

We're making a point of being draw specialists



VIEW FROM THE STAND

WITH
RON BARNETT

ANOTHER league game, another draw, another point. Wanderers are certainly making a point of being the divisions draw specialists.

More to the point, we're still unbeaten after 17 league games and are in the leading pack of promotion wannabees.

It certainly seems a long time ago since we lost 1-0 at Bristol Rovers at the beginning of May.

Once again, we didn't get the best of luck at Darlington with an unfortunate own goal and a late penalty decision not going Wanderers way. It was the same old story, for this season, of having to settle for one point when it could easily have been three.

With no Nathan Tyson in the side, it would have been interesting to see who would have stepped up to take the spot kick had it been given. I'm sure most fans would have liked to see Sergio given the chance to score his first goal for the club.

The Tyson deal certainly came out of the blue, especially after he said he wasn't interested in moving to Forest just a few weeks ago. I can only presume Gary Megson must have offered Nathan, and hopefully the club, a substantially improved deal.

My concern is that if he has only gone there on a conventional loan deal, it means Forest have in fact got him on a sale or return basis. The last thing Wanderers would want would be for Nathan to fail to cut the mustard and return to Wycombe with his transfer market valuation seriously devalued.

He is, of course, out of contract next summer and has stated he wants to leave in January, which would mean the club may be forced to sell him for a giveaway price.

Hopefully, given his undoubted financial acumen, Steve Hayes has been able to negotiate a binding agreement with Forest that they will definitely stump up the cash in January. Otherwise, should he be returned unsold we would have lost his valuable services for nine vital league games without any financial reward.

Looking at the club's latest report and financial statements, the financial position of the club has rapidly declined over the last year. Major trading losses in the last year coupled with reduced assets means the club is more than another £1 million in the red.

Mind you, this is hardly surprising given the spending on strengthening the squad and improving facilities at Adams Park. The board's policy seems to be promotion or bust – let's hope they don't mean that too literally.

Tomorrow's clash with second place Grimsby is the proverbial six-pointer and the ideal game to confirm that all the club's investment has given us a squad that are real promotion candidates.

No pressure then John – all you and the team have got to do is win this match and keep the unbeaten run going!