

Coverage we don't need

AN INDEPENDENT VIEW

By Sharon Deighton
Chairman, WWISC

OVER the last week the national press has been full of articles about two of our previous managers.

They have filled dozens of column inches speculating about Martin O'Neill becoming Leeds United's new manager, and John Gregory being tipped as a possible future England manager.

Unfortunately, up until last Saturday's game against Macclesfield, Wycombe Wanderers were also being featured in the national media for all the wrong reasons as journalists came to write their stories about how O'Neill and Gregory's former club was struggling at the foot of the table without their help.

But at last that elusive win has come. Isn't it great to be able to stand up and celebrate when those goals go in – particularly if, like me, one of your favourite players finds the back of the net.

There are not many things that are better than watching your team win, likewise when they lose it feels so bad.

Let's hope that we have seen the end of that awful run. Though, I know for many fans it will take a while for their enthusiasm to return.

The team have a long and difficult road ahead, and winning two games in the space of two days can only help to boost their confidence, and maybe now we will get a little bit of luck as well.

As the shops prepare for Christmas, most football supporters look at their team's league position at Christmas as being the benchmark for their final league position.

The Blues have a long haul ahead of them in which to try and get into a decent league position.

● WWISC are holding their AGM on Wednesday, October 28 at 8pm at the Trades and Social Club in Queens Road, High Wycombe.

Double ban hits Blues

WYCOMBE v OLDHAM A guide to tomorrow's Division Two clash at Boundary Park

SUSPENSIONS have robbed Wanderers of half of their midfield for tomorrow's six-pointer at Oldham, where Blues won last year.

Paul Emblen must sit this one out as punishment for his sending off at Gillingham while Michael Simpson is paying the price for his misdemeanours in the reserves. Transfer-listed Simmo has collected three yellow cards in the reserves to add to the two he received in first team action against Notts County and Gillingham.

Loan signing Mark Robson comes in to fill a wide midfield berth and Smillie will be looking for him to provide the ammunition for a strike force which is robbed of the services of injured knee victim Mark Stallard.

Oldham, managed by former goals hero Andy Ritchie, have lost four times at home this season.

Blues bury 'that' record

WYCOMBE Wanderers emphatically buried the memory of their worst ever start for almost a century with two 3-0 wins in the space of four days to kickstart their season.

Goals from Andy Baird, Michael Simpson and Keith Scott saw off Macclesfield Town's challenge on Saturday, and Steve Brown's goal, sandwiched between two Keith Scott strikes, sent Wrexham packing by the same score on Tuesday night.

Until last Saturday, Wanderers were the only team in all three divisions of the Nationwide League without a win.

But after their twin success, Blues could now move off the bottom of the second division if they win at Oldham tomorrow and other results go their way.

And there is more good news on the Adams Park horizon. Inspirational captain Keith Ryan is recovering well from his serious knee injury and along with fellow knee victim Michael Forsyth he could start playing again sometime next month.

But the diagnosis on last season's leading goalscorer, Mark Stallard, is not so good. He picked up a Ryan-style medial ligament knee problem last Saturday and although the injury is not as serious as Rhino's, Blues will be without him for eight to 12 weeks.

Midfielder Mo Harkin has also had his comeback delayed after his ankle problem and he will spend a week at the sports injuries rehabilitation clinic at Lilleshall.

● Match reports: Page 169