

Lambert wants to make signing number 11

WANDERERS want to make former Trinidad international Andre Boucaud their 11th signing of the summer.

Boss Paul Lambert confirmed after Tuesday's draw with Maidenhead United that he wants to add the former Reading, Peterborough and Kettering midfielder to his squad.

But having already hit double figures with the number of players he has brought in during the close season money is tight and Lambert has admitted the money he can offer could be a stumbling block in negotiations.

Lambert said: "We will have to see what sort of money he wants. he knows what I think of him.

"He has been very good in the games he's played in and we will talk to him and his agent."

Boucaud has also attracted interest from QPR and Paul Ince's MK Dons but it is a move to Adams Park he is most keen on.

He said: "I've been here for three weeks now. It's a good set of lads and I feel I have settled in now. The manager is good and everything about the club feels right. My heart is here."

And he says if a contract can be



Andre Boucaud

sorted out he will repay every penny of it with his performances.

He said: "I've been left behind in my career. When I was at Reading I was playing alongside half the team that's in the Premiership now. I was playing with Steve Sidwell, Nicky Shorey, Graeme Murty and people like that. It's hard to have gone from there to playing in front of 50 people.

"But at the end of the day I know

I can do that and get back to it. I just need an opportunity, that's all I want.

"I believe in my own ability. I've had the lows and now I want the highs again."

He says he hit rock bottom having to watch the 2006 World Cup at home on the telly having been dropped from the Trinidad team.

He said: "I didn't get to go because I wasn't playing first team football for anyone.

"It hurt more than anything. It was killing me knowing that I had once been part of that squad.

"I've had a lot of downs now hopefully there can be some ups coming as well.

"Maybe before when I was young I didn't really listen but now I've learned. I used to want to state my own opinion and I did when I was young. But you live and you learn and I have learned.

"I've played at Reading and I've played international football and that's where I want to be.

"I know that if I sign for a League club I could have the opportunity to play international football again and I think Paul Lambert can help me to do that."

Boucaud was first picked up as a

schoolboy by QPR and was sold to Reading as a 16-year-old in a deal that could have risen to £100,000 depending on appearances.

● New signing Gary Holt will miss tonight's final pre-season friendly at Oxford United.

The former Scotland midfielder, signed from Nottingham Forest, is still wearing a plaster cast to protect the wrist he damaged during Blues' pre-season trip to Germany.

The cast was meant to come off on Tuesday but was replaced with a lighter one.

Holt has so far managed just one half in Wanderers' colours since his high profile signing and the 34-year-old who is expected to rival David McCracken and Sam Stockley for the captaincy could now be a doubt for the League Two opener at home to Accrington in eight days.

● Blues' Football in the Community Open Day takes place at Adams Park on Sunday (11am – 2pm)

Supporters will get a behind the scenes look at the club, have a chance to meet the players and take part in a beat the goalie competition.