

Chairboys Gas

*A Magazine by Supporters
of
Wycombe Wanderers F.C.*

INSIDE



NEWS
&
FIXTURES

**WYCOMBE
SIGN
SUPER
STRIKER!**

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The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of Wycombe Wanderers F.C. The Blues Club, or the Editor. This magazine has no official connection with Wycombe Wanderers F.C. or The Blues Club.

EDITORIAL

One of the problems in having such a long break between issues of CG is fitting all the news in and deciding what to leave out. Since the last issue we have gone through a 10 game unbeaten spell in the Conference, been knocked out of the F A Cup and increased our total away League wins this season to three. This matches our away record last season and our season in the Gola League, so if we are to break this record where would you choose it to be?

I'll make a firm prediction and say that the next issue of CG will come out on the first home game in February - in the meantime keep the articles, letters, cuttings, etc flooding in to the above address or hand them in at the Club Shop.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you wish to subscribe to CHAIRBOYS GAS for the remainder of the season (3 more issues) and receive your copy by first class post, the cost is £1.50. Cheques or PO's payable to CHAIRBOYS GAS.

BACK ISSUES

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OUTLETS

CHAIRBOYS GAS is now available, in addition to the BLUES CLUB SHOP on match days, from SPORTSPAGES, Cambridge Circus, London and FOOTBALL CRAZY, Spittal Street, Edinburgh. Don't forget we have also added a couple of local outlets in the town centre. They are at POPPS NEWSAGENTS in Frogmore and BARNES NEWSAGENTS in Castle Street. If you know of anyone who has missed out on this issue please direct them to one of the above.

Contributions and assistance for this issue from Phillip Ball, Ian Blacklidge, Simon Burrage, Ian Crossley, Paul Lewis (Editor) and Steve Maguire.

Behind the Goal *with Simon Burrage*

I always wondered what it would feel like to see Wycombe Wanderers comfortably placed, mid-table in the G M Vauxhall Conference? Lovely. I can't say I miss those dark days of wondering where the next point was coming from - they seem a long time ago now, though there is never any room for complacency. I've just checked through our results since I last sat down to write this column and I find that from 11 Conference matches 5 have been won, 5 drawn and just 1 lost (and that was in rather dubious circumstances). The overall strength of the squad has been the decisive factor, with the team turning in consistent performances regardless of injuries and suspensions. This is true despite the fact that certain Wycombe players must wonder what position they are going to play in next - JK never seems averse to playing a midfield player in the defence or vice-versa when there is a gap to be filled, though I'd be the first to admit that results speak for themselves and there can be no complaints there. (I do hope this isn't sounding too cynical).

On the subject of suspensions, we're getting a pretty impressive record on the disciplinary front. When was the last time we had four different players sent-off before Christmas? (Cue the Bad Boys headlines in the ever erratic Midweek, along with a half-hearted match report by a 'Sports Reporter' and a selection of photos of a local rugby match). We don't seem particularly good at playing with 10 men though, despite the practice - none of the League games have been won. Keith Barrett's dismissal at Kidderminster was probably the least deserved - I say probably because no-one expects the linesman actually saw the 'alleged offence' but once the flag had been raised, with Kidders' Paul Davies prostrate in the penalty area it was clear that Keith was about to become the classic of the 'linesman word' syndrome. Scuffles and skirmishes are often seen by referees, whereupon they usually use their own discretion and common sense as to what action to take. But when an incident has been seen only by a linesman, who then appears to announce to the ref "I saw X elbow Y", for example, there appears to be little option for the referee but to send the offender off without any further consideration. In Barrett's case, many Blues followers spent the half-time break asking local fans standing nearer the incident exactly what they had seen; most (all?) were told "nothing". Keith was obviously incensed at the decision - not only to award a penalty with the score at 0-0 but to send him off as well - but it provided us with a further illustration of our team's growing stature in that a goal down away to the Conference leaders and a player short, we still had hopes of rescuing a result - at least until John Granville's unfortunate error sealed our fate.

For most of us the most disappointing result of the last couple of months was the F A Cup defeat by Kettering - though personally I was not as downhearted by the game itself as I had been when I first heard the draw. The odds were against us being paired with any Conference club, let alone the Conference leaders of the time. "That should get you a big crowd down there, you must be pleased with that" said the local newsagent as I picked up the Midweek that afternoon. The other customers probably wondered why I was howling and going red in the face. Oh yes, the last thing I wanted was a nice trip to some tinpot little club, followed by a place in the First Round Proper, publicity, T V cameras and all. And I was just desperate for us to have to play through all the qualifying rounds again next season, wasn't I?

OK, that's more than enough whinging about the Cup. Having lamented a low point, I should perhaps redress the balance by selecting a highlight of the
continued over....

.....continuation

Autumn and I would have no hesitation in recalling that midweek trip to Weymouth. Arguably the single goal win at Boston was a more difficult result to achieve but there were several aspects that made Weymouth special for the travelling Chairboys. Looking at the League table now and the 13 places between the clubs, the 3-0 scoreline doesn't look quite so surprising but we were much closer in the table at the time and besides, any away win in the Conference is an achievement in itself and to earn one with such an excellent all-round performance was a bit special. There was also the luxury of watching the last 5 minutes with a 2 then 3 goal cushion! Apart from the game itself, whether you were one of the several Chairboys from Wycombe that took the afternoon or day off work to spend time visiting pubs and amusement arcades or made the 3 hour journey just in time for the game, you will not have forgotten the violent winds and rainstorms which had descended on the South. It was a relief that the game actually went ahead, and there was a nagging possibility of abandonment as the rain fell heavily in the last 15 minutes of the match. Thankfully the new Weymouth ground is covered at both ends, so at least we didn't get as wet as the players. Incidentally, it's evident that covered ends make a great deal of difference to the volume of noise generated, and this must be a major reason why we rarely get anything like the same noise at Loakes Park. This is one reason for looking forward to Hillbottom Road, I suppose. (You are looking forward to Hillbottom Road, aren't you?!)

This Capital League's a bit of lark, innit? It's probably a phenomenon largely unknown to all but the most ~~stupid~~ loyal Blues fans to see a Wycombe team lining up to play in an empty Football League ground like Southend or Cambridge United. Well, empty all but 100 or so people, usually including about a dozen from Wycombe. The main attraction (perhaps the only) for most of us is the opportunity to see a Wycombe game and visit a new ground in the process; that's my excuse anyway, Doctor. Every year the holiday list comes around at work - every year colleagues are busily scribbling in weeks for June, July, etc. and there's me "I'll have the 19th October and 16th November please.....the Reserves are playing away on those days" (Send for the straight jacket..Ed).

When the Capital League was first formed a few seasons back it looked an odd affair, with Football League sides participating but playing all non-League opposition away from home - with some clubs not even bothering to complete their fixtures. Now with everyone playing each other twice, home and away, and a full fixture list produced at the start of the season, the competition seems to have come of age. Our home Capital League attendances have dropped this season, probably partly due to the games having a clearly defined 'reserve' status about them, whereas previously we were often fielding half first team players and half fringe players. Also, it's not gone unnoticed by fans that the Club is still overcharging for admission compared to other clubs - many of whom allow members and season ticket holders in free.

Finally by the time this issue comes out the talking point will be the double header with you-know-who over Christmas and the New Year, about which my worst fear is that certain ex-Wanderers could spoil our festive season. One M.Boyland will be desperately keen to put one over on us, and those of you who said "good riddance" to Boyler would do well to remember that last season he scored 8 goals in 19 GMVC appearances for us, and that Conference strikers that can average a goal every other game are usually put in the £15,000 to £20,000 bracket these days. If our Jim could get his hands on another one now for a mere £5,000 I'm sure he would jump at the chance. On a less anxious note, I'm looking forward to the B & B trip to Winslow or New Bradwell St Peter - ah, the romance of the County Cup. If we don't win the thing this season, we want our backsides kicked (that's not very romantic, is it?)



The new leaders of the Conference at the start of December, KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS, enjoyed a 100% record in the League during November. This followed a disastrous spell during October that saw the Harriers lose consecutive Conference fixtures at Weymouth, Cheltenham and Altrincham plus an exit from the F A Cup at Stafford Rangers. Kidderminster enjoyed their biggest League gate for 37 years when 2,841 turned out for the 1-0 home defeat to Macclesfield.

Kidderminster, who ended Wycombe's run of 10 League games unbeaten not to mention an impressive record of scoring in every game this season, with their 2-0 victory at Aggborough in November hope to have striker Kim Casey back in action soon in their push for promotion. The Harriers are also due to start work soon on up-grading their ground to Football League standard which, according to Club Chairman David Reynolds, will be ready by April 1989.

Just behind Kidderminster are KETTERING TOWN. 'The Poppies' lost their 100% home League record when they drew with Maidstone 3-3 at Rockingham Road but still completed their opening 18 games with just two defeats - at Fisher on 22 October and at Welling back in September. Kettering's victory over Bristol Rovers in the F A Cup puts them in the Third Round Proper for the first time in 20 years when they lost to Bristol Rovers. 'The Poppies' are the only side left in this years competition to have battled through all the qualifying rounds.

MAIDSTONE UNITED have begun to show their expected form again in the Conference following a spell of 2 points from a possible 21. Manager John Still, who has suffered badly from injuries to his squad, has retained the services of prolific scorer Mark Gall who has been the target of several Football League sides - Gall entered December with 22 goals from 19 Conference games this season. Noel Ashford, who has missed most of this season through injury has begun full training following a troubled knee ligament. He is expected to return during Maidstone's Christmas programme where they take on Wycombe at Watling Street on 31 December.

MACCLESFIELD TOWN have surprised many with their continued success this season. 'The Silkmen' entered November in top position in the Conference and attracted their best ever Conference gate (2,196) for their 1-0 home defeat by Kettering Town. Manager Peter Wragg added midfielders John Imrie (signed from Northwich Victoria) and Richard Burke (from Washington Diplomats) to his squad during November.

BARNET's poor start to the season coupled with the loss of several key players was added to when they lost at home to Vauxhall-Opel League side Grays Athletic in the 2nd Qualifying Round of the F A Cup. However, they have recovered from these disappointments and now amongst the title challengers again. Strikers Nicky Evans and Gary Abbott have made progress from their injuries - Evans returned to the side and scored in the 2-0 defeat of Yeovil at Underhill while Abbott has been playing in Barnet's Capital League side.

One of the most consistent sides in the Conference over the years has been RUNCORN and this season is no exception. Their victory at Fourth Division Wrexham in the First Round Proper of the F A Cup emphasised their strength that has seen them score in every one of the opening 20 Conference fixtures - including 5 against Aylesbury United in early December where Dave Pugh scored a hat-trick in his first full GMVC match of the season.

FISHER ATHLETIC are not quite living up to Manager Dogan Arif's bold prediction that they would top of the Conference by Christmas, but the boys from the Docklands are still in a strong position. National press reports in early December claimed that Fisher were being threatened by Southwark council for an outstanding £100,000 debt. This has been strongly denied by the Club who say they have been confused with Fisher Sports and Social Club Limited.

WELLING UNITED are enjoying their best ever season in the Conference. They attained a high point of 3rd place during October and their 2-1 victory at Runcorn was their third away victory of the season - equalling their highest number of away wins recorded in the Conference since joining the League in season 1986/87. United would have beaten this record at Wycombe if defender John Glover had not sliced the ball into his own net in injury time during the 1-1 game at Loakes Park in October. Glover had scored the winner the previous Saturday at Runcorn.

YEOVIL TOWN Manager Brian Hall has continued to strengthen his squad with the signing of strikers Denny Munde, a 20 year old from AFC Bournemouth, and 22 year old Gary Whittingham from Waterlooville. Weymouth's 20 year old midfielder Paddy McCarthy has also moved to Huish. On the outgoing side Tony Ricketts has rejoined Bath City, Wycombe's First Round F A Trophy opponents, for a £10,000 fee while 'keeper Bob Iles has been sidelined during November and December through a knee injury. Standing in for Iles has been former Bath and Weymouth 'keeper Len Bond.

John King's return to ALTRINCHAM as Manager in replacement of Jeff Johnson has seen results improve for the Moss Lane club. King's appointment after 'Altys' 7-2 defeat at Maidstone resulted in a 13 match spell in the Conference with just one defeat (2-3 at Sutton) and the arrival of several new players most notable being the return of 'keeper Jeff Wealands from Barrow.

One of the favourites for the Conference title at the start of the season were BOSTON UNITED but following a good start the Lincolnshire side appeared to have cracked under the pressure. Their 6-0 home defeat to Runcorn was their heaviest defeat for 28 years and was followed by a home exit in the F A Cup to Hinckley Town. In contrast Barnet were beaten 5-0 at York Street in the Conference but home defeats to Wycombe (0-1), Kidderminster (0-2) and Fisher (2-4) have slumped the side to 13th place in the table by mid December and led to the resignation of Manager Ron Reid.

After going top of the table with six wins from their opening seven Conference fixtures, CHORLEY then preceded to take just 5 points from a possible 42 to fall to 15th place in the table by the start of December. More gloom for Chorley came when they lost to Frickley Athletic in the 4th Qualifying Round of the F A Cup. Chorley, who visit Wycombe in the Conference during December, have released their much travelled former England striker Frank Worthington. Chorley were his 11th club.

John Murphy ended a 17 year association with CHELTENHAM TOWN in October - the last 4½ as First Team Manager. Murphy resigned following 'The Robins' 3-0 F A Cup defeat at local rivals Gloucester City. Successor to Murphy is former Wolves 'keeper Jim Barron who becomes Cheltenham's first full-time appointment.

TELFORD UNITED's disappointing form this season has seen them fall out of the title race and exit out of the F A Cup at the hands of Fourth Division strugglers Carlisle United. Manager Stan Storton's quest for a new striker took him to Macclesfield where an inquiry for Steve Burr resulted in a £50,000 price tag put on the leading scorer at Moss Rose. Burr is currently out with a knee injury.

Gordon Hill has left NORTHWICH VICTORIA due to work commitments. The Player/Coach was in his second spell at The Drill Field since rejoining from Stafford Rangers in the summer. Elsewhere at Northwich, David Ryan, one of the most popular players in non-League football, made his 650th appearance in goal since joining 'The Vics' from Southport in 1977. In the ten years since Northwich became founder members of the Alliance Premier he has missed only 5 games - an Alliance record - and has probably been the reason behind 'The Vics' survival during the last few seasons.

SUTTON UNITED threw away a chance of registering their first away Conference victory of the season when they surrendered a 2-0 lead at Loakes Park in November. Sutton failed to win in any of their opening 10 away Conference fixtures but did manage away wins at Dagenham and Aylesbury to progress to the Third Round Proper of the F A Cup for the second successive season.

STAFFORD RANGERS rejected a deal thought to be worth £20,000 from Boston United for their 23 year old striker Paul Cavell. Rangers have also generated interest through their leader scorer this season, Chris Camden. Camden, who was signed from South Liverpool in September for a £3,000 fee, had scored 18 times for Rangers in 20 appearances by the start of December.

NEWPORT COUNTY's improvement in form has coincided with the announcement of substantial sponsorship deal for the Welsh club and the appointment of a new board of directors. County have signed a deal worth £30,000 with JLA Atlantic Capital to operate for the remainder of the season. 'The Ironsides' new board consists of American businessman Gerry Sherman, appointed Chairman, and directors Bruce Henderson and Maurice Salway. Newport officials travel to London on 16 January to clear outstanding payments of £122,000.

Into the relegation zone now and ENFIELD's F A Cup success cannot hide their lowly League position this season. Enfield registered just one League victory in a spell of 14 Conference games - resulting in a fall to 20th place in the table. Eddie McClusky, who has been Manager at Enfield for nine years, has made signings of former Wealdstone forward Frank Bate and former Spurs junior and Enfield striker, Trevor Wilkinson who have both been playing abroad.

WEYMOUTH are also encountering an uncomfortable first half of the season that saw them win only 3 of their opening 16 Conference fixtures. However, their 3-0 defeat to Wycombe in October was their only home defeat during this run and incidentally was their heaviest home defeat at their new stadium since moving in last season. Crowds are down to an average of 825 from last season's 1,491 and Manager Stuart Morgan could be a victim of Weymouth's quest for success.

Right at the bottom, of course, are AYLESBURY UNITED, who have also had some off the pitch activity following a boardroom shake-up that saw Chairman Charlie Doherty ousted along with four other board members. Replacing Doherty is local building supplier Neil Stonell. Stonell, voted off the board earlier this year, is joined by Terry Arnold, local greengrocer Derek Pigott, Geoff Aldridge and Les Baycroft. Tony Graham remains as Club Secretary and former United Manager, Leo Markham remains as a board member. On the playing side, 'The Ducks' can now call on the services of Mark Boyland and Jeff Lissaman - both signed from Wycombe - in addition to other new signings, John Seasman (from Northwich) and Steve Essex (from Burton Albion). Leaving Buckingham Road have been Derek Duggan who has joined Boston United, Rowan Dodds who has returned to Windsor & Eton and Adrian O'Dowd who is expected to join Bromsgrove Rovers in the Beazer Homes League.

The future of the ENGLAND SEMI-PRO TEAM was secured in November when the F A announced that it would be funding the side for the next four years. The decision follows the appointment of Wealdstone's Tony Jennings as Manager who succeeds Kevin Verity. Ron Reid was also appointed as Jennings' assistant and has since resigned his role as Team Manager at Boston United. Hopefully this funding means the return of the Four Nations Tournament to the non-League international scene. Italy have expressed a firm interest to stage the competition at the end of this season with the other likely competitors, along with England and Italy, being West Germany and Wales. England have arranged to play Wales at Kidderminster on Tuesday 21 March.

G M VAUXHALL CONFERENCE



Up to and including Saturday 10th December 1988

Pos		PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Av. Crowd
1	Kidderminster Harriers	22	13	4	5	42	23	43	1536
2	Macclesfield Town	21	12	6	3	42	27	40	1344
3	Kettering Town	17	11	4	2	29	18	37	1677
4	Barnet	21	11	4	6	40	34	37	2094
5	Maidstone United	19	10	4	5	49	29	34	800
6	Fisher Athletic	20	9	6	5	40	30	33	585
7	Runcorn	19	8	6	5	39	26	30	778
8	Yeovil Town	21	7	7	7	35	36	28	2398
9	Wycombe Wanderers	20	7	6	7	35	32	27	1536
10	Altrincham	17	7	6	4	26	26	27	1208
11	Welling United	19	7	6	6	22	22	27	938
12	Sutton United	18	6	7	5	28	23	25	717
13	Boston United	19	7	4	8	30	37	25	2083
14	Cheltenham Town	20	6	5	9	28	32	23	1115
15	Chorley	21	7	2	12	27	37	23	1148
16	Northwich Victoria	17	6	4	7	31	29	22	871
17	Telford United	18	6	4	8	17	19	22	1215
18	Stafford Rangers	18	7	0	11	27	32	21	1145
19	Newport County	21	4	6	11	22	40	18	1286
20	Enfield	20	4	5	11	23	35	17	781
21	Weymouth	17	3	6	8	17	30	15	825
22	Aylesbury United	19	2	4	13	21	48	10	1085

Football into the 1990s



'Football into the 1990's' was the ambitious title of a Conference held at the University of Leicester on September 29 & 30 1988 and sponsored by the Football Trust. The intention was to discuss all areas of Football but not surprisingly some newspapers discribed the event as a debate on hooliganism. In the first of several reports on the Conference, we take a brief look at the areas discussed - what room there is for optimism and what football may have to offer us in the future.

The 300 delegates at the Conference, by far the largest delegation at any sports conference in this country, took in a wide cross section of the game. Outnumbering most were the Police, with over 70 representatives, but representatives from the Clubs themselves were few and far between - only four First Division Clubs were represented - with Arsenal, Spurs and Manchester United all conspicuous by their absence. More encouraging was the number of supporters present - many of which were from various football fanzines or connected to the F S A.

So after coffee and biscuits with the likes of Bobby Robson, Graham Kelly and even Brian Lee, the delegates filed into the Conference hall - a building remarkably similar to a school Assembly Hall. There were no hymns, however, but the first speaker delivered a sermon that took the school hall analogy to it's extreme. Mr David McDonald, a civil servant, speaking on behalf of Colin Moynihan who was too busy invading the hockey semi-final at the Seoul Olympics to bother to turn up, ricited the 'Headmasters' speech much to the displeasure and disbelief of his 'Pupils'. The basic track to speech was 'that some of you have been misbehaving and now you'll all going to suffer'. There was nothing new revealed in this tremendous incite of the game in England but rest assured I D cards were top of the agenda and there was even the obligatory "House in order". More annoying for many of the delegates was the fact that the Civil Servant was unable to answer any questions - saying only that he would take back the comments to the Minister for consideration.

But let's not get too down hearted, there were many speakers who hopefully gave those present, many of whom were very powerful figures in Football, new areas to think about. Top speech awards go to ROGAN TAYLOR, Chairman of the F S A, whose excellent words provoked the biggest round of applause over the two days; RICHARD FAULKNER, Deputy Chairman of the Football Trust, who outlined the excellent work of the Trust and their intended continual involvement in the games at all levels; LINDA WHITEHEAD, Secretary of the Womens F A, who emphasised the growing of the female game in the this country but whose profile is still far behind the likes of the Italians and Germans; and DAVID SULLIVAN, of Lewisham Borough Council, who spoke of the progressive work carried out at Millwall of enveloping the local community into the football Club. There were also many excellent contributions from the floor during the discussion sessions.

Other speakers included Professor ERIC DUNNING, who talked of the cultural significance of Football; BRIAN LEE, who spoke of sportsmanship in football and commented "The decline in fair play needs arresting urgently in the wide interests of the game"; TREVOR PHILLIPS, Commercial Director of the Football League, talked of "Marketing professional football" and began his speech with "Two years of selling professional football is best akin to playing leapfrog with a unicorn...and I'm not sure if it's a realistic way for a grown man to make a living"; FREDDIE FLETCHER, Director of Glasgow Rangers, talked of "The experience of Glasgow Rangers" that had seen the remarkable transformation of a Club with an annual turnover of £6.6 million

who "actively market Rangers F C to fans, business or schools irrespective of their class, creed, colour or religion"; TONY KERSHAW, National Federation of Supporters' Clubs, did this organisation little service with a disjointed rant, with no theme or purpose. He suggested the loss of "national service and corporal punishment" as one of the reasons for the problems affecting football today.

The most productive session came on the morning of the second day of the Conference with discussions of football's role in the community and the relationship with local authorities. Adding to David Sullivan's contribution was; BOB PERKINS, Association of Metropolitan Authorities, who emphasised that there was no central corporate role held by local authorities on the place or value of football in society; and HAROLD PARKER, Preston Borough Council, who described the work done by his Council at Preston North End in providing facilities for the local community. DAVID HELLIWELL, from the Metropolitan Borough of Calderdale, also added some passionate words with respect to the involvement in Halifax Town F C by the local council who have bought the Club and run it from top to bottom and involve the supporters (who can easily buy one share) in the decision making process.

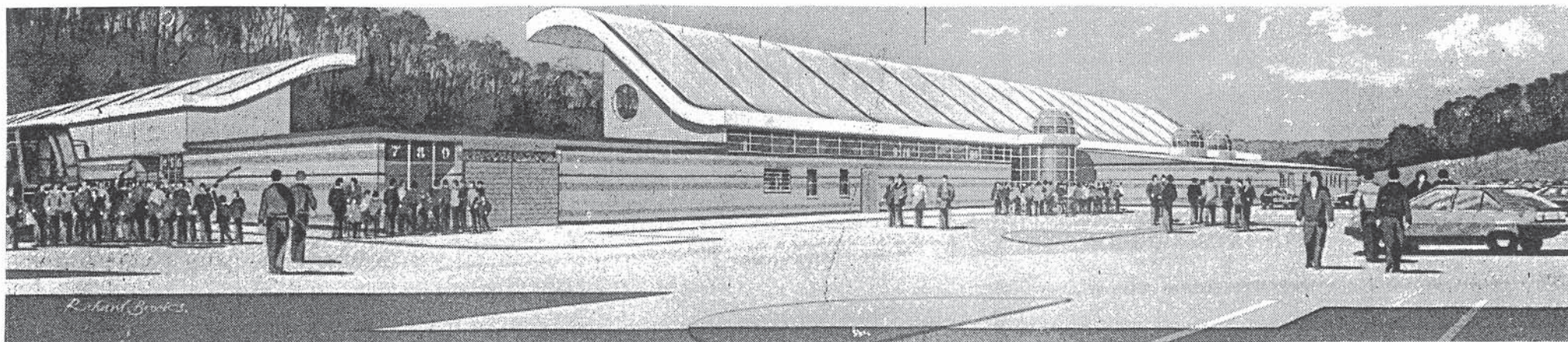
Football and Public Order was always going to be a difficult subject to tackle and with time running out this area did not get the required discussion. PATRICK MURPHY and JOHN WILLIAMS, both Lecturers at the Sir Norman Chester Centre, put forward their psychological view point that pointed out that football was largely a "Male preserve" and that the Clubs involvement in the local community was vital for the future of football but Patrick Murphy added "some clubs see these schemes as photo opportunities rather than seeing them as elements in a systematic programme of bridge building". John Williams mentioned the growing amount of football fanzines being produced "the quality and imagination of which put, what passes as the popular press in this country to shame - this is one of the most exciting developments in football since the dark days of 1985". The psychological view point was not one shared by DAVID PHILLIPS, Assistant Chief Constable, Greater Manchester, who was looking for a more short term solution to the problems. He outlined the work done in improved intelligence systems, combined with CCTV and other optical evidence gathering systems in the containment of what he described as the "baying hordes". He wandered around the hall while he spoke pointing fingers when necessary and delivering such statements as "passionate volatile atmosphere...pschycopathic pleasure...no other motive...anonymity...high profile machine...ritualism...war games...etc." He even compared the unified gestures of Glasgow Rangers to "old newsreels of Neurenberg". He did however, when questioned, express his views on the away ban at Luton, saying that he was "very sceptical that the Luton scheme would work everywhere". GORDON TAYLOR, Secretary of the PFA, spoke of the responsibilities of players. Sadly his speech contained more 'after dinner' type jokes than actual positive steps to make players more responsible. He did add, however, that "it was coming into contracts that players dedicate a few hours a week to community activities".

BERT MILLICHIP brought the Conference to a close with a speech on English football in Europe. With regards to European ban on our League Clubs he said "I would be guilty of misplaced optimism yet again, if I led you to think that there is any sign whatsoever of that ban being lifted in the foreseeable future."

The Conference ended with the obvious need that further discussion was necessary but with a general agreement that this should become a regular event. Perhaps next time the so called 'Super League' clubs will chose to attend rather than continue with their apparent 'head in the sand' attitude.

In the next issue we will be looking at the individual areas more closely, in the meantime let's hope that the goodwill and friendships made at the Conference extend themselves to working bodies that can take this game forward into the 1990's.

Paul Lewis



If you've been down to the site of the new ground at the end of the Hillbottom Road, you'll know that the only progress to have been made is the work being done by Thames Water - work on the actual ground due for a start in early February. There has been little news released by the Club since the planning application was passed in September - a some what disappointing fact as I recall Brian Lee saying in the Weymouth programme last season *"When final plans emerge they will be posted in prominent positions in the town and a meeting of interested people will be advertised in the Press and called for during the close season"* OK, the planning application was delayed and a very strange artists impression of the ground appeared in the local press but the supporters have been let down.

One explanation of this may be that those involved have become so ingrossed in the project that they have forgot to inform us of the basics. In the meantime we will comment on what little written matter there has been regarding the new ground - now officially titled ADAMS PARK - since the last issue of CG.

Two articles have appeared in the Club programme since the planning application was passed - the first was a piece in the Runcorn programme (24 Sep 88) by Graham Peart - the Club's Financial Director. He said that *"The architect, Bob Pearson has made a working model to ensure that sight lines are clear. Even the problem of early leavers from the main stand has been tackled with revised and lowered staircases to reduce the usual obstruction for those still in their seats"*

Brian Lee's piece in the Newport programme (27 Sep 88) didn't give much away and was used word for word in a LeagueLine bulletin the following month. Included in the piece was *"...not many new grounds will be built to the standard and have the facilities proposed at Adams Park. What a lucky lot we are!"*

Due to the supporters' lack of knowledge regarding the new ground - topic of conversation at many away games is often a comparison to what is expected of Adams Park. Weymouth have the newest major non-League ground and have recently added covering to the fourth side of their ground - behind the 'home' goal. Weymouth's ground has obviously been built to the

latest safety specifications but many people commented on the excessive use of vertical supports on the covering behind both goals and along the side opposite the 'cantilevered' main stand. Apart from causing an annoying obstruction to the view, they are certainly not necessary with modern building methods that would offer a 'cantilevered' type of covering. A good example of this type of covering is at Boston United - undoubtedly the biggest and best non-League ground in the country. At York Street the terracing along one side of the pitch is cantilevered along its entire length and gives everyone a comfortable, dry and more importantly, a safe view of the game without the need to jostle for position in a bigger crowd. What a pity that the section of terracing behind the goal at Boston (also of a cantilevered design) that provides the highest view in non-League football is spoilt by a totally out of place piece of fencing that is over ten feet high.

Certainly at Adams Park we should be looking for a good view and facilities all around the stadium and for whatever the size of the crowd. Here is the chance to build a ground that takes in all the latest features in not only ground safety terms but also supporter comfort. There is only one chance to get this right so let's make sure it's right for EVERYONE.

Paul Lewis

Apparently it's not just the supporters the Club are keeping in the dark, local council officials have also noticed. However, their claim to add a roundabout to the end of Hillbottom Road is surely false - to my reckoning there has been a roundabout there for at least the last five years?

Chaos feared at new ground

POLICE fear traffic chaos when Wycombe Wanderers move to a new stadium in Sands, a councillor claimed this week.

Sands councillor Valerie Letheren said police fears had surfaced at a joint meeting of the Football Club, bus companies, British Rail transport chiefs and councillors.

"They were very concerned about the future," she said. "They spoke more than the Wycombe Wanderers' people."

"[I] do agree they weren't sure - you can't really work it out until it happens - but I think they were concerned."

The joint meeting agreed on a series of measures to help ease traffic problems when the club moves into the new stadium

in 1990. They include:
● A roundabout at the end of Hillbottom Road;

● Use of nearby factories for extra parking on match days;

● Stationing of at least three double decker buses to ferry supporters to and from the ground.

Councillors on the highways and trans-

portation committee are now pressing for the one-off joint meeting to become a regular fixture.

"The football club kept very quiet at the meeting and didn't promise us anything," said Cllr Letheren.

"They need a lot of pressure on them and we should really have a regular forum all the time to keep on to them."

DO THEY MEAN US (& THEM)?

a media investigation

Have you ever wondered what an equivalent DO THEY MEAN US? at some of our opposition would make of the comments in our local press? Sutton United and Kidderminster, for example, were taken to the cleaners following their games with The Wanderers during November, but more of that later.

Since the last issue of CG we have made our exit from the F A Cup but not before enjoyable visits to Finchley and Staines Town. At Finchley "in front of the biggest crowd at home for years (400), Finchley's young side found their G M Conference rivals had too many guns and it was fair to say that Wycombe never really had to extend themselves" said the BARNET PRESS while in the HENDON TIMES "Finchley found the extra class of Wycombe Wanderers too much"

The game with Staines was a journalists dream due to the Alan Gane connection. THE DAILY TELEGRAPH on 1 October commented "he resigned in controversial circumstances last year, after steering them to the Vauxhall-Opel League Premier Division championship and a place in the G M Vauxhall Conference". Wycombe fans, who made up a large percentage of the 1,100 gate at Staines, showed their appreciation for Alan by chanting his name after the 1-0 victory for the Chairboys - a result that was greeted in the WYCOMBE STAR by the headline "WYCOMBE ARE ON THE MARCH TO WEMBLEY"

Sandwiched between the games with Finchley and Staines was the classic win at Weymouth in the Conference. THE DORSET ECHO previewed the game in their edition on the day of the match but got their facts a little muddled. According to them "Jim Kelman was set to make his debut" Jim decided not to play himself, instead giving a run out to new signing John Kerr.

The signing of John Kerr grabbed a fair amount of the sports headlines due to the fact that he is an U S International player. To increase the story possibilities further we also signed fellow U S International Mike Brady following his return from playing abroad - throw in the fact that he has also played for Boston All Stars and the fact that he was due to make his debut at Boston United and you have a story worthy of the resurrection a "BOSTON TEA PARTY" type of headline. Unfortunately no sooner had the ink dried on the typeset than Brady had left the Club and has not been seen since.

Staying at Boston for the time being, RADIO LINCOLNSHIRE had a reporter on site who gave reports every 15 minutes. Des Porters described Wycombe as "a lot quicker and a lot fitter side than Boston United" after we had taken our 1-0 lead while in his round-up he described the "strange beginning" to the second-half where Wycombe "keeper John Granville was booked for marking out his area and defender Andy Kerr was also booked for dissent. Mike Brady may not have come on but according to the report Wycombe introduced substitute "Lennie Lawrence after 82 minutes" but the Charlton Manager failed to add to the 1-0 scoreline.

Now on to the DO THEY MEAN THEM? section, starting with the visit of Sutton United to Loakes Park in November. Jim Kelman's bold prediction in the programme that day of "I am sure today's encounter will be full of good entertaining football" did materialise - with several comments in the following Monday's MIDWEEK referring to Sutton's "negative" tactics.

More controversy followed during the game at Kidderminster where Keith Barrett was sent-off for an alleged incident with Paul Davies. Keith said in the BUCKS FREE PRESS *"It's pretty bad for a player of his quality to resort to such tactics.....I did not hit him at all - he simply ran into my back"* Perhaps Davies had collapsed in amazement of the Harriers Tannoy man who appears to be living in his own dream world. I've never forgiven him for announcing all eight goals in hysterical fashion when we lost their 8-2 in 1986 but that was nothing compared his statement when Harriers took the field in the recent match...*"Here come the new G M Vauxhall Conference Champions"* - look out Division Four.

Before the game with Kidderminster, a piece in the DAILY TELEGRAPH headed *"WYCOMBE AIM TO NARROW GAP"* outlined Wycombe's ambition to take a place in the Football League, with Jim Kelman saying *"Now there is a different attitude in the club and everyone is adopting a totally professional outlook"*

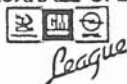
A name to feature on these pages in the past has been Wokingham Town Manager Roy Merryweather. He went on record in the MIDWEEK as saying that Wokingham *"are the best team in the area - better even than Third Division Reading"* If you thought that was crazy there's more bad news for Wycombe fans as he also went on record on RADIO 210 as saying *"Wycombe are one of my tips for Wembley in this season's F A Trophy."*

Our victory over Cambridge City in the F A Trophy was less than convincing although the BUCKS OBSERVER termed the second half as a *"classic performance"* while in the WYCOMBE STAR we *"progressed to the 4th Qualifying Round of the F A Trophy"* following our 2-0 victory over the Beazer Home side.

If I was editor of a magazine at Aylesbury then the DO THEY MEAN US? section would probably take up most issues. They are suffering a run of results that is not unlike our bad spell last season but 'The Ducks' have had additional turmoils as well. The most incredible story relates to their efforts to arrive at Welling for a 7.30pm midweek kick-off. After leaving Aylesbury at 4.45pm and picking up some players at Hemel Hempstead, for some strange reason the coach driver proceeded to go straight down the M1 and through central London at the height of the rush hour. Meanwhile at Park View the 780 crowd waited patiently for their arrival. Aylesbury eventually arrived at Welling at 8.15pm where they were given 5 minutes to change by the referee and then were trounced 5-0 by the side from Kent.

Next months' issue of CG will no doubt include comment on the games with Aylesbury over the New Year break. I'd like to think that *"ROAST DUCK...BOXING DAY BLUES..., etc."* type of headlines will not surface but I'm sure we can rely on them to appear yet again. And what of our visit to Bath City in the F A Trophy, now switched to a Sunday to avoid a clash with Bristol Rovers. I certainly don't want to read *"BLUES HOPES SUNK AT BATH"*

VAUXHALL-OPEL



SLOUGH TOWN were heading the Premier Division of the VOL at the start of December. Manager Alan Davies paid out his first fee for a player when he signed Mark Adams from Harrow Borough for £1,000. Davies also signed Brian Greenaway from Wycombe in November having already added former Wanderer Kenny Wilson back into his squad follow his retirement last season.

After a host of Football League Clubs had chased his signature, HENDON striker Ian Dowie joined Luton Town for a £30,000 fee in December. Hendon started the season with a 21 match unbeaten run in all competitions but then went five games without victory. Hendon were also involved in an ugly F A Trophy game with HAYES in December where five players were sent off in one incident. The game ended 3-3 with Hendon winning the replay at Hayes and will play Enfield in the next round.

At the bottom of the Premier Division MARLOW looked doomed to relegation while the fight will be on to avoid the other spot. HARROW BOROUGH appointed Alan Mayes as their Team Manager in their quest to avoid the drop but they remain with only three League wins all season.



WEALDSTONE have begun their fight to regain their Conference status but are being matched by last season's runners-up Dartford. 'The Stones' expect to announce a site for their new ground shortly thought to be in the Harrow area. Former Chairman, David Morritt has now been forced to sell back the lease on the car park adjacent to Lower Mead and has so relinquished his connection with the club.

DARTFORD are of course hosting Maidstone United this season and are benefiting from the £1,000 per game that United pay them. Maidstone's cup replay with Reading at Watling Street has also seen the Conference club fund improvements to the floodlights and the reinforcement of the covering for terraced supporters.

FAREHAM TOWN defender Domyk Newman has joined Reading for a four figure fee following Town's exit from the F A Cup. Another possible Football League capture at Fareham is Kevin Maddock who joined in the summer from Dutch First Division club Willem II. Maddock scored 18 goals for Fareham in his first 23 appearances.



Heading the newly tilted Northern Premier League at the start of December were MARINE although Club Chairman, Tom Culshaw, has expressed his concern over the future of senior non-League football at their College Road ground following the falling off of support at the Club and the decline in fund raising efforts. He has called for committed Marine fans to "spread the word and encourage family and friends to come along to matches"

Among the favourites for the Premier Division title this season is BARROW, who have enjoyed a resurgence of interest of late - reaching the First Round Proper of the F A Cup for the first time for 11 years. Manager Ray Wilkie, now in his third season at Holker Street, has seen crowds improve this season to an average of around 1,000. The Club hope to announce shortly a joint venture with Barrow Rugby League side that may see them sharing an existing or new ground.

WITTON ALBION, also amongst the title challengers, made a double sale to Leeds United during November. Defenders Mike Whitlow and Neil Parsley cost United in the region of £30,000 with Whitlow making his Second Division during United's 4-0 home victory over Stoke City. Meanwhile, work has begun on Witton's new ground at Wincham.

Following SOUTHPORT's first appearance in the First Round of the F A Cup for ten seasons - a match that saw them lose 2-0 at home to Port Vale before a crowd of 3,434 - a crowd of just 240 turned out for the home League meeting with South Liverpool three days later and prompted Club Secretary Peter Williams to resign.

In the First Division COLNE DYNAMOES head the table with 56 points from 24 games and have averaged gates of nearly 700 per game. Second placed are BISHOP AUCKLAND with 52 from 21 while strongly placed in third are LEEK TOWN with 45 from 17 games.

VAUXHALL OFEL LEAGUE - PREMIER DIVISION

Up to and including Saturday 10th December 1988

POS		PL	W	D	L	Pts
1	Slough Town	18	13	1	4	40
2	Farnborough Town	18	11	5	2	38
3	Bishop's Stortford	18	10	2	7	32
4	Hendon	18	8	7	3	31
5	Leytonstone/Ilford	17	8	6	3	30
6	Carshalton Athletic	17	8	4	5	28
7	Wokingham Town	18	7	6	5	27
8	Dagenham	20	7	6	7	27
9	Leyton Wingate	18	6	8	4	26
10	Grays Athletic	14	7	4	3	25
11	Kingstonian	16	7	4	5	25
12	Windsor	19	5	9	5	24
13	Dulwich Hamlet	14	6	4	4	22
14	Barking	16	5	6	5	21
15	Bromley	19	4	8	7	20
16	St Albans City	18	5	5	8	20
17	Hayes	17	4	6	7	18
18	Bognor Regis Town	14	5	3	6	18
19	Harrow Borough	20	3	7	10	16
20	Tooting & Mitcham	17	3	3	11	12
21	Croydon	18	1	7	10	10
22	Marlow	17	0	5	12	5

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE - PREMIER DIVISION

Up to and including Saturday 10th December 1988

POS		PL	W	D	L	Pts
1	Dartford	16	8	4	4	28
2	Cambridge City	19	7	6	6	27
3	Wealdstone	15	8	3	4	27
4	Ashford Town	13	7	4	2	25
5	Alvechurch	16	7	4	5	25
6	V S Rugby	16	7	4	5	25
7	Dorchester	14	7	4	3	25
8	Corby Town	17	7	4	6	25
9	Bath City	19	6	5	7	24
10	Dover	12	7	2	3	23
11	Bromsgrove Rovers	15	5	8	2	23
12	Fareham Town	15	7	2	6	23
13	Crawley Town	15	6	7	3	22
14	Gosport Borough	13	6	4	3	22
15	Burton Albion	18	5	6	7	21
16	Moar Green	15	6	2	7	20
17	Waterlooville	15	5	4	6	19
18	Worcester City	14	5	4	5	19
19	Merthyr Tydfil	13	5	2	6	17
20	Leicester United	17	3	4	10	13
21	Bedworth United	15	1	1	13	4
22	Redditch United	14	1	1	12	4

H F S LOANS LEAGUE - PREMIER DIVISION

Up to and including Saturday 10th December 1988

POS		PL	W	D	L	Pts
1	Narine	25	13	5	7	44
2	Hyde United	22	13	3	6	42
3	Goole Town	21	12	3	6	39
4	Witon Albion	22	11	5	6	38
5	Barrow	18	10	4	4	34
6	Sangor City	19	9	5	5	32
7	Southport	20	8	7	5	31
8	Buxton	21	7	9	5	30
9	Gainsborough Trinity	21	8	6	7	30
10	Mossley	23	9	3	11	30
11	Rhyl	16	9	2	5	29
12	South Liverpool	17	7	8	2	29
13	Matlock Town	21	8	3	10	27
14	Stalybridge Celtic	24	6	9	9	27
15	Fleetwood Town	16	6	7	3	25
16	Shepherd Charterhouse	22	7	4	11	25
17	Caernarfon Town	23	6	6	11	24
18	Frickley Athletic	17	6	4	7	22
19	Horwich R M I	21	4	6	11	18
20	Morecambe	19	4	4	11	16
21	Gateshead	22	3	7	12	16
22	Workson	22	4	2	16	14

COVER STORY

Led Zeppelin at Wycombe?

by Neil Morris

Further evidence (if it were needed) that many football clubs would be hard pressed to organise a traffic jam on a Bank Holiday came at Wycombe Wanderers' first home league game of the season, against Maidstone United.

On arrival at the Buckinghamshire club's ground, fans were greeted by the sight of a hundred or so bright blue balloons sitting under a net around the centre circle. "We're going to release them now," enthused the Wycombe D.J., "and the balloon that travels the furthest distance will correspond to a numbered programme and the holder will win a great prize." Spectators were then introduced to the young mascot, a chap dressed as Postman Pat and another wearing an elephant suit.

"Right", yelled the D.J., "let's release those balloons." The three characters pulled back the net - and nothing happened. "But they're filled with helium" said a bewildered voice over the tannoy "Try kicking them." The mascot, elephant and Postman Pat kicked them, threw them and hurled them, but still the balloons floated back to earth.

It was now 7.25pm and the teams were ready to come out. "We'll just have to burst them and organise another competition" announced a dejected voice. The mascot had the time of his life, but Postman Pat and the elephant seemed to be having trouble in destroying all the balloons. When the task was completed there were of course about a hundred numbered tags left in the centre circle and by now the crowd were laughing uncontrollably.

Footnote: Maidstone put an end to the home fans' mirth as they pulled back from two down to win 3-2

Thanks to Ian Crossley who discovered the above in FOOTBALL TODAY (October 1988) while on holiday in Malta.

Own up... which Wycombe fan wrote this letter to the BUCKS HERALD during October.

A LETTER TO AYLESBURY

SIR,
HAVING read your depressingly accurate assessment of Adrian Mann in last week's edition, and with the likely departure of Rowan Doods on the horizon, I felt I had to put pen to paper in response.

As a life-long Aylesbury United supporter now living and working in the High Wycombe area and inevitably coming into contact with supporters of Wycombe Wanderers, I had desperately hoped that we might outdo our local rivals by way of a higher league position this season.

Back in August I was delighted by the signings of Mann and Dodds (at a total cost in the region of £10,000) but was somewhat perplexed by the derision expressed by Wycombe supporters at the news.

They seemed to be more than happy that the club was receiving £4,000 for Mann and told me that Wycombe had purchased Dodds for £2,500 at the beginning of last season only to find him unable to cope with Conference standards.

Of course I dismissed these comments at the time, trusting Trevor Gould's assessment of a player to be more reliable, but it now seems clear that these players were indeed little more than proven Conference failures.

Now I see that Mr. Gould is trying to sign another Wycombe reject, Mark Boyland. Hasn't he learnt his lesson yet? At this rate it seems we will have to wait some time before being able to look down on the Wycombes of this world.

Name and address supplied.

15 THINGS TO GET ANGRY ABOUT AT WYCOMBE WANDERERS F C by Ian Blacklidge

1. The lack of catering facilities for visiting supporters in the event of segregation (would you treat your 'guests' as badly?) and the Club's apparent indifference to this disgraceful state of affairs.
2. The second price rise in as many seasons to stand on the terraces at G M V C matches. One Director, apparently, even wanted to charge £3.00!
3. The failure of the Club to grant Gary Lester (9 years of service to the Club) a testimonial.
4. The poor or non-existent attendance of certain Directors at away games.
5. The ludicrous £2 admission charge for Capital League games. This has been the main reason for this season's two-thirds decline in attendances at these matches. Did you know that Cambridge United, Leyton Orient and Southend United all charge £1.50 or less?
6. Players and officials who take their holidays during the football season.
7. The disappearance of the Club's flag flying proudly above the ground only to be replaced by a sponsor's flag.
8. Not getting the referee at the Maidstone home game to delay the kick-off in order to get those still outside the ground in. After all it's not their fault that the turnstiles were understaffed that night.
9. The sheer audacity to charge £2.50 for admission to pre-season games with Kingstonian and Harrow Borough...surely insult of the season.
10. Beating Wokingham in the Club Con Cup therefore having to endure another round of this odious competition.
11. The fact that season ticket holders do not gain free admission to Capital League games whilst 30 Club Members do. Both these groups should have this concession.
12. Most League Line dinners are open to men only - this kind of attitude should have died along with Queen Victoria.
13. Bandwagon jumpers (where were you during our season back in the Isthmian League?), who organise 'executive' coaches not caring if they damage the reputation of the Official Blues Club Transport built up by 'real' supporters.
14. The Club's present policy of playing any future 'big' home Cup ties away from Loakes Park or Adams Park. At Adams Park what would be the point of taking a 'take the money and run/easy way out' attitude when all the safety problems have been eradicated.?
15. The strong rumour (that I hope is not true) that on moving to Adams Park, supporters will have to pay higher admission prices in view of the so called better facilities on offer there. This would be a triple insult because;
 - (a) Why should we have to pay more in view of the fact that it was not our decision to move in the first place - there was no ballot.
 - (b) The move is being entirely financed by the sale of our beloved Loakes Park and therefore not costing the Club a penny in extra expenditure.
 - (c) Many people will incur increased costs in both time and money on travelling to the new ground.

NEXT ISSUE - Things to be pleased about at Wycombe Wanderers F C (yes, there are quite a few)

SHOCKING COVERAGE

If there is one good thing to have come out of the battle for the T V rights to Football this season - then it's the BBC's extended coverage of this season's F A Cup.

The BBC began their coverage this season with goal highlights from the early qualifying rounds but these were unfortunately and rather inconsiderately shown at 1.40pm on the Saturday of the following round - a time when anyone remotely interested in football is either at a game or on their way there.

The BBC hit the 'jackpot' though when they decided to expand their coverage further with Saturday evening highlights programmes of First and Second Round Proper matches. The First Round show included the excellent game between Enfield and Leyton Orient with further highlights from the Southport/Port Vale tie plus goal highlights from several other matches involving non-League sides.

Viewing figures for the First Round highlights programme put the audience at around 4 million. Brian Barwick, the BBC's Editor of Football, commented *"These figures are very encouraging. It was our first attempt at showing the earlier rounds of the Cup and although late in the evening we are delighted with the total number of viewers."*

Hand in hand with this increased coverage goes the usual patronising drivel that, if we are to believe what we read and see, has clubs from outside the Football League as a bunch of lorry drivers, milkmen, hod carriers, etc, all working on the morning of the match, playing just for fun.

It was widely reported in the national papers that John King, Manager at Altrincham, warned John Motson not to portray his players in this way in a preview to their game with Halifax - I can't think of anything more frightening than incurring the wrath of Mr King (11 sendings off and 54 bookings during his playing career). Sensibly Motson took King's advice but the BBC

couldn't resist showing a Kettering player sliding down a pole at a fire station in a preview on Breakfast Time.

In reality most players, in the Conference at least, run their day jobs in parallel with their football and have a combined wage that is comparable to most Fourth and Third Division players. Was it really such a shock that Enfield beat Leyton Orient or Kettering Town beat Bristol Rovers?

F A CUP THIRD ROUND PROPER

7th January 1989

(non-League clubs)

SUOTON UNITED v Coventry City

KETERING TOWN v Halifax Town

WELLING UNITED v Blackburn Rovers



HACKS GUIDE TO THE PART-TIMERS

FIREMAN - puts the fire out in the opposing forwards.

ELECTRICIAN - likely to make sparks fly.

PLUMBER - blocks the leaks in the defence.


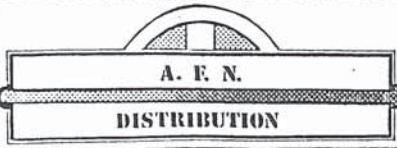



B R WORKER - on the right tracks for success.

TEACHER - hoping to give the opposition a lesson.

POSTMAN - delivers the goods upfront.

etc, etc.

PL

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FANS SAY NO TO I D CARDS

The number of column inches dedicated to the topic of the proposed Football I.D. card legislation in the past few months and the forthcoming months, will probably run into distances as long as the queues that the scheme may cause. This, however, should not deter debate and discussion on the subject at any available point.

Every appearance by the Minister 'for' Sport, Colin Moynihan, paints a very sorry picture of Football. Moynihan's comments range from the ridiculous to the blatant misleading of the General Public. He appears to change his viewpoint fairly regularly, so I'll quote from one of his latest appearances - on the Agenda programme on TVS in early December. His analogy to the scheme at Luton Town included the quote (cue squeaky voice and patronising smile) "at Luton attendances have risen by 38%". Actual figures taken from the Football League Directory show that Luton's League attendances have fallen by 23% since the scheme was introduced. Not that any of these figures, right or wrong, are of any relevance. Luton's scheme bans away fans for all but Cup matches and cannot be applied to the Country as a whole. Moynihan also said on the same programme that there would be "no delay whatsoever" in entering the ground but this is a view not shared by the police who fear more problems being caused outside the grounds.

Support against the legislation is beginning to grow and everyone can help in this fight to protect the game of football. This is one area where supporters and club officials can agree and many clubs are allowing petitions against the scheme on their grounds on match days. If you see one make sure you make the right decision - alternatively join the F S A at the Club Shop or write to; THE F S A, 59 OAKWOOD ROAD, HALEWOOD, LIVERPOOL L26 1XD.

CEDRIC
CROPPER
he's a
GROUND-
HOPPER





Fixtures

Saturday 17 December 1988

Altrincham	Maidstone
Boston	Aylesbury
Enfield	Cheltenham
Fisher	Runcorn
Kidderminster	Northwich
Newport	Telford
Stafford	Barnet
Sutton	Yeovil
Welling	Macclesfield
Weymouth	Kettering
Wycombe	Chorley

Tuesday 20 December 1988

Aylesbury	Weymouth
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Monday 26 December 1988

Aylesbury	Wycombe
Cheltenham	Newport
Enfield	Barnet
Fisher	Welling
Kettering	Boston
Macclesfield	Altrincham
Maidstone	Sutton
Northwich	Stafford
Runcorn	Chorley
Telford	Kidderminster
Yeovil	Weymouth

Friday 30 December 1988

Barnet	Weymouth
--------	----------

Saturday 31 December 1988

Aylesbury	Sutton
Cheltenham	Welling
Chorley	Altrincham
Enfield	Fisher
Kettering	Runcorn
Macclesfield	Boston
Maidstone	Wycombe
Northwich	Newport
Telford	Stafford
Yeovil	Kidderminster

Monday 2 January 1989

Altrincham	Macclesfield
Barnet	Enfield
Boston	Kettering
Chorley	Runcorn
Kidderminster	Telford
Newport	Cheltenham
Stafford	Northwich
Sutton	Maidstone
Welling	Fisher
Weymouth	Yeovil
Wycombe	Aylesbury

Saturday 7 January 1989

Aylesbury	Yeovil
Cheltenham	Boston

Fisher	Northwich
Macclesfield	Barnet
Runcorn	Wycombe
Stafford	Kidderminster
Telford	Maidstone
Weymouth	Altrincham

Saturday 21 January 1989

Altrincham	Stafford
Barnet	Kettering
Boston	Enfield
Chorley	Aylesbury
Kidderminster	Runcorn
Maidstone	Macclesfield
Northwich	Cheltenham
Sutton	Weymouth
Welling	Newport
Wycombe	Fisher
Yeovil	Telford

Tuesday 24 January 1989

Enfield	Weymouth
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Saturday 28 January 1989

Aylesbury	Maidstone
Cheltenham	Kidderminster
Enfield	Altrincham
Fisher	Barnet
Kettering	Yeovil
Macclesfield	Northwich
Newport	Wycombe
Runcorn	Boston
Stafford	Sutton
Telford	Chorley
Weymouth	Welling

Tuesday 31 January 1989

Stafford	Wycombe
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Saturday 11 February 1989

Altrincham	Kettering
Barnet	Telford
Boston	Weymouth
Chorley	Macclesfield
Kidderminster	Enfield
Maidstone	Newport
Northwich	Aylesbury
Sutton	Cheltenham
Welling	Runcorn
Wycombe	Stafford
Yeovil	Fisher

Tuesday 14 February 1989

Barnet	Boston
Weymouth	Enfield

* Provisional due to F A Cup



F A TROPHY 1st ROUND PROPER

Saturday 14th January 1989

(selection)		
Matlock Town	v	NORTHWICH VIC
BOSTON UNITED	v	STAFFORD RANGERS
TELFORD UNITED	v	WITTON ALBION
BURTON ALBION	v	CHORLEY
MARINE	v	MACCLESFIELD TOWN
Buxton	v	ALTRINCHAM
RUNCORN	v	GRENA
FISHER ATH	v	CHELtenham TOWN
Fareham Town	v	YEovil TOWN
Windsor & E	v	Gosport Borough
ENFIELD	v	Hendon
BARNET	v	Gravesend & N
SUTTON UNITED	v	Kingstonian
KIDDERMINSTER	v	MAIDSTONE UNITED
Dagenham	v	AYLESBURY UNITED
Wokingham Town	v	Merthyr Tydfil
WEYMOUTH	v	NEWPORT COUNTY
WELLING UNITED	v	Slough Town
Basingstoke	v	KETTERING TOWN
Bromley	v	Wealdstone

Sunday 15th January 1989

Bath City	v	WYCOMBE WAND
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F A TROPHY 2nd ROUND PROPER

Saturday 4th February