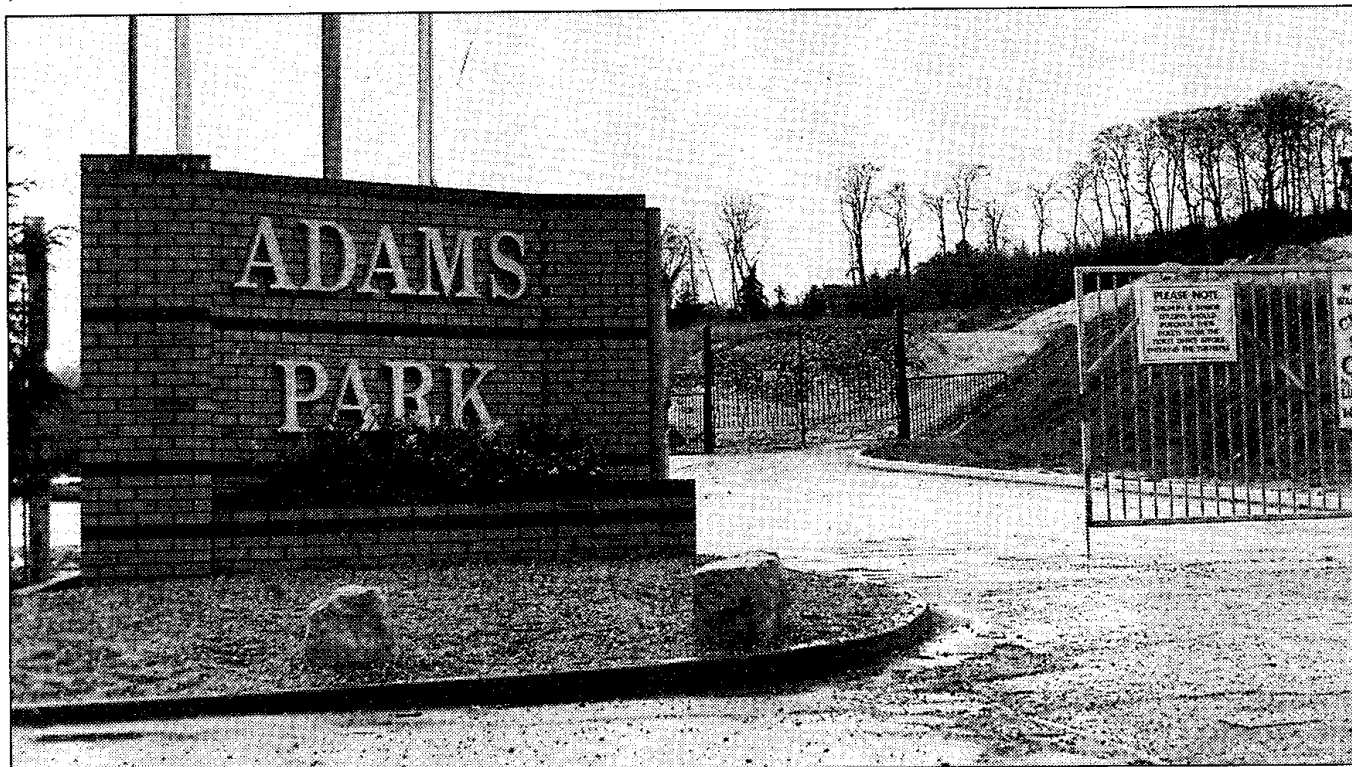


Come on down, Smith tells fans



Open house: Wycombe will let fans see almost every nook and cranny of the ground

BLUES fans have the chance to literally try Alan Smith's hotseat out for themselves when Wycombe Wanderers hold an open day at Adams Park next Wednesday.

The 'come on down' invitation to look around behind the scenes and meet Smith and the players was the new manager's idea.

"I want people to come down and have a look around and meet everyone. There shouldn't be any barriers between a club and their fans. I don't like cliquey clubs," Smith explained.

The former Crystal Palace boss added that open days at Selhurst Park have attracted 15,000 people in the past.

The open day was originally designed merely as a photocall for Blues' new 1995/96 squad.

But Smith expanded the invitation to Joe Public. This is the first time an event of this kind has been held by Wycombe.

Virtually the whole of Adams Park will be available to view and photograph between 12.30pm and 4pm. A club notice printed in the match programme for the Ipswich friendly told fans that the personal touch includes being greeted by Smith, chairman Ivor Beeks, the club directors, all the players and staff YTS lads.

"This is a unique opportunity to visit the only full-time professional football club in Buckinghamshire, as it opens its heart and

throws open its doors to the whole community," said a club statement.

Wycombe said everyone would be available to answer any questions, pose for photographs and give autographs.

Areas on view inside the stadium include the manager's office, the boardroom and the gym. Groundsman Jim Gardner's pristine pitch is strictly off limits.

■ Wycombe are running coaches to their friendly against Reading on Saturday, August 5. Prices are adults £5, OAPs £4 and children £3. The Independent Supporters Club will run coaches to Oxford City tomorrow and Reading. Prices are for both trips are adults £3.50 and children £2.50.