

Guts and glory lift Wycombe

REPORT

By Sharon Walter

WYCOMBE Wanderers boss Alan Smith started the new season saying he was not looking for heroes but got a few thrown into the bargain anyway.

Blues completed their first week of the new season with two creditable draws, one in the league at Shrewsbury on Sunday and the other in the Coca-Cola Cup at Reading on Tuesday night.

After Sunday's game Smith said: "I've always said I'm not looking for heroes. We want people who are reliable."

Wanderers got their act together in time on Sunday to take a share of the points, with goalscorer Steve Brown filling the hero's role with his sublime second-half strike.

On Tuesday it was the turn of John Williams and Terry Evans to jointly take on the title at Reading. Williams' goal and Evans' excellent showing helped to pin back the Division One side, who return to Adams Park on September 3 for the second leg.

More than 1,000 Wycombe supporters travelled to Elm Park to watch the encounter and provided the vocal back-up Smith has been calling for since he arrived at the club.

The manager, who praised the supporters after Sunday's league game, is in no doubt that they will be needed at Adams Park tomorrow when Wycombe play their first home game of the season against Gillingham.

Gillingham enjoyed a record crowd of more than 7,000 for their first home game of the new term last Saturday against Bristol City, who they beat 3-2, and are likely to bring a large contingent of fans with them tomorrow.

Wycombe will be looking for revenge for last season's defeat by the then Division Three side in the Coca-Cola Cup.