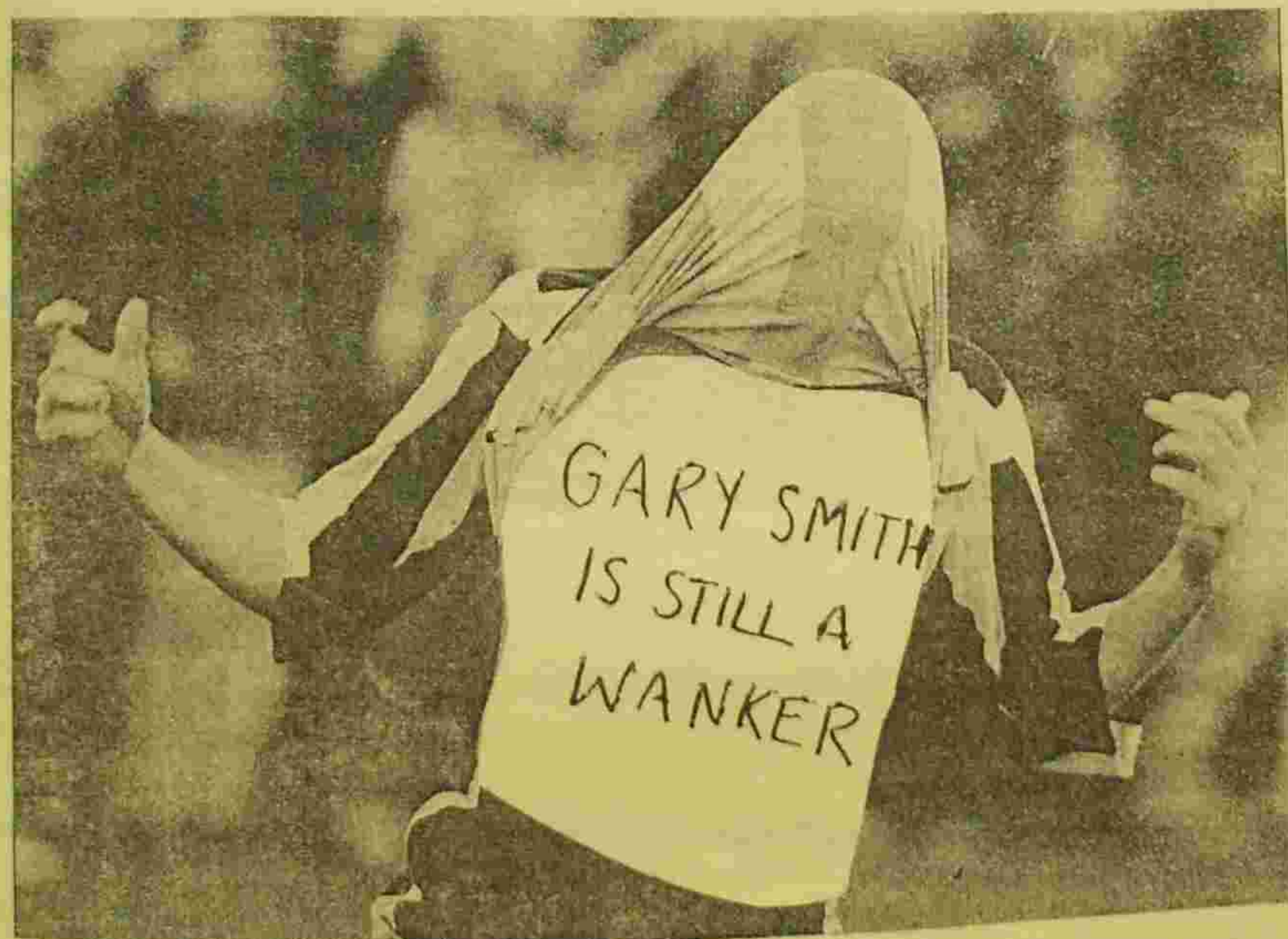


SPONSORS OF ALAN DEVONSHIRE AND BRIAN CONNOR

BORN & BRED

ISSUE 14, 50P



AYLESBURY CONTROVERSY CONTINUES

THE INDEPENDENT MAIDENHEAD UNITED FANZINE

Born and Bred

THIS ISSUES CONTRIBUTORS....

Keith Jackson, Steve Jimman, Murdo Macleod, Richard Jackson, Mark Leonard, Craig McDowell

PHOTOGRAPHS....

Mark Leonard

OTHER PEOPLE....

Bob Popejay for the colour cover

OUTLETS....

Sportspages, Charing Cross Road, London
The Club Shop, which will also stock some back issues
The Social Club by the York Road turnstiles
And from us around the ground on matchdays.

CONTRIBUTIONS....

We are always on the lookout for contributions, articles, letters, nude girlie pix etc., just send them to us at the address below.

BACK ISSUES....

Currently available are issues 2,3,4,5,6,7,11 and 12 for the measly price of 50p plus an SAE. Issues 1,8,9,10 and 12 are all sold out and are gone for good.

SUBSCRIPTIONS....

Subscriptions cost a mere £3.00 for the next five issues.

NEXT ISSUE OUT....

We're not making any promises. We thought we would get one more out last season, but never got around to it. Expect issue 15 before Christmas though.

SEND YOUR SCRIBBLINGS AND £££ TO...

BORN AND BRED, 'PENDEEN', STROUD FARM ROAD,
HOLYPORT, MAIDENHEAD, BERKS, SL6 2LH.

Welcome to issue 14 of Born and Bred, the fanzine of Maidenhead United FC. All money raised from this publication is ploughed back into the Club, and we have already paid for the sponsorship of both managers this season. Our aim is to enlighten, not offend, and the right to reply is encouraged by any person who feels aggrieved by an article featured within this publication.

GIRL POWER!

THE SPICE GIRLS POP PAGE!!!

Maidenhead's top pop girls observe the fixture list...

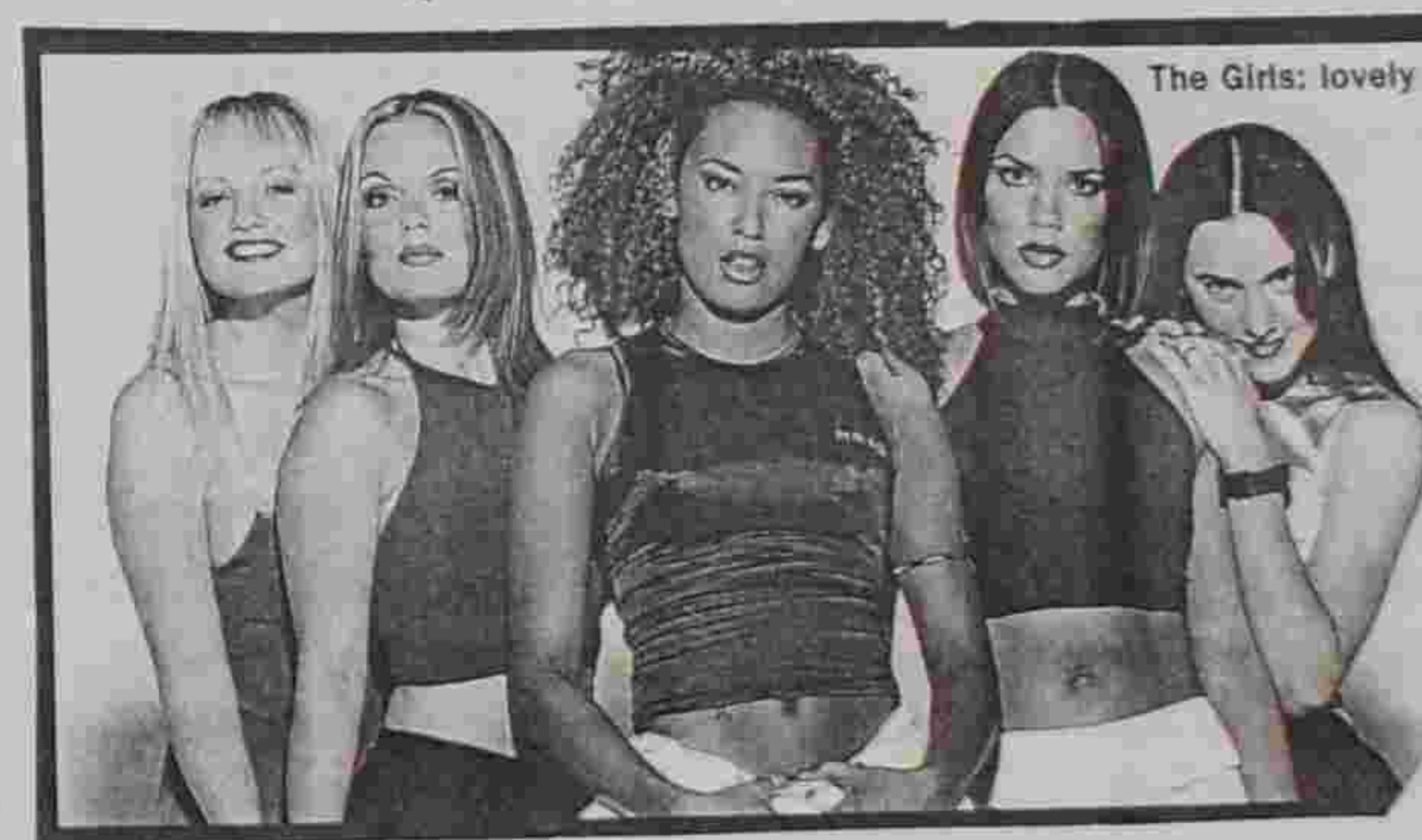
ZIG-A-ZIG-AH!

**-POP FACT-
BARTON ROVERS
(NOVEMBER 22ND)**
Barton are sponsored by Marshall Amplification, the type of amps favoured by Devil worshipping heavy metal bands, who wear leather trousers!!!! They must be bonkers!!!

GIRL POWER!

GIRL POWER!

**-POP FACT-
BILLERICAY TOWN
(NOVEMBER 8TH)**
Ian Dury released an album with a track called Billericay Dickie on it in the late 70's. The album was called New Boots and Panties!! We wear sexy spice panties!!!!



The Girls: lovely

GIRL POWER!

GIRL POWER!

ZIG-A-ZIG-AH!

ZIG-A-ZIG-AH!

**-POP FACT-
LEYTON (AUGUST 20TH)**

Leyton is to be found in the London postal district of East 17 which is where some of our pop star chums live. Their band is called East 17!!! They're crazy!!!!

ZIG-A-ZIG-AH!

**-POP FACT-
NEWPORT (AUGUST 30TH)**
Newport is at the centre of the groovy Welsh scene that includes our pop pals Manic Street Preachers, Gorkys Zygotic Mynci, 60ft Dolls, and Born and Bred faves Super Furry Animals who are mad!!

ZIG-A-ZIG-AH!

GIRL POWER!

**-POP FACT-
ROMFORD (AUGUST 23RD)**

Underworld, who hit the charts with Born Slippy last year are from Romford, and their main man, Darren Emmerson, is bonkers!!! He wears silly hats and everything!!!

ZIG-A-ZIG-AH!

EDDIE TORIAL

A new season starts, and so does issue 14 of Born and Bred. So much has happened since our last issue, I hardly know where to start. First there is the triumphant victories over Yeovil, Sutton and Aylesbury which saw us lift the Full Members Cup; we finally found ourselves with one manager instead of two following the resignation of Martyn Busby; who can forget our dear local rivals Marlow being relegated; and a crowd of 3,000 in York Road for a football match. Interesting times so it seems.

Following the Cup success, the team must be in a good frame of mind for the season ahead. We have proved that we can beat anyone on our day, but games like Yeovil, Sutton and Aylesbury needed no motivation - it was already there. Getting motivated for matches against teams like Barton and Croydon will be the key to a good season. Too many points were dropped last term against lowly sides, and in contrast, points were gained against the teams who finished at the top. If Alan can get the players motivated consistently, and providing we have an injury free season, there is no reason why we shouldn't be celebrating our long overdue elevation to the Premier Division come May. It must be Maidenhead's turn for local glory. Wycombe and Slough have achieved it in recent years, so have Marlow. Let's hope the Full Members Cup victory is only the start of better things for the club.

The pre season campaign has gone OK, but with the exception of West Ham, Slough proved to be the only real test for the team. A solid performance from all involved saw the Magpies held to a 2-2 draw at York Road, and we were far from disgraced when we lost by the only goal at Wexham Park. It is all well and good going to Chalfont and scoring six, or winning 3-0 at Northwood, but I think the two matches against Slough really proved that we are able to hold our own with the best of them. The only disappointing aspect of the pre season campaign was the lack of new faces. I hoped that Peter Terry would have returned, but unfortunately that was not to be.

I have to say that this is probably the most optimistic editorial that I have ever written. I honestly think that this will be our season. It seems as though we will have to wait yet another season for FA Cup glory as even the most hardened Magpies fan couldn't genuinely fancy our chances at Newport, then at Taunton. I'm not writing our Cup chances off before a ball is kicked, but I feel the league is where the Magpies will shine this year.

Lets just keep our fingers crossed and hope that I'm right.

Keith Jackson

RETURN OF THE MAGPIE

Long, long ago. In a galaxy far, far away. A team called Maidenhead United won a cup. Their appearance was vaguely humanoid. They were led by a small shifty looking character in a dirty Mac known as Stan. They were rated as one of the best amateur teams in the South East sector of a land known as England from a planet called Earth.

Over a period spanning three decades this once great club sank deeper and deeper into the financial mire falling victim to the infamous undercover car park scam of the mid 70s. Then the main stand burned down, a literal casualty of the mid 80s boom.

On the pitch things followed a similar course, leading to inevitable relegation. "Never mind a cup a point would be the nice" wailed the dwindling supporters of this now raggle taggle army.

However at this dark time a new leader appeared, a new man in a dirty Mac born to lead the survivors back to their former glories. They called him Jim.

His job was not done overnight. With his small band of rebels he slowly defeated the old decadent regime, winning promotion after 4 seasons, but no championship trophy was forthcoming.

Now firmly established the new order had a troubled infancy, which tired the man in the Mac and so he announced his imminent retirement to the wild west. His struggle had not been in vain but would he have anything to show for it?

Ironically his reward came was to come from Devonshire. Travelling all over the southern sector, Jim watched as the one they call Alan moulded a loose collection of hired hands into a lean cup fighting force. Taking on the finest legions on their own turf Maidenhead knocked down all comers before repelling an attempted invasion of York Road base by some strange but dangerous giants in chocolate and amber uniforms.

Now came the chance to strike right at the heart of the evil empire, the death star Marlow which by chance would play host to a final contest with the green monsters from Aylesbury.

In a perfectly executed mission young guerrilla troops known as the barmy army staked out an early outpost before the main contingent arrived. Then the elite fighting force stepped onto the battlefield ruthlessly massacring the enemy. The Men in Black (and White) had won. The Magpies had won a cup at last. The man in the Mac could retire a happy man. Now another leader could emerge and take his people into the promised land known as the Premier Division. Watch out for the sequel.

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League turnaround continues as Bognor, Berkhamsted and Hampton are all defeated..... Yeovil are defeated as Magpies cruise into Full Members Semi Final....Bottom side Worthing win at York Road... Busby resigns.....

March started in spectacular fashion with wins against Leyton and Croydon (see B&B issue 13), and the Magpies went into their third game of the month against table toppers Basingstoke full of confidence. Basingstoke had only been defeated once on their travels this term (at Hampton), and the Magpies were on course to make it three wins in three when Garry Attrell scored on

23 minutes to put us one up. Basingstoke pulled level on 31 minutes, but the Magpies played some of their best football of the season and should have grabbed all three points with a number of players coming close to scoring that elusive winner. This vital point meant that the Magpies were slowly pulling away from the relegation zone, and at last playing some of the quality football that had been so sadly lacking for the middle part of the season. It was a joy

to see Maidenhead playing so well at last, and it put the team in good spirit for the toughest test of this, or any season that was to follow three days later, a trip to Premier Division leaders Yeovil Town in the quarter final of the Full Members Cup.

Most Magpies fans had decided to get to Yeovil in plenty of time to 'soak up the big match atmosphere' (as well as to have a few beers). On arrival at Yeovil, we decided to head towards the town centre in search of a pub, instead of going straight to the ground. The first pub we saw was a

large Harvester style place, called *The Copper Mill*, where we were to get our first experiences of Yeovil supporters.

As about 10 of us entered the pub, all wearing the familiar black and white stripes, a local man came up and introduced himself, expressing his surprise that Maidenhead had actually bothered to bring any fans. The more he spoke, the more it

became obvious that he was very much the worse for wear, despite the fact that it was only about 5.30. His most overused phrases included "So what are ye fuckers like then?", and "Who the fuck are Whichford then?". When I say overused, he must have approached all of us and asked us the same question about half a dozen times. He was the sort of stereotypical Yokel, and I wouldn't have been surprised if he pulled out a pitchfork and started chewing on some

corn. When someone asked him what he did, he told us that he was a delivery driver for Argos. So if anyone buys something from the store that comes in a crumpled box and all the pieces are broken, I think you may well have found your answer. We were to meet up with this charming fellow later that evening, as he introduced the contents of his stomach to the £30-a-square-yard carpet in Yeovil's bar.

The game itself was a dull affair - Maidenhead seemed to be holding their own when the teams went in goalless at half



Garry Attrell: Hero against Basingstoke

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time, but a goal by Chuck Agudosi midway through the second half paved the way for a nail biting finish, and Maidenhead held on to secure one of the finest results in the Club's history. Yeovil DID have a full strength team out - not one of their players had played less than 12 league matches this season - despite what some bitter people may tell you. Anyway, Maidenhead were without Tony Gale and Tim Cook, so our team wasn't as good as it could have been.

All in all, it was a fine day out, and Martin, Alan, and the team did the Club proud, and at last, the long suffering supporters finally had something to cheer about. The disappointing aspect of this game was the crowd - a very poor 448. It makes you wonder what the 8,007 that turned up for their next home match against Enfield were doing that night.

Too many hackneyed old phrases were used in the press to describe the match following Yeovil, a 3-1 defeat against basement dwellers Worthing, with in form striker Mickey Creighton levelling for the Magpies shortly after the break, after conceding an injury time goal in the first half. Worthing played with the determination that the Magpies had played with in recent weeks, but no one seemed too concerned, as any lingering threat of relegation had all but disappeared, and we were through to the Full Members Cup Semi Final.

Bognor were the next visitors to York Road, and as usual they played their attractive passing football, but were on the

receiving end of one of Maidenhead's best performances of the season, with a goal apiece from Garry Attrell, Chuck Agudosi and Mickey Creighton sealing a well earned victory. This game was played in front of the lowest league gate of the season - if the Magpies are to get the crowds back, we must play consistently week in week out. A point of note - this game saw two departures from York Road, out of favour terrace hero Paul Dadson

finally moved on, and Martyn Busby resigned. I wish Paul all the best (even though he signed for Windsor), and was overjoyed to see that he scored on his debut. Really, all the best Paul. The effect of Busby's exit was to show in the run in to the season, where we lost only 2 of the 11 matches remaining.

A trip to Berkhamsted was next on the agenda for Maidenhead. They were a very poor side when we beat them 2-0 back in October, but no-one expected to see just how bad they had become. When Obinna Ulasi hit

the post with a cracking shot after 10 minutes, it seemed as if only one team would ever win, and when Chuck got the opener on 35 minutes, it seemed as if Berkhamsted just gave up any lingering hope they had of getting any points. 11 minutes into the second half the win was secured, as Kevin Brown hit the ball through a crowded area to make it 2-0, and to keep up his impressive strike rate of 3 goals in as many seasons. It is a shame that the goal wasn't as great as his effort at Thame last year, or the brilliant header



Chuck: His goal shocked the Yeovil Yokels

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against Ruislip Manor the year before, but it's always nice to see Sarge on the score sheet. Chuck sealed the win by rounding the keeper and back heeling into an empty net on 71 minutes, but if the Magpies really tried, this could have been 6,7,8-0, quite easily. I'm amazed Berkhamsted avoided the drop, because on the evidence of this match, they were without doubt the worst team I had seen all season, or possibly ever in Division One.

The month ended in spectacular fashion with a 4-3 win at promotion chasing Hampton. Maidenhead were cheered on by a sizeable contingent at Beveree, despite the fact that the short journey took the best part of 2 hours to make what with a fair at Hampton Court and Kempton Park races being on. This match had everything, with one of the highlights coming before the teams had even kicked off. Hampton have their own mascot, someone dressed in a giant beaver outfit who runs around the pitch making a complete arse of him/herself. The person certainly topped it today, when as the teams ran onto the pitch, the beaver ran across to the centre circle at full speed, only to trip on tail and fall arse over tit. After this, surely things couldn't get any better...? An action packed game saw the Magpies 2-0 up after only 24 minutes, with Mickey Creighton and Chuck Agudosi grabbing a goal each, but Hampton pulled one back straight from the kick off from the second goal when some dreadful defending enabled a superb strike from outside the area to crash into the roof of Trevor Roffey's net. Mickey made it 3-1 on 32 minutes, with the Magpies fans wondering which team was which. Another Hampton goal just before the break left many fans wondering if we were going to fall to pieces in the second half. When Hampton equalised midway through the second half and then piled on the pressure, it seemed as if this would be another pointless affair for Maidenhead. But in the

very final minute, following a sending off when a Hampton player decided he would try his wrestling skills on Chuck, Brian Conner was shoved in the box (ooceerr missus) and Garry Attrell slotted home the penalty to give Maidenhead all three points. A great end to a great month, and if this form could have been maintained since September then the Magpies may have been looking forward to Premier Division football next season.

- 1 Five best pre-match pubs for away fans? There aren't five. The Butcher's Arms and the Black Boy are the best
- 2 In which month will your manager leave? We were hoping for July 1997
- 3 The groan goes up when Martin Gray's name is read out
- 4 Last glimpse of glory? Promotion, 1996
- 5 Whatever you do, don't get a ticket in the North West stand, because it isn't there
- 6 What are you going to sing when Middlesbrough turn up? 'What's it like to have a new ground?'
- 7 Where will you finish? Bottom
- 8 Who'll win the four divisions? Who cares?; hopefully none of the obvious; Luton Town; probably not Brighton
- 9 FA Cup? Maidenhead or Chesterfield
- 10 Player to watch At Oxford, none of them

Eagle eyed reader James O'Meara spotted this in the current issue of 4-4-2. Yeah right, as if Chesterfield will win the FA Cup.....

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Uxbridge beaten....Magpies ease past Sutton to reach Cup Final....Business as usual at Barton....No luck at Bognor....Aldershot held....and silverware reaches York Road at last.....

May started with the visit of perennial no-hopers Uxbridge to York Road. Uxbridge will always be a team that are never involved in anything - promotion or relegation issues, or a Cup run. Time must be running out for George Talbot now, simply because he must be getting bored there. Well George, I'm afraid we don't want you now. Were happy with Dev. Anyway, a dire game saw the Magpies win 1-0 courtesy of a goal by Mickey Creighton, who was enjoying probably the best spell of his playing career at York Road during the latter part of the season. One point of note for the anoraked Statto wannabees out there: when we played at Thame back in August, Tim Cook was playing for the Oxfordshire side, while Ben Cook turned out for the Magpies. In this match, Ben was playing for Uxbridge, and Tim was wearing Magpies colours. When was the last time two brothers played against each other twice in a season, playing for different clubs on each occasion? Answers on a postcard....

Next up was the one we had been waiting for, the visit of Sutton to York Road for the Full Members Cup semi final. Normally, after beating a side like Yeovil away, expectations should have been high, but in all honesty, expectations for this match were realistic. We didn't expect to win, and a few people thought if we could

hold Sutton to 2 or 3, we wouldn't disgrace ourselves. Sutton, the holders, would be taking the game seriously, and at least the Magpies would enjoy a large crowd at York Road for once, without Aldershot or fireworks being the contributory factor. The 2 coachloads of fans from Sutton certainly helped the gate, but the bizarre thing was that for once, the public of Maidenhead had come out to support their local side. The Atmosphere created by a lot of young Maidenhead fans was second to none, and long may it continue into 97/98.

The match itself started in the worst possible fashion, with Maidenhead falling behind to an early goal after only seven minutes. It was all going to be up hill now, the best Maidenhead could have hoped for was to sneak an early goal and ride their luck. But that wasn't to be. Obinna Ulasi struck the

equaliser with a shot that had so much force that it nearly burst the roof of the Bell Street net. Shortly before half time, the rapidly improving Francis Duku scored his first for the club, heading in from a corner, which sparked hysteria among the young contingent of Magpies fans who were standing behind the officers enclosure in the main stand. 2-1 up at the break and Sutton had it all to do.

The second half was the typical nail biting 45 minutes that you would



Tony Gale's elephant impression fails to amuse.

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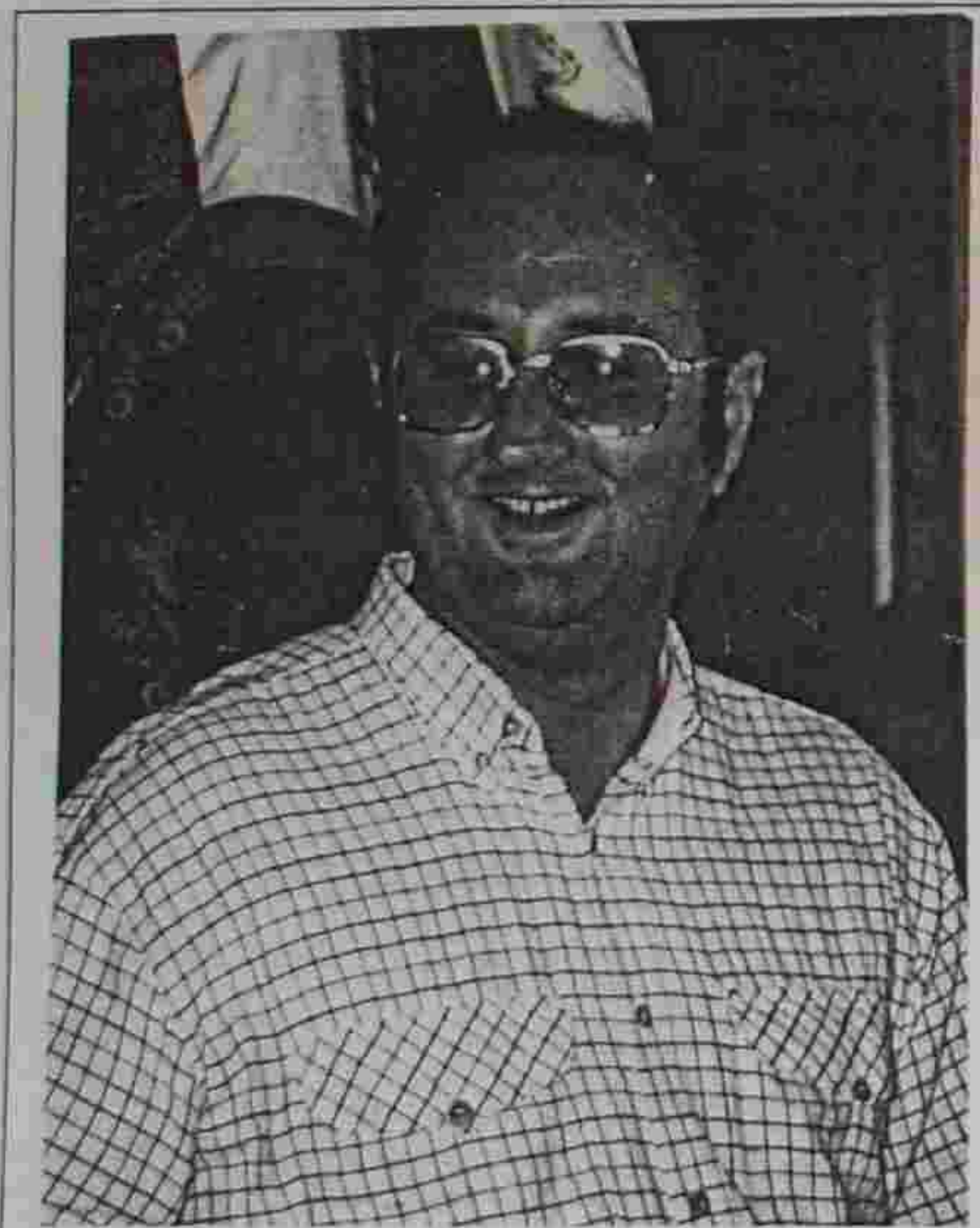
expect. We had been ahead twice in the semi final against the Aylesbury scum the year before, and you always knew they would claw their way back into it. But with Sutton, it wasn't to be. On 81 minutes, Garry Attrell found himself clear only to stop because of an offside decision - or so he thought. The referee looked at his linesman (sorry, assistant referee), who kept his flag down, and the referee waved play on. In a moment of panic, Garry passed the ball to Tyrone Houston, who *must* have been in an offside position, who duly shot round the keeper to make it 3-1 and put the result out of doubt.

The arguments between the Sutton players and the referee continued right up to the final whistle, but when the referee blew at 90 minutes, the 26 year wait was over - Maidenhead were through to a Cup Final.

The celebratory scenes were exceptional, as the players returned from the

dressing room to chants of 'United' etc, etc. And in the bar afterwards, the beer certainly flowed, and, as is traditional in such circumstances, Brian McKendrick treated us to a drunken version of 'Soggy Sombrero'. This was truly a magic night for Maidenhead United - and at last the long suffering fans had something to shout about.

Another case of After The Lord Mayor's Show was to follow, as Maidenhead were beaten, were WELL



Brian limbers up for another rendition of soggy sombrero

beaten 2-1 by Barton. A stunning goal by Steve Brown was all the Magpies had to cheer about (apart from the excellent hot dogs), as the dire match was played on a pitch that looked more like a hard court, it was so void of grass. Still, it didn't stop some of the Magpies few enjoying Barton's excellent bar facilities, where one Barton club official treated us all to fish and chips, and opened his heart about his break up with his girlfriend, who, it turned out was the barmaid. He gave us all the usual crap about 'not being ready for commitment' and 'needing his own space', but as the barmaid informed us, the real reason for the split was because he was crap in bed. You'll have to ask him next season, just to confirm. He is a short bloke with glasses, and as Barton have no-one at their matches, he should be fairly easy to spot.

High fliers Walton were next to York Road, who desperately needed all three points to do their promotion bid some good. The

Magpies fell a goal down on 52 minutes, but four minutes later Francis Duku equalised to seal a well earned point for the Magpies. The game was quite ill tempered, and some atrocious refereeing denied the Magpies a penalty and kept 2 Walton players in the game. I know the refereeing standards are dropping, but the man in charge, Mr D.C Philips, came close to joining that elite group of total incompetent

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referees along with K Merchant and D Roberts.

The long Monday night trip to Bognor followed, and a penalty 6 minutes before the break sealed a win for Bognor, in a match where Maidenhead certainly deserved at least a point. It seems as though Bognor are the victims of their own success, as they normally seem as though they are the best footballing side in the division, but due to cup runs they always have a fixture backlog. My prediction for next season is that Bognor will go up. You read it here first.....

The final away league fixture of the season was the one most Magpies fans least look forward to - Abingdon. A game of little note, (except a missed penalty by Mark Harrison) saw future hotshot Andy Eaton taken off with a head wound which needed stitches. Andy, along with Ben Freeman are likely to figure highly in Dev's plans for next season, and with other young players such as Ben Abbey, we should see a good mixture of young and old next term for the Magpies assault on gaining Premier Division status.

The final league game of the season saw the visit of Aldershot Town to York Road, in a match which gave the Magpies (surprise, surprise) their biggest gate of the season. A cracking free kick from Mark Harrison opened the scoring on 38 minutes, but Aldershot replied with an equally good strike only 4 minutes later. The game was soured with the sending off of Harrison (only the second Magpies player to be dismissed this season - Brian Connor at Croydon being the other), and an Aldershot player also being dismissed for a bit of argy-bargy late in the second half. The match ended 1-1, which left the Magpies facing the Full Member Cup Final

without a win since beating Sutton. But when the final scores came through, the celebrating could begin: Whyteleaf had won 2-1 at Marlow, which condemned the hapless side to the place they belong - Division 2.

So onto the Cup Final. Where do I start? Well, the original venue of Hitchin had been deemed unsuitable by the league, so the match was switched to Marlow, which considering the events of the final day of the season, there couldn't have been a better choice of venue as far as the Magpies fans were concerned. The traditional early start in the Queens (RIP), where a good deal of Magpies fans met, was great. Everybody was up for it, and expectations were high. When we finally reached the ground, after the traditional stops at The Croxford and The Plough in Marlow, a large crowd of Maidenhead fans had assembled in the Advertiser stand, with a lot of the youngsters going for the full Cup Final atmosphere - face painting and the like. As for the match itself, which is covered elsewhere in this issue, a tired looking Aylesbury were well beaten by goals from Mickey Creighton, Garry Attrell, and Francis Duku. A 3-0 win was beyond most peoples wildest dreams, and the way we won was simply amazing. Everyone played their part, and no-one put a foot wrong. The celebrations went on long into the night, and it was a fitting end to Alan's first season in charge. Oh, before I forget, about a week before the match Jim Parsons told us that if Maidenhead won, and I quote: "It will be orgasmic. We will all have a good wank over that one". So if anyone saw Jim carrying a large box of Kleenex and a copy of Readers Wives after the match, you'll know why.

LIES, DAMNED LIES, AND...

What got me thinking statistics was a programme editorial last season, remarking that most of our wins had come with Mark Harrison in the side (and you were hoping you'd heard the last of this rubbish...). A whole summer of wandering about in a Paisley pattern dressing gown has produced the following fascinating analysis:

These tables break down our form into games when a certain player started, and games when he was out of the starting line-up, with "what if" projected totals in each case. For the record, not counting the 3 points deducted by the league, we made 55 points last season and this would have placed us 12th.

So how much better were our results with Mark Harrison playing? About this much:

MATCHES WITH PLAYER			MATCHES WITHOUT PLAYER		
Played	Points	Projected total (position)	Missed	Points	Projected (position)
16	28	73 (6th)	26	27	45 (15th)

(that is: If we had managed the same form when Mark did **not** start as we did when he started, we would have finished 6th. On the other hand, when he wasn't in the eleven, our form put us 15th, not counting the 3 points we'd had deducted).

By the same measure, we were also significantly better when Micky Creighton or Chuck Agudosi were in the starting line-up. But the players whose presence appears to have made the most notable difference are:

STEVE BROWN

30	45	63 (8th)	12	10	35 (21st)
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TYRONE HOUSTON

27	41	64 (8th)	15	14	39 (20th)
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TIM COOK

11	21	80 (2nd)	31	34	46 (15th)
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There again, we have done better when certain players were missing - this lot includes Brian Connor, Francis Duku and most notably:

TONY GALE

20	22	46 (15th)	22	33	63 (8th)
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RUSSELL ADAMS

15	12	34 (21st)	27	43	67 (8th)
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SPENCER COLLINS

11	7	27 (22nd)	31	48	65 (8th)
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(Only players have been considered who played at least a quarter of the season (11 games) and missed at least a quarter of the season.)

So does this prove there are indeed bollocks, utter bollocks and statistics? Well, some of these figures look so far wide of the mark that either the answer is yes, or there is some other force at work. There may be an influence from some unlikely factors:

GAMES AGAINST CLUBS WITH EVEN No OF LETTERS	- WITH ODD No OF LETTERS IN 1st NAME	
18	17	40 (20th)
	24	38
		66 (8th)

How bizarre... A good omen for 1997-8 is that six-letter Marlow, Canvey and Walton have left the division, while five of the new clubs have an odd number of letters. I could continue calculating in a similar vein, but I think I may already have taken this too far...

And my own figures laugh in my face with the most telling statistic of all:

GAMES WHICH I ATTENDED	GAMES WHICH I MISSED	
35	41	49 (14th)
	7	14
		84 (2nd)

So there it is: statistical proof that if I had missed every game last season, we would have been promoted - I can already hear the chants of "Logic out!".

by LOGIC

Jim Parsons, 1987 - 1997

When the editor approached me with the request "Can you write something about Jim Parsons, now he's gone?" my immediate thoughts were to edge this with deep black lines and create an obituary. However, things are not that bleak, and all that was wanted was a few words about Jim, following his retirement from the front line at the Club. For those who don't know, Jim relinquished the Chairmanship of the Club at the end of last season, so that he can spend more time in Cornwall in the coming years. He has, however, accepted the role of President, a position which has been vacant since the passing away of Cliff West, so he will stay involved in the Club's affairs, even if it will be a little more at arms length as it were.

Jim was introduced to the Club in 1987 by the late Rob Stewart, a part time thespian and, at the time, printer of the match day programme. It was at a time when new blood and ideas were needed at the Club, because at the end of the 1986/87 season, Maidenhead suffered the ignominy of relegation for the first time in the Club's proud history, into Division 2 South. Despite Jim's hard work, things didn't get much better, and the Club struggled to survive for the next two years. But then, under Jim's influence, things improved to such an extent that promotion was achieved in 1991. Those who were there will never forget that Tuesday night in Eastbourne when promotion was assured, and Jim's exuberant part in it! The celebrations that night were only eclipsed by the final triumphant act for Jim, when a trophy was finally brought to the Club at Marlow last season.

Jim's control of the Club and his driving force meant that recent years has seen the Club develop well both on and off the field, and he has ensured that the Club has not followed the path of others into oblivion through mis-management. The ground has been improved, and the finances have been brought to a very healthy state, primarily through Jim's own incredible generosity. And just as Jim leaves the daily control to others, the state of the Club has never been better, and the future development and growth of the Club is almost assured. One finds it difficult to put into words the appreciation of Jim's hard work, dedication and generosity that has created such a healthy position we now find the Club in.

So what are the secret things that has made this man? I think the real critical success factor has been his incredible ability to communicate so effectively at all levels. His pure professionalism whilst dealing with potential ground developers and major sponsors has meant the Club's interests have always been fully protected. His ability to negotiate at all levels within the Club, with Officers, Committee and Team Management, always with empathy to others needs has endeared him to all. And his open and frank way of discussing matters concerning the Club or football with the rank and file supporters has meant that he has always commanded respect, whether that be on match days at the ground, at training sessions, social events, or in the many watering holes close by.

Of course, many have crossed swords with Jim during his reign as Chairman, including myself, but at the end of the day, when you reckon it all up, you know that he believed he always acted in the best interests of the Club. You can't ask more of anyone. Let's hope that this season we can achieve more success on the field, and be able to say "This one's for you, Jim". Thanks for everything, mate.

Richard Jackson

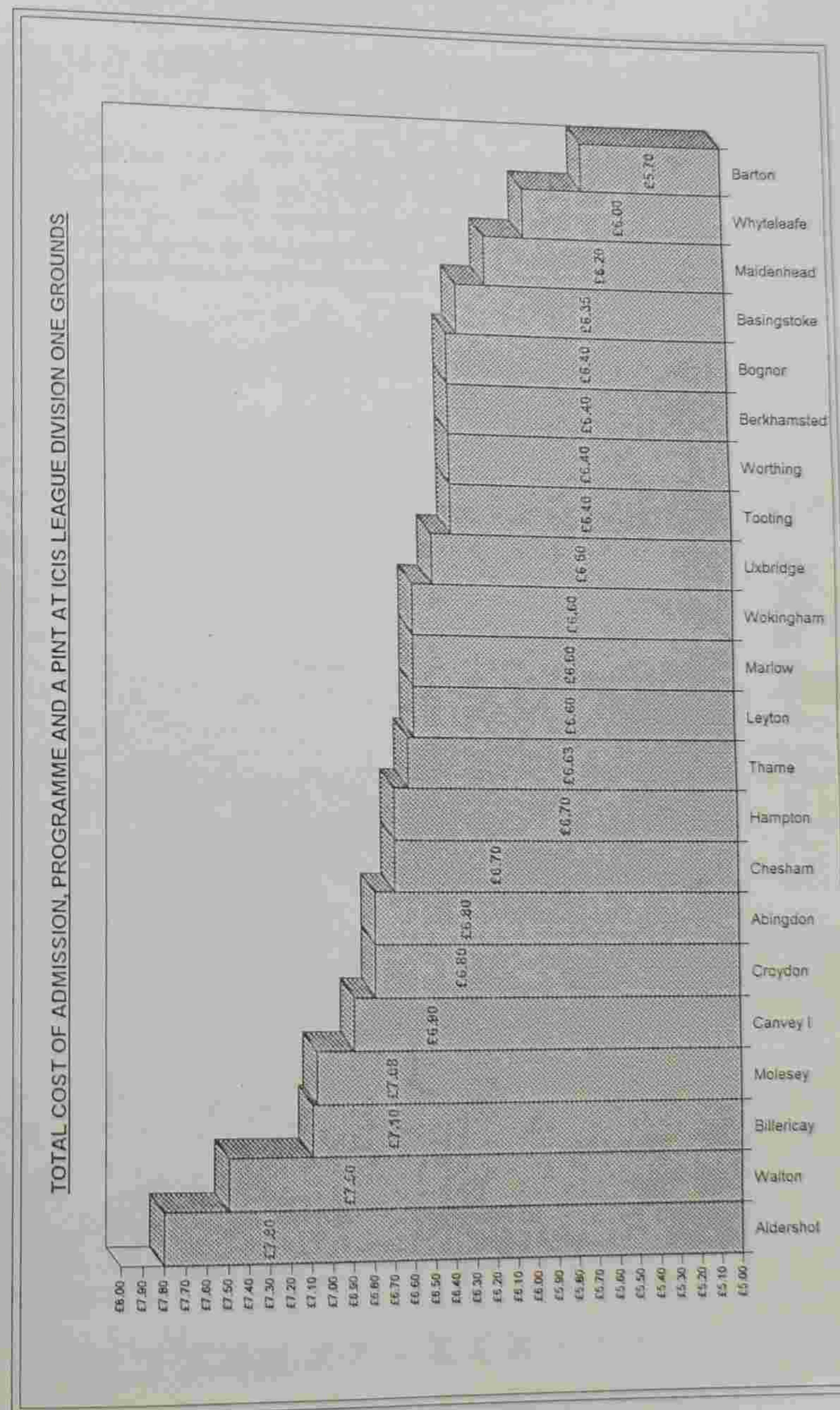
THE GREAT PRICEWATCH RESULTS.....

Now the 1996/97 season remains as a fond memory....a Trophy, the rise of Agudosi, the brilliance of Ulasi, and of course, 21 other grounds around the home counties. As the season progressed, your roving reporters travelled high and wide to all the ICIS league division one grounds to bring you, dear reader, news of who were ripping you off, and who were giving you top notch value for money. After paying to get in, buying a programme and getting a beer in, you can see that there is quite a difference between all of the clubs. So, without further ado, let the analysis begin.....

Not surprisingly, Aldershot are victors of the con merchant league. A whopping £5.00 to get in - £1.50 more than the divisional minimum - made sure of their win. I suppose they will be grateful for winning something at last - it seems as though the Born and Bred Pricewatch League is all they are capable of winning in the foreseeable future. The bar prices at Aldershot weren't too bad - £1.60 for a pint of Tetley. It was the bar prices that were to determine the final tables. It was standard to pay £4 to get in all across the division, except at a handful of places. Billericay, Molesey, and Walton all thought it fair to chuck an extra 50p on admission, and those lovely folk at Barton and Whyteleafe went for the opposite, charging only £3.50. Programme prices seemed to be a standard £1 everywhere, except Aldershot (£1.20) and of course ourselves, who charged a mere 80p for the official organ of Maidenhead United. But when the bar prices are taken into account, that is where things start to get interesting.....

Of course, with beer, it's not just the price, but the quality that is important. Some clubs failed on both counts - crap beer at over inflated prices. Yes, Canvey Island, stand forward and accept your award!! £1.90 for a pint of Toby Bitter, which tasted, looked, and smelt like cheap Tesco Value Cola. At the other end of the spectrum, Whyteleafe were selling a pint of hand pulled London Pride for only £1.50. Whyteleafe also served beer like it tastes in the pub, an all to rare occurrence at ICIS grounds. Basingstoke deserve a mention for selling all pints at £1.35 after 8.00, and, in the interests of investigative journalism, a handful of Magpies fans had to stay right until chucking out time just to see if the price crept up. Oh, cheers for driving Logic.

So at the end of the day, we would like to congratulate Barton on their low, low prices, as they win the inaugural Born and Bred Pricewatch campaign. A pat on the back is also due to ourselves and Whyteleafe, who provided VFM throughout. Alas, not a pat on the back, but a slap in the face to Aldershot, Walton, Billericay and Molesey, who all totalled more than £7.00. Shame on you. Our little survey will continue into 97/98, if only as an excuse to stay in the bar and to fill up pages in Born and Bred.



WHO THE F***** HELL ARE YOU?

As the new season is upon us once again it's time to provide you with one of those traditional 'meet the opposition' type things you normally see in the programme. However, instead of a long and 'proud' history we give you the totally biased and opinionated drivellings likely to offend every other team in Division 1. Well that's the aim anyway. We have also given our prediction as to what sort of season lies ahead for everyone, although we reserve the right to alter them radically when we get it all horribly wrong and Croydon storm the championship by 25 clear points. Let the waffling begin.....

Abingdon Town - Our old adversaries from sheep-shagging country must be a bit worried about this term. They went into free fall after about February and even we nearly beat them at their gaff, something we never do. The clubhouse serves the most expensive beer in the league as it's apparently now a privately run affair and the service is shite; "all the locals first and you can bloody well wait sunshine". The ground is fairly smart, the legacy of an ex-official who was in the building trade whom they kicked out, but they stopped letting the sheep graze on the pitch when it became apparent they weren't going to be relegated so it wasn't worth picking up any more points. Only the goalmouths show any signs of wear and tear due to Abingdon's all action end to end style of play ie hoofing. The keeper is now our best friend since we slaughtered him for making a complete tit of himself when he got upset at the sight of the inflatable sheep. Oh how we laughed! Bring a neck-brace to the away game and don't bother turning up to the home match. We never win and might as well post them the points. - *B&B predicts a difficult season with a bottom six finish, maybe even relegation if they aren't careful.*

Aldershot Town - Divisional giants, best support and ground, too good for this division, unlucky in not getting promoted sooner blah, blah, blah. The simple fact of the matter is that Aldershot haven't been good enough or they would have gone up by now. Fact. Classic proof that despite the abundance of shite teams this division is the hardest one to get out of (unless your'e Canvey Island of course Ha Ha) it's also completely bugged up their 10 year plan. Don't you remember it? 5 years to get into the conference and 10 to make league status. As Tosh Lines would say 'it's all gone a bit pear shaped, guv.' As the 'Shots' begin their fourth season in ICIS one we honestly believe that this will be their year. It simply has to be, as with falling attendance's and ludicrous rent charges for playing at the 'Rec' (even if it is an extremely flag-friendly ground) they have to stop stagnating. On top of this, the fact that they have been in this division for so long might actually be their trump card. The first season we went there was the highlight for us, but the novelty of playing them is wearing off, and whilst we would still rather go there than, say, Croydon we genuinely believe that they should be at least in the Premier and probably the Conference. This diminishing of the 'cup final' attitude when facing Aldershot will work in their favour, as will the fact that most of the arrogance & swagger they had 4 seasons ago has been knocked out of them by life in division 1, but if they fail again this year then those spiked railings at the front of the ground will come in useful for placing a few heads on them - *B&B thinks promotion at last, and nothing less.*

Barton Rovers - It's a sad state of affairs that, with relegation of that lot from Joke Tree Road and the magic of a clash with divisional 'giants' Aldershot vastly diminished the first fixture some of the Magpies faithful looked for this year was the trip to Barton. Why? I hear you ask, especially as our 2 visits there have ended in defeat against extremely poor opposition. It's simply because we always get an extremely warm welcome from the locals who seem to have taken us to their hearts. I'm not sure whether this is due to our annual donation of 3 or 6 points to their relegation fighting fund or because they see us as the entertainment for the long evenings

that follow the final whistle. OK, so 'Tartan at Barton' in December on our first visit probably gave them a laugh but for the fans to set a new personal best time last year of not leaving an opposition's bar until after midnight was unbelievable. Especially as by then we had all eaten a fish & chip supper bought for us by one of their officials whilst trying not to piss ourselves laughing as he poured his heart out over his troubled love life with the woman who was having her 40th birthday party in the main hall. As news spread of the piss-artists next door we were then treated to birthday cake before ending up providing further entertainment as kings of the dance floor (especially Mr Logic who danced like he was having an epileptic fit). The sight of us, all wearing regulation black & white Magpies shirts, must have been a sight. Mind you, we weren't short of offers of female dancing partners so they must have also enjoyed it. Soon it was time for a quick 'disagreement' with the gobby 18 year old you seem to get at any party, before bidding au revoir, arrivaderci, chow fer now, see-yas-later, really must fly. The football? Oh yes, we nearly forgot. It were crap. - *B&B says their ambition will be to finish outside the bottom 3, although we don't think they'll get away with it again this season, which would be a real shame.*

Berkhamsted Town - The worst team we played last season. Fast becoming the Coventry City of the division. 'Berko' as they are craply known are the epitome of a club whose sole aim at the start of each new campaign is to stay in division 1. The pitch will be in one of two states, depending on when you visit - either rock hard or ankle deep in mud. Such a nondescript club it's hard to have any feelings towards them at all. Certainly the Chesham fans who turned up to watch our game there last season couldn't really care about them and they're the nearest team to them geographically. Most likely to lose division 1 status if they go bust due to spending entire budget on footballs lost either in the canal behind one end, the railway line at the other end, the tennis club next door or our thieving fans nicking one for his Sunday side! - *B&B predicts fourth from bottom, where else?*

Billericay Town - Seem to be eternal bridesmaids & must have been doubly pissed off to fall at the final fence last year to Berkhamsted of all people! Well organised & entertaining side with good mix of experience & youth. Have improved ground no end so obviously expecting better things; bit weird being stood behind goal among seats though. Unfortunate to be club whose name doesn't seem to fit any of the standard football chants. Perhaps that's why they're quiet even though they get quite good gates. - *B&B reckon that this will finally be their year & possibly even champions(if we aren't!)*

Bognor Regis Town - Have reputation for being best footballing side in the division, which is completely deserved. Just about the best playing surface, which perfectly suits the style of play. It also means our meetings are invariably amongst the best games to watch. Shame the fixtures seem eternally destined to take place on a midweek. Good ground with metal bins for making added noise, flag friendly and half-decent support. Best food in division with home made bread pudding a must. Bonus points added for friendliness of the natives & all-round general feeling that this is a very well organised club who must surely move on to better things. Only black spot is cheeky little shits who spend entire game at wrong end of pitch trying to annoy us (and succeeding) - *B&B reckons top 5.*

Chertsey Town - Fleecing bastards extraordinaire! The only club capable of charging £5 for a pre-season friendly against us, (we are Maidenhead United & not Manchester United!) £1 to sit in the stand and who this season will probably charge a couple of quid to transfer to the other end of the ground at half time, 50p for a pee and a 30% supplement for sitting in their clubhouse whilst drinking their overpriced beer. Apparently this cash grabbing attitude goes back to the days of Dave Rayner (Chertsey's now ex-money man), although they probably need it more now than they did then. Whilst one sensed a poetic sense of justice when they came down that one mans money is never going to triumph over the will of an entire club all pulling in one direction it

did draw collective moans from the cash conscious Magpies fans. A classic example of why every football club should charge entrance fees at the rate the opposition would to our supporters, especially as the Magpies loyal fans are season ticket holders already. Roger and Jean take note! On a footballing note they were probably the best side we've played for years when they demolished us 8-2 at home when they didn't even want the game played initially. - *B&B hopes for either promotion or relegation so we don't have to go there again. Realistically though, upper mid table.*

Croydon - Aarrghh!!! Worst ground in the league, one of worst pitches, no support whatsoever, shite football & always terrible game, bastard to find, worse to actually get to, Logic suicidal driving tendencies at worst when going here, Kenny Sansom plays for them! Need I go on? Relegate them now for the good of fans of the other 21 teams in ICIS 1. - *B&B hopes for bottom 3, if we pray hard.*

Grays Athletic - Never been there so couldn't tell you what the grounds like, although others who have been there all used the words "shit" and "hole" in very quick succession. That said, judging by the comments about them in some of the other ICIS league fanzines they have a reputation for being hoof merchants and for having more sand on their pitch than on Blackpool beach. We shall see. We go there at the end of January so we can expect a particularly tough game from a side that will probably be very tough to beat. - *B&B predicts lower reaches of top ten.*

Hampton - Team with best nickname in the league, the beavers. Last seasons surprise packages who only just missed out on promotion by 2 points, probably due to the 4-3 defeat by us in the best league game of last season, and scene of one of funniest moments when their mascot, dressed up as a beaver fell flat on it's face just before kick off. Will be our 'derby' opponents on boxing day and easter Monday. The fixtures secretary needs his head examining, and a college course in geography. Strong and powerful side whose games against Grays should be, er, interesting. New physio is our old fanzine fave and constant source of material, Jim Barrs, so expect to see Hampton 'zine spring from nowhere. - *B&B predicts that they will figure strongly in the promotion melee once again - Top 6.*

Leatherhead - Another of the divisions new boys. We were there for our last game in division 2 south, so we haven't met for a few years. Various sources reckon they are the possessors of a few mouthy arrogant fans, so hopefully they'll have a dire season, and we can have a laugh at their expense. However, life is rarely that sweet. - *B&B predicts lower mid table safety.*

Leyton Pennant - Typical East London side. ie very tough side to beat, work hard for each other, never a particularly great game to watch. In fact the best game there involving the Magpies was the supporters impromptu kickabout against the Leyton Pikey's (see previous issue for match report) with the winning goal a diving header from the now sadly departed Mary the inflatable sheep (RIP). The sort of place Alan Devonshire will end up spending half the time talking about the 'good old days' with the locals. Bonus points awarded for Magpies banner-friendly stand behind goal. However, those points deducted for ludicrous clubhouse set up with so many corridors you expect to find people either begging for change or trying to mug you. - *B&B predicts mid table respectability unless they can rid themselves of erratic form.*

Molesey - The team whose form last season must have baffled everyone in the division, especially themselves. Just about the worst home record and virtually invincible away they obviously felt that the vociferous backing of their travelling fan made all the difference to them. Joint winners of fattest fan award (with Croydon). Also, winners of last seasons award for best clubhouse entertainment by virtue of advertising forthcoming gig by 'Chocolate Starfish'! How stupid are these people? *B&B says that mid-table obscurity beckons.*

Romford - To be honest we don't really know a lot about this bunch, except that they stormed division 2 last term. Mind you that doesn't really mean much as Mr Fat-Bloke King will tell you. Discovered a particularly good ruse when 'merging' with Collier Row recently, merging meaning using joint names but conveniently dropping it after just 1 season in favour of your old name, using your existing club colours, nicking the other teams ground thus making your old one (which wasn't good enough to host a decent standard of football anyway) redundant, and what do you have? Instant promotion by about 3 divisions! Why hasn't anyone else thought of this scam? Most teams would be chuffed with moving up a division, but this lot were probably disappointed they didn't move higher! Apparently well supported side, hopefully not by EastEnd type 'villerns'. Will no doubt spank us at their gaff if our recent record against Essex sides anything to go by. - *B&B - lower reaches of top 10.*

Staines Town - Felt to be a bit fortunate to go up in the first place so no real surprise they came straight back down. Wheatsheaf Lane was a complete dive, so only option was to go to a ground with any hope of having the 'A' grade. Shame it bloody well had to be Chertsey, so expect to get fleeced twice at the same place in one season. Apparently, they harbour hopes of moving back to old home when redevelopment finished. They'll have a very long wait. Opponents when we witnessed worst display of refereeing EVER, Funny how that tosspot Merchant has never reffed us since. Obi spent beginning of last season with this lot as a striker (but he doesn't like to talk about.) See. I bet you didn't know that! - *B&B predicts mid table nothingness for this lot.*

Thame United - Tumbled down the table last year after fair start. Opening day opponents who are rumoured to be having a bit of a tough time of it financially, with a fair number of their players having left recently. Two have even opted to drop a division to play for the losers up the road! Probably have the best clubhouse in the division, it's just a shame that so few people seem to use it. Ground's quite picturesque, but black mark for officious jobsworth who stopped us leaving the LogicMobile parked in the matchball sponsors space of a virtually deserted car-park when we went there prior to our game at Oxford City a couple of years back. Gold star to the chairman who bought a couple of free pool games when we returned there later that day. Tom Cook fancies the barmaids (and probably the barmen as well!) Now why doesn't that surprise us? Used to have best jukebox ever, including The Fall & The Pixies, but the buggers got rid of it. Bah! - *B&B thinks a long hard slog may be ahead, with lower reaches of table a real probability. Quote that to us after you've beaten us!*

Uxbridge - Epitomise the spirit of a club surviving on limited resources, whilst proving themselves extremely hard to beat. Sort of Wimbledon of the division; you never really relish playing them, especially at theirs where we have a truly abysmal record. Have widely respected manager in George Talbot. Improved the ground no end when erecting covering behind both goals. Seem to have been in the division forever, but aren't content to merely survive. Draw far too many games to really appear capable of finishing in the top 3. Tom Cook probably fancies the bar staff. - *B&B say 6th - 10th*

Wembley - Hurrah for Wembley! 3 guaranteed points already. Nobody cheered as loudly as we did when Wembley were promoted back into division 1 after only a single season in exile. Why? Well, we proudly boast an unparalleled record of 5 wins in our last 5 visits. The best of these has to be the game we won 2-1 when we only had 1 shot on goal in the entire match, legendary Magpies goalscorer Owen Goal sealing victory after Wembley had hit each post, the crossbar, keepers arse etc. The supporters sing "We always win at Wembley". Shame the players never record a song every time we play there, as we could do with a laugh. One of the rare breeds of ground that has been improved every time we go there. - *B&B predicts lower reaches of table.*

but not bad enough for the drop. Note for extremely dim readers - No, Wembley do not play their home games at Wembley stadium.

Whyteleafe - Another of the divisions perennial strugglers whose ambitions each season stretch no further than staying where they are. Best shirt sponsorship in the league - Sunday Sport, which must be printed locally, er apparently, someone told us. Tactics straight out of the Barry Fry book of football- score more than you let in. Always an entertaining game as goals in abundance virtually guaranteed. Scene of previous lag-machine-switching-off-and-resetting-itself jolly japes. Also, a good chance to hear the home manager going apeshit at his players courtesy of the men's loo's which are situated next to the dressing rooms. Ground has more than it's fair share of annoying little shits whose sole intention is doing laps of the ground whilst throwing childish insults at us. We always beat them in the argument's though! - *B&B predicts lower echelons of table.*

Wokingham Town - New employers of Carthorse Croxford, but only for about half a season before he buggers off to pastures new, so time to dust down the coconut shells & get down the greengrocers to stock up on carrots. Train has now become favoured mode of transport to away game, with pub crawl around Reading to boot. It's generally needed as games at their ground are generally dire, although it's a trainspotters paradise, being hemmed in by railway lines. Pitch slopes so badly it's probably worth investing in an orthopaedic shoe. Clubhouse quite smart but a bit small. Stay late & you might be lucky with a bit of self-service at the bar! - *B&B reckon upper mid table.*

Worthing - Life is never dull for this bunch. They're up & down more than a tarts knickers. Could have sworn Steve McQueen played for them when they managed to claw their way back from a seemingly impossible deficit to stay up last term. Don't know if it's because it's near the sea but we always enjoy going there even though we put on a crap showing. Were honoured to be hosts for one of our fancy dress days when we had everything to play for to finish 12th & they had the small matter of getting promoted that day. Only one set of supporters made themselves heard though & it wasn't them. Nice stand down one side of ground, but rest of it stuck in the 50's. Seems to be a haven for washed up ex-Spurs stars, so expect to see Gary Mabbutt there soon. Responsible for spawning worst fanzine ever. DO NOT BUY IT. Wouldn't wipe our arses with it. - *B&B say lower mid table.*

That's the rest of the division slandered and insulted, but what of the super Magpies I hear you say?

I know that confidence is really high at the moment and most people at the club are expecting big things this season but it's worth pointing out that since we got promoted into this division we haven't even finished in the top HALF of the table, so even managing that would be an achievement.

That said, we are all perfectly aware that on our day we are capable of beating the best sides in ICIS 1, but our constant inability to beat the dross of the division, something that has characterised Maidenhead United for as long as we can remember, must be overcome if we are to do anything in the league this term. This factor alone would easily put us in the top 6 or so, and as the club appear to be willing to promise Alan the necessary funds to strengthen the squad if injuries rob us of some of the key players then this could make the vital difference in the promotion run in.

Maidenhead United have made giant strides off the pitch in recent years. Surely now is the time we saw some tangible reward on the pitch. Hopefully last season's cup win was just the start of it.

MM

THE HIGHS.....

- AUG 17TH** - Only 30 seconds into the new season and the Magpies are 1-0 up thanks to an opportunist strike from Garry Attrell as Canvey goalie John Keeley establishes an early lead for player of the season.
- AUG 24TH** - Chuck comes on as a sub and scores a great debut goal at Molesey as the Magpies cruise to a 2-1 win - our first of the season.
- AUG 27TH** - A brace apiece from Chuck and Garry ensure the Magpies trounce fancied Wokingham 4-0 at York Road.
- SEPT 3RD** - Chuck scores another two as eventual champions Chesham are beaten 2-1, and Maidenhead go top.
- OCT 12TH** - Obi makes his debut in a 1-1 draw at Leyton and is unfortunate to have a headed goal disallowed for offside.
- OCT 19TH** - Obi continues to impress in the Trophy against Corby with a hatrick as Maidenhead win 4-2, despite throwing away a 3-0 lead with only 10 minutes to go.
- DEC 17TH** - Tony Gale makes his first start in a dreadful 3-0 defeat at Aldershot.
- DEC 28TH** - The Magpies 4 match goal drought is finally ended as Mickey scores the equaliser against Hampton. We still lose.
- JAN 6TH** - Maidenhead end their run of 5 consecutive defeats with a 2-0 win in the Full Members Cup at Molesey. Garry and Chuck are the marksmen.
- JAN 25TH** - Thame are beaten 1-0 - our first league points at home since October.
- FEB 12TH** - Mickey scores 3 as Whyteleafe are whopped 4-3.
- FEB 15TH** - A great display from Garry and Obi at Billericay earns the Magpies a share of the points in a good 2-2 draw.
- MAR 15TH** - League performance of the season as Basingstoke are held 1-1.
- MAR 18TH** - YEOVIL!!!!!!
- MAR 31ST** - A great win at Hampton.
- APR 8TH** - An excellent day for the club as we beat Sutton 3-1 in the Full Members semi final.
- MAY 3RD** - Marlow lose at home to Whyteleafe and are relegated.
- MAY 7TH** - Magpies 3 Aylesbury 0 and at last Bob Hussey will have to build a trophy cabinet.
- AUG 31ST** - Out of the FA Cup and it's still August.
- OCT 10TH** - Lose 2-1 at home to Croydon, with the defence looking a bit lifeless without recently departed Mark Harrison.
- OCT 15TH** - Marlow come to York Road and trounce us 3-2
- NOV 2ND** - It goes from bad to worse as the Magpies crash 4-0 at bottom side Worthing.
- DEC 12TH** - In one of the poorest Magpies performances of all time, Abingdon knock us out of the B & B 1-0 at York Road.
- DEC 21ST** - Things are getting serious now as the Magpies are played off the park in a 2-0 reverse at Uxbridge
- JAN 18TH** - After establishing an early 2 goal lead, the Magpies crash 4-2 in a relegation 6 pointer at Canvey Island.
- FEB 8TH** - Tooting draw 1-1 at York Road. If that wasn't bad enough, Steve Brown is carried off and Eddie Mee makes his debut.
- FEB 22ND** - The hapless Magpies lose 2-0 at Marlow, but on plus side, Tim Cook return to Maidenhead.
- MAR 22ND** - Days after winning at Yeovil, Maidenhead lose 3-1 to escapologists Worthing.
- APRIL 5TH** - Chuck breaks his leg in a 1-0 win against Uxbridge.
- APRIL 12TH** - In a replica of the beating Yeovil/losing to Worthing scenario, days after beating Sutton, the Magpies lose 2-1 at Barton.
- APRIL 24TH** - A long Monday night trip to Bognor ends in a 1-0 defeat for the Magpies, in a game where the team played superbly and deserved at least a point.

...AND LOWS OF 96/97

THIS IS A SERIOUS LETTER THAT WAS SENT TO THE CLUB. BEST REACTION WINS A PRIZE.

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL NON-LEAGUE FANS

In this, their Centennial Year, Aylesbury United F.C. are fighting for their existence. Before you shrug complacently and turn the page - STOP! THINK! How would YOU feel if you discovered YOUR Club was going to close? What would YOU do if, on a Saturday, instead of going along to cheer on your local team you had to think of something else to do? How many of you view the last day of the season with a feeling of dread, wondering how you will manage until the football season starts again? Without a club to support, EVERY Saturday will be the 'close season'.

An offshore company who owned our ground have sold it to another offshore company who want to sell with a view to development. The front man for the original owners is the majority shareholder and has threatened to close down the club.

We would ask you to put aside thoughts of rivalry for the moment and unite with us in one common aim - TO PRESERVE LOCAL FOOTBALL - not just in Aylesbury but throughout the country.

Please fill in the coupon below and return it as soon as possible pledging your support.

Yours in Sport,

THE DUCKS INDEPENDENT SUPPORTERS GROUP

WE HEREBY SUPPORT AYLESBURY UNITED F.C. IN THEIR FIGHT TO SAVE THEIR CLUB AND TO PRESERVE LOCAL FOOTBALL THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

SIGNED.....

I AM A SUPPORTER OF.....F.C.

PLEASE RETURN TO P.O. BOX NO. 142

AYLESBURY, BUCKS. HP21 9ST

THE PERFECT END TO A SEASON

The struggle to avoid the drop into Division Two last term was as fierce a battle as you could imagine. By mid April, nothing was even close to being finalised. Tooting were almost certainly relegated, but that still left a handful of sides - Worthing, Canvey Island, Berkhamsted, Marlow, Croydon and Barton - struggling for points to avoid relegation. In the end, I was glad to see the back of Canvey for a number of reasons, and almost ecstatic to see Marlow confined to the drop.

It's always nice to get one over on your local rivals. Sadly, since Marlow's relegation into Division One, the four matches played resulted in only a single victory for the Magpies, and three of the worst, most humiliating defeats of recent years. The rise in profile Marlow have enjoyed in recent years has been nothing less than embarrassing for Maidenhead: their promotion to the Premier Division, numerous appearances on Match Of The Day, County and League Cup successes being the key points that elevated them to their new plateau. To me, the most insulting part of all was when they unveiled their new covered terracing at the far side of the ground. For the Maidenhead Advertiser to sponsor a stand at a ground which is not Maidenhead was the final straw.

During the 90's, the Advertiser have always favoured Marlow. Their on field success perhaps justified that, but now, it is time for the Advertiser to get their priorities right. Their HQ is adjacent to York Road, and there will be no excuses for not having reporters in attendance at our matches in the future. Regardless of any success Marlow may have this season, Maidenhead are now the most senior side in the Advertisers area for the first time in 8 years. The proposed terracing development at the Canal End could see some much welcome sponsorship from the Advertiser, rather than the free advertising they can generate by putting hoardings on the side of their Bell Street offices.

Now that Marlow are back where they belong, they should only be able to obtain the small column inches that Flackwell Heath and Burnham receive. I for one am glad to see the back of Marlow. Long may their demise continue, and lets hope the 10,000 'supporters' who went to White Hart Lane have the sense never to watch Marlow again.

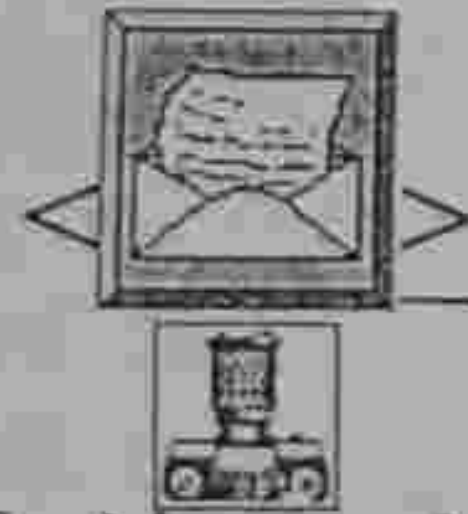
Keith Jackson

**PROOF (IF IT WAS NEEDED) THAT LOGIC IS A
DIRTY OLD PERVERT WHO PREYS ON
DEFENCELESS YOUNG GIRLS.**

Whilst 'surfing' through 'the net', one of our regulars came across the following advert on [://www.modelspage.com/photogs/azphot.htm](http://www.modelspage.com/photogs/azphot.htm). Obviously, Craig was looking for photos of collections from other Airfix enthusiasts, obviously.... But I'm afraid, Mr Logic, we have stumbled upon your sleazy Arizona 'Studio', and hopefully, all the full frontals will be reproduced in the next issue of Born and Bred.

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INTERESTS: Need models for fashion and lifestyle shoots. Also for stock in those same areas.

MODELS WANTED: I will photograph new models for the cost of film and lab fees. I also use new models for test shoots.

A SHOTS SUPPORTER WRITES.....

Dear Born and Bred

I am sure all your readers learnt about collective nouns in school. Such things as a pride of lions, a coven of witches, an inconsistency of football referees. But what you probably don't know is that there are collective nouns for football supporters. Here (in case anyone is interested) are all the details for the ICIS Division 1.

- | | |
|--|---|
| A riverbank of Abingdon fans | A pay-day of Aldershot fans |
| A windswept of Barton fans | A runaway of Basingstoke fans |
| A commuter belt of Berkhamsted fans | A countryside of Billericay fans |
| A pebble dash of Bognor fans | An unwelcome of Canvey Island fans |
| A crowd of Chesham fans | An arena of Croydon fans |
| A new stand of Hampton fans | An identity crisis of Leyton Whatsit fans |
| A flag of Maidenhead fans | A trash can of Marlow fans |
| A dyslexia of Museli fans | A boredom of Thame fans |
| A dilapidation of Tooting & Mitcham fans | A scattering of Uxbridge fans |
| An anagram of Altown fans | A bargain of Whyteleafe fans |
| A railway siding of Wokingham fans | A relegation of Worthing fans |

THANK YOU

It may seem a long time ago now, but the club's end of season 'do' was for most the best one yet.

Obviously, the fact that it came only two days after the cup final victory made the atmosphere all the more special. However, such is the apparent 'togetherness' of the majority of those involved with the club at the moment that I think it would have surpassed previous efforts anyway.

There were many highlights to the evening, including a 'lowering' in height of the LogicMobile courtesy of an absolutely paraletic Andy Eaton, or David Eaton if you looked at the trophy he got due to his outstanding season in the reserves, and supporters whose identity shall be kept secret - *see Phil, I said I would keep your name out of the frame!* If Logic was upset at having to walk home & then back the next day to fetch a footpump then he shouldn't be. He got off lightly, as Fat Paddy wanted to cut the roof off the car in order that we could parade the cup around the streets of Maidenhead!

The fact that, for once, the seating arrangements for the supporters was not a mere afterthought was very much appreciated by the fanzine crew, as we normally end up hiding behind the curtains at the back of the hall. As we understand that this was arranged by SupaTrev, he deserves the credit and for that we salute you!

The usual awards were dished out to various deserving winners, with Garry Attrell hiring the services of Group 4 security to look after all the silverware he received, to add to the Fanzine's player of the season trophy he had already received for his outstanding contribution to the cause.

One award that certainly was NOT expected was the one I was lucky enough to be presented with on behalf of the loyal fans who follow the team home & away, week in week out. They know who they are so I won't embarrass them by naming them & also the list goes beyond the people who write for this publication. The trophy has pride of place behind the social club bar & is well worth a look.

Whilst it is generally accepted that at the higher levels of football the fans are quite often treated with disdain by the club they unquestioningly follow, likewise by players who seem more concerned about where their next over-inflated salary is coming from, it is a glowing tribute to the players currently at our club that they not only show their appreciation of our support at the end of the match, but actively support the fanzine financially & with the material they provide us with! To have actually received our own award for this support was fantastic & really appreciated. Those who know me will tell anyone that I am never stuck for words (that's putting it mildly!) but to be honest, I was so taken aback by the award that I couldn't really think of what to say at the time! I hope that this short piece rectifies this when I say, on behalf of all those supporters..... Thank You.

M.M

In a league where football had little value sometimes donkeys had a price...

THE BOUNTY HUNTER



Starting his career in the one horse town of Maidenhead he was lured away for a Fistful of Dollars. This High Plains Drifter travelled around the Thames Valley offering help to those who could pay his price leaving as soon as the money dried up. He returned to his starting point but soon left for A Few Dollars More travelling upstream to join the Good, the Bad and the Ugly at Marlow. Come and see where he ended up next.

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