

One game at a time for Blues

WYCOMBE Wanderers will try to continue a semblance of momentum with a match against Queens Park Rangers reserves tomorrow, after the big freeze cancelled out both of their New Year holiday games.

Wycombe are not playing planned Division Two opponents Blackpool tomorrow because of the latter's involvement in the FA Cup third round.

The QPR friendly at Adams Park (ko 3pm) gives Alan Smith's men the opportunity to build on their improving league performances, after a 0-0 draw at highfliers Swindon and a win over fellow play-off hopefuls Shrewsbury over Christmas.

The Blues boss commented: "It was disappointing we didn't have any games over New Year. Had we won against Rotherham we would have gone fourth. It's important that we play someone different on Saturday, with no game.

"We need to keep our heads. The lads are gelling together. The four points we got over Christmas gave the players a lot of confidence."

Looking ahead to 1996 generally, Smith said: "We finished 1995 quite well. We had only been beaten four times. I haven't set down a long-term policy to the players for the new year. We will take it game by game."

Smith has strengthened his squad by extending the

REPORT By Claire Nash

loan period of Middlesbrough goalkeeper Ben Roberts for an additional two months.

But striker Gary Blissett, who scored two goals in three games for Blues, was expected to return to Wimbledon yesterday after his month's loan ended.

The players returned to training on Tuesday after matches at Brentford on Saturday and at home to Rotherham on New Year's Day were postponed due to frozen pitches.

The lack of fixtures means that defender Jason Cousins, who had served two games of a four-match suspension, will not return until tenth-placed Wanderers entertain Brighton on January 27, missing Blues' next league encounter at home to Notts County on Saturday, January 13, and the game at Crewe on January 20.

■ Transfer-listed goalkeeper Paul Hyde is mulling over Torquay United's request for him to join them on loan. The Division Three club's enquiry follows one from Slough.

■ Icis League club Aylesbury United visit Adams Park for the first time in this year's Berks and Bucks Senior Cup first round on Monday, January 15 (ko 7.45pm). There are ticket price reductions for this and the QPR friendly.