

For you, papa



BLUES striker Marcello Trotta described Boxing Day as his 'proudest day' in football after scoring a hat-trick in front of his parents to lift his adopted club out of the relegation zone.

The 19-year-old took his tally to six in four for Wanderers with a hat-trick in their 3-1 home victory over Exeter City.

He said: "It was my first hat-trick, my family was here, we

By Alan Feldberg

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won, we're out of the relegation zone...it's probably my best Christmas ever.

"My parents are very proud. It was my first professional game in front of them and it couldn't have gone any better. They're so happy, and me too.

"I was nervous and felt a bit of

pressure, but after one minute it was alright."

Trotta had already scored by then, firing home after just 31 seconds for the quickest goal of his career.

He added a second just before the interval and then completed his hat-trick in the 87th minute.

However, it was only after the third goal went in that he lifted his Blues shirt to reveal a

message on a t-shirt underneath.

He said: "It was just a simple message, 'for you, dad'. It meant a lot to me."

Trotta's goals have almost single-handedly taken Wanderers out of the drop zone.

Manager Gary Waddock said: "He's done it in Fulham's reserves. He comes to life in and around the penalty area. He's so confident in front of goal. He

could've had a hat-trick at Carlisle and he could have had more today.

"He's a machine. He's cool, he's a very, very good finisher and you can't coach that. We're pleased that we've got him."

Trotta's loan expires on January 14, and manager Gary Waddock says he will try to extend it again.

Trotta's treble: See Page 43

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Trotta dedicates his
first hat-trick to
watching family