

Defender all set to go across the sea at second attempt

Blues up Beet for Irish trip

BLUES have resurrected their ill-fated pre-season trip to Ireland, much to the relief of defender Alan Beeton.

Last season's trip to Dublin was cancelled at the 11th hour after Beeton was hospitalised with meningitis and the rest of the squad were ordered into isolation.

Scores of fans had already made the trip unaware of the drama back home and Beeton felt dreadful for the supporters who had spent their money.

The trip has been rescheduled with the Blues playing Bohemians at Dallymount Park (ko 6pm) on July 29 and they're now looking for sponsors.

● Reserves boss Terry Gibson described his team's 1-1 draw at Bristol Rovers on Tuesday as their most complete performance since he's been at the club.

Striker Richard Thompson continued his rich vein of form, opening the scoring from Dannie Bulman's cross. But Blues let it slip four minutes from time when Rovers' Robert Trees equalised past fit-again keeper Mark Westhead.

Gibson said: "It was disappointing not to win because that was our best performance since I've been here. Everyone played their part and some of the passing was excellent."

Bulman got a dead leg in the clash

Phelan's fine form

LEEYON Phelan hit his 12th and 13th goals of the season as the youth team won 3-1 at Southend to secure their place in the Youth Alliance Southern Merit Division One.

Ryan Gostick was also on target for Gary Goodchild's team.

The youth team play their first match of the new Merit Group league at Portsmouth on Saturday, March 4.

while Danny Senda was substituted to protect him for tomorrow's clash.

As well as Thompson, Gibson was delighted with the form shown by Mo Harkin, Matthew Brady and Martyn Lee.

And Gibson even thinks born-again striker Thompson is ready to ditch his L-plates and make his first team debut for Wycombe.

He says the former Crawley Town striker is now speeding towards a place in Lawrie Sanchez's first team.

But while Thommo has suddenly started hitting the right gears for the reserves he's still got the handbrake on when it comes to driving, having notched up a hat-trick of driving test failures.

Gibson said: "He obviously wasn't very confident because he booked his fourth test before failing his third."

● A moment of shyness at Thatcham Town in the Berks and Bucks Cup could prove to be the turning point in Martyn Lee's career.

The pint-sized youngster, who has faded out of the picture since making his one-and-only league appearance at Chesterfield last season, was taken to one side after passing up the opportunity to try and lob Thatcham's keeper.

Gibbo said: "I spoke to him after that. I told him he should be confident in himself because he's got a lot of ability."

● Blues will face Reading in the Berks and Bucks Cup semi-final after they beat Windsor.

No date has been set for the county cup fixture but boss Sanchez says whenever it is the Blues will be out for a victory to take them to the final.

He said: "We're in it to win it. It will be nice to finish the season with a trophy."

● Next Friday's match at Cardiff City is all-ticket for travelling fans.



Ireland on again: Alan Beeton should be among the Blues going to Ireland at the second attempt