

MACCA QUILTS BLUES

Departure angers supporters

STEVE McGavin has quit Wycombe Wanderers after admitting he didn't see a future for himself at the club.

The midfielder, who turned 30 on Sunday, played his last game for Blues in the reserves' goalless draw with Bournemouth last Wednesday.

McGavin's contract was set to run until the end of the season, but the unhappy midfielder did not want to see it out, admitting he was upset at being left out of Wanderers' league games with Luton and Millwall.

Wycombe, by mutual consent, have paid out his contract to the end of the season and McGavin is now returning to Suffolk to look for a new club.

After recently fighting his way back to fitness, from a foot injury which has

FOOTBALL By Sharon Walter

plagued him all season, McGavin thought he should have been included in recent matches.

The final straw came following two traumatic weeks in his personal life, which saw two bereavements in his family. His wife is also known to be unsettled in Bucks.

McGavin admitted: "There's been a lot of factors. There's been a lot of personal problems. Two bereavements in the last fortnight, and I haven't been playing.

"If I had been playing I'd have been happy to stay but the chairman has more or less said I don't have a future.

"He said they had more or less decided not to give

me a new contract.

"The new manager may have come in and said 'stay' but I need to be closer to my family."

McGavin's departure has sent shockwaves through the club because just last week he was declaring himself fit and ready for first team action.

And many of Blues supporters are outraged the decision has been made before a new manager has been installed.

Season ticket holder and supporters club member Ben Terry said: "I think it's disgraceful for Ivor to make that decision. He's the most talented player we've got."

Terry said several supporters are now planning a protest at Wycombe's next home game over the departure.

● Continued on page 39



End of the road: Steve McGavin has left Adams Park

Hard decision

● Continued from back page

McGavin, who has been with Wanderers for just under four years after being brought to the club by Martin O'Neill, admitted he made the decision to go with a heavy heart.

"I'm really disappointed at the way it's turned out, the side is struggling and I really felt I should be playing and I haven't and that's why I'm leaving really.

"The last two games were the nail in the coffin, Luton and Millwall. I thought I should have been involved, and I wasn't."

Despite his ups and downs with the club, which saw him as a favourite with O'Neill and John Gregory, out of favour under the Alan Smith regime and injured for much of Neil Smillie's short reign, McGavin is upset to be going.

"It's a sad day for me. The fans have been brilliant, they've always been 100 per cent behind me.