

# Blues face uncertain tasks

TWO of the teams typifying the Conference's topsy-turvy start to the season present the Blues with their Bank Holiday opposition this weekend.

Visitors to Adams Park tomorrow are Gateshead, 66-1 outsiders for the title, who were slaughtered 6-1 last Saturday by Farnborough, who entertain Wycombe on Monday (both k'o 3pm).

But results were reversed on Tuesday night as Tommy Cassidy's Gateshead scored a creditable 1-0 win at Altrincham, while Farnborough went down 5-1 at pacesetters Dagenham and Redbridge.

"It's incredible," Farnborough manager Ted Pearce said yesterday. "I won't say too much about Tuesday. These sort of results occur to everyone some time during the season, and I just hope that's our one for the season."

"We had more chances on Tuesday than we did Saturday when we scored six!"

Pearce warned that Gateshead looked a dangerous side going forward, and Tuesday night's scorer Alan Lamb notched two goals last April when Wycombe eventually won 3-2 in a gut-wrenching game at the International Stadium.

But Gateshead manager Tommy Cassidy said yesterday: "We've played Farnborough twice and Ted has said we look a good side. They've beaten us 3-1 and 6-1 so I don't know what to make of that!"

"But we're a better side than that — it wasn't a 6-1 game — and we proved it on Tuesday night when we won at Altrincham."

Cassidy, who played alongside Martin

O'Neill many times for Northern Ireland and has known him for almost 20 years, continued: "We're coming down with confidence to Wycombe, certainly more than we had last year. We've got some experienced players, who have all come in at the same time. That's why we lost 6-1: they were all bumping into each other. But we try to play football and I think it will be a good game."

**Gateshead:** Smith, Higgins, Chilton, Roche, Farrey, Elliott, Askew, Cooke, Wrightson, Guthrie, Lamb, Bell, Faraby

**Wycombe:** Hyde, Cousins, Stapleton, Crossley, Creaser, Hutchinson, Carroll, Thompson, Guppy, Casey, Scott, Greene, Ryan, West

**Farnborough:** Howells, Baker, Coleman, Jones, Batey, Bye, Wigmore, Leworthy, Wilson, Coney, Read, Horton, Rogers, Broome

● **FARNBOROUGH** keeper John Power, who broke a leg on a frosty pitch at Adams Park last January, is in full training.

## Chalfont pull off victory

### Chalfont 2, Tooting 1

**CHALFONT** had to work hard to get three points after going a goal down early on in a very entertaining match at the Playing Fields on Tuesday night.

It was substitute Goodson who helped turn the game Saints' way in the second half. He latched onto a Thomson header that came back off the bar to crash in the equaliser from 14 yards.

It was one-way traffic to the Tooting goal and ten minutes from time a tremendous volley from young Chalfont winger Andy Taylor took the Saints to victory.