

Smillie admits team weren't motivated

MANAGER Neil Smillie admitted he knew the team he sent out to face York last Saturday was not motivated to do the job, even though victory would have moved Blues out of the relegation zone for the first time this season.

Smillie accused his players of not being up for the clash while fans accused him of not knowing what he was doing as Blues kicked off the New year in crisis.

Smillie said: "I knew before the game that they weren't up for it. You could see it in the dressing room.

"We knew that if we won we could have moved out of the relegation zone but for some reason, which I can't answer, it didn't feel right in the dressing room. There was a general lack of sparkle and we got what we deserved.

"We were poor and there's no excuse for it. I can't explain it. York are a good side and they've proved it by staying in this division year in, year out, but the name doesn't sparkle does it. It's not Manchester City, it has not got a big name ring to it and that's when you need players in the dressing room to motivate themselves."

Meanwhile, the fans turned on Smillie. They chanted 'You don't know what you're doing'

and booed his decision to substitute Dave Carroll.

Smillie said: "To get that reaction was a bit disappointing, the supporters have been excellent up to now."

The fans' frustration was understandable. Over the last ten weeks the players have got within touching distance of the pack but on the very day that a safety position was attainable, Wanderers forgot to do all the things that had got them into such a position.

They underestimated York and treated the match as a home banker – and were punished for their lack of respect.

Wanderers started in a rut and never got out of it. They created very few clear-cut chances and could have no complaints as York completed a league double over them.

One million-pound rated Richard Cresswell set them on their way capitalising on a horrendous mix-up between Blues defender Paul McCarthy and goalkeeper Martin Taylor.

They left it to each other and Cresswell nipped in for his 16th goal of the season.

Keith Ryan's diving header brought Wycombe back into it on 71 minutes but York won it when Barry Jones headed in Gary Himsworth's hotly disputed freekick.



Jumping Jock: Jermaine McSparran in action against York