The BLUES NEWS

The official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers Football Club

Issue No. 47



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Wanderers boss finds things much the same a year on

Think I've been here before

GREG'S GRAPEVINE
By John Gregory

WHEN we played Wrexham at Adams Park it was very much a case of deja-vu.

My first match in charge was against Wrexham at Adams Park on Saturday, October 26 last year and here we were nearly one year later playing Wrexham on Tuesday, October 18.

The score in both cases was 0-0, which although not what I or any self-respecting Wycombe Wanderers fan wanted, at least we notched up a valuable point on each occasion.

Our home league record at Adams Park since Boxing Day prior to the AFC Bournemouth match is still pretty impressive, out of 19 matches we have achieved 12 wins, six draws and only recorded one loss to Carlisle United.

We will need to keep up this sort of form and pick up more points away from home than we have been doing if we are going to make the play-offs this season.

As of November 28 we were only eight points off a play-off position having played 19, with 27 matches to come.

Clearly there is still a long way to go and plenty to play for. As always your support of the players and the club is always much appreciated by Richard Hill and myself whether it is at Adams Park or at Division Two grounds around the country.

As we enter the crucial Christmas period do come down and get behind the lads and try and help us put a string of results together that will carry us up the league.

Don't forget the Oldham Athletic match on Saturday, December 13 is another Quid-A-Kid affair, with children under-16 able to get a seat or stand for a pound.

We then travel to the New Den on Saturday, December 20 to take on Millwall.

This will be a difficult match to get a result from considering the Lions recent form and league position.

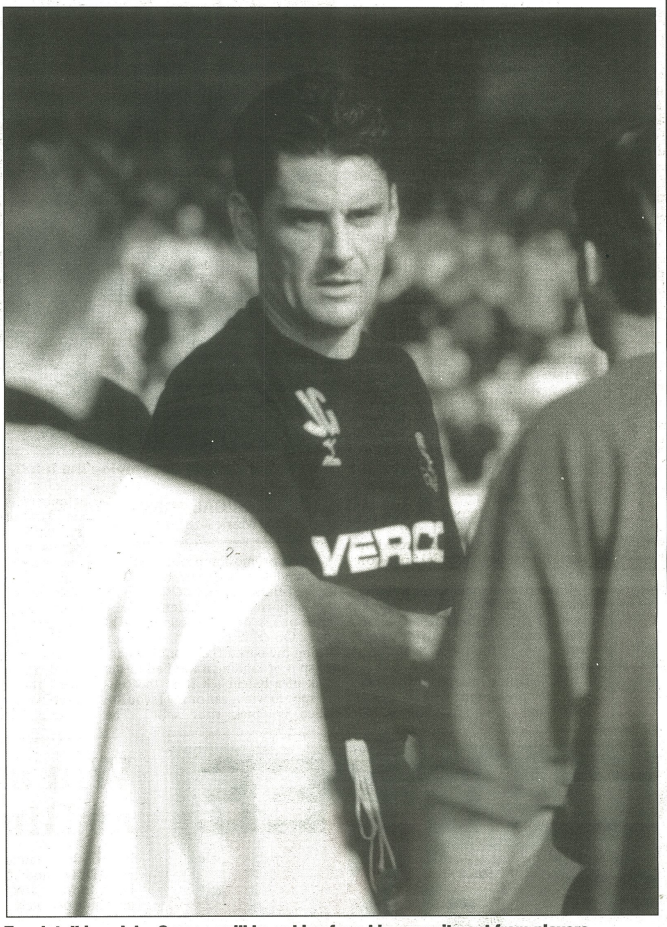
Next we entertain our highflying neighbours Watford in an all-ticket affair at Adams Park on Boxing Day, then travel to Southend United and Northampton Town before another Quid- A-Kid day at Adams Park against Wigan Athletic on Saturday, January 10.

It seems I'll never be able to forget or escape from these popular promotional days as my first match in-charge of the Blues was a Quid-A-Kid match.

Frankly I think they are great and it is good to see Wycombe Wanderers leading the way to encourage youngsters and families to enjoy the matchday atmosphere at Adams Park. Let's hope that we win every time they come.

Thanks for your invaluable support, have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

John.



Tough talking: John Gregory will be asking for a big commitment from players

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Pictures for this edition of The Blues News were supplied by the Bucks Free Press and Wycombe Wanderers Football Club.

The Blues News is the official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers.
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Any correspondence should be sent to the Editor, The Blues News, Wycombe Wanderers Football Club, Hillbottom Road, Sands, High Wycombe.
Telephone (0494) 472100. Fax (0494) 527633.

Great gift for fans

IF you are still trying to think of that perfect Christmas gift for a friend or relative, then Wycombe Wanderers may have the answer.

The club shop is currently selling gift vouchers and you can purchase them for as little as £5.

The vouchers are available from both Wanderers in Town or the Commercial Offices.

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IN SHORT

New Blues lines

BLUES' 1998/99 clubshop colour catalogue is now available free of charge from Wanderers in Town in the Octagon Centre, opposite Littlewoods, the Cornerflag Clubshop or the Commercial Offices at Adams Park.

The prices in the catalogue come into effect on New Years Day. All existing clubshop prices are being held until Wednesday, December 31. Fans wanting to catch this year's prices must do so before the deadline.

There is a Super Kit Deal for adults and children, who from January 1, will save exactly £12 if they opt for the adults or kids Super Replica Kit Deal. The club is therefore committing itself again to holding the Kids Replica Kit deal price until May 1999, four years without any increase.

Beside the sea

WANDERERS have drawn second division rivals Southend United in the first round of the Auto Windscreens Shield cup competition.

The tie is at Southend's Roots Hall ground on Tuesday December 9 and kicks-off at 7.45pm.

Admission prices will be announced shortly.

This cup competition between all Division Two and Division Three clubs is now a knock-out on the night game, with golden goal extra time and penalties if needed.

The final is at Wembley Stadium, following the North and South regional finals. Last year Blues went out on penalties against Swansea in round one.

Promotion crazy

ENTERING the Christmas period it seems we have gone promotion mad at Adams Park.

There are two Quid-A-Kid days in less than a month and an opportunity for someone at the Watford all-ticket match on Boxing Day to drive away a new Saab 900XS 2.3 Saloon Car worth £21,250 courtesy of Haymill Saab.

Four ticket stubs will be drawn at half-time and the holders will be invited onto the pitch and presented with a Wanderers signed football. A further draw, excluding any professional footballers (full terms and conditions will be printed in the Watford programme) will then take place and one of them will have three attempts from the 18 yard line to hit the crossbar.

To win the new Saab 900XS all they have to do is hit the bar twice. The attempt will be videoed so there can be no arguments. Both Wanderers and Haymill Saab want the supporter to win. The media coverage following a successful attempt would be very extensive. All you have to do to have the opportunity of taking part is be at the Watford match in possession of a matchday ticket or a season ticket booklet.

The winning numbers will be drawn from the ticket stubs and season ticket vouchers collected on the turnstiles by 3.15pm on matchday.

If the person making the attempt hits the crossbar once, Haymill Saab of Beaconsfield Road, Farnham Common will provide them with a top of the range Saab for a week.

Even if they miss all three they will be presented with a Saab jacket and a signed football.



Quid A Kid: Youngsters enjoing the family environment of Adams Park

COMMERICAL BREAK
by Mark Austin

If this promotion proves successful the club plan to introduce similar half-time "games of skill" with the opportunity of winning very large prizes or enormous sums of cash. Other opportunities include hitting the cornerflag from the centre spot or landing a football in the back of a hatchback from the centre spot to win a car or my favourite which is "pick your spot". The winner gets two attempts to score one goal at either end. Each goal has a 3 foot high board placed across it's width (great branding opportunity for a sponsor) and the winner chooses ONE spot on the pitch to make both attempts. The logical place is the centre spot. The ball can bounce in, but must go in both goals for the prize to be won. If any company would be interested in sponsoring events like these then contact myself or Tim Arnold on (01494) 472100.

Next week when we play Oldham at Adams Park it is only a Quid-A-Kid – a promotion that the club is repeating on Saturday, January 10 when we play Wigan and again on Good Friday when we take on Grimsby Town at Adams Park at 3pm. In all cases children under 16 can get in the ground for only £1, for a seat in the new ServisPak Stand or standing on the AXA Equity & Law stand.

Enjoy Christmas, part of which I hope you will be spending at Adams Park on Boxing Day for the Watford match.

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Win an executive box at Blues' Adams Park

BLUES have launched an Executive Box Draw and Guest Hospitality Draw to win a box for a season and a match respectively.

The Guest Hospitality Draw does not cost any more than the standard guest hospitality rate for Grade B matches at Adams Park (£40 plus VAT per head) and includes four additional benefits.

The prize is a box for ten against Chesterfield on Saturday, April 25 which includes a Laurent Perrier Brut Champagne reception, a hot and cold buffet, programmes, club badges and half-time refreshments. The draw takes place during half-time of Good Friday's Grimsby match.

To enter book two hospitality places at any match before Easter.

Every entrant receives two guest hospitality tickets to a home match which includes a car pass, tour, three course meal, programmes, two premium seats in the Amersham & Wycombe College Stand, half-time refreshment and access to the players bar. In addition every entry of £80 plus VAT includes a signed ball, a tannoy, a mention in the programme and free room hire at Adams Park for a day in 1998. The club is not putting any restriction on what room you get.

It could be the Ercol Boardroom, Keen Lounge, Vere Banqueting Suite, Woodlands Executive Lounge, Chiltern Room or Joynson Holland Lounge. The normal daily hire charges range from £90 for the Joynson Holland to £400 for the Vere Banqueting Suite.

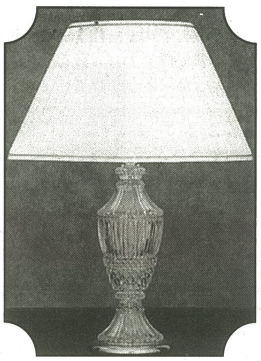
To enter ring the sales department on (01494) 538461. You don't even have to let us know which match you want until a later date, but there is a £10 plus VAT per head surcharge if you want the Watford match.

In addition the club has launched an Executive Box Draw for a box for the whole of next season. All you have to do to enter is have a box day let at Adams Park and pay a small surcharge. Any person or company renting an executive box during this season at the normal rates can enter by paying a £50 plus VAT surcharge.

Every entrant paying a surcharge will receive free room hire for a day, a tannoy announcement and inclusion on the Adams Park roll of honour which will be published in the matchday programme and the Blues News during the 1998/99 season.

Participants will get one free entry into a draw to win an executive box for ten persons for next season. If a company pays for five boxes and surcharges, it gets five entries into the draw, which takes place during the Chesterfield match on April 25. This prize also includes four car park passes, use of the Woodlands Lounge and entry to all reserve and youth team matches at home that season. Annual box rental is currently £10,000 plus VAT.

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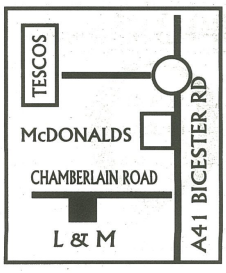
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A car for kicks

BLUES fans attending Wycombe's Boxing Day clash with Watford will have the unique chance of winning this magnificent Saab 900XS 2.3, worth a staggering £21,250.

Wanderers are running a special half-time competition, sponsored by Haymill Saab, at the match which kicks off at 1.30pm.

One lucky supporter will have the opportunity to win the manual saloon, and all they have to do is hit the cross-bar two times out of three from the 18 yard line.

And even it they can't manage that, Haymill Saab will loan out the Saab for a week if they can hit the crossbar just once.

In the unlikely event of the punter missing all three attempts at the cross-bar, they will be presented with a Saab Jacket in their size, anyway.

All you have to do to enter this competition is possess a Wycombe Wanderers 1997/98 season ticket or buy a ticket for the Watford all-ticket match on Friday, December 26.



What a prize: This Saab could be yours

A full list of the rules will be printed in the Blues News published on Friday, December 5 and the Watford matchday programme.

Four supporters' season ticket vouchers or matchday ticket stubs will be drawn at half-time.

The four winners will then be given a set time to get on to the pitch with their winning ticket. All participants will be given a football signed by the Wanderers squad.

There will then be a draw among whoever has made it in time on to the pitch to see which lucky supporter will be the one to have a go.

● The club would like to thank Haymill Saab who sponsor John Gregory with a Saab 9000CSE for putting up the prize.



It's awards all round down at Adams Park



Top man: Keith Ryan proves he's as popular as ever



Top youth: Lee Johnson is presented with his award

Rhino's a winner with Blues fans

HE may have been out of action for several seasons with knee injuries but now he's back he's more popular than ever.

And the fans let old favourite Keith Ryan know just how popular he is by voting him Supporters Player of the Month for October.

Rhino has re-invented himself in defence and was rewarded for his efforts by Blues fans.

Derek Vere, the managing director of Verco, Blues' official club sponsors, presented Ryan with his award.

The player's Mark Your Man sponsors are LinkPrecision Services who also took part in the photo presentation.

And thanks go to Verco Office Furniture Ltd, who have exclusively sponsored the Supporters Player of the Month Award for another season.

● While Ryan was enjoying his share of the limelight, one of the club's youth team players was also lapping up some of the attention.

Lee Johnson was named the Youth Team Player of the Month for October, sponsored by Lucozade Sport, the club's official sport drink sponsors.

Johnson was picked by youth team boss Neil Smillie.

A presentation was made to Johnson by Mark Newell, managing director of the Walters Group of Companies our official youth team sponsors.

Johnson is 17-years-old and is a first year YT player in Wanderers youth team who play in Division Two of the South-East Counties League.

The player is a promising pacey forward, who had an excellent game during the youth team's recent win against Cardiff City in the first round of the FA Youth Cup.

Thanks go to both Lucozade Sport and the Walters Group of Companies for their support.

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8 THE BLUES NEWS

IN SHORT

Reddy steady go

THE club has announced a new all-red Mizuno away kit for the 1998/99 season. Although this has been published in the 1998/99 clubshop catalogue, the kit will not go on sale until Monday June 1, 1998, in line with the club's well-established two year policy on replica shirts.

This very popular all-red kit was first worn last season in the FA Cup at Colchester United, when the club's other kits clashed. The club received numerous requests to commercially introduce the very attractive kit, but felt it would have been extremely unfair on it's fans to have a fourth replica kit.

Shop talk

WANDERERS In Town, opposite Littlewoods in the Octagon Shopping Centre, will be opening normal shop hours during December, (Monday to Saturday 9.00am to 5.30pm) with additional shopping hours as follows: Sunday 7th 10am-3pm, Thursday 11th 9am-8pm, Sunday 14th 10am-3pm, Thursday 18th 9am-8pm, Sunday 21st 10am-3pm, Christmas Eve 9am-5.30pm. The shop will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day and New Year's Day. It will be open from10am-4pm on Saturday, December 27.

Keyne for glory

BLUES take on Milton Keynes at Adams Park in the Berks and Bucks Cup second qualifying round Wednesday on December 3 (ko 7.45pm). Adults £5, children and concessions £2

Come off it Kevin, you've got it made

By Keith Blagborough Blues Supporters Club

THE other day when watching the build up on television to the Fulham v Margate FA Cup game I watched an interview with Kevin Keegan who was telling the world how important it was to Fulham from a financial point of view to get through to the next stage and to have a good run in the cup this year.

Come off it Kevin, when you were at Newcastle your only problem was where the next million was coming from, you have a blank chequebook at Fulham and now you are picking up cash from Sky.

How many times were they televised before you went there? If you want to know the difference that a good cup run can make, talk to managers such as John Gregory, Martin O'Neill and Dario Gradi, they will tell you about the value of money and how to run a football club on a shoe string.

This did however raise an interesting question, as to what has happened to the money from television sponsorship?

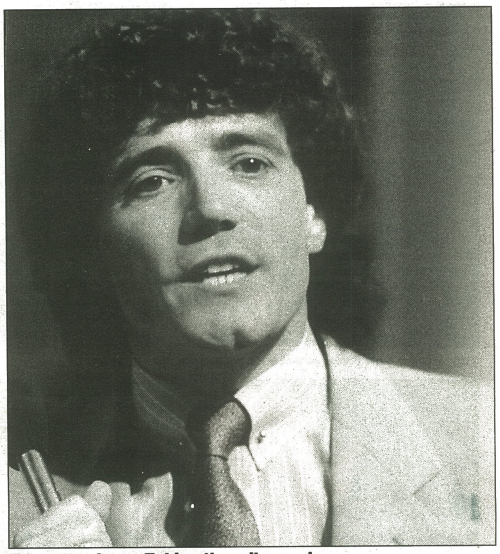
Remember the promises made when contracts were first being negotiated that of course the major share would go to big clubs but because they would seek to strengthen their squads, they would buy players from the smaller clubs and so cash would flow down and benefit the game as a whole.

Well the money certainly flowed somewhere from clubs such as Chelsea, Arsenal and all the rest didn't it. Trouble is that it somehow never seemed to hit Wycombe's bank account or many other clubs below the Premier League for that matter, as clubs preferred to spend it on the Continent or in massive signing on fees.

Am I the only one as well who is getting a little fed up with seeing the same few teams regularly on television creaming off the appearance fees?

Yes Kevin a cup run is invaluable to smaller clubs. Perhaps we can pick up a pound or two on the earlier matches and hopefully draw a big fish in the later rounds and get some more from a televised match, but do not insult us by pretending that you know what it is to be in this situation, you don't.

● The Blues Supporters Club run coaches to all our away matches. With the benefit of a long term agreement we have been able to provide quality travel and keep our prices stable. We aim to provide a value added service with for example hot drinks being served (very welcome after a couple of hours on a cold terrace) and maps of the area around the ground for supporters convenience. Why not let the coach take the strain, and do not forget that members get a discount of £3 on their tickets.



The permed one: Taking the mike again

Bookings should be made with Rena in the foyer of the Vere Suite before and after home matches and by telephone on (01296) 429307 note the new number.

● Finallly we have an advance note for your diary. We will be holding a Quiz Night on January 29.

WIN EXECUTIVE BOX at Adams Park For The 1998/99 Season

Wycombe Wanderers Football Club are holding their biggest ever free prize draw, with the winner getting the use of an Executive Box for 10 persons on all 1st team matchdays at Adams Park for the whole of the 1998/99 season, four car park passes and use of the Woodlands Executive Lounge. The cost of hiring an Executive Box this season was £10,000 + VAT which included 10 seat tickets for all Nationwide Football League, Cup, Friendly, Reserve Team and Youth Team League fixtures played at Adams Park.

Companies, Group or Individuals who purchase an Executive Box Day Let this season, have the option to pay a surcharge of £50 + VAT on each and every occasion they book a day let and in return will receive four additional benefits:-

- FREE ROOM HIRE OF ANY ROOM AT ADAMS PARK IN 1998
- A FREE P.A. ANNOUNCEMENT DURING THE 1997/98 SEASON
- A PLACE ON THE 1998/99 OFFICIAL ROLL OF HONOUR
- AN OFFICIAL SIGNED WYCOMBE WANDERERS FOOTBALL

The Standard Executive Box package, costing £500 + VAT includes a Hot & Cold Buffet for 10, Car Passes, 10 Executive Seat Tickets, 10 Matchday Programmes, a Tour of the Stadium, use of the Woodlands Executive Lounge and Tea/Coffee and Biscuits at half time.

FREE ENTRY TO WIN AN EXECUTIVE BOX FOR THE 1998/99 SEASON

For every Executive Box Day Let booked and surcharge paid, WWFC will give one free entry into a draw to win an executive box for the whole of the 1998/99 season. The draw for all entrants will take place at half-time on Saturday 25th April 1998 when Wycombe Wanderers are at home to Chesterfield in their last home Division Two match.

All 20 Boxes at Adams Park are fitted with a remote control colour television TV, large refrigerator, 10 upholstered stacking chairs, a table and several cupboards. The Boxes have a capacity of 10-16 people but there are 12 tip up seats situated directly outside the Box.

EXECUTIVE BOX SUPER DRAW APPLICATION FORM

Name of Business (if appropriate) .....

Contact Name .....

Address .....

Postcode .....

Day-Time Phone No. .....

I wish to hire a Day Let Executive Hospitality Box for the Wycombe Wanderers V ..... fixture on ..... for £500 + VAT.

I do/do not wish to pay a surcharge of £50 + VAT to qualify for the additional benefits and be given a free entry into the Free Executive Box Draw on Saturday 25th April 1998.

Please invoice our company accordingly/debit the credit card as below.

Please send your completed forms to:-

Wycombe Wanderers Football Club, Adams Park, Hillbottom Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP12 4HJ. (01494) 472100

Please debit my Access/Visa card (please delete): Card No. .....

Expiry Date ..... Signature .....

Hutch checks out some pre-Christmas crackers

By Alan Hutchinson

OUR first home game in the Nationwide League for December is on Saturday the 13th against Oldham Athletic who were relegated last season.

The Latics have had a dramatic decline over the past five seasons, coming down from the Premier League into Division Two as quickly as Jacques Villeneuve.

After a shaky start they are now beginning to put some good results together, striker Stuart Barlow has been on target with nine from 18 to date.

The following Saturday, 29th, we head for The Den home of Millwall Football Club. This will be only our second trip to Docklands. I thought we were unlucky there last season to go down 2-1.

They have started to roll along nicely under Billy Bonds and have a good home record. The Den is a place that has always been hostile. If we can frustrate them and irritate the fans a point is a possibility.

We now come to Boxing Day and league leaders Watford. Without doubt this is a very tough game. They head the table because they deserve to. They are a strong running, hard working team with possibly the best two forwards in the division, yet strangely enough neither Jason Lee or Ronnie Rosenthal have made it to the leading scorers chart yet.

They have shared the spoils and provided for others in the Hornets acceleration at the top. This should be a cracking atmosphere with a big crowd and if we are really up for this one don't rule out a turn up.

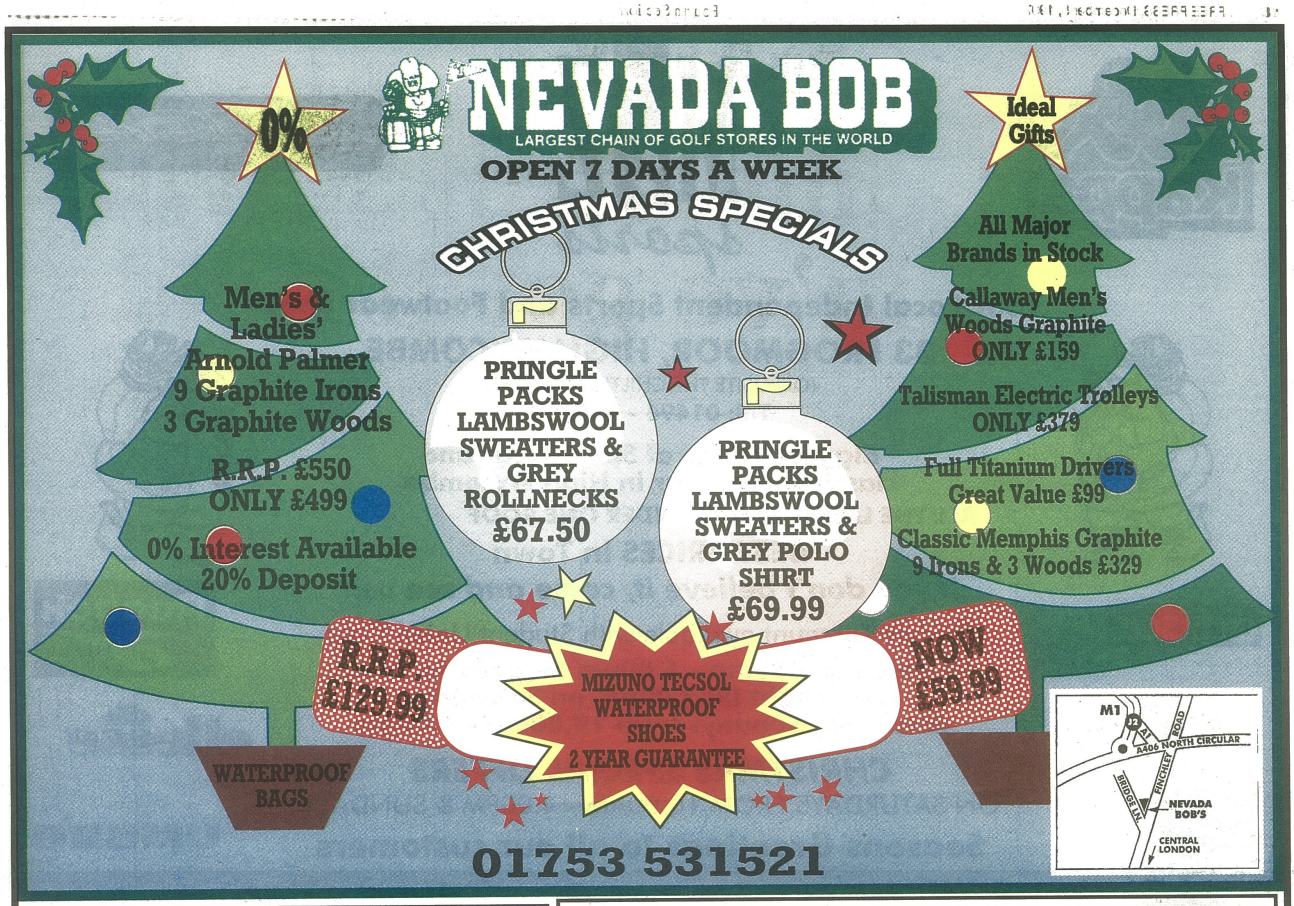
The final game of 1997 is at Roots Hall, Southend on Sunday 28th. This will be our first League fixture at this ground, although we have played a number of Capital League fixtures there over the years.

The Shrimpers have struggled again this season, relegated last term they must have had hopes of returning to Division One, alas it will not be this season.

If the game at Adams Park was anything to go by they certainly play good football and it will not be easy. However, a win against Watford on Boxing Day will set us up nicely for this one.

Two other games to mention, are the two cup competitions that occur in December. On Monday, December 3 we play Milton Keynes at Adams Park in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup. And on Tuesday, December 9 we open our campaign in the Autowindscreen Shield against Southend.

It just remains for me to wish you a very Happy Christmas and successful New Year when we can all look forward to better things in 1998.



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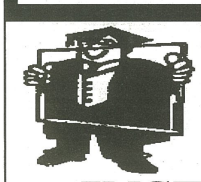
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PLAYER PROFILE

Raw jelly is just the ticket for Hodson

PERSONAL DETAILS
FULL NAME: Ben Mark Hodson
DATE OF BIRTH: 25.1.76
HEIGHT: 6ft 3in
WEIGHT: 86kg
HOME: Pinner
CAR: Haven't got one
MARRIED: No
CHILDREN: None
DAD'S JOB: Retired
BROTHERS & SISTERS: Brother - Matt (youth keeper)
FAMILY PETS: Cat
NICKNAME AT CLUB: Big Bad Ben, Chicks 2, Tart.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
WHO DO YOU SHARE A ROOM WITH ON AWAY TRIPS? Haven't been on one yet.
WHAT WAS YOUR AMBITION AS A CHILD? To be a top flight pro footballer.
WHAT IS YOUR AMBITION NOW? The same as above.
WHO WAS YOUR BOYHOOD HERO? Mark Hughes.
WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE? Playing alongside my hero at Chelsea in a trial period before joining Wycombe.
WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT IN LIFE? Being released from West Ham as a schoolboy at 16.
WHAT IS YOUR SADDEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL? Pulling my thigh muscle in training before last 32 England trial at Lilleshall under-15 age group.
WHICH PRESENT-DAY FOOTBALLER DO YOU ADMIRE MOST? Gianlucca Vialli.
WHO IS THE GREATEST PLAYER THERE HAS EVER BEEN? Maradonna.
WHO HAS BEEN THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER? Parents and family.
WHO IS THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YOU HAVE FACED? Michael Duberry.
WHICH MANAGER HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER? John Gregory gave me the break.



Ben Hodson: Thanks John Gregory for his big break

WHAT JOB WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU HADN'T MADE IT AS A FOOTBALLER? Exercise physiologist.
AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT? In 1995 being ranked ninth in the country for triple jump for my age.
WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST MOMENT YOU HAVE SEEN ON A FOOTBALL PITCH? Playing for 20 minutes in a British University championship game before realising we were playing against the wrong team.
WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN FOOTBALL? Scoring from a sporting back pass to the opposing keeper.
WHICH TEAM DID YOU SUPPORT AS A BOY? Derby County.
WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE GROUND? San Siro.
WHAT OTHER SPORTS AND HOBBIES DO YOU ENJOY? Athletics, snooker and socialising.
DO YOU HAVE ANY UNUSUAL FOOD THAT IMPROVES YOUR GAME? Raw jelly.
AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTSMAN? Jonathan Edwards.
WHAT IS YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION? Health.
IS THERE A SPORTING DREAM YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE ACHIEVED IN ANOTHER SPORT? Represented the country at triple jump.
WHAT REALLY ANNOYS YOU IN FOOTBALL? The assumption that footballers don't have brains.
WHAT ARE YOU PET HATES OUTSIDE FOOTBALL? Wasps in barbecue season.

FAVOURITES
TV PROGRAMME: Simpsons
POP STAR/GROUP: Michael Watford
FOOD: Pasta
DRINK: O.J
FILM: Pink Panther films
FILM STARS: The late and great Peter Sellars
HOLIDAY RESORT: Magaluf
TV STARS: Homer Simpson
COMEDIAN: Rab.C.Nesbitt
CITY: Paris
SOAP: They do my head in.
SOAP CHARACTERS: None

Compiled by Steve Hayes

Parry: Don't miss dinner

SKY Sports commentator Alan Parry believes no one should miss Wilf McGuiness at the Sportsmans Dinner on Monday, May 18 at Adams Park.

Parry said: "No one will be disappointed who turns up in the Vere Banqueting Suite to hear Wilf."

Although for the younger generation McGuiness may not be a big name, he is highly respected on the after dinner circuit as a top drawer performer.

His style and humour is similar to Jackie Blanchflower, who many rate among the best speakers who have appeared at Adams Park.

McGuiness succeeded Sir Matt Busby at Manchester United and remains the only man to have played for and managed the Red Devils.

He was a member of the England coaching team during the 1966 World Cup and was understudy to the great Duncan Edwards before injury cut short his playing career.

McGuiness remains as big a United fan as you will find.

To book tickets for a table of ten or 12 call Mark Austin or Tim Arnold on (01494) 538461 or 472100.

Reservations for this final Sportsmans Dinner of the 1997/98 season are being taken on a first come first served basis.

- The Directors of Adams Park Events are also proud to announce the All Star line up for1998/99 season.

It includes: Monday, September 28, 1998 – guest speaker Gordon Banks, comedian Tony Gerrard; Monday, November 23 – guest speaker Norman Whiteside, comedian Peter Lucas; Monday, January 25, 1999 – guest speaker Gareth Chilcott, comedian Mike Pugh; Monday, March 22 1999 – guest speaker John H Stracey, comedian Tommy Sutton; Monday, May 17, 1999 – guest speaker Tommy Docherty, comedian Eddie Archer.

- The Old Blues Association is considering running another Fred Trueman Sportsmans Dinner at Adams Park in 1998.

If enough companies or individuals show an interest at £375 for a table of ten, then a date will be fixed. Please call (01494) 472100 if you are interested.

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