

Axed games hit wallet

THE postponement of the Brentford and Rotherham matches proved to be extremely expensive.

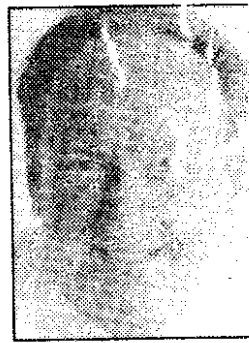
Like many Blues fans denied their New Year diet of football, I was dragged kicking and screaming to the sales.

While I must have save around £20 by not buying programmes, drinks, half-time 'swindle' tickets and Ladbrokes bets – I probably spent the best part of £400 on two shopping trips.

Not to worry, though, because I'm told that by spending £400 we saved another £200.

I hope Alan Smith has followed by example and picked up a few bargains in the January sales. A

VIEW FROM THE STAND By Ron Barnett



targetman with an eye for goal would be a useful purchase.

Gary Blissett seems to fit the bill, providing the price is right.

If Paul Hyde cannot make his peace with the Bald Eagle, then a cut-price goalkeeper will be needed. Once again, Ben Roberts looks a good acquisition, providing Bryan Robson gives him a special offer price-tag.

Ryan on comeback trail

BLUES' Keith Ryan is set to make his second stab at a comeback after nearly a year out with injury.

The 25-year-old central midfielder, who has had to endure a long-term absence after rupturing cruciate knee ligaments, is due to be named in Wycombe's starting line-up for a reserves match at Crawley in the Capital League on Monday.

Ryan, who was back in full training this week, was one of Wycombe's players of last term despite his season being prematurely curtailed when he was injured in a Berks and Bucks clash against Chalfont St Peter.

The star playmaker took part in two reserve games two months ago but his comeback was put on hold to allow his knee more time to recover.

Simon Stapleton, who has also been out of action with a long-term knee problem, may also take part in next week's reserve match.

The Capital League encounter will also see Vincent Matassa playing in goal. The Australian is playing for Blues on a non-contract basis.

Meanwhile, Slough boss Dave Russell is stepping up the pressure on Alan Smith to secure the services of Paul Hyde on a month's loan.