

BORN

ISSUE 1

& BRED

50P

TOP SCOUT SWOOPS AT YORK ROAD



MARK McGHEE IS MAGIC- FACT * MAIDENHEAD
BETTER THAN MAN UNITED- PROOF * HOW TO
GET A CHEAP READING SHIRT * B'STOKE REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Born & Bred a new fanzine which for the time being will cover Reading and Maidenhead United Football Clubs. If I owe any teams an allegiance then it is these two, my local league and non-league teams since birth, hence the title. For the first issue I have concentrated on the Magpies and so any money made will be donated to the club probably in the form of a players kit sponsorship. Although this issue was only written by me and Phil, I'd like to involve as many people as possible, in future issues I should like to widen the fanzine's brief to cover every Berkshire club, and so I welcome any contributions whether they are in the form of letters, articles or press cuttings on any subject involving a Berkshire football club. All correspondence will be considered for publication. All articles in this issue reflect only the view of the author and we offer the right of reply to all concerned. Thanks for buying this fanzine. Happy reading.

STEVE JINMAN

Write to: BORN & BRED

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Devised and Written by Phil Adkins
and Steve Jinman.

Produced with the much appreciated
assistance of Trevor Kingham and
Murdo MacLeod.

MACCA CAN!

BASINGSTOKE 2
MAIDENHEAD 2

What a match. Maidenhead again prove Lenny Kravitz's point that it ain't over 'til it's over.

The day began badly, having managed to convince my mate Dave to come to his first Magpies away game, we spend 2½ hours travelling to the Camrose. When we get there, for one moment the dominance of grass over concrete leads me to believe we have almost come full circle and arrived at Stag Meadow, however as I hear an all too familiar grumbling sound I know I must be in the right ground.

This sound emanates from the ubiquitous followers (I hesitate to call them supporters) who moan away their Saturday afternoons inconsolable at the fact that yet again Maidenhead have failed to win 10-0. Just two minutes after kick off somebody asks how Basingstoke reached second place in the league, a moaner replies that Maidenhead could have been second if they had beaten Whyteleafe and Berkhamstead, but its a good job they didn't as they're crap. Thanks for the vote of confidence lads.

Anyway back to the football. In an end to end first half Basingstoke take the lead thanks to a well taken goal from Paul Coombs. Maidenhead created some good openings but failed to equalise before half time.

In the second half Maidenhead dominate the play, but despite bombarding the 'stoke area with crosses, fail to apply the finishing touch, whilst Town continue to look threatening on the break.

Inevitably Maidenhead at last find the net in the final ten minutes. A Mickey Creighton overhead kick hits the crossbar but Peter McNamee forces the rebound over the line. However Basingstoke came storming back and in the 89th minute retake the lead. Yet once again the true character and spirit of the Magpies shines through as the team refuses to accept they could come away with nothing.

Deep into injury time, Maidenhead won a corner which ends up being cleared off the line by a desperate Town defence for another corner. This time when the ball comes over it finds the head of Peter McNamee who nuts it into the onion bag for the equaliser.

The fans go crazy, the referee blows his whistle for the last time soon after, and the team gets nothing less than it deserves for a fully committed performance for the whole 90 minutes, when many teams would have given up after 89.

STEVE JINMAN

EDDIE TORIAL

The first issue of B&B has a heavy Maidenhead bias for several reasons.

Firstly, I've really enjoyed the Magpies games I've attended this season, although the performances haven't always been that great (the cup ones mainly), watching Maidenhead makes a refreshing change from going to Elm Park (where I am a season ticket holder). At York Road I can arrive at 2.30, have a drink in the social club, find a spot on terrace, enjoy the game with some friendly faces and be home in time for the classified check on Grandstand. All this is a major change from the Endsleigh League Division One, with its police/ticket/hooligan hassles, all seater stadia, and generally the tense nature which surrounds this class of football.

Secondly, all things considered Maidenhead have started the league season fairly well, although the team struggled with injuries in the early Autumn, the potential displayed in the first few games has to some extent reappeared in recent weeks. This season the Magpies have often reminded me of Reading in the first couple of seasons under Mark McGhee, dedicated to playing good football but not being able to find the consistency necessary for success. However with some promising youngster such as Pedley, Pritchard and Sciaraffa combining well with the likes of Creighton, Dadson and MacNamee, and benefiting from the experience of Andy Smith, Trevor and Vernon, the team is a joy to watch at times and who knows a few wins strung together could see them challenging for promotion.

Finally, there's a pretty apparent gulf between supporters and the team at York Road at the moment. For example the other Saturday night I saw Magpies Chairman Jim Parsons in a local pub and enquired about the result of that afternoons match. His first reaction was "Oh God you're not one of that Bell St lot are you?", clearly he was expecting some stick. This incident is compounded by a remark from Paul Dadson in one of this season's programmes. He described his most difficult opponent as "the Maidenhead supporters. Clearly the supporters image isnt a good one, it has been tarnished by the group variously known as "the Maidenhead moaners", "the terrace critics", "the old gits", or as I see them sad bastards who should get a life! In my opinion the players and officials of Maidenhead United perform for little or no financial gain and so deserve sustained support from spectators rather than constant criticism. To this

end no such criticisms will be found in this ranzine (unless for example Jon Swan starts shooting supporters who don't buy a programme). Instead B&B will take a light hearted look at the goings on at York Road, get behind the team and hopefully help it to fulfil the potential it undoubtedly possesses. Support your local team. STEVE JINMAN

United smash five goals in last 27 minutes

MAGPIES

HIT

THE BIGGEST

BACK

COMEBACK SINCE

JESUS CHRIST?

FOR AMAZING

WIN

MAIDENHEAD United sensationally hit back from 3-0 down with just 27 minutes remaining to record an astonishing 5-3 victory at Billericay on Saturday.

Billericay Town (3) 3.

*Sinfield 3
Battram 9, 12*

Maldenhead United (0) 5

*Creighton 63
Dadson 77, 89
McNamee 81
Pedley 87*

MYSTERIES OF THE WORLD NO. 78

Exactly how do you say Magpies top-scorer Mickey Creighton's surname. Is it Creighton as in crayfish or Creighton as in crying? Does anybody care. Next week who put the ram in the ram-a-lam-a-ding-dong?

TABLE A:-

11/5/91- MARK MCGHEE BECOMES MANAGER OF READING
BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION THREE
1st Southend 85 points
16th Reading 56 points

MARK MCGHEE IS MAGIC!

TABLE B:-

15/10/94- MARK MCGHEE TAKES READING TO THE HIGHEST
LEAGUE PLACING IN THEIR HISTORY
ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

1st Wolves 26 points
2nd Reading 24 points

These two tables prove the title of this article to be a fact. Mark McGhee must have magical powers to have transformed a sleepy small town team going nowhere fast, into one of the most admired ball playing outfits in the country challenging for promotion to the Premiership (what a horrible word), in just 2½ years. If only Elm Park had been developed at such a remarkable rate.

This season the rise in fortunes has, if anything accelerated. The omens were ^{good} from day one of the season, when, despite losing 1-0 to title favourites Wolves at the magnificent Molineux, Reading dominated the game in all areas but just couldn't put the ball in the net. The promise shown in this game was quickly translated into points as the Royals went 7 matches unbeaten. Although the sheep shaggers won the local derby, the results kept coming, opposing teams finding it impossible to score at Elm Park. Highlights were beating a useful Charlton Athletic 2-1, and Gilkesy's fantastic last minute winner against the Wurzels, taking Reading to the position illustrated in table B.

However the competitive new league has been taking its toll and recently injuries have led to inevitable defeats. Even so the team still took three points at Derby despite having no recognised strikers playing. McGhee must have had his magic hat on that night.

The inspired signings of Simon Osborn who is seemingly able to find the target at will anywhere around the opponents penalty area, and Dariusz Wdowczyk whose classy performances at the back have shown why he has won over 50 caps for Poland. Shaka Hislop, Adrian Williams and Stuart Lovell have all continued to improve but for me the star of the season has been Michael Gilkes, at last he is producing the goods rather more consistently than in previous seasons.

It should be said though that the recent mini slump has caused concern amongst the Elm Park faithful. Forced to pay out higher admission prices particularly away from home (minimum £10) where the accomodation isn't exactly great (bucket seats on terraces at Swindon no leg room at Charlton and just bad organisation all round at Watford), many are worried that Mark McGhee's resources are still vey much 2nd division standard. Now is the time for moneybags chairman John Madejski (66th richest man in Britain according to the Sunday Times), to state his intentions about a new all seater stadium and cash for new players to strengthen the flimsy squad backing up this amazing team, or stop talking about how much potential the club has got, and concede that in the current financial situation at Elm Park he has taken Reading as far as they can go. Over to you John. STEVE JINMAN

GOOD to see Kent Constabulary cracking down hard on soccer violence at the weekend. One hooligan, up from Torquay to see his team take on Gillingham, was told at the gate: "You can't take that in with you, sir." Pointing out that the offending black and

white object was a copy of the Guardian, the churl demanded to know precisely what the officer's problem was. Well, he was told: he might, for instance, tear it into shreds and throw it over the pitch like ticker-tape. "But", said the insolent thug, "I haven't even read it yet." Then why not leave it

under this bollard, and retrieve it after the match, sir? The yob duly concealed his paper as directed. But when he returned after the match, all the bollards had been taken away and his Guardian was nowhere to be seen. One nil to Kent Constabulary. And one nil to Gillingham, as it happened.

I fully support the police in their confiscation of this quite dangerous weapon, after all you can't half get some nasty cuts from paper.

HOW TO GET A CHEAP READING SHIRT!

In true Blue Peter fashion John Noakes has written in with a cheap suggestion for Reading supporters who don't want to buy the new kit. He writes:

"Take last season's kit, (get down Shep), cut off the collar, (who let that elephant crap in here), then take a permanent red marker and fill in the red bits

in the red bits (I don't half fancy that Lesley Judd). Now here's one I made earlier. Oh bugger Shep's gone and chewed it up."

Thanks John, perhaps Magpies ^{Agas} could make up for the lack of replica kit in the club shop by going into a local sport shop and slyly ripping the badge of a Newcastle shirt, and then offering to take the damaged item off the shopkeepers hands at a bargain price.

BELL END BANTER

For those who have just joined us here's the story of the season so far...
CHERTSEY 3 MU 0 Inauspicious beginnings but the score doesn't tell the whole story, Magpies hitting the cross-bar and having a definite penalty turned down when the score was 0-1.

MU 2 HEYBRIDGE 1 Ahead within a minute, Phil misses Alec Norman's debut goal as he struggles to get through the new but narrow York Road turnstiles (obviously a marketing ploy to encourage fans to starve until they reach the snack bar). In an entertaining game United show much promise going forward.

MU 2 ALDERSHOT 2 The big day arrives but Magpies aren't intimidated by the crowd and in an impressive ball playing performance they go 2-0 up. Unfortunately in this bruising encounter, Magpies are battered into submission by the Wimbledon style tactics of Aldershot who grab a late equaliser. Shots fans moan about the pitch, although as they endeavoured to keep the ball in the air as much as possible I can't see their problem Peter McNamee is injured.

ABINGDON 2 MU 1 Despite some heroics from Trevor Roffey, United throw away a one goal lead. The supporters mood is lightened by the sight of a tractor in the car park. Phil's dad says he isn't coming again.

MU 0 HAVANT 1 Out of the FA Cup in August! Least said the better.

RUISLIP MANOR 1 MU 0 Despite arriving in time I miss the kick off due to the only turnstile being run by the wife of one of Harry Enfield's old gits. Mark Smith spends the entire game having a slanging match with Charlie Bray (eeyore), but Bray has the last laugh as he scores the only goal of an instantly forgettable match. Highlight of the evening was the snack bar serving tea in real china mugs. Phil's dad says he definitely isn't coming again.

MU 3 WIVENHOE 2 Woeful Wivenhoe are easily despatched despite receiving encouragement from the moaners.

MU 0 WALTON 2 Steve Croxford makes a triumphant return to York Road captaining his team to a comfortable win in the league cup.

MU 0 FAREHAM 1 United continue their consistent run at home in the cup (this week its the Trophy).

MU 1 TOOTING 3 The cup nightmare goes on (this time its Carlsberg), but an exciting late rally from the Magpies gives the team the unusual pleasure of leaving the pitch to resounding applause. Where did those square goalposts come from anyway?

MU 3 LEYTON 2 A home win at last, it has to be a league match!

MU 1 WHYTELEAFE 2 Two lucky last minute goals end the unbeaten home record. Come on, own up. Who broke the dressing room mirror?

DORKING 0 MU 1 First away win of the win comes over the "Dorks" (fnarr fnarr).

MU 0 BERKHAMSTEAD 1 In the words of Jim Parsons the Berko's (stop sniggering) keeper "played a blinder".

BILLERICAY 3 MU 5 The match of the season (decade?). If you don't know the details contact any Billericay official for an update (ha ha). Surely it is no

coincidence that this is Macca's first game since mid August and the moaners don't turn up (serves them right)

MU 2 BOGNOR 1 United leave it late again a superb strike from Captain Marvel Tim Cook making sure of the points.

BOREHAMWOOD 4 MU 2 The league leaders bring United down to earth with a bump although Maidenhead play the better football.

BASINGSTOKE 2 MU 2 Supermac stars in another late late show as the whole team battle well to earn a richly deserved point, but did Macca get a hat trick? The

Reading Evening Post "credits" him with Basingstoke second. Quote of the day comes from an elderly 'Stoke fan who informs Murdo that his flag is "very big".

They're not stupid down that way! STEVE JINMAN

MARLOW ADVERTISER

Is there any truth in the rumour that the Maidenhead Advertiser will go by the above name during the football season, due to its blanket coverage of the town's football club. I'm just not interested in this club and I don't know anyone else who is either. Now Richard Copeman does a good job reporting events at York Road (as you would expect from someone who possesses the rare qualities of a Preston North End supporter), but why is it the Magpies don't appear to get the same amount of column inches as the local Rugby and Hockey clubs. If they're going to cover other football teams, why Marlow, Flackwell Heath and Burnham, why not Windsor, or Slough too or even Reading and Wycombe Wanderers who both draw considerable support from Maidenhead. Has anyone actually met a Marlow supporter living in the Maidenhead area, I haven't.

STEVE JINMAN

CRAP CLUBS BEGINNING WITH W

AN INSIGHT INTO A MYSTERIOUS PHENOMENON DEVELOPING IN ENGLISH FOOTBALL...

1. WATFORD

If the club's long association with Elton "syrup" John and its role in creating the reputation of Graham "turnip" Taylor wasn't enough, Vicarge Road must be one of the least away supporter friendly grounds in England. On arriving at the ground for the first time two years ago I was forced to go on a tour of the Council Allotments to get to the away end. I missed the kick off. However this year the away end was demolished and so I naively thought it would be somewhat easier to get in, no chance. I had to reacquaint myself with the Watford horticultural society once more, and, guess what? I missed the kick off. At least the away exit wasn't flooded this season. RATING (out of five) ***

2. WIGAN

Promoted to the league in 1978, if as seems likely they were relegated this season they would probably fail to meet GM Conference ground regulations. If you're lucky you will head for the nearest floodlights and end up at Central Park for an afternoon of Rugby League. Situated on top of a hill Springfield Park was undoubtedly the place where an anonymous person (a southerner?) invented the phrase "Its grim up north". With the wind usually blowing a gale, you will never see a good game here. Fortunately up until a couple of years ago away fans had the rare privilege of watching the game on a grassy bank, which when muddy gave endless entertainment as people slid up and down it. RATING ***

3. WINDSOR & ETON

The other team in the Royal Borough, they are since their slide into Division 2 an inferior club in all aspects. Most of their supporters are still at school, including some of the stewards who spent last April's derby having a grass fight. It will probably be a long time before Stag Meadow becomes all seater as the concept of concrete terracing does not seem to have taken hold yet, although this is of little consequence as at the rate this club is sinking they will soon be playing Sunday league football. I should like to point out however that there is no truth in the rumour that if you ring up to ask what time kick off is they will ask what time you can get there (Football Unfunny No. 36). RATING ****

4. WYCOMBE

The ground is in an industrial estate and fits in well with the other soulless structures it neighbours. Its miles from anywhere yet finding a parking space is always a problem. The manager is an arrogant git and the chairman is Alan Parry (nuff said). The other week I overheard a Wanderers supporter accusing the majority of Newcastle's "Toon Army" of being gloryhunters. Well I'm sure this criticism is totally valid as this person must have always been a regular attender even in the none too distant Isthmian League days when four figure crowds were the exception rather than the rule. I'd welcome the Toon Army to see the Maidenhead Magpies anytime. If only our supporters were of the same quality. RATING *****

5. WIVENHOE

A team with a leakier defence than Tottenham! However I would pay good money to see them play last years Croydon team. Surely all goalscoring records would be broken. RATING**

STEVE JINMAN

THE GOOD FOOD GUIDE

STEVE JINMAN

Unless you are driven mad by hunger, there is no point in eating anything served in football grounds down south. The experience of several years footballing cuisine has taught me that you should, if you can afford the rip off prices, avoid everything except pies which unfortunately usually sold up north only. Now, I admit that I have grown to love the aroma of stewed onions wafting down the terraces, but for my stomach's sake I would be quite happy if I could avoid everything but pies eternally.

My mind is scarred by memories of such delights as the brown coated frozen mince in a bun served at Oxford, and the white plastic masquerading as cheese I found in my burger at Brighton, not to mention the boil in the bag (true!) burgers on sale at Wigan and the meat rather than fat free hot dogs at Burnley. The other option, most common in the west country, the pastie doesn't appeal to me either, not after sampling the ultra spicy Billy Boy version on sale at Bristol City, and the corned beef pastie at Cardiff, warmed only by my friend as he did the Manuel bit. At this point however I must recommend the pasties on sale at Plymouth which are good enough to take your mind off the inevitable soaking you will receive whilst standing at the barren away end.

I've found non-league fare to be rather better but the "rare" quarterpounder I bought at Basingstoke last weekend reminded me to remain vigilant and stick to pies.

Ah yes, pies. Pies wonderful pies. My first one was, I think bought at Bury, one November in the late 80s. It was an average sort of day football wise, but off the pitch it was amazing, friendly policemen, a covered away end, tea with your very own tea bag to dunk in it, and pies. Golden pastry filled with thick gravy and I'm not sure but I think there might have been one or two chunks of steak and kidney in there too. This was the start of something big.

Filled with flavourings and preservatives, a pie never fails to satisfy, and is suitable for everyone, vegetarians can go for the chicken and mushroom option, I'll personally apologise if you find any chicken in it.

Top of the Fantapie League are Rotherham United for their cordon bleu Pukka Pies. To ensure satisfaction, consume thus: Peel off the top or "lid" and eat whilst the boiling hot contents cool down. Next drink the filling (minced beef and onion is my favourite), and finally scrape the rest of the pastry off the foil for a complete pie experience, surely the best way to spend half time.

Unfortunately you can't do this at York Road as like most grounds down south, the snack bar doesn't serve pies. You can get unique tasting coffee and excellent bacon sarnies according to my friend James who is as big a fan of grease (the cooking substance, not the musical) as I am of pies, but it looks as if I'll have to head north if I am ever to truly enjoy the "pie experience" again.

More boring statistics with ALAN SEDATIVE...

This week I turn the spotlight on the Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil League. As I'm sure you know this is a Sunday League based in East Lancashire. Its heyday was in the 1950s when it boasted 10 divisions, and so I'm going to focus on division two in 1952/3. This season was dominated by Oswaldthistle Celtic who won both league and cup (generously donated by local tripe manufacturer Bert Wiggins).

The cup was won easily but the league was a very different kettle of fish (the trophy being presented by local fishmonger Cyril Butterthwaite). Oswaldthistle only won the title on goal average, the crucial win coming on the last day when they beat Pleasington Market Welfare 7-0. However the other day during a random check on that season's results I realised that the league statistician had made a mistake and under counted Real Nelson's goal total by one enough to give them them the t instead. Well you could have knocked me down with a copy of the Football League Review. When I confronted the statistician responsible, one Nobby Arkwright aged 83, on his doorstep in Colne with my camcorder, he admitted his mistake and signed a written confession that he had indeed realised his mistake during the close season of 1953 but had kept quiet until now. I intend to call for his expulsion from the Association of Football Statisticians at our next meeting.

This just goes to show what an important job us statisticians do. Its not all anoraks and duffle bags you know. See you next time for a feature on the disciplinary record of players called Herbert in the inter-war years.

THE ABOVE ARTICLE WAS SPONSORED BY MOGADON
STEVE JINMAN

THAT BLOKE TALKS BOLLOCKS!!!

PHIL ADKINS

No. 1 Trevor Kingham.

In the programme for Magpies match on Sept 6 1994 against Walton and Hershaw, Trevor Kingham wrote, in his column 'Terrace Talk', about Steve Croxford.

I quote "Steve came in for a lot of criticism..he was none to popular, at the time I knew not why (and still don't)." Trevor continued "I attended many other Maidenhead matches in which Steve played and I came to like his style of play." Thanks Obviously a Croxford fan aren't you Trev.

In issue 2 of 'The Shagging Magpies' an article entitled 'Man or Donkey?' appeared.

This consisted of 2 pictures of donkeys. Underneath one was written 'A Donkey', under the other 'Steve Croxford'.

Then a mock interview with Steve claiming, among other things, that his favourite food was carrots, his height was 12 hands and his biggest disappointment was not getting a gift from the 3 wise men.

The producer and editor of this fanzine:- Mr Trevor Kingham.
So Trev, it's official....

YOU TALK BOLLOCKS!!!

Everyone else has got one, so why shouldn't we jump on the band wagon as well?

So here it is...

The Magpies Charter.

- 1 Anyone heard mentioning the word 'soccer' shall be banished from the ground and forced to watch American Football 24 hours a day.
- 2 Any supporters with an air horn shall be escorted to the railway embankment and beaten severely.
- 3 Under no circumstances may persons waffle on about bloody fantasy football during the match. We could^{^v} give a shit if you got 24 points in one week.....PISS OFF!!!
- 4 Opponents supporters attempting to smuggle in a flag larger than ours must pay the most serious of penalties. They shall have to talk tactics with Murdo Macleod for the half-time interval.
- 5 Anyone attempting to catch one of Francis Araguezs' sliced crosses shall automatically attain 'Knob-Status'. However if the individual manages to head it back squarely shall be able to claim a free pint of beer from Franny as the first person to be on the end of a pass from the Spaniard since 1991.
- 6 Anyone arriving at York Rd at 2:00pm, to soak up the atmosphere, shall be sent back to the pub until five to three.
- 7 Anyone appearing to think they are some sort of master tactician by waving their arms about and shouting bollocks shall be awarded the nick-name 'John Clements' and sent off to Windsor.

Thank-you for your co-opertion.

PHIL ADKINS

CAPTION COMPETITION



Just where are Tim Cook's hands going in this dangerous situation (free kick outside the box). What is the other player saying, in this replay of the infamous Jones/Gascoigne family jewels incident? Any suggestions welcome, they may be nicked for the next front cover.

STOP PRESS MAGPIES 5 (five) BARKING 2

Maidenhead romped to an easy win on Saturday, they even made a game of it by letting Barking take the lead twice in the first half. Mickey Creighton starred, having a hand in all five goals, picking himself up after winning a penalty to score the vital third. Vernon also played a major role winning everything up front against a woeful Barking defence, although it can't have helped that their kit was made out of old deckchair covers. Did ^{the} moaners go home unhappy at the fact that they went home happy? Who cares, were on the road to Wembley now!

THAT MAN TALKS BOLLOCKS

NO. 2

MARK "THE MOUTH" SMITH

THE SCENE: ANY MAGPIES GAME

"Play it on the ground, its easy!"

5 MINUTES LATER

"BOOT IT UP TO CREIGHTON ITS EASY!"

5 MINUTES LATER

"WHERE'S ME NEW STRIKERS WAT?"

SO MARK SMITH ITS OFFICIAL -

YOU TALK BOLLOCKS!

WEMBLEY 0 MAGPIES 5 (again!)

United rose to the heady heights of sixth in the table with this thrashing of Wembley. James Pritchard stole the show scoring four of the goals, two of them being spectacular shots from outside the area, someone must have told him Alec Ferguson was looking for an English midfielder to play in Europe. Most of the Wembley defence would have struggled to get a contract at Croydon, and the game was all over at half time with the score at 4-0. The Advertiser turned up with twenty minutes to go unsurprisingly it was not Richard Copeman who missed the other 5 goal performance at Billericay, maybe he should stay away from all away games. Quote of the evening came from Paul Dadson (who hit the post twice, hard luck Paul), saying "Who needs Macca!"

10 REASONS WHY MAIDENHEAD UNITED ARE BETTER THAN MANCHESTER UNITED

- 1 - Maidenhead were formed in 1870, eight years before Manchester United. The Magpies therefore have more history and tradition.
- 2 - Maidenhead have won the much coveted Berks and Bucks Senior Cup no less than 16 times. Manchester United have yet to be invited to enter this prestigious competition.
- 3 - The last time Maidenhead played in Europe, they went to the Isle of Wight and came away with a fine 3-0 victory over Newport, however Manchester United sank to a 4-0 defeat on their last European trip.
- 4 - John Watt is not a miserable git like Alex Ferguson.
- 5 - Maidenhead have a 100% record at Wembley in the 90s (can the lads make it four in a row this season?). Manchester United do not. **YES!**
- 6 - Maidenhead have never made a crap record with Status Quo.
- 7 - Maidenhead can boast celebrity supporters such as Guns and Roses guitarist Slash who was captured celebrating the last Berks and Bucks Cup win with a bottle of Jack Daniels in the Bell End Mural.
- 8 - Maidenhead have not resorted to cheap gimmicks such as Fred the Red to attract supporters.
- 9 - Maidenhead still play in the town of their origin whereas Manchester United play in the faceless area known as Trafford Borough.
10. I hate Manchester United. **STEVE JINMAN**

SCIARAFFA SIGNS UP

We are pleased to announce that Magpies full-back Mar Sciaraffa has joined the society of British footballers with unpronounceable/unspellable names (founder member Eddie Niedzwiecki).