

Flooding is new danger

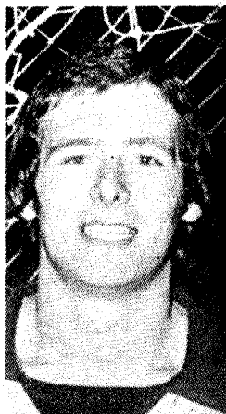
SUNDAY night's sudden thaw means there is an excellent chance of Barnet and Wycombe Wanderers meeting tonight (Tuesday) — the rearranged date for their second round tie.

The danger now is flooding. The bottom end of the Underhill pitch tends to get waterlogged. But the fact that half the snow was cleared from the pitch before Saturday's postponement, must boost the chances of playing.

Howard Kennedy, now recovered from his ankle injury, was taking part in an extra training session called by Mike Keen for Monday night.

Coaches for tonight's match leave Lily's Walk, High Wycombe at 5.15p.m. Supporters can use same coach tickets as for Saturday. Those without tickets can turn up, in the hope that not all the seats will be filled.

Those with tickets, unable to make the trip, will have their money refunded by the Supporters' Club.



HOWARD KENNEDY
... fit again

It's Brighton at home if Blues can beat Barnet

"NUMBER 59 — Barnet or Wycombe Wanderers — will play number seven — Brighton and Hove Albion."

Those few words on BBC Radio 2 at about 5.30 p.m. on Saturday gave Wycombe the chance of more F.A. Cup glory — seven years after their famous epic ties with Middlesbrough.

Provided they can beat Barnet in the second round tie, postponed from Saturday, Wycombe have the prospect of staging the most romantic tie of the third round on Saturday, January 2.

Brighton, who last week reached their highest ever Football League position when they defeated Southampton to move to sixth in Division One must be dreading playing on a sloping non-league ground.

'Excellent draw'

For that is the one certain fact from this draw, because, of course, Barnet's Underhill ground slopes from one end to the other.

Wycombe manager Mike Keen and his players heard this tremendous draw while travelling back on their coach after spending their idle Saturday afternoon watching his old club

Queens Park Rangers beat Barnsley 1-0 on the Omniturf pitch.

"That is an excellent draw, provided we can beat Barnet. It will certainly give both sides extra incentive to win. The pressure will certainly be on," said an excited Keen.

Keen will know something about the 'Seagulls' style of play, because he is a great personal friend of their coach John Collins.

Keen and Collins were together at both Q.P.R. and Luton Town, and Keen was so impressed with Collins' knowledge of football that he appointed him as coach, when taking over as manager of Watford.

They worked together successfully, but whereas Mike Keen has moved into non-league football, Collins, who once looked after Fulham juniors, has moved into the top flight.

This was only the second time in 97 years that Wycombe had reached the third round draw.

The prospect of meeting one of the most progressive clubs in the country is certainly growing on Keen. "The more I think of it, the better it gets," he added.

The good news from the Wycombe camp is that mid-field player Howard Kennedy has recovered from his ankle injury and will be fit to play in the rearranged match at Barnet tonight (Tuesday), weather permitting.