

LETTER

Smillie people

ALL I'd like to say is wow, what a match Wycombe Wanderers treated us to last Saturday.

Up until John Gregory left the club, I'd been wondering why I shelled out a small fortune for a season ticket. The team's lack of spirit made me a completely disinterested supporter. However, on Saturday I was amazed at the excitement and

get up and go the team played with. It was pretty even in the first half – thanks to the man-of-the-match, Martin Taylor.

The cheers of "Are you watching Ivor Beeks" summed up everyone's thoughts.

Whatever Mr Smillie and the team are doing, keep doing it and you'll have plenty more season ticket holders.

Caroline Walker
Chapel Hill, Speen

Specky's back in fashion again at Adams Park

NEIL Smillie's playing career spanned six clubs, Crystal Palace, Brighton, Watford, Brentford, Reading and Gillingham. He once cost £100,000 moving from Brighton to Watford and played in the top division for three clubs. He played in the States and has been caretaker manager at Gillingham and Wycombe.

● When Smillie was a team-mate of Terry Evans at Brentford he was always the last to turn up for training.

● He was nicknamed Specky because he wears contact lenses.

● He lost one celebrating Jimmy Case's goal in a cup win at Anfield.

● Before being made Blues' caretaker boss he was ticked off by a steward who didn't know who he was, for drinking from a can. Cans are not allowed at Adams Park.

● Smillie used to cause hysterics among his youth team for walking along the white lines after parking his car.

● His dad played for Barnsley and Lincoln and his son Jack is a midfielder at Wanderers' centre of

excellence.

● The pinnacle of Smillie's career was the 1983 FA Cup final against his boyhood heroes Manchester United – but he has never watched the video all the way through because he doesn't like seeing all that hair.

● Smillie has become 'hip' with his sons after they found his Cup final Adidas tracksuit. They're back in fashion now.

● Smillie is still one of only 16 players to arrive at a Cup Final by helicopter. Brighton flew in on their big day.