

Rhino pleads for supporters to show more patience

CAPTAIN Keith Ryan has appealed for patience from the supporters as the club tries to dig itself out of its bad run of form.

He said after last Saturday's 3-1 defeat at home to Tranmere - Blues third successive home setback - that the club needs a united front.

He said: "We can't put our finger on what's gone wrong but everyone here is pulling in the right direction.

"We need to stick together

and we will turn it around."

And the midfield ace is desperate for a win tomorrow because there is no hiding place for him when results are going well.

As one of the few players who lives in the area, he comes face-to-face with supporters every day.

He said: "I can't switch off from it. It doesn't leave my weekend because when I go to the park with my kids, there are always people there that want to

chat about football.

"I always give people the time of day. Any supporter that wants to have a chat with me is quite welcome.

"I'm always working. There's never a time when I can disappear and go to a place where there's no football talk and that makes the defeats worse.

"It comes with the territory. I don't mind it.

"They are good enough to come and chat to me and say

well done when we are winning, so I've got to be as gracious in defeat."

But he admitted: "It's difficult to know what to say to the supporters at the moment.

"I'm a player at this club but I would also class myself as a supporter. I'm the one that will be coming back when my playing days are over.

"I'm as much a supporter of this club as anyone else and I'm as frustrated as anyone else.

"The difference is that I can

go on the pitch and try and make a difference.

"It's not lack of effort that's causing our bad results. We just hope that by working hard on the training pitch we can put it right."

And he added: "I would just say to the supporters who are saying it is time for a change of manager to be patient.

"It's alright saying these things but the club is strapped for money and it is obvious that that is not going to happen.

"They should get behind the people that are in the job at the moment.

"The supporters were first class on Saturday and I'm just disappointed that we couldn't do anything for them."

Team captain Paul McCarthy echoed his sentiments and added: "We're honest lads, we're hard working. We just need that little break to get us going again. People say it is only a game, but it is our jobs.

"Losing is a horrible feeling."