



Scorcher torture: Wycombe Wanderers' players and trialists get stuck into pre-season training at Bisham Abbey yesterday

BLUES READY FOR FRIENDLIES

WYCOMBE Wanderers' players are champing at the bit after a week's hard slog at an army boot camp in Catterick.

Blues get their first opportunity to see if such hard graft has paid off when they kick off their pre-season friendly programme against Queens Park Rangers at Adams Park (ko 7.45pm) on Friday.

With the Wycombe squad continuing their gruelling training schedule in scorching temperatures at Bisham Abbey yesterday, midfielder Steve Brown said he was happy to be there after signing a new two-year contract earlier this summer.

"I was delighted to sign a new contract. One of the most pleasing things for me is that the likes of Keith (Ryan) are also staying, along with all the other lads. Hopefully

By **CLAIRE NASH**

everyone knows what's expected of them.

"We have got to take all the good things from last year and put them into this year," said the 30-year-old Blues stalwart.

■ Wanderers chairman Ivor Beeks is appealing to the Football League to overturn their decision to make Blues play their opening league fixture against Shrewsbury on Sunday, August 18.

Wycombe are unhappy that they have to play the game just two days before their Coca-Cola Cup first round game at Reading. Shrewsbury, however, have been able to move their tie against Tranmere to the Wednesday.

The Shropshire club could

not fulfill the Division Two fixture's original slot on the opening day of the new season on August 17 because it clashed with the area's annual flower festival.

"I have written to the president of the Football League asking him to review the case because we have been treated unfairly," said Beeks.

"We are the ones who have done things correctly because we asked the Football League to open our season with an away game due to work on the new stand.

"Shrewsbury should have done the same because of their flower festival. But we are the ones who have been penalised."

■ Former Wycombe goalkeeper Paul Hyde is set to sign for Joe Jordan's Bristol City after being released by Leicester City.