

# WANDERERS ROUND-UP

## Rowbotham's first to go in Gregory's clear-out

DEFENDER Jason Rowbotham has become the first player to leave Adams Park as John Gregory starts the process of trimming the club's wage bill.

The Blues boss, who had 23 professionals signed on, said before Christmas that he may have to move players out before he can bring anyone new in.

Rowbotham left by mutual consent on Christmas Eve, six months before his contract was due to end.

He is now training with Plymouth Argyle, where he was on loan earlier this season.

The ticket office is advising fans to get to Adams Park early for Sunday's FA Cup clash with

Bradford City.

The warning comes after some fans missed the Boxing Day kick off because of long queues of last-minute supporters.

Wanderers' sales and marketing manager Mark Austin said: "We don't want supporters outside at the kick off we would like them all inside the ground in time for the start."

He is advising supporters to buy their tickets today or to make sure they arrive in plenty of time.

Supporters are advised to retain their match tickets as they will be treated as priority vouchers should the club progress to the fourth round for the first time in its history.

Wanderers will be hoping history repeats itself when they travel to Thatcham Town for the first round of the Berks and Bucks Cup on January 13.

The last time the Blues played at Waterside Park, two years ago in the same round of the same competition, they won 4-1.

Because of the first team's Auto Windscreen Shield match at Swansea on Wednesday, the reserves' Capital League fixture at home to Stevenage has been brought forward.

The game will now be played on Monday night, (k'd 7.45 p.m.).

The reserves have attracted an average attendance of 120 for their Capital League matches at

Adams Park.

Season ticket holders are admitted free to reserve matches.

Mike Bailey, the referee who incurred John Gregory's wrath for allowing the Boxing Day game against Walsall to go ahead on a frozen pitch, is about to receive a match video in the post from the Blues boss.

Gregory wants him to see again the challenge Walsall goalkeeper James Walker made to prevent Neil Davis opening his account.

Gregory, who likened the challenge to Schumacher's assault on Batiston during the French European Championship, said after watching it on video that Walker was lucky to stay on the field.

## DECEMBER TRANSFERS

DESPITE the dawning of the Bosman era, spending by English clubs was down only fractionally in 1996.

Fears that the Bosman ruling would bring to an end all big money transfers have been dispelled, with £210 million being spent by English clubs, a seven per cent drop on the record 1995 figure.

In the money-means-all decade of the Nineties, almost £1,000 million has been spent by clubs in this country.

The 1996 figure was inflated by the world record transfer of Alan Shearer, to Newcastle, for £15 million.

The Bosman ruling has allowed the likes of Gianluca Vialli and Mikkel Beck to arrive for nothing, yet still spending increases at an alarming rate.

|                  | From         | To           | Fee       |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| John Scales      | Liverpool    | Tottenham    | £2.6m     |
| Terry Phelan     | Chelsea      | Everton      | £850,000  |
| Ilie Dumitrescu  | West Ham     | Club America | £800,000  |
| Gavin Peacock    | Chelsea      | QPR          | £800,000* |
| Vinny Samways    | Everton      | Las Palmas   | £600,000  |
| Shaun Murphy     | Notts Co     | WBA          | £500,000  |
| Maik Taylor      | Barnet       | Southampton  | £500,000  |
| Matt Jackson     | Oldham       | Norwich      | £450,000  |
| Gunnar Halli     | Elfsborg     | Leeds        | £400,000  |
| Mathias Svensson | Sheff Wed    | Portsmouth   | £200,000  |
| John Sheridan    | QPR          | Bolton       | £180,000  |
| Slob Dijkstra    | Birmingham   | Dundee U     | £100,000  |
| John Cornforth   | Notts Co     | Wycombe      | £50,000   |
| Michael Forsyth  | Notts Co     | Wycombe      | £50,000   |
| Kofi Nyamah      | Kettering    | Stoke        | £25,000   |
| Rory Hamill      | Fulham       | Glentoran    | £5,000    |
| Manuel Charana   | Beneluxes    | Stockport    | Unknown   |
| Phil Charnock    | Liverpool    | Creve        | Unknown   |
| Adrian Randall   | York         | Bury         | Unknown   |
| Dean Samuels     | Boreham Wood | Barnet       | Unknown   |
| Phil Stant       | Bury         | Lincoln      | Unknown   |
| Colin Sutherland | Clydebank    | Scarborough  | Unknown   |
| Ian Ashbee       | Derby        | Cambridge    | Free      |
| Stuart Bimson    | Bury         | Lincoln      | Free      |

## Compiled by John Ley

|                       |                  |               |         |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|---------|
| Ashley Neal           | Liverpool        | Huddersfield  | Free    |
| Noel Imber            | Arsenal          | Woking        | Free    |
| Emile Nwadike         | Wolves           | Shrewsbury    | Free    |
| Sam Stockley-Phillips | Southampton      | Barnet        | Free    |
| Marc Hawkes           | Stoke            | Shrewsbury    | Monthly |
| Bjorn Heidenstrom     | Odd Grenland     | L Orient      | Monthly |
| Earl Jean             | Felguieras       | Ipswich       | Monthly |
| Birkier Kristinsson   | SK Brann         | Birmingham    | Monthly |
| Andy Ansaah           | Gillingham       | L Orient      | NC      |
| John Burridge         | Unattached       | Scarborough   | NC      |
| Wesley Byrne          | Stoke            | Darlington    | NC      |
| Mark Coombe           | Taunton          | Exeter        | NC      |
| Martin Johansen       | FC Copenhagen    | Bolton        | NC      |
| Olli Kangaslahti      | FC Haka, Fin     | Carlisle      | NC      |
| Lee Kiskock           | Southport        | Tranmere      | NC      |
| Ray McStay            | Hamilton Acad    | Cardiff       | NC      |
| Jason Solomon         | Wrexham          | Fulham        | NC      |
| Jon Sunderland        | Scarborough      | Hartlepool    | NC      |
| Jari Vanhala          | Finnpa, Fin      | Bradford      | NC      |
| Shaun Dennis          | Raith            | Barnsley      | Trial   |
| Btarni Gudjonsson     | Akranes          | Newcastle     | Trial   |
| Alexander Jewtuschk   | Dnepr            | Coventry      | Trial   |
| Vladimir Kinder       | S Bratislava     | Middlesbrough | Trial   |
| Yuri Maximov          | Dinamo Kiev      | Southampton   | Trial   |
| Avi Nimni             | Maccabi Tel Aviv | Chelsea       | Trial   |
| Lenny Piper           | Gillingham       | Birmingham    | Trial   |
| Manado Viallo         | Zeytinburnu      | Sunderland    | Trial   |
| Kjetil Waehler        | SFK Lynn         | Arsenal       | Trial   |

\*Rises to £1m

LOANS.—Sammy Ayorinde (L Orient to Rushden & Diamonds), Mark Bright (Sheff Wed to Millwall), David Brightwell (Bradford C to Blackpool), Stephen Brodie (Sunderland to Scarborough), Kenny Brown (West Ham to Birmingham), Michael Brown (Preston to Shrewsbury), Dean Burton (Portsmouth to Cardiff).

Adrian Clarke (Arsenal to Rotherham), Nigel Clough (Man C to Nottm F), Andrew Cook (Swansea to Portsmouth), Jonathan Cross (Wrexham to Hereford), Louie Donowa (Birmingham to Peterborough), Scott Fitzgerald (Wimbledon to Millwall), Steve Harper (Newcastle to Gateshead), Jamie Jardine (Tranmere to Altrincham), Chris Kiwomya (Arsenal to Le Havre), Ellis Lught (Torquay to Bath), David Lucas (Preston to Scunthorpe).

Gary McKeown (Dundee to Exeter), Teuvo Moilanen (Preston to Scarborough), Alan Morgan (Tranmere to Altrincham), Phil Morgan (Stoke to Macclesfield), Mike Newell (Birmingham to West Ham), Michael Rodosthenous (WBA to Telford), Paul Rogers (Notts Co to Wigan), Matthew Rush (Norwich to Northampton).

Andy Scott (Cardiff to Bath), Kevin Scott (Tottenham to Charlton), Ian Selley (Arsenal to Southend), Michael Simpson (Notts Co to Wycombe), Paul Simpson (Derby to Sheff U).

Sunday soccer comes to town this weekend as Wycombe Wanderers meet Bradford City in their third round FA Cup draw.

The match was due to take place tomorrow, but has been put back a day because of the ferocious weather conditions.

Bradford will have former England stars Chris Waddle and Gordon Cowans in their squad on Sunday.

Although they have such big names on board, Bradford are struggling at the bottom of the first division.

The visitors were dealt a double blow when the Blues beat them 4-0 and 5-2 last season in Division Two.

But Bradford still made it to the first division via the play-offs and have found the

going tough ever since.

Wanderers go into the match with problems.

John Cornforth, whose contribution to Wanderers so far has only been 40 minutes in four weeks, remains a fitness doubt. He suffered a recurrence of his hamstring injury during his Boxing Day debut as the Blues lost against Walsall and it is touch and go whether he will make it.

Wanderers will definitely be without striker Neil Davis and influential midfielder Michael Simpson.

They are both victims of the FA's new rule which prevents loan players from taking part in the competition.

That should mean a place in the starting line-up again for John Williams.