

Reporter scores own goal with coverage

I MUST admit to feeling somewhat irritated by your match report on Woking v Wycombe (Star August 9), and in particular the references made to Woking as a "tiny non-league" club who should have had their "pants" thrashed-off.

Obviously Paul Harris thinks very little about the Vauxhall Conference League or football in general.

In fact, Woking are pushing for entry to the Football League and have finished in the top five of the GM Vauxhall League for the past several years. This club has constructed a 2,000-seater stand at a cost of £1.75 million and progressed further in the FA Cup last year than Wycombe Wanderers!

Woking have players in their side who have played for Chelsea, Sunderland, Leyton Orient and several players who played for Wycombe last

year (oh yes! don't forget super Simon Garner), and ex-Blackburn Rovers. Woking consistently have home gates of 2,000-plus, which is nearly half the average Wycombe attendance.

I am a Wycombe fan myself, but before people like Paul Harris make such arrogant remarks about "non-league minnows" he should remember that only three years ago Wycombe Wanderers were playing in the GM Vauxhall Conference League themselves, and following the way they played against Woking may well be playing in the Conference in the not-too-distant future!

If you must publish match reports, please ask somebody who knows something about football to undertake this task.

Mike Hobson
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Straight talking

By
Steve
Deal



A swansong

Keeping on the sporting track, the new season is (unbelievably) almost upon us again.

It should be an exciting season down at Adams Park. Last season was flat – not surprising after Martin O'Neill's glory years had come to an inevitable end.

But there's a great new stand at the club and, if the supporters can return in their droves, there's no reason why Alan Smith can't take Wycombe into the First Division.

Come on, you Blues.

Mann on Friday

There will be no strikes at Wycombe

I COULDN'T help but laugh when told that soccer players in Wycombe Wanderers' league may take industrial action over lack of TV money.

"Oh Wycombe will be fine," I replied. "After all, they haven't got any strikers in their team."

It was just a feeble joke, obviously, but I fear that the fans of our great club may

not be laughing too much when the new season starts.

The dismal showings at Adams Park last season were too much for many to bear, as the angry letters in this newspaper proved.

Wycombe had been expected to romp home with promotion. In the end, they were relieved they didn't drop into the relegation zone.

And it was not just the results.

Some of the pathetic performances

would have shamed an under-ten team. It wasn't so long ago that former manager Martin O'Neill was turning down lucrative jobs left, right and centre because he wanted to go into the Premiership with Wycombe.

Now Martin is in the Premiership, but with Leicester City, while the Blues begin another season in Division Two.

Martin will be battling it out with Manchester United; all Wycombe will have to

Wanderers next season

look forward to is Millwall. And while Newcastle are celebrating the £15m capture of Alan Shearer, Wycombe have splashed out £100,000 on the services of a Brighton player.

Supporters of the Blues are used to meteoric success. I suggest they may have to make do with mediocrity for a long while yet.

I hope I am proved very wrong. But there is nothing to suggest that Wycombe

are going to do any better this term when the season begins for real on Sunday.

The best thing to hope for is that they avoid the relegation zone, and that they draw a big club in the cup.

If they prove me wrong, I shall personally send £20 to the club bar for the players to have a drink on me.

Alternatively, the manager can spend this cash on his next major signing – providing he returns the change to me.

Charles Mann