

PARKHEAD IS JUST PERFECT FOR BOSS

Carroll backs O'Neill to succeed north of the border

NEW Celtic boss Martin O'Neill has been given a vote of confidence by his former charge and life-long Celtic fan Dave Carroll.

Carroll, who was one of the stalwarts of O'Neill's winning Wanderers teams of the early Nineties, believes the boss will be the perfect man for the fiercely loyal Parkhead crowd.

The Wanderers player, who was born in Paisley before moving to England at the age of seven, has always followed the fortunes of Celtic and admitted he was delighted when O'Neill got the job. And he says the former

FOOTBALL

Wycombe boss is ideal for the club where rivalry with neighbouring Rangers is one of the fiercest in the world.

Carroll said: "I remember him when it used to be Wycombe against Colchester. He'd get worked up for that. Celtic v Rangers will be the sort of game that's right up his street."

O'Neill was renowned for his fiery temperament at Adams Park and fans often used to watch his antics on the sideline if the action on the pitch got a bit dull. But Carroll warned the fans

north of the border to give his old boss a fair crack of the whip.

When O'Neill left Adams Park he had an unsuccessful stint at Norwich before taking up with Leicester, where he led them to promotion to the Premiership and two Worthington Cup wins.

Carroll added: "I think he'll do well, given the time."

● Euro 2000 kick-off has pitted two former Wycombe managers against each other as Martin O'Neill and John Gregory square up in the BBC and ITV ratings war.

O'Neill is among the pundits voicing his views on the action from the Low Countries with the BBC.

Meanwhile, over on ITV

Gregory is passing judgement on the football with Des Lynam and Co.

The two stations are battling it out for ratings, a fight that has been intensified by Lynam's recent move from the BBC to ITV.

ITV had the edge last night when they screened England's opener with Portugal, but the BBC get the big one on Saturday when England face Germany in Charleroi.

● Wanderers have extended the deadline to buy a three-year season ticket until July 22. The Blues have banked £300,000 in season ticket sales so far with the three-year deal proving popular.