding onto their place. Yet if they failed they could end up in the Third Division which would boost attendances and help finance the smaller clubs. Teams like Shrewsbury, last years Division 3 winners, could take the chance to end up in the Premier, and what could be fairer than that.

The final idea I have come up with has been influenced by Boxing. I believe cup winning teams should all play each other for a winner-takes-all-prize. Tyson always fought his fights with the undisputed champion crown, why not football. In this years close season Villa could have played Arsenal, with the Coca Cola and European Cup Winners Cup at stake. The winners would then go on to play Man U for the F.A. Cup. We would then truly have Undisputed cup holders. For those cynics who think it's just a way of making money for the big clubs, well it's not. All the money will go to the F.A. for "working so hard in the close season".

Well now you know what we pay these athletic, well presented funsters such tight wages for. How would we ever have a football league without the hard, well thought out guidelines these much loved gentlemen provide us with. We will keep you up to date on any other rules thought up by these footballing guru's.

Thank Evans say Barnet's faithful

As we all know the crowd at Wycombe has grown considerably since the move to Adams Park. Players come and go, many leave as heroes, some are not even missed. Only few leave in unpleasant situations and I'm not talking about Steve Guppy, I say good on him. I'm talking about a player who at a guess a 1/4 of the Blue army never even saw kick a pig skin. Yes Nicky Evans, "The Sun God".

Nicky was stupid enough to argue with the gaffer, and lost.

A Blues favourite, he left with all guns blazing. Anyway letting the past rest, I think it's fitting that we should print this cutting from The Hendon Times on Nicky's benefit match, against Birmingham City. The game was played on May 13th at Underhill. Nicky spent a very good two years with Wycombe and we wish him the all the best now he's hung up his boots.

Barnet 3, Birmingham 6

WORSHIPPED by many, the man the fans labelled 'God' has finally hung up his football boots.

With his dashing blond hair tanned skin and shiny white teeth, Nicky Evans was always a favourite with the Underhill faithful.

But it was cruel luck which forced the 35-year-old to call it a day on the playing field because of a troublesome ankle injury.

However, it didn't stop the Bees striker last Friday night when a crowd of 1,409 turned up to pay him a fond farewell at his benefit match against Birmingham City, managed by ex-Barnet boss Barry Fry, who persuaded Nicky to join the Bees.

And despite coming off after 27 minutes, it was fitting that his last action on the field he graced would be to rise like a salmon at the far post and narrowly head over, keen to add to a phenomenal record of 168 goals in 291 full appearances (46 as sub) for Barnet.

Both teams fielded a large number of Bees favourites from years gone by, who turned out to pay their tributes, including Edwin Stein, David Howell, Gary Bull, Dave Regis, Paul Harding and Roger Willis - to the delight of Nicky.

"It's absolutely superb that all the players have come down. It's brilliant!

I'm just glad to get a benefit match. When I jacked it in I thought that was it," he said.

Fry, who could not be at the match due to other commitments, signed Nicky from Kettering Town in 1983.

After scoring 135 goals in 249 appearances, he was signed by Wycombe Wanderers for £32,000, but less than two years later he was back at Underhill.

Helping the club win automatic promotion to the football league is a memory Nicky says he will always treasure.

"I'll never forget that match at Fisher and getting promoted from the Conference. That's the main thing for me. The supporters have also been superb and I hit it off with them from the start.

"It always helps if you have a good debut and I managed to score two."

Bees goalkeeper Gary Phillips described his team mate as magnificent.

"He's brilliant and a terrific bloke. He could score with both feet, tremendous in the air, though not the biggest player, and would always put himself about a bit."

"It's unfortunate that injuries have ravaged his career," he added.

"He's got this all-year-round sun tan and we keep trying to work out why?"

GARY POOLE, TONY LYNCH and PHILLIPS scored for Barnet, and MIGUEL DE SOUZA (2), DAVE REGIS, HAKAN HAYRETIN, GARY BULL (PENALTY) and MARK CARTER were on target for Birmingham.



DIARY

Welcome back to "The Diary", the column that makes The Sunday Sport look like a Quakers handbook (according to some old fart). If you've got any relevant footballing gossip write to us at the usual address and we'll stuff it in. Here's some pre-season snippets to get you started: Apparently Tony Hemmings was spotted buying tracksuits from Wycombe Market, while that cheeky rogue Terry Evans gets his old dear to take the hem up on his shorts in order to "woo" the ladies. Keep them coming...

Little action has happened at Adams Park since the magnificent play-off final, so your scribe indulged himself in the Wanderers' latest video release, which believe it or not represents fine value at £20. It's a top quality production which soon had us in hysterics as we witnessed Ego-tripper Alan Hutchinson turning up at regular intervals with yes, you've guessed it, his mobile phone. Is this glued to your ear Alan???

The aforesaid video caused much discussion amongst Blues fans, and heated discussions were quick to ensue. Here are some of the questions raised: Is Matt Crossley totally thick, or is he a veritable brainbox who could easily join Mensa ? Were Thommo and Stapleton once farmers ? Was Jason Cousins one of Siamese Triplets split at birth, his brothers being Damon Hill and cricketer Graham Thorpe ? And someone please tell us - just what has happened to "Mad Jock" Jim Melvin ? Answers on a postcard please...

The recent win at Birmingham City was indeed a rare old treat. Big Cyrille rolled back the years with a majestic header, and established himself as one of the coolest players ever to don a Blue shirt. A great all round performance prevented Blues fans from the horrifying sight of "professional cockney" Barry Fry wiggling his bloated butt down the touchline as he used to in Barnet days. The real entertainment was had however when ex-Col.U striker Steve McGavin was spotted sitting coyly behind Wycombe fans in an executive box. Recognisable through his greasy pudding-bowl haircut, Steve got treated to the full range of, shall

we say, "hand salutes" from the Blues faithful and was seen leaving his box minutes later in apparent disgust!

Talking of Colchester, I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing this fine old team "all the best" as they start their campaign for glory. Oh dear chaps, things aren't looking to clever are they.

Torquay	4	3	1	0	8	4	10
Rochdale	4	3	1	0	7	2	10
Carlisle	4	3	1	0	7	3	10
Doncaster	4	3	1	0	5	0	10
Barnet	4	3	0	1	5	3	9
Fulham	4	2	2	0	5	2	8
Scunthorpe	4	2	1	1	7	4	7
Bury	4	2	1	1	6	1	7
Darlington	4	2	1	1	3	1	7
Scarborough	4	2	0	2	4	4	6
Mansfield	3	2	0	1	3	1	6

Gillingham	4	1	2	1	4	4	5
Walsall	4	1	2	1	4	4	5
Preston	4	1	2	1	3	2	5
Hartlepool	4	1	1	2	1	3	4
Lincoln	4	1	0	3	4	5	3
Chesterfield	4	1	0	3	4	8	3
Exeter	4	1	0	3	1	8	3
Northampton	3	0	1	2	2	4	1
Hereford	4	0	1	3	1	6	1
Wigan	4	0	0	4	3	10	0
Colchester	4	0	0	4	1	9	0

The last diary entry goes to a bizarre bloke who keeps writing to us from London. Here goes: "Hi, my name is Bobby Olivier and I would like to write to Wycombe fans (or players) of any age or sex." Well I'm sure you mean well Bobby, but I can't really see the likes of Davey Titterton getting his Basildon Bond writing set out to fulfil your wish. As for players of any age or sex, I think I'm correct in saying that although Davey Carroll's blonde locks and fine pins may have the looks of a nice young lady, he is in fact a married man with a number of young sprogs. Anyone wishing to correspond with this confused young man should write to Bobby Olivier,oh bugger it I've lost his address. You'd probably be better off writing to Fred West.



KING OF LEISURE
Market man Hemmo.



SEYMOUR'S SUPER FACTS



Hello, I'm Seymour Crumbleberry, your resident terrace bore. Those nice young (if somewhat scruffy looking) chaps at TAF have allowed me space in their soccer magazine to pass on some of my strange but true facts about football. If anyone has any arguments on soccer that need settling write to me c/o TAF and I'm sure I'll be able to put you straight.

Over the course of the season I will let you know some wonderfully fascinating bits of football trivia. Next time you are at a dinner party and it is a bit dull you can liven things up by saying;

Did You Know:- Aberdeen's ground Pittodrie is the Gaelic for "Hill of Dung".

Strange But True:- Elton John is the nephew of Roy Dwight who scored for Nottingham Forest in the 1959 FA Cup Final.

Would You Adam 'n' Eve It:- Somerset Park is not the home ground of some English west-country club but in fact the home of Scottish side Ayr United.

Ruddy Nora:- The cross-bar was first used in 1875.

Robin James (age 4) from Terriers writes,

"Dear Seymour, Can you tell me if an elephant has ever taken part in a football match?"

Well Robin, I can tell you that Dave Thomas who played for Burnley and QPR in the 1970's had a grand-father who once took part in a penalty shoot-out with an elephant and won 11-2.....Fact!!

So, fact fans, remember, if you want to find out anything about soccer, no matter how trivial, drop me a line at the usual address. Until next time, be good and don't do anything I wouldn't do.

Letters.....

Dear T.A.F,

(1) Firstly may I just say how well and truly your Wycombe Wanderers whopped the arses off our Carlisle United in the Play-offs. Out of the four clubs to reach the play-off position Wycombe were the team we hoped to avoid the most. We are totally unable to play against a team like Wycombe; Physically strong, tall in defence, a good passing team and very fast in attack.

The main reason I write this letter is to apologise for a microscopic section of the usually well behaved Carlisle supporters. In the first leg of the semi, you must have thought "These lot are a disgrace". I myself had similar thoughts, and even my wife who rarely attends matches said to me "How can you support these hooligans?"

The s**thead who invaded the pitch deserved to be ejected from the ground at the very least, but if you noticed, one of them (who had drunk about 17 pints of lager) sprinted the length of the pitch Linford Christie speed.

Two or three times this season, a firm of "Crowd Control Specialists" from Preston, have been hired for big games. The firm is called Top Guard and is basically made up of unprofessional thugs with fluorescent jackets on.

Anyway, 2 Top Guard men grabbed an arm each of the aforementioned pitch invader who had incidentally sunk to his knees and surrendered. Then something happened which was totally incomprehensible. In front of 10,000 people, a third T.G official booted the offender in the face. I in no way condone the pitch Invader but the T.G yob, who was in fact arrested after the game, enraged 100 or so nutters to take it upon themselves to run on the pitch to take the law into their own hands. This was a bad day for me, not only because of the performance, but because I was sickened by that mindless idiots had ruined a big game which doesn't happen too often.

(2) I'm now writing after the 2nd leg. Again you were the better team and you should stuff Preston in the final.

I apologise again for the two tossers who ran on the pitch and decided to attack the Wycombe fans. I hope they got a good smacking off you lot, they deserved it. I couldn't believe how the police stood for a full 5 minutes before attempting to get them off the pitch. Some of the fans wanted to run on the pitch and drag them off themselves. It turns out that these same two were arrested on the day of the 1st leg. If the police don't ban them from

Carlisle matches and they try and stand amongst us again they will regret it.

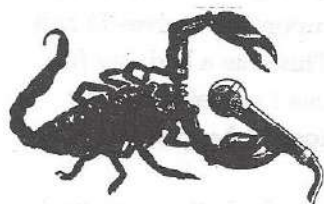
In all my matches I have been to, I have never seen a Carlisle supporter run on the pitch during a game. In the mid-80's Carlisle were reckoned to have the 3rd worst behaved fans in the country, I thought these days were over. There is talk of Carlisle being fined because of the events surrounding the 1st leg, if so much needed money for players will disappear.

I have enjoyed my 2 trips to Wycombe this season. You are a friendly lot with a picturesque ground, a good manager and a good team. I hope your supporters will stay well behaved and never try to ruin the club like some of ours have.

BILL GLASSON,
FRIZINGTON,
CUMBRIA.

Thanks for the letter Bill. Wycombe fans do pride themselves on being a friendly bunch, I think it's something to do with the fact that we're astounded to being in such a position in so few years, plus the fact that living in the valley and all that makes us "a bit thick like". Actually you would have thought that what with Cumbria being home to some of the most beautiful scenery in England, our friends from Wordsworth-land might have mellowed out a bit, but as we all know this is all fantasy talk. Still not to worry, hearing from real supporters like Bill is great, but next time we're up there Bill, can you safely escort us from the ground ???

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■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■ Guppy Swims Up Stream ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■



Perhaps the saddest moment of the season thus far has been the departure of Steve Guppy to Newcastle, for a miserly fee that will surely make Kevin Keegan an enemy of all true Wycombe fans for evermore. After 250+ appearances and 37 goals in the quartered shirt he has finally achieved what most of us, except a few loonies in the Woodland, believed he would.

My first memory of Steve was when he came on as Substitute in a far from awe-inspiring FA cup qualifying match against the mighty Baldock Town. He set up a goal with his first touch, a trademark swirling cross to the far post, which the 'Local Hero' knocked gratefully home.

Jim Kelman soon installed him as a regular on the left wing and apart from one short spell in the dim and distant past, where he disappeared for a few months has been untouchable ever since.

Steve was one of a very select band of players who had lashings of attacking skill and class, but also gave 100% to the defensive cause. This was a tactic that earned him some considerable abuse from a number of wasters on the Woodland terrace, but probably saved many a ropy left-back (and god knows we've had some!) from a proper pasting.

To me, that was the reason Steve was such a success at Wycombe as well as his crossing, which was so consistent. Watch Ryan Giggs cross the ball, it's not a patch on what Steve could deliver. I'm sure that Wycombe's other big export Keith Scott would admit that he might not be where he is now without the help of Steve Guppy. All the best Steve, and can you give us Keegan's home address, there's a suitcase and a horse's head packed and ready to be posted!

Fool's Tools

Over the years there have been some ridiculous ideas in football merchandising / spin-offs: Arsenal's zig-zag away shirt, "I scored at Adams Park" pants and Chas 'n Dave performing at half-time. But surely no-one has ever come up with such a mind-blowingly stupid idea as a "Blues Beeper". I mean come on. How many of us want to be roused at five in the morning to discover we've signed some oafish centre-back on a free from Dulwich Hamlet?

Ringling the Blues already supplies an up-to-date info service. It may be a bit costly (especially when you can't get into the right file) and you obviously don't know if there is any news until you have phoned it, but so what? You're going to find out sooner or later. Do you really need some tacky blue box bleeping its little heart out just to tell you some scrap of information?

It could also be highly embarrassing. I can just picture the scenario. I've pulled Patsy Kensit, she takes me back to her flat and starts ripping her clothes off, when suddenly "Bleep, Bleep, Bleep" and I can't help myself. I shout, "Maybe some other time, Patsy" and sprint to the nearest phonebox to find out if it's true that we've signed some oafish centre-back on a free from Dulwich Hamlet.

What really is tragic is the way they have tried to make this highly unnecessary item of electrical "wizardry" sound attractive. The leaflet I picked up for it stated such astounding things as, "With a Blues Pager you can set the trends". Oh yes, very cool. Whenever I see someone wearing a pager in a really conspicuous place I never think "tosser", I always think "now there goes one cool dude". We are also told that having a Blues Pager will "Improve the quality of your life". Great, so if I get one I'll immediately become a multi-millionaire, move to Florida and lie by my swimming pool while Patsy Kensit (if I haven't already blown my chances with her) drops grapes into my mouth. Apparently, being the owner of a Blues Pager will "Give you the freedom to enjoy your own time". Whose time do they think I'm enjoying at the moment?

Of course, I'm being unfair. You can use your pager for private use and as the leaflet tells us you can pass messages onto your family



A TAF scribe is beside himself with delight as he learns the B+B cup draw..... at 3:30 AM.

and friends such as: "Your dinner is in the dog" (ha,ha,ha), "I'm leaving you for Patsy Kensit, look after the kids" or even "Did you know we've just signed some oafish centre-back on a free from Dulwich Hamlet?"

But surely the saddest thing about it all is that someone, somewhere (probably in a high security hospital) thought it would be a good idea to market such a service and thought people would actually be interested. What sort of saddo would want to even send off for details? Well, me actually. But I only want to find out if it is as crap as it sounds and it might be quite good actually. In fact, you never know, this time next year I may be wondering how I ever got on without one.

DEAR IVOR

Tired of struggling through bureaucratic red-tape at WWFC? Want those in charge to hear your views but afraid to go direct? Need a widely read medium to express your feelings? LOOK NO FURTHER!! "Dear Ivor...." is the go-between 'twixt you the paying punter and them the corporate sporting giant. Unlike many regular columns in fanzines (we've had them in ours!), and other periodicals indeed, this regular feature will not allow pure whinging unless it's accompanied by a practical idea or suggestion for Ivor Beeks - chairman and local businessman. Makes sense to us.....our mailbag has needed restitching already thanks to the veritable plethora of 'top tips' for the board and management. Here's just a selection to get you thinking - anonymity assured throughout.

* Dear Ivor - Why not buy some decent players before the season starts rather than wait until we have a crippling injury crisis before making a hasty buy for about £20,000 from a North Midlands club, for example? Thanks for listening!

* Dear Ivor - I've ruddy well had enough of either parking me car 2 miles from Adams Park and walking, or having to cough up £1 protection money to the scouts and park in a factory car park. Use your considerable influence in the building trade and get a stonking great 6-floor multi-storey built on top of the current car-park next to the ground. You could get it done at cost, charge us 50p per match, and you'd have made yer money back within a couple of seasons. Sounds like flippin' sense to me.....

* Dear Ivor - Why not suggest to 'The Gaffer' that players aren't restricted to particular positions? If (and I couldn't think of any reason why) you needed another centre half, then I'm sure Keith Ryan or Lee Turnbull would do an excellent job instead of some long-serving defenders. An' what happened to that Horton chap? I never saw him make any cock-ups! Cheers!

* Dear Ivor - I fully accept that I may (as a non-season ticket holder) have to queue to get on the terraces at Adams Park; here's a tip though, get someone to walk down the lines selling programmes then we've got something to read. Or if they're incapable of walking AND counting

monies, then get hold of a local kiddies clown to entertain the punters, or perhaps a jolly juggler - just a thought I had.

* Dear Ivor - I think we've all had enough of Mike Phillips at half-time ranting "Awight, Awight" when we're losing. By all means let him read his lucky numbers out, but let's at least have something interesting to do. For example, get 4 people to climb up the floodlight pylons and randomly wave opaque sheets of coloured plastic over the bulbs. We could then have a 15 minute rave instead of listening to Mike. This is always assuming that we're already off our heads, though. Wahey!!

* Dear Ivor - I have a valid suggestion. Get somebody with GCSE maths grade 'C' or above to be in charge of gate counting. That way you'd get a figure that was approximately correct instead of 1000 - 1500 short. Happy counting!



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KEEPING THE RACISTS AT BAY

A few weeks ago T.A.F received an invitation to attend a press launch of the C.R.E./P.F.A. "Let's Kick Racism Out Of Football" campaign on the 18th of August at the CRE headquarters. You may recall we carried an article on this matter last year when the campaign was first launched, and as keen supporters of the cause decided to check it out.

Myself (Floyd) and Jon were chosen for this particular assignment, neither of us had been to a press launch before so didn't quite know what to expect. We found the venue easily enough (Victoria, London) and were presented with a media pack and name badge at the reception desk. We headed round the maze of stairs and corridors towards the launch room, feeling I must admit like real pro journo's with our name tags and dictaphone. Once seated in the launch our nerves were further racked by the presence of three TV crews.

Today's speakers were Herman Ousley (CRE chairman), Tim Crabbe from the Football Supporters Association (FSA), Reg Burr (Millwall F.C. chairman), Tom Pendry MP shadow minister for sport, and Brian Marwood of the Professional Footballers Association (PFA). Overall the first year report was a promising one, the campaign has been successful in that racial abuse is down and the atmosphere has improved at football matches. They put the success down to the involvement by all but one of the professional football clubs (York City being the bad boys) and praised community schemes by clubs such as Millwall and Charlton Athletic. Other footballing personalities present were Garth Crooks, Paul Elliot, Roger Alwen (Charlton chairman), David Davies from the F.A., TV commentator Barry Davies and Peter Lee from the Football Trust.

This year the campaign plans to step up the pressure on clubs to take strong action against fans who are small-minded enough to racially abuse players and supporters, and to encourage community schemes. Also the campaign is to branch out to cover other sports and not just football. We spoke to Tim Crabbe (FSA) and he gave us a few "United Colours of Football" fanzines which we will be handing out free with this issue of T.A.F. On the whole the message was one of hope but more must be done.

Apart from being cornered by a scary Anti-Nazi League member (tales of imprisonment, violence etc) we had a most pleasant and informative time. As Wycombe Wanderers fans we can be very proud of the fact that racism hasn't raised it's ugly head at Adams Park, hopefully this will rub off onto all other fans we come into contact with.

SUPER FAN SAM

Greetings fellow Blues supporters from Wycombes biggest fan, I live breathe and urinate blue, haven't missed a game since 1978 and own every possible item of memorabilia. Although we'll be in the Premier League in two seasons time because we're the greatest, I am beside myself with woe. The local hero has been outcast from the team he made great, forgive me for blaspheming but what does Martin hope to achieve this season without Westie. The thought of him playing with that horrifying "kick-in" rule in the Diadora league for Slough of all teams brings tears to my eyes. But I reckon one day Westie'll return as manager and we'll become the Man U of the new century.

When I heard about Guppy's departure I felt like ending it all Kurt Cobain style, what's happening to my beloved blues, first we lose Scottie, then Westie, Kerr, Guppy, if Dave (Jesus) Carrol had left then I would most certainly of hung myself with my Wanderers scarf. Going back to Westie's Slough career, I was talking to a Slough fan the other day (some of them are quite literate) and he said that Westie was storming and by far their best player (not a great compliment mind). He couldn't see why Martin released him and nor fellow fans can I.

On to the Coca-Cola Cup. I don't want to be in some multi-national corporate whore sponsored cup anyway. We've got to get on with the conquest of the league and F.A. Cup, and I as number one fan will be supporting the boys in blue all the way. I've thought of a brilliant chant to sing when big Cyril Regis scores it goes "Nice one Cyril, Nice one son, Nice one Cyril, Let's have another one". I must say I'm quite chuffed with myself for thinking that one up, hope to hear you all singing it soon.

Finally if any of you want to correspond with me or pick away at my extensive Wanderers knowledge either write to Superfan Sam at T.A.F. address or catch me at the blues bar after a match hanging around Hydrie like some kind of homosexual groupie.

Sing loud, Sing proud, Sing BLUE!

SUPER, SUPER SI



"Aye, beer and fags, Aye."

A few years ago when the Blues were pulling in crowds of 1,000+ for every home game there was a man who could turn a game with just a few touches of the ball. You could be 1-0 down and on the rack but then 1-1, 2-1 and winning comfortably. This man was not Barry Silkman, not Mark West (although he could lay such a claim) but Noel Ashford. Known quite simply as God, he was in many peoples eyes the silkiest player to ever don a Wycombe shirt. Sorry God, but you've been upstaged.

In February a free transfer arrived by the name of Simon Garner, a 30-something on a free from WBA. A short, pygmy like individual,

he made his debut at Fulham and his class on the ball certainly opened a few eyes . For the remainder of the season he kept his place and come Wembley was the towns' folk hero. Respect due to Martin for luring Simon down to Adams Park, but more respect to Simon himself who has treated the fans to some of the most scintillating talent we have ever witnessed.

An extraordinary bloke, off the pitch he cuts a swarthy figure. Certainly not the sort of character you'd wish to meet down a dark alley, he bears a close resemblance to Al Pacino, hence his nickname "The Godfather". Seeing him after the Brighton game, mobile phone in hand, lurking in the shadows outside the Vere Suite I could have sworn our Si was up to no good. I was waiting for the Brighton team bus to blow into a million different pieces as it left the ground, but no, off it rolled so maybe Simon isn't quite as Untouchable as I'd imagined.

A couple of weeks ago I bumped into a pub load of Blackburn fans who proclaimed that "Simon Garner is a bigger God than Alan Shearer in the eyes of the true fans". They seemed almost gutted that he was turning out for Wycombe, and even more so when they heard he was a free transfer. Their prominent talking point about Simon was his lifestyle. If you were to believe the tales then Simon would be a good drinking partner for Ollie Reed. "Oh aye, beer and fags, Oh aye" professed the Blackburn fans, "And I'll tell you something more.....watch out for your ladies when he's about". OK - so we get the picture, but who cares what Si gets up to in his spare time. As long as he can turn on the style in a Blue shirt he can pull the Queen Mother as far as I'm concerned.

So what does the future hold for Simon. 20 goals this season would be nice for starters, and who knows the chance to witness a few more seasons of his talent. Let's face it, if the likes of King Cyrille Regis, Jimmy Case and Ray Wilkins can still be top competitors in the footballing world then so can Mr. Garner. Who cares if he looks knackered after 60 minutes; Scotty used to look done in after 10. So Sing it loud and sing it proud, "Super, Super Si...Super, Super Si...Super, Super Si...Super Simon Garner!" The man is deity.

The Grand T.A.F. Questionnaire

"It's long but It's worth It"

Response to the first annual TAF awards could at best be described as "disappointing", at worst "a wave of lethargy sweeping across the TAF-reading public resulting in an utterly crap response". However, we received sufficient votes in each

category to be able to collate a reasonably meaningful set of statistics, and so here they are. We must also confess to a bit of a cock-up on the organisational front ourselves, in that there should have been 17 questions not 14. Those omitted by our team of professional 'pastors' were: "best on-pitch development", "best off-pitch development", and "advice for Martin in 1994/95 season". Perhaps this was a blessing in disguise, as many answers/suggestions would have been too controversial for print, I fear. However, back to the point....top 5 responses in each category shown.

1). Best player.

Jason Cousins - 59%, Matt Crossley - 18%, Terry Evans - 9%, Keith Ryan - 9%, Dave Carroll - 5%.

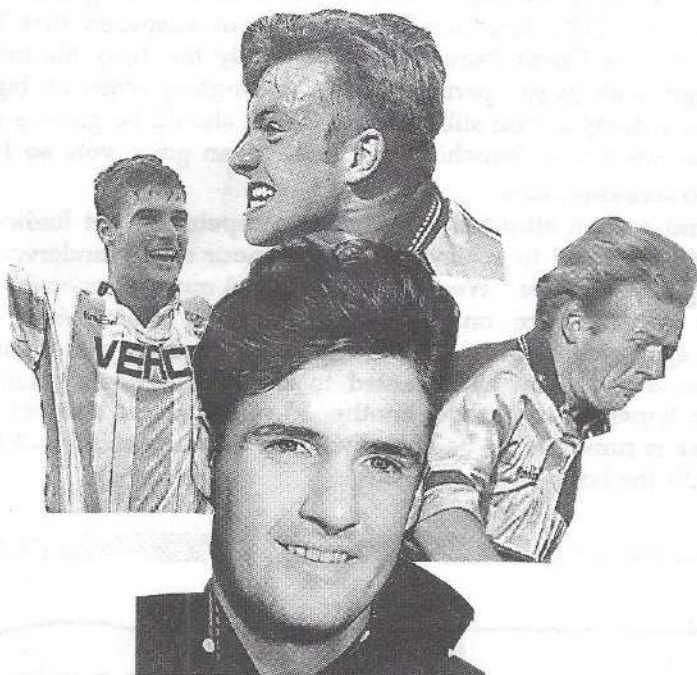
No great surprises here, with JC polling well over half the votes. Despite his early season misdemeanours, Jase bounced back to perform with such consistency that we would gasp and feel somewhat queasy if he ever missed a tackle, let alone had a bad game. WWFC will forever love the swashbuckling skills of Cousins - long may he reign, and well done sir! Elsewhere, our other two Mr.Dependables, Sir Matt and Keef achieved creditable results, and Terry Evans' impact was considerable bearing in mind his injury for much of last season. Davey Carroll's Wembley cameo earned him a few late votes, punters obviously forgetting that he was playing like a rheumatic sloth for the first few months of the season.

2). Most improved player.

Matt Crossley - 36%, Dave Titterton - 18%, Dave Carroll - 14%, Keith Ryan - 9%, Jason Cousins - 8%.

Surely the day is not long in coming when a top Italian club steps in to snap up Matt Crossley as 'libero'? His unflappable temperament and deceptive pace would surely grace the turf of the San Siro or any other Serie A stadium. For me, Sir Matt gets better with every season and is

incomparable to the gangly youth that first graced Loakes Park 7 years ago. Mr. O'Neill will take a lot of credit for this I've no doubt, but until Sampdoria produce the 8 trillion lira readies, Matt, the glory of a place in the TAF record annuls will have to suffice. Pie-munching Dave Titty polled a creditable 18% since his low profile transfer from Hereford, and Dave C. snatched 3rd spot, and when you consider how much he improved during the course of last season, should really have won. We still love you really, Dave. Other votes crept in for Steve "Way, aye man" Guppy and Dennis Greene (!!) oddly.



Top Boys: Jason, Sir Matt, Titty and Keef.

3). Best signing.

Terry Evans - 73%, Simon Garner - 18%, Tony Hemmings - 5%, Dave Titterton - 4%.

Given WWFC's traditional reluctance to sign players until we're in deep injury crisis mode, there wasn't a great deal of competition in this category, and so it proved with Big Tel amassing nearly 3/4 of all votes. We've all forgotten his first match at Hereford, but he had soon stamped his authority on the team and was sorely missed during our mid-season 'rough patch'. Simon Garner managed an impressive 18% as a latecomer and DT sneaked into 3rd spot; after all any left-back at all is better than none whatsoever, being the thinking behind this presumably.

4. Strangest (a) inclusion (b) omission.

(a) Steve Brown - 27%, Tony Hemmings - 23%, Tony Cunningham - 14%, Paul Hyde - 12%, Dave Carroll - 9%.

(b) Andy Kerr - 22%, Steve Thompson - 21%, Tim Langford - 21%, Dave Titterton - 13%, Aky Hayrettin - 8%.

Punters voted for both categories here typically, and it was our Wembley subs Brown and Hemmings who were neck and neck in the first section until a late surge of votes gave it to Steve - sorry, old chap! Anyway, his "honeymoon is over" as the cliché goes, and thankfully he seems now to be justifying his hefty transfer / money towards a new ground fee from Northampton. TH's 23% merely confirms our suspicion that Tone is a 'Super Sub' à la David Fairclough - thankfully for Tony his looks aren't shared (ugly with ginger perm). Tony Cunningham wasn't a big hit with the fans and many of you still feel that Chuck should be given a go in goal - ooh, you are a cruel bunch! Even Keith Ryan got a vote so I wouldn't take it too seriously, lads.

The second section attracted even hotter competition, but Radio 1170 fave Andy Kerr managed to achieve his final honour as a Wanderers player by mustering 22% of votes. Wee Timmy Langford outraged many a housewife with his non-existence on the teamsheet so it seems, and many felt similarly aggrieved at Steve Action Man's absence for many games, bless his cotton socks. You also wanted to see Pieman more often and Aky Hayrettin hopefully to plunder another 35-yarder (some chance). Like AK, his demise is rumoured to be linked with an uncanny ability not to see eye-to-eye with the boss, shall we say.

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5. Best moment of season.

Wembley - 43%, Coventry/Norwich games - 30%, PNE away - 13%, Fulham - 8%, Carlisle (1st match in FL) - 4%.

Timing of this questionnaire was not exemplary, and many of you had returned it before the play-offs. However, our 3rd Wembley outing in as many years was still the high point of most of your seasons, well, 43% of respondents thought so, anyhow. Almost there but not quite were the cup matches with Norwich and Coventry, and many of you enjoyed watching us win our first penalty shoot-out since Barnet in the President's Cup - ahh, those were the days.....

6. Most heinous disappointment.

Col.Utd.(2-5 defeat) - 35%, Coventry 2nd leg - 22%, Non-Auto. promotion - 17%, Selling Keith Scott - 10%.

If we're being perfectly candid one with another, then season 93/94 doesn't really stand out as one being riddled with disappointment. However the question was asked and you answered in your "never settle for 'owt but the best" style. Topping the table was our 5-2 trouncing by The Scum at home, I mean, we must really loathe these twats to put ONE MATCH top - they're still crap after all! The eventual 'low' of the 4-2 win over Coventry mentally scarred 22% of you, others feeling deeply upset at not going up automatically and losing Scotty. Some people got personal and started listing players as disappointments - name them? Not a chance. One person was so delighted with The Blues that England's national failure to qualify for the World Cup was cited as their major let-down. A satisfied Wycombe fan - amazing.....

7. Worst officials.

P.Don (Torquay home) - 61%, J.Brandwood (Scunthorpe home) - 32%, K.Leach (Chesterfield home) - 4%, R.Bigger (Shrewsbury home) - 3%.

We asked you for your top ten, but any would have done, not for being individually crap, but because of their corporate lack of consistency. Philip Don gets our Rolex Precision Timepieces award and he also wins a Paul Daniels home magic set due to his propensity for playing around with cards. "The World Cup will sort him out", we mused smugly - sadly he was in fine company out there. John Brandwood wins a £50 voucher to spend at Vision Express, and he could probably get 2 pairs of bi-focals AND have a chat with Michael Parkinson in the time it takes Mr. Don to play out injury time. ARSES.

8. Finest away day outing.

Preston - 30%, Fulham - 23%, Carlisle (1st match in FL) - 17%, Col.Utd. (FL) - 13%, Hereford Utd. - 8%.

The trip to sunny Preston last year earned 30% of your marks in this section. Maybe you got nostalgic at seeing your last game on plastic, or

maybe it was the quaint surroundings of PNE's Victorian away enclosure, or perhaps it was seeing 2 goals from Tiny Tim and THAT one from Hakan which hypnotised the keeper into goalmouth immobility? You decide. Getting one over Jimmy Hill's cronies at the historic Craven Cottage stole 2nd with 23%, whilst our marathon journey to Carlisle on Day One got 3rd. Someone (who obviously enjoys a good scrap) voted for the Carlisle play-off match, strangely enough.

9. Best ground visited.

Fulham - 18%, Carlisle - 15%, Coventry City - 14%,

Wembley - 14%, Walsall - 9%, Chester City - 8%.

A keenly contested one again with our trip to the Twin Towers gaining a late bronze medal. The fact that Fulham's pleasant but far from majestic Craven Cottage won illustrates the overall standard of grounds visited last year. Carlisle bagged the silver, and the 3 functional sides of Highfield Road were good enough to gain a share of 3rd. Anomalies: Somebody voted for WBA - sorry, wrong season. Votes came in for Walsall, but none for Scunthorpe. Why? Apart from seat colour these grounds are identical in every way. It's like saying, "I don't like UB40's new single, only their early stuff". They are one and the same.

10. Worst ground visited.

Northampton Town - 26%, Wigan Athletic - 22%, Col.Utd.

- 18%, Doncaster Rovers - 10%, Scunthorpe Utd. - 7%.

The phrase "spoilt for choice" leaps hamfistedly to mind. This one really got you thinking, with other factors like result, performance, weather and food tipping the balance perhaps. Northampton's quaintly shite County Ground R.I.P. just shaded it eventually with 26% of votes, but it fought a gallant battle with Wigan's Diadora-esque Springfield Park (like Stalag 13 as one voter pointed out), Col.U.'s delightful Layer Road and Doncaster's wholly inappropriately monickered Belle Vue Stadium. I couldn't imagine a less "belle view" if I tried.

11. Best programme.

WWFC - 77%, All crap / don't buy - 20%, Bristol Rovers - 3%.

"TAF praises Adrian Wood" shock!" I can see the tabloid headers now.....as you can see, our own £1.20's worth of programme wiped the board, and I must confess to reading all of it myself with at least some interest. This season's 10p price rise is also extremely acceptable for a good mag generally, although as many of you were at pains to point out, TAF is far better value at a mere 10 shillings - cheques are in the post.

12. Worst programme.

Col.Utd. - 24%, Walsall - 21%, Don't buy / all crap - 20%,

Coventry City - 17%, Doncaster Rovers - 10%.

Many clubs have programmes on a par with their grounds unfortunately,

and often are sold out well before 2:30, limiting choice for many of you, but Col.U.'s (we *really* hate them don't we?) effort accounted for nearly a quarter of your votes. Walsall's hopelessly ill-informed excuse (5 mistakes about WWFC on one double page) was edged into 2nd, while Coventry's token 8-pager outraged 17% of you, rightly expecting more from a Premiership club.

13. Goal of the season.

Dave Carroll (Wembley 2nd goal) - 30%, Jason Cousins (Scunthorpe home) - 27%, Hakan Hayrettin (Preston away) - 23%, Dave Carroll (Wembley 1st goal) - 7%, Steve Brown (Doncaster away) - 6%.

Not as clear-cut as you might imagine this - again timing being of the essence. Had there been a post-Wembley TAF then perhaps Simon Garner's goal at Carlisle and certainly either of DC's Wembley strikes would surely have had more impact. For me Dave's first effort vs. Preston epitomised our football - a move which started out wide with a winger and culminated in a slick 4-man, 1-touch passing bonanza and a neat finish to match - total soccer in my books. Dave's 2nd goal though delighted 30% of you to clinch it; defenders seem to fall over trying to keep up with Dave on occasions - his bandy-legged dribble left the PNE defence eating (sacred) turf. JC's rocket against Scunthorpe came a close second with Hakan's carpet burner still holding a fond place in many a fan's heart.

14. Miss of the season.

Simon Stapleton (Rochdale home) - 61%, Lee Turnbull (Shrewsbury away) - 17%, Paul Hyde (Rochdale home) - 12%, Preston goalie vs. Aky - 5%.

You may accuse us of vote-rigging here, but our hint in the questionnaire was merely a "memoir refresher", nothing more. I mean, our team isn't renowned for missing sitters, nor does Hydey produce that many clangers, but Mr. Stapleton jnr's "Oh, and he really should have tucked that away, Trevor" open-goaler against Rochdale attracted 61% of all votes, and as a result a pair of "sharpshooter" predator boots and a Craig Johnstone wig are on their way to you Simon. Lee Turnbull's horrendous penalty hash away at Shrewsbury came 2nd with 17%, with Hyde's "It just slipped through mi' hands Alan" against Rochdale at home coming 3rd. Good to see that Paul has put in a strong claim for this seasons award after Brighton's opening two goals at Adams Park.

I know you will be intrigued to discover who won the shirt up for grabs, so we got ace impressionist Bobby Davro to plunge his greasy mitt into the tombola and the name he pulled out was that of Victoria Anthony from Amersham Hill Drive. You lucky beggar. It's in the post.

WORLD CUP USA MEMORIES

The male receptionist at one of Chicago's prestigious hotels when asked by a journalist if he could talk to Michel Platini replied "Which room is she in, sir?"

"It's not chasing women and having sex that tires out footballers. It's staying up allnight looking for it" said Nigerian coach Clemens Westerhof.

Belgian coach Paul van Himst blamed the weather on his sides failure to take control v. Morocco, "In Belgium it rains a lot" he explained.

After hearing Romania had beaten Argentina on the Ambulance receiver, the male patient jumped out clad in his pyjamas proclaiming "I don't care what happens to me, I feel completely well again".

Brazil coach Carlos Alberto Parreira described by one pundit as "Brian Clough in barbed wire."

Get your hoe's out for the lads... Groundies back !!

Never forget a pair of sturdy wellies are a vital part of groundsmen's amoury. Use for digging your fork in (turf prodding) stamping on marauding pests (rabbits, moles) and annoying the wife after she's just hoovered the lounge carpet.

