

DOWN AND OUT

Blues relegated back to League Two while Wasps suffer semi-final defeat



BLACK AND BLUE: Wasps were beaten 18-15 by Cardiff Blues in their Amlin Challenge Cup semi-final while Blues lost 2-0 at Leyton Orient in League One

WANDERERS were relegated back to League Two and Wasps were knocked out of the Amlin European Cup semi-final on a disastrous weekend for our teams.

Blues were kicked back into the basement division by their former striker Scott McGleish, who made one and scored one as the Chairboys lost 2-0 at Leyton Orient.

Then, less than three hours later, Wasps saw their Euro dream ripped apart as Cardiff came to Adams Park and won 18-15.

Devastated Blues boss Gary Waddock said: "I can't describe how it feels to be relegated.

"I can't fault my players for the effort they have given over recent weeks but it was

too late.

"The performances have come too late we've been in positions before where we should have won games and we didn't and we have paid the price for that by going down.

"We have gone down because over the season we didn't win enough matches as simple as that.

"Everyone is down and we have to use that disappointment to spur us on next season.

"We have to move on and deal with what's happened and plan for next season.

"We've got to make sure that during the summer we get a group of players together that can take this football club forward.

"We're in League Two, I will be the manager building a group of players that are going to gain promotion.

"I know how hard that division is and we have got a rebuilding job on.

"I came to Wycombe because it was a League One set-up. Steve Hayes has plans and a vision to take this club forward and we need to be in League One challenging.

"That's my target and we will have a group of players trying to do that.

"All we want to do is take this club forward, we've taken a step back and we are going to have to take one or two steps forward and bring in a group of players that are good enough."

Last time Blues went down it

took them five years to climb back up.

Waddock said: "I want to bounce straight back and my job is to put together a group that can do that."

Meanwhile, Wasps now look destined to finish the season trophyless with Saturday's cup loss coming a week after a defeat to Bath hammered a huge nail in the coffin of their Guinness Premiership hopes.

Wasps director of rugby Tony Hanks said: "We wanted to respond after last week's defeat and we were desperate to make the final.

"It's a bit of an empty feeling at the moment and we have got to make sure we learn from this.

"We're not going to enjoy

watching the final.

"We want to be playing in finals, but people have to understand how blooming tough it is to make finals and win trophies."

But Hanks believes his squad has what it takes to respond next season.

He said: "We've got to make sure we come back stronger next week and next season.

"But what's pretty clear is the resolve within this group is pretty strong.

"If you look at the last 12 months we've come a long way with a new coaching team, a lot of new players, and we've had plenty of adversity."

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