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LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE COUNTY

FOUNDED IN 1856

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Blues boss banned after 107mph dash

By DAVID CLOUGH

SOCCER boss Martin O'Neill was banned from driving on Wednesday for speeding to make it in time for the kick-off of a game.

Wycombe Wanderers' boss O'Neill was clocked at 107mph in a 60mph limit on his way to watch his team play Boston United away.

Boston magistrates banned the former Nottingham Forest and Northern Ireland international star for one month and fined him £200.

The 40-year-old soccer boss of London Road, High Wycombe, told magistrates he had got lost in Spalding on his way to the match in Lincolnshire on March 10 and was trying to make up time when police stopped him on the A16 at Wyberton.

The disqualification comes in the same week as a row raged because Beaconsfield magistrates banned motorist Anna Kemp, but only fined Robert Maxwell's son Kevin for a near-identical offence.

The punishments of Maxwell, travelling at between 102mph and 106mph on the M40, and Kemp, driving at 108mph, were less severe. Maxwell, of Jubilee Place, Chelsea, was fined £135 in all and Kemp, of Ealing, was banned for two weeks and fined £110.

Kemp was incensed after the cases on Tuesday, when Beaconsfield magistrates also fined boxing promoter Frank Warren £75 for driving at 97mph on the M25.

"I think it is one law for them and one for the rest of us," she stormed as she left court.

Maxwell, the 33-year-old son of the deceased publishing tycoon, told the bench he was under pressure following his father's death.

"The offence to which I pleaded guilty was committed out of character due to the tremendous pressure I was under at the time," he said.

Maxwell declined to comment



Martin O'Neill

as he left court on the magistrates' decision to fine him £125 plus £10 court costs and place three points on his licence for speeding at Stokenchurch on December 22.

Maxwell's silence was in contrast to the anger of Kemp, who was stopped on the M40 as she raced to pick up her 96-year-old invalid grandmother Siew on December 12.

"I think it is disgusting that I was banned and he was not," said the 35-year-old, who has given up her job to look after her grandmother.

"I asked the court for leniency. I said I am her only means of transport," Kemp said. She was fined £100 and ordered to pay £10 costs along with a two-week ban.