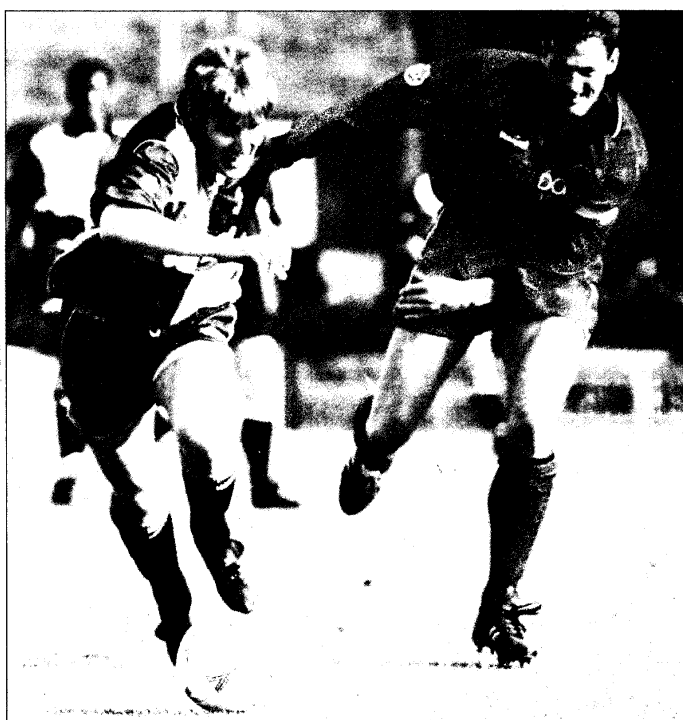


GIVE US A GOAL



Praised: Blues boss Martin O'Neill was impressed with the performance of record-signing Steve McGavin on his home debut
Picture by MICHELLE O'CONNOR

Wanderers' drought yawns on to 469 minutes

By CLAIRE NASH

WYCOMBE Wanderers' 469-minute goal drought is gnawing away at the team's confidence, admitted midfielder Steve Brown after Saturday's goalless draw with Crewe Alexandra.

But he believes tenth-placed Blues have a good chance to break down what has become a draining psychological barrier tonight, when Peterborough United visit Adams Park (ko 7.45pm).

"I just hope Tuesday's the day that we get a win. It will instill so much more confidence and will spur us on," said Brown, who spurned one of the best chances to break a five-game duck on Saturday.

He added: "Getting the goals is the big concern, not just for the centre forwards. The midfielders and full backs have all got to take responsibility as well."

He added that the players firmly believe reaching the play-offs is still on. "Anything's still possible. We'll keep going until it's mathematically proved otherwise."

Manager Martin O'Neill agreed. "We've got ten games left and I'd like to get 21 points from those," he said.

The Blues boss underlined the pressure of every game. Tonight's opponents drew 1-1 with championship-chasing Birmingham City on Saturday to boost a battle against relegation.

"Every day has become D-Day to us," said O'Neill. "We needed three points today and I thought we could get them after being so buoyant after our match [a 0-0 draw at highfliers Brentford] last Tuesday."

O'Neill was pleased with Saturday's home

TOP OF DIVISION TWO

Team	HOME					AWAY				
	P	W	D	L	F A	P	W	D	L	F A
Huddersfield	39	13	4	2	40 16	8	8	4	31	24 75
Brentford	38	12	3	4	37 12	10	4	5	32	19 73
Birmingham	35	11	4	2	42 13	8	6	4	24	14 67
Oxford Utd	35	12	4	3	27 15	7	5	7	31	29 66
Bristol R	36	12	5	1	41 17	5	6	6	18	16 63
Swansea	37	8	8	3	20 11	8	6	4	31	25 62
Crewe	37	11	1	6	36 27	7	5	7	26	33 60
Blackpool	39	11	3	6	38 28	6	5	8	19	28 69
York	36	10	4	5	30 18	7	3	9	23	25 58
Wycombe	36	8	7	2	22 14	7	6	6	22	24 58
Hull	36	10	5	4	34 16	6	4	7	22	29 57

debut performance by record signing Steve McGavin, bought for £140,000 from Birmingham last week.

But he wasn't so happy with everything else. "We had a couple of chances, one just after half time, but their keeper made a great save."

"Outside of McGavin we did not do enough. I thought McGavin was excellent today," he said.

McGavin worked hard without getting any joy on Saturday, as did fellow forward Simon Garner.

O'Neill played four strikers in all against Crewe, with new free signing Danny Wallace coming on for his debut in place of Peter Garland in the second half. Cyrille Regis substituted Mickey Bell later on.

With any one of up to 14 clubs jostling for the play-offs, results went Blues' way on Saturday. Oxford United were held to a 0-0 draw by Brighton; while Bristol Rovers and Wrexham (1-1), and York and Bradford (0-0), drew with each other. Wycombe visit Hull, one position below them, this Saturday.