

Crocked Johnson facing further tests on his knee

TEENAGE sensation Roger Johnson has joined Wanderers' list of crocked defenders and is out of tomorrow's trip to Wigan.

The 18-year-old, who signed a new three year contract last week, suffered a re-occurrence of his locked knee injury during Saturday's 2-1 win over his home-town club Bournemouth.

He had an inconclusive scan on Tuesday and is booked in for more tests today where Wanderers hope to discover the extent of his injury.

Sanchez said: "It'll be two or three weeks at least before we see him again at best and if could be longer depending on what we find out.

"It couldn't have come at a worse time. Roger has surprised us all. You want to give people opportunities and he's taken it with both hands, both feet and his head."

Johnson's injury forced Sanchez to raid Millwall yesterday and borrow their out of favour centre half David Tuttle.

Tuttle goes straight into the back four tomorrow alongside Canadian international Mark Rogers, who is Wycombe's only fit centre half.

Jason Cousins (ankle) will be lucky if he plays again this season while Paul McCarthy (knee) is still a month away.

Striker Andy Baird will also board the bus heading north today after recovering from his twisted knee.

Sanchez must also decide whether to give the captain's armband back to Keith Ryan. He superstitiously kept it with Rogers on Tuesday because the Canadian had been victorious on his three previous occasions as skipper.

But that record went for a spectacular burton on Tuesday as Blackpool steam-rollered their way to victory.

Ryan said: "It's an honour being captain but I won't be disappointed if I'm not. The important thing is that we win.

"We didn't play well against Blackpool. We had a lot of bad luck and hopefully we've got rid of that in one go.

"We've got to keep our confidence up. We've dragged ourselves into a fantastic position. Three weeks ago we would have been written off for the play-offs, but we've given ourselves enough points to be able to slip up. We're still in with one helluva shout."