



The main stand at Loakes Park is liberally sprinkled with supporters for the last Reserves match against Hounslow. What will they now do with their Saturday afternoon?

Paying their last respects

DESPITE the bitter cold and the considerable counter attraction of the Grand National, approximately 150 fans turned up at Loakes Park on Saturday to pay possibly their last respects to Wycombe Wanderers Reserves.

The Blues' second string will be axed at the end of the season unless there is an 11th hour change of mind by the club's committee.

So, for most of the hardy supporters, this may have been their last chance to cheer on the youngsters in their bid to win the Suburban League title.

The crowd was made up of pensioners, fathers with football crazy kids, men who did not make the trip to Carshalton for the first team game and the occasional member of the opposite sex.

The inevitable football chat centred, for some, on the club's decision to axe the Reserves. Could this really be the last home game in their history?

To some this seemed unthinkable, to others downright stupid.

Despite the empty terraces, the faithful band did their best to transcend a morgue-like setting.

The goals were greeted with enthusiasm as the Blues took another stride towards a championship win which could cause acute embarrassment in the boardroom.

At the end of the match Loakes Park was silent, like a graveyard without tombstones. The Reserves are refusing to be buried without a fight.

Match report and manager's reaction on page 23.