

Young talent commit to Wanderers by penning new deals this week

TOP scorer Matt McClure and goalkeeper Matt Ingram will both be staying at Adams Park until 2015 after agreeing new contracts this week.

Northern Ireland U21 international McClure, who recently became a dad, has netted nine times this season while Ingram has been earning rave reviews while on loan at Conference North side

Oxford City.

Blues boss Gareth Ainsworth said he was delighted both youngsters have put pen to paper on the new deals and tipped them to go a long way in the game.

He said: "I want to protect our assets at the club and those two are definitely assets."

"Matt McClure will score goals at a higher level. He's always been a

natural finisher. When I first came here I saw him and thought, 'Wow this kid can finish', and he's proved me right.

"I'm really pleased for Matt McClure. He's just starting his family as well so it's great news for Matty and great news for the club."

Referring to Ingram the Wanderers chief said: "What we've seen in training sometimes is

awesome. I feel he's not too far away from first team football and he's proving that at Oxford City. He's been winning the Player of the Month award month after month and keeping clean sheets.

"I've had reports back from there saying he's been the difference in a few games. I'll put my neck on the line and say he'll be a top keeper one day."

Number one ambition

MATT Ingram has set himself the target of becoming Wanderers' first choice keeper next season after penning a new contract.

The highly rated 19-year-old hopes to take over the gloves from Tottenham Hotspur loanee Jordan Archer, who has been number one this season despite being a youngster himself.

Ingram, who has been with the Blues since the age of 12, this week signed a new two-year deal that will keep him at Adams Park until 2015.

He said: "Jordan's only a year older than me and I've seen him in training and seen him play. I see myself as being him next year. Jordan coming in has opened my eyes to the fact I can actually do it."

"It's hard for a goalkeeper to go straight into the team in League Two. I've had to get my games elsewhere. I've been at Lewes before and now I'm at Oxford City and racking up the games."

"Hopefully next year I'll be challenging for the number one spot."

"It's not in my hands but I'll do

By Andy Carswell

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the best I can and hopefully be pushing for the number one spot.

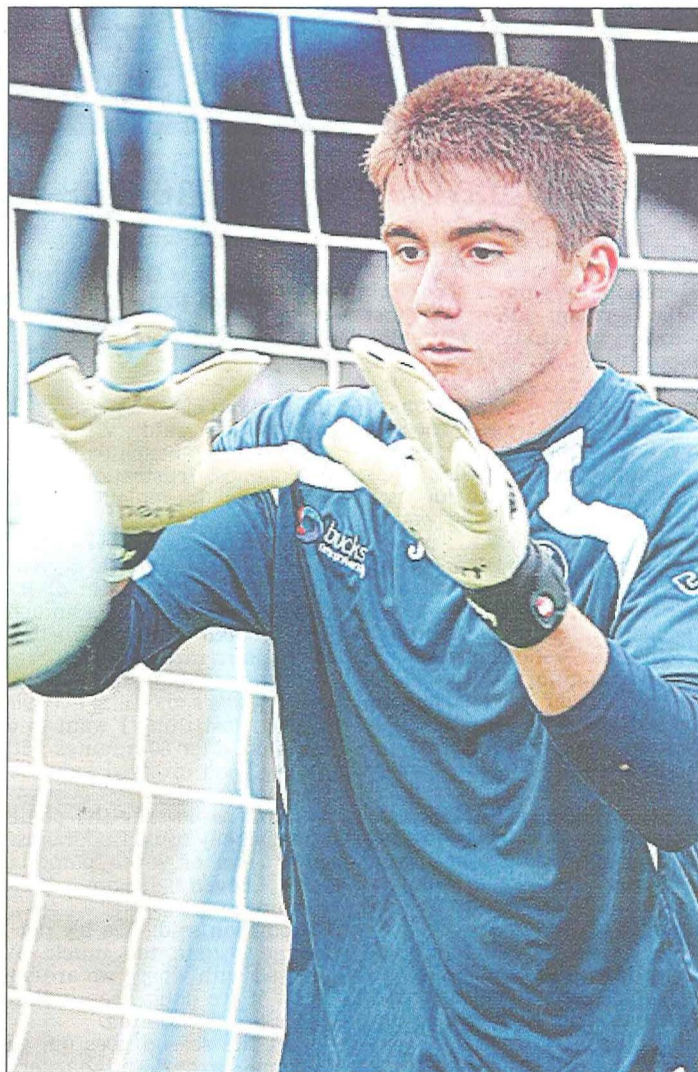
"I'm delighted to sign a new deal, especially now Gaz is in charge. Things are picking up and we are starting to do really well."

Ingram, who was called up to an England goalkeeping training camp aged 16, said the experience of coach Lee Harrison has also been important to his development.

He said: "He's been excellent, especially now he's come in full time. It's helped me no end."

Wanderers players are hopeful of mounting a League Two play off push and Ingram said it's a similar story at Oxford City, where he is on a season-long loan.

He said: "We're seventh at the moment but it's a bit difficult to read the table because of the weather. There's been lots of cancellations, so games are a bit hit and miss. If we keep going the way we are I think we can get to the play offs."



EYES ON THE PRIZE: Matt Ingram wants to be Wycombe's number one next season

Grant – Defenders giving us the freedom to do our job

THE form of Wanderers' defence is giving the attackers more confidence, says winger Joel Grant.

Saturday's shut out against York was the third in a row Blues have kept, and the seventh in their last dozen, as a previously porous back line has

tightened up considerably.

And Grant says knowing he has a strong defence behind him is allowing him and the rest of the side's attacking players to play with a great amount of swagger.

He said: "If you're in a winning team you're a bit more

relaxed and you can take a bit more time on the ball. You're not panicking as much."

"As an attacker if you know the



defence is doing their job, the onus is on you to get the goals. There's nothing better when you know they are going to do well at the back. It says, 'You boys up front, go and do your thing'."

ON TARGET: Joel Grant