

Fans deny affray charges

TWO Colchester fans have denied affray charges after a fight broke out at the home supporters' end when their team visited Wycombe in September.

Graham Hazell, 21, and George Tyler, 24, were arrested after scuffles broke out during their team's GM Vauxhall Conference clash with Wycombe Wanderers.

Mr Hazell, of Finching Field Way, Colchester, is also charged with kicking and

punching several Wycombe fans and obstructing police.

Mr Tyler, of Wilson Marriage Road, Colchester, faces a further charge of assaulting a police officer in addition to the obstruction and affray matters.

The pair were both released on unconditional bail when they appeared before Wycombe magistrates on Monday.

A trial date was set for January 10.

Football fans deny affray

TWO Colchester United football fans appeared in court charged with fighting with Wycombe Wanderers fans in the home supporters' enclosure when the teams clashed on September 28.

On Monday, Graham Hazell, 21, of Finching Field Way, Colchester, and George Tyler, 24, of Wilson Marriage Road, Colchester, faced charges of affray and obstructing the police.

Hazell is also charged with assault causing actual bodily harm. Tyler is further charged with assaulting a policeman.

Both pleaded not guilty to all the charges. The case was adjourned until January 10. Both men were released on unconditional bail.

Former Blues boss steps down from full-time post

FORMER Wanderers manager and chairman Brian Lee is leaving his job as Wycombe's general manager.

Lee, 55, will continue as a director of the club he has been associated with for 23 years.

With commercial manager Allan Robson leaving for Watford next month, Lee has decided now is an opportune time for the club to reorganise their off-the-pitch team.

Also vice-chairman of the Conference, he is unable to say yet what job he will move to. Lee went full time to mastermind the move from Loakes Park to the new ground, and he will relinquish his role at the end of December.

Ill health caused Lee to be rushed into hospital last month, although the former manager said this has not affected this week's decision.

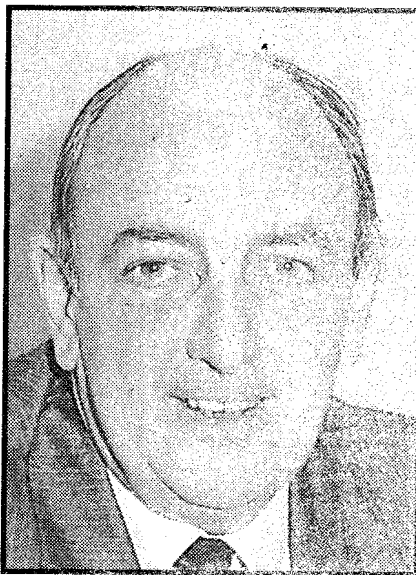
Fellow director Graham Peart said: "In one sense, it's sad, but Brian's ready to retire now.

"It is important to record that the club would not have been able to build the ground as it is without Brian's help.

"We've got a lot of stadium for the money by managing the move ourselves, and Brian's been a key member of the team."

Lee, who lives in Bisham, managed the team between 1968 and 1975, leading them to four Isthmian League titles and the third round of the FA Cup in 1975 when they held First Division leaders Middlesbrough goalless at Loakes Park.

Lee said: "Having built the ground and got the club started in its new home, the time is opportune to reorganise the internal structure in the push for promotion to the Football League.



Brian Lee, the Wycombe Wanderers director, pictured this week after revealing his decision to the Bucks Free Press

"The total job is not yet done but we are on the way."

Lee was a director at Bisham Abbey for 21 years, and also managed Telford United (then Wellington Town), Oxford University's football team, and the non-league international side.

Lee's role as director with Blues is with responsibility for the fabric of the ground and buildings. A new banqueting manager, Tony Leese, was appointed last week, and Peart said over 120 applications have been received for the role of sales and marketing manager.

Parking idea

PARKING problems have been an acknowledged bane of the first 18 months of life at Adams Park, and Lee hopes to see a partial solution sorted before he leaves his full-time post in six weeks time.

Mill End School have already used their initiative by opening their car park on big match days and charging £1 a space. For the next two home games — against Kettering next Wednesday, and Cheltenham three days later — there will be a pilot run for a park and ride scheme with Wycombe Bus Company.

Free

From Mill End School, there will be a free return bus service to Adams Park. Next Wednesday, buses will leave the school at 6.45 and 7.15pm, and on Saturday at 2.05 and 2.35pm, and depart ten minutes after the matches have finished.

Lee pointed out that these games will provide a good test as there could be a gate of 5,000 plus next Wednesday and perhaps 4,000 on the Saturday. The club will then review the scheme.