

The future's bright, it's orange

BOSS Lawrie Sanchez reckons Wanderers' new orange away strip could give his team a head start in the promotion race next season.

Sanchez insisted on the colour change because he believes it will make it easier for his players to see each other.

He said: "The floodlights at some of the grounds in our division are not always the brightest and we want to see each other. This is a good bright kit that shows up well."

Wanderers had no vision problems when they gave the strip its first airing under Bristol Rovers' floodlights on Wednesday and won 2-1.

Sanchez is not the first manager to look at his team's colours to try and squeeze out the maximum advantage. Alex Ferguson once ordered Manchester United to change their grey shirts at half time in a match against Southampton to make it easier for them to see.

● Wanderers will renew their friendly rivalry with the town's cricket club this summer as part of Jason Cousins' testimonial season. The teams will play a 20-overs aside match in July.

● Sanchez was amazed that no Wanderers were included in the PFA Second Division Team of The Year.

He said: "I thought Martin Taylor might have been included and I thought Michael Simpson had a good chance."

● Keeper Taylor will return to his former club Derby County to present their Player of The Year awards on May 16.

● The DGL Garage in Downley has provided the community department with a Suzuki Ignis car for next season.

● A limited edition signed shirt from the FA Cup semi-final is an unclaimed prize in Wanderers' semi-final draw.

The holder of the winning ticket number 100501, can claim their prize by contacting Mike Phillips on (01494) 472100.

● Boss Sanchez completed his three-match touchline ban at Bury but he could start next season with another ban.

He was sentenced to three matches in the stands following his outburst at the officials during the FA Cup quarter-final at Leicester and is now up before the FA again following his spat with fourth official Geoff Winter during the semi-final.

● Sanchez called Bury's Gigg Lane pitch a disgrace after Wanderers 1-1 draw on their mudflats on Saturday.

He said: "There wasn't any football out there. It was the Battle of The Somme. You couldn't get any passing moves going. You had to lump the ball forward and hope there was a mistake."

"The pitch was a disgrace. They play Rugby League there and Manchester United reserves play there but clubs at this level need to get as much revenue as they can."

● Forgotten midfielder Stewart Castledine marked his return from a chest infection with a goal in the reserves' 5-1 defeat in their final match of the season against Peterborough on Wednesday.

Castledine captained the side and played up front and came through the 90 minutes without any problems.