

# I'LL GIVE 'EM YEOVHELL

## Paddy's ready to drive Bees into the ground

They don't come much bigger than a play-off final at Wembley



to the final has been relatively straightforward in comparison to their opponents Brentford.

Uwe Rosler's men were looking at automatic promotion until a crazy minute of drama at Griffin Park against Doncaster on the final day of the regular season.

A missed penalty and then a late goal for the eventual champions consigned Brentford to the play-offs.

They then got through an epic semi-final battle with Swindon thanks to a

spot-kick shootout after the visitors scored a last-gasp equaliser.

Yeovil, meanwhile, beat Sheffield United 2-1 on aggregate after over-turning a 1-0 defeat against the Blades in the first leg.

With Brentford doing everything the hard way, Madden expects the drama to continue today.

He said: "Brentford's run to the final has been amazing. They certainly won't be fazed by a penalty shootout if it gets that far but neither will we.

"They've had to dig in and obviously they were a bit unlucky with the Doncaster game. "Personally I haven't scored for a while but there would be nowhere better to change that than at Wembley."

It would take a brave punter to bet against Madden steering Yeovil to fresh glory.

**By RICHARD EDWARDS**  
**PADDY MADDEN has just shed his L-plates.**

Now he's out to make sure the wheels don't come off Yeovil's play-off challenge at Wembley this afternoon.

The Irishman only signed for the club in January after a successful loan spell but his 22 goals have fired Gary Johnson's side to within 90 minutes of the Championship.

Not bad for a man who started the season unwanted on the bench at Carlisle, after scoring just two goals in two years in Cumbria.

It has been already been a big month for Madden after the 23-year-old hotshot passed his driving test first time.

And Glovers boss Gary Johnson will give the Irishman a licence to thrill in a bid to deliver a fairy tale promotion in the League One play-off final.

He said: "I've been in a lot of high-pressure situations as a footballer so that definitely helped me to get through the test - I'll be far more nervous at Wembley.

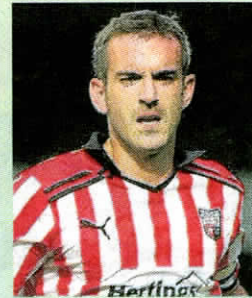
"The season didn't start too well but that's football. If you keep your head down and work hard then you'll get your rewards.

"They don't come much bigger than a play-off final at Wembley and we're all looking forward to it.

"Hopefully we can get the win and get to where we want to be.

"It would be an incredible feat because we were probably among the favourites to get relegated at the start of the year.

"It would be an unbelievable turnaround to get into the Championship." Yeovil's route



## It's time to kill off the curse, says Kev

**▲ ON THE CASE: O'Connor**  
**By DECLAN TAYLOR**

'MR BRENTFORD' Kevin O'Connor insists he is the ONLY player in west London haunted by the club's long-running play-off curse.

The Bees have lost all six of their previous attempts at promotion via the end-of-season route - but O'Connor reckons they could make it seventh heaven today.

The skipper, 31, who is in his fourth play-off campaign, said: "People go on about this curse but this is a different squad, a different manager and everything.

"It's only myself who has been here so I'm the only one who's aware of it. I've had three out of the six play-off disap-

pointments. Hopefully we can break it.

"I'm ultra-confident that this is the best squad of players I've been involved in. We've got everything going for us."

Brentford have only themselves to blame for their play-off agony.

Back in 1986, it was then Bees chairman Martin Lange who came up with the idea, when he was on the Football League committee.

Now they have another chance to break the hoodoo and O'Connor said: "If we can get to the Championship it would mean everything.

"I could retire a happy man - although hopefully not just yet.

"To see Brentford there would make me very proud. Even if I don't get on the pitch it'll be the best day of my career."

### NPOWER LEAGUE 1 FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>C</b> Doncaster	46	25	9	12	62	44	84
<b>P</b> Bournemouth	46	24	11	11	76	53	83
<b>Brentford</b>	46	21	16	9	62	47	79
<b>Yeovil</b>	46	23	8	15	71	56	77
Sheff Utd	46	19	18	9	56	42	75
Swindon	46	20	14	12	72	39	74
L Orient	46	21	8	17	55	48	71
MK Dons	46	19	13	14	62	45	70
Walsall	46	17	17	12	65	58	68
Crawley Town	46	18	14	14	59	58	68
Tranmere	46	19	10	17	58	48	67
Notts County	46	16	17	13	61	49	65
Crewe	46	18	10	18	54	62	64
Preston	46	14	17	15	54	49	59
Coventry	46	18	11	17	66	59	55
Shrewsbury	46	13	16	17	54	60	55
Carlisle	46	14	13	19	56	77	55
Stevenage	46	15	9	22	47	64	54
Oldham	46	14	9	23	46	59	51
Colchester	46	14	9	23	47	68	51
<b>R</b> Scunthorpe	46	13	9	24	49	73	48
<b>R</b> Bury	46	9	14	23	45	73	41
<b>R</b> Hartlepool	46	9	14	23	39	67	41
<b>R</b> Portsmouth	46	10	12	24	51	69	32

## HAPPY HAYTER IN A HURRY

**By JOE BATCHELOR**

YEOVIL striker James Hayter aims to complete a hat-trick of play-off final wins to go with his record for scoring the fastest Football League treble.

The 34-year-old (right) wrote his name in the history books by netting three times for Bournemouth in just 140 seconds in a 6-0 win over Wrexham in 2004.

He also helped Bournemouth to victory over Lincoln in the 2003 League Two play-off final.

And he scored the winner for Doncaster against Leeds in the League One final in 2008.

Hayter said: "I have been promoted

twice, both through the play-offs. I want to keep that record going. People tell me it is devastating to lose a play-off match and I do not want that feeling.

"My two old clubs have gone up automatically and I want to join them and play against them.

"The hat-trick gets talked about a lot but I rate getting promoted above that achievement.

"If we can win it would probably be my biggest achievement. It is one of the smaller clubs, with a small

gate and one of the smallest budgets in the league. To do what we have done is incredible.

"A few of the lads do not know about the hat-trick and ask how I managed it - and I have to say I don't know.

"I tell them I will bring the DVD in and show them. It was surreal at the time and I do not think it will ever be beaten.

"A play-off final is a great occasion that you remember for the rest of your life. It is my best memory in football and I want to emulate it."

