

Wycombe to face Hendon in first round

WHEN Wycombe beat Witney in the F.A. Cup fourth qualifying round, on Saturday, a long-time supporter, resigned to the team receiving away draws, commented: "I wonder where we'll have to travel next," writes **MICHAEL KNOX**.

Well, the answer is that the Wanderers will visit fellow Isthmian Leaguers Hendon in the first round on Saturday, November

21 — one of nine ties involving two non-league sides.

This is a disappointing draw, because Hendon even though they are in the lower reaches of the Premier Division have an impressive F.A. Cup record. They reached the third round in 1972/73, drawing at Newcastle before losing the replay, which was switched to Watford.

The last time these clubs met in cup competition came ten seasons ago in that unforgettable Amateur Cup semi-final at Brentford. Hen-

don triumphed 2-1 and went on to win the final.

Peter Deadman, scorer of the winning goal that day still plays for them, as does Gary Hand, who represented Wycombe in their memorable 1974/75 cup run, before returning to Claremont Road.

The tie comes only four days after the teams are due to meet in a league match at Claremont Road. Hendon have expressed a desire for this encounter to be postponed.

There is a possibility that Wanderers will want to face

Chesham in the Berks and Bucks second round, on November 17. So the fixture list for the week preceding the cup-tie is in doubt.

Wanderers will be hoping that goalkeeper Gary Lester continues the brilliant form that enabled them to defeat Southern League Witney 1-0 on Saturday.

Jock goes

He made a string of athletic saves at either end of the game to enable a weakened side scrape through, thanks to Steve Long's 35th minute goal.

The other main talking point of the weekend was the imminent departure of Jock Sheppard, their groundsman for the past 26 years.

Wanderers, concerned at Jock's inability to look after the ground on his own since suffering a knee injury, have offered him early retirement with generous compensation.

Chairman Brian Lee revealed this week that in addition to a weekly sum until his 65th birthday, Jock would receive a four figure compensatory sum and the proceeds of a special testimonial match in his honour. He has also been offered the 'lifetime freedom' of Loakes Park.

His successor Ian Sanderson, who has been helping out this season, takes over officially on Monday. So tomorrow's Premier Division match at home to Bishops Cleeve, the F.A. Trophy holders, will be the last under Jock Sheppard's care.

Stortford, placed third in the table, hope to field former Arsenal striker John Radford, who has recently suffered a knee injury.

More news on the Jock Sheppard story and a full report on the Stortford match will appear in Midweek published on Tuesday.

BERGER ISTHMIAN LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sutton	17	13	3	1	37	14	42
Wycombe	17	9	5	3	28	18	32
Stortford	21	10	2	9	33	32	32
Croydon	16	9	1	6	32	21	28
Welshpool	17	8	3	6	33	29	27
Torquay	16	7	5	4	30	27	26
Slough	17	6	8	3	26	19	26
Staines	14	7	4	3	21	13	25
Leatherhead	18	7	4	7	26	28	25
Billerica	14	6	6	2	23	16	24
Woking	18	6	6	6	28	27	24
Leytonstone	14	6	3	5	26	19	21
Hares	14	6	3	5	23	16	21
Barking	19	6	3	10	22	31	21
Hitchin	20	6	5	9	23	37	21
Hendon	15	5	8	5	18	10	20
Harlow	17	4	6	7	23	28	18
Harrold	14	5	3	6	29	24	18
Bromley	17	5	1	11	21	41	16
Dulwich	15	4	2	9	14	20	14
Greenwich	18	2	7	9	21	29	13
Carshalton	12	1	2	9	10	32	5