

Brucie pleads: Come on down

REPORT

By Dave Peters

MICHAEL Forsyth and Jason Kavanagh could be the Blues trump cards in Wanderers' bid to sign goalkeeper Martin Taylor, who was released on a free transfer by Derby this week.

The defensive duo, both former Derby players themselves, played in Taylor's testimonial against Everton on Wednesday and then spent the rest of the night trying to persuade him he should sign for Wycombe.

The 30-year-old glovesman, who kept three clean sheets in four matches on-loan at Wycombe, is now free to choose where he plays his football next season.

Forsyth, nicknamed Brucie, said: "I was telling him big style that we wanted him to come to Wycombe. Me and Kavs were both working on him. I think he is still a top class goalkeeper and if we could get it would be brilliant but I'm sure a lot of other clubs will be interested."

"I know he enjoyed it here and he was really impressed but it all depends on what other offers he gets."

Blues boss John Gregory insists signing Taylor is his top priority this summer.

After hearing Taylor had been given a free he said: "I'm on the case I hope to set up a meeting with him soon. I know he enjoyed his time here and I'll be doing all I can to get him."

Gregory only has one goalkeeper, Brian Parkin, after releasing John Cheesewright.

Taylor said after his testimonial: "I was impressed by Wycombe. I have spoken to John Gregory and told him my situation and I have told him I will talk to him face to face again."

The keeper who is concerned about dropping from the Premiership to Division Two said: "But I don't want to commit myself yet. It is a big decision to make and I'm going to have a break for a few days away from football and then start to think about it again next week."

"I want to go somewhere ambitious because I'm still ambitious. I don't want to go to someone who is always struggling. I want to go and achieve something because I think I'm good enough to do that."

Taylor's testimonial drew a healthy crowd of 6,000 to the Baseball Ground and the receipts from that could be a buffer if he does step down to the Second Division.

Taylor's Derby, featuring ex-Rams Kavanagh, Forsyth, Mark Wright and Dean Saunders came from behind to beat Everton 4-1, with Kavanagh scoring and Taylor netting the fourth himself from a last minute penalty, despite Kavanagh trying to trip him up on his run up.

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SPORTS DESK: Sharon Walt