

Blues see red in all-ticket loss

WYCOMBE Wanderers are reviewing making matches all-ticket after the crowd at last Saturday's match against Swansea City was slashed by up to 1,500, with losses of between £6,000 to £8,000.

Police asked for the game to be made all-ticket three weeks before it took place because they expected a repeat of the hooliganism which clouded an Autoglass Trophy tie between the two clubs last March.

But there were only 194 Swansea supporters at the game – watched by more than 100 police.

"We are doing an analysis of the people in the ground," said financial director Graham Peart this week. "It would appear that it was families that were missing. The action of making the game all-ticket put them off coming after it implied that there would be trouble and that's most unfortunate."

Mark Austin, Wycombe's marketing manager, said the heavy police presence was: "like using a sledgehammer to smash a nut."

Inspector Roger Doe, the football liaison officer for High Wycombe Police, said: "It's very easy to say with hindsight that there were too many police. But I would rather be over-cautious rather than something happen to someone. The decision to make the game all-ticket was not taken lightly. The club made no objection. It was an agreement between the two parties."

Meanwhile, in front of the

By Claire Nash

scenes, Wycombe will not be taking Leyton Orient's threat lightly in tomorrow's Division Two clash at Adams Park, particularly as they are set to go into the game without Simon Garner who pulled a hamstring last weekend.

However Tim Langford, who may replace the striker in the starting line-up, requested to be put on the transfer list this week because he has not featured in Martin O'Neill's first team plans on a regular basis.

But O'Neill will still use the 29-year-old if he needs him. "Tim has asked for a transfer, but while he remains I will not let that put me off from selecting him." The manager revealed that Simon Hutchinson has also asked for a transfer.

Wycombe could cultivate a vein of consistency tomorrow after winning a testing battle against Swansea. Orient have not won an away match for nearly a year.

O'Neill said: "We are pretty buoyant after winning the game against Swansea."

"Leyton Orient may have problems, but we have a few of our own with Garner's injury. We are not good enough to take their threat lightly. If we do, we will get beaten."

■ Blues unbeaten run in the Capital League continued with Wednesday's 2-0 win at Brentford.