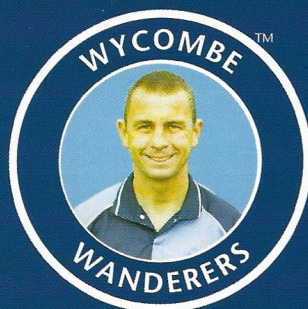


We played Peterborough United last Wednesday afternoon at Adams Park, I will comment on the game in the Fulham programme this Saturday. I have been very pleased with the way the fixtures have gone so far. We have played eleven games and find ourselves nicely placed mid table. As I have said before winning the league is not what the reserve team is all about. Preparing young players, returning players from injury and looking at trialists is what the aim is. Fortunately we have been able to field a very useful side in the majority of games as our injuries have not been severe and the first team squad is strong.

The New Year brings a match at Loftus Road against QPR on Wednesday 2nd January, kick off 2pm. Hopefully we can use this match to bring in Andy Baird and Sean Devine at some stage in the proceedings to give them match experience. Both players have been out for a long time and although they have worked hard in rehabilitation there is nothing like a match action for re-starting the appetite. Bairdy has been coming along really well and is ready to play. Sean has felt the return to training much harder as his body screams with the aches and pains associated with a long lay off. It will be excellent if both players come through



RESERVES

by Mick 'Bruce' Forsyth,
Reserve Team Manager
RESERVES SPONSORED BY



without any worries and we can look to progress them accordingly.

Our next two games are away at Luton and Millwall and we don't play at home again until February 6th when we meet Leyton Orient.

In the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup we have been drawn to meet the winners of the Burnham/Marlow tie which was due to be played on Tuesday 18th December at The Gore. There is no date for the match as we write but it will be at Adams Park sometime in the New Year.

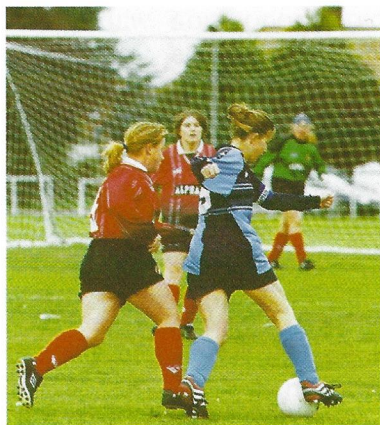
With the Ladies

One goal was enough, just, to take all three points from Luton Town Belles on a pitch that was struggling to remain as dry land! Knowing your feet could completely disappear into mud or in holes filled with bark chip or sand at any moment added a new dimension to the game, but Blues makeshift defence helped goal keeper Tracy Sturges keep another clean sheet, while at the other end we create enough chances to make the game more comfortable than it was.

Louise Plumridge filled in at right back, Esther Morley took on the sweeper's role while Paula Benson and Marion Lyon played their familiar positions. We were almost caught out in the first minute, but in their keenness to grab an early goal Luton strayed offside and the defence were given the chance to start again.

November Player of the Month, Jeunine Bray played on the right of midfield, with Sophy Bowden on the left and Heather Scutchings up front with Su Oakley. In difficult conditions it was hard to play good football, but Blues worked hard, got behind the ball and closed the Luton players down quickly. Karyn Atkinson and Scutchings held the ball up well to create openings but there were no easy chances as the Luton Town keeper came out quickly denying the strikers the touch they wanted.

Bowden made some good runs down the left, and



Su Oakley

Amanda Quintal tried to create space in the centre of the park. Oakley and Scutchings made chances for themselves but couldn't get the final ball they were looking for until 30 minutes when Oakley got hold of a bouncing ball on the edge of the area, knocked it over the keeper and just inside the far post.

Blues finished the half on top, but weren't able to extend the lead and were put under pressure at the beginning of the second half. The Bedfordshire team had more of the ball but weren't able to



RESERVE FIXTURES

AUG 15	Swindon Town	a	3-1	FEB 6	Leyton Orient	H	2pm
29	Barnet	H	0-2	13	Gillingham	a	2pm
SEPT 4	Oxford United	H	4-0	20	Cardiff City	H	2pm
19	Portsmouth	H	0-3	27	Northampton Tn	H	2pm
26	Brighton & H A	a	1-0	MAR 6	Bournemouth	H	2pm
OCT 10	Bristol Rovers	a	2-0	13	Reading	a	2pm
NOV 7	Colchester Utd	H	1-1	20	Crystal Palace	H	2pm
14	Southend Utd	a	1-2	26	Brentford	H	2pm
21	Norwich City	H	2-2	APR 3	Cheltenham Tn	a	2pm
B&B 27	Aylesbury Utd	a	3-2	10	Bristol City	a	2pm
DEC 10	Cambridge Utd	a	3-0	TBA	Burnham/Marlow (B&B Q/F)	H	7.45pm
19	Peterborough U	H	2pm	All home games played at Adams Park			
JAN 2	Queens Park R	a	2pm	Dates and Kick-off times liable to change.			
16	Luton Town	a	2pm				
22	Millwall	a	2pm				

DIVISION ONE

(Up to and including 17/12/01)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	G/D	Pts
Q.PR.	11	6	5	0	29	10	19	23
Portsmouth	11	7	2	2	19	10	9	23
Cardiff	10	6	3	1	19	9	10	21
Norwich	12	6	3	3	22	16	6	21
Crystal Palace	12	6	2	4	22	17	5	20
Oxford	11	5	4	2	12	13	-1	19
Reading	10	5	2	3	17	10	7	17
WANDERERS	10	5	2	3	17	11	6	17
Brentford	10	5	2	3	21	16	5	17
Millwall	11	4	5	2	19	15	4	17
Peterborough	11	5	2	4	18	20	-2	17
Gillingham	10	4	3	3	16	9	7	15
Luton	9	4	3	2	13	9	4	15
Bristol Rovers	10	4	2	4	10	11	-1	14
Leyton Orient	10	4	1	5	17	25	-8	13
Southend	10	3	3	4	11	13	-2	12
Cheltenham	12	3	3	6	10	23	-13	12
Bristol City	8	2	4	2	10	9	1	10
Colchester	12	2	3	7	14	21	-7	9
Brighton	8	1	4	3	8	9	-1	7
Cambridge	10	2	1	7	10	17	-7	7
Northampton	10	1	4	5	9	17	-8	7

create any clear cut chances and Wycombe worked their way back through Bray and Bowden on the wings. We won a series of corners, but the best chance, Oakley's header, went wide. Crosses came in too close to the keeper and she patrolled her area well. Luton's best chance fell to a midfielder, who drove the last kick of the game just inches over the bar. It was close, but not close enough to deny Wanderers the win they deserved. Next home fixture: Sunday 6th January 2pm The Rye v Thame United

Women's Southern Region

Northern Division (9th December)

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wycombe Wanderers	8	8	0	0	51	9	24
Mansfield Road	11	6	0	5	40	28	18
Tring Athletic	9	5	2	2	21	14	17
MK Wanderers	8	5	1	2	35	18	16
Stocklake Ladies & Girls	6	5	0	1	24	2	15
Rover Oxford Reserves	11	4	0	7	26	33	12
Thame United	9	3	2	4	26	27	11
Luton Town Belles	6	3	0	3	13	8	9
Newport Pagnell	9	2	1	6	17	40	7
Holmer Green	10	0	0	10	6	79	0

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