

LETTERS

Players should take the blame

I FELT that I could not let the letters in the sports section (BFP December 5) about Wycombe Wanderers FC go without comment.

It is true to say that the comments from members of the board are wrong.

Indeed, when was the last time any of the Wycombe directors stood on the terraces for a full two hours on a Saturday or a Tuesday evening, having to wait a long time to be served with their tea/coffee etc and missing the start of the second half?

They do need to get amongst the fans to understand why people are not supporting the club in the numbers they were, and not just depend on the end of season survey.

I and my two sons have season seats in the family stand, I for one would gladly move from my seat for the Watford game. I feel sure other supporters would have done the same had the club asked.

I appreciate and understand the extra monies the match will bring to the club.

And if moving my seat for one game will help the football club so be it. The club need every penny. Although, I agree fully that at times this season the home fans have been made to feel as though they come second to the away fans.

And yes, it would be nice to see more youngsters walking around the area in the club's colours. However the first team must get a run of good results before we see more loyalty to the club on the streets of the area.

With regard to the comments about the manager's way of playing. Well from my point of view, he has got it right. The only thing is, is that some of the players are not able to transfer the ideas from their brains to their feet.

The players should understand

that match results do go a long way to getting people through the turnstiles. That is how they get paid, and is not due just to the fundraising by Mark Austin and his team.

I for one hope to see the current management team see out their contracts and stay for some time to come. After all, it was not Gregory or Hill who lost a two-goal lead to Basingstoke.

It is however time for the shareholders of the club to take stock of the situation.

Wycombe Wanderers have a great financial system for a club in non-professional football. But the Wanderers are a full time

professional football club, fighting to survive.

I would say it is time to change the company, to allow someone with the finances to contend in the modern game. I understand the argument against this, that the club would be open to a 'here today, gone tomorrow' chairman, but I do not believe this to be the situation.

The supporters of the club know we have a very good chairman at present, with a board of directors who just need a little push now and then.

Nigel Vickery

Booker

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Blues' record is embarrassing

ON September 3, 1996 Wycombe Wanderers completed a fine aggregate win over Reading, from Division One, in the Coca-Cola Cup.

Three weeks later, on September 24, they narrowly lost on aggregate to Premiership side Nottingham Forest.

On September 30, Wycombe manager Alan Smith was sacked.

His last 16 league matches in charge saw them win just once, draw five and lose ten.

Position wise they dropped from

tenth to 24th.

On August 26, 1997 Wycombe lost on aggregate to Fulham, from their own division, in the Coca-Cola Cup.

On November 25, they embarrassingly lost to non-league Basingstoke in the FA Cup.

In the league, of their last 16 matches they have won just twice, drawn seven and lost seven and have fallen from third to 17th this season already.

Manager John Gregory is then given a vote of confidence. Why?

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