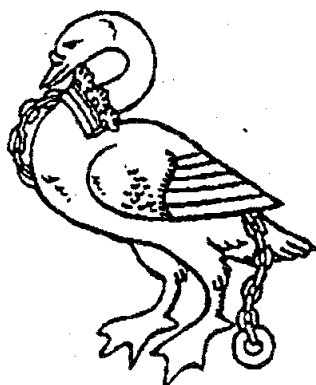




Blues thrive in spotlight

CAMERAS, lights, action. It was an unbeatable combination in last year's FA Cup second round when Blues drew 2-2 with West Bromwich Albion in a match shown live on Sky TV.

The day began for Wycombe's supporters with hopes they dare not own up to, lest they reveal their wretched nervousness before the topsy-turvy thriller on Sunday, December 6.

It opened with Kim Casey dislocating his shoulder after chasing down Keith Scott's second-minute centre. Within ten minutes the five-time winners were ahead through Darren Bradley. Bob Taylor smacked home a second.

But then Simon Stapleton was restored to midfield, Glyn Creaser reduced the arrears and Steve Thompson wellied home a 25-yarder to spark delirium. Ossie Ardiles' Second Division aristocrats were sent home smarting.

Team's hopes are dashed by illness

THE only time Cambridge United and Wycombe Wanderers have met before is when forerunners of the clubs battled in the FA Cup during the last century.

Cambridge Universities drew High Wycombe in the FA Cup first round in 1876/77. The Wycombe team were playing on The Rye at that time.

But the home team had to withdraw because they could not put out a side because of illness, so Cambridge were given a walkover.

Blow-by-blow video has sting

VIDEO REVIEW Up, Up and Away

"IT'S an absolute pig if you're a Bristol Rovers fan." Yep, it's that all right.

This choice statement by a maniacal West Country commentator aptly rounds off Wycombe Wanderers' Christmas release.

His biased preamble, describing action from Blues' 2-1 FA Cup win at Twerton Park, one of many highs during their first four months in the Football League, is almost worth the £14.99 price-tag alone.

I say almost. As comprehensive as this video is — home and away League matches, Coca-Cola Cup glories, Autoglass coverage — £9.99 would be more reasonable with Double Glory and Beam Us Up Scotty, also £14.99 each, still fresh in the memory.

However, all credit to the producers for collating highlights from Wanderers' exploits on the road as well as at home, which previous videos lacked. Match coverage is at its best if accompanied by short interviews and behind-the-scenes snippets, such as the Carlisle piece.

Basically if you want your memory refreshed at the season's half-way point, this is for you.

Claire Nash