

Latest booking brings a ban

PETE LANSLEY reports

GARY Smith is in line for a suspension after his booking against Slough — but the Blues midfielder remains eligible for next week's FA Trophy game with Salisbury.

Smith arrived at the ground on Wednesday with six bookings to his name, and Blues originally expected him to be ruled out.

With bookings carrying two, three or four disciplinary points according to the referees' discretion, however, Wanderers' secretary John Goldsworthy was able to emphasise yesterday that Smith stood on just 18 points before the game with Slough.

His first-half booking is likely to take him to the 21-point limit. A ban would start from January 15.

By then, Wycombe's first-team squad is likely to be strengthened. Long-term absentees Keith Ryan (glandular fever) and Steve Walford (knee injury) were scheduled to join Martin Blackler in the Capital League fixture against Southend United at Adams Park last night, while Andy Kerr, out for nine games with knee cartilage trouble, hopes to play 45 minutes for the reserves next week.

Tomorrow, Blues travel to mid-table Bath City in the GM Vauxhall Conference. Bath, who drew 1-1 at Yeovil on New Year's Day, were beaten twice by Blues at Twerton Park last season, 2-1 in the Conference and 1-0 in the Bob Lord Trophy.

Wanderers, who hope wingers Steve Guppy (cut knee) and Simon Hutchinson (deadleg) will recover from knocks for tomorrow, will visit either Kidderminster or Yeovil in the first leg of the Bob Lord semi final on February 10. The second leg will be at Adams Park on February 18.