

VIEW FROM THE STAND

WITH RON BARNETT

A new striker? The sooner the better

After three consecutive drawn league games, Wanderers were desperate for a win. They were desperate to watch too, as they struggled to overcome relegation candidates Lincoln.

For the second home league game in succession the referee helped Wanderers' cause by harshly flashing a straight red card and reducing the visitors to ten men with over an hour still to play.

After their failure to break down the defence of nine-men, table-topping, MK Dons surely the team would have no trouble in scoring against the bottom-of-the-table side who had conceded an average of almost two goals per game?

All seemed to be going to plan when Scott McGleish finished off the first decent move of the match to put Wanderers 1-0 ahead. Now we could sit back and enjoy our half-time cuppa and look forward to building our goal difference total in the second half.

Oh, how wrong can you be? Instead of strolling to victory Wanderers, struggled to breach the Imps' defensive wall and by the end they were scrambling around to hold on.

Just like the MK Dons match, Paul Lambert declined the opportunity to switch to a more attacking format when the visitors were reduced to ten men. He left Scott McGleish on his own up front. Sergio Torres was getting forward as much as possible but the situation seemed to cry out for another striker.

Finally with just eight minutes left John Sutton eased himself off the bench only to find his striking partner Scott McGleish going in the opposite direction.

Meanwhile Reuben Reid continued to get splinters in his backside. Successful managers use substitutes to change the course of matches, but it only works if they are on the pitch.

It's obvious neither Sutton or Reid are exactly flavour of the month and I can't say either have looked that impressive.

However they are the best we've got and surely half a loaf is better than none.

Paul Lambert has made it plain he is looking for another quality striker and the sooner he arrives, the sooner Wanderers will be able to get amongst the play-off places.

