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# Arrested soccer 'peacemaker' is cleared of charges

A YOUNG football fan who tried to be a peacemaker when rival fans began fighting at the Wycombe Wanderers versus Colchester match last November ended up being arrested himself.

But Ian Rundle, 21, of Stanley Road, High Wycombe, was cleared by Wycombe magistrates on Wednesday, of charges of a breach of the peace and obstructing a police officer. He pleaded not guilty.

"I love football and it sickens me to see what goes on," Mr Rundle, an Aston Villa supporter and himself a Sunday player, told the court.

When he saw three youths struggling with an officer after police had

intervened in a fight between rival supporters, he went over to them to ask them to calm down.

"I am a great football supporter. I was going to ask them to stop as they would only get into trouble and prolong the fighting and the game might have been abandoned," he said.

## Charged

"Suddenly I was taken from behind, turned round and handcuffed," he said. He denied pushing and kicking an officer and swearing at him.

Mr Rundle said that he was taken to Amersham police station but was

not told initially what he had allegedly done. After being charged, he made a statement denying the allegations and said he merely wanted to calm the aggressors.

PC Brian Dunse told the court he rushed to the hospital end of Loakes Park when fighting broke out between rival fans. He went to the aid of a colleague who was struggling with a youth but was pushed out of the way from behind.

Mr Dunse said he turned round and caught hold of his attacker, Rundle, and told him to go away. Rundle argued, he said, and he arrested him. Rundle then began struggling and swore at him.