

Morning has broken Blues away duck

JOHN Gregory's decision to wake his players early and send them out for a morning training session last Saturday paid dividends as hours later they beat Blackpool to end their away hoodoo.

Gregory decided on the wake up call after the team arrived at their Blackpool hotel earlier than expected on Friday afternoon.

He said: "It was something to get the cobwebs out of the way and to loosen them up after spending 16 hours in the hotel."

Michael Simpson said: "We've never done it before but I think we'll probably be sticking with it after that result."

Wanderers have nine overnight stops planned for their away programme this season.

Gregory said: "We might do it again we might not. We felt it was right on Saturday but the next time we might have had a hard week and I might decide they would benefit more from a lie in."

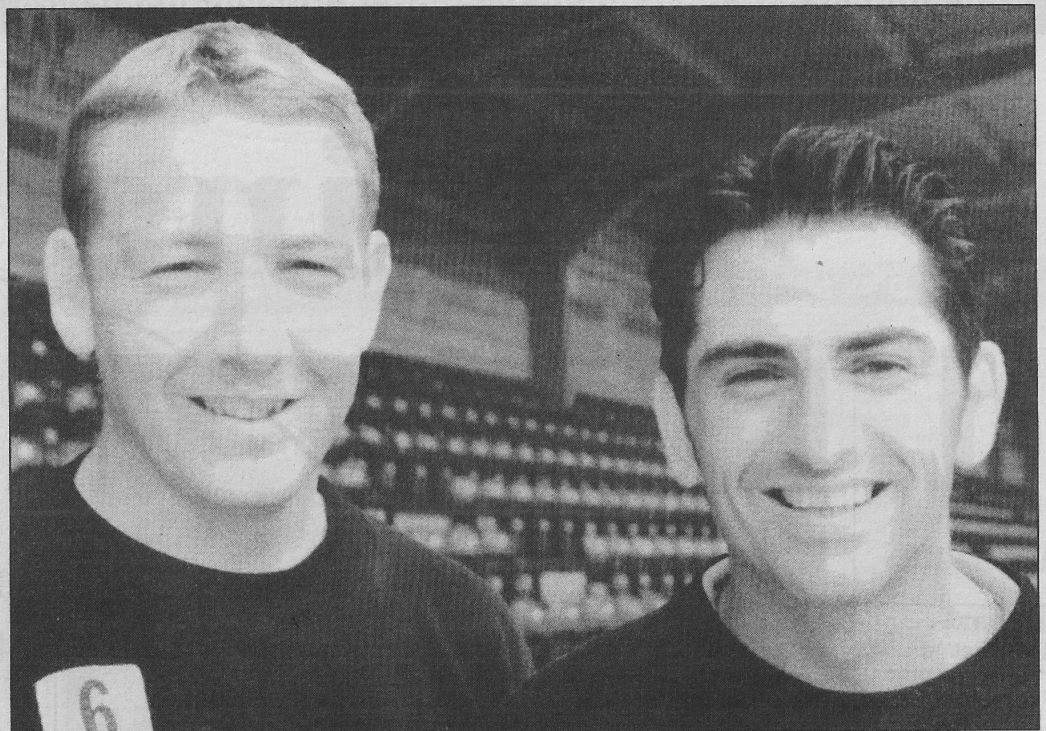
Wanderers also trained on the afternoon of their 4-4 draw with Fulham.

● Mo Harkin and Alan Beeton had no time to get carried away by their impressive debuts this week. They were in cleaning boots and packing kit the next morning.

Gregory who does not want his talented kids growing up too fast, said: "They are both going to carry on working with their old duties for their first year as pros."

● Steve McGavin, surprisingly relegated to the subs bench for the Coca Cola-Cup trip to Fulham, was hoping his omission was down to the manager not wanting to reveal his hand for tomorrow's league clash against the same opponents.

He said: "I would like to think it was down to something like that and not my performance at Blackpool but I don't know. I was



Nas and Dave: Evans (left) and Bashir are hoping to make a big hit in the community

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surprised not to play but the manager picks the team and I will go along with that. We all know Wycombe Wanderers is a squad game."

● Wanderers' longest serving player, Dave Carroll, kicks off his testimonial season with a race night at Adams Park on Saturday, September 27. Tickets, including buffet, are £7 and the first race is at 8pm.

● Music loving John Gregory was among the first in the queue to buy the new Oasis album in High Wycombe last Thursday.

● Former Wanderers manager Martin O'Neill is being used to

front the advertising campaign for the England U21 international against Moldova at Adams Park on Tuesday, September 9. O'Neill is being photographed with Leicester City's England U21 star Emile Heskey today as part of the FA's build up to the first ever international match at Adams Park.

Tickets for the match are on sale now at Adams Park.

● Jason Cousins is ahead of schedule and back in training after recovering from the ankle ligament injury he picked up in pre-season against Aston Villa. Cousins, who had originally pencilled in

September 19 as his comeback date could be considered for the Blues' derby at Watford next Saturday.

● Former Reading player Nas Bashir and Dave Evans are the clubs two new community officers. They aim to cover all the schools in High Wycombe and make Wanderers the number one club for children in the area. They will visit schools and hold holiday and after schools clubs. They can be contacted on (01494) 472100.

● A young reserve side lost 4-1 at Brentford in the Capital League despite Grant Smith giving them a fourth minute lead at Griffin Park.