

He can't believe it's not better

LOAN SIGNING David Kerslake took just two minutes of his debut against Oldham to decide he had done the right thing joining Wanderers for a month.

The out-of-favour Ipswich wingback, who turned down a one year contract to stay at Spurs last year, said: "I was out there about two or three minutes and I said 'this will do for me' the way we were knocking it about. I'm shocked to hear that this was Wycombe's first league win in nine games.

"You're led to believe this division is all about getting the ball forward but it's not like that here. If that's the way Wycombe play I'm sure we'll be putting a good little run together and playing keep-ball with quite a few teams."

If Kerslake was impressed by Wanderers, he made an equally good impression on Wycombe and looks to be the quality wingback they have been missing since Mickey Bell left.

He whipped in two excellent crosses and almost scored after cutting inside from the right and unleashing a left foot screamer which fizzed just wide.

And if 31-year-old Kerslake continues to impress he could become a permanent fixture at Adams Park.

Blues boss John Gregory said: "It could happen" after Kerslake's impressive start in the 2-1 win over the Latics. Kerslake is fourth choice at Ipswich and they could off-load him to cut their wage bill.

Gregory said: "He's under contract until the summer. And if we were to extend his loan to three months that would take us close to the transfer deadline and Ipswich might want him to go because they're committed to paying him up until July 31."

Persuading Ipswich is one thing but persuading a man who has cost more than £1 million in transfers from QPR, Swindon, Leeds

and Spurs, to come is another.

But Kerslake, who jumped at the loan to get his match fitness back after a bad knee injury, sees Wycombe as a club geared for the first division.

He said: "I've never doubted my ability. I know I'm still a decent player. I'm here for a month and I'm here to impress Wycombe. If I do that I'll have been successful. I was delighted to be offered a chance here and I'm going to grab it with both hands.

"This club is geared for the first division. It is so well organised, I'm very impressed. If I was a Wycombe fan I'd be very hopeful.

"You can't beat playing and that's why I'm here. I don't know what'll happen after that."

Kerslake used to play with Gregory at QPR and the chance to be with him again was the the main reason he came.

Gregory said: "Kerslake started life as a winger and the wingback role suits him. Like Bell he might not be the best right winger or the best right back but wingback, where he can combine the two, suits him."

Against Oldham it was like having two new players as Keith Scott, stung by recent criticism and fit again after illness, was back to his best, chasing lost causes and winning headers before scoring the opener on 53 minutes.

Boosted by the goal and Dave Carroll's willingness to carry the ball, Wanderers grew in confidence until Martin Taylor booted. He hit a clearance against his own defender and it cannoned straight to Stuart Barlow who accepted the open goal.

Gregory said: "It was a monumental error but apart from that he was excellent."

Oldham then looked the most likely winners until Steve McGavin's 83rd minute shot looped up off a defender into the top corner.



Kerslake: Making a point, or three

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Gregory: I'll stay quiet if players do as they're told