

Lambert: 'I'm not far off the squad I want'

But the Blues boss won't rest on his laurels after a stirring display against Watford

WANDERERS boss Paul Lambert wants to bring in two new players before the start of the season in eight days time.

The former Scotland international is refusing to get 'carried away' by Wednesday night's hugely impressive performance in the 3-2 reversal against Premiership Watford and is still hunting new blood.

He said: "I still want to bring one or two new people in. You have got to have competition for places. I don't want any complacency in the squad, I want people pushing each other."

Lambert has already signed three players with Chris Palmer and Sam Stockley joining the roster and Chelsea midfielder Anthony Grant arriving on a season-long loan.

He was hoping to bolster his ranks further with a fourth summer signing this week, but that deal collapsed forcing the boss to turn his attention elsewhere.

He said: "There are one or two other things we are working on and with a bit of luck they will come off for us. I'm not too far away from having the squad I want."

He is currently casting his eye over England U19 international Shane Paul following his surprise release from Aston Villa.

Paul played more than a dozen times for Villa's reserves last season and is also being tracked by Blues' League Two rivals Lincoln City.

Lambert used the striker as a second half substitute on Wednesday and could employ him again tomorrow when Blues have two friendlies – one a behind-closed doors match against higher league opposition and the other at Staines.

But the new boss has already



Taking shape: Wanderers showed their best form under Paul Lambert on Wednesday night

Picture by ANITA ROSS-MARSHALL 06 2351 P44

shown he won't just fill up the place with bodies. Triallists James Sharp, Antonio Murray, Andy Campbell and Jason Tindall have all been dumped this summer as the Scot sets his standards high.

The bookies have installed Lambert's new charges as joint favourites to win League Two this season and Wednesday's showing

against Watford – when Hornets boss Adrian Boothroyd admitted his side were given the run around at times – certainly justified that optimism.

But Lambert said: "I don't think there is any point looking that far ahead because other teams are going to have a big say in the outcome."

"Because Wycombe had a reasonable season last year everyone

assumes it will be the same this year but nothing will happen without sheer hard work.

"I'm not going to sit here and say it is right that we're joint favourites because it is the wrong thing to do."

"The lads did great against Watford. They were playing against a Premiership side and they stepped up to the plate."

"But I have seen that a million and one times, where a team has stepped up and punched above its weight but when they come up against someone of the same level it goes down again."

"We've got to sustain that level of performance when we come up against teams of our own level and if we can do that then we have got a chance."