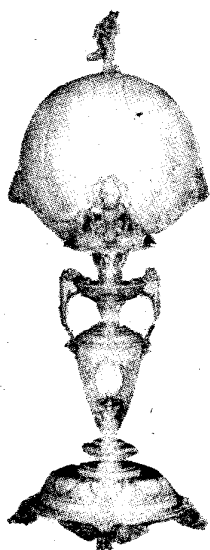




Boston goalkeeper Kevin Blackwell gets down quickly to stop this low shot during Saturday's goalless draw with Wycombe Wanderers.



League tables

SERVOWARM ISTHMIAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wycombe	31	17	6	8	56	38	57
Sutton	28	14	6	8	71	44	48
Dulwich	24	13	8	3	39	25	47
Harrow	23	14	4	5	43	31	46
Slough	25	12	8	5	44	20	44
Hayes	24	13	5	6	40	26	44
Leystone	24	12	6	6	35	23	42
Croydon	29	11	7	11	44	38	40
Tooting	24	12	3	9	41	33	39
Carshalton	25	11	4	10	35	35	37
Barking	25	10	7	8	31	32	37
Billericay	24	11	3	10	29	26	36
Staines	31	9	9	13	44	57	36
Hendon	28	11	2	15	29	31	35
Storrford	24	9	7	8	38	33	31
Hitchin	30	9	6	15	36	48	33
Bognor	22	8	5	9	21	24	29
Bramley	24	7	6	11	24	28	27
Walthamstow	26	6	7	13	25	40	25
Wokingham	21	6	5	10	18	25	23
Woking	29	5	4	20	21	52	19
Leathhead	27	4	2	21	23	84	14

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE (Up to February 8)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Maidstone	24	16	2	6	49	21	50
Enfield	25	14	6	5	57	26	48
Boston	25	14	4	7	51	37	46
Wealdstone	23	13	6	4	41	20	45
Runorn	24	13	5	6	45	29	44
*Weymouth	23	13	35	5	39	25	44
Bath	25	13	4	8	40	33	43
Northwich	26	12	6	8	44	34	42
Scarboro	25	11	5	9	43	39	38
Nuneaton	27	10	8	9	40	39	38
Telford	24	10	8	6	40	35	38
Barret	27	11	2	14	39	54	35
Yeovil	23	10	1	12	46	53	31
Bangor	24	8	6	10	43	50	30
Altrincham	26	7	8	11	36	42	29
Kettering	27	8	5	14	46	61	29
Dagenham	23	5	9	9	38	46	24
Worcester	21	7	2	12	31	50	23
Barrow	22	5	6	11	24	41	21
Frickley	26	4	9	13	37	54	21
Trowbridge	25	4	5	16	32	59	17
Stafford	27	3	8	16	30	52	17

* pending ten point deduction.

Maidstone lie in wait

LEAGUE TURN DOWN REPLAY DATE SWITCH

WYCOMBE'S attempt to have their delayed F.A. Trophy second round replay at Boston United, switched to tomorrow (Saturday) has been turned down by the Servowarm Isthmian League.

The replay after Saturday's goalless draw at Loakes Park was originally scheduled for Wednesday. But three inches of snow on the York Street pitch meant that it was called off by a local referee at 10am.

This was early enough to stop Wycombe players taking time off work, but instead they will have to take off this coming Monday, the next date of the replay. Kick-off is at 7.30pm.

Refusal

Wanderers had originally explored the possibility of playing tomorrow, 24 hours after the game at Loakes Park. Boston are without a game and provided both clubs and leagues agreed, then the game could have been staged tomorrow.

The only snag was Wycombe's Isthmian League match at home to Barking. The league refused to allow a fixture switch. Regarding a settled Saturday fixture list as paramount (so that one day they might be accepted on the Football Pools), the league said it was not in their policy to allow a change and anyway it would set a precedent.

Wycombe secretary John Goldsworthy commented: "It would be a sensible thing to have played the replay on Saturday, bearing in mind that players have to take time off work in mid-week.

"A player might get away with this once, but if it kept happening, an employer could turn round and say 'enough is enough'. Remember there are more than three million unemployed.

"It would also help the people who wanted to watch the game. So what if it sets a precedent, as long as it's a good thing."

At least the delay until Monday will give Wycombe more

time to get striker Steve Long fit. He limped off midway through the second half on Saturday with a knee injury.

Mike Keen revealed that Long would not have played on Wednesday. "But the injury's improving fast," he added. It is unlikely he will be risked against Barking, in a game Wanderers must win if they are to stay favourites for the Premier Division title.

Of course none of this palaver would have been necessary if Wycombe had put away just one of the several good chances they created last Saturday. The most blatant miss came from Ken Wilson two minutes from time.

The manner of their performance leaves them with hope that they can still earn lucrative third round tie at home to Alliance League leaders Maidstone on February 26.

Under the guidance of manager Bill Williams, Maidstone have undergone a remarkable transformation this season.

Aspirations

When he took charge on return from America toward the end of last term, relegation was staring the Kent club in the face. But Williams, on the books of WBA, Portsmouth and Gillingham in his playing days, steered them clear.

Now with championship aspirations, Maidstone have the best defensive record in the Alliance. A back line well marshalled by skipper Kenny Hill, a survivor from their last meeting with Wanderers four years ago in the FA Cup, includes coloured goalkeeper, Derek Richardson formally of Chelsea, QPR and Sheffield United.

Richardson is just one of numerous players in the Maidstone squad with Football League experience. Striker Clive Green for example, their record £8,000 signing from Yeovil played for Portsmouth.

And top scorer John Bartley was a consistent marksman for Millwall, Bartley bagged his 28th goal of the season on Tuesday night during Maidstone's 3-0 second round replay win at Dulwich.

United also needed a replay to dispose of Gravesend in the third qualifying round before knocking out Aylesbury at the first attempt.