

Kerr signs on for two years

BLUES defender Andy Kerr this week pledged himself to Wycombe Wanderers as he sets about fulfilling his dream of a return to professional football.

The wonderful concept of compromise has enabled Kerr and the club to agree mutually satisfactory terms which three weeks ago looked unlikely.

Kerr, 25, has signed a new two-year contract with a clause allowing a review of terms should Blues win promotion in the meantime.

"I'm happy with that," Kerr said. "It was the flexibility of compromise which clinched it. The club have dealt with the business in a very professional way. Now I want to settle in the area and buy my own place."

Kerr, who runs a sportswear business with Marlow player Dave Lay, continues on semi-professional terms for this season at least. But he told the Bucks Free Press: "If we went up, it would be a different kettle of fish, and not just for me. There would probably be the opportunity to go professional, and I'd love that."

Shortly after the forms were signed on Tuesday morning, Martin O'Neill, the Wycombe manager, said: "I'm thrilled to bits, so's the chairman, so's the football club. He's signed for two years, and there's a review if we make it into the League."

While Kerr, alongside skipper Glyn Creaser, will continue to form the rock on which the Wanderers side is built, O'Neill sympathises with his player's ambitions.

"I wouldn't prevent him playing in the Football League," said O'Neill. "I'd keep him informed if any club showed interest, and if we don't make it, no-one, including the supporters, would want to stand in his way of making it higher up the League. And that goes for everyone here."

The former Shrewsbury, Cardiff and Telford defender is in his fourth season with Wycombe.

He was Player of the

**Report by
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Year in 1989/90, when he appeared in every game (occasionally at centre forward), and has missed nine games since, all through suspension last season. An ever present this season, his disciplinary record has improved with three bookings to date.

The big defender added: "The chairman's gone out of his way to help me. Hopefully I can relax a bit now — I felt like I was trying too hard to impress. Now I can work hard without this on my mind."

"We've got the quality to go up. As long as we maintain consistency, it's all in our hands."

Kerr paid credit to his defensive partner: "Me and Creas have played together for a few years — we're good for each other. As far as being a recognised player, this is the best spell of my career."

"I get on with everyone here really well, including Martin, on a professional basis. I've said he's very strong-minded, but he does also understand a player because he's been there."

●BLUES have been drawn away to Colchester in the quarter final of the Bob Lord Trophy. The game will be played in the week commencing December 16.

"If we're going to win it, we've got to beat them sometime," said O'Neill.

Both the semi final and final are played over two legs.



Ebony and ivory: Andy Kerr at Adams Park this week modelling Blues' smart new change kit, which is all white and will be available from The Corner Flag shop at the ground next month

Picture by MICHELLE O'CONNOR