

We want £s by the Lawrie-load

Wanderers' new sponsors reveal exciting new cash plan

WYCOMBE Wanderers have issued a challenge to their fans – give us your money and we will get you into the first division.

The ambitious second division club yesterday launched a £5 million appeal, spearheaded by their new sponsors Integrity Software, to raise money for new players.

The idea is the brainchild of the Cressex-based computer software company who signed a record £300,000 three-year sponsorship deal this week, replacing the club's previous sponsors Verco, who are scaling down their involvement with the club after 13 years.

Team boss Lawrie Sanchez immediately set the ball rolling by writing the first cheque and former manager John Gregory, now in charge of Premiership Derby County, followed suit by pledging cash for the unique fighting fund.

The Trust is asking fans and the local business community to give as much as they can into the unique Friends of Wycombe Wanderers transfer kitty.

Integrity, which is fronted by entrepreneurial brothers Peter and Paul Nagle, is now calling on the town's business community and the club's fans to try to raise the target over the next three years.

Peter Nagle said: "We've got an opportunity here to do something terrific and give

DAVE PETERS

FOOTBALL

Lawrie what he needs to take this club forward. We didn't want to just be idle sponsors when we came in. We want to help the club much more than that."

The scheme was only launched at 10.30am yesterday but already it has pulled in £23,500 in donations.

Sanchez said: "It is an ambitious target but this club has always set its sights high."

"I'm very confident that if I'm given sufficient money I can get this club into the first division."

And he expects the fans to lap it up.

He said: "Supporters have always asked how they can contribute to the team and

now's their chance.

"Supporters have always wanted to be able to ring fence their money and know it will be spent on the team rather than on other important things like ground maintenance which appear to be less glamorous."

"Now is their chance. It's up to them now."

People can contribute as much or as little as they like and Chairman Ivor Beeks promised fans that their money will be in good hands with Sanchez.

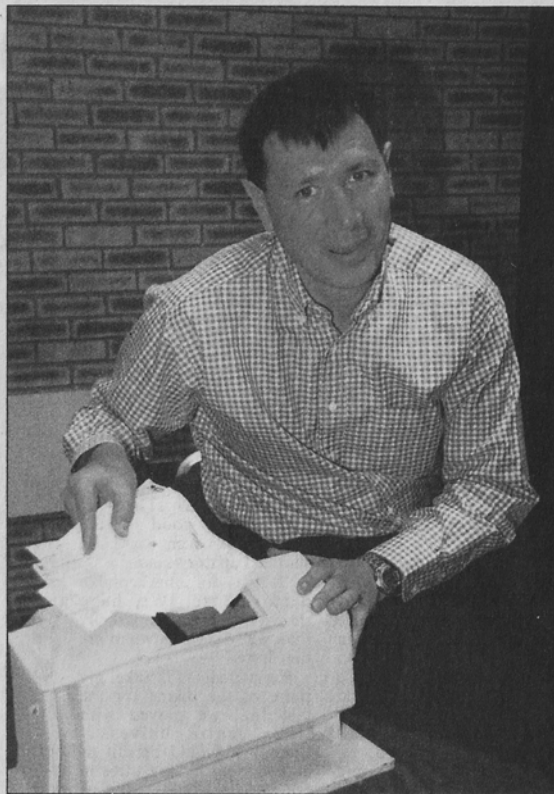
He said: "I've spent two or three years with him now and I honestly believe that he's the man to take Wycombe Wanderers into the first division. And with Integrity Software in the background pulling a few strings, there's no end to where we can go."

The innovative scheme underlines Wanderers' determination to fight back in the face of two financial kicks in the teeth.

They face the prospect of losing £200,000 a year with the collapse of ITV Digital and are still reeling from the council blocking their £1million groundshare deal with rugby club Wasps last week.

Donations will be paid into a special bank account and the money will be looked after by two independent trustees who will guarantee that the money is only spent on new players.

To donate: See page 17



Leading by example: Lawrie Sanchez puts his cheque in with the early donations



**Friends of
Wycombe Wanderers**