

Journeymen back?

BLUES are interested in much-travelled midfielder Mark Cooper.

The 29-year-old son of former Leeds and England defender Terry, is back on trial with Wycombe, who he lists among ten of his previous employers.

He played in the reserves 3-0 defeat at Millwall on Wednesday afternoon and was one of the bright lights in the side. But he

marred his return with a booking.

Smillie said: "He did quite well for us in a poor performance and we will continue to have a look at him."

Cooper, a regular goalscorer had a brief spell with Blues four years ago.

He has also seen service with Bristol City, Exeter, Southend, Birmingham, Fulham, Huddersfield and Hartlepool.

● Paul Emblen is convinced he was right to swap Premiership Charlton for a second division relegation battle with Wycombe.

The £60,000 signing said: "It's going to be a battle to get out of the position we're in, but I'm sure we can do it. People might wonder why I've left Charlton for this but I wasn't getting first team football there.

"It was a difficult decision but I need first team football. It is much better than being a reserve.

"It's a shame we're not doing very well at the moment but I'm sure that we can turn it around. We just need to get a win to get the confidence going."

Emblen joined the Blues on a three year deal.

● Northern Ireland youth international midfielder Mo Harkin had an

Smillie goes after Cooper

operation on his injured left ankle on Monday and will be out for six weeks.

● Steve McGavin saw a specialist this week after his foot injury flared up again just 18 minutes into last Saturday's home defeat against Bournemouth.

It is the same fallen arch problem which forced the striker to miss the end of last season and all the pre-season build-up.

He said: "It's so frustrating. I felt a sharp pain in the bottom of my right foot and knew straight away it was the same injury. It's really bad timing because I was just getting back into it after missing so many game. I'm just keeping my fingers crossed that it is not back to square one.

● Neil Smillie has offered Mark Westhead a one year extension to his existing one year deal.

Westhead who was disappointed to be dropped after his two man-of-the-match performances in his debut week, said: "I'm really pleased to be offered an extension

after just two games."

● Keith Scott is hoping to begin his comeback following his dislocated elbow by playing in the reserves match against Chelsea at Adams Park on Wednesday (ko 7.45pm). Fans can see Scottie test himself against Gianluca Vialli's reserves for £3 adults or £1 concessions.

● Michael Forsyth is back running after his troublesome knee injury, while skipper Keith Ryan has had the plaster removed following his medial ligament setback. Rhino is dreaming of a pre-Christmas return.

● Neil Smillie has defended his decision to keep youngster Aaron Patton out of the club's relegation struggle so far.

Smillie said: "He's a wonderful footballer but you cannot put all your youngsters in together. He has got quite a quiet personality and it might not be right to chuck him into our position at the moment when we are struggling.

● Peter Beardsley was at Adams Park for the Middlesbrough game on Wednesday. He was scouting for Fulham who entertain Blues on Tuesday in a re-arranged match at Craven Cottage.

● Blues youths lost 1-0 to Luton in the South East Counties League.

HOW THEY STAND

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stoke	9	4	0	0	7	0	4	0	1	9	5	24
Preston	9	3	0	1	12	4	3	2	0	9	6	20
Bourn'th	9	3	1	0	7	1	2	1	2	5	5	17
Blackpool	9	4	1	0	9	3	1	1	2	3	8	17
Luton	9	3	1	0	6	1	2	1	2	5	6	17
Walsall	8	2	1	1	8	6	3	0	1	5	4	16
Man City	8	3	2	0	9	3	1	1	1	2	4	15
Fulham	8	2	2	0	7	3	2	1	1	3	2	15
Bristol R	9	3	2	0	12	5	0	2	2	2	5	13
Millwall	8	3	1	0	6	2	1	0	3	2	6	13
York	8	1	2	1	6	4	2	1	1	7	8	12
Colchester	9	1	1	2	2	3	2	2	1	8	7	12
Wrexham	9	3	1	2	9	7	0	2	1	1	5	12
Notts Co	9	1	1	2	3	4	2	1	2	7	6	11
Chest'field	9	3	0	1	3	1	0	2	3	1	6	11
Gillingham	9	2	1	2	8	5	0	3	1	4	5	10
Wigan	9	2	1	2	7	5	1	0	3	3	5	10
Oldham	9	1	1	3	5	7	1	1	2	4	7	8
Burnley	9	2	1	1	5	4	0	1	4	3	8	8
North'pton	9	0	3	1	3	5	1	1	3	5	7	7
Reading	7	1	2	0	5	2	0	0	4	1	2	5
Lincoln	9	1	0	3	6	9	0	2	3	0	7	5
Macc'field	9	0	1	3	0	3	1	1	3	3	7	5
Wycombe	8	0	1	4	2	7	0	1	2	2	6	2