

From gloom to joy and then back to despair



BAKER'S BLUES

WITH
IAN BAKER

GOAL! WYCOMBE 4 Macclesfield 3 DAVID MORLEY 76 (OG). That was the line that flashed before our eyes on Sky Sports News in a bar in Lanzarote as Wycombe completed a quite remarkable comeback from 3-0 down.

In situations like those, you lose the plot. We danced around the bar as if we had just won the Champions League. Sadly our joy turned into despair within a minute and we all know what happened late on. Total humiliation for us poor souls. Laugh? We just had to otherwise we would have cried.

Anyone who has ever "watched" a game on Soccer Saturday will know that it is hell. Especially if there are lots of goals. Glued to a television set with statistics suddenly appearing on the screen and Z-list ex-footballers talking rubbish about the big games. Nonsensical.

And we did not even have Mr Stelling to keep us company on this occasion!

Mind you the internet is just as bad. I followed the game with Bristol Rovers via this medium. For those who do not have access to Wanderers World, the best place to find out what is happening is the Gas Room or the BBC Text service. The F5 [refresh] key took some battering that day I can tell you!

The Leyton Orient game was much better. A live TV game and an outstanding performance by the Blues. Stefan Oakes and Joe Burnell were magnificent and it was great to see Oakes' first goal for the club. Champagne football meant champagne on ice after 65 minutes!

It was good to see that the Safe Standing Day went so well and I hope the campaign goes from strength to strength.

However, I was disappointed to receive an email recently from the Football League refusing to give the day any publicity at all. The authorities I am afraid do not seem to consider standing at football, but it remains a huge one as far as many people are concerned.

Turning a blind eye to the issues that concern supporters is sadly typical of football authorities and it is left to fans' organisations to fight the battles of supporters.

A week off for the Blues now to reflect on the excitement of Christmas.

Four games, two wins, one draw, one defeat, goals for 12, goals against 10, points seven. A satisfactory Christmas period but it's not advisable for me to book my holiday at the same time next year!

Ian Baker is on the board of Wycombe Wanderers Supporters Trust. For further details about the trust and how to join please see www.wwst.org