

# Simpson stats holds him back

WANDERERS boss Lawrie Sanchez doesn't know whether to cheer or groan when midfield marvel Michael Simpson hits the back of the net.

He says goals are the only thing missing from the 28-year-old's game and admits that if Simmo hit the net more often Wanderers wouldn't be able to hold onto him.

Simpson scored just his 15th goal in 240 Wanderers appearances to set Wanderers on their way to last Saturday's 3-2 win over Peterborough.

Sanchez said: "I can't speak too highly about Simmo. His attitude is tremendous. He's a good trainer. He's a good lad and he should be playing at a higher level and I'm sure he would be if he added goals to his game.

"There's not been any interest in him and I'm glad there hasn't because I want to keep him. If he added goals to his game we would have a problem keeping hold of him."

● Aussie keeper Frank Talia doesn't know whether he is coming or going at Adams Park.

The star of Wanderers' last two victories sees his short term contract expire next month and Sanchez admitted that he doesn't know whether he'll be able to afford to keep him after that.

He said: "I would like to keep Frank but a decision will be made on the resources available to us. I've got to have a chat with the chairman."

Talia got his chance between the sticks when first choice Martin Taylor was ruled out through suspension last Saturday and he retained the jersey with a stunning midweek display at Torquay.

But Talia knows Taylor could be back between the post tomorrow.

He said: "I want to be playing in the first team but I know I'm only here for a short period and I think the manager is obviously going to play the players he knows are going to be here long term and I don't know if that includes me.

"It's a difficult situation. All I can do is go out there and show people what I can do and the rest will take care of itself either here or somewhere else."

● Skipper Paul McCarthy will be banned for the home game against Swindon Town on Saturday, November 2, following his fifth yellow card of the season during last weekend's 3-2 win over Peterborough United.

● Wanderers have sent Flackwell Heath Football Club a good luck letter ahead of their FA Cup clash against Crawley tomorrow.

● Blues will find out who they will meet in the LDV Vans Trophy tomorrow morning and will then discover their FA Cup first round opponents on Saturday evening

● Transco has hit back at accusations that they are to blame for the lack of gas supply to Adams Park.

At the recent fans forum, secretary Keith Allen told supporters that Transco had messed the club about since May, and later said Transco were first contacted on January 28 to arrange for gas to be supplied to Adams Park, in order to power the new undersoil heating – part of a £500,000 pitch improvement scheme.

But communications adviser for Transco Neil Brenson said the formal order wasn't placed by Wycombe until August 29, with a quotation for the work sent out on September 10, and the club accepting the quotation on September 18.

Brenson added: "Transco fully recognises the importance of the work. the time between when the quote was accepted and the start of the work is well within our standards of service."

He added that work is now due to start on October 30 and will last for around five days.

## HOW THEY STAND

| Teams          | P         | W        | D        | L        | F         | A         | W        | D        | L        | F        | A        | Pts       |
|----------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Wigan          | 14        | 4        | 2        | 1        | 14        | 8         | 5        | 1        | 1        | 12       | 3        | 30        |
| Cardiff        | 14        | 5        | 1        | 1        | 11        | 5         | 3        | 3        | 1        | 9        | 7        | 28        |
| Bristol City   | 14        | 6        | 0        | 1        | 17        | 3         | 3        | 0        | 4        | 10       | 11       | 27        |
| Oldham         | 14        | 4        | 0        | 3        | 15        | 7         | 4        | 3        | 0        | 7        | 2        | 27        |
| QPR            | 14        | 6        | 1        | 0        | 16        | 4         | 2        | 2        | 3        | 10       | 10       | 27        |
| Crewe          | 14        | 4        | 1        | 2        | 7         | 4         | 3        | 3        | 1        | 14       | 6        | 25        |
| Blackpool      | 14        | 5        | 2        | 0        | 15        | 5         | 2        | 1        | 4        | 5        | 8        | 24        |
| Chesterfield   | 14        | 5        | 1        | 1        | 11        | 5         | 2        | 1        | 4        | 4        | 12       | 23        |
| Brentford      | 14        | 3        | 3        | 1        | 7         | 4         | 3        | 1        | 3        | 9        | 13       | 22        |
| Luton          | 14        | 3        | 1        | 3        | 16        | 12        | 3        | 2        | 2        | 9        | 10       | 21        |
| Plymouth       | 14        | 3        | 2        | 2        | 9         | 8         | 2        | 2        | 3        | 10       | 12       | 19        |
| Tranmere       | 14        | 5        | 1        | 1        | 9         | 5         | 1        | 0        | 6        | 5        | 17       | 19        |
| <b>Wycombe</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>18</b> |
| Port Vale      | 14        | 3        | 1        | 3        | 9         | 11        | 2        | 2        | 3        | 10       | 12       | 18        |
| Stockport      | 14        | 3        | 2        | 2        | 12        | 10        | 2        | 0        | 5        | 4        | 7        | 17        |
| Northampton    | 14        | 3        | 2        | 2        | 9         | 5         | 1        | 2        | 4        | 4        | 13       | 16        |
| Huddersfield   | 14        | 2        | 3        | 2        | 7         | 6         | 2        | 1        | 4        | 5        | 11       | 16        |
| Notts County   | 14        | 1        | 3        | 3        | 8         | 12        | 2        | 3        | 2        | 11       | 9        | 15        |
| Colchester     | 14        | 3        | 1        | 3        | 5         | 4         | 1        | 2        | 4        | 5        | 12       | 15        |
| Barnsley       | 14        | 2        | 3        | 2        | 7         | 10        | 2        | 0        | 5        | 7        | 13       | 15        |
| Peterborough   | 14        | 2        | 2        | 3        | 7         | 4         | 1        | 2        | 4        | 10       | 14       | 13        |
| Swindon        | 14        | 2        | 1        | 4        | 8         | 8         | 1        | 1        | 5        | 5        | 14       | 11        |
| Mansfield      | 14        | 2        | 0        | 5        | 10        | 19        | 1        | 2        | 4        | 9        | 18       | 11        |
| Cheltenham     | 14        | 1        | 2        | 4        | 8         | 13        | 1        | 2        | 4        | 6        | 9        | 10        |