

West in line as Kerr fears for his place

WANDERERS stopper Andy Kerr fears for his place despite missing only his first game of the season last Saturday.

Kerr was so impressed by the performance of the Wycombe defence in the 1-1 FA Cup draw at Kettering that he recognises even a return to fitness by next Wednesday will not guarantee him a place for the first round replay.

He failed a fitness test on his swollen knee last Saturday morning, and remains doubtful for tomorrow's long trek to Barrow.

"It's getting better," he told the Bucks Free Press. "But there's still a bit of swelling there. I don't know — I'll take it day by day. But even if I was (fit), I don't know if I'd be in the side."

"Matty (Crossley) played really well, and didn't put a foot wrong. As a spectator on Saturday, it looked like we were a bit unlucky. The defence was brilliant — if they play that well at home, we'll beat them."

There was better news when Mark West

came through Wednesday night's 1-1 draw with Brentford in the Capital League unscathed, after missing the last two games with a sciatic nerve problem. Manager Martin O'Neill said: "I think he's okay for selection for Saturday."

Barrow provide second-placed Wanderers with a minefield of a game.

Barrow, five games without a win, are under the caretaker guidance of coach Alan Cook and assistant manager Neil McDonald. Manager Ray Wilkie has been ordered to rest by doctors.

Sixth from bottom, Barrow will be hoping their England semi-professional captain Glen Skivington (recovering from a sinus operation) and FA XI defender Tony Chilton (calf strain) are fit. Blues won a point at Holker Street last season, but with Colchester at home to Welling and happy travellers Farnborough at Kidderminster, all three are needed tomorrow.

● **MIDFIELDER** John Deakin has earned himself a contract with Blues until the end of the season.