

Ground growth could be fruitful

TIMELY permission to allow Wycombe to increase Adams Park's capacity to 9,000, and maybe even 10,000, would please many who were disappointed not to get tickets for the Preston match.

Tickets for next Saturday's all-ticket game were sold out when they went on general sale on Monday evening.

The club, however, have finished installing crush barriers in the Woodland Terrace to increase the capacity. They are currently awaiting a decision from the county council as to whether they can do so after submitting an application three weeks ago.

A meeting was held yesterday between the club's safety

By CLAIRE NASH

officer Frank Knowles, Wycombe Police and the Football Licensing Authority. A county council spokesman said that the capacity can go up by 800 as long as Wanderers can satisfy the police that extra trained stewards can be provided to cope with bigger crowds.

The spokesman added that it was understood there was some urgency from all parties involved. Wycombe would need to know as soon as possible for further ticket sales next week.

Blues secretary John Goldsworthy said: "We hope it's possible, but whether it will

be is out of our hands. If the decision happens early enough we will try to do something."

In the meantime, the current capacity has been filled.

● Supporters travelling to Crewe by coach are being advised to be dropped off and picked up from Adams Park tomorrow to avoid jamming the car park. Sixteen coaches are travelling to Gresty Road. Three coaches, numbers 14, 15, and 16, are setting off from Sands First School, near New Road, not the ground. People travelling on these can park at the school. Coaches depart at 10.30am.

● Former Wycombe player Nicky Evans's Barnet testimonial takes place against Birmingham City at Underhill on Friday, May 13 (ko 7.45pm).

Preston match tickets go on general sale

TICKETS for the all-ticket Preston match on Saturday, May 7 went on general sale yesterday.

Remaining tickets will be sold from the Commercial Office during office hours 9am-5.30pm. Two tickets per person is the maximum.

Preston's expected 2,000-strong contingent will fill the Hillbottom Road End terrace.

Terrace season ticket holders hand in their vouchers at either entrance five or six. People are advised to get to the ground early. Normal league match procedure applies to stand season ticket holders and vice presidents.

There are no tickets left for this Saturday's Crewe game. Fifteen coaches are travelling to Gresty Road. Many more fans will be travelling by train and car.

Players get back on track

LEE Turnbull returned to action in Monday night's Capital League game against Gillingham.

The striker/midfielder made an appearance in the 2-1 defeat after two months out with a broken bone in his foot. Duncan Horton, who had surgery on a hernia in February, played solidly at centre back. Nicky Reid (hamstring) and Simon Hutchinson (ankle) were other players continuing comebacks from injury. Tim Langford, Nick Cusack and Steve Brown also played in the strong Blues line-up.

Andy Kerr scored Wycombe's goal. But Gillingham veteran Gary Micklewhite scored a late winner.

Wycombe experienced better fortunes with a 1-0 Capital win over Southend on Wednesday night at Adams Park.

Cusack was the goalscorer. Keeper Steve Book made his debut Blues appearance.

● There were jubilant scenes at Adams Park on Tuesday night, but it wasn't anything to do with Wycombe.

Woking beat Enfield 3-0 in the FA Trophy semi final. The north London club had a mountain to climb after Lee Francis was sent off after 13 minutes.

A 2,500-strong crowd watched the match which, perhaps thankfully, did not emulate last Saturday's confrontation described as 'the worst game of football ever' in Monday's Daily Telegraph.

● Swansea, victors over Wycombe in the regional final, beat Huddersfield in a penalty shoot-out at Wembley to win the Autoglass Trophy on Sunday. The score was 1-1 after extra time.

Bumper prize in Fives

THERE is £25,000 in prize money up for grabs in the Evening Standard Fives tournament at Wembley Arena on Monday, May 9.

Wycombe join Premiership big guns Arsenal, Chelsea, Tottenham and West Ham, as well as major Division One and Two clubs in the London area, for the event which is being covered by Sky Sports and Capital Radio.

Tickets at £12, £15, £17.50 and £20 are available from Wembley Box Office (081 800 1234) or Wycombe's commercial office.

Young Wycombe in final

BLUES' youth team beat Brookhouse 2-1 in their league championship semi final on Wednesday. Goals were scored by Paul Hutchison and Stuart Wilson.