

GOLDEN OLDIES

Blues hold Brentford's young guns to a home draw

FOOTBALL
By Dave Peters



He's still got plenty of puff: Keith Ryan, who turns 30 this year, outstrips his younger Brentford rivals

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BRENTFORD boss Ron Noades warned Blues manager Lawrie Sanchez to reduce the age of his team or face the consequences.

The outspoken Bees chairman and manager offered his advice after Saturday's goalless draw between the two teams and said Wycombe will start going backwards unless they start getting some young blood in.

Noades' side was littered with youngsters and included 17-year-old debutant Kevin O'Connor in the line-up after the fresh-faced kid signed just before the game.

Noades said: "People don't realise how young our side is. I'm delighted to have youngsters like Kevin. Wycombe don't and if they don't produce some they'll be going backwards."

Sanchez admitted his team, which included three players in their 30s and three more who will hit 30 this year, does need more youth, but he defended the old guard.

He said: "They're good old 'uns. Brentford are a young side and I didn't think they were that good. They were booed off at half time and that hasn't happened to us this season. Our old lads ain't bad, we've taken four points off them this season and they haven't scored against us. That says it all."

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HOW THEY STAND

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Preston	30	10	3	2	26	15	8	6	1	28	11	63
Bristol R	31	10	4	1	22	9	9	2	5	29	16	63
Wigan	30	10	3	2	25	9	5	10	0	24	15	58
Millwall	32	10	5	1	26	12	6	4	6	21	22	57
Burnley	30	12	2	1	29	9	3	8	4	12	15	55
Stoke	32	7	6	3	21	15	7	3	6	21	17	51
Notts' Co	32	7	3	6	25	20	7	5	4	22	16	50
Gillingham	28	9	2	3	29	15	5	5	4	21	19	49
Brentford	32	8	4	4	23	18	4	5	7	17	23	45
Luton	32	9	4	3	32	23	3	3	3	10	12	43
Bristol C	31	4	12	0	20	10	5	3	7	18	24	42
Wycombe	31	7	3	5	22	19	3	7	6	16	19	40