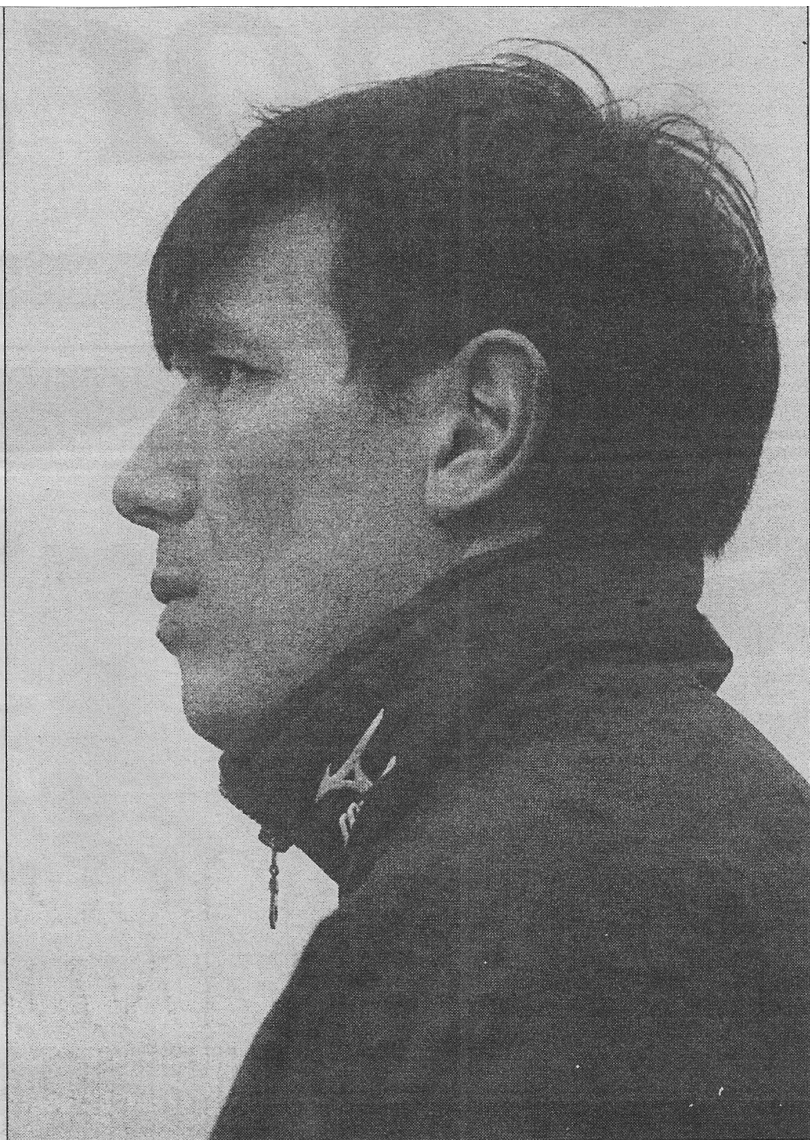


A year on, so how's the new boss done?



Lawrie Sanchez: He's now spent a year in the Blues hot-seat

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LAWRIE Sanchez is on course to follow former Blues boss John Gregory into the Premiership, if statistics are a guide.

Sanchez, who celebrates one year in charge of the Blues tomorrow, has taken exactly the same amount of points from his first 46 league games at Adams Park as Gregory did during his first 46.

They both reeled in 64 points during their initial 12 months at the helm. Sanchez amassed his points by stacking up 17 league wins, drawing 13 and losing 16.

Gregory, now in charge of Premiership Aston Villa, won one more game during his baptism but lost two more games than Sanchez.

They both trail the runaway leader, Martin O'Neill whose first 46 matches in charge of Wanderers, during the Conference days, yielded an amazing 81 points, including 69 points from 23 wins.

Alan Smith, the man the fans love to hate, didn't have a bad start to his Wanderers' career either. He took 60 points from his first 46 league games – just four less than Sanchez and Gregory.

Trailing behind them all is Neil Millie. He never managed to reach the 46-game total. He fell to chairman Ivor Beeks' guillotine

after taking just 43 points from his 38 league match reign.

Sanchez's achievement of being on par with Gregory and above Smith is remarkable because, unlike them, he's done it without a chequebook, against a backcloth of

cuts and after inheriting a worse side.

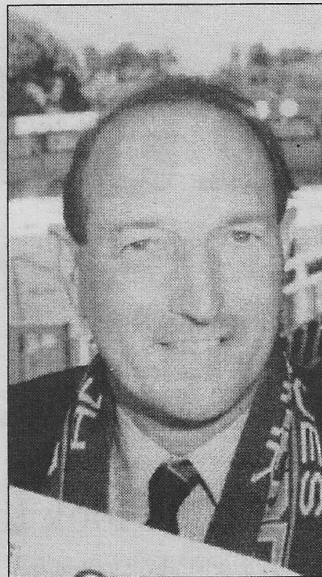
The only money he's spent is £200,000 on Sean Devine which he generated by selling Keith Scott and Mark Stallard for £285,000.

Sanchez said: "We're 13 points

better off than this time last year and 11 places higher. I'm £65,000 up on transfer fees and the wage bill is £250,000 smaller. That's not bad – and I still haven't got grey hair like Kevin Keegan said I'd have after my first game."



The best: Martin O'Neill



No love lost: Alan Smith



Among equals: John Gregory