

Midfield duo make rapid recoveries but Ryan continues to leave his big decision on hold

MIDFIELDERS Joe Burnell and Matt Bloomfield have made miraculous recoveries from their injuries and could feature in Blues' Bank Holiday double header against Shrewsbury and Cheltenham.

Bloomers damaged his ankle ligaments in Saturday's 4-0 demolition of Bury and left the ground on crutches. It was feared then that he could be out for three weeks at least.

But Blues are now optimistic that he could feature at home to Cheltenham (ko 3pm) if he doesn't make it in time for tomorrow's clash at Shrewsbury.

It is the same for Burnell.

He lasted just 35 minutes against Bury and cut a disconsolate figure as he hobbled out with a recurrence

Wanderers by Dave Peters

dpeters@london.newsquest.co.uk

of a long-standing back injury. But the former Bristol City player has responded to treatment and is no longer looking at having a Bank Holiday off.

But as they get better, Blues have slight doubts over two of their star performers in recent weeks.

Midfield maestro Stefan Oakes picked up a slight groin strain in the midweek cup win at Swindon, while centre half Mike Williamson is nursing a slight hamstring complaint.

Meanwhile, Keith Ryan is also making progress as he battles to overcome a knee injury.

The assistant boss had an operation five weeks ago and is still three weeks away from being able to do any weight-bearing training.

The 35-year-old, who also doubles as assistant manager alongside Steve Brown, is still undecided whether he will continue to play on and says he will see how his recovery goes before making any decision.

But as Ryan, Blues' longest serving player (*pictured right*) keeps his options open, he is still playing a big part in the club's early season success. He has been scouting the opposition and prospective players and missed the game at Swindon to spy on next Friday's opponents Northampton Town.

