

TEAMS EYE LEAGUE CHALLENGE

WYCOMBE Wanderers and Marlow now face getting to grips with their respective League seasons after both sides' FA Cup fortunes came to end on Saturday.

Martin O'Neill's Blues were disappointed they didn't give West Ham a rougher ride after losing 2-0 in an anticlimactic third-round defeat in front of a record-breaking 9,007 crowd.

But Wycombe stand nicely poised in a bid to earn promotion to Division One when they resume the second half of their Division Two programme at Rotherham this Saturday. They currently lie fourth, five points behind leaders Birmingham.

The Blues boss has reiterated an intention to bolster the squad, possibly with a big-money signing within the next few weeks.

**By CLAIRE
NASH**



"I would obviously like to still be in the FA Cup, but we're in a similar stage to last season when we were beaten by Norwich in the same round. It's up to us now to plough on in the League," said O'Neill.

Mickey Bell, Wanderers' man of the match, said: "The feeling in the dressing room before the game was that we could get a result. I think we just threw it away in the second half. That's very disappointing."

Looking ahead, the pacy winger added: "We have got to put this behind us and crack on."

Fellow midfielder Keith Ryan said: "I don't think we were outclassed by any means and we must take something positive away from that."

West Ham's man of the match, Northern Ireland winger Michael Hughes, was relieved to have got past Blues. "Wycombe are a good team. You can see they are flying high in the Second Division," he said.

Marlow, meanwhile, are embroiled in a relegation battle, but should be inspired into salvaging their Diadora League Premier Division season after a sterling performance restricted Swindon Town, ranked four leagues above them, to a 2-0 victory.

■ West Ham drew an away tie at Queens Park Rangers in the FA Cup fourth round. Swindon play Scarborough or Watford away.