

Chapple relishes his dream Trophy draw

TWO of the three biggest sides in non-league football are bracing themselves for the tie of the round in front of a packed Adams Park a fortnight tomorrow.

The FA Trophy second round clash between Woking and Wycombe will not be an all-ticket match, but is likely to attract Wanderers' largest crowd at Adams Park.

Such is the pedigree of FA Trophy holders Wycombe Wanderers and the nation's favourite giant-killers Woking that Geoff Chapple, the manager of the runaway Diadora League Premier Division leaders, can only point to Colchester as claiming any higher status outside the Football League.

"I think we're one of the top three

non-league sides in the country on our day. Wycombe and Colchester are the top two, not just because of their league positions, and Farnborough must be close.

"The top four or five sides in non-league football, with the fitness, could easily handle League football."

Following their extra-time knock-out by Fourth Division Hereford in the FA Cup third round replay on Tuesday, Woking have been allocated 1,800 tickets for the FA Trophy match at Wycombe.

Three thousand Woking fans travelled to watch their team lose 2-1 at Hereford.

Chapple said: "Wycombe versus Woking — it should be a classic. We could probably get a gate of 10,000 if there was room.

"It's a lovely draw — I don't know about for the clubs, but certainly for the punters. If you could've drawn a tie of the round, this would have been it. It would've made a good final."

Martin O'Neill, the Wycombe manager, is only too aware of their pedigree. "It's a game they won't be frightened of playing in, they've had so many big games."

After his team's performance at Hereford, when, according to many, they again deserved the victory, Chapple added: "Last night we murdered them. They were quaking. There was a terrible racket in the ground, a wonderful atmosphere."

"About 8,600 paid money and got good football last night. We got a standing ovation, and that's what

pleased me. We want to get people back in the stands. I was disappointed to lose, but overall I was very happy."

Blues secretary John Goldsworthy pointed out the police had not asked for the game to be all-ticket. Standing supporters will be able to pay at the turnstiles on the day of the match, while stand tickets will go on sale from Monday.

Draw for the second round of the Vauxhall FA Trophy: Telford United v Frickley Athletic or Northallerton Town; Fleet or Morecombe v Welling United; Leek Town or Runcorn v Kidderminster Harriers; Blythe Spartans or Gateshead v Barrow; Bromley v Yeovil Town; Macclesfield or Boston United v Bangor City or Gretna; Witton Albion or Billingham Synthonian v Aylesbury; Northwich Victoria or Hyde United v Cheltenham Town; Dagenham or Baisley v Kettering Town; Bath City v Dorking; Harrow Borough v Stalybridge Celtic; Marine v Wivenhoe Town; Farnborough Town v Southport; Merthyr Tydfil or Darford v Colchester United or Kingstonsian; **Wycombe Wanderers v Woking;** Redbridge Forest or Bromsgrove Rovers v Enfield. **Ties to be played on Saturday, February 1**