

SCHOOLBOY PLAY IS INDEFENSIBLE

MANAGER Lawrie Sanchez accused his defenders of playing like schoolboys after Wanderers crashed to their third straight home defeat.

He read the riot act to his rearguard after they sprang a leak again in Saturday's 3-1 reversal against Tranmere Rovers – the side with the worst away record in the second division going into the game.

Sanchez said: "We lost through poor defending. We defended like schoolboys at times.

"Experienced players have let us down.

FOOTBALL By Dave Peters

"We've got to go back to the drawing board and stop giving stupid goals away.

"We've tried every combination but if people don't defend with their lives, goals will continue to go in against us."

And he launched a stinging attack on the club's central defenders, Paul McCarthy, Andy Thomson, Mark Rogers and Roger Johnson.

He said: "Whoever has played at the centre of defence this season

has let us down.

"I've got to ask questions of the people that keep getting done.

"Whatever combinations we have played, those four players have let us down and the goals against prove that."

Wanderers have now conceded ten in their last three home games. They have gone out of the FA Cup and slipped down to 14th in the second division table in successive weeks.

And Sanchez has told the players they have got to band together and sort it out.

He said: "We've got no money as a club. If we did have I would have

brought Dean Blackwell in here when I got him for a spell.

"There's no cavalry coming over the hill."

Skipper Paul McCarthy said: "We're all bitterly disappointed. We looked comfortable until they scored the first goal and then as a team we seemed to lose our confidence.

"For some reason or another the confidence isn't the greatest but the crowd were good, they kept with us but we couldn't do it for them.

"I think if we'd scored first it would have been a totally different game.

"We're conceding goals as a

team. We've got to get things sorted and keep going.

"It's not just the defence though. We're working as a team. It's 11 players and we've got to take the credit and criticism as a team for winning and losing."

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