

All systems go

WITH just two days to go until the start of the League One season, it is all systems go as Wycombe Wanderers prepare for Saturday's big kick off at Charlton Athletic.

Peter Taylor's team warmed up for their trip to The Valley, the scene of an heroic Carling Cup win two seasons ago, with a good work-out at Championship side Bristol City last weekend.

The Blues were beaten 3-1, but Taylor was not displeased.

He said: "Bristol City are a better team than what is going to be in our division. It was a very good test for us and we did some good things. I'm happy with that."

The visitors made the brighter start and enjoyed a prolonged spell of keep ball that only ended when Chris Zebroski flashed a 20-yard volley into the midriff of City keeper Dean Gerken.

Zebroski threatened again with a header that just grazed the far post and there was more danger when Matt Harrold shrugged off Louis Carey down the left.

His cut-back failed to pick out the supporting runs of Stuart Beavon and Lewis Montrose, but it continued a controlled start that would have had Taylor purring in the dug-out.

However, gradually the Championship side began to exert

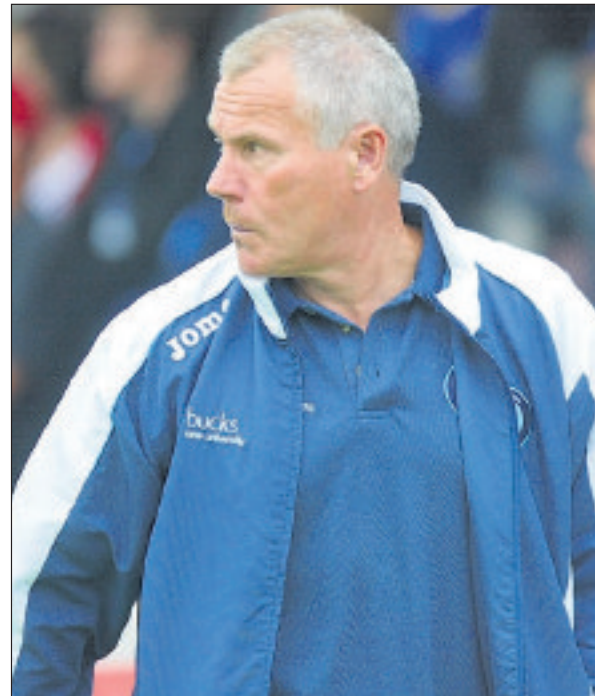
themselves and they had already tested Blues glovesman Scott Shearer with long-range drives before they went in front.

With Shearer off with a broken nose, Jamie Young flapped at a cross and when Bradley Orr headed it back in Young's out-stretched hand managed only to deflect the ball past Luke Oliver on the line.

Wycombe were not overwhelmed though and a raft of half-time substitutions galvanised them, with Matty Phillips profiting from good work from Zebroski and the soon-to-be-Brentford bound Carl Cort, to tap in at the far post after 55 minutes.

At that stage it was anyone's game, but bad marking allowed David Clarkson to head City back in front minutes later and a third might have arrived from Marvin Elliot's header or John Akinde's penalty before Ivan Sproule wrapped it up in injury time.

Midfield triallist Danny Spinner impressed in the game, and Taylor has snapped him up on a short-term deal.



INTO THE VALLEY: Blues boss Peter Taylor leads his men to Charlton Athletic on Saturday

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