

Spend more now Mr Lee

THE unthinkable has happened and Wycombe have been relegated!

But instead of walking around in a state of despair and despondency, let's think positively. Remember, even Manchester United have been relegated.

I suggest to Mr Lee and his committee, that if you are sincere in your wishes for Football League status, then money has to be spent in bringing good players to the club.

It's the only way to achieve better football.

If you pay Isthmian League wages, you will only attract Isthmian League players.

To the players, present and future, how about some pride in your performances? Show us that donning a blue shirt really means something.

To the supporters; instead of making inane comments from the safety of the terraces, buy a season ticket and become a member. Then you can go the AGM and voice your opinions and also have a say in the running of the club.

Remember those in charge are only there through being voted in.

I'm sure, if we all work together, the 'Blues' will soon be back where they belong — in the Gola League.

Dave Finch, 3 Saltash Close, Loudwater, High Wycombe.

Midweek sports bag

Good times will return

THE Letters from readers and your sports comment in the Bucks Free Press (May 9) are the natural reaction to the disappointment of Wycombe Wanderers' relegation from the Gola League.

However, some of your criticisms directed at the club chairman and committee were unwarranted and it seems the club were denied the right to reply.

There is no doubt that the playing staff at the club needs strengthening. The committee may be criticised for appearing to be too cautious at times in spending money on new players, but I suspect that some criticism may also be levelled at the team management for failing to take decisive action even when cash was available.

Like most other senior non-league clubs, Wycombe Wanderers walks on an economic tightrope.

Income from football activities is totally inadequate to cover the costs of running the club — the major item of which is the wages paid to players and managers.

Alternative sources of income must be found, and in the case of Wycombe this comes only from the lottery; there is no thriving social club to fall back on.

Players were just too tired

IT may have 'saved the day' if two or three experienced professionals had been signed on at the start of the season — or perhaps not!

The Blues, at the END, were not good enough, but three months earlier with a 12 match unbeaten run (including three wins and three draws in the Gola League) — they certainly were doing great.

What I see as the overriding factor has been physical exhaustion, too many matches in a short space of time.

Also injuries to many players was another important factor.

During the run into the season Blues were often playing four matches in eight days.

How many League clubs do this?

Finally as far as finances are concerned — the Blues members at the next AGM must ask some searching questions about money available for players, about current wages paid, etc.

J. Mead (address supplied).

The club committee has consistently managed to keep the club finances under control, thus avoiding the desperate financial situations in which some clubs find themselves.

At the same time, a policy of introducing young talent and watching it develop has been something of a tradition, and one on which much of those years of success was based.

Not too many years ago, supporters were moaning that Mike Keen's squad did not contain enough local players!

Your comparison with Wimbledon is interesting. The Dons success has been achieved while maintaining a policy of strict housekeeping. There are no highly paid stars at Plough Lane, but commitment and team spirit have brought rewards.

Another comparison might be with Yeovil, the team who swapped places with Wycombe last season.

Packed with ex-Football League professionals and willing to spend vast sums of money to regain their Gola League status, the Somerset club were pipped by Sutton for the Vauxhall-Opel League championship.

The answer must be one of balance. With the club being led by a committee with its long-term interests at heart, and a playing side sufficiently motivated by a management team able to make vital decisions, good times will return.

Stephen Dargish, 1047 Garratt Lane, London.

Disgraceful!

AFTER reading your Sports comment regarding Wycombe Wanderers I must congratulate you on the most outspoken article I've ever had the privilege of reading in the Bucks Free Press.

If only your predecessors of 8-9 years ago had been so explicit the Wanderers might well have got the message and taken the action which was necessary.

We could have followed the Wimbledons and Wigans but as one of your correspondents mentioned, we are now back with the Walthamstows and Wokinghams.

What a disgrace not only for the chairman, officials and management but for the town itself.

If Brian Lee is not going to spend money on class players perhaps he can afford a youth team to bring on local youngsters. There is a wealth of talent, in this area as John Hampden School has proved.

Richard Smith (address supplied).