

There's no one better

WANDERERS boss Gary Waddock says he offered injury-prone skipper Adam Hinshelwood, right, a new one-year deal because he is the best in his position.

He managed to snare the former England U21 international on a free transfer in January because of his history of knee problems.

Those problems have persisted at Adams Park, with Hinshelwood only fit to play in 13 of Blues' 22 matches since arriving.

He finished the season in the treatment room but Waddock says the 26-year-old central defender is more than worth retaining.

Waddock said: "He's had injuries in the past but when he's fully fit everyone can see what he brings to the table. It's not just on the field either, he is a tremendous person to have around the place.

"People will say it is a gamble with his injury record but any player is a gamble.

"I've made him an offer and it's up to him. He is a leader and he's a winner, there may be other options out there but they aren't going to be as good as him."

McGleish back in blue

SCOTT McGleish, the man who scored one and made one to relegate his old club Wycombe Wanderers back to League Two, could be back in the quarters this weekend.

The former Wycombe striker is in manager Keith Scott's squad for Sunday's Wycombe Wanderers Old Boys against the Holmer Green FC Dads at Holmer Green Sports Association, Watchett Lane at 2pm.

Also among Scottie's squad are Chuck Moussadiq, Matt Crossley, Glyn Creaser, Steve McGavin, Dennis Greene, Steve Brown, Andy Baird, Simon Stapleton and Mo Harkin.

Royal visit to the Park

READING will visit Adams Park for a pre-season friendly on Saturday, July 24.

The Blues will have had almost a full month's training under their belts by then. They return to pre-season training on June 29 and have their first warm-up match away at Chesham United on Tuesday, July 13 (ko 7.45pm) before visiting Burnham on Tuesday, July 27 (ko 7.30pm).

Gaz is Player of Year



WINNER: Gareth Ainsworth receives the Player of the Year trophy from Emma Lovett of the Bucks Free Press

GARETH Ainsworth was crowned Blues' Player of the Year at the club's annual awards ceremony at Marlow's Crownne Plaza Hotel on Sunday night.

The veteran former Premiership ace received the Bucks Free Press Supporters' Player of the Year Trophy, as voted for by the fans, despite only making 14 appearances for the Blues following his switch from QPR.

Craig Woodman walked off with the Players' Player of the Year Trophy for the second year running, while Jon-Paul Pittman was a double winner.

He took the Goal of the Season Trophy for his stunning strike at home to Bristol Rovers as well as winning the Community Player of the Year for his outstanding work in the local community.

Matt McClure won the Apprentice of the Year, while former groundsman, and now kitman, Jim Gardner received a standing ovation when he went up to collect his outstanding contribution award in recognition of his more than 20-years service to the Chairboys.



Wanderers by Dave Peters

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WANDERERS boss Gary Waddock has told the six players he has offered new contracts to that he wants answers by the start of next week.

He has presented new one-year deals to out-of-contract players Kevin Betsy, Adam Hinshelwood, Matt Bloomfield, Alex Revell, John Mousinho and Steve Arnold and is waiting for them to commit.

They were offered terms on Monday but at the time of going to press yesterday evening none had put pen to paper.

Waddock said: "I want to know what they are doing by the beginning of next week.

"We have made them offers, we want them to stay but we will have to see what they are thinking."

Relegation has hit Blues in the pocket and Waddock will operate with a reduced playing budget for next season as he plots an immediate return to League One.

He agreed the budget with Steve Hayes and wants quick answers from the six players he has offered renewed terms to so that he can get replacements in if they decide not to sign up for another 12-month stint.



PLAYER TALKS: Manager Gary Waddock has a laugh with the youth players during Saturday's 3-0 Adams Park win over Gillingham

Gaffer will be married to his mobile for Blues

Wanderers by Dave Peters

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GARY Waddock says he will work around the clock this summer as he battles to deliver promotion back to League One at the first attempt.

The boss has got a big rebuilding job on his hands after letting nine players go in his summer cull and seeing a further three loan players go as well.

He said: "It has to be done. We can't hide the fact that we've been relegated and that we have got to rebuild.

"It is going to be non-stop for me this summer. I am going away on holiday but I won't stop working. I will be on the phone all the time, when I'm in the hotel or by the pool.

"I will take every call that comes in because if I miss one it might just be the call from the one player that will make a difference to our season – and I am not prepared to take that risk.

"The phone doesn't stop and I don't want it to. If I work hard I've got a chance of making this club successful, if I don't it won't be handed to us.

"I will be making calls every day because you only get out of anything what you put into it and we want to build something here."

His first job was wielding the axe and taking nine players off the payroll.

He said: "I had to look at things not only over the last six games when we did very well but over the course of the whole season when we weren't good enough.

"There is a lot of work to be done, we've got to get new players in who can take us back up."

Waddock has already made

enquiries about several players but he's warned fans they will have to wait for new signings with players and clubs alike expected to play a game of brinkmanship this summer as the recession bites.

He said: "People might expect players to come in this week but that won't be happening. We've got a lot of people to talk to, a lot of options and then we've got to see if they want to come here.

"It takes time and I'm not going to be rushed into anything.

"The players I bring in have got to be right. I know what I want but getting them is different.

"There are a lot of things that can go wrong. Other clubs can show interest and it will depend on players' wishes and demands."

Another striker, a goalkeeper and a right back are at the top of his wish list at the moment but that will be increased if the six

Wanderers he has offered new deals to turn them down.

Waddock said: "I know what areas I need to strengthen and I'm going for quality over quantity

"I want to bring in a squad that will get us out of this division but I also want to bring in players that are younger and who are going to be here for a long time and become assets to this club."

And he says he is prepared to take his rebuilding programme right down to the wire to ensure he gets the right people in with trialists expected to feature in his pre-season matches.

He said: "It is a very difficult league to get out of and there are a number of very good sides in this division.

"We don't want to hang around in this league, we want to get promoted at the first attempt and to do that we've got things right in the summer."



Revs can be 20-goal-a-season man

BLUES boss Gary Waddock says Alex Revell can be his side's 20-goal-a-year man.

The striker, left, bagged five goals in four games at the end of the season to edge out his Southend-based car share mate Matt Harrold and win a new contract offer for next term.

He has been offered a one-year-deal and the 26-year-old former Southend hitman has now gone away to mull over the terms.

Waddock said: "Everybody has seen in recent weeks that he can finish.

"He has proved a lot of people wrong but I always

knew he could do it.

"When he first joined us his finishing in training was outstanding. The chances he was putting away

"But he was lacking match fitness and he lost his confidence.

"When I first saw him play I really liked him and when he first came in on the training ground his finishing was outstanding and I knew he couldn't just lose that.

"Strikers have barren runs but I knew once he got his fitness, confidence and sharpness he'd be a player.

"I took him out of the side, I had a chat with him and when

he came back in he took off as I knew he would.

"I knew everyone was doubting him, I knew the fans and probably everyone else had thought I had brought in a wrong 'un but I never did.

"I'm delighted for him because he's worked really hard.

"We've made him an offer and hopefully he'll sign it – but I am also aware that there may now be other clubs interested in him because of what he's done at the end of the season.

"Hopefully we'll get him, the conversations I've had with him have been very positive."