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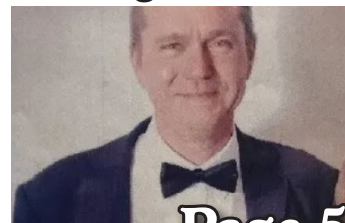
■ No end for roadworks as fresh plan revealed

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Family fears for missing father



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## NEWS

Grammar plea for parent donations



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# Baker tipped for PM battle

By Stephanie Wareham

WYCOMBE MP Steve Baker has hinted he could throw his hat in the ring and stand to replace Theresa May as Prime Minister - saying it is "conceivable" that he could be a contender for the top job.

Speaking to the BBC on May 24 -

the same day Mrs May announced she would resign - the former Brexit minister said he has had "a lot of pressure" from members of the public to stand for Prime Minister, but has yet to confirm if he will take the plunge.

And fellow Brexiteer Mark Francois - who is a member of the

Eurosceptic European Research Group alongside Mr Baker - could back Mr Baker, telling the BBC he "might be attracted to vote for Steve" if he does decide to make a leadership bid.

Talking about the next Prime Minister, Mr Baker said: "It's got to be someone who believes in leav-

ing the European Union. The two front runners are very clearly Boris Johnson and Dominic Raab - I think they have complementary talents.

"There is no point shying away from it - people have been asking me to stand.

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## SPORT

## Cricket

Wycombe cruise  
to easy victory  
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## Gymnastics

Young star shines  
in Ireland  
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**FOOTBALL:** Gerrards Cross CE School show class

# Wembley wonders get EFL Kids Cup victory



Gerrards Cross CE School emerged victorious before the League One play-off final

THE Gerrards Cross CE School, representing Wycombe Wanderers, were victorious in the EFL Kids Cup League One National Final played at Wembley Stadium prior to the League One play-off final on Sunday.

The EFL Kids Cup is a nationwide six-a-side schools football tournament that sees each EFL club community trust hold a competition for all local schools that wish to take part, and which sees over 16,000 players take part each year nationwide.

Twenty-six teams were eventually whittled down to just two and on January 12, Danesfield Primary and Gerrards Cross CE School bat-

By Nicholas Tunney

led it out on the Adams Park pitch under the floodlights following the Doncaster fixture to find an eventual winner.

Gerrards Cross won the game and were subsequently invited to represent the Chairboys in the regional round of the tournament which took place on March 15.

Gerrards Cross CE put in some incredible performances throughout the regional tournament and after getting through the group stages managed to win their semi-final 7-0 and then win the final 7-1

to be crowned regional champions and book their place in the National Final against Leighwood School representing Walsall FC, after they won the Northern stage of the Regional Finals.

Once the game kicked off the first half proved to be a very tight affair. Both sides battled hard throughout the first period of the game, but neither could make the breakthrough.

Into the second-half and with the game looking like it was heading to the lottery of a penalty shootout, up stepped Wycombe captain Alex Thomas to fire his side into the lead with a direct free-kick from 20-yards finding the top corner of the Walsall goal.

The team managed to then hold onto the lead for the remaining time and celebrated their victory emphatically when the final whistle was blown.

The players enjoyed the customary walk up the Wembley steps to collect their trophy, which was presented by radio and TV presenter Colin Murray and ex-England striker Darren Bent. Captain Thomas said: "It was such a surreal moment for me scoring the winning goal at Wembley; it really doesn't get much better than that. I am speechless and it made it better for me that I did it with all my friends. I have been to watch some England games here with my dad and never expected to play here."



Tom Banton

## Brilliant Banton is the man

Cricket

WYCOMBE'S Tom Banton scored a superb half-century to help Somerset win a Lord's final by beating Hampshire by six wickets to lift the One-Day Cup.

Somerset limited Hampshire to 244-8, then reached 245-4 with 39 balls left.

Openers Banton (69) and Azhar Ali (45) put on 112 before James Hildreth's unbeaten 72 sealed victory.

For Somerset, it was only the eighth trophy in their history, their first since winning the Twenty20 in 2005 and their first at Lord's since 2001.

Despite Banton's electric 69-ball innings, and two key early wickets from Josh Davey, the winner of the man-of-the-match award was Jamie Overton, who got two of his three wickets with top edges to long leg.

Somerset skipper Tom Abell said: "Taking early wickets was key for us as it slowed them down and full credit to our bowlers - it was a great effort to keep them to 244 on that wicket."

"We lost the toss in the semi and probably would have had a bowl first, then I lost the toss again today and would have had a bat first. But that's just the way it works out sometimes. We didn't read too much into it."

"We set out at the start of the season to win all three competitions and this was just the first one that came along. But I guess it does break the shackles a bit."

Hampshire stand-in skipper Sam Northeast praised Banton for his knock.

He said: "They bowled really well and put us under pressure straight away."

"That was a pretty impressive performance by Tom Banton for a youngster in his first Lord's final."

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