

Cup run's a real relief

VIEW FROM THE STAND

By Ron Barnett

OUR cup runneth over with excitement and much needed revenue from a lucrative two-legged second round tie in the Worthington Cup.

The sparkling team performance saw off both Swindon and the nightmare of three consecutive defeats. While Martin Taylor and Steve Brown looked our obvious match heroes, everyone played their part in a victory that was vital for both confidence and cash.

The passion and commitment brought back memories of the many battles we won when Terry Evans was on the pitch, instead of on the touchline.

It also appeared that Neil Smillie had developed a game plan from last week's match, and his players carried out his orders to perfection. Our midfield always looked sharper and more positive than Swindon, and the front running of Mark Stallard and Paul Read had their flat and ponderous defence in a tangle time and time again.

Mind you, Swindon looked a much better side going forward and it took some excellent defensive work, mixed with a fair share of luck and poor finishing, to keep a clean sheet.

Hopefully, this performance will be a springboard to a run of league wins and some cash to improve the squad.

Talking of cash for new players, it was good to read the comments of Keith Blagbrough of the Official Supporters Club on the negative attitude displayed by some club officials and directors.

This was a radical and welcome change of direction from the WWOSC which is much more in tune with most fans' hopes and opinions.

Nobody underestimates the difficulties faced in finding money for transfer fees and salaries but, we must approach the problem positively.

Nothing succeeds like success, and a winning team would quickly increase the gates and attract additional commercial revenue.

Keith even had a dig at Bodger, our new mascot, who recently kicked Bluey the Swan into touch.

While I cannot comment on the cost or commercial benefits of Bodger, I must say he appears to be a bit of an insult to our real hero Bodger Horseman. Far from bearing even a passing resemblance, our new Bodger looks like he has escaped from a home for rejected Cabbage Patch Dolls.

Beeks is the wrong target

WANDERERS director Alan Parry has jumped to the defence of chairman Ivor Beeks after he was jeered by a section of fans on the opening day of the season.

Beeks got an indifferent reception from a small section of the Adams Park crowd when the Blues began their Division Two campaign against Luton two weeks ago.

In the match day programme on Tuesday night, Parry criticised the behaviour, claiming they were picking on the wrong man.

The Blues director wrote in his column: "It is not just being loyal to a fellow director when I say that no one is more dedicated to the Wycombe cause than Ivor Beeks ... without Ivor we would probably still be playing in the Conference."

And he issued a warning to the detractors, saying: "Believe me, when you're having a go at Ivor Beeks, you're having a go at the wrong man."

● View from the Stand: Page 111

Cup success

WYCOMBE Wanderers are through to the second round of the Worthington Cup after knocking out first division Swindon.

The Blues won 2-0 on Tuesday night, thanks to goals from Steve Brown and Mark Stallard, to knock Steve McMahon's side out 3-2 on aggregate.

The Blues are now guaranteed two money-spinning games against either a Premier League or Division One side in the next round.

But they will have to wait until Wednesday at 10pm to find out who they will face.

A good draw is vital to cash-strapped Wanderers. Chairman Ivor Beeks has told manager Neil Smillie that the only way he can buy new players for the club is by raising the money himself from a cup run.