

Contract talks put on hold until the end of the season

ALL contract talks have been put on hold until the end of the season.

Dave Carroll and Steve Brown are the only senior professionals whose contracts are up this summer and both have been told new deals are on the table if they want to sign.

But Neil Smillie confirmed this week that the club does not want to get drawn into negotiating terms with them until after May 2.

He said: "We aren't going to discuss contracts until the end of the season. Talking figures can have an unsettling effect on players and I want them concentrating on football."

● Reserve striker Paul Read, who has yet to start a match under Neil Smillie, gave the manager a reminder with a hat-trick in the reserve's 5-2 win over Orient on Wednesday.

Young striker Ben Hodson, whose one year contract expires at the end of the campaign, also

netted with Lewis Reid getting the other.

But Smillie was not getting carried away by Read's treble.

He said: "He's a good player, doing well. He keeps scoring in the reserves but there's a difference scoring versus an Orient reserve side which is made up of youth team players."

● Wanderers Derby connection could be set to continue after the impressive showing of Rams youngster Ross Greenhill in Wednesday's reserve game against Orient.

The right wingback was one of the two players who impressed Wanderers at a recent Lilleshall trial match for youngsters who are about to be released by Premiership clubs and Blues invited them to play in the reserves.

Greenhill played well and had a hand in one of the goals. Fellow triallist, Nando Perna, a midfielder who is being released by Arsenal this

summer, had a less spectacular start.

● Police have made the Millwall match on Saturday April 18, all-ticket for visiting fans.

● The half time tannoy announcer at Bournemouth was stopped in full cry by Keith Scott who interrupted him to ask who had won the Grand National.

● Wanderers have been hit with a double financial blow with fans unable to bet on today's match at Adams Park.

Blues get a percentage of all bets placed with Ladbrokes at Adams Park but gaming rules prevent bookmakers operating on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Promotions manager Mike Philips said: "It's a double blow for us. We didn't get any money off the Grand National bets last week either because we were away for the first time in three years on Grand National Day."

LETTER

Give Smillie the job this summer

YOU were good enough a couple of months ago to publish my 'one-liner' about watching Wycombe

Wanderers not being a joyful experience.

Analysis paralysis and excessive caution were making matches tense, unentertaining affairs.

Since Neil Smillie took over, there seems to be more freedom of

expression and Wycombe deserved a share of the points both at Wrexham and at home to Bristol City.

I entirely agree that Neil Smillie should be confirmed as manager for next season.

I am writing this before the

match at Bournemouth and, if we lose that one, we will start to get a little anxious but I am confident that we will come away with a point.

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