

Carroll declares interest in Blues reserve team job

DAVE Carroll fancies becoming Wanderers' reserve team boss, the BFP can reveal.

The 35-year-old Chairboys playmaker, who is currently recovering from a groin injury, declared his interest in the vacancy to boss Lawrie Sanchez who plans to make an appointment in the summer.

Carroll has scored 100 goals for the Blues and his contract is up for renewal at the end of the season.

Sanchez said: "Dave came to see me to ask what the situation was with the reserves and it's a position we've got to look at."

● Andy Baird came through 92 minutes of Wanderers' Berks and Bucks Cup marathon in midweek and then declared himself fit for Nationwide League combat at Port Vale

tomorrow.

Baird showed no reaction to the ankle ligament injury which has sidelined him for 11 months and was only taken off when he developed cramp.

He said: "I know it's a big step up from reserve games but I feel more than ready for a place on the bench. I feel fitter and stronger than ever and can't wait to get back into it."

Lawrie Sanchez played him at the back to reduce the risk of him getting injured and Baird backed his manager's decision.

He said: "At this stage it's all about me getting games under my belt so I don't mind where I play."

Baird was meant to have a bench role against Notts County last week, after coming through the two previous reserve games,

but he had to pull out after picking up a viral infection.

Ben Townsend also played his first game since sustaining ankle ligament damage against Brentford in the LDV in October.

Like Baird, he went off with cramp in extra time.

He said: "It was great to be back. It's been a frustrating season but hopefully I'm over the worst now."

● Wanderers' new £35,000 electronic scoreboard made its debut against Burnham on Wednesday, six months later than expected.

It did experience a few glitches on its first night but Wanderers are optimistic these will be ironed out before the visit of Bristol City a week tomorrow.

Wanderers hope to recoup that £35,000 from advertising messages posted on the scoreboard over the next few years.

● Centre half Paul McCarthy is hoping to return to the squad for the visit to Bournemouth revamped Dean Court Stadium on February 16 after knee ligament trouble.

● That game at Bournemouth has been made all-ticket. The Cherries' Dean Court ground has been modernised and only three sides are open. Tickets are on sale priced £12.50 adults or £5 Juniors and Senior Citizens) from Adams Park or on the ticket hotline (01494) 441118.

● Sanchez has told midfielder Martyn Lee he is going nowhere on loan this season.

He said: "It's something we

did contemplate earlier in the season and I can understand his frustrations at the moment because he hasn't been playing.

"But I want to keep him here. We haven't got the biggest squad and I know what he can do and that he can play in the first team."

He explained that Lee's situation is totally different from that of people like Leeyon Phelan who have been allowed out on loan as they bid to climb up the club ladder and force their way into first team contention."

Sanchez said: "Lee is an integral part of the squad."

● Andy Rammell had a successful operation on his injured ankle on Saturday but Sanchez is not expecting him to play again this season.