

Guide to Blues' play off rivals and their games

NORTHAMPTON have recalled striker Marc Richards to boost their play-off prospects after his loan spell at play-off rivals Rochdale.

Richards, 22, scored twice in five appearances during a month at Rochdale where he was sent to recover from a knee injury.

Boss Colin Calderwood said: "He played a lot of football, scored a couple of goals and his return will certainly strengthen us."

His return is a massive boost to a Cobblers side struggling for form.

But the Cobblers suffered a body blow on Tuesday when their inspirational skipper Ashley Westwood was ruled out for the

rest of the season.

The 28-year-old former Manchester United trainee was injured early in the Cobblers' 1-0 defeat at Cheltenham Town on Saturday and scans have revealed knee ligament damage.

David Galbraith is also a doubt for Saturday with a dead-leg.

Rochdale's bid to squeeze into the play-offs has been affected by the return of Richards to Northampton.

His return could not have been worse timed from their point of view as they have a striker crisis going into their clash at bottom club Cambridge tomorrow.

Gary Holt is suspended, so Dale are keeping their fingers crossed that Paul Tait will be fit to

return after missing last week's match with a facial injury.

Darlington remain in pole position to take the final play-off spot despite their recent poor run, which has produced just one win in their last five games.

They currently occupy the play-off berth and lie two points above Northampton and four ahead of Wycombe and Rochdale, in ninth and tenth respectively.

Skipper Neil Madison looks set to return for them after a seven game absence with a back injury. Midfielder Johnjo Dickman is also knocking on the first team door again after recovering from a hamstring strain but full back Joe Kendrick looks set to miss out after pulling his calf in training.

The Fixtures

ROCHDALE: Cambridge Utd (A, April 23) Oxford Utd (H, April 30) Boston Utd (A, May 7)

WYCOMBE: Yeovil (A, April 23) Leyton Orient (H, April 30), Bristol Rovers (A, May 7)

NORTHAMPTON: Lincoln City (H, April 23), Chester (A, April 30), Kidderminster (H, May 7)

DARLINGTON: Rushden & D'monds (H, April 23), Lincoln City (A, April 30), Cheltenham (H, May 7)