



RON BARNETT

WANDERERS

TWO home defeats in four days have provided an unwanted reality check for Wanderers fans.

After a flying start with seven points from the first three games, the wheels seemed to have temporarily come off Wanderers' wagon.

Tony Adams was pretty forthright in his comments about the dismal performance against Rochdale. Unfortunately, he certainly didn't help the situation by continually switching the players positions and roles.

However, with a brand new squad and a manager still learning his trade we will no doubt have to expect a few duff games during the early part of the season.

Mind you, this was dire stuff by any standards. It reminded me of the darkest days we suffered under the Alan Smith reign.

In our first three matches we knocked the ball around pretty well, but we somehow got sucked into a contest of who could kick the ball the highest and furthest. I can't recall one decent passing movement and I had to agree with the exasperated end of match comment "We couldn't even pass water today!"

For the first 70 minutes the only people who could have enjoyed the game were insomniacs. Maybe that's why Dreams have become stand sponsors!

After going a goal down Wanderers at last woke up a little, but it was all too little too late. The final two goals, in added time, just added insult to injury.

The Carling Cup performance against Bristol City was more encouraging with the team at least trying to put some decent moves together. However, just like Saturday, we were punished for poor marking at a cross from the right with twenty minutes left on the clock.

It's just as well the club had not budgeted to make any money from a Carling Cup run. Going out in the first round in front of a crowd of only 1778 is hardly going to help the club finances.

Talking of finances, our first three results must have given Ivor and the board greater hope of achieving the much needed £1.5 million investment they are seeking. The higher our league position the higher our club profile and, therefore, hopefully the higher our chances of attracting investors.

Let's hope Big Tony can get the team back to winning ways at Kidderminster on Saturday and at home to Grimsby on Monday.

Then it's the big local derby with Oxford, always a crunch match for me as a Wanderers fan living in Oxfordshire.

Nine points from those three games should be good enough to help bring in a few hundred grand towards the clubs investment target. No pressure then

Tony