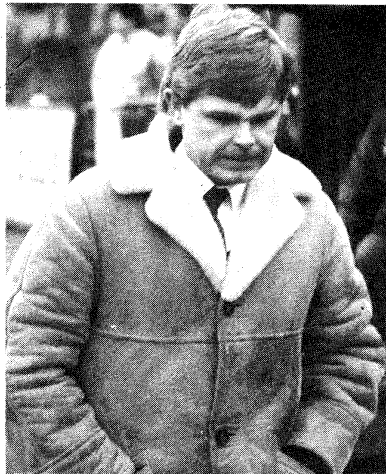


ALAN GANE QUITTS



Alan Gane: "I quit".

Gane pulls out

Alan Gane, Wycombe's manager who led them to the Vauxhall Opel League championship with a record 101 points last season, has left Wanderers—two weeks before the start of the new season in the GM Vauxhall Conference.

A former Brentford player, Mr Gane has been with Wycombe for three years—the last 18 months as manager.

Manager shock for the unhappy Blues

By Simon Ashberry

MANAGER Alan Gane has quit Wycombe Wanderers.

The Blues' boss, who guided the side to glory last season, made his shock decision a week ago but did not announce his resignation until after Wanderers' defeat against Chelsea on Friday.

His departure is another pre-season body blow for the club which has left players and supporters alike reeling. Blues now travel for a friendly against Kingstonian tonight (Tuesday) with assistant manager, John Reardon, in charge of a squad decimated by injuries.

Gane's replacement should be announced in time for Wycombe's third warm-up friendly at Farnborough on Friday night. In the meantime Reardon has the task of whipping into shape a squad which has been devastated by behind-the-scenes controversy.

Sources inside the club report that several players have been unsettled by recent internal wrangling, and fans' biggest fear will be that Gane's

resignation will be the final straw for star striker Noel Ashford to leave.

The England non-league international was due to take part in eleventh hour talks last night (Monday) with Blues' new boss, who has been selected already, but Ashford told Midweek yesterday: "I'm looking to leave at the moment."

He went on: "I'll be listening to their point of view, but I get the feeling that this club is a sleeping giant and they want it to stay asleep."

In a statement, issued by Wanderers' new Press officer Alan Parry, the club said it was sorry to see Gane go, and took the opportunity to thank him for his work at Loakes Park.

Gane confirmed that he had left for personal reasons and said it had been a wrench to leave after such a run of successes last season.

"I had made up my mind to go at the start of last week, but I didn't get the chance to speak to the players until Friday night," he added.

Tonight's friendly at Kingstonian's Richmond Road ground could prove a testing time with Kevin Day, Dave Burgess and Kirk Corbin all ruled out with injuries.

Skipper Keith Barrett played on Friday with a fractured arm while Kevin Durham also took a knock against Chelsea and could be sidelined.



Noel Ashford: looking to leave.