

A VIEW FROM THE STAND

By Ron
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Bald Eagle is mentor now

A NEW season is upon us and, although the old Irish Canary has flown the nest, the Bald Eagle has landed..

It only seems a couple of weeks ago that, while on holiday, I staggered into my room after spending a day climbing some of the Lake Districts' higher fells.

I was still on cloud nine after completing the toughest day of the walk in superb weather.

While enjoying a cup of tea, I turned on the radio to catch the sports news. Martin O'Neill's unmistakable Irish brogue filled the room. He was explaining why he had accepted the Norwich job.

My high immediately turned into a low.

What was to become of Wycombe without him?

After a few beers and a good pub meal, everything amazingly seemed much brighter. "I wonder who our new manager will be?" was suddenly uppermost.

When we eventually completed our holiday, there was a great deal of reading to catch up on. Friends had collected three weeks' copies of the Midweek and Bucks Free Press, complete with all the news from Adams Park.

It seemed there was an orchestrated campaign to lure Alan Smith. But who was calling the tune - Ivor Beeks, Claire Nash, Alan Smith or the fans?

I don't suppose we will ever discover who made the first move. Not that it matters, because it looks like being a very smart and popular one.

The various friendly results have been very encouraging - especially the win over Southampton.

Unfortunately, I only managed to see the second half, so I missed all the goals, as well as Matt Le Tissier's striptease.

Was he trying to impress Jason, his manager or Terry Venables? (Maybe he has a future as an exotic dancer at Venables' night club?)

Gently roasting on the Costa del Reading terrace was almost as good as a Mediterranean break.

Our management team and subs certainly looked the part in their matching colour co-ordinated outfits. Complete with shades and gum, they looked like a bunch of extras from Baywatch!

Although we lost, the goals and excitement came at our end. I can't believe Sheppard kept the ball out in that goalline scrum.

Bring on Crewe tomorrow, and we'll see how the boys get on in a real match.

Let's make sure we give them plenty of positive support throughout the season - in the good and not so good times. Whingers can stay at home.

Anybody involved in the planning department at Wycombe District Council is especially welcome, and, while you're at Adams Park, why not ask the fans their opinion on the new stand? After all, they are your local electorate.

Best of luck to the Bald Eagle - may you fly high with the Blues.