

There's no age concern for veteran Brown

STEVE Brown has accused Wanderers boss Tony Adams of being ageist and has told him 'I can still do a job for you.'

The 37-year-old midfielder started this season by saying it would be his last in the game, but he has now ditched his plans to retire and says there is plenty of fuel left in his tank.

He said: "I can't turn my back on it. I love the game too much and I think I can still do a good job for someone."

But Brown will have to find himself a new club because Adams has told him he will not be offering him a new deal in his 18-man squad next year.

He said: "I don't think physically he can compete for a whole season."

"It is very similar to when I was at the end of my career. I could do it for one or two games but sustaining it over the year is a different matter."

"I can't afford to have people who can only give me ten games a year."

But Brown is determined to prove him wrong and is hoping to secure a final deal with another professional club.

He said: "I will go away and play elsewhere. I've been injury free for the last three seasons and, as far as I am concerned, age doesn't matter."

"I don't feel too old. We get obsessed by people's age but as long as you're good enough and can play that should be all that matters."

"I haven't looked out of my depth in any of the games I've played or been run ragged."

"I don't hear Arsene Wenger going on about Dennis Bergkamp's age and he has just won the Premiership."

Brown says other clubs are showing an interest in him but says nothing is tied up.

He broke down in tears at the end of his final home appearance for Wycombe Wanderers in Saturday's 1-1 draw with Wrexham.

Blues' captain-for-the-day could not keep his emotions in

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check as he waved goodbye to the fans after ten glorious years at the club.

He said: "It was very difficult. Football has never got to me like that before, not even after we lost in the FA Cup semi-final."

"The appreciation from the fans was overwhelming and very humbling. It was too much for me to take. I had to come off the field before I had thanked everyone."

"I was fighting a losing battle with my emotions and I had to get myself out of there. I was totally choked."

But he almost missed his emotional farewell after more than 400 games for the club.

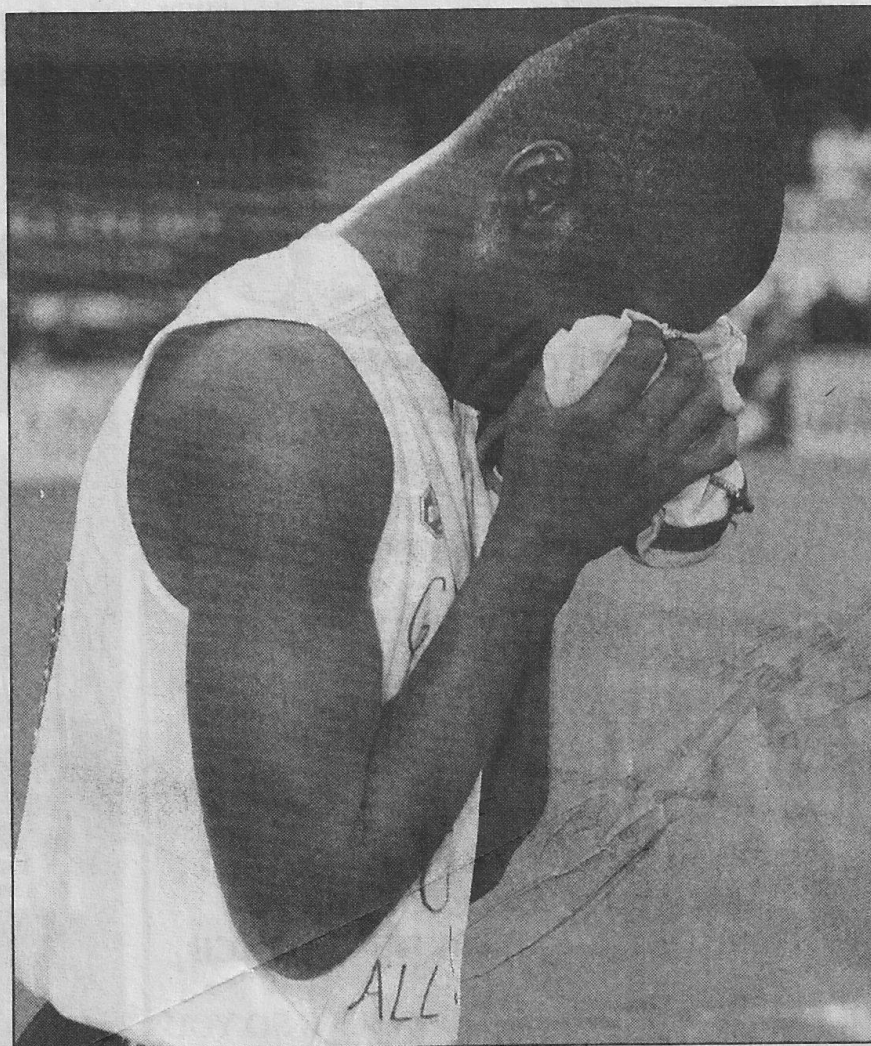
He got the time of the team meeting wrong and was picking his mum up in Northampton when he should have been with the team having his pre-match meal.

He only realised his mistake when team-mate Danny Senda sent him a text message asking where he was.

Brown said: "It was an honest mistake. I got the time wrong and spoke to the gaffer on the phone explaining what I had done."

Adams is expected to honour Brown again by giving him the captain's armband once more for tomorrow's final game of the season away at Barry Fry's Peterborough United side.

Brown said: "I really hope I can go out with a win. That would mean a lot to me."



Too much: Steve Brown in tears at the end of his final home appearance against Wrexham on Saturday

Ref: 04-1165 P044