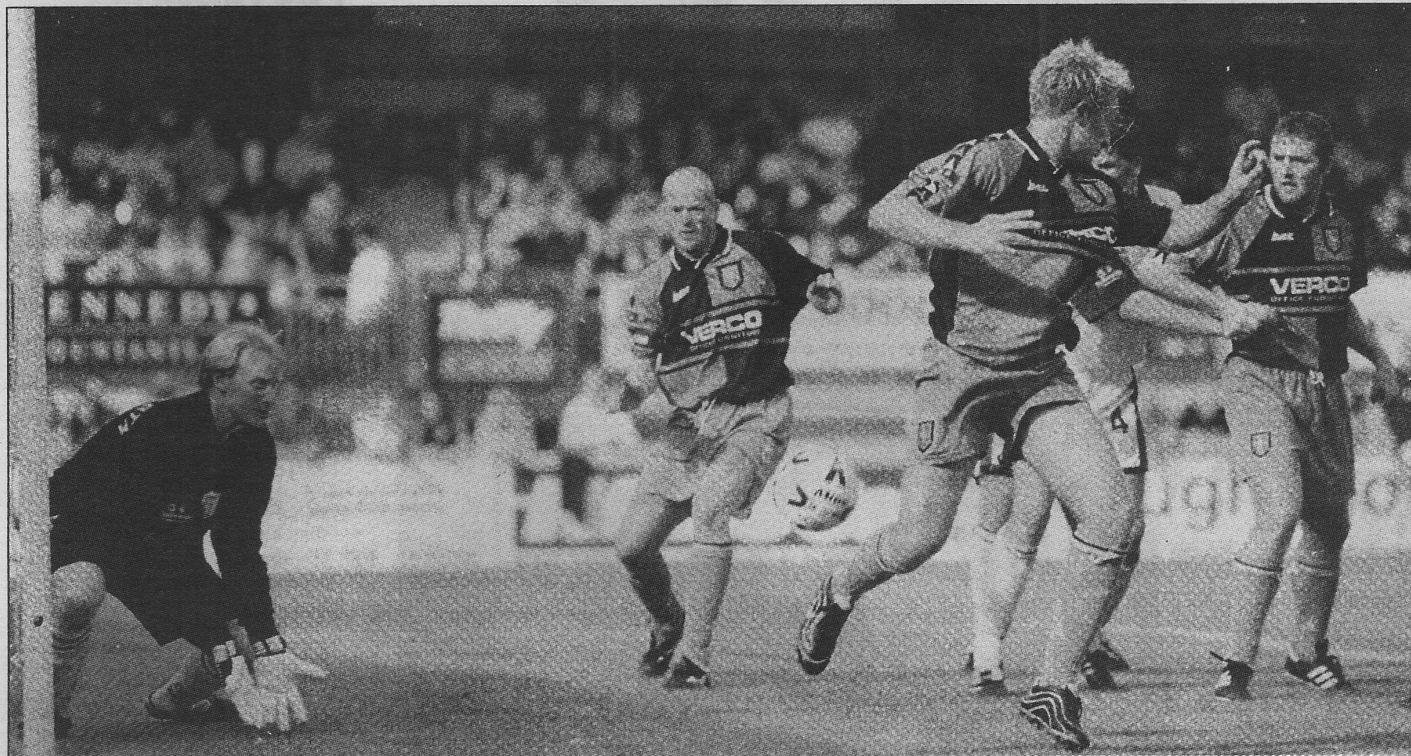


Bad to brilliant in 90 minutes flat for the re-tuned Blues



Surrounded: The Blues close in against Cardiff last Saturday

Ref: 99-2692AF3

BLUES boss Lawrie Sanchez hailed his side's second half performance in Saturday's 3-1 win over Cardiff as the best he's seen this season – but moaned their first half display was the worst.

His Jekyll and Hyde Blues came from behind to see off the Welshmen and bag an overdue first home win of the season.

Sanchez said: "The first half was the poorest we've played this season, people weren't doing the things that had got us to where we were and in the second half they rectified that."

Blues could have been ko'd by the break. Cardiff, the best side to visit Adams Park this season, had already struck the post when Jason Bowen put them ahead and a spanking looked

likely even though Matt Lawrence's volley from a Sean Devine assist had given Blues an undeserved equaliser at half time.

Sanchez earned his money in the tea break, switching Jermaine McSporryn to the other wing to counter the attacks of Cardiff's dangerous Dutch defender Winston Faerber and ordering McSporryn to keep him busy defending.

It worked instantly. Faerber was booked for a challenge on McSporryn and later McSporryn's other marker Jeff Eckhardt was also booked giving the striker licence to raid.

McSporryn said: "I knew when they were booked they'd be paranoid about mis-timing a tackle and being sent off."

He tested the theory in style in the 76th minute dribbling from inside his own half before fizzing a 20-yard right footed drive into the bottom corner for a breath-taking goal which even Cardiff boss Frank Burrows applauded.

Substitute Andy Baird then took just two minutes to respond to Sanchez's jibes that he doesn't score enough by converting Devine's cross and his celebrations towards the dugout showed his delight in silencing the boss.

Sanchez said: "I'd been winding him up about not scoring and he responded in the right way. You could see him pointing to the bench when he scored. If I have to wind him up to get him scoring I don't mind."