



HIGH FLYERS: Dave Winfield rises highest and he and his Blues team-mates moved up to second place on Saturday

Waddock: We're ready for a fight

WANDERERS moved up to second in League Two with a win at struggling Lincoln City – but boss Gary Waddock refused to get carried away and said his team were ready for a fight to the finish.

The Blues climbed above Rotherham United – who visit Adams Park this weekend – with Saturday's 2-1 win after a surprise home defeat for the Millers against Southend.

Waddock said his side were keeping their feet on their ground despite a "very important" sixth away win of the season.

And he said his team were prepared to battle their way to the finish line.

Wanderers
by ANDY CARSWELL

Speaking after victory at Sincil Bank, Waddock said: "If teams want to compete physically with us, we've got players in the group that can step up to that challenge, but we've also got players in there who can play.

"We've got to be able to defend and we did that today. The back four stood up to balls being delivered in. It was a workmanlike performance."

He added: "It's only three points. There's a lot of points and a lot of games at stake.

We'd like to be there at the end but it's not the end yet.

"It wasn't the best display or performance but a very important result."

"We've just said in the dressing room we're grinding out results. Teams not playing at their best sometimes have to do that."

A strong wind that swirled around Sincil Bank all afternoon made good football difficult but Wycombe held on comfortably as two goals from full-back Andy Sandell saw them win 2-1 having gone a goal down.

Just as strong as the wind was the rock-solid Blues back four, which stood up to everything thrown at them by the relegation-haunted Imps.

Waddock said: "I thought they were strong, they stood up to everything thrown at them and Bully [goalkeeper Nikki Bull] has made good saves when he needed to.

"It wasn't pretty, quite ugly at times, but we got the three points."

But the Wycombe manager

wasn't happy with the start his team made as Lincoln created a clutch of good scoring opportunities before they took the lead with a wonderstrike from Canadian international winger Gavin McCallum.

Waddock said: "We said not to give them a lift and for the first ten to 15 minutes we did the complete opposite.

"They're scrapping, they're fighting and have a very good manager in charge but we needed to get back to winning ways."



THUMBS UP FROM: Gareth Ainsworth

Anti-stadium campaigners stage protest

A SECOND protest by anti-stadium campaigners was set to take place yesterday evening – before councillors were to decide whether to move forward with the scheme.

Action group GASP - Groups Against the Stadium Proposals - was expecting a large turn out for the demonstration outside Wycombe District Council's offices.

As we went to press cabinet members were decide whether to go ahead to the next stage – preparing a planning application for the Wycombe Air Park site in Booker, Great Marlow.

Further work must be done to justify building on green belt land and 'public inquiry' style meetings should be held if the cabinet does press ahead, a scrutiny committee said last week.

See bucksfreepress.co.uk for updates on last night's meeting and Friday's BFP for a full report.

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Rendell returns

TOP scorer Scott Rendell, *inset*, was back in training yesterday after missing Saturday's game for the funeral of his baby son.

The funeral of one-month-old Alfie, who died on Christmas Eve, took place on Friday.

Blues boss Gary Waddock gave the striker the weekend off before praising his mental strength by continuing to play for the first team.

He said: "I spoke to Rends and we decided it was best for him to be with his family.

"He's been very strong and done extremely well coming back in to train. He's a strong character, strong mentally.

"It's very, very sad and all our thoughts are with him, Sam and his family.

Hopefully we can help him through this. He's got the support from everybody at the club.

"We'd like him to come back with a smile on his face. He'll be happy we've got three points."



Blues in the cup

WYCOMBE host Burnham FC in the quarter final of the Berks and Bucks Cup tonight.

The Bucks New Uni stand will be the only section of Adams Park open for the game, which kicks off at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £5 for adults, £3 concessions and £1 for children.

LINCOLN'S assistant manager Paul Brush said the goals Wycombe scored against his side were "some of the worst I have ever seen in my life".
The Imps twice left Wanderers with a free header in the build-up to what proved to be the winning goal for Andy Sandell and Brush was furious with the way his side defended.
Sandell's header came shortly after he had levelled the scores when Lincoln keeper Joe Anyon failed to deal with a tame free-kick from the full-back.
Brush said: "While we have scored some fantastic goals, we have conceded some of the worst I have ever seen in my life, whether I have been in a park or a stadium.
"We will keep working with the players we have and will not try and destroy anybody's confidence, but we know they have to be consistently better. We look like we can score and when we came to this club three months ago this team had only scored nine and they didn't look like they can score.
"But now we look like we can't go from 20 minutes to half-an-hour without giving the opposition a goal."