

IN OFF THE POST

Dear Sport,

I HAVE followed Wycombe Wanderers since the 1930s when I was a frequent visitor to Loakes Park.

I am ancient enough to remember with enthusiasm their winning of the Amateur Cup in the early Thirties, and of course was equally pleased at their recent success in the FA Trophy.

It is most gratifying to see reports of attendances of 3,000 plus — this must be comparable with their support in the Thirties, possibly even better.

Yet at the moment I am hoping they will lose points in their remaining matches because I want them to remain in the Conference and not be promoted into the dreary wastes of the lower end of the Football League.

I am sure that the best football now is to be seen in the non-league area. I wonder if other supporters of the Wanderers share my view.

KWJ Wood

Llangynidr, Crickhowell

Powys

●THE Bucks Free Press welcomes letters on Blues and any other sporting matters. Please ensure your contributions, with name and address supplied, arrive at the sports desk no later than Tuesday morning.

IN THE BLUE CORNER

IF you wondered why reserve team boss Jim Melvin, a former Celtic youth team player, had such a beaming smile fixed on his face last weekend, look no further than the Old Firm result, Celtic beating Rangers 2-0.

●THERE'S a one-day sale down at The Corner Flag shop at Adams Park tomorrow. Among the offers, scarves and calendars are going at half price and you can even buy Wembley stadium for £7.50 — a mini-replica commemorating Blues' 1991 visit.

This week's £400 Leagueline winner is P. Starkey (078). A. Pearce (650) and R. North (254) win £25. The Lucky Letters are A, D and S.

●NO BLUES fan would begrudge Steve Guppy his respite from first-team action over the last couple of games after the brilliant form he's produced for the team over the season as a whole.

But a few questions were raised over his pace when the winger was warming up as a substitute on Saturday. Starting to sprint along the touchline from the corner flag at the same time as the linesman turned, Guppy was definitely put in second place by the balding, ageing official when the pair made a race of it...

●TALKING of aged sprinters, director Alan Parry caused a titter of amusement when he was commenting on last Sunday's televised game between Leeds United and Arsenal.

After Leeds' Gordon Strachan, 35 years young, had put in a sprightly chase, Parry said: "I hope I can still run that fast when I get to 35."

●PARRY was also in good form as he compered the splendid Sportsman's Dinner held at Adams Park last Thursday, where Swindon boss Glenn Hoddle was the speaker. The star guest for Mark West's do on April 18 is still to be confirmed, but tickets (£30) are now available from the commercial office.

●WESTY was on target as Blues drew 1-1 with Wokingham in the Capital League on Wednesday night. The youth team, whose game at Tring was cancelled last night, play Egham at Adams Park on Monday night.

●KEEPER Chuck Moussaddik, who has already played for Hayes and Slough this season, has joined Martin Blackler at Wealdstone for a loan spell in the Beazer Homes Premier Division.

●BEST wishes for an enjoyable end of season go to one of Blues' door-men, Big Bad Bob as he wishes to be known, as he takes a breather from his duties for the rest of the season.

Vacancy will not be filled

By John Ley

THE Football League place made vacant by Aldershot will almost certainly not be filled.

Although the League still have to decide on whether to replace the Hampshire club, it is likely they will accept natural wastage in line with the re-organisation of the League following the inauguration of the Premier League.

That would reduce the Fourth Division from 23 to 22 clubs, with Doncaster taking over the dubious honour of becoming the League's bottom club. However, that has no consequence because, for the second successive season, there is no relegation to the GM Vauxhall Conference.

Aldershot were bottom of the table with 17 points from 36 games.

"The liquidator called in to supervise the winding-up order of Aldershot yesterday confirmed to the Football League that no offers had been received for the Fourth Division club," said a League statement.

"It is with deep regret, therefore, that the League is left with little alternative but to announce that Aldershot's membership is terminated, with immediate effect."

PFA chief executive Gordon Taylor and League president Gordon McKeag agreed to a seven-day extension to today's transfer deadline for Aldershot players so they have more time to find clubs.

ALDERSHOT FACTFILE

● Formed: 1926. Turned professional: 1927.

Southern League champions: 1930.

● Elected to Football League (Third Division South): 1932 (35 votes — 10 more than Llanelli). Finished 17th in first season and reached FA Cup fifth round.

● Relegated to newly-formed Fourth Division 1957-58 after finishing in 18th place.

● Promoted for first time: 1972-73, taking fourth place on goal average from Newport County.

● Aldershot have had 13 managers, including Jimmy Melia, Ron Harris, Len Walker (twice) and Brian Talbot, and three caretaker managers including present incumbent Ian McDonald.

● Aldershot are the first club since Accrington Stanley in 1962 to fold during a Football League season. Wigan Borough resigned during the 1931-32 campaign and Leeds City were suspended in 1919.

DIVISION FOUR REVISED TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Burnley.....	33	20	6	7	64	34	66
Blackpool.....	34	19	9	6	64	35	66
Mansfield.....	35	19	7	9	63	42	64
Rotherham.....	34	17	9	8	59	35	60
Rochdale.....	33	16	12	5	48	36	60
Barnet.....	34	17	5	12	67	54	56
Cardiff.....	33	14	11	8	51	43	53
Scunthorpe.....	33	15	7	11	47	53	52
Crewe.....	32	14	8	10	52	41	50
Chesterfield.....	34	13	7	14	36	44	46
Gillingham.....	34	11	11	12	50	42	44
Wrexham.....	33	12	8	13	43	55	44
Scarborough.....	34	11	9	14	50	60	42
Northampton.....	34	10	11	13	41	44	41
Lincoln.....	35	10	11	14	32	42	41
Walsall.....	34	10	10	14	40	48	40
Hereford.....	33	10	7	16	38	44	37
Maidstone.....	32	7	14	11	40	44	35
York.....	35	6	15	14	34	47	33
Halifax.....	33	8	8	17	28	53	32
Carlisle.....	35	6	11	18	37	57	29
Doncaster.....	35	4	8	23	29	60	20