

Transfer jinx strikes again

SWANSEA defender Keith Walker fears the broken arm he suffered in Sunday's Welsh derby could jeopardise his move to Adams Park.

Walker had discussed a two-and-a-half year contract with Wycombe Wanderers and was keen to sign for John Gregory.

But that was before his arm was broken in two places during the first five minutes of the Swans match against Cardiff City.

The break happened in front of Gregory, who was in the crowd making his fifth check of the season on the 30-year-old Scotsman.

Incredibly, Walker played on for the rest of the match with his injury but after the match his arm was put in plaster.

Walker told the Bucks Free Press yesterday: "I'm gutted. If I hadn't broken my arm I think I would be a Wycombe player by now."

"I've spoken to John Gregory and it might still happen but I think he really wants someone in now."

Walker is hoping to play again in four weeks time but if Wanderers want him to play for them this season they must sign him before the transfer deadline on March 27.

Walker, who is prepared to turn his back on a three year contract offer including a testimonial to stay at Swansea, is taking comfort from the fact that Wanderers did buy Michael Forsyth from Notts County even though he was ruled out for the first three weeks through suspension.

Gregory who refuses to comment on the Walker saga said: "I signed Michael Forsyth when I did because I was frightened someone else would take him and I thought they were about to have a change of manager."

Walker, who former Wycombe boss Alan Smith

REPORT

By Dave Peters

attempted to buy before snapping up Paul McCarthy instead, is friends with Blues' former Swan John Cornforth and the pair have been discussing the move on the telephone.

Walker said: "We used to live about ten minutes away from each other and our wives are good friends. He tells me Wycombe are a great club."

Swansea manager Jan Molby does not want to lose Walker who at the moment is on a week-to-week contract at the Vetch Field.

Molby said: "Whatever value we put on Keith he is worth more to us by being in the team. I wouldn't imagine Wycombe would come in with a bid now that he's injured."

Wycombe have had several misfortunes with new signings, who have joined the club and almost immediately been put out of action through injury.

Striker Paul Read has been the latest casualty. After signing for Wycombe from Arsenal Read managed six games, before limping off injured in the seventh against Peterborough with a groin strain.

He is rated 50/50 for tomorrow's match with Bristol Rovers, after already missing games against Millwall and Brentford.

Before him, Cornforth, who signed from Birmingham at the end of last year, had his Blues debut delayed by three weeks after picking up a hamstring injury in his first week of training at Adams Park.

Then on his long awaited Boxing Day debut against Walsall, he managed only 40 minutes before an achilles injury put him out of first team action for all of January and February. He returned to the squad for last week's London matches.

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