

Debut boy ends day in hospital



Lee Holsgrove: Rare start for the Blues

Picture by SALLY SWIFT Ref: 00-760CF16

WANDERERS striker Richard Thompson was admitted to hospital complaining of dehydration just hours after making his Football League debut.

The striker was detained overnight in hospital with severe stomach problems following his appearance in the team's 0-0 draw with Oldham at Adams Park.

Wanderers are now awaiting test results on the 25-year-old who was unable to train until yesterday but should be ok to rejoin the squad for the trip to Stoke tomorrow.

Thompson told the Bucks Free Press that he was suffering from exhaustion before he was whisked away to Wycombe District Hospital for the night.

He lasted 69 minutes before being replaced.

Thompson said: "I didn't take enough fluid on board. I felt dehydrated and I felt dizzy and a bit queasy when I came off.

"I was disappointed to come off but I was struggling with the pace of the game. I couldn't get my breath for 20 minutes.

"At half time I came in and felt shattered. The gaffer came out and told me to give it 15 minutes and I did but it just blew me out. I worked hard and I gave it my all."

Illness apart though Thompson was happy with his first ever start in the Football League.

He said: "I was quite pleased with it. My contract is up in the summer and hopefully I can just keep going and get a new one.

"I'm 25 now and this is my first league game so it

Tommo felt dizzy and ill

has taken some time. I've come here through the back door and hopefully I can make the most of it."

Boss Lawrie Sanchez said: "He did well. He worked himself into the ground. He's probably never worked as hard and it was a shock to his system. He chased everything and added a physical presence up front. It was a good debut."

Thompson got his chance in a patched up side missing seven regulars through injury including hot-shot Sean Devine. There were also rare starts for Lee Holsgrove and Mo Harkin.

And Oldham fans must have regretted not taking Sanchez up on his bet that their side wouldn't be good enough to get a result.

Sanchez laid down the gauntlet after their previous meeting at Boundary Park, when Oldham equalised in the last minute to deny ten-men Blues.

He said then: "I guarantee Oldham won't draw with us when we've got 11 men at our place. If any Oldham fans want money on it, I'll lay odds."

Afterwards Sanchez said: "I would've liked to have played them with my first team. It might have been a different result then. It was a team cobbled together and they gave everything they had. The commitment was first class but lacked a bit in front of goal."