

SPORT

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GRAHAMRangers
dig deep
for draw

RISBOROUGH RANGERS travelled to Langford in the South Midlands League Division One and they gained a point with a well-deserved 1-1 draw.

The hosts, who prior to this game had gone on a run of eight consecutive league victories, were fastest out the traps scoring with a close-range header after only five minutes leaving keeper Jack Brooker with no chance.

Rangers, who were without some regular first team players, rallied well and worked their way back into the game.

On 15 minutes after good work by Harry Jones, the ball fell to Vinnie Iannone who slotted home well to equalise for the visitors.

The game ebbed and flowed going into the break with both teams having chances to score.

In the second period, Rangers knocked the ball around well playing some neat and tidy football.

There was nothing to choose between the two outfits although Risborough rueing their missed chances which could have secured all three points.

The game came to a close with possibly Langford the happier, with Risborough rueing their missed chances which could have secured all three points.

Tomorrow, Risborough entertain Southall in another league encounter (kick off 3pm).

Chalfont built on their excellent away win at Northwood two weeks ago with a creditable point at home to Egham Town, where they secured a 0-0 draw.

After their resurgence in recent weeks, they face an almighty task tomorrow when they travel to league leaders Royston Town (kick off 3pm).

Royston have swept all before them this season but if the Saints can defend in the same vain as the previous two games they have a chance.

Captain
bags three

FLACKWELL HEATH secured a brilliant win last weekend as they thumped league rivals Royal Wootton Bassett 5-1 at Wilks Park.

Captain Ben Sturges was the hero as he bagged a superb hat-trick as they kept tabs on the leaders at the top of the table.

Dan Rapley scored the other two goals before Bassett's Steve Robertson scored a late consolation goal for the visitors.

The Heathens face a tricky away trip on Saturday as they travel to Ascot United (kick off 3pm).

It was also a good week for the Heathens' other sides as the reserves and ladies teams also secured excellent victories, with the reserves making the Wycombe Junior Cup final; after a 3-2 win over Thame Development.

Final dream calls for
team's young players

Trevelyan Middle School from Windsor are off to Wembley in May

A JUNIOR football club representing Wycombe Wanderers are off to Wembley after reaching the final of the EFL Kids Cup, sponsored by Kinder + Sport.

Trevelyan Middle School, from Windsor, defeated Leyton Orient 3-0 in the regional finals, held at Adams Park on Monday, to progress to the national final which will be played on the hallowed turf beneath the arch before the League Two playoff final in May.

The EFL Kids Cup is a national competition for boys in school Years 5 and 6, beginning with each EFL club's charitable trust hosting a local tournament for schools in their area.

Wycombe Wanderers Sports & Education Trust hosted their local tournament back in December with 38 teams participating. After some hard fought and exciting matches, Trevelyan Middle School were crowned winners and booked their place in Monday's tournament, played at the home of the Chairboys.

As a reward for winning the local tournament, Trevelyan's stars were invited to the Wanderers' training ground in January to meet Gareth Ainsworth and the players.

Play commenced with two groups made up of seven teams who all played each other once, before the top two teams from each group played in the semi-finals to find out who would compete in the final.

Trevelyan Middle School went through the group stages unbeaten without conceding a single goal, before continuing their fine run of form by beating Portsmouth 2-0 in the semi-final, and then Leyton Orient 3-0 in the final to be crowned regional champions.

Following on from the win, Head of WWSET Paul Foley said: "The tournament was brilliantly organised and managed by the Sports & Education Trust staff.

"It was played in a very friendly fashion despite the massive prize being played for, and it was a really enjoyable environment for both the players and all the supporters who travelled long distances to be here.

"It certainly wouldn't have been so successful without the huge support received from Wycombe Wanderers in terms of their permission to use the pitch, so huge credit should go to the club.

"The fact that Trevelyan finished as winners was the icing on the cake so a big well done to them."



Trevelyan celebrate their amazing victory



The boys achieve their dream after winning at Adams Park, the home of Wycombe

Generals' promotion push on track

CHESHAM UNITED picked up a respectable four points from a possible six at home this week, beginning with a narrow 1-0 over Cinderford last Saturday to keep their slim playoff hopes alive.

With a hard pitch and a swirling wind this was unlikely to be a classic, and Chesham had the better of the opening minutes but Cinderford had the first effort on goal when Sam Hicks' shot was comfortably

saved by Ashlee Jones.

Two minutes later Sam Youngs shot for goal from 25 yards but the ball flew just wide.

The Generals dominated the rest of the half but only broke through in stoppage time, when Cinderford struggled to clear a corner and Darren Purse attempted to go round Dan Clare on the edge of the area only for Clare to block him off.

The referee was right on the spot

to give a penalty which Purse himself converted.

Chesham had two further efforts from Ryan Blake and Dave Pearce in the second half that were off target, then midway through the half Jarrad Welch's free kick flew a couple of yards wide.

In the latter stages Chesham looked content to see the game out, with the visitors lacking in ideas Andy Leese's side got the three

points.

On Tuesday, Chesham drew 1-1 with Frome at home despite taking the lead just eight minutes from time when Youngs struck.

However, two minutes later Aiden Kirby equalised to give the visitors from Somerset a barely deserved point.

Tomorrow, Chesham face a trip away to Stratford Town (kick off 3pm).

WYCOMBE: Manager convinced rocky patch is now over 'Home comforts will give Wanderers edge'

CHAIRBOYS

WYCOMBE WANDERERS boss Gareth Ainsworth is confident his side can keep their recent revival going with a win at home to Blackpool tomorrow.

Last week saw the Chairboys win for the first time in the league since February 4 and their gruelling run of fixtures is now over following an extremely hectic schedule in the past two months.

Ainsworth is now relieved that the logjam is over and is looking forward to keeping tabs on their promotion rivals in the coming weeks.

He said: "I gave the boys a couple of days earlier off this week after the win at Grimsby because we have had such a mental fixture list lately so the break for them was important."

"The sheer number of games and the intensity of some of those matches recently has taken its toll on some of the players and it is great that we can get back to the norm and have a midweek off."

"Now we can crack on and look forward to the rest of the season, starting with Blackpool on Saturday."

Their rivals this weekend will prove a tough nut to crack and Ainsworth added: "They have been on a great run of form themselves so it will be a difficult game."

"They had a great win against Plymouth in the week. I haven't



Gareth Ainsworth celebrates the wonderful win against Grimsby last weekend and is bullish for Saturday. Photo: PRIME Media Images

seen the video of the game yet but we will have to be at our best against a good side so it is really important we carry this on."

With just 11 games remaining, Wanderers sit just outside the play-offs. Out of those 11 games, seven are at Adams Park and Ainsworth hopes this will be an advantage as the season progresses to what could be an exciting end.

"I am hoping it will be a big advantage for us," added the 44-year-old.

"Last season, we only mustered one win in the last 11 games which wasn't good enough by any means."

"Hopefully, we have just had our bad blip, which I believe we have and it is all to play for especially with the majority of our league games at home now."

"It is always a good playing sur-

face at Adams Park, and with the weather getting warmer and the grass can start growing and hopefully we can return to the standards that we had earlier in the season."

The treatment room at the training ground has been fairly full in recent weeks too but the gaffer is hopeful that a couple of players will be back this weekend.

He added: "The likes of Aaron Pierre, Dominic Gape, Paul Hayes, Scott Kashket, Sam Saunders and Anthony Stewart have all had injuries and they would walk into most teams in the league."

"However, the lads who have come in such as Max Muller and Will De Havilland have come in and done fantastically well and it has been great to watch those guys develop with us."

One player who will definitely be involved in some capacity is Dayle Southwell, who returned to the starting line-up last week in the win at Blundell Park.

Ainsworth explained he was looking forward to seeing Southwell continue his progression with Wycombe and is the player he rates highly.

He said: "Dayle is a fighter. He will try and win any situation and he will push the rules to the boundaries and he will do everything he can to benefit the team."

"To have someone like that playing for us is fantastic. He battles and he is a brilliant finisher."



In the Chair

COLUMN: Bean on Bayo and Blackpool



The midfielder expects a difficult encounter tomorrow

I AM not one for big celebrations. However, on the final whistle at Grimsby, I celebrated like I'd won the Champions League. We all did; the sense of relief after a difficult period was amazing.

Apart from Stevenage away where we were abysmal, I generally feel our performances have been pretty good. However, football is a strange game and on this bad run of form we have played better and lost.

But throw in a slice of luck, some fantastic keeping from Jamal, a 30-yard screamer from Paris and you have the perfect recipe for an away win.

This league is all about momentum. We had it, lost it and will fight tooth and nail to regain it. Starting against Blackpool on Saturday.

I have been impressed by how Blackpool have stayed in the mix despite all the uncertainty and bad blood at the club.

As a footballer it can be difficult to maintain your standards whilst all that is going on around you. Credit to the players and the coaching staff for keeping them focused.

The disputes between fans and owners were a constant side note in the two and a half years I spent at Blackpool. To say the relationship has deteriorated is an understatement.

In contrast Wycombe is a club united and Adams Park is a great place to work. This will be vital for the run in as seven of the eleven remaining games are at home.

He may have narrowly missed out on Player of the Month but he got my vote. The Beast has been a phenomenon.

I first played with Bayo almost fifteen years ago when he came on trial to QPR and again at Swansea three years later. So I know what he brings to the table. But I forgot just how effective he is.

Bayo was the talk of my barber shop last week. They do not know I play football. So I sat back, put my two pence in from time to time and smiled to myself - the boy from East London has done good.

Blues sink Mariners after battle at Blundell Park

WYCOMBE WANDERERS boss Gareth Ainsworth was in a jubilant mood after seeing his side come from behind to win 2-1 against Grimsby Town on Saturday.

It didn't start too well for the Blues when Calum Dyson put the Mariners ahead on 17 minutes from the penalty spot after Sam Wood fouled Tom Bolarinwa.

However, the visitors equalised when Danny Collins put into his own net on 67 minutes.

And four minutes later, Paris Cowan-Hall scored a screamer to seal a vital win for Wanderers, who were also indebted to numerous superb stops by Jamal Blackman.

Ainsworth said: "Thank goodness for that!"

"I am really pleased. Sometimes you play well and don't get what you deserve and sometimes you don't play brilliantly and win."

"That was one of those games where we weren't brilliant but got the win although in the second half I felt we were the team who were go-



Ainsworth was mightily relieved to see his side pick up their first away league win since December 30. Photo: Anita Ross Marshall

ing to score.

"We had a few free-kicks pumped the box towards the end but Jamal made some great saves in the first half to keep us in it."

The victory over Grimsby sees Wycombe close to within four points

of the playoffs and eight points off third place Carlisle United, who are suffering a bad run at the moment.

Blackman was the hero early on as he made a fine point-blank save to deny Dyson, but the striker was able to break the deadlock moments

later when Wood tripped Bolarinwa in the area.

Ainsworth reacted to the half-time deficit by making two substitutions and a formation change, to dramatic effect.

Luke O'Nien and Cowan-Hall came into a new 4-3-3 set-up at the expense of Wood and Garry Thompson.

The equaliser came shortly after the hour-mark, and it was an own goal that brought the Chairboys level, with Adebayo Akinfenwa flicking on a cross and Collins looping the ball over his keeper and into the net.

Cowan-Hall then bagged the winner when Joe Jacobson's free-kick was punched clear by the keeper, who also made heavy contact with defender Gavin Gunning in the process.

Gunning fell to the floor in a heap, while Cowan-Hall sent a stunning swerving shot into the top corner to seal a much-needed triumph.

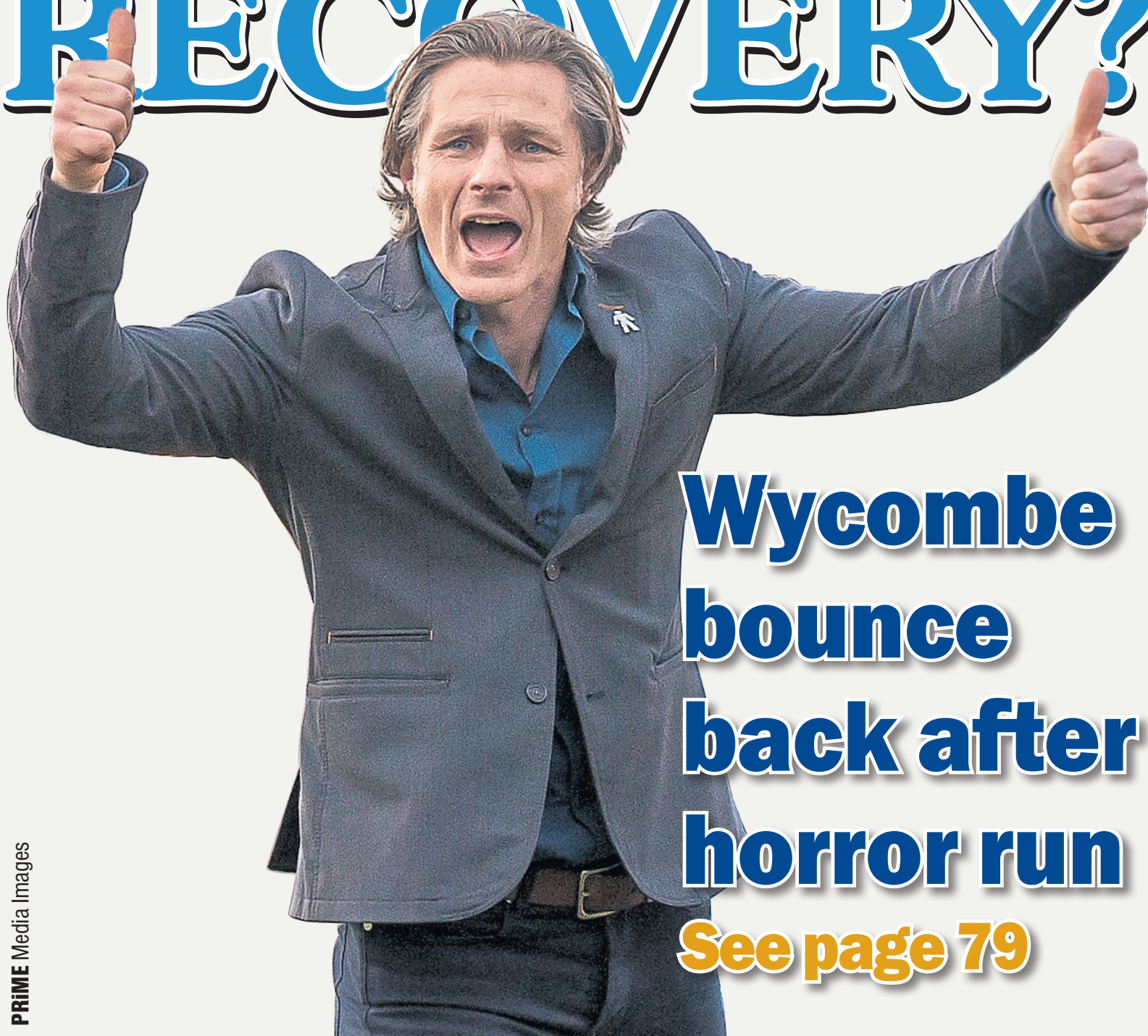
SPORT

Powerboat

Bucks ace suffers India crash heartbreak
- page 74



ROAD TO RECOVERY?



**Wycombe
bounce
back after
horror run**
See page 79

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