

Sombrero man gets Blues trial



Triallist: Carlos Lopez

WANDERERS are giving a three-week trial to former Mexican championship winning defender Carlos Lopez.

The 30-year-old left-sided centre-back made his debut for the reserves in their 4-1 drubbing against nine-man QPR on Wednesday.

But manager Lawrie Sanchez excused his triallist of blame and said he wants to see more of him.

He said: "I'm not sure that he's going to be the dominant centre half we're looking for, but I want to have a look at him over the next few weeks.

"He did alright in a poor performance. He wasn't helped by the players around him. I don't know what they were trying to achieve. It looked as though they all had too good a Christmas."

The Lawrie Sanchez look-alike, who won two Mexican titles with Necaxa and has also seen service with Athletic Bilbao, made some timely interceptions and looked assured on the ball.

But the Mexican born player, who holds a Spanish passport, was given a harsh welcome to reserve football by the QPR forwards, with Carl Leaburn all power and muscle and Leroy Griffiths adding flair and pace.

It was no surprise when QPR took the lead on 18 minutes. Wycombe centre-back Roger Johnson was unlucky to have a free-kick awarded against him but Richard Langley exacted full punishment by flinging the ball into the top right-hand corner.

Wycombe, in a 4-3-3 formation, were being overrun in midfield and their first touch kept letting them down while the Wycombe back four performed a parting of the Red Sea trick to allow QPR forwards to waltz through.

Wycombe were lucky to escape on 22 minutes when Griffiths just failed to latch onto a through ball but six minutes later QPR got their second when Leaburn scored from Stuart Wardley's corner.

A minute later, it was three when left-back Paul Bruce unleashed a 30-yard volley and Richard Pacquette made it four on 57 minutes.

Wycombe bagged a consolation on 66 through Sean Devine's penalty after 'keeper Rhys Evans was sent off for bringing down Andy Baird.

QPR then had another man dismissed in the 85th minute when Langley received his second yellow.

Boss on telly

FOOTBALL: Wycombe boss Lawrie Sanchez is to star on BBC1's A Question of Sport tonight as part of the FA Cup build-up.

Sanchez will be appearing alongside Alan Hansen – the former Liverpool defender who should have been marking him when Sanchez scored Wimbledon's winner in the 1988 final.

Sanchez also masterminded Wycombe's brilliant run to the FA Cup semi-finals last season but Hansen can't forget his own personal Sanchez experience.

When he was asked in a recent interview to name the one game he wanted to have played in, he replied: "The 1988 Cup Final against Wimbledon. Though I was there I never really turned up."