

Wanderers win opening bout of Cup

WYCOMBE Wanderers have won the first bout of their FA Cup duel against old foes Colchester United.

The first round match will now take place at Layer Road on Saturday, November 16 instead of on the Friday night as Colchester had wanted.

Wycombe are pleased with the ruling. They feared that only around 200 of their allocation of 1200 tickets would be taken up by fans tackling the M25 if the match had been held on Friday.

But the Football Association's decision goes against the wishes of Essex Police who fear crowd trouble. They favoured Friday because just one hour earlier on the Saturday, Brighton will be descending on Sudbury Town, just 12 miles away, for another first round tie.

Inspector Bob Finch of Colchester police said: "There is the potential for trouble with two lots of visiting supporters and our own lot in the town centre and I would rather not have that."

Thames Valley police are advising fans to go to the match by coach.

Cup tickets are on sale to season ticket holders and League Line members from the commercial office at Adams Park until 3pm tomorrow.

Tickets will go on general sale after tomorrow's match. Remaining tickets will be sold at Adams Park or Wanderers In Town on Monday.

Money and nerve needed in search for a cure

NO sight of a goal since Dave Farrell found the net at Bourne-mouth, that's five goalless games and one point. With one draw and five defeats in six games, we've hit our worst run since entering the football league.

I, like many others, optimistically hoped that once we said goodbye to the Bald Eagle things would rapidly improve. Sadly, those two quick wins over Rotherham and Notts County are now a distant memory.

VIEW FROM THE STAND By Ron Barnett

Obviously, the situation requires far more drastic action than simply putting John Gregory in the hot seat.

It's good to see the club are introducing some new blood with Jason Kavanagh joining Neil Davis in the side at Crewe, and

John Cheesewright getting another game. If nothing else, it provides competition for places. On the down side it is disappointing to see Jason Cousins losing his place, after playing so well earlier in the season.

We've also got a new assistant manager in Richard Hill from Reading, hopefully he will be more active than David 'The Invisible Man' Kemp!

Although results and goals are not coming our way yet, Gregory

appears determined to change things. Let's hope the club can find the money to fund his plans, they, like the supporters, have got to hold their nerve until the good times return.

Our current goalless spell is by far our longest blank run since March '95 - proving we even had a few disappointing times when Martin O'Neill was working his miracles. We ended that run beating Peterborough 3-1, hopefully Plymouth will get the same.

LETTER

We need wannabes

JOHN Gregory could soon be looking for "wannabes" because when you examine the way Wanderers are conceding goals and failing to score, you've got to ask whether some players "wannabe" part of this team.

Their confidence went during Smith's regime and even now some players don't want the ball.

It's going to take time for John Gregory to get things right, and he was right to look at the defence first. But I suggest he sends a scout down to the Woking to look at Terry Howard. I know Alan Smith got rid of him but he's what we need, a 110 per center.

Another wannabe was Paul Hyde. He would fight sharks with his hands if you asked him to. When they left so did the heart of the team.

The fans realise that there's no money and what's been spent in the last couple of years went on players no better than the ones given away.

They say poverty is the mother of invention. Well, Gregory must be inventive. Maybe like Martin O'Neill he can make 'a silk purse from a pig's ear', but he'll only be able to do that with "wannabes".

Terry and Paul are a phone call away.

Barry Styles
Lowfield Way
Hazlemere

Loyal Wanderers support turns the airwaves blue!

WANDERERS were the subject of a one hour programme on national Talk Radio on Monday night.

Manager John Gregory, director Alan Parry, midfielder Keith Ryan and former striker Simon Garner were among the guests on the show.

The station was bombarded by Blues fans wanting to be part of the phone-in section. The second hour of the programme is normally a general football phone in but the presenters were so overloaded with calls from Blues fans that they had to call time on them and allow other club's supporters their say.

Neil Smillie's youngsters are through to the quarter finals of the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup after beating Tottenham Hotspur 3-2 at St Albans on Monday.

Two goals from Lee Allan and one from Martin Rowlands, ten minutes from time, earned the Blues a home tie against Birmingham City.

Smillie said: "The boys did themselves proud. They performed fantastically and deserved everything they got."

No date has been arranged yet for the Birmingham match.

The youths are in FA Youth Cup action on November 20 when they entertain Corinthians of Kent at Adams Park, (ko 7.45pm).

Triallist Ray McStay, brother of former Scotland and Celtic star Paul, was the only scorer as the reserves went out of the Presidents Cup, which they won last year, losing 3-1 at home to Reading on Wednesday night.

Reading, who do not have a match tomorrow fielded almost their entire first team and their player-manager Jimmy Quinn netted a hat-trick past Brian Parkin, including an opener after just 53 seconds.

Fans in the upper tier of the new Servisapak stand can queue for their burgers

without missing any of the action on the pitch from now on. For the first time on Saturday televisions near the refreshment bars will beam live action from the pitch.

Former Wanderer Tony Hemmings has been given a free transfer by Conference side Macclesfield Town. The winger was a member of the Wycombe side which won the Conference championship, promotion to the Second Division and the FA Trophy.

Two young fans who applied for the manager's job when Alan Smith was sacked will be John Gregory's guests at tomorrow's match against Plymouth.

The new boss wrote to them offering his comiserations and invited them to see what management is really like.

The youngsters will meet the players before the match, have a tour of the ground and watch the match from an executive box.