

Waddock: It's not doom and gloom

Pitch not to blame for home loss

DEFIANT Wycombe Wanderers boss Gary Waddock says there's no need to panic after seeing his side lose their third game in a row.

Just as on Tuesday night at Southend, Wycombe were undone by their inability to defend set pieces as visitors Accrington Stanley scored from a corner and a free-kick on their way to a 2-1 Adams Park win this afternoon.

But Waddock backed his side to bounce back from a bad week – starting on Tuesday when Wanderers host Burton Albion.

He said: "We've lost three games in a week, but we're in a good position in the league and we've got a good group of players."

When asked if confidence had been affected by their poor run, the Blues boss said: "No. Why should it? People say it's doom and gloom because we've lost three games on the trot but we've got a good group of players who have done extremely well up until this point and will go again."

"I feel confident going into every game and so do the players. We've had a hell of a week, we've discussed it with the players. It's how we deal with it and how we respond to it. We have to stick together and we



'It's a big problem, isn't it? Fourth in the league with a game in hand which will take you second – terrible problem.'

AN EVEN KEEL: Gary Waddock and assistant Martin Kuhl regard the losing run with a pragmatic eye

will start winning games again."

Wanderers are now outside the automatic promotion places on goal difference but sit just one point behind second-placed Shrewsbury Town having played a game less.

Waddock joked: "It's a big problem, isn't it? Fourth in the league with a game in hand which will take you second – terrible problem."

Waddock's views were backed up by striker Scott Rendell, who scored for the second game in a row to take his season's tally up to 11.

Rendell said: "You're not going to tell me no other team in this division is not going to have a blip. There's no point in panicking. We are fourth in the league, we've got 16 games to go and if you need to panic because you're fourth in the

league then, Christ, we've got problems haven't we?"

"If you're going to have a blip, we would rather have a blip now than with the last three games of the season because that's when it could cost you."

"We believe we can turn it round very, very soon and before you know it we'll be shooting back up there hopefully."

WANDERERS have refused to blame the state of the Adams Park pitch for Saturday's loss to Accrington.

It passed an inspection before kick-off after heavy overnight rain put the match in doubt.

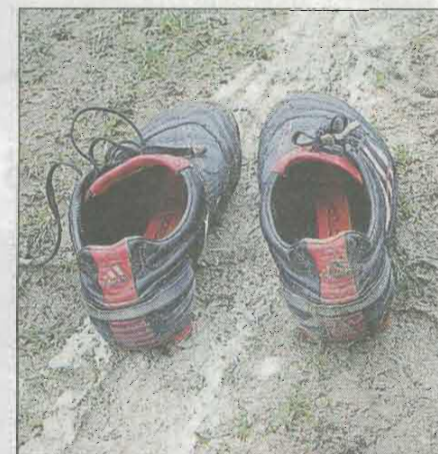
But Wycombe striker Scott Rendell: "The pitch was in a bad way but I don't think it was as bad as it looked. It was quite heavy on your legs at some points but some points were quite solid, so were we able to play our football."

"We're in the middle of February and we've got our first bad pitch, which isn't bad for any club."

"We can't use it as an excuse and we won't use it as an excuse. We'll play the same way Tuesday and hopefully get a better result."

Manager Gary Waddock added: "The pitch had nothing to do with it. I don't know what the weather forecast is but it was quite heavy out there."

Picture by ANITA ROSS-MARSHALL/ARM IMAGES



MUD SLINGING: Blues say the pitch wasn't as bad as it looked