

Blues struck by curse of the league leaders



VIEW FROM THE STAND

WITH RON BARNETT

THE curse of the league leaders has struck Wanderers once again. After just one week of enjoying life at the top of the table, the Blues gave their worst performance of the season against a very negative Rushden and Diamonds.

The visitors made it obvious from the start that they had come for a point and their game plan was more rough diamonds than the sparkling variety.

Last season, Wanderers briefly hit the top spot in mid-September only then to go ten games without a win. At the end of that dismal run Tony Adams decided to desert the sinking ship rather than wait and walk the plank.

Thankfully, John Gorman's squad is made of sterner stuff and I'm sure he'll get the team back on track for the trip to Lincoln. After all, despite Saturday's blip, Wanderers have still got the opportunity to extend their new club record run of fourteen league games unbeaten.

It was good to see Wanderers quickly get back to winning ways with an unexpected double strike from super sub Clint Easton, which finally helped to seal the LDV Vans Trophy victory over Dagenham and Redbridge, even it meant a late night for everyone.

Using the number of fans catching our Stokenchurch coach as some sort of yardstick for the match attendances, I think we are finally seeing an increase in the number of local fans at Adams Park. It seems that word has eventually got round that Wanderers are playing attractive and winning football.

When we left the Kings Arms on Saturday we were almost half full, which is more than double the usual number. By the time we reached Lane End we were full and a second coach was needed to pick everyone up. The only time this has happened before was for the pre-season friendly against Chelsea.

There were 4,986 local fans watching the Rushden game which is around a 10% increase on early season attendances and the highest this season. Hopefully these figures will continue to rise along with the club's success.

As much as I'm enjoying watching Wanderers this season, I do have one complaint about our play. We're scoring and conceding too many goals at the wrong end!

Ten of the 11 goals in the Villa match were scored at the far end to the Wanderers fans, as were three of the five against Wrexham and three of the six against Chester. Even Tommy's winning goal at Grimsby was scored in front of the home fans.

I make that 17 goals out of 23 that have gone in at the wrong end in these four games. John, can you have a word with lads please?

LEAGUE TWO

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grimsby	14	3	1	3	11	6	5	2	0	10	3	27
Rochdale	14	5	1	2	16	7	3	1	2	12	9	26
Wycombe	14	3	5	0	14	6	3	3	0	12	9	26
Leyton Orient	14	3	2	3	12	13	4	2	0	11	7	25
Chester	14	3	2	2	18	12	3	4	0	10	6	24
Northampton	14	2	3	2	7	7	3	4	0	11	5	22
Oxford Utd	14	3	3	0	9	6	2	3	3	6	8	21
Cheltenham	14	3	2	3	11	11	2	3	1	6	6	20
Carlisle	14	3	0	4	8	10	3	2	2	6	6	20
Wrexham	13	5	1	1	15	5	0	3	3	4	10	19
Boston Utd	14	3	4	0	13	9	1	3	3	7	12	19
Darlington	14	3	2	2	7	5	1	4	2	8	9	18
Shrewsbury	14	2	5	1	10	7	2	1	3	5	9	18
Notts County	14	3	2	1	7	4	1	4	3	5	13	18
Peterborough	13	1	1	3	2	4	4	1	3	13	8	17
Lincoln City	14	3	2	2	8	5	0	5	2	7	9	16
Bury	14	3	3	2	9	7	1	1	4	5	10	16
Bristol Rovers	14	1	3	2	5	6	3	1	4	11	16	16
Barnet	14	1	3	3	6	9	2	3	2	9	9	15
Stockport	14	0	6	0	8	8	1	3	4	10	16	12
Rushden	14	1	3	3	7	12	1	3	3	5	9	12
Torquay	14	2	2	2	6	6	1	1	6	5	17	12
Macclesfield	14	2	4	2	10	14	0	1	5	3	10	11
Mansfield	14	2	1	3	13	9	0	3	5	7	16	10