

SOCCER ROUND-UP

WOKING, the Vauxhall Conference outfit that enjoyed a great run in this season's Littlewood's-sponsored FA Cup competition, are making overtures to Matt Crossley – the Wycombe Wanderers player who was forced to quit the professional game at the end of last season.

But its not only the FA Trophy winners who want to get their hands on 29-year-old Crossley. For Conference rivals Farnborough and Icis Premier League outfit Kingstonian have also made enquiries about the player, whose career came to a premature end through a painful back injury.

Under Football League rules, however, Crossley will be eligible to play outside of the full-time professional ranks – if he recovers sufficiently to kick a ball competitively again.

The approach from Geoff Chapple's Woking is likely to be of most interest to the former Blues star.

For a start, Woking have for-

Woking step in with offer for Crossley

mer Wanderers Terry Howard and Steve Thompson in their ranks. Add to that their recent Wembley success in the Trophy and the fact their ground is only 30 minutes away from Adams Park and that – subject to Crossley being fit enough and an acceptable financial deal being struck – should be that.

The former Wycombe star – who enjoyed nine seasons at Adams Park and saw the club rise from the Conference to the Second Division – said this week: "I don't know what I will do yet but it's a nice position to be in.

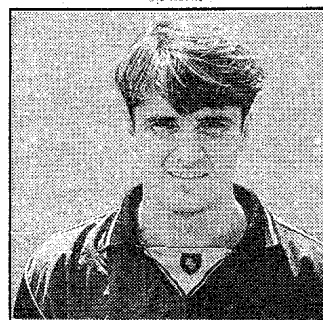
"I have no problems playing

– but it does take me at least three days to recover from games."

Meanwhile, some of the players released by manager John Gregory at the end of last season have stirred up quite a bit of interest in local professional circles.

Former skipper and Blues stalwart, Terry Evans, is attracting interest from Third Division runners-up Fulham and Leyton Orient, while Dave Farrell has been involved in talks with Barry Fry's relegated Peterborough United.

Gary Patterson, who enjoyed a very successful spell with



WANTED: Matt Crossley.

beaten FA Cup semi-finalists Chesterfield is hoping the Midlands outfit will be in touch with him after they return from club holiday in Jamaica.

■ Verco, the Wycombe-based office furniture company, have named the Adams Park away stand after their former chairman and managing director Roger Vere. The club announced the sponsorship deal with the company earlier this week and confirmed that the stand will be officially opened before Blues first home game of the new season – a friendly against Aston Villa on July 18.