

Brownie set to carry on playing after he leaves Wanderers

STEVE Brown says that he won't hang up his boots when he leaves Wanderers in the summer.

Brown and publicity officer Alan Hutchinson spent an evening with Blues fans on Tuesday night to mark his ten years at the club. The midfielder also showed a video diary that he had made during Wanderer's FA Cup run in 2001.

He said: "I think I could play for another one or two seasons and the other day I came to a decision. I don't think I'm going to give it up. I think I will go somewhere else to play."

Brown said that the tiny percentage of black managers in the football league would make it very difficult for him to go straight into the coaching side of the game.

He said: "At the age of 37, if I want to become a manager, I've got to get myself on the ladder very quickly.

"I'm going to be realistic. You don't find many black managers."

Brown also paid tribute to many of his former team mates and managers, particularly the man who brought him to Wycombe – Martin O'Neill.

He said: "Martin was absolutely phenomenal. He was a great manager who knew how to motivate people. This club is very fortunate to have had someone like him."

He also had warm words for John Gregory and the man who took them to the FA Cup semi-final Lawrie Sanchez.

He said: "For the short time that Gregs was here he was absolutely brilliant. You would have thought that we were top of the league."

"His enthusiasm was infectious and people wanted to stay out on the training ground."

Of Sanchez, he said: "The way he left the football club was a shame because he was so passionate. When Sanch ripped into you, he let you have it."

For the first time, Wanderers fans were also shown footage of Lawrie Sanchez' team talk before their FA Cup semi-final with Liverpool three years ago.

Sanchez told his players that no-one had thought the four-minute mile was possible before Roger Bannister broke it.

He said: "The point is someone has to do it. Someone has to say it's possible."

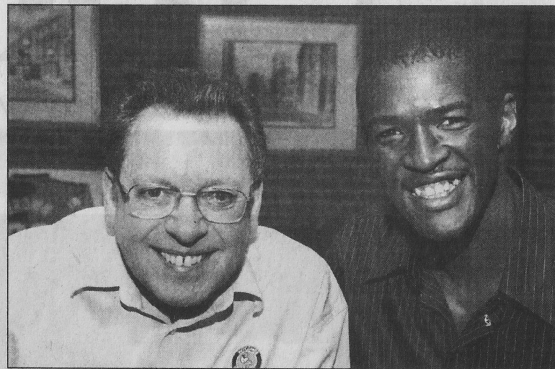
"We are going to be the team that will show it can be done."

"This is the defining moment not only for your playing career, but for your whole life."

"You've got one chance to get yourself to the final and make history."

"The only difference between them and you is that their first touch isn't bad."

"I'm the biggest cynic in the world but sometimes, some things are meant to be. I can't see it ending here today."



Talking football: Steve Brown and Alan Hutchinson on memory lane