

## LETTERS

### A winning team? You must be joking

IT may seem a little severe to criticise our performance against Blackpool last Saturday but the headline in the Free Press (October 22) 'Now we've got a winning team' does now seem a little hollow?

Anyhow, to get to the main point. A long-standing friend of mine who emigrated to Australia in 1975 visited my home last week and I suggested he accompanied me to see the game.

It was the first time he had seen the Blues since probably our most famous game when we were unlucky not to get a result against Middlesbrough. I was most interested in his assessment and being Blackpool, I hoped he was in for a treat!

What a shock!  
Remembering great names like John Maskell, Gary Hand, John Delaney, Mick Holifield, Keith Searle and Tony Horseman, who always gave 100 per cent, he watched our performance in disbelief.

He noted that goalkeeper Martin Taylor was overweight and seemed uncertain with high balls; balls were

thumped way ahead of the forwards from both players in defence and midfield; and the two central defenders would certainly win a game of head tennis.

I told him before kick off for players to watch, particularly Sean Devine, but at the end he said: "With high balls from defence falling here, there and everywhere Devine was chasing around like a headless chicken".

But, he did say that McSparran could be a threat, if he took the ball with him.

As we were leaving he said: "If Brian Lee was watching this he would fine all the players a week's wages plus."

For myself what can I add.

Yes we certainly miss Dave Carroll, but his obvious replacement is young Mo Harkin, who always gives 100 per cent, shows great flair and is not afraid to take on players – and he was on the bench.

Lee Holsgrove, on the two occasions he came on as sub, could not be faulted, surely a better proposition than either Emblen or Simpson.

Lawrie, this is the time to be brave, one point in the last three games is certainly not play-off form.

**Philip Young**

**Elmdale Gardens,  
Princes Risborough**

### No wonder fans don't turn up

HAVING been born in Bedfordshire and a lifelong Luton Town supporter, who moved to High Wycombe 26 years ago, the now annual fixtures between the Wanderers and Luton have become extremely interesting, and even more so the local press after the match.

Due to the fact that Wycombe have so far been unable to record a victory over Luton, Ron Barnett devotes his column to slagging off Luton's ground rather than commenting on the match.

For Mr Barnett's interest, Luton have been attempting to build a new stadium since 1959 and Government has thwarted every attempt.

The last attempt, earlier this year, was turned down because road access was not good enough and would add to traffic congestion. The site proposed is served by a four lane motorway at the point of entry. Makes you wonder how Adams Park received planning permission with

only Hillbottom Road for access.

I can assure everybody connected to Wycombe Wanderers and Mr Barnett that Luton and their supporters can't wait to get a new ground.

For Tuesday's match my company sponsored the match ball and as part of the evening, sponsors are invited to correctly forecast the score and the size of the crowd.

In my wisdom, I added 500 to the crowd we had against Gillingham on Saturday, citing that Wycombe are having their best ever season and were sure to fill the 2,000 seats in the away end.

What a shock when we took our seats to see the away end less than half full and at least 600/700 less than Gillingham. It turned out that my forecast was only 1,200 higher than the actual attendance.

Mind, when the match started it was soon plain to see why Wycombe supporters do not turn out in great numbers. Having read the Free Press slating Notts County and their aggressive tactics, I shudder to think what they are like having seen Wycombe and their extremely physical approach.

Brown twice upset Luton players within the first ten minutes and must feel extremely fortunate to

only receive two stern lectures from the referee and not a red card.

I suppose you have to compliment Wycombe's style of play because the all-out aggression and the tactic of wherever you are, boot the ball as high in the air as it will go, certainly confused the young footballing players of Luton. All you were missing from a Wimbledon team was John Fashanu up front.

For sometime I have been reading of Mr Sanchez and his concern over the gates at Adams Park. Maybe your fans would like to see the ball on the grass a bit more before they turn up regularly.

We may have a crap ground but in our last three 'local' away matches we have had 1,500, 1,500 and 1,700 followers; oops, sorry, we might just go for the nice stadiums and not the football.

I leave my home at around 1.45pm on a Saturday afternoon which is sometime after friends living close by leave to get to Adams Park.

Yes, you have a great stadium for the second division but you should look at the access to the ground and the quality of the football if you want fans to turn up.

**R J Hedley  
Tylers Green**