

Ron's bit to go in here and here

RON BARNETT

VIEW FROM THE STAND

FOR long periods of the Wrexham match I couldn't stop worrying about a nightmare relegation scenario – having to win the last match of the season, just like our great escape at Lincoln.

The double trouble this time though is that our final game is against Colchester. Can you imagine the delight their fans would get from seeing us booted into Division Three.

Knowing our luck with referees, up until the very obliging Mr Olivier on Saturday, we would probably find ourselves faced with the dreaded Fraser Stretton as well as Colchester.

Thankfully those four points we won over Easter will have banished all my relegation nightmares. We should now be safely clear of the basement before those Colchester cowboys ride into town.

Our luck certainly took a turn for the better on Saturday.

For 86 minutes we never looked like finding the back of the Wrexham net.

Then Chris Vinnicombe finally broke his goalscoring duck with his freakish free kick.

Mind you, if one of our more agile stewards had not caught the referee's eye with their touchline manoeuvres we would have been dead and buried long before Vinnie's dramatic finale.

We are certainly making a pleasant habit of grabbing late, late goals lately.

Rhino scooped his against Liverpool two minutes from time and then Vinnie got his goal in the final four minutes to earn us a vital point.

Then on Monday, Guy Whittingham went one better, winning all three points with his strike at Bristol City three minutes into added time. They don't come much later, or much more precious, than that.

With Swindon losing both their Easter fixtures and Bristol Rovers going down at Oldham on Monday, results couldn't have gone much better at the weekend. And we still have the pair of them to play, as well as Colchester of course.

It was a pity the Big Chief didn't have the time to visit the church next to Villa Park before we took on Liverpool. If he had, he might have altered (sorry about the pun!) his line-up to include Dave Carroll.

A large sign in the churchyard proclaimed 'Jesus is here' – much to the amusement of Blues' fans. It certainly tempted me to have a few bob on our very own miracle worker getting on the scoresheet.

Sadly it was too late for Jesus by the time Lawrie saw the light.

Kelly comes back for more Blues

WANDERERS will invite Atherstone striker Leon Kelly back for another trial match after he made an impressive debut on trial in Wednesday's reserve match at Northampton Town.

Blues have had their eye on the striker for some time and tried him out in the reserves 2-1 win over Northampton on Tuesday.

Assistant boss Terry Gibson was impressed with what he saw.

He said: "He did enough to make us want to have another look at him. He made the first goal. He was strong in the air, he harried their defenders and made a general nuisance of himself."

Boss Lawrie Sanchez said: "We need to increase our goalpower next season. We want to have a look at him in another reserve match and if he does well we will invite him to join us in pre-season training."

● Wanderers boss Sanchez aimed a sideswipe at the prophets of doom who were forecasting a relegation dogfight before Monday's win at Bristol City.

He said: "There were a lot of negative vibes around the place. People at the club, not the players, were hanging their heads. But we were in a false position because of all the games we've missed because of the cup run."

"You never like to say you are too good to go down because plenty of sides have said that and then been relegated but we've shown what a good team we are."

"We still need one win before we can put the season to bed then we can lie on the beach in the summer and look back at what a magnificent season we've had."

● Monday's re-arranged second division fixture at Bournemouth has been made all ticket for Wycombe fans because of building work at Dean Court.

Wycombe's 700 tickets are on sale from the Commercial Offices at Adams Park.

● Sanchez singled Dannie Bulman out for praise following Monday's 2-1 success at Ashton Gate even though the midfielder missed two sitters.

Sanchez said: "He was exceptional. The fact that Bristol changed all three of their midfielders showed where the game was won. His performance was outstanding."

● He set up both the goals and should have scored a couple as well, but that is just being picky."