

Top of the pile and it feels just great



BAKER'S BLUES

WITH
IAN BAKER

JUST how good does it feel to be on top of the pile, still unbeaten in the league 18 games in?

We have made an absolutely fantastic start and fully deserve our current position. What makes it so encouraging is that we are doing it by playing good football. The players seem to enjoy it and so do the fans. Our football this season has surely been some of the best I have ever seen as a supporter of the club.

We have our first double of the season. This came against one of our rivals for promotion, Grimsby Town. Yet we outplayed them on both occasions. Even the most pessimistic of supporters are starting to believe that this will be our year.

Nathan Tyson's departure took us all by surprise. After saying he was not going to Nottingham Forest, it was a dramatic U-turn for him to change his mind. But Tyson had looked jaded in his last few games for the club, with his mind clearly elsewhere.

We have to thank Tyson for the goals he scored for us – our most prolific scorer since we joined the Football League – and it will be a club record sale when he moves permanently on January 3.

We wish him well, but you cannot help but feel he, like most footballers, has been lured by financial incentive. There is no doubt that Tyson can play at a higher level than League One.

We have certainly not missed Tyson so far, as we now have a squad with strength in depth. John Gorman clearly has done a remarkable job – he incidentally sits seventh in the League Managers Association League Table.

We make the long trip to Carlisle this weekend, a 600-mile round trip so fair play to anyone that makes it.

Will we make it 19 unbeaten? Well, history says no. Wycombe's previous unbeaten record in the league of 14 games was ended on November 26 1995 with a 4-2 defeat.

The opponents? Carlisle United. The venue? Brunton Park. What day is it tomorrow?

Surely lightning cannot strike twice

Finally, I hope all the LDV Vans exploits are worth it and we achieve something in the competition this season. The win at Gillingham is the second time a team made up largely of first teamers has faced extra time this season.

Let's hope it does not adversely impact on our league form which surely has to take top priority.
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