

—Mann on Friday—

I WAS one of the many cheering on Wycombe Wanderers at their first match at the new Adams Park stadium. I join with others in congratulating Ivor Beeks, Brian Lee and the other members of the board in getting such a superb stadium ready in time.

I also congratulate former council chairman Kath Peatey and planning committee chairman Len Hampton in a singular piece of courage in turning up and braving the criticisms of the club. Certainly the Wanderers have little time for the local authority, which initiated their move from Loakes Park and then blocked them all the way.

The site at Sands was only chosen after appeal to the Department of the Environment. Then, the much-needed plan for a training pitch was kicked into touch, leaving the Blues' community involvement scheme in shreds.

Even the gentlemanly Jack Adams, son of the great Frank, could not resist a dig at the council in his speech of thanks to the board.

Isolated at the end of a trading estate at the edge of Sands, the Blues now face the wrath of residents angry at the traffic chaos caused on Thursday and Saturday.

While I have a certain sympathy with the residents, I must add that these two games were exceptional and the gates larger than normal. I am sure that the traffic problems could be ironed out, particularly if the council took the initiative with constructive proposals, instead of merely shouting I told you so from the terraces.

Everyone in this area must want Wycombe Wanderers to succeed. They are a vital part