

Wanderers get Devine

REPORT

By Dave Peters

WYCOMBE Wanderers have smashed their transfer record buying Sean Devine from Barnet for £200,000.

After weeks of haggling, the two clubs agreed the fee which could rise to £240,000 depending on goals, appearances and Wanderers staying up.

The on-loan striker scored twice in Wednesday's draw at Stoke, taking his tally to five goals in seven games, and signed a three-year deal the next day.

Boss Lawrie Sanchez said: "He's a goalscorer and we're glad to add him to the club. His career was standing still at Barnet. A couple of years ago he was in the million pound category and we're hoping to get him back there.

"It's £200,000 plus bits and pieces. Sometimes the directors here are criticised but this shows their ambition. It's a record signing for the club. The board have shown their commitment in a perilous situation and they've got to be applauded for that.

"Anyone who has seen him play will know that we've got a good deal. Goals are like gold dust in football and he scores them. You can only judge a forward on his goals and his speak.

"I think him and Andy Baird can be an exciting partnership. They excite me.

"He's got one Eire B cap and I want him to get more and if he continues to score goals there's no reason why he can't.

"I knew after his first game at Reading that I wanted him."

Devine, 26, is delighted to be coming to Adams Park and put an end to his nightmare season at third division Barnet.

He said: "I'm on a good run of form. I've got five in seven here. I've got the bit between my teeth and I'm buzzing again.

"I'm delighted to be coming to Wycombe. I've got to thank Lawrie Sanchez and Terry Gibson for taking a chance on me. A lot of people thought I was dead and buried, stuck in the reserves at Barnet. I still had belief in myself I just needed someone to take a chance on me and they took the gamble. I just hope I can return the faith by scoring the goals to keep Wycombe up."

Chairman Ivor Beeks said: "It's a lot of money for us but we've got to try and live in a world where transfers are high."



Sean Devine: He's helped make the difference at Wycombe