

VIEW FROM THE STAND

WITH RON BARNETT

Waiting for our fate was so horrible

BY the time you read this we will already know if Blues' promotion dreams are still alive or whether they faded and died in Cheltenham.

Unfortunately, due to printing deadlines, I'm having to write this piece before the Cheltenham clash, with my mood veering between hopeless optimism and dark pessimism.

I just hope I was celebrating with all the other Blues fans when the final whistle went at Whaddon Road last night.

Tommy Mooney's late goal on Saturday certainly gave Wanderers a fighting chance, providing we can tighten up our defence. The choices between playing Steve Williams or Frank Talia and Will Antwi or Mike Williamson could be crucial decisions.

The loss of Rob Lee so early in the game to what was, at best, a careless elbow was a real blow. He was up until then controlling midfield and his experience and distribution was badly missed on a nervy night.

We only finally regained a grip on midfield when Stefan Oakes came on midway through the second half. Lee and Oakes are both big match players and have the ability to dictate the pace of a game and lift the rest of the team.

Jermaine Easter also added much needed pace and direct running when he came on.

Whatever the outcome at Cheltenham, or hopefully Cardiff, this has certainly been an eventful season for Wanderers and their fans.

After the great highs of going unbeaten for 21 league games, we then sunk to the recent low of losing six games on the bounce. That dismal run cost us our, almost, nailed-on automatic promotion place. Both these runs created club records – one to remember and one to forget.

I'm sure there will be a number of comings and goings at Adams Park over the summer break as the club aim to strengthen the playing squad. However, it is a couple of returning faces that will probably have the biggest influence on the future. First of course will be the welcome return of a

fully recovered John Gorman to lead the management team.

However it is also good to see Terry Evans back at the club working with Brownie and Rhino.

Hopefully this will continue and be long term arrangement for Big Terry.



DUE to printing deadlines we are unable to bring you a report from Blues' match at Cheltenham last night but a full report will be available in a free BFP publication available at stockists