

Smith's remarks are disgusting

An open letter to Ivor Beeks

I WRITE this letter in defence of the Wycombe Wanderers players and in condemnation of Alan Smith. His remarks in the press recently and in the Daily Mirror match report on Monday, April 22, filled me with disgust.

To say in one Sunday paper that he had never had a side of his booed off the field before, I find very hard to believe. The statement which really made me angry was 'this side has no professional know-how'.

These players, who he also says 'have been together too long', have won promotion from the Vauxhall Conference, promotion from Division Three to Two and last year only just missed out on a play-off spot. These players do not become bad and unprofessional overnight. Perhaps it is his tactics and the style of football he wants the team to play that is unprofessional.

Some of his team selections are, to be honest, baffling. To leave players of the calibre of Terry Howard, Jason Cousins etc out of the team is beyond belief. The goalkeeper situation is appalling, to dismiss both first and reserves goalkeepers and then have to pay for loan goalkeepers is ridiculous.

I agree with Mr Smith on one thing 'a fresh approach is required here'. Perhaps that approach should be the removal of Mr Smith and a return to the style of football that got Wycombe Wanderers to Division Two initially. The reduction in attendances during the season may suggest I am not alone in thinking along these lines.

I know for certain that some season ticket holders do not intend to renew them next year and Wycombe Wanderers Football Club cannot afford to lose revenue, especially when building a new stand.

E J Phillips
Woburn Gardens
Basingstoke

Performances have been gutless

IN regard to this year's WWFC performance in league and cup, they can only be described as gutless and uninspired.

Past seasons have been inspired

and committed. Is this something new that Alan Smith has brought to the club? If this is the case then it's high time he resigned his position as manager before he loses too many more committed players such as Paul Hyde who appeared to have done nothing wrong and be replaced by two lesser players on higher wages.

Simon Garner, Matt Crossley, Simon Stapleton, Terry Howard – are these heading the same way? Even Terry Evans and Jason Cousins might not be safe with contracts which don't expire this season.

Mr Smith stated in the Sunday papers after the Swansea defeat that there would be immense changes on the playing staff with him needing more experienced professional players. I would like to point out the existing players are both experienced in Division Two and 100 per cent committed to WWFC, unlike the players Mr Smith has brought in this season, hence the league and cup performances.

I believe this season's Division Two has not been as high a standard as previous seasons and had he continued with the team that Martin O'Neill left, I feel sure we would have been promoted to Division One. As for the supporters who booed on Saturday. It was directed at Alan Smith and the style of football he has brought to the club. Maybe he and the club should consider their position before they head back to the Conference.

C Hewinson
Coxborrows Close
Cookham

Smith has not kept his promises

I WOULD like to say that regardless of all the promises made by Mr Smith, that he did not intend on getting rid of the so-called Martin O'Neill players who got us almost into the play-offs last year, in what can only be described as brilliant, entertaining football, with the crowd growing week by week, that is exactly what he is doing.

Can he be trusted with anything he says in the future? It seems like a death-wish that he has dealt to the club and supporters just because his ego couldn't accept the previous choice of players were worthy of their positions and replaced them with not-so-good players on higher

wages without the same commitment. Hyde was the first of these mistakes, then Simon Garner, then Terry Howard and Jason Cousins to name a few of the 110 per cent committed players. How can the rest of the players go out each week to give a convincing performance with the reward for their past efforts either being given the sack or dropped to the reserves?

I hope Ivor Beeks is well satisfied with his performance and the fact that he has backed the wrong horse. Now the club is losing money with gates dropping to below Conference gates at Adams Park. It's time to do something sensible before it's too late and get rid of his so called manager Mr Smith.

L Collinge
Upton Road
Slough.