

Stevens sets bar high with a 20-goal target

BEN Stevens says he's no Emile Heskey despite a reputation as goal provider rather than goal poacher.

Stevens signed for Blues on Friday after Gary Waddock had spent much of the summer chasing him, and has told the Wanderers fans that as much as he wants his strike partner to profit from his all-round play, he is determined to get among the goals himself.

The 30-year-old said: "Emile is a quality player and I think his team-mates appreciate what he does far more than anyone else.

"But his scoring record isn't great to be fair and I'd certainly hope to score more goals for Wycombe than he does for England."

Another striker to feed off Stevens is high on the manager's list of priorities, but the new Blue knows the importance of getting his own name on the scoresheet too.

He said: "It's important I weigh in with goals because that's what I've been signed for.

"You want to get to double

Wanderers
by ALAN FELDBERG

figures as soon as possible, and if I can get 15-20 goals and Wycombe get promoted that would be ideal.

"But I'm more of a team player if I'm completely honest.

"I think I matched Paul Benson at Dagenham & Redbridge a few seasons ago, but over my career whoever I've played with has seemed to score a lot of goals.

"I tend to weigh in ten or 15 but the player next to me gets 20.

"But in successful teams the goals tend to get shared around so hopefully they will be going in from all angles."

Stevens was not short of offers when it became clear he would be leaving Brentford this summer.

Carlisle United and Dagenham were both interested but Stevens believes he has made the right move coming to Wycombe.

He said: "There were a couple of League One clubs

interested.

"Carlisle was a location thing for me, and although I had a good time at Dagenham they always say you shouldn't go back.

"I think the club has moved on and I have moved on too.

"Wycombe were one of the first teams to get in contact with my agent and you want to go somewhere where you are wanted."

Promotion is the target for Wanderers, and Stevens admits there is pressure to make a fast start at a new club.

But in Waddock he is confident he's got the right manager to bring the best out of him.

He said: "There is a little bit of pressure.

"But I've got a few friends in football and they have all said what a great manager Gary is to play for.

"He puts a lot of faith in his players and hopefully that works for me.

"It's ok when things are going well, but when you don't score in three or four games that's when you need your manager to stick by you.

"I probably need a kick up the butt more when things are going well, and when I'm on a down patch, an arm from the manager or another team-mate can help.

"Hopefully there will be more highs than lows at Wycombe though

"Everyone knows you don't win anything on paper, but on paper we are one of the strongest sides in the league.

"After the conversations I've had with Gary, I think it's my place [in the Wycombe team] to lose so hopefully I do my job."

'It's important I weigh in with goals because that's what I have been signed for.'



Foster signs up as part of new-look defence

GARY Waddock continued the job of building from the back by signing right back Danny Foster from Brentford on Friday.

His arrival comes after Waddock snapped up keeper Nikki Bull and centre back Dave Winfield.

The 25-year-old Foster was a Spurs youth team player before moving to Dagenham, where he made 171 league starts.

Foster then impressed at Brentford last season but says coming to Wanderers offers him a fresh start.

Speaking to the Wycombe Wanderers' official website, Foster said: "It's a fresh start for me and I'm

excited about playing football for Wycombe.

"The manager's style of play is always going to be attractive for any footballer. He likes his teams to get the ball down, pass it and move.

"I also like to get the ball down, use it and attack when I can.

"I try to be what they call the modern-day full-back, someone who can get up and down."

And Foster, who has joined Blues on a free transfer believes his new club can be a real force in League Two.

He said: "We want to win the league. We've got to aim high and go from there."

Picture supplied by WYCOMBE WANDERERS



FOSTER'S HOME: Right back Danny Foster

Boss shocked by England defence

ARMCHAIR fans around the country watched in horror as England crashed out of the World Cup on Sunday, and Blues manager Gary Waddock says the defending was so bad he'd have been pulling his hair out if his League Two players had defended as badly.

The first goal England conceded was particularly painful to watch as Matthew Upson and John Terry let a goal kick travel 80 yards before Miroslav Klose raced behind them to prod the ball past David James.

Waddock said: "I wouldn't have been happy, put it that way.

"Adam Hinshelwood wouldn't have let that ball bounce, and if he did he'd have known about it at half time.

"I don't know if any of my teams have ever conceded a goal like that.

"You just don't expect it at that level."

Mousinho agrees Stevenage switch

JOHN Mousinho will sign for Stevenage Borough after turning down the opportunity to remain with Wycombe Wanderers.

The midfielder rejected two contract offers to remain at Adams Park and instead will complete the switch to Football League newcomers Stevenage on July 1.

The 24-year-old played 41 times for Blues last season and impressed Gary Waddock in the holding midfielder role.

Mousinho will take on his former team for the first time on October 1 when Wycombe go to Stevenage, before returning to Adams Park on March 12.