

Clubs yet to agree a fee

Regan deal is not yet finalised

WYCOMBE WANDERERS's plans to sign Chalfont St Peter striker John Regan have been kept on ice until next week.

Blues manager Jim Kelman had hoped to complete the deal before his squad set out for their short visit to Malta on Saturday but although he met Saints boss Laurie Craker last week, nothing was finalised.

"We have agreed terms and I am confident John Regan will sign for us. It is up to the two clubs to agree a fee," said Kelman on Friday. "I know he has been playing in division two of the Vauxhall-Opel League and that he is a risk. But if we don't take risks then someone else will."

The Glasgow-born Wycombe chief was impressed by Regan's performance in the Wycombe select side that drew 2-2 in a recent Steve King Memorial Fund match - his only viewing of the 26-year-old.

Apart from a very brief spell with Hayes which was ended by injury, Regan has been at Southall and Harefield.

Under Craker's astute leadership, the blonde marksman has thrived at the Playing Fields - netting 45 goals in the last two seasons which made him top scorer both times.

Chalfont secretary Mal Keenan commented at the weekend: "John was one of the main reasons for our success last season and to lose him would be a big blow."

The delay over his move to Loakes Park is undoubtedly over the size of the fee.

Kelman is a great believer in paying a small fee to lower clubs with the promise of further bonuses should players make the grade and perform well.

Chalfont, having gained promotion to the first division for the first time, are eager to be properly recompensed for the loss of their star forward. Craker will want enough money to be able to go in search of a proven first division goalscorer.

Following recent wrangles with Conference giants Barnet over Noel Ashford, Kelman added that it was 'a pleasure' dealing with Chalfont.

● Wanderers departed on Saturday for their end-of-season tour to Malta with two unknown faces in the squad.

Keeping goal will be 20-year-old Stockport County man Steve Crompton, a non-contract player who was formerly with Manchester City.

The other is Overton player Kevin O'Shea who stepped in at the last minute to make up the numbers.

Blues face Zeddud Rangers on Wednesday before tackling Qormi on Thursday. Both matches kick-off at 6.30pm. We hope to carry details of Wednesday's game in the Bucks Free Press and full details of Thursday's game in next week's Midweek.



■ John Regan...will he be donning a Blues shirt permanently?