

Ban appeal gets the fans' backing

WANDERERS fans have rallied behind boss Lawrie Sanchez's bid to get his six-match touchline ban overturned.

Keith Blagbrough, secretary of Blues' official supporters club, has written to the FA asking them to reconsider the ban, imposed after Sanchez's dispute with officials in his second game in charge at Preston.

Blagbrough told the BFP: "I think he has been hard done by."

In the letter to Lancaster Gate, Blagbrough lists the reasons fans think Sanchez should have got a lighter sentence.

They include that fact that it was the manager's first away game, he has never behaved in the same manner since and the fact that perceived greater offenders get off free.

Sanchez said: "It is very generous of them to support me like that."

The FA will hear the manager's appeal next Wednesday, and Sanchez is hoping for a reduction in the number of games he is banned from the touchline.

He said: "I admit I was out of order, but I don't think I was that far out of order. The person representing me said he never hear of a manager getting that kind of suspension."

"I hope the number of games will be reduced. If that happens I'll be happy."

● The bookies who offered odds of 66-1 for Wycombe to win the Division Two title have been surprised at the lack of response to their generous offer.

Laurence Farley from Tote in High Wycombe admitted: "Despite Dave Carroll's comment we have not seen a tremendous amount of interest."

Meanwhile, fans have been asking for odds on Sean Devine finishing the season as the division's top scorer.

The bookies have been giving 20-1 on that one, but if you combine it with Wycombe winning the division too, the odds improve dramatically. That double is billed at 250-1.

Odds on Wanderers winning the FA Cup stand at 500-1.

● Blues bosses believe they could exceed their record season ticket sale target of £371,000 this weekend.

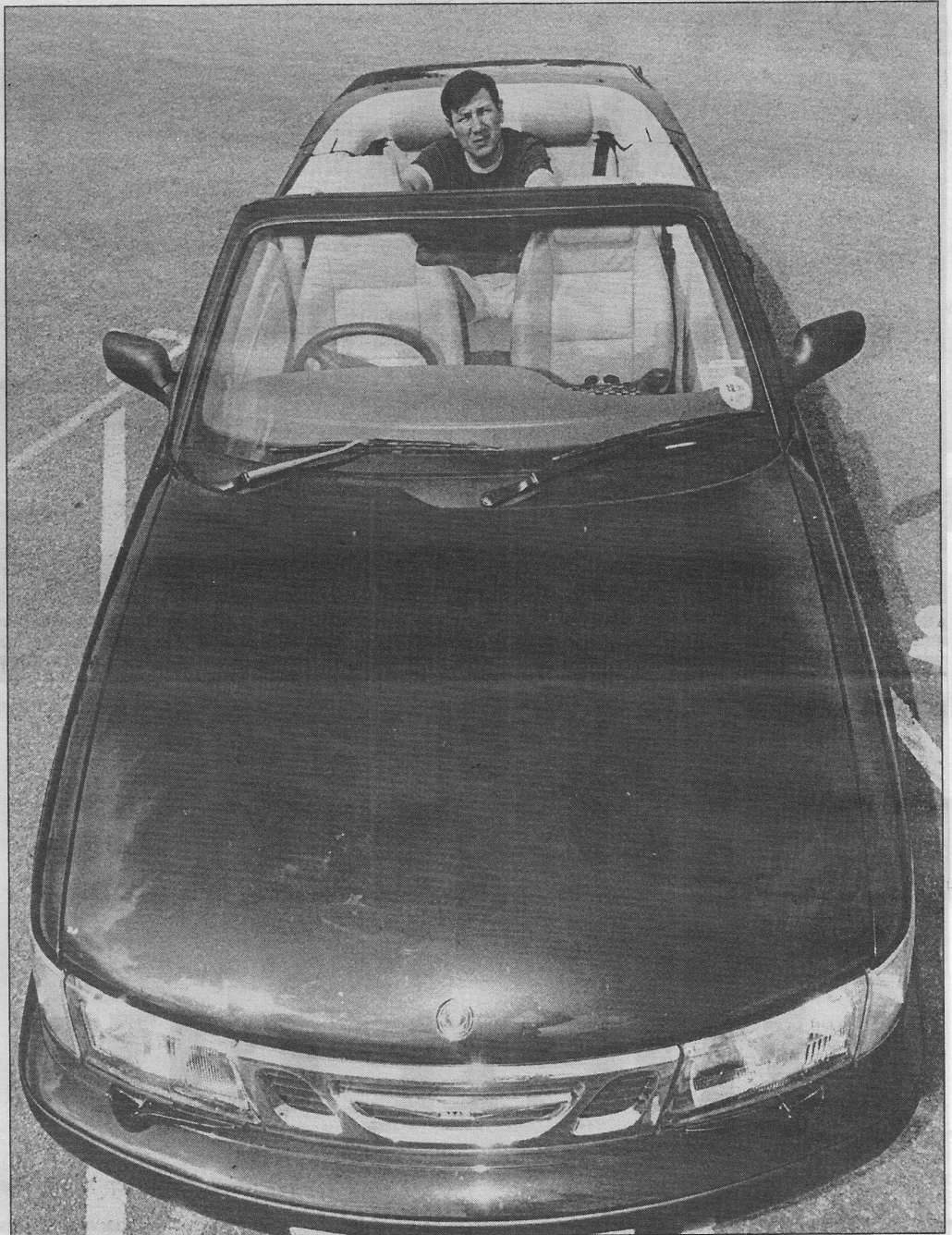
Wanderers have already sold £350,000 of season tickets so far.

● Wanderers begin their round of pre-season friendlies with a visit to neighbours Marlow next Tuesday.

A Wycombe XI will take on the Ryman League side at Oak Tree Road, kicking off at 7.30pm.

The following evening, the Blues travel to Oxford City.

● Blues Open Day: Page 53



BOSS GOES TOPLESS: Blues manager Lawrie Sanchez has swapped his winter Saab for a summer version thanks to sponsors Haymill Saab, Slough. The garage gave Sanchez a convertible for the summer as reward for keeping the Blues up last season. He will change back to his other car when the bad weather sets in.

Picture by MARK SAMMONS Ref: 99-2110F3