

Yeovil league bid is still right on course

By Phil Simpson
YEOVIL TOWN are targeting a top six finish on their return to the GM Vauxhall Conference.

Manager Graham Roberts aims to maintain the momentum from their ICIS League Championship-winning season when they finished with a record 101 points.

The bookies place Yeovil in upper mid-table at 22-1 for the Conference title.

But chairman John Fry is quite happy for the likes of Kidderminster, Stevenage and Hereford United to be favourites for the time being.

The focus is still on bringing Nationwide League football to Huish Park in three years.

"We are into the second stage of our five-year plan to get into the league and we're trying to build the club in depth," said Fry.

"We want to improve the quality of the youth coming through from the reserves and the junior set-up to compete for places in the first team.

"We are still rebuilding football-wise and trying to bring more professionalism to the whole organisation.

"But as far as meeting the league's criteria for going up there's no difficulty on the financial side.

"We are set to declare a small profit for last year when the shareholders meet for the annual meeting in November, and it's been a while since that has happened."

Roberts himself has strengthened his squad with two signings this week - Steve Winter and Shaun Wimble.

Winter, released by Torquay, had failed to land a Nationwide League berth with Cambridge United so settled for Yeovil where he will combine his football with university studies. He scored a superb goal last

Saturday when Yeovil beat Dorchester 4-0 in the last of their warm-up games, and although Roberts is keeping his line-up under wraps, he will probably fill the midfield role vacated when Paul Turner refused terms and was sold to St Albans.

Wimble, a 20-year-old who was with Fulham as a non-contract player last term, may have to wait longer for his debut. He replaced Micky Engwell in the second half against Dorchester and will probably begin the season as cover on the left hand side.

"I like the look of him", said Roberts, who says that the two signings have now brought his squad up to full strength.



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