

Not the theatre of our dreams

VIEW FROM THE STAND

By Ron Barnett

WHEN I was a kid, my parents took me to Wembley every year as a Christmas treat. Unfortunately it was not to see football, this annual event was billed as Holiday on Ice.

It was in fact a pantomime on ice – much like our Boxing Day match against Walsall. The traditional 'bad-die' was of course the referee, Michael Bailey, ably supported by his two flag-waving ugly sisters.

I still can't believe villain passed the pitch as playable.

It was obvious all was not well when the team came out with a selection of footwear and began testing the various alternatives.

There wasn't too much to remember from the match apart from Dave Carroll not playing his part as Principal Boy. This was only the second time Jesus had missed a performance since March '95. That match also ended in a 2-0 defeat. Come back Dave we need you centre stage.

The show was over as soon as Cinderella Cheesewright missed the ball midway through the second half. The curtain should have come down before we conceded the late second goal.

Thankfully, we were spared any more ice shows when the Luton and Brentford matches were called off. Now it's 'up for the cup' on Sunday when hopefully we will kick off 1997 with a win – providing the hot-air balloon pitch cover copes with the arctic conditions.

Anyone who has a few bob left over from Christmas might want to buy Nick Hancock's Football Nightmares video which includes two clips from matches at Adams Park.

The first shows George Best refusing the advances of a naked fan – well it was a male streaker. The second shows a Wycombe game going on whilst a fire rages on the industrial estate. Maybe this incident explains why a contingent from the fire brigade keep turning up at our matches. Shame on me, I thought they just wanted to get in without paying.
