

# Rugby bosses back Wasps move

## Move would boost town's rugby

WYCOMBE'S top rugby men have welcomed Wasps proposed move to Adams Park – claiming it will raise the profile of the sport in the area.

Brian Clark, president of High Wycombe Rugby Club, said he felt positive about the proposals.

He said: "We think it will strengthen rugby in the town.

"We have the Royal Grammar School here, which is one of the strongest rugby schools in the country. If this move goes ahead it would do nothing but good for rugby in the area."

Clark believes the move to the home of Wycombe Wanderers could attract a lot more youngsters to the sport – something that rugby has to do if it is to continue to thrive at the highest level.

Colin Tattersall, rugby coach at Wycombe's Royal Grammar School and the coach of the England Under-16 rugby team, also welcomed the plans.

Tattersall, who coached current England rugby star Matt Dawson during his days at the RGS, said: "This is still a speculative move at the moment, but if it happens it will be an excellent move.

"This would bring first class rugby into the area, and it would be nice if it got more kids interested in the sport.

"Anything that adds to the strength of the rugby set-up would be

**MATTHEW HARRIS**

**RUGBY**

wonderful," he added.

Tattersall did express one reservation about the move, however, when he revealed his fear that the Thames Valley area could become over-saturated by top clubs, with Premiership teams already located in Watford and Reading. Saracens currently play at Vicarage Road, while London Irish reside in Reading.

He added: "This could bring extra revenue to the club and Adams Park is a small, intimate ground which is perfectly suited to the family atmosphere at Premiership matches."

Wanderers boss Lawrie Sanchez also welcomed the chance for the Blues to make more revenue.

He said: "I would welcome anything that brings more money into the club. We all know where that money goes, it goes onto the pitch. With the money we earned from the FA Cup last year we were able to bring in Stuart Roberts and Darren Currie, who have made a tremendous difference, but everyone knows they didn't come cheap."

Sanchez's only concern is for the pitch and that the club install a surface that could deal with both football and rugby.

But he added: "The chairman is not going to compromise the pitch. That is the underlying criteria."