

MARLOW'S Steve Redgrave was due to return home early this morning after his record-breaking exploits in Sydney 2000.

The 38-year-old, who claimed a fifth consecutive gold Down Under, is expected to receive a hero's welcome.

Marlow is planning a special homecoming party for its famous sporting son on October 21 but Redgrave will

ROWING

make another public appearance before that when he competes at the Supersprint Rowing Grand Prix at Eton on October 14.

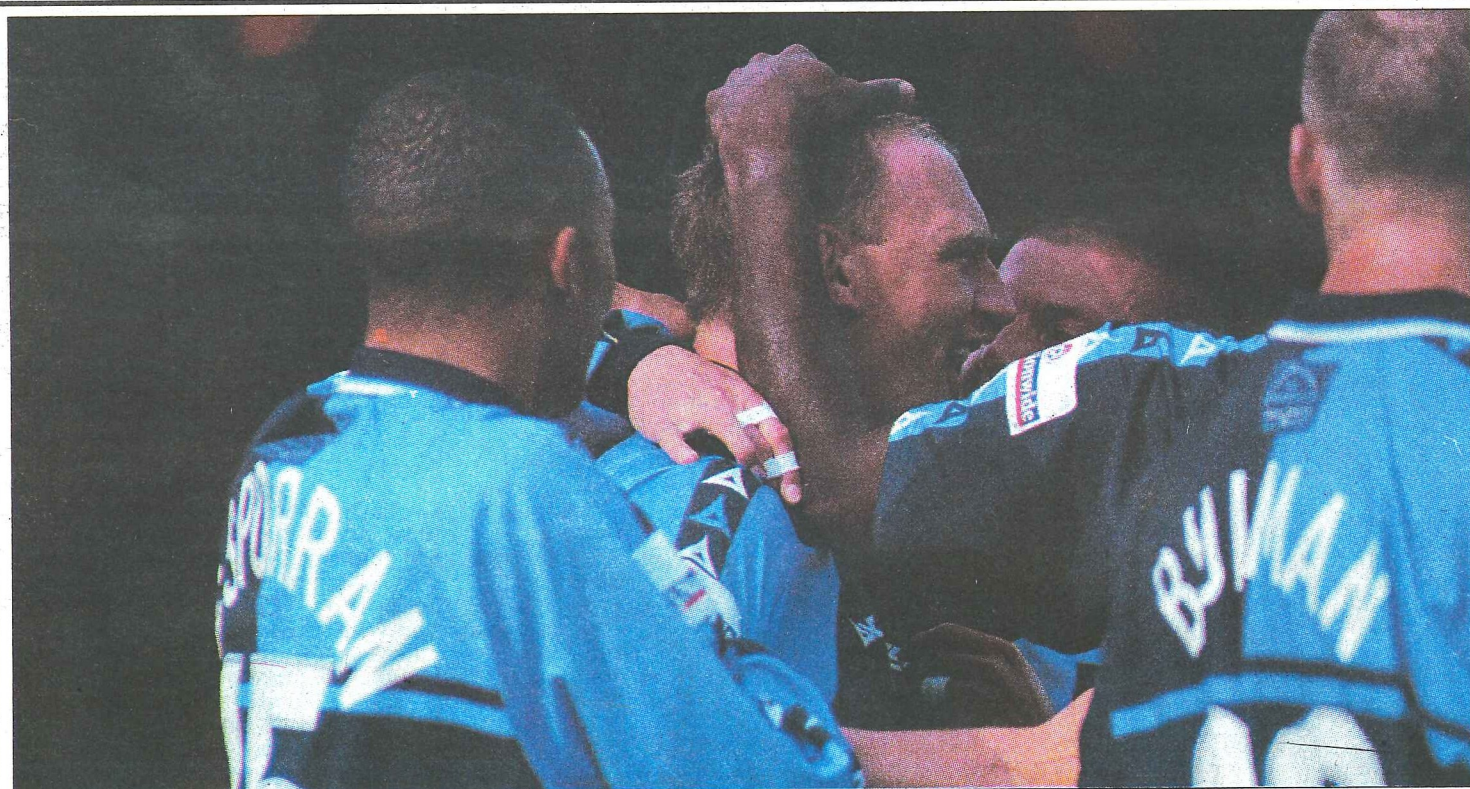
● See Friday's BFP for the full story on Redgrave's homecoming and Marlow silver medalist Kath Grainger's recollections of her Olympic experience

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Sports Desk: (01494) 755000

CANADIANS SAY 'NO' TO BLUES



TOP MAN: Andy Rammell receives the congratulations of his team-mates after scoring the winner on Saturday to make it a successful first visit to Vale Park for the Blues. Report: Page 47

Ref: 00-3071F7

Brilliant back four broken up for World Cup qualifier

FOOTBALL
By Dave Peters

WANDERERS will have to break up the best defence in the league when they play Notts County on Friday after the Canadians refused Mark Rogers permission to join up with their squad a day late.

The Blues back four of Rogers, Jamie Bates, Paul McCarthy and Chris Vinnicombe kept their fifth clean sheet of the season as Wanderers returned from Port Vale with a 1-0 win last Saturday.

But that rearguard will be broken up for the first time this season on Friday as Rogers links up with Canada.

The right back has been called up into Canada's World Cup squad for the first time in his career for their qualifier against Panama in Winnipeg next Monday.

Wanderers had asked the Canadian team bosses for special permission for Rogers to fly out on Saturday, after the Notts County match, but the Canadians refused.

Blues boss Lawrie Sanchez said: "They want him to fly out on Thursday and we've got to abide by that."

Wanderers' scrooge-like defence has been the cornerstone of the club's rise to fifth place in the table this season.

They have only conceded five goals in their ten league matches so far – an average of just one goal every two games.

Wanderers will also be without midfielder Mo Harkin on Friday. He has again been named in the Northern Ireland Under-21 squad to face Denmark in Belfast.

Sanchez said: "It shows the progress that this club has made that we've got two people away on international duty."

Wanderers and their internationals were too good for struggling Port Vale at the weekend when the defence was outstanding again as Blues heaped the pressure on under-fire Vale boss Brian Horton.

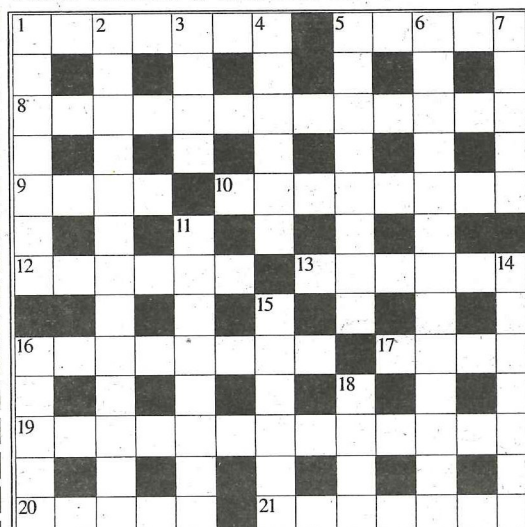
Angry Valiants fans held a demonstration afterwards calling for Horton's head and his fate will be decided at a board meeting called for later this week.

● Match report: Page 47
● Ryman football: Page 47
● Football results: Page 45

SAFeway

PRIZE QUIZWORD

This week's theme is **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**



ACROSS

- 1 Species of primrose, with flowers in umbels, once common in pastures (7)
 - 5 Cloth for drying (5)
 - 8 Forebodings, especially of unpleasant events (13)
 - 9 Heroic poem or story (4)
 - 10 Flexible appendage on some lower animals (8)
 - 12 Red Indians might send one by smoke (6)
 - 13 Fringe or valance for holding curtain rod (6)
 - 16 Name given to men who fought in Burma under Charles Orde Wingate (8)
 - 17 Autumn in USA (4)
 - 19 February 14 (10,3)
 - 20 Upright post of a staircase (5)
 - 21 Stoppage of trade for a short time by the authorities (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Evergreen coniferous tree (7)
 - 2 Tree of the Salix genus, with pendant branches (7,6)
 - 3 National emblem of Wales (4)
 - 4 Cloth strip wound round the leg from ankle to knee (6)
 - 5 They are sometimes called Love

THE first correctly completed Quizword pulled from the hat will win a £25 food voucher for Safeway's High Wycombe store. Once you have completed your Quizword, simply fill in the details below and return to Midweek, Gomm Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 7DW

NAME

ADDRESS

TEL No

● Normal Midweek competition rules apply

Solution to last week's Quizword (FIND THE LADY)

ACROSS: 1 Aria, 3 Pam Ayres, 8 Team, 9 Joan Baez, 11 Greta Garbo, 14 Nellie, 15 Sophia, 17 Ellen Terry, 20 Epilogue, 21 Ella, 22 Nell Dunn, 23 Used.

DOWN: 1 Antigone, 2 Isabella, 4 Aromas, 5 Anne Bronte, 6 Road, 7 Size, 10 Marie Lloyd, 12 Sharples, 13 Mary Rand, 16 Return, 18 Dean, 19 Jill.

Last week's winner: Mrs F Butcher, Hughenden Avenue, High Wycombe

- Apples (8)
- 6 RAF officer, corresponding to a Lieutenant-Colonel (4,9)
- 7 Hard-twisted cotton material (5)
- 11 High dignitary of the RC Church (8)
- 14 Huntsman's cry when the quarry is sighted (5-2)
- 15 Chevron on the arm of a serviceman (6)
- 16 Group of witches (5)
- 18 Aromatic plant used in cooking (4)

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