Keeper nets a new deal after fearing the sack

Last-gasp Williams earns another one-year contract with late run

GOALKEEPER Steve Williams will sign a new one-year contract with the club today.

He was offered a 12-month deal earlier this week and will put pen to paper when he meets managing director Steve Hayes today.

It is a massive relief to the 23-year-old who just four weeks ago thought his nine-years at Adams park might be coming to an end.

He had only played one match in the LDV Vans Trophy defeat at Walsall all season and had been forced to watch as a trio of on-loan goalkeepers were brought in to replace him and first choice Frank Talia.

Williams admitted: "It did get me down watching these other goalkeepers come in and it did not show a massive confidence in me. I had to like it or lump it and not sulk and try and remember that it is a long season."

But his luck changed in the final game of the season when Blues decided to rest first choice stopper Talia to keep him protected for the play-off semi-final against Cheltenham.

Williams took his place in the meaningless fixture at London Road and had a blinder.

He then kept his place for the two play-off matches against Cheltenham and belives it is those three matches which saved his career.

He said: "It's a real relief. I have been at Wycombe for about nine years now. I feel at home there and I really couldn't imagine being anywhere else.

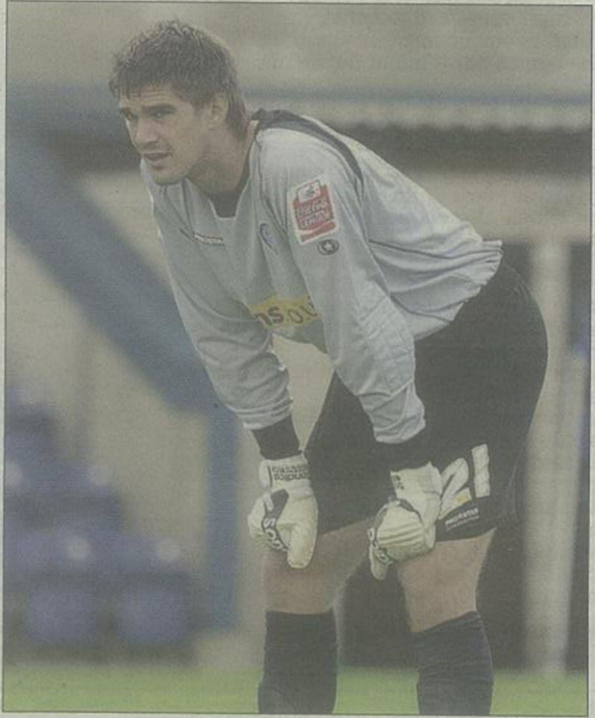
"I'm so glad that I got my chance against Peterborough and that I was able to take it.

"It did not look good for me until then but it all came right in the end."

Now after finishing the season as the club's number one, Talia is determined to start next season where he finished off.

He said: "I feel ready to be the first choice. It has been frustrating sitting on the substitutes' bench biting my nails.

"Jim Barron [goalkeeping coach] has helped my game a great deal and I think I can keep getting better."



Staying put: Steve Williams