

Ex-blues reserves boss goes to Chesham

# ACKRELL LANDS UNITED JOB

by **ROLF  
NIVEN**

**E X** Wycombe Wanderers reserves manager Alan Ackrell will assume a new role as coach at trouble-torn Chesham United next season.

Ackrell agreed this weekend to join the Isthmian League Division 1 outfit which seemed on the verge of extinction earlier this year.

The club hopes to overcome the crisis by starting the new season as a limited company but Ackrell has made it clear he does not want to become embroiled in a bitter survival battle.

"I am not a manager," pointed out the former Blues reserves boss.

"I am a coach and I will be purely working with the players.

"I have no desire to go into management and I do not want to involve myself with the problems at Chesham."

## **Appoint**

The Meadow club is expected to appoint a general manager for football who will be responsible for running the five teams.

"I believe they have someone in mind," said Ackrell.

"He will take on the normal duties of a manager, hopefully leaving myself free to do what I do best . . . and that is coach."

Ackrell, who lost his job at Wycombe when the reserves were amalgamated with the first team, said he was excited at the prospect of working with young players.

"Chesham run several teams, including a youth side and I hope to be involved with all of them," explained Ackrell, one of the tracksuit brigade.

He is also aware that Chesham United is balancing precariously between survival and disaster.

## **Challenge**

"I am going into this job with my eyes wide open.

"I know the problems and I know how they came about.

"I see this coaching role as a challenge," added Ackrell who turned down a similar offer from Beaconsfield United boss Tim Anning.

"It was nice to be offered a job at Beaconsfield but the facilities there do not lend themselves to the coaching programme I had in mind.

"The position at Chesham is local and keeps me involved in a high standard of soccer in the Isthmian League.

"I could well find myself out of a job in a few weeks but I am optimistic the club will pull through.

"It would be a miracle if they won anything next season."

Chesham, who were involved in the Division 1 promotion battle last season, have been leaderless since Pat Morrissey was sacked as player-manager in March.

Players Eggie James and Paul Currie were also dismissed.

"It will be interesting to see who turns up for our first training session on July 20," said Ackrell.