

Two-goal JP puts himself forward

JON-PAUL Pittman has told boss Peter Taylor that he's the man to shoot Blues up the goal charts.

Shot shy Wycombe managed just 54 goals last season and only 56 the year before that – and Taylor has been working all summer to address that by trawling the transfer market.

But Pittman believes he can save the manager a packet and do the job himself. And the former Crawley striker backed up his words with two clinical goals in Wednesday's 4-0 win over Windsor.

He said: "I feel very confident that I could be that man the manager's looking for. I feel I could fill those boots and that I could be the striker everybody is talking about."

"I've had a taste of League One before and this is like a welcome back – but now I'm back and I'm better equipped to tackle it this time."

"My confidence is high, I'm feeling fit. I had two shots and scored two goals and I believe I can carry that on into the season."

"I don't think there is any reason why I can't be hitting the figures that strikers should be hitting in a season."

"Pre-season has been really good. Everyone is happy. We had the Las Vegas trip at the end of the season [reward for winning promotion] and everyone is really together."



GOAL: Jon-Paul Pittman lashes in one of his two goals during Wednesday's win over Keith Scott's Windsor and Eton

Pictures by ANITA ROSS-MARSHALL

Pittman at the double

TWO emphatic finishes from Jon-Paul Pittman helped Wanderers to a 4-0 win over Keith Scott's Windsor and Eton on Wednesday.

The striker, who scored 18 goals for Wanderers and Blue Square Premier Division side Crawley last year, produced the stand-out performance as Blues maintained their unbeaten pre-season record.

The half-time substitute capitalised on some slack defending to rifle home his unstoppable first and then bettered that on 81 minutes with an even more brutal finish after Chris Zebroski had set him up.

Impressed boss Peter Taylor believes the 22-year-old former England C international has the potential to do exactly the same to league One keepers this season – and he now plans to work on his game to make sure he delivers.

He said: "He produced two terrific goals. I'd just love him to read the situation a bit more and once he gets that right he'll be unstoppable."

"If we can get him to time his runs better than the defender you will never stop him."

Taylor splashed £25,000 on him in January but it was another striker signed from the Conference who put Blues ahead

inside two minutes.

The lively Stuart Beavon showed impressive predatory instincts to tuck in the rebound after new signing Stuart Green's stinging shot came back off the keeper following excellent work from triallist Carl Cort.

Zebroski's late and fortunate fourth, after Pittman's dynamite double, added the gloss as Blues' full-time fitness finally told.

In between Wanderers were given a good test by the non-leagueurs who pushed the ball around well.

But the Blues look in a much healthier state than this time last year when they were losing to part-time sides.

And while there were too many misplaced passes and unforced errors to make it B+ performance, Taylor will have been more than happy with the show and the knowledge that he still has 16 days to left to iron out the sloppiness.

He used 22 players in the exercise and came through without any injuries and still without a goal against in three matches.

Pittman, Beavon, Green and the hugely impressive home grown first year pro Dan Fitchett will have been most pleased with their



GREEN FOR GO: Stuart Green fires in a shot

night's work while TJ Moncur and Carl Cort will be relieved that there are two more games this weekend to leave a better impression.

Cort's quality was evident from the second minute when his x-ray vision and laser passing set up Green as Blues took an early lead.

But it is a 15-goal-a-season merchant Wanderers need and most of Cort's good work came

from deep areas and not in areas where he was going to trouble Windsor's goalkeeper.

Right back Moncur will also need to do much more if he is going to walk into the injured Lewis Hunt's boots at the start of the season.

The ex-Fulham man eventually rescued a horror first half with two decent late crosses as he battled his confidence crisis.

Hunt doubtful for the start

RIGHT back Lewis Hunt looks set to miss the start of the season on August 8.

The former Derby and Southend defender has taken longer to recover from his fractured foot and isn't expected to resume full training with the rest of the squad for another two weeks.

He has been under doctor's orders not to run on hard ground and hasn't featured in any of Blues' pre-season games so far.

Boss Peter Taylor said: "His injury is a little bit worse than we first thought."

It will be the second season running that Hunt has missed the big kick off.

Last season he picked up a groin injury on his first week in training after signing for the club and didn't play until October.

And the news is even worse on the club's other Lewis.

Lewis Spence is facing a five-week delay before he can get his season up and running.

He has developed a heel injury and will be going for a scan this week.

Taylor said: "He could be five or six weeks away. There is a bit of bone on the nerve."

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Palace kid on trial

WANDERERS handed a trial to 16-year-old centre half Dwayne Campbell at Windsor following his release from Crystal Palace.

Boss Peter Taylor wants to have another look at him and if Blues make a move he would come off youth team boss Richard Dobson's bench.



In with a shout

HOME-GROWN talents Dan Fitchett and George Daly have got a real chance of making it this season says boss Peter Taylor.

The first year pros impressed at Windsor and Taylor said: "They deserve to be among the squad and they look comfortable there. They have got a chance for this season. They can push for the first team."

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