

Wycombe stop rot at least

VIEW FROM THE STAND

By Ron Barnett

AT least Tuesday evening's late equaliser put a stop to our three-game losing run. After another dire first half, we looked more impressive and enthusiastic after the break.

It was also good to see David Farrell looking more confident and showing some of his early season form.

The attendance of 2,836 against Rotherham was the first time a Blues crowd has slipped below 3,000 for an Endsleigh League match at Adams Park. For the equivalent fixture last season we entertained Wrexham in front of a crowd of 5,115. By my reckoning we've lost nearly 2,300 fans (almost 45 per cent) in one season.

At this rate we will all be able to fit comfortably into the new stand and use the three other sides for car parking!

LETTER

No Howard is shocking

I WRITE this letter in a state of total shock. Can anyone please explain what is going on at Wycombe Wanderers?

A couple of weeks ago I confidently sent off my nomination for player of the year - Terry Howard. He has been the backbone of the defence, solid and reliable, and nominated on numerous occasions as man-of-the-match.

Suddenly he no longer features as part of the team and I read with horror that along with a handful of others there could now be a question mark over his contract renewal. Perhaps he was substituted as a result of an 'off' day at Hull and consequently dropped for the Oxford game. However, there are certainly other players that never seem to have an 'on' day, yet still keep their place.

Mr Smith's policy appears to be the better you play, the more likely you are to be dropped. Gary Patterson was man-of-the-match only to be rested for the following game. Mickey Bell came a very close second as my player of the year. A word of warning: "Look-out Mickey or you will suffer the same fate!"

In my opinion there are two contracts that should not be renewed, those of the scout that suggested Williams, Dykstra and co, and Mr Smith himself. First there was the Hyde debacle, now Howard. Who will be next for the chop?

Although it is good to see Crossley back, it seems that everyone except the manager realises it's a goalscoring centre forward and a goalkeeper who can actually catch the ball, that we needed. Does he see a different game to those of us standing week after week on the terraces? How did on-loan Blissett slip away? He was worth more than all Mr Smith's disastrous buys put together. We lost faith over the Hyde affair so don't alienate us any more Alan, remember who pays the wages.

I will be the first to sign a Keep Terry Howard at Wycombe petition, although I hope it will not be necessary. I finish with a plea to Mrs Smith. Please don't serve up any more beef, then perhaps Wycombe will return to normality.

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