

WYCOMBE'S 1-0 win against Dagenham and Redbridge on Tuesday night may have stretched their Conference advantage to nine points but it barely dampened the mood of eager enthusiasm at Wexham Park.

Disappointed though he might have been at Dave Carroll's lone strike at Adams Park, the watching Slough manager David Kemp will have had other considerations to ease his concerns.

Tomorrow (Friday) the FA inspectors come to Slough with the task of evaluating how close the Wexham Park ground is to meeting league football requirements.

Though these visits are very much standard affairs at this time of the season, Kemp is convinced that there is a lot riding on the inspectors' verdict.

"We have to be ready to take the step, the club has come a long way in a short time, and though we know things like seating capacity

By ROBERT SLOMAN

fall short, we can and will take care of that."

Chairman Alan Thorne is coming back from New Zealand and officers from the local emergency services will also be there.

It's a measure of just how much has happened at Wexham since Bob Pearson took over 12 months ago that the inspection is being taken so seriously.

True, David Kemp's arrival has brought an incredible improvement with matters on the pitch, but off it a similar success story is down to Pearson.

The car park improvements at the club are the latest Pearson measure to bring the club into the 1990s.

It follows upgrading of the floodlights and restructuring of the main clubhouse — already one of the best in the league — his ambitions extend to a golf driving range and nine hole course and a thumbs up from the inspectors tomorrow would be no more than he and the club deserve.

● On Saturday Northwich Victoria are the visitors as Slough — with Wycombe otherwise occupied in the FA Trophy — seek to again narrow the gap to six points.

It's likely to be a similar side to that which achieved a magnificent 1-0 victory at fourth-placed Broms-

grove on Saturday.

Mark Foran — leg injury and Les Briley — suspension — are definite non-starters and Mark Fiore's hamstring problem makes his appearance unlikely.

Steve Scott however may line up, after coming through a reserve team game on Tuesday.

● Slough have made another addition to their squad with the signing of 19 year-old defensive utility player Brian Lee from Millwall.

Lee comes on a free transfer, and straight into Saturday's squad.

● The Mark Fiore furor goes on Woking who were last week ordered by a Conference tribunal to pay Slough £15,000 compensation for the left-winger, are holding a board meeting this week, to decide whether to pay up or appeal to the FA.

Woking boss Geoff Chapple is optimistic: "We want the player and he wants to come but I think the tribunal has set a dangerous precedent by just wanting to please both parties.

"It's supposed to be compensation, but Slough paid nothing for him and he is non-contract and the personal terms we are supposed to have offered Mark are garbage.

But Dave Kemp was not impressed: "They are messing everyone around, I cannot believe they expected to get Mark for nothing and I know what was offered and the figures mentioned were not garbage; they should make a decision."