

New signings bolster Blues

Williams is third buy in record spree

REPORT

By Claire Nash

JOHN Williams, one of the fastest players in the Football League, became Alan Smith's third signing in a record-breaking £250,000 spree this week.

The 27-year-old striker/winger's £150,000 move from Coventry City was completed yesterday after the fee, which is linked to appearances, was agreed between Smith and Sky Blues boss Ron Atkinson.

"I think he will play well and I think we will get the best out of him for Wycombe Wanderers," said Smith yesterday.

Williams' arrival follows that of midfielder David Farrell, in a £100,000 transfer from Aston Villa, and Jason Rowbotham, whose fee from Raith Rovers will be decided at a forthcoming tribunal.

"I want to emphasise that these signings are to strengthen the squad. It is important to keep this club fresh.

"There is nothing better than to have competition for places at a club. Players should not be afraid of that," said Smith.

Wycombe know Williams, who has signed a two-year contract, as have Farrell and Rowbotham, from his appearances for Coventry in the Coca-Cola two seasons ago.

The former Swansea star made more than 100 appearances for the



Welcome: Blues' assistant boss David Kemp (centre) with John Williams (left) and David Farrell

Sky Blues. His best spell was under Bobby Gould, who was replaced by Phil Neal, and now Atkinson.

He won a competition to find the country's fastest footballer two years ago.

The three signings come with Wycombe well-poised in Division Two. They are in sixth place, six points behind leaders Swindon.

Wycombe are unbeaten in four games going into tomorrow's clash

at Stockport County, where Williams is set to make his debut.

Farrell and Rowbotham are also expected to play after impressing in Tuesday's 1-0 win over Chesterfield at Adams Park.

Midfielder Steve Brown serves the last game of a three-match suspension.

Central defender Mark Foran returned to Sheffield United on Tuesday.

■ Alan Smith appealed at last week's fans' forum for the Wycombe Wanderers Independent Supporters Club and the Official Blues Supporters Club to unite under one banner.

However, the independent supporters club say they are happy to remain separate.

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