

Snap tells of a King's death

By David Wells

BLUES achieved a victorious result in front of a 12,000-strong crowd after an exciting performance against Marine Crosby in the third round of the FA Amateur Cup.

But don't worry, Wanderers haven't been relegated yet - this is the match report for *February 9 1952!*

The *Leader* has helped solve the mystery lying behind a 1950s photo of Wycombe Wanderers after a fan asked us for help.

Supporter Gordon Hart, of Chesham, appealed to

our readers to help him uncover the story behind a photo of the Blues, which he had hanging on his wall.

The photograph was taken days after the death of the King on February 6, 1952, and the team is pictured lining up for a minute's silence.

Excited fans couldn't wait to tell us all about it - some of them even remember the game!

Initially, Mr Hart had no idea what the special occasion was.

Former player Dick Tunmer, 68, of Abbey Road, Bourne End, said: "It was a pretty hectic game.

"We were subsequently humiliated because we lost

in the next round against Barnet in front of 10,000 people."

He couldn't believe his eyes when he opened the *Leader* and saw the photograph in our March 20 edition.

He said: "It was a few days after the death of King George VI and we were lining up for a minute's silence.

"It was the last match of the amateur cup played at Loakes Park against Marine Crosby from Liverpool.

"There were over 12,000 there, which is a fairly big crowd.

"In those days I think the death of royalty was

much more of a bigger deal than it would be today if the Queen died.

"The whole nation mourned that day in February 1952."

Health, physics and safety technician Richard Hannant, of Strawberry Close, Prestwood, also contacted the *Leader* because he had a programme from the game.

He said: "The end of the report says it does not want to go into too much detail because *most of the town were there to witness the game anyway!*"

Blues won with a penalty hammered home by Dennis Atkins in a game with plenty of excitement.

The team is (left to right): ex-Spurs player Jimmy McCormick, who was the first full-time manager for the Blues, club secretary Bill Hayter, vice-chairman Albert Mellor, chairman John Timberlake, club president C.P. Vine, and the patron of the club Frank Adams.

They are followed by the players: Terry Albert, Frank Westley, Albert Dorrington, Mike Partridge, Jim Truett, Dennis Atkins, keeper Chris Lodge, Dick Tunmer himself, Arthur Redford, John Blizzard, and captain Ken Butler.



SOLEMN - players and officials pause during a sombre moment after the death

There's only one May election

THERE is only one election as far as the players at Wycombe Wanderers are concerned - and it is not the one to decide who lives at 10 Downing Street.

They are more interested in the vote which will decide which one of them will win the annual Bucks Free Press Wycombe Wanderers Player of the Year competition.

Voting starts today, with a voting slip inside this week's Bucks Free Press sports section, and will continue in the

BFP and Midweek until the April 28 closing date.

Last year's winner Dave Carroll will be hoping to retain his trophy but he can expect stiff competition from last year's runner up, Mickey Bell, among others.

The winner will be presented with his shield by a supporter, drawn from a hat of people who nominated him, before Wanderers final match against Bristol City on May 3.

● Voting form: Page 22