

Sanchez: I'm not quitting

LAWRIE Sanchez this week insisted he won't quit the struggling Blues.

The Wanderers boss has promised to haul the side away from the drop-zone despite some fans calling for his head.

But Sanchez has come out fighting.

He said: "I won't be quitting. I don't ask my players to quit and I won't be quitting. It is not a scenario."

Wanderers have won just one of their last 17 league games, are second from bottom in Division Two and were dumped out of the Carling Cup 5-0 by Aston Villa on Tuesday.

But on the eve of tomorrow's trip to table-toppers Port Vale, Sanchez insisted he will steer the club to calmer waters.

He said: "This club isn't

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going to get relegated under me I can tell you that.

"We will fight, we will battle and we will claw our way out."

"We are in a bad position after nine games but we have got 37 games to pull it round."

Sanchez pulled it off when he first joined the Blues when they were down and out in 1999 and he is determined to do it again with his younger more inexperienced squad.

He said: "We were in a much worse position then and got out of it and we will do it again."

"You don't get relegated after nine games but we know we've got a lot of work to do.

"We are in a spiral and we have got to break it quickly. The players' confidence is shot to pieces and it is important that we get a win from somewhere."

Sanchez has already brought in Rotherham centre half Guy Branston on a month's loan and is now hoping to borrow a striker in time for tomorrow's Vale Park clash as he bids to freshen things up with new faces.

He said: "I've been on the phone every day. We need a centre forward. We need one or two new faces in the squad."

The Blues boss is also likely to make other changes at Vale Park as he bids to erase the memory of last Saturday's humiliating 5-2 home defeat against Oldham in the league which he described as the

lowest point of his managerial career

Keeper Frank Talia is expected to return in goal in place of rookie Steve Williams, who has conceded ten in his last two outings.

The boss is also considering abandoning his 4-4-2 policy tomorrow in a bid to contain the Valiants three-man attack and stop the flow of goals flying into Wycombe's net.

But the gaffer - who was yesterday due to offer triallist striker Andy Bell a short-term contract - insists Wanderers should travel with no fear as they bid to become the first side this season to take anything away from Vale Park and says the Valiants' bubble will burst soon.

He said: "There's very few quality sides in this division.

Port Vale are up there because they are playing on confidence at the moment but they won't be up there at the finish. They've had a good start and it has bred confidence.

"We went up there last year and they were calling for the manager to be sacked. Once they get one or two knocks they will come back down."

Wanderers look set to recall fit-again midfield terrier Charlie Mapes into the squad after he came through 75 minutes of the reserves 0-0 draw with Crystal Palace on Wednesday without any reaction to his ligament problem.

But they will be without paceman Jermaine McSparran. He is out with ankle ligament damage and is also doubtful for Tuesday's game at Tranmere.