

Banned Kerr sees light at the end of the tunnel

ANDY Kerr, suspended for Wycombe's FA Cup date with West Bromwich Albion, would be available for any replay.

Defensive lynchpin Kerr, sent off in last Saturday's setback at Runcorn, will serve his suspension when Ossie Ardiles' Second Division side visit Adams Park on December 6.

But the Football Association confirmed that a professional foul only carries a one-match ban. "I'm really pleased," said Kerr on hearing the news yesterday. "If the lads were to get a replay, I'd be available for selection — at my old hunting ground!"

The 26-year-old defender, who was also suspended for Wycombe's last adventure into the Second Round back in 1990, was born and bred in West Bromwich. He was a regular supporter at the Hawthorns in the late 1970s.

Kerr described the incident that led to his red card. "Two offsidies went against us. As I'm chasing the geezer back, he's cut across me, and it looks like I've clipped his ankles. He's gone

down and I'm walking. It was a foul.

"As soon as I started walking off, I knew in the front of my mind that I was going to miss that (Albion) match."

He added: "Albion are a big side, and of course everyone wants the chance to prove themselves against the best."

Wycombe's first-choice back four only resumed normal service last week when Glyn Creaser, sent off in Wanderers' previous defeat at Bromsgrove, returned to the side.

Wycombe will not only miss Kerr for the FA Cup game, but may also be pressed into using Simon Stapleton at left back, should Matt Crossley again revert to centre half.

Manager Martin O'Neill has ruled out the possibility of signing someone just to cover for Kerr. "I've been considering a few options, including trying to sign loan players, but most will have played in earlier FA Cup games and would be cup-tied."

● KERR was one of seven Wycombe players on FA XI duty at St Albans in a 6-1 drubbing of the Diadora League side on Tuesday night.

Kerr, Jason Cousins, Steve Guppy and Steve Thompson, who scored, played the 90 minutes, while Paul Hyde, and Keith Scott, another scorer, each had at least 45 minutes. Farnborough's David Leworthy scored a hat-trick.



Andy Kerr: Will miss only one match