

BLUES FACING AN EXODUS?

One star has already left – three more could follow soon

WHOEVER is appointed Blues boss in the coming weeks could inherit a squad substantially weaker than the one which missed out in the playoffs in May.

Rob Lee has already left the club, Danny Senda is sure to follow while Swansea boss Kenny Jackett is still keen to land Roger Johnson.

And now Joe Burnell has admitted he might have left Adams Park as well by the time a new manager is appointed.

He said: "I like the club and the fans, but there's a chance I'll be gone by the time a new manager comes in."

The out of contract players had been told during the sea-

son they would be able to discuss new deals at the end of the campaign.

John Gorman's dismissal has changed that, with a freeze on all contract negotiations until a new man is in charge and, if other clubs show an interest in the interim, some players might not want to gamble their livelihoods on being part of the new manager's plans.

Burnell said: "It's part and parcel of the game – managers and teams change."

"I'm a good player for that league and should be playing at a higher level."

He believes that it would have been with Wanderers next season, had the club not

suffered such misfortune.

He said: "I've never known a season like it, but the gaffer did well while he was here."

"The players respected him and played well for him. He's the best manager I've ever worked with."

Meanwhile, Gorman has rubbished speculation linking him with a swoop for former players.

He said: "I want to get my feet under the table at Northampton first."

"There are Wanderers players capable of playing at a higher level, but I've got out of contract players here that I want to resign and have not looked at signing any new players yet."

Names in the frame for Blues hotseat

RAY Lewington is a name that has so far escaped the radar for potential candidates for the Wanderers' job.

Lewington was in charge at Watford for three seasons before the club replaced him with Aidy Bothroyd at the start of last season.

He is currently taking

Fulham Reserves but is understood to be hankering after a return to management and, living in the Hampton Court area, Wycombe would suit him geographically.

Former Chelsea star John Hollins is another name to watch, while Stuart

Murdoch, John Deehan and Barry Hunter are also understood to be after a management position.

Blues are expected to compile a shortlist of ten from more than 40 applicants on Friday, and hope to have a new boss in place by Monday, July 3.



Out of contract:
Blues midfielder
Joe Burnell