

CREASER AIMS TO KEEP LIFTING THE TROPHIES

By PETE LANSLEY

GLYN Creaser hopes to lift his third trophy within 12 months tonight when Wanderers endeavour to overcome Runcorn's single-goal lead in the Bob Lord Trophy Final.

Creaser skippered Blues to FA Trophy triumph at Wembley last May, lifted the JC Thompson shield when Barnet were beaten last October and is now itching to make it three in a year — if selected.

As Runcorn established a first-leg lead at Canal Street last Tuesday, the previously ever-present Creaser was one of five players rested by Martin O'Neill.

O'Neill is tonight likely to revert to a side closer to his regular in-form 13, although Steve Thompson and Kim Casey are again unavailable as they have already played in this season's Bob Lord Trophy competition for their previous clubs.

Runcorn, released from their relegation worries, reportedly produced a sparkling performance to gain the upper hand in the final of a competition they won in 1983 and 1985.

On Saturday, they drew 2-2 at home with Yeovil to remain embroiled in the foot-of-the-table struggle.

Creaser spoke on Saturday of his disappointment at missing his first game of the season in the first-leg clash.

"I wanted to play last Tuesday, but I'm not the manager. Today, I'm probably grateful as I felt fresh for the rest. It might have done us a bit of good. But I was disappointed.

"I had the feeling he would leave either or (Creaser or Andy Kerr) out to give Matty (Crossley) a game, because to be fair, Matty's done brilliantly when Kerry was out — he was superb," Creaser added.

"In many respects, he's very unfortunate not to be playing now."

Crossley was one of five unforced changes at Runcorn, and Creaser pointed out: "They needed the match practice as much as we do because if we do get any injuries, they'll be there ready to be thrown in at the deep end."