

By CHRIS SWIFT

BRISTOL Rovers' FA Cup clash with Wycombe Wanderers has been set for Sunday, November 14.

The switch means three days of Cup drama for West clubs with non-league sides Bath City, Weston-super-Mare and Yeovil Town all in first round action too.

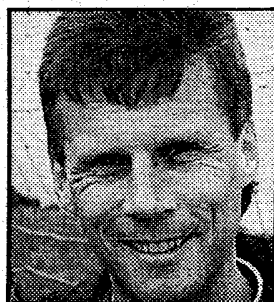
Bath — 4-2 replay winners over Cheltenham last night — visit Molesey, while Weston travel to Woking. Both games take place on Saturday, November 13.

Exploits

Rovers' game with Martin O'Neill's Football League newcomers — moved because of a fixture clash with rivals Bristol City — comes a day before Yeovil bid to continue their giant-killing exploits at home to Fulham.

The change of date for the Twerton Park clash should guarantee a bumper crowd — and boss John Ward was encouraged by the fact the weekend draw with Plymouth

Rovers 'yes' to FA Cup switch



JOHN WARD

brought Rovers their biggest crowd of the season.

"We had expected around 6,000 — but to get more than 7,700 was a nice surprise," he said.

"That is very encouraging at a time when we are trying to find a new home in Bristol.

"There were some people from the council at



JUSTIN SKINNER

the game and, when I spoke to them afterwards, they were very impressed with both the gate and the atmosphere."

The Post revealed yesterday that Rovers are investigating the possibility of a new stadium in the St Philip's area of the city.

"The board are working hard on the political side

of things — all I can do is try to make sure the football side is successful," added Ward, who has guided the team to fourth place in the Second Division.

Midfield player Justin Skinner is facing a race against time to force himself back into contention for the weekend trip to Huddersfield.

He began light training today to test his recovery from the hamstring strain he suffered in last week's Autoglass Trophy win over Cardiff.

Rovers were putting their transfer-listed quartet in the shop window at Wimbledon today.

Carl Saunders, Ian Alexander, Andy Reece and Tony Pounder were all turning out for the reserves in a Football Combination clash.

ROVERS DRAW WYCOMBE

BRISTOL Rovers were today given home advantage against Football League new boys Wycombe Wanderers in the draw for the first round of the FA Cup.

And that means a trip to Twerton Park for Wycombe boss Martin

By ANDY STOCKHAUSEN

O'Neill, who was offered the manager's job at Rovers following the departure of Gerry Francis in 1991.

O'Neill decided to stay at Wycombe and took the Buckinghamshire

club into the Endsleigh League as GM Conference champions last season.

And after Wycombe's encouraging start to life in the Third Division, Rovers boss John Ward knows better than to take O'Neill's men lightly.

"Obviously I am pleased to be at home, but I can think of easier games than Wycombe Wanderers," he said. "It is an attractive tie which should attract a big gate and create a good atmosphere.

■ Turn to Page 35

● SPECIAL arrangements have been made for Wycombe's FA Cup tie against Bristol Rovers. Tickets can only be bought in advance through postal applications, and a ballot may be held pending demand.

The away support section at Bath's Twerton Park ground has a 1,125 capacity and is standing only. Tickets are £6.50 each. But the match is not all-ticket.

"As we have more than double this number of season ticket holders and Leagueline members who are entitled to priority booking, it has been decided to invite postal applications only," explained a club spokesman.

Applications for away terrace

tickets will be accepted from all categories of existing season ticket holders, vice-presidents and full Leagueline members only.

One ticket will be issued per person. Season ticket holders must give their book number or seat number, while Leagueline members must give their membership number, and include a cheque for £6.50 and a stamped addressed envelope.

Applications need to be in by first post on Monday, November 8 when, if necessary, a ballot will be held. Correspondence must be marked Bristol Rovers Match.

● Wycombe Wanderers news: Pages 22 and 23