

Big blow for Blues after FA Cup debacle

BURGESS OUT FOR THREE MONTHS

WYCOMBE Wanderers were dealt another serious blow following Saturday's FA Cup disaster with the news that Dave Burgess will be out for at least three months.

The central defender, who limped off against Tooting a fortnight ago, has badly damaged his achilles and will need an operation.

It is tragic news for Burgess who had only forced his way back into the side recently following a long comeback from a similar injury.

"It is a real blow for both Dave and the club because he was just getting back to his old form," said manager Alan Gane.

"Apparently it is an identical injury to the one he has just recovered from so we are looking at at least three months out of the game."

Signed from Oxford City in the summer of 1984, Burgess was ever present in the side that clinched promotion to the Gola League.

He was voted player and club personality of the year and last season was Blues' club captain.

The former Kidlington and Banbury United player went in for an achilles operation in July after injuring himself last season.

"We are lucky to have Kevin Day as a replacement," said Gane.

Gane believes the shock 5-1 defeat by VS Rugby could work in his side's favour for tomorrow's Vauxhall-Opel Premier clash with Worthing.

"It has given us a kick up the backside which we

needed," he said.

"That defeat has brought us back down to earth again.

"We are determined to do well against Worthing."

Gane could be without left-back Neil Price tomorrow as the former Watford ace has gone down with flu. His place could be filled by Graham Pearce.

Andy Graham, injured against VS Rugby, is fit again but college boy Steve Moore's hopes of a first team call-up were dashed on Monday night when he pulled a hamstring in Wycombe's 4-3 friendly victory over Oxford University.

There was also a welcome return to action for midfielder Kevin Durham who has been out for five weeks.

Despite struggling near the foot of the Vauxhall-Opel Premier Division, Worthing have two players in the leading scorers list.

Mickey Edmonds has netted 13 — only one behind Wycombe's Mark West — while Danny Deans has claimed eight.

● Noel Ashford scored twice in Wycombe's 4-3 win over Oxford University with Steve Moore and Mark West getting the others.



Central