

● SPORT EXTRA

Yeovil duo are set to join Birmingham

YEOVIL Town duo Howard Forinton and Jerry Gill are to join Nationwide League Division 1 outfit Birmingham City.

Striker Forinton and midfielder/defender Gill will stay with the Glovers until the end of the season before moving to St Andrew's, (writes RICHARD BRIGGS).

Gill, who signed for Yeovil from Vauxhall Conference neighbours Bath City during the summer, has been the subject of transfer speculation in recent weeks — especially since turning out for the England semi-pro team against the Republic of Ireland.

And the move for Forinton, who joined the Glovers from fellow ICIS premier team Oxford City earlier this year for £17,000, is no real surprise.

He has been on the scoresheet regularly for Graham Roberts' men and oozes class.

Commenting on the deal, Yeovil chairman John Fry said: "The club have always supported any player who has the opportunity to move into full-time League football.

"I am delighted that Jerry Gill and Howard Forinton are staying with us until the end of the season and I wish them every success with Birmingham City."

Mr Fry did not reveal the value of the deal, but said: "The funds from the transfers will enable us to sign new players in the close season and I am confident the transfers will be good news for the players and both clubs."

Yeovil sell Gill and Forinton



GOALS... Howard Forinton

YEOVIL TOWN have sold their top two players, Jerry Gill and Howard Forinton, to First Division Birmingham City.

But the duo will see out the season with Yeovil, who are chasing promotion from the ICIS League, before moving to the Midlands.

The deal was clinched yesterday and, although both clubs have refused to release figures, it is believed Yeovil will receive a joint down payment of £100,000.

That could be greatly

increased by subsequent appearances.

Gill's move is no surprise. The 26-year-old full-back, who moved from Bath City in the summer, has twice played for Birmingham's reserves and was watched again last week by their manager Trevor Francis.

But the deal involving Forinton is a surprise. It is only three months since the 21-year-old Bristol University student joined Yeovil for £17,000 from Oxford City.

He has, however, grabbed

the headlines with 12 goals in his first 14 games and last week Yeovil's manager Graham Roberts called him "The best non-league striker in the country."

□ Taunton Town will be trying to put an end to Tiverton Town's unbeaten run when the sides meet in the Screwfix Direct League at Wordsworth Drive today.

The Devon side have chalked up 25 successive victories and are red hot favourites for the Premier Division championship.



WATCHED... Gill