

NEW YEAR BOOST FOR WANDERERS

Magic Johnson signs new deal for the Chairboys

ROGER Johnson has handed Wanderers a massive New Year's boost by signing a two-year contract extension.

The 21-year-old defensive rock put pen to paper on New Year's Eve to give the club some much-needed festive cheer after the Blues collected just a solitary point from their four-match holiday programme.

Blues boss John Gorman said: "I'm delighted to get it done. Roger is just the type of player and character we need."

Johnson, who appeared to be heading out of the club under previous boss Tony Adams has been an ever-present under Gorman, who admires his never-say-die attitude.

And the 100 per-center Johnson underlined that spirit as Blues came from behind to bag a Bank Holiday draw against Cheltenham when he pushed his body through the pain barrier with another gritty performance where he was only denied a winning goal by the cross-bar.

He was ill immediately after the kick off and was with the Adams Park doctor for more than an hour and a half afterwards as he complained of severe stomach pains before emerging as white as a sheet.

He said: "I was in agony throughout the game. It was killing me."

By DAVE PETERS

Assistant boss Steve Brown said: "That performance summed him up and signing Roger on a new contract is a good investment by the club. Too many good players have been allowed to leave this club in the past and we need to nurture good young players like Roger who can take this club forward."

"It is an excellent signing for the club. Roger can be as good as he wants to be."

"He attacks the ball well, no-one can question his aerial ability and, now he is improving his distribution as well, he will only get better."

And he praised Johnson for the way he handled his differences with Adams and let his football do the talking.

He said: "The more he was told he wasn't wanted at the club, the more he produced performances which said he was very much part of this football club."

"He was very much like a bad penny. He just kept turning up and producing good performances."

Johnson is delighted to get the new contract signed.

He said: "I love the club and there was never any question about me committing myself to the club."

"I just want to carry on with my football now and concentrate on trying to get promotion this year."



Jumping for Joy: Roger Johnson is delighted to have signed a new deal to stay at Adams Park just months after it looked as though he was heading for the exit door under former manager Tony Adams