

UK Weekly Newspaper of the Year Read by over 119,000 in print and online every week

Bucks Free Press

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks & Chiltern Districts

At the heart of the community since 1856

www.bucksfreepress.co.uk

Friday, October 19, 2018

£1



Xmas giveaway
Win tickets to festive fair
Page 44



Panto prize
Exclusive half-term BFP offer
Page 27

INSIDE 40 pages of Property • 12 pages of Freetime • 8 pages of Business • 10 pages of Sport

HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?



Crash scene picture by Ed Knix

■ **Horror as 3 killed after car towing caravan travels wrong way down M40**
■ **Police being investigated after it is revealed vehicle was involved in earlier crash in Wycombe**

Full story: See pages 9

NEWS

Mystery shrouds helicopter crash



Page 5

POLITICS

Fears over plans to scrap CCTV



Page 6

THE REGISTER

Lollipop man celebrates 90th



Page 54

OPEN DAYS

Wycombe Campus | 18 Oct



To find out more, visit
buckscollegigroup.ac.uk



BATTERY GARDEN MACHINERY

FROM **£99**

STIHL

BRIANTS OF RISBOROUGH LTD - Thame Road, Longwick, HP27 9SG
01844 343663 www.briantsonline.co.uk info@briantsonline.co.uk

COMMENT

With
**NICHOLAS
TUNNEY**

Blues back at home



IT was an odd sort of game at the Ricoh Arena on Saturday, as Wanderers lost 1-0 to Coventry City.

It was a game of very few chances and it looked for all the world as if it was going to be a hard-earned point for the Chairboys until Conor Chaplin scored the vital goal that condemned them to defeat.

I was in the press box at the Ricoh and it was a very similar game to the one Wycombe lost 1-0 to Swindon last season, which was also in October.

The quality of the football really suffered throughout as it was extremely gusty and not a game that will live too long in the memory.

However, it could and should have been a vital draw for Gaz's men and he cut a very frustrated figure at the final whistle.

Incredibly, Ryan Allsop had a chance to notch an equaliser in injury time, but his volley went over when unmarked from a corner.

You get the feeling that if it hadn't fallen to 'Rocky' then the lads would have been celebrating and could have kept that mini unbeaten run going.

They now have two home games on the spin to try and pick up some valuable points before a potentially tricky run up to the festive period.

Scunthorpe are the visitors to Adams Park this Saturday and their chairman at the beginning of the campaign set his sights on the top six.

They have stuttered a bit in recent weeks but provide a real threat going forward with some quality on the wings.

Before Saturday, the goals had been flowing for Wycombe and the same can be said of their opponents, so we could be treated to a real goal fest.

On Tuesday, the Chairboys have another home game against northern opposition when they face Rochdale.

They have a similar profile to the Irons, but I am sure Gareth Ainsworth will be targeting at least four points from these two home games as they face the likes of Peterborough and Sunderland in the next few weeks.

I still wholeheartedly maintain I have seen enough of the Blues this season to be confident they will comfortably avoid the dreaded trapdoor and preserve their League One status. They have goals in their team, which is crucial at any level, and with some key defensive figures returning, they give a more solid presence at the back and they have a midfield as good as any in the division.

COYB!

Wycombe Wanderers

Last five league games:
DLDWL

VS

Scunthorpe United

Last five league games:
WDWLL

OPPOSITION VIEW



- 25. Jak Alnwick
- 2. Jordan Clarke
- 20. Charlie Goode
- 23. Rory McArdle
- 3. C Borthwick-Jackson
- 49. Ryan Colclough
- 14. James Perch
- 6. Funso Ojo
- 12. Andy Dales
- 10. Stephen Humphrys
- 17. Lee Novak

THIS week's Opposition View comes from Scunthorpe Telegraph reporter Paul Crute.

How did Scunthorpe get on last week?

Scunthorpe lost 2-0 to Peterborough. They had the better of the first half but failed to put their chances away.

But the defensive frailties that have haunted Scunthorpe all this season reared their head again and former Scunthorpe striker Matt Godden scored twice in the first 15 minutes of the second half.

It was something that Scunthorpe never recovered from.

What is the aim for the team this season?

Chairman Peter Swann has come out and publicly said that he expects Scunthorpe to be challenging towards the top six.

That is where they have been for the last couple of seasons but have struggled so far this season after losing many key players during the summer.

Stuart McCall has come in and steadied the ship and if he can solve the defensive problems that have haunted them so far then they can challenge for the play-offs.

Who are your danger-men?

The dangerman is undoubtedly Ryan Colclough.

The winger who joined from Wigan during the summer has been in sparkling form over the last few weeks.

What are your thoughts on Wycombe?

You seem to have struggled so far this season with only two wins to your name but Gareth Ainsworth is a good manager and can see the team easily staying up.

Prediction?

1-1



Paul Crute

In the CHAIR



Wycombe captain Adam El-Abd



Adam El-Abd

CHAIRBOYS captain Adam El-Abd is set to make his 50th appearance for the club against Scunthorpe United at Adams Park this weekend.

El-Abd has proved to be an inspired signing by Gareth Ainsworth, making him team captain and revelling in his role in the heart of the defence.

Towards the end of last season, the former Brighton man was in outstanding form as the Blues gained automatic promotion to League One.

El-Abd explained he is "honoured" to represent Wanderers and is confident the Blues can have a good season.

He said: "Last season was amazing and it is obviously an honour to represent the club 50 times.

"It was brilliant what happened last season but that is in the past now and we are looking to make new memories this season and it is all hands to the pump."

Although they are close to the relegation zone, El-Abd feels the performances have been encouraging so far.

He added: "We are doing OK. "We could potentially have more points than what we have without, potentially, playing any better than what we have.

"Things have gone against us which has resulted in us dropping points on a few occasions this season.

"We could have four or six more points, and that paints a completely different picture without playing any better.

"We are not far away and we are in games every week. It is a case of turning the draws into wins and if we do that the table will look a lot more handsome."

El-Abd returned last week at Coventry and put in a solid performance at the back.

He said: "I have come through that unscathed.

"The start came a week in advance of what was planned because Darius Charles pulled out and left me to play.

"I was happy with the way back four played in general."

WANDERERS

Ainsworth: This is a tough one to take

By Nicholas Tunney

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth was left with a huge sense of frustration as his side suffered a late 1-0 defeat to Coventry City at the Ricoh Arena on Saturday.

Conor Chaplin scored the game's only goal on 81 minutes, heading home a Dujon Sterling cross to send the Sky Blues fans wild.

Overall, there was not a lot to separate the two sides and Ainsworth bemoaned the defending for the goal.

He said: "This is more disappointing than the Doncaster defeat [3-0 in August] as we were in the game and we employed the tactics of trying to do Coventry on the counter.

"It didn't quite work and we didn't concede too many chances. We just had one crazy moment of defending and lack of shape which has cost us.

"We didn't play that well going forward but we had to get something out of the game. It is tough to take.

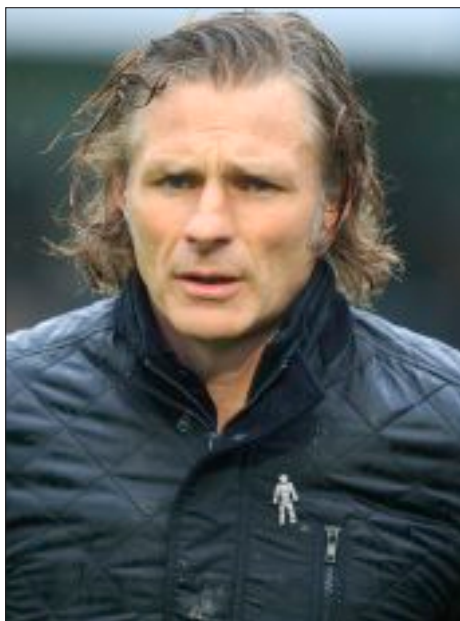
"I thought we could have held on for a point and that would have frustrated them more than us."

A slight turning point in the game was when Matt Bloomfield went off in the first half with an injury and Ainsworth explained the team missed his drive.

He added: "He is massive for us and we missed him enormously when he went off.

"He plays that midfield role really well and his energy is something special.

"He has tweaked his knee and we will have to look at that and see how he is for Saturday."



Ainsworth was left frustrated

Wycombe had a massive chance at the death to nick a point with the chance falling, incredibly, to keeper Ryan Allsop, who blazed over unmarked from six yards.

Ainsworth added: "You can't rely on your keeper getting chances like that in the game.

"When you do go up you have got to take them and he was very close to getting the equaliser.

"It is unfortunate that he didn't



Allsop nearly got an incredible leveller

take it and I am just gutted about the play that led to their goal."

Allsop made two excellent saves in the first half to keep the Sky Blues at bay and his opposite number Lee Burge also made a wonderful stop to deny Jason McCarthy in the opening 45 minutes.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: Allsop, Harriman, McCarthy, El-Abd, Jacobson, Gape, Thompson, Bloomfield (sub: Morris, 23), Williams

(sub: Cowan-Hall, 77), Akinfenwa, Mackail-Smith (sub: Onyedima, 77). Subs: Ma-Kalambay, Jombati, Kashket, Samuel.

COVENTRY CITY: Burge, Sterling, Willis, Davies, Brown, Thomas, Doyle, Bayliss (sub: Kelly, 89), Hiwula (sub: Bakayogo, 89), Clarke-Harris, Chaplin. Subs: O'Brien, Hyam, Ogogo, Andreu, Thompson.

REFEREE: Nicholas Kinseley
ATTENDANCE: 10,480

WYCOMBE: Midfielder bemoans one vital lapse Thompson echoes disappointment

WYCOMBE midfielder Curtis Thompson said the side were gutted to concede so late on against Coventry.

The former Notts County midfielder put the goal down to lapse in concentration which left them dependent at the final whistle.

He said: "The last 10 minutes we had tired legs and tired minds.

"We switched off for the cross into the box and they got a free header and scored so it is very disappointing.

"I think the boys are really upset and down. Games like that you just want to upset the opposition and overall we did that really well.

"As I said, last 10 minutes we just switched off and unfortunately we conceded."

It was extremely gusty at the Ricoh Arena and Thompson admitted conditions were tough to gauge.

He added: "It is always difficult judging the wind with headers but that's football.

"You just have to get on with it whatever the conditions and read the game as much as you can."

Thompson has become a key member of the side with good displays against Burton the previous week and now against Coventry.

About his battle with Sky Blues skipper Michael Doyle, Thompson commented: "It is always a tough one against him but I enjoyed it."

The 25-year-old explained he was delighted to be getting a run in the team and hoped to continue his good form.



Thompson is enjoying a good run in the team

He said: "I am delighted to be giving my bit and contributing again. "It is tough to keep the shirt with everyone gunning for a place but

hopefully I can continue to play well and stay in the side and we can pick up some wins in the next few matches."

THE BIG MATCH: Bloomfield return is in the balance

WYCOMBE manager Gareth Ainsworth is hopeful Matt Bloomfield will be fit to face Scunthorpe on Saturday at Adams Park (3pm) after sustaining a knock in the defeat at Coventry.

Bloomfield came off with a knee injury at the Ricoh Arena and Ainsworth, although hopeful, is slightly unsure about Bloomfield's involvement this weekend.

He said: "We will see if he is going to be fit. He did tweak his knee on Saturday.

"He seems to think it was OK and not too bad. I can't give an answer until we get a medical diagnosis on it and scans and things he had on Tues-

day.

"We will know more before the game so I don't know much as of yet and I am hoping he isn't too bad.

"Teams do pick up injuries at this stage of the season. That is what the big squad was put in place and we have two quick games coming up now.

"Marcus Bean is back out on the pitch and he is building up his training and fitness and Tyson and Anthony Stewart are the only long-termers that we need to get back and both are getting nearer."

"It won't be long until we have a full squad which is fantastic for us."



Bloomfield is hopeful to be fit for the Scunthorpe match

WYCOMBE: Manager wants to turn Adams Park into a fortress Ainsworth: Home form is crucial

By Nicholas Tunney

WANDERERS boss Gareth Ainsworth is hoping that Adams Park will become a fortress after recording their first league home win of the season against Burton in their last match at Adams Park.

The Blues beat Albion 2-1 and with two home games in three days next on the agenda, Ainsworth is confident that his side will thrive at home in the coming months.

He said: "It will give the players and fans so much confidence.

"We are coming back to where we have just won and we played well against Burton. We deserved that win.

"Now we are coming back at home after a defeat [to Coventry] and it is important we get this second win and get our home form to be our rock.

"We are always decent away and we always manage to pick up points but I want to get that home form going as that is going to be key to our survival.

"The boys are confident. They like the pitch at Adams Park and enjoy playing there and I am sure we will cause problems to whoever we are playing."

Scunthorpe were tipped to challenge for the play-offs by their chairman, Peter Swann, at the start of the season and Ainsworth is expecting a tough challenge.

He added: "They are a big club with big money and they are a good side.

"They have a big team in stature and we are going to have to watch every aspect of this game. They have decent players like Lee Novak and Ryan Colclough.

"They are going to be a top team in this league."



Ainsworth wants a good home run from his side

SPORT

Rugby
Beaconsfield beat
Marlow in cup
- Page 74



Dream team named new Chesham bosses

Duncan: We can take the Generals forward



By Nicholas Tunney

CHESHAM United have this week announced a new management team to lead them up the table after a torrid start to the season which sees the bottom of the league.

James Duncan (*pictured*) and Michael Murray have taken over after a hugely successful spell at Potters Bar Town.

Last season they led the Hertfordshire club to promotion into the Bostik Premier Division, and this term they are comfortably in the top 10. They will be under no illu-

sions as to the task ahead following Chesham United's 7-0 defeat at Beaconsfield Town on Tuesday night.

In announcing the appointment, chairman Brian McCarthy said: "Our current league position makes this one of the most important appointments the club has had to make, with myself and the board 100 per cent confident that we have made the right decision."

"Over the past couple of weeks, we have had a huge amount of applications to look through, we narrowed those down to a number of interviews conducted this week

and are excited to have been able to attract James and Michael to the club.

"The board have been very open and transparent with regards to the playing budget, expectations and the culture of Chesham United and we are all now confidently looking forward to a new era at the club."

The new management team starts the job with immediate effect and ahead of his first session with the team, Duncan said: "The opportunity to manage a club like Chesham United was simply too great to not want to take on."

"Last weekend's large crowd at The Meadow highlighted the potential this club has and having spoken with the board the vision for the future is very much something that Michael and I want to be a part of and we feel that we can play a significant role in taking Chesham United forward."

"We have a very clear short-term goal that we are immediately working towards, and a longer-term plan for the future of the club."

"We look forward to keeping supporters further updated as we start to settle into our new positions."



Beany backs his boss

Wycombe Wanderers

WYCOMBE midfielder Marcus Bean backed his boss Gareth Ainsworth to thrive at former club QPR - should he be given a crack at the west London club.

Ainsworth and Bean were teammates at Loftus Road during a successful period where the R's gained promotion from League One to the Championship.

The Wanderers gaffer has recently celebrated six years in charge at the club and has masterminded promotion to League One last term.

Having seen the incredible job, Ainsworth has done at Adams Park during his tenure, Bean told Love Sport Radio: "I think he'd love the job. I know for a fact he loves the club. I'd guess it's on his radar, for sure, and I'd back him in there and do a job."

"I think he's maybe a little bit different from some of the managers we've had recently."

"His strengths are definitely in his man management and getting people to run through brick walls for him."

"That's what he's done at Wycombe over a number of years. He deserves a chance at a higher level."

"He's working on a really tight budget at Wycombe and I think the way the club is looking at the minute at QPR, I think they're trying to rein in some of the spending and I think he could do wonders on a tight budget there."

WINNER TAKES ALL

WORLD CLASS DARTS AT HIGH WYCOMBE

WYCOMBESWAN.CO.UK

DARTSHOP.TV/HIGHWYCOMBE

29 NOVEMBER 2018

MICHAEL
GRAHAM

MICHAEL GRAHAM

Town & country property sales & lettings. Call Princes Risborough 01844 396000

MICHAEL
GRAHAM