

Bodin signs

FORMER Wales left back Paul Bodin has joined Wycombe Wanderers on a month's loan.

Bodin, 33, has amassed transfer fees of more than £800,000 in his 15 year career.

But he has struggled to get into Reading's first team this year, only making one start and one appearance as substitute, and Blues' boss John Gregory snapped him up after watching him play for the Royal's reserves.

Gregory said: "He's perfect for us."

Bodin is available on a free transfer and Gregory has brought him in with a view to a permanent deal.

He goes straight into the side for tonight's live-on-Sky televised second division clash at Brentford (ko 7.45pm).

Gregory said: "I was surprised to find he was only playing reserve football because he can still play. I have always admired him as a footballer, he's got a sweet left foot and can whip a good ball in.

REPORT

By Dave Peters

"He's cost a lot of money in his time and I think he will be very good for us and a useful addition to our squad. And if he likes us and we like him it could become permanent."

Bodin made 23 appearances for Wales but unfortunately will be best remembered for missing the penalty against Romania which stopped Wales from going to the 1994 World Cup finals in America.

A spokeswoman for the Welsh FA said: "Unfortunately he will always be remembered for that moment."

Bodin began his career at Newport County before moving to Cardiff, Swindon, Crystal Palace, Newcastle and Reading.

When he was at Swindon in the Premier

League he was a team mate of Blues' striker Keith Scott and he also knows John Cornforth from their days in the Welsh international team but he has lost some of his pace since then.

Wanderers have had problems in the left back department since losing player of the year Mickey Bell to Bristol City for £150,000 in the summer.

Gregory is delighted to have finally landed a left-sided wingback having missed out on two in the summer.

He had Aussie international Jason Van Blerk in his sights before the player opted to join Manchester City instead and he also missed out on former Wolves defender Dennis Pearce who decided to join third division Notts County instead of continuing his trial with Wanderers.

This season Gregory has experimented with Steve Brown, Keith Ryan and teenager Alan Beeton in that position.