

Ex-Blues boss in FA Cup final

JOHN Gregory will become the first former Wycombe manager to lead a team out in an FA Cup final when his Aston Villa side take on Chelsea at Wembley tomorrow.

Gregory's date beneath the twin towers will complete a meteoric rise for the former Adams Park boss who was in charge of Wanderers when they got giant-killed in the competition by Ryman League Basingstoke just three years ago.

He said: "I'm so excited by it all. I still have to pinch myself that it's all happening. Sometimes I walk into Villa Park and I still can't believe the size of the place."

Gregory says he has had plenty of goodwill messages arriving from Wycombe as he tries to complete a Wembley treble for the town this year.

Another ex-Wycombe boss, Martin O'Neill, won the Worthington Cup there with Leicester this year while former Blues favourite, defender Matt Crossley, was in the Kingstonian team which won the FA Trophy there last weekend.

Wimble-down will be back

FOOTBALL

WANDERERS boss Lawrie Sanchez is tipping his former club Wimbledon to bounce back following their relegation from the Premier League on Sunday.

Sanchez who scored the goal that took the unfashionable Dons into the top-flight 14-years-ago reckons his old Crazy Gang mates have too much about them to stay in the Nationwide League for long.

He believes they have got better players than Charlton, who were able to bounce straight back as champions after their demotion, and is confident his former team will do the same.

He said: "I'm sure it's not the end but the start of a new era. I've heard people say that they will go down through the divisions now but that's rubbish. With the money and players they've accumulated over the last 14-years they'll come back."

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