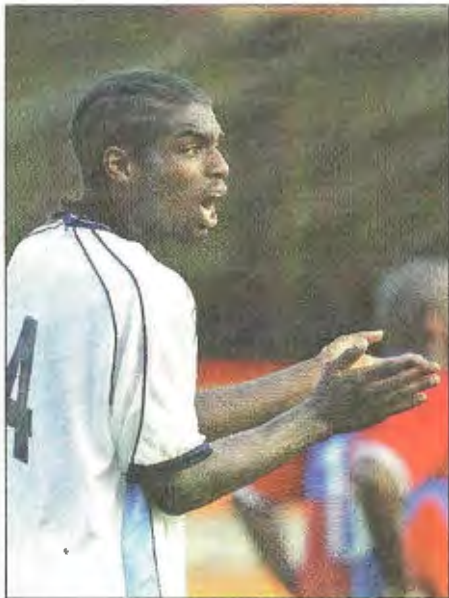


Blues the colour as Grant swaps Chelsea for Wanderers



Premiership pedigree: Anthony Grant

CHELSEA prospect Anthony Grant says he has got no regrets about swapping the Premiership champions for a season in the bottom division with Wycombe and has promised his new teammates goals and commitment.

The England U19 international has signed a one-year loan deal with Wycombe and showed why he is so highly-rated at Stamford Bridge with an impressive 45 minutes on his debut against Aldershot.

Operating just in front of the back four he provided a solid buffer as well as breaking forward with menace to give the Blues some much-needed punch.

He has already featured in the Premiership for Chelsea against Manchester United and is seen as one of the hottest British prospects at the Bridge, but he's delighted to be at Wycombe.

He said: "I've settled in really well. It's a big change from what I am used to. I was training with

Wanderers by Dave Peters

dpeters@london.newsquest.co.uk

Damien Duff and Shaun Wright Phillips but it's up to me to adapt. I have come here to learn and improve myself as a player. I think it will be a good stepping stone for me."

The holding midfielder, who has been on Chelsea's books since he was seven, discussed the move with Chelsea assistant boss Steve Clarke and their director of football Frank Arnesen before deciding Wycombe was right for him.

He said: "They all talked it through with the manager and decided it was the best thing for me. I made my debut when I was 17. I was on the bench in the FA Cup against Scunthorpe and I made my debut against Manchester United and was on the bench against Newcastle.

"It is always hard to turn your back on a club like Chelsea for a year but it is good to get experience and hopefully when I go back to Chelsea I will have benefited from it."

And he's promised Blues fans that he will score a few goals once he rids himself of a slight stiff back.

He said: "Once that's out the way you will see my true colours and a few goals from me."

Boss Paul Lambert is pleased to get him after trying to get him when he was at Livingston.

He said: "He's only 19 but he's got the potential to be a top player. Any player at Chelsea is special. He has played in their first team and if he can handle that I'm sure he will be able to handle most things that will get thrown at him in this league."

He believes Grant will bring the best out of Stefan Oakes, allowing the former Leicester man to get forward more.