

ONE NIGHT WONDER

BY JIM McCANN

Silkman not here to stay

BARRY Silkman could be just a one night wonder for Wycombe Wanderers!

The classy pro, who has had more clubs than Peter Stringfellow, turned out for Blues on Tuesday night at Harrow to solve their midfield crisis.

But Wycombe boss Alan Gane warned that his old friend Silkman may not play again for the Loakes Park men.

"I can't see us hanging on to Barry for long," admitted Gane after the 2-1 Vauxhall-Opel League Premier Division defeat at Harrow.

"He might not even play again. There are a lot of professional clubs after him.

"It would be great if we could keep him but he's a class player with plenty to offer the team yet."

Gane and Silkman have been friends since their days together at Hereford.

The 34-year-old is currently at Crewe but the Wycombe boss adventurously signed him up to plug a vital gap at Harrow.

Silkman was a revelation. His vision put him in a class above the rest and clearly showed why he has had a long career in the Football League.

The bushy haired schemer started his pro days at Hereford and then moved on to Crystal Palace.

From Selhurst Park he went to Maine Road for 18 months with Manchester City.

This was followed by two years at Queens Park Rangers.

A move across London proved a happy one.

Silkman spent four years at Orient before going to Southend.

The Essex side mysteriously cancelled his contract earlier in the season and he is now plying his trade at Crewe — although another move is likely.

Silkman's performance was the only bright spot for Gane in a black night at Harrow.

He put the blame for the

defeat fairly and squarely on his defence.

"It was a bad all round defensive performance," said the Wycombe boss, choosing his words carefully.

"We gave them two goals and you just can't do that at any level of football."

Despite the defeat Gane is not too downhearted.

"We are going through a bad spell but every club does in the course of a season," he said.

"The injuries started it but we are not playing well.

"We are not positive enough and I must sort that out."

Gane hopes to recall Keith Barrett on Saturday when they visit Slough.

His chances are rated at 50-50 but Kevin Durham, Paul Hackett and Byron Walton will still be missing.