

Baird looks for a clean run now

STRIKER Andy Baird is hoping for an injury free second half of the season as he bids to persuade manager Lawrie Sanchez that he's worth a new contract.

The striker, regarded by many as one of the club's most promising players, is still reeling from Sanchez's revelation in last week's BFP that he could be bombed out when his contract expires in the summer because of his appalling injury record.

Baird, who has started just seven of the last 32 games, said: "I can understand where he's coming from. The club can't afford to be paying players if they aren't playing and my injury record is not very good."

"Touch wood, I have used up all my bad luck now and if there is any justice in the world I will have an injury-free run-in to the end of the season."

"I've just got to stay on the pitch and show him what I can do. I want to stay here."

"I'm confident that my football will do the talking for me, providing that I can stay fit."

"The injuries have been very frustrating. I was very down at Christmas. I've had some serious injuries and there have been times when I've thought I just want to jack it all in."

"Hopefully, now, I can have a real run in the side and get a regular place in the team and start scoring goals again."

He added: "I know I've got an awful lot to prove because I have not played enough."

Baird returned to the side on Saturday after three months out with an ankle ligament injury sustained during the 3-1 win over Notts County last October.

You can Senda me to the back

WYCOMBE starlet Danny Senda says he can be the answer to the club's right back position.

The forward showed his credentials for the role when he came on as a substitute for right back Mark Rogers at Orient.

He played with a calm assurance and bags of style, bringing the ball out of defence and starting attack after attack.

Senda, who played in that defensive position during his England under-18 career said: "I feel very comfortable playing there. I can see the whole pitch and I get the ball at my feet more. When I play up front it is chasing balls over the top against big centre backs who tend to knock me out of the way."

"I would like to play at right back if I'm not right wing. I think I'm alright defensively because my pace can get me out of trouble. I don't worry about players coming at me and I feel really comfortable playing there."

"I played there a few times when I was down at Southampton and I have slotted back into it quite comfortably. I'd be very happy to make it my position."

Blues boss Lawrie Sanchez, who has used Senda as a makeshift right back before, was impressed by his latest display.

He said: "Danny did everything we could have asked of him. He never had much to defend against but he did everything we could ask going forward. He gives us a different option."

"He brings the ball out for fun and that's the only thing that lets Rogers down. Ted [Rogers] knows his distribution needs a lot of improving but his defending is good. It's a trade off."

"I don't know whether we would start a season with Danny as a right back but it's another option and we need to have as many of them as possible. If Ted or Ben Townsend is not available then Senda comes into the equation."

Simpson signs up for more

MIDFIELDER Michael Simpson has signed a new three-and-a-half year deal keeping him at Adams Park until 2004.

The 26-year-old, who was brought to the club by John Gregory for £50,000, had at one time looked as though he was going to be hounded out by the boo-boys.

But he has beaten his detractors and is now among one of the most popular and influential players at Adams Park.

Boss Lawrie Sanchez said: "He's shown tremendous character. He was the target of the boo-boys for a while, which is something I have never been able to understand, but he has won them over."

"He has been one of our most consistent performers in my time here and I have never left him out of my side."

Simpson becomes the fourth player to be offered new terms since the New Year and his midfield partner Dannie Bulman could be next to put pen to paper as Sanchez builds his team for the future.

He told the BFP that Bulman will be offered new terms this summer and he is hoping he will accept the deal.

But Sanchez is not in such an immediate rush to get him signed up because, as someone who is under 24, he would not be allowed to walk away without Wanderers receiving some compensation.

Beeks tells board loans have helped but response could have been better

CHAIRMAN Ivor Beeks last night told the board that he is disappointed at the number of fans who signed up for the loan notes scheme, where fans loan the club a minimum of £1,000 interest-free over ten years.

One mystery punter gave the scheme a tremendous early boost by pledging £150,000 but the number of

fans responding has been disappointing.

Beeks said: "I would've liked more people to take it up but I'm very grateful to the people who have done."

He won't reveal how much has been raised so far.

● Dave Carroll has resumed light training after pulling his calf at Northampton.

● Wednesday's Berks and

Bucks Cup tie at Windsor will go ahead despite the first team's FA Cup replay at Grimsby 24 hours earlier.

● E-mail the club if you want to see again the Wonderlites dancing girls, who made their debut last week, become a regular part of the fun at Blues on WWFC@wycombewandere-rs.co.uk