

ONCE again we only played for 45 minutes on Saturday and duly paid the penalty.

In fairness, we have played worse than this and won, and at least we got our money's worth in goalmouth action.

For much of the match, Swindon looked in a different league to us – and probably will be next season. Still, it was a good all-round performance, especially in the second half, and would have been good enough to beat most sides.

It was a tough result to take because a work colleague is an avid Robins fan and has enjoyed reminding me of the result.

To make matters worse Oxford won yet again. My mate Sad Keith, a mad United supporter, spoilt my Sunday lunch-time drink by continually showing me the league table with Oxford in a play-off position.

I can't say I was particularly pacified by Alan Smith's

VIEW FROM THE STAND

By Ron Barnett



comment that Blues fans should be thankful they are not in the same position as Brighton's supporter. I'm not sure whether he meant it as a threat or a promise.

In case the Bald Eagle hadn't noticed, Wycombe have been financially sound and run in a professional and businesslike manner for many years. The fans have every confidence in the chairman, directors and club staff. It's the playing performances which cause us concern.

This was yet another example of a foot-in-mouth comment by a manager who seems to think

the fans should be thankful for small mercies and suffer in silence.

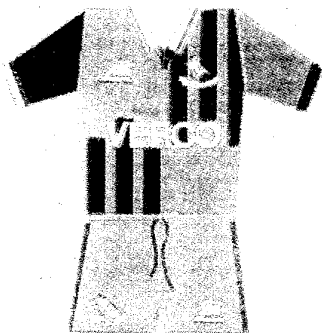
Come on Alan, can't you see from the letters published in the Bucks Free Press in recent weeks that the fans are not prepared to accept patronising comments from you or Alan Parry. Nobody enjoys the bickering and backbiting, but it is the paying fans who ultimately fund the salaries and they are entitled to have their say.

After all, like every club, the fans will still be here long after the players and management team have left.

Why not try to build a more positive relationship with the fans? You'll soon discover we're not moronic moaners but just ordinary people who care deeply about the club and our football.

How about starting by acknowledging the fans before or after games.

And the winner is...



A quartered-stripe combo

WYCOMBE Wanderers have unveiled the new strip they will wear for the next two seasons.

Sixty-five per cent of fans who voted for two designs printed in last Saturday's match programme preferred the above kit, while 35 per cent went for the alternative. There were 26 spoilt papers among hundreds of votes, said the club.

The majority of players also came out in favour of the above design. The strip will be manufactured by Mizuno.

We need laughs to follow those Blues

I AM as sad as anyone to see how Wycombe Wanderers are falling out of contention for promotion as they carry on losing.

But we might as well have a laugh, so I want readers to send me in their best Wanderers-getting-beaten jokes and I will print them in this column.

I've asked around the office but the best we've come up with so far is the pathetic: "What's blue and slides down the table? Answer - Wycombe Wanderers."

Or: "What does the Wycombe defence have in

common with Dracula? Answer - they both hate crosses."

Bucks Free Press sports editor Claire Nash has just rubbished the last joke by insisting Blues defence is fairly good at dealing with crosses. She says we might get a better laugh out of their new kit design.

● Send in your Blues jokes to Editor's Chair, Gomm Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 7DW. The best joke will be bought a free ticket by me to a Wanderers game. Runner-up will get two free tickets (now that is a joke).