



Toothless defender faces Christmas worries

RUSSELL Martin (*pictured*) won't be looking forward to Christmas.

Blues play Macclesfield on December 22 and last week's opponents Shrewsbury again on December 29 – and for Martin that could mean another trip to the dentist.

He has had his nashers knocked out four times in his career – twice against Macclesfield and twice against Shrewsbury.

The last time came on Saturday when his front tooth was knocked out by Michael Symes' elbow.

Martin picked it up and handed it to physio Shay Connolly and had

it popped back in on Monday.

Martin said: "I'm getting used to it now. I think I will have to get a tooth that I just take out for games because it just keeps happening now. It's always the same tooth."

It puts him level pegging with manager Paul Lambert who also had his teeth knocked out four times during his playing career.

Lambert said: "I lost four teeth myself. I don't care about things like that. These things happen. He's a defender."

Martin wasn't worried about the pain as he continues to make the right back position his own.

He said: "I was a central midfielder when I arrived at the club but I think of myself as a right back now."

"It was a learning curve playing there last year but now I know exactly what my job is and what I'm there to do."

● Hayes and Yeading have been refused permission to play Steven Gregory and Tom Cadmore in their FA Cup second qualifying round against Herne Bay tomorrow.

The pair have been on loan at the Blue Square South outfit but Wanderers don't want the pair to be cup tied.