

Keen signs on hot-shot Tate

WYCOMBE hope to have solved their striking problems by signing on Oxford City's prolific goalscorer Colin Tate.

Mike Keen has been trying for some time to lure Tate to Loakes Park — and now he has got his man for the last nine Isthmian league matches of the season.

Tate, who joined Oxford from Hampton three years ago is a noted marksman, who has already scored 24 goals in league and cup matches for Oxford this season. he is fourth on the current league list.

There was speculation that he might come to Wycombe When he went on their tour of Italy last year. But with

Steve Long, Ken Wilson and Terry Glynn all fit, there was no desperate need for his services.

Struggling

Now with Wilson and Long injured, Wycombe have been struggling up front and he will certainly give the side a timely boost.

Keen was delighted with his acquisition. "He gets a few goals and is good on the ball. He certainly make our squad stronger, not only for this season, but hopefully for next as well."

Although closely marked, Tate looked a dangerous customer when Oxford played Wycombe in their recent Hitachi Cup Semi Final.

Oxford's dismissal from

that competition removed the last obstacle from his joining the Blues. Of course, he will not be able to play in the two-legged final against Sutton, the dates of which have yet to be finalised.

Tate should have made his league debut for Wycombe in their home match against Dulwich Hamlet tonight (Tuesday). But this has now been called off due to Dulwich's involvement in the London Senior Cup.

Dulwich and Leytonstone drew 1-1 in their Semi Final on Saturday and must replay tonight. So the Blues fixture backlog grows by the minute.

They hoped to ease it by rearranging their home date with Wokingham, who were without a game. But the Berkshire club would not play ball, much to Wanderer's annoyance.

So, instead, Wycombe and Tate will be playing a friendly against Norwegian Division Two side I. L. Vidar, from Stavanger.

The club are staying at Bisham Abbey as part of their pre-season warm-up and play against Bournemouth on Thursday.

After that, the next game at Loakes Park will be Jock Sheppard's testimonial on Sunday afternoon, when a Wycombe 'Middlesborough' XI will be taking on a Seventies Squad.