

# Guppy and Co stress their class

WANDERERS players have enhanced their career prospects in the eyes of potential big club buyers after monumental efforts against Coventry thrust their abilities firmly into the limelight.

Scouts representing Coventry, Manchester United and Manchester City watched Saturday's Division Three game against Northampton, which Wycombe drew 1-1.

And in Monday's Daily Express, Steve Guppy was named as one of seven players on the top of every scout's shopping list with a £400,000 price tag.

The 24-year-old left winger has consistently attracted plaudits from opposing teams' managers and football pundits.

Now further Blues players, including midfielders Keith Ryan and Hakan Hayrettin, striker Keith Scott and defenders Matt Crossley and Jason Cousins, whose goal against Coventry went some way towards redeeming his recent double sending off, share the glory spoils.

Clubs' talent spotters have regularly attended matches at Adams Park.

But Martin O'Neill has received two formal enquiries since last week's Coca-Cola Cup tie, which Wycombe won 4-2, but lost 5-4 on aggregate, which is two more than before.

But he will not reveal the identities of the players or the interested parties.

Coventry manager Bobby Gould con-

By **CLAIRE NASH**

firmed he had a representative at Northampton, but was not confessing to being interested in any Blues players who may have impressed while giving his side such a fright last week.

"Whether I am tracking anyone or not is my business. I had someone there, but he could have been looking at Northampton," he told the Bucks Free Press.

Gould snapped up Scarborough's Lee Hirst last season, after the defender scored the goal which sent City tumbling out of the same competition.

## Amused

O'Neill is somewhat satisfied, if not also a little amused, at the sudden interest in his players after such a high-profile performance.

He has previously berated illustrious clubs' scouting systems for not noticing what members of his squad have to offer.

But he is loath to sell anyone unless there is a worthwhile future in it for both the player and Wycombe Wanderers.

"I will not stand in players' ways. But there is no point for their careers in them going to Second Division clubs, or even some First Division clubs, that we are capable of beating ourselves," he said.

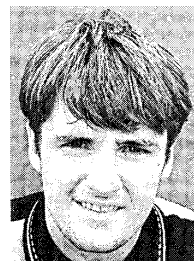


**Talent spotters' target: Steve Guppy has put himself in the frame for bigger things**

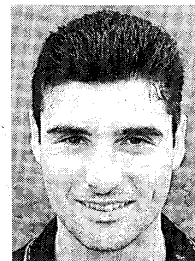
*Picture by MARKUS KINCH*



**Keith Ryan**



**Matt Crossley**



**Jason Cousins**