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Tributes to dead caravan couple

By Shruti Sheth Trivedi

AN elderly couple killed in the M40 "wrong way" tragedy were avid caravanners from High Wycombe who had travelled around Europe with their mobile home, it has been revealed.

John Norton and his partner Olive How-

ard spent little time at their £700,000 bungalow home sweetly named "Dream cum tru" as they regularly embarked on trips around the UK as well as on the continent.

John, aged 80 years, and his 87-year-old partner Olive were both killed just over a week ago when their car and caravan crashed while travelling the wrong way

down the M40. A driver whose Ford Mondeo car crashed head-on into them, was also killed.

Today, the couple's red brick home, with its wishing well in the garden, stands empty and deserted as neighbours struggle to come to terms with the pensioners' deaths.

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Footage has emerged of the couple's car travelling the wrong way down the M40

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GALLERY: Blues 3-2 Scunthorpe



Mackail-Smith shapes to shoot



Paris Cowan-Hall holds off Funso Ojo



Adebayo Akinfenwa



Dominic Gape



Craig Mackail-Smith celebrates his winner



Supporters at Wycombe



Fans at Adams Park



Jason McCarthy



COMMENT

With
**NICHOLAS
TUNNEY**

A classical comeback



WANDERERS have really looked to make Adams Park a fortress in the past couple of games.

Two games and two wins represents a fantastic couple of matches for Gareth Ainsworth's side and the manner of the victories couldn't have been more different.

The win against Scunthorpe will live long in the memory of anyone who witnessed that match on Saturday and it certainly echoed some of the incredible comebacks of last season.

The Blues were staring into the abyss as they were 2-0 down after just seven minutes and against a side who looked rampant.

Gareth settled for a new formation in the build-up to this match and after that opening double for the visitors, it is testament to his courage as a manager that he stuck to his guns on this.

He was then rewarded in deserved fashion as Dominic Gape kickstarted the comeback with a wonderful strike.

The comeback was then sealed in the second half as a stunning Fred Onyedima goal and a typically workmanlike winner from Craig Mackail-Smith sparked delirious scenes in the home crowd.

It was great for Gareth to be vindicated with his new system and the team thor-

oughly deserved the three points.

The victory against Rochdale could not have been more different, as it was routine and comfortable for pretty much the whole 90 minutes.

Rochdale huffed and puffed but Wanderers were a much more solid unit than they had been on Tuesday and when the chances presented themselves, they were clinical to make it six goals in two home games.

I seem to harp on about Adebayo Akinfenwa most weeks but he scored another trademark volley to make it 2-0 on Tuesday.

Although the goalscorers in that comeback against

the Irons will get the praise, Akinfenwa was a clear man-of-the-match for me in that game.

He was immense and assisted two of the goals for his team-mates.

He got his rewards on an, albeit, quieter night against Dale with his fifth of the season and this change in formation could arguably see him as an even more potent threat, which does not bode well for the rest of League One when he is in this sort of form.

The Blues are away from the home comforts of Adams Park on Saturday as they face Walsall away in what promises to be another tricky test on the road.

Wycombe Wanderers



VS



Walsall

Last five league games:
DWLWW

Last five league games:
LDWLL

OPPOSITION VIEW



- 1. Liam Roberts
- 28. Kane Wilson
- 5. Jon Guthrie
- 27. Jack Fitzwater
- 3. Luke Leahy
- 30. Isaiah Osbourne
- 8. Kieron Morris
- 4. George Dobson
- 31. Connor Ronan
- 16. Morgan Ferrier
- 11. Josh Ginnelly

WE take a look back at Walsall's 3-0 defeat in midweek to Southend United.

A HARRY Bunn brace and a Timothee Dieng goal saw the Saddlers beaten 3-0 at Roots Hall.

That scoreline flattered the hosts though with Keates' men the better team for 70 minutes without taking their chances.

Josh Ginnelly missed two headers - the first just four minutes in - while Luke Leahy and Jon Guthrie both failed to tap in a dangerous Connor Ronan corner in first-half stoppage time.

And while Keates was pleased with the reaction his players showed following the loss at Luton on Saturday, he said it doesn't matter if you don't get results.

Keates told the Express and Star: "We asked for a reaction

and I thought we played really well first-half.

"We could have, probably should have, gone one-nil up in the first couple of minutes.

"We did get the reaction we wanted. We kept the ball for long periods and had decent periods of play.

"We've come away from home and been dominant, but it's a results business and we haven't got a result.

"The first goal we conceded was sloppy but then we have let in a routine corner. It was a free header.

"As it stands at the moment, what was a good start has turned into an okay start.

"We need to get back to winning ways at the weekend at home."

While Keates was disappointed with the two chances Ginnelly missed, he was pleased to see the winger get in the right areas.

"We are disappointed with the first one, it makes our life a little bit easier if he puts that away in the first couple of minutes," the boss continued.

"He has got in the middle of the goals. I ask him to make runs and get into the middle of the box."



Dean Keates

Ainsworth 'not surprised' with thrilling comeback

By Sam Hartley

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth has praised the spirit of his side after Saturday's dramatic 3-2 victory against Scunthorpe United at Adams Park.

A nightmare start saw Wanderers 2-0 down inside the opening ten minutes, but goals from Dominic Gape, Fred Onyedimma and a stoppage-time winner from Craig Mackail-Smith completed a memorable turnaround.

Speaking after the game, Ainsworth said: "If anybody in the last five years asked what Wycombe Wanderers were all about you would say belief, character, and being hard to play against, and these are all things that I'm really proud of.

"To me it's no surprise that we managed to come back, but I'm just so pleased that this will give us some belief that we can compete with the best in this league.

"Getting the goal before half-time was massive because it gave us that belief.

"It was a really big moment in terms of showing the boys that what they were doing was going to work."

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: Allsop, Harriman, El-Abd, McCarthy, Jacobson, Onyedimma, Gape, Thompson, Cowan-Hall (sub: Ma-Kalambay, 82), Akinfenwa, Mackail-Smith (sub: Williams, 90). Subs: Jombati, Saunders, Kashket, Morris, Samuel.

SCUNTHORPE UNITED: Al-nwick, Clarke, McArdle, Goode, Borthwick-Jackson, Colclough, Perch, Ojo, Thomas, Humphrys, Dales (sub: Ugbo, 54). Subs: Flatt, Horsfield, Lewis, Burgess, Sutton, Butroid.



Ainsworth was ecstatic with his side's wonderful win against Scunthorpe

Ladies through in Bucks Cup

Wycombe Wanderers Ladies

WITH four wins from four in the league, Wycombe Wanderers Ladies were in the mood for a cup upset on Sunday afternoon – and that's exactly what they delivered, seeing off Woodley United 1-0 in the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup.

Woodley started the game well, with Wycombe striving to gain a foothold in the midfield. Overall it was a fairly even affair, though it was the visitors who had the better attacking opportunities, just lacking quality in the final passes and composure in the final third.

The second half began with Woodley on top, dominating possession, until the Blues gradually fought their way back into it with more purpose on the ball.

The defence of Nicole Jacobs, Katie Hudson and Emma Dean were strong, nullifying the Woodley attacks, while Chante Inness and Bonnie Messitt worked tirelessly as a front two to create an opening.

And it came on 77 minutes. Intelligent hold-up play from Inness was maintained by 16-year-old Rachel Southby feeding captain Charlotte Bagshaw, who cut inside and drove a rising, fierce right footed shot into the top left corner of the net.

Next up for Wycombe is another cup fixture at home to Basingstoke on Sunday at Flackwell Heath College (kick off 2pm).

Akinfenwa 'a huge handful'

Wycombe v Scunthorpe

SCUNTHORPE manager Stuart McCall praised the impact of Wycombe striker Adebayo Akinfenwa, who laid on two assists in Wanderers' 3-2 win over the Irons.

McCall said: "Whatever anyone says about Akinfenwa, he is a huge handful at this level."

McCall was left frustrated as he saw his side blow a two-goal lead for their third successive loss in League One.

He added: "It is very hard to take. We saw yet again, the good and bad of Scunthorpe United.

"We can't keep conceding three goals but I keep on saying it.

"They have scored two really good goals but second half we were loose in possession.

"When their boy (Allsop) got sent off, the minimum we were thinking about was a point.

"We have lost a game that we should have definitely got a point from."

WANDERERS: Striker revels in dramatic winner

Mackail-Smith: This is a confidence boost



Craig Mackail-Smith

WYCOMBE Wanderers forward Craig Mackail-Smith believes Saturday's last gasp win over Scunthorpe United has provided a timely confidence boost ahead of a tricky run of fixtures.

Mackail-Smith's stoppage time winner completed a remarkable comeback after falling 2-0 down early on, and the forward believes that the manner of the victory was particularly pleasing.

"Coming from behind is very important," he said.

"For us at this moment in time the results haven't really been going in our favour and the goals haven't

quite dropped in for us so to win the game in the last minute gives us a massive confidence boost.

"It shows that we can match teams in this league, so we go into Tuesday's game with great confidence."

Mackail-Smith also paid tribute to the never say die attitude that has become synonymous with the Chairboys.

He said: "I think most teams at 2-2 would have probably just sat in and looked to hold on to the point, but I don't think we see it that way.

"We've got a fantastic squad and we know we're capable of playing in this division and causing teams

loads of problems."

On his goal, Mackail-Smith added: "All I could hear to start with was no, no, no from everyone as they didn't want me to close it down and just get tight and make sure we were solid and that we wouldn't concede.

"The ball hit my foot and it was a case of seeing it where it went and go with it. I tried to head it in front of me but it kept bouncing me off the turf. I could slow down and check if someone was coming.

"I had time to pick my spot and it was nice to have that time. I hit it and I wanted to see how far I could run to celebrate but I was so tired."

In the CHAIR

Wycombe goalkeeper Ryan Allsop



Ryan Allsop

IT looked like Ryan Allsop would be putting his feet up on Tuesday evening after his controversial sending off against Scunthorpe United on Saturday afternoon.

The Wycombe custodian hacked down striker Ike Ugbo when the forward was bearing down on goal, albeit with three defenders in close proximity and the ball going out of play.

However, referee Alan Young deemed the offence to be a red card denying Ugbo a clear goalscoring opportunity.

Wycombe appealed the decision and the FA overturned the ruling which meant at 5.30pm on Tuesday evening, just two hours before the match against Rochdale, that Allsop would be able to play.

After the game, the keeper admitted: "I am just delighted that I could play and contribute to a win."

After conceding twice early on against Saturday's opponents Scunthorpe United, questions had been raised over the Chairboys back-line, but Allsop believed a clean sheet was the perfect response.

He said: "The start on Saturday is something that can't happen, and we made sure we addressed it and learned from our mistakes and that's reflected by the clean sheet tonight."

"We defended magnificently, and you can see how solid our shape was which shows how committed the team is to defending for each other."

"I think that was my quietest game of the season so far."

Allsop revealed that Adam El Abd's recent return from injury has given everyone a boost, but was quick to highlight the strength in depth of the squad.

"Adam is such an important player for us, he's so experienced and he talks through the game so well which helps us a lot," he said.

"He's brilliant to have in there and Jason next to him has been fantastic but also we have Darius and Sido that have been great this season and are unfortunate to be out of the team, but that just shows our strength in depth."

"We can kick on from here."

WANDERERS

Ainsworth: We had to graft for that victory

By Nicholas Tunney

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth praised his side's work ethic as they beat Rochdale 3-0 at Adams Park on Tuesday evening.

Goals from Bryn Morris, Adebayo Akinfenwa and Fred Onyedinma sealed an ultimately comfortable three points for the Blues but Ainsworth was delighted with his side's endeavour throughout the 90 minutes.

He said: "That was a good performance but that was harder than 3-0 looks."

"Keith Hill has a good team and we had to work our socks off and we really grafted for the win."

"It looks comfortable but it wasn't that. I was so pleased with the solidity and resilience for the boys and players going the extra mile."

"They had a lot of possession but we dominated chances and we put them away. It has been a good night but it was tougher than people think and I am sure Rochdale will be high in the table at the end of the season."

Morris and Alex Samuel both started the game for the Blues after being on the bench for the win against Scunthorpe and Ainsworth praised both players for their displays, admitting selection now becomes harder for Saturday's trip to Walsall.

He added: "Both came in and did very well."

"I sit down with Bryn a lot and he speaks to me about what he could be doing better and performances like that do him no harm at all."

"It was a fantastic strike for the



Ainsworth was delighted with his side's solidity

free kick and he practices it a lot so fair play to him.

"Alex Samuel, wow. You could have put Craig Mackail-Smith on the shirt and wouldn't have noticed the difference."

"If he can have a career like Mackail-Smith then he has a hell of a career ahead."

"He never stops running, never stops working for the team and for himself and he is such a great lad

and he deserved his man-of-the-match award."

"He has so much energy and he is fantastic."

"But I have to give credit to everyone and it was really good to see the shift that they all put in."

"Friday is going to be no fun with so many selection headaches."

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: Allsop, Harriman, McCarthy, El-Abd, Jacobson, Onyedinma, Morris,

Thompson (sub: Bean, 78), Cowan-Hall, Akinfenwa (sub: Freeman, 89), Samuel. Subs: Ma-Kalambay, Jombati, Mackail-Smith, Kashket, Charles.

ROCHDALE: Moore, Rafferty, Delaney, McGahey, Ntlhe (sub: Cannon, 40), Dooley, M.J Williams (sub: Wilbraham, 53), Camps, J Williams, Done, Henderson. Subs: Lillis, McNulty, Rathbone, Inman, Clough.

REFEREE: Brett Huxtable



Akinfenwa grabbed his fifth goal of the season

BLUES: Forward benefitting from system tweak Onyedinma revelling in his new role

WYCOMBE forward Fred Onyedinma feels he is benefitting from a change in system as he scored his second goal in two games this week in the 3-0 victory over Rochdale.

The on-loan Millwall man headed home the third goal from Alex Samuel's cross, following on from his brilliant finish against Scunthorpe on Saturday.

With a change in formation, Onyedinma feels the tweak in system is bringing out the best in him.

He said: "I think it has allowed me to get more of the ball in the right areas."

"With 4-4-2 I can stay wide and behind the striker and it is perfect for me to get the ball and drive at the defence."

With a clean sheet in the bank af-

ter a rocky start against Scunthorpe on Saturday, Onyedinma explained that they were determined to not allow that to happen again.

He added: "Teams think we don't start well so we have to be focused. We are confident in our ability but we needed to make sure we didn't concede early and then take it from there."

Onyedinma is striking up a dangerous partnership with Adebayo Akinfenwa and the jet-heeled winger was quick to praise Akinfenwa for his impact.

He said: "What he did for his goal in this game, not many people could have done that. He made it look easy."

"I am delighted for him."

Onyedinma also felt that the overall display of the team was the best



Onyedinma has scored his second goal in two games of the season.

He added: "We worked on it well. Defensively we were so solid as a unit and for 3-0 it was the perfect

win to be fair."

"The win against Scunthorpe was demanding but we all remained focused."

Gape relishes competition for midfield place

WYCOMBE Wanderers midfielder Dominic Gape has hailed the strength in depth of the Chairboys squad ahead of Saturday's game against Walsall at the Bescot Stadium.

Gape, who was suspended for the visit of Rochdale watched on as his replacement in the side Bryn Morris put in a commanding performance which was capped off with a fine goal.

Despite his disappointment at missing out, Gape insisted that more competition in the squad can only be a good thing.

He said: "It's brilliant to have such a competitive squad.

"Our squad is so strong now that the manager knows he can make changes with full confidence that whoever is playing will deliver for the team.

"We've got a fantastic side and that showed on Tuesday where we got another great result."

The Chairboys have enjoyed a productive week, collecting maximum points against Scunthorpe and Rochdale, but the combative midfielder is keen to ensure they don't get complacent this weekend.

He said: "Walsall aren't in the best run of form but they're in front of their fans, so we know they'll come out of the blocks fast."



Gape has been in great form in the Wanderers engine room this term

WYCOMBE: Ainsworth wary of Saddlers threat despite bad run Boss cautious ahead of Walsall test

By Sam Hartley

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth has admitted he is weary of the threat posed by Walsall ahead of Saturday's game at the Bescot Stadium.

The two sides go into the match having enjoyed rather different fortunes of late, Wanderers riding the high of back to back wins, while Walsall nurse the wounds of back to back defeats.

Ainsworth however is paying no attention to the form book, insisting the Chairboys will have to be on top of their game to come away with a result.

He said: "They're a very dangerous side. Dean Keates is a very good manager who's put a strong squad together this season and we know they're going to be dangerous.

"They scored a lot of goals early on and they're sitting above us in the table so we're going to have to be really good to get anything out of the game."

Wanderers have no fresh injury concerns, with Ainsworth confirming both Nathan Tyson and Anthony Stewart have resumed light training. Matt Bloomfield remains a doubt while Randell Williams will be assessed before a decision is made.

One man, however, who will be available is Fred Onyedinna. The winger has enjoyed a fine run of form of late, and Ainsworth was quick to highlight his importance to the team.

He said: "He's found a little purple patch and he's been great for us. He's a thorn in the side of any defence when he's on it and I think if we can give him that freedom he can really rip people apart."



Ainsworth is looking to extend his side's good form at the Bescot Stadium

SPORT

Motorsport
Ingram lauded
by peers
- Page 64



Football
Rams victorious
in Wales
- Page 66



Howard: The hardest decision I have made

EXCLUSIVE: Director on leaving the Blues



Howard is leaving Wycombe Wanderers after four years on the board

By Nicholas Tunney

WYCOMBE Wanderers sporting director Andrew Howard admitted his impending departure from the club is the "hardest decision he has made" as he bows out after four years on the board.

Howard, who came to Wycombe in 2014, has overseen huge success on and off the pitch, with Wanderers' promotion to League One last season the pinnacle of a brilliant tenure.

Speaking exclusively to the

Bucks Free Press, Howard, who leaves his role at Adams Park on Wednesday, explained that since making the decision to stand down he has found it a "nightmare" to come back to the club.

He said: "It's a nightmare. Maybe that is one of the reasons why I have thrown myself back into work and not come back to the ground as much."

"I find it really difficult coming back. It is an incredibly warm place to always come back to. I can genuinely say it is the hardest decision I have made."

Howard added: "I think the club are on regular visits back to the hospital to check everything is ok."

"They are never far away from intensive care."

"Using the hospital analogy, if you keep yourself fit, I think it will be fine."

Howard added: "Survival is the essence. As a fan next Thursday morning, if Gareth and the players stick to the plan we have a great chance of survival in League One."

Read more from Howard in next week's Bucks Free Press.

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Read more from Howard in next week's Bucks Free Press.



Wade makes big NFL move

Rugby

WASPS winger Christian Wade has sensationally left Wasps to pursue a career in the NFL, calling time on a stellar union career.

Former Royal Grammar School student Wade, who is currently third on the league's all-time scorer list with 82 Premiership tries, was absent from the 23-man squad named for the Champions Cup fixture against Bath.

Wade said: "After playing nine years of professional sport for Wasps, I've decided to leave for personal reasons."

"I would like to thank Wasps chairman Derek Richardson and Dai Young [director of rugby] for their support, consideration and understanding in what is the most difficult decision of my life."

"I have loved the sport since I was introduced to it at the Royal Grammar School in High Wycombe. I would therefore like to thank everyone who has played a part in shaping my career."

"Rugby has privileged and honoured me with so many wonderful memories that will stay with me for the rest of my life."

"Finally, I want to thank my Wasps family: the club, my team-mates and especially the fans - you have always been superb to me."

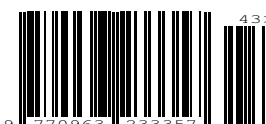
"I wish everyone here all the very best for the future."

Wade, 27, won his so-far only England cap during 2013. He was also part of that year's British and Irish Lions squad on the tour of Australia.

The winger has played five times for Wasps this season.

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