

Salute The Blues



IH-FLYERS: Thecombe attack guns the mighty Irs during the only-contested prison friendly, ict ended in a 3-3 w

COME

PAUL Bence, the Blues' manager, is urging football fans to come to Loakes Park this season for the best entertainment money can buy.

"This is going to be a learning season for everyone. I can't promise miracle championship wins, but what I can promise is that we will endeavour to play attractive, attacking football.

"Winning is not the be-all and end-all of the game, although it's nice, but we will guarantee an attacking style of play.

"We've got a strong squad and we certainly won't be a soft touch," he said.

Paul emphasised how the Gola League will be a completely new experience for all his players and that they have a lot to learn.

"The Gola League is a whole new world. We've got to learn about travelling, commitment and everything else that goes with this standard of football — and I hope we're fast learners."

In the early part of this season, when the

By JULIE PORTER

spotlight is on all Football League clubs up and down the country after last year's sickening scenes of violence and rioting, Paul Bence has some words of encouragement for Wycombe fans.

"The game we love is going through the gutter after the terrible riots last season,

Salute The Blues

AND CHEER ON BENCE'S BOYS



OUTSTANDING: Des McMahon

and I think people may start turning away from the Football League.

"This is the time when Wycombe Wanderers can offer something good to the fans.

"I hope everyone will realise this and come and give us the support we deserve in the Gola League."

The Blues had to fight hard for their place among the elite of non-league football.

Their centenary season proved to be quite a year — and a heart-stopping time for players and fans alike.

A bitterly disappointing first five months of the season turned into one of the most dramatic campaigns in the club's 100-year history.

It climaxed with a thrilling win in the very last league match to earn promotion to the Gola League, followed a few days later by a terrific victory that brought the Hitachi Cup to Loakes Park for the first time.

After spending the last few years in the Isthmian League, the Gola League presents a new and exciting challenge.

Paul Bence has prepared his club to rise to this challenge and invested money.

Neal Stanley, a 24-year-old for-



HOT SEAT: Manager Paul Bence

ward/midfield player, has just spent seven seasons at Wokingham where he scored 24 goals in over 50 games last year.

Des McMahon, 29, who has spent the last few years creating problems for the Blues whilst with Wokingham, joins Wycombe with a reputation for being one of the best midfielders outside the Football League.



SCORER: New signing Neal Stanley

The happy Wanderers...

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In recent years, Ken Swain left to join Chelsea and then subsequently won a European Cup winners' medal with Aston Villa.

And who will forget the tremendous FA Cup third round matches with Mid-

dlesbrough back in 1975. The Boro, then a Division One side, came to Loakes Park and were relieved to go back to the North East with a draw.

In the replay, in front of 32,000 fans, The Blues were applauded off the pitch by the home players after going down 1-0.

Since then, the club has had several successful seasons in the Isthmian League Premier Division.

Paul Bence was appointed manager at the start of last season and after a shaky start he has guided The Blues to the threshold of even greater glory.