

Mann on Friday

Evans above, Wanderers have to keep their angelic

WORD reaches me that Wycombe Wanderers' captain Terry Evans has hit upon a reason as to why the club are doing so badly – they are far too nice.

Apparently, other teams love to play at Adams Park because they are treated so well here and get such super hospitality.

I presume Mr Evans is not only

referring to the friendliness of the Blues' defence which has given away numerous gifts of goals this season to the opposition.

He means that the family atmosphere at Sands and the wonderful facilities help the away team relax and feel right at home.

The logic is that if Adams Park were a bit more intimidating, then perhaps we'd win a few more games.

But is this niceness really such a bad thing? Okay, we all want a successful

soccer team, but this is sport after all and not war. Isn't it quite a decent reflection on our local club that we do try to play in the true spirit of the game?

I've been fairly critical of Wycombe's play this season. And I was one of the first prophets of doom at the beginning of this campaign to warn that the club would have a dreadful time of it.

But Mr Evans' comments have made me warm to the Wanderers.

I hope and trust that officials will resist all temptation to turn the club from nice to nasty.

I don't know about you, but I'd prefer to be relegated and watch this family club in Division Three than have them turn into a grubby unsporting soccer outpost.

For if the club were to become nastier, it would surely have a knock-on effect on the supporters who have given the Blues such a good name.

reputation

Dirt breeds dirt and Adams Park would likely become a magnet for hooligans.

Do we really want success at the price of young fans being too scared to walk around Sands on a Saturday afternoon?

And isn't there an easier solution if you really want to put the opposition off and shred their nerves before a big match at Wycombe?

Just direct them to the ground via the bus lane on the London Road.

— Charles Mann —