

## Wayne turns his hand to helping out an old mate

WAYNE Turner agreed to become Neil Smillie's right hand man because he wants to help his former Brentford team-mate get the job full-time.

Turner, former assistant at Luton, was happy to link up with Smillie even though it could be temporary if Smillie does not get the hotseat in May.

Turner said: "I'd love to work with Neil next season. He has the organisation, the knowledge, and the respect of the players."

"He knows the youth set-up the reserve set up and the first team. I can help because I know the second division because I've done it with Luton."

But despite his skinhead Turner denies he will be Mr Nasty while goldilocks Smillie is Mr Nice.

He said: "I'm no Sergeant Major but I do get passionate about my football and they'll know

there's a time to play and a time to work.

"I hope Neil gets the chance to prove himself. The trouble is it seems he'll only be judged on results. He needs that little bit of lady luck he didn't get last Saturday."

Turner played for Coventry, Luton, Brentford and Barnet.

● Wanderers are considering pulling their reserves out of the Capital League and accepting an invitation to join the higher-class Avon Combination which includes Arsenal and Spurs instead of non-league teams like Welling reserves.

Gillingham, Peterborough, Fulham, Northampton and Barnet all resigned from the Capital League this week to join the Combination and Neil Smillie is now deciding whether to follow them.

He knows that the standard of the Capital League will go down with Conference clubs replacing the resigning teams and he does not want to be left behind. Earlier this season Paul Read admitted it is hard to get motivated for Capital League games against non-leaguers.

A move to the Combination league could also benefit Wanderers on a scouting level because they would be up against players who aren't quite good enough for first team level at bigger clubs.

● Bristol's Sean McCarthy rubbed salt into Blues' wounds when he admitted Bristol bought Mickey Bell well below face value at just £150,000.

McCarthy said: "Mickey came in for stick because we got him for nothing."

● Brian Parkin is having treatment for a hip injury he received in training and missed the reserves 3-0 defeat at Fulham on Wednesday in which new signing, defender Lee Holsgrove, played.

● Youngster Andrew Baird is going to have to wait for his first team debut. Smillie wants to throw him in but he will not do it until Blues are mathematically safe from relegation.

Smillie said of the 18-year-old who can play at the back or front: "If we weren't needing points I'd introduce him now. He's up to it but it would be unfair at the moment."



**Blues new boy:**  
**Wayne Turner**