

**CHESHAM** manager John Clements has hit back at a critic who says he has been too free with his cheque book since his arrival at The Meadow.

John Comfort, writing in our sister paper, the Harrow Observer, accused the Chesham boss of paying exorbitant fees for defender Sean Norman from Wealdstone and midfielder Francis Cassidy from Harrow.

Norman's fee is undisclosed but is rumoured to be between £15,000 and £25,000. Cassidy, who cost Harrow £400 from Bishops Stortford, was bought for £15,000 and Clements has also paid a similar price for Barnet goalkeeper Andy Lomas.

Clements said: "When you are a Vauxhall Division 1 club, you have to pay for quality players. Cassidy is one of the best midfielders in his league and Norman is on the verge of an England non-league cap.

"Both could play in the Vauxhall Conference and you have to pay good money for those sort of players. Things won't necessarily happen right away, but our performances are already improving and the promotion race isn't over yet.

"I don't think I have spent too much and I think the players will prove me right. We know we have made some good buys and I am sure we will get value for money."



● Sean Norman.



● Francis Cassidy.