

Blues boss goes for his own hat-trick

Gorman is poised to welcome three new faces to Wycombe Wanderers

Wanderers
by Dave Peters

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WANDERERS are poised to sign Hull City reserve keeper Matt Duke on loan until the end of the season and have brought in Ipswich Town defender Aidan Collins and Argentinian striker Julio Mugnaini on trial with a view to permanent deals.

Blues boss John Gorman made the triple swoop yesterday as he bids to cement his team's position at the top of the League Two table.

Keeper Duke trained with Wycombe yesterday and, providing there are no late hitches, will go straight into the side for tomorrow's home clash against Notts County as Gorman looks to shore up a rearguard which conceded five goals at home on its previous outing.

Gorman made his move for 6ft 4ins Duke after Everton boss David Moyes blocked his attempt to bring 'Toffees' reserve stopper Iain Turner back for a second period on loan.

Duke will replace Frank Talia, who still needs pain-killing injections in his shoulder to get through matches.

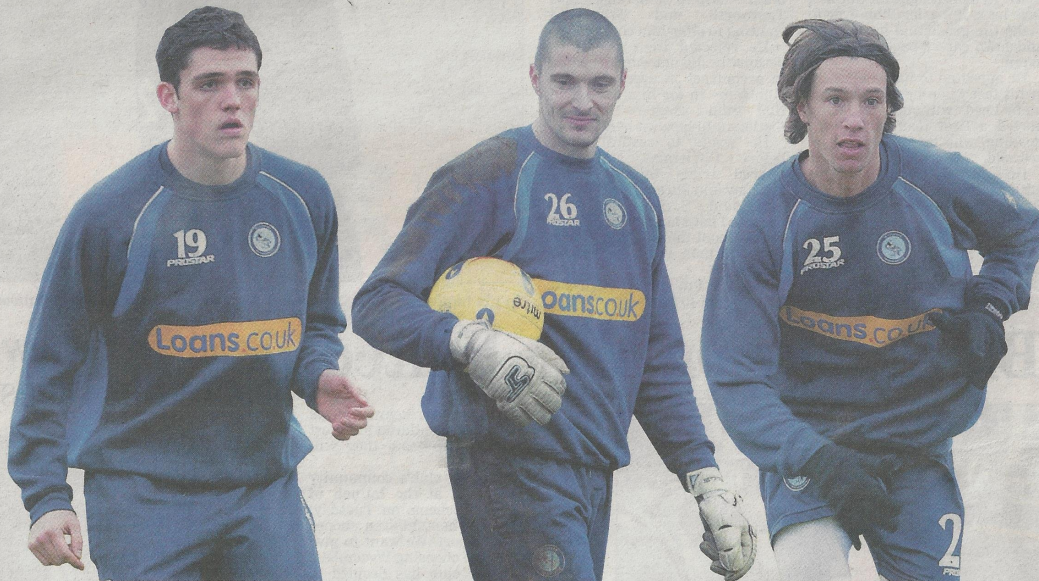
Gorman is delighted to get the 28-year-old imposing former Burton Albion glovesman on board.

He said: "I'm lucky to get him. Peter Taylor didn't want him to go out on loan but he's agreed to help me."

Duke has been sitting on the bench for the Championship Tigers this season and he could be recalled if Hull suffer an injury to first choice shot stopper Boaz Myhill.

Duke could be joined in defence tomorrow by another debutant if 19-year-old Ipswich youngster Collins impresses in training again today.

The former FA Youth Cup winner, who made his Ipswich first team debut as a 16-year-old, has been told his Portman Road contract won't



Boys in blue: Wanderers are hoping to sign defender Aidan Collins, keeper Matt Duke and striker Julio Mugnaini

be renewed in the summer and Tractor Boys boss Joe Royle has agreed to let him try his luck at Adams Park.

No paperwork had been completed at the time of going to press but Wanderers, who have centre half Roger Johnson suspended tomorrow, have until close of play today to tie things up.

He last played in the Ipswich first team against Stoke earlier this month and, although he has only managed a handful of first team outings, Gorman is optimistic.

He said: "He's got real potential. He has shown real glimpses in the past and I'm pleased to have the chance to have a good look at him."

Argentinian Mugnaini is the third new face at the training ground this week.

Gorman is hoping the South American striker can provide the extra firepower he is looking for after his prime target - Macclesfield's Jon Parkin - joined Hull City yesterday.

Argentinian flown in for trials: P174