

A Conference success story

GM Vauxhall Conference attendances have reached their highest ever level in the ten year history of the league – and current gates at Wycombe Wanderers more than reflect the trend.

The most significant increase has been at Chorley, with a staggering 112 per cent rise. Attendances for the whole of the league rose by 7 per cent on the corresponding stage last year.

The average attendance is currently

1,310 and no fewer than 13 clubs have had improved gates.

Wycombe's average gate this year is 1,713 – a rise of 17 per cent on the figure of 1,460 in 1986/87.

Since the introduction of automatic promotion to the Football League, Conference gates have improved by 69 per cent.

A chance to play in the big time is a real prospect at the moment for Wycombe. They have netted 37 points from 24 games so far this term and are

bracketed in the top seven.

Wycombe boss Jim Kelman is cracking the whip at Loakes Park to maintain his high disciplinary standards.

Kelman has placed 26-year-old midfielder Martin Blackler on the transfer list following his sending-off in the Boxing Day victory over neighbours Aylesbury United.

Blackler, who was also fined two weeks wages, should command a five figure fee.