



Kevin Dawson, right, and Paddy Madden celebrate the former's opening goal in front of raucous fans in the second leg of the play-off semi-final against Sheffield United

PICTURE: ADRIAN HOPPER

Johnson backs Yeovil fans to roar his team to victory over Brentford

FROM BACK PAGE

a happy ending. I have never seen such emotion among a group of lads than we had, there were some real hard-nosed lads in our team that were crying and of course that's because they know the commitment and work that had gone into producing that game.

"It was the dress rehearsal for Wembley and we've got to do it again."

If they triumph over Brentford, the Glovers will again astound neutrals by climbing clear of a division many believe they are already punching above their weight in. But

despite the prospect of Yeovil in the Championship coming as a shock to many, Johnson said the club's fan-base were completely behind it.

He said: "The fans have 100 per cent bought into it. You can't drag people to your ground, I've always said that. I've never moaned about the ones that haven't attended, I've always praised the ones that have because they are the ones that deserve it.

"But I also know that if you have a team that is committed and the supporters see that the club behind that group of management and players is committed then they start putting in their commitment. They are

the ones that might have dropped off previously.

"Against Sheffield United, I didn't see anyone who didn't have our colours on so it wasn't as if people turned up to observe, they turned up to support and that's how I felt. We scored in the first five minutes and the roar from that was only beaten by the roar that went up for Ed Upson's goal.

"I've listened to it on the radio again and I've watched in on the TV again and the hairs stand up on the back of my neck and I get goose pimples every time I see or hear it.

"That was the crowd's roar because they weren't clapping

politely, that was a roar that you can only get at football."

Johnson suffered Wembley heartache in 2008 when Hull City beat Bristol City – who included current Yeovil skipper Jamie McAllister – to book a place in the Premier League. With that experience under his belt, the manager said he was hungry to ensure Yeovil wrote the script.

The 57-year-old said: "It was a great memory, but certain things happened where we had situations that developed during the last few days that I won't let happen again.

"Dele Adebola had a bed that wasn't big enough for him, but wouldn't say. Jamie McCombe

had a stomach ache and that was another situation.

"We got there on the day and Bradley Orr got a smash in the face, breaking his cheek bone. The doctors wouldn't let him on the pitch, so he just got up and ran on with all the medics asking what was going on, saying he was out of it and the deciding goal came with the ball going over his shoulder.

"There was the Dean Windass story with the Hull striker close to retirement as well, so we have got to make sure its our story and the happy ending is ours. I've been talking to them about storylines. Play-offs are stories and Brentford's has been penalties."