

‘I don’t want to worry anyone but...

Chesham boss Andy Leese

CHESHAM reached the Berks & Bucks Cup Final on Tuesday evening – but their trip to Adams Park on May 5 comes with a proviso.

Manager Andy Leese said: “I don’t want to worry anyone. My record of getting to finals is good, but my record of winning them is quite poor.”

In fact, seven finals – four with Cheshunt, two with Potters Bar and one with Boreham Wood – have produced just one victory.

And to improve that he will have to overcome Wycombe Wanderers, who beat MK Dons 3-0 in the other semi-final.

Leese said: “I’ve been trying to bring the pride back to this football club and getting to the final is one step on the road.

“And I’ve always maintained that these competitions are important because there are very few cups to go for.

“I made a real point of stressing that before the

Berks & Bucks Cup Semi-Finals

quarter-finals and I made a real point of it before our semi-final.”

It clearly paid off. Despite making four enforced changes, Chesham were too good for Windsor & Eton with Eugene Ofori and John Lawford netting in a 2-0 win.

It was Ofori’s sixth goal in five games for Chesham this season.

Leese said: “It’s remarkable, but he’s a proven player at two levels above us so we shouldn’t be surprised. And he’s come back with the right attitude.

“Three or four clubs from Step 3 were interested in him so it’s a real coup for us.”

Lawford made certain of the win with a goal that makes a mockery of his threats to retire at the end of the season.

Leese said: “It was a 25-30-yard shot that whistled in and showed that he would be a loss to the game.

“If he does retire a final at Adams Park would be a fitting way for him to go out.

“He’ll be 35 before the end of the season, but I wouldn’t bank on him retiring just yet.”

The win followed their 2-0 league victory over Dunstable Town last weekend, Danny Burnell and Ofori on target as Chesham consolidated their play-off place.

Tomorrow they host Rushall Olympic.

Meanwhile, in League One South & West, **Marlow’s** 0-0 draw with Thatcham was their fourth game without a goal.

Tomorrow they go to Abingdon.

● *Adams Park is still to be confirmed as the venue for the Berks & Bucks Cup Final as Wasps are due to play Gloucester there the day before.*

WANDERERS are closing in on their 27th Berks and Bucks Cup triumph after thrashing MK Dons 3-0 in their semi-final at Stadium MK on Wednesday night.

George Daly, Dan Fitchett and Matty Phillips scored the goals that took them through, with a host of other chances going begging as Blues ran their League Two rivals ragged.

Daly could have opened the floodgates after 20 seconds but shot straight at Kurt Fox when clean through.

Steven Gregory and Derek Duncan, from three yards, also had clear sights of goal before Daly finally got the ball rolling after 44 minutes, heading home after Scott Shulton’s effort had rebounded off the bar.

Gregory fired wide at the start of the second half, but although Blues totally dominated they had to wait until 87 minutes for their second goal.

Fitchett provided it with a close-range finish from Shulton’s pass, before Phillips capped the victory a day before his 17th birthday when he fired home the third from 20 yards.