

Ted Powell shock... as

ENGLAND captain, Ted Powell is leaving Wycombe at the end of the season, writes Mike Whitesman.

What has been rumoured increasingly for several weeks was finally confirmed at Loakes Park on Saturday before Wanderers' crushing 3-0 Isthmian League defeat of Sutton.

Writing in his column "Manager's Corner" in the match programme, Brian Lee revealed Powell's switch to Kingstonian next season as player-coach. "Although next

season is a long way off and our thoughts should be concerned with the present, it is only right to confirm that Ted Powell has decided to join Kingstonian next season," he writes. "... In advance we wish him well and trust that he leaves Loakes Park alone."

Lee was no doubt referring to the accompanying rumours that as many as six players from the present Wycombe squad might follow Powell to the Surrey club, where he will act as assistant to manager Vince Burgess.

The Wycombe boss explained his surprising decision to reveal the news. He did so "because rumours have been so rife that Powell is leaving and taking other players with him. Powell is leaving for personal reasons, I don't know about any other players at this stage."

Much-capped Powell joined the Loakes Park club from Sutton and is completing his second season as a Wanderer, having helped them to their Isthmian League title in 1970-71. A teacher of Divinity at a High

School in Sutton, he is 30 and lives in Ewell, Surrey.

He is at present in Denmark with Charles Hughes' 16 strong party for tomorrow's (Wednesday) amateur international.

Wycombe skipper John Delaney missed the Sutton game but passed fit on Sunday to fly off with the England squad yesterday despite the bad cut above his right eyebrow. Also involved in Denmark are Wanderers, Larry Pritchard and Derek Gamblin.



TED POWELL.
... moving on

Wanderers move in for the kill

IT looks like another Isthmian League title for Wycombe.

Wanderers need only one point from their closing three games to be certain of at least a play-off, and two to make 100 per cent sure of retaining the crown.

After Hendon's crucial setback at Walthamstow, where they lost 3-1 last Thursday, Wycombe moved nearer the kill with a well deserved 3-0 win over Sutton at Loakes Park on Saturday.

Meanwhile a third club, Enfield, enter a 12th hour title challenge and now stand only two points behind Hendon, with a game in hand. Wycombe's leading rivals however, must face the grim fact that they cannot afford even one slip—and each depends on the other to keep them in the hunt.

For Wanderers play both Hendon and Enfield, as well as Bishop's Stortford, before the season closes.

International commitments forced a wide scale re-

scheduling at the weekend of remaining fixtures. Wycombe's all-important trip to Hendon now takes place on Saturday, with a 7.30 p.m. floodlight kick-off to avoid clashing with the F.A. Cup final at Wembley.

Before that, both Hendon and Enfield play twice in midweek. They see action tonight at Hayes and Leytonstone respectively, then Hendon entertain Oxford City on Thursday and Enfield are home to Hitchin on Friday.

Other fixtures involving the title race — Tuesday, May 9,

Enfield v. Walthamstow and Hendon v. Bromley; Saturday, May 13, Wycombe v. Bishop's Stortford; Monday, May 15, Enfield v. Sutton; Tuesday, May 16, Oxford City v. Hendon; Friday, May 19, Wycombe v. Enfield; Tuesday, May 23, Enfield v. Hayes.

Wycombe's game against Bishop's Stortford on May 13 has a 2.15 p.m. kick-off, due to the televised West Germany v. England international late in the afternoon.

● Four Wycombe players—John Delaney, Ted Powell,

Larry Pritchard and Micky Mellows—travel to Italy with the Isthmian League representative side on Saturday, May 20 for a match the following day.

● The Westminster Hospital Cup match between Wanderers and the Combined Services is now set for Wednesday, May 10 at Loakes Park.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
WYCOMBE	37	30	3	4	100	16	63
Hendon	35	25	8	4	76	27	54
Watton	36	22	8	6	63	25	52
Enfield	34	21	6	6	62	33	50
St. Albans	40	23	4	13	74	47	50
Bishop's Stortford	37	22	5	10	57	34	49
Sutton	37	18	10	9	66	43	46
Barking	40	20	4	16	66	61	44

INTERNATIONAL commitments threaten to cause another major fixture mud-dle as Wycombe and Hendon continue the struggle for the 1972 Isthmian League title.

At least two matches involving Wanderers may have to be rescheduled — both against last Saturday's Amateur Cup finalists. Defeated Enfield are due to visit Loakes Park on Cup Final afternoon, May 6. Enfield have their annual dinner the same evening, so the match looks likely to be given a new

date, possibly being brought forward to a Friday night kick off.

England's clash with Italy at Plymouth on May 10 is bound to involve several top stars from both Wycombe and Hendon, who are due to meet at Claremont Road only 24 hours earlier. This vital decider may have to be rescheduled also.

Wycombe now await a League ruling on the situation. Meanwhile they prepare for the last four difficult games of their Isthmian programme, with a nine point lead over nearest rivals Hendon, who have three

games in hand and play twice in mid-week — at Clapton tonight and Walthamstow on Thursday.

With a Middlesex Senior Cup semi final — a repeat of the Amateur Cup final against Enfield on Saturday, the Claremont Road club have been forced to postpone their trip to Bromley. Wycombe, however, take on seventh placed Sutton United at Loakes Park.

Striker Trevor Waughman is working back to fitness after a knee injury and hopes to be ready for a return by next week, while defender Paul Birds-

eye continues to take treatment on a groin injury. Dave Bullock missed the Walton game through illness.

LOAKES PARK will be the venue when Middlesex Wanderers take on the Royal Netherlands National Amateur XI for the Lo Brun Memorial Trophy on Wednesday, May 24 (7.30 p.m. k.o.).

THE Wycombe Minor League Subsidiary Cup final (Under 16) between Hotspur Minors and Chalfont St. Peter will be held at Wilks Park, Slackwell Heath on Thursday May 4, starting at 6.30 p.m.