

Tooting put the boot in

Soccer writer Andy Dickinson was stunned after a football club chairman sent a letter all the way from South London criticising him for branding his team clueless buffoons.

Andy, 24, came under fire from Peter Woodhouse, chairman of Tooting and Mitcham United Supporters Club for making the remark about the team while writing on Wycombe Wanderers pre-season.

He wrote in an August edition of the Star: "Rather than adopting the usual procedure of having about 20 substitutions involving clueless buffoons from non-league backwaters such as Tooting and Mitcham, Smith has stuck with a similar line-up throughout."

Peter wrote in a letter this week: "Mr Dickinson's attitude is really not called for. Who is he to make such remarks about TAMUFC or any other non-league football club? It was not long ago that

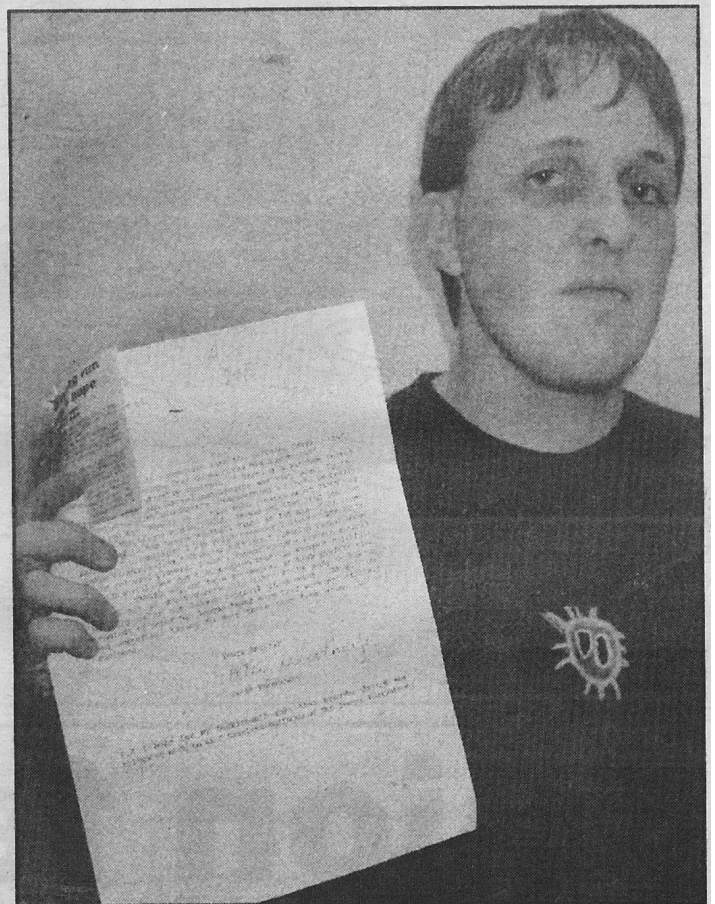
TOOTING'S football supporters' club chairman has accused Star soccer writer Andy Dickinson of foul play for branding his team 'clueless buffoons'. Alex Robson reports.

Wycombe were a non-league club.

"TAMUFC may not be a successful or high profile club anymore but we don't deserve the likes of Mr Dickinson knocking us."

Stunned Andy said: "It was probably because I spent a very cold miserable day there in about 1986 watching Wycombe. I cannot believe it."

Star editor Steve Cohen said: "I am very pleased that Mr Woodhouse took the time to write and complain to defend his team. I am also delighted to see that your ever popular Star is circulating in Tooting."



Shooting from the lip: Soccer writer Andy Dickinson