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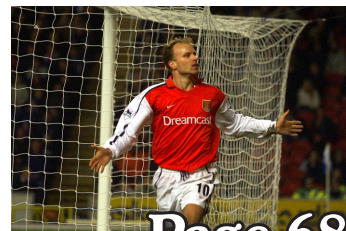
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Football legends in takeover bid



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WANDERERS: 'The Beast' scores priceless brace

Akinfenwa: It's a point gained



Adebayo Akinfenwa celebrates scoring his penalty against Peterborough. Photo: PRIME Media Images

WYCOMBE forward Adebayo Akinfenwa felt the 3-3 draw was definitely a point gained for the Chairboys as they came back with 10-men to secure a thrilling share of the spoils against Peterborough.

Akinfenwa bagged a brace on his 150th appearance for the club, including a cool 95th minute penalty after scoring an excellent header to haul his side back to 2-1.

Akinfenwa said: "I felt in the second half there was only one team that was going to win it.

"We are disappointed to concede two set pieces as we have been very good at that this season defensively.

"It shows what we are and we are a good team when we get it right. It is a point gained rather than two dropped just in the manner of the way the game went.

"We are still unbeaten at home so we take the positives out of it."

Despite his brace, Akinfenwa was as modest as ever, heaping praise upon his team-mates for their comeback.

He added: "The first goal was trademark Akinfenwa.

"It gave us the momentum to get back into the game. Goalscorers get the limelight but Jack Grimmer and Gapey were amazing.

"The defence were amazing. Ryan made a great save late on, Jack dived on it, Tools [Anthony Stewart] dived on it.

"Curtis was amazing before he got sent off. As I said, the goalscorers take the limelight but everyone, to a man, can take heart from the second half performance.

"The togetherness and culture here is amazing. It is a rare thing. Everyone wants to work and second half we tried to put it right.

"The culture and togetherness is as important as the ability and long may it continue."

Akinfenwa stepped up as coolness personified and he joked: "I was thinking don't miss!

"JJ is our penalty taker and the gaffer gives me responsibility to decide who to take it."

All the latest Blues news

Wycombe Wanderers news

Ross sacked

WYCOMBE'S next league opponents, Sunderland, have sacked manager Jack Ross despite them sitting sixth in League One.

The news came this afternoon as the Black Cats look to get back to the Championship at the second time of asking following a near miss last term.

Sunderland chairman Stewart Donald said: "This is a decision that has been made with a heavy heart. When we arrived at the club 18 months ago, we appointed Jack because we felt that he was the right man to take Sunderland forward over a number of years.

"Jack has worked extremely hard, and has helped us achieve stability at the club, and I sincerely thank him for his efforts. I hope and believe that he will go on to have a successful career in management."

Wycombe drew both clashes with Sunderland last season 1-1 and face them at Adams Park on October 19.

Match moved

WYCOMBE'S League One clash with Tranmere Rovers has been moved due to Sky Sports televising the match next month.

The game was originally due to be played at 3pm on November 16 but has been moved to November 17 at 12pm, with the game to be played at Prenton Park.

Chesham clash

WYCOMBE Wanderers Ladies earned a mouth-watering tie at neighbours Chesham United in the third round of the Women's FA Cup after seeing off Worthing on Sunday afternoon.

Goals from Samantha Jackson, Tara Woodward and captain Charlotte Bagshaw secured a 3-1 win over Worthing, and they'll now meet Chesham - of the National League Division 1 South West - on October 27 at 2pm.

The deadlock was broken in the 23rd minute when skipper Bagshaw ended a powerful run into the opposition defensive third with an effort that left the Worthing keeper floundering as the ball sailed into the top corner of the goal.

Jackson made it 2-0 with an excellent finish before Woodward finished in style to make it 3-0.

Worthing pulled back a consolation before the Chairgirls held on for a superb win.

Next week's league fixture sees the Chairgirls play host to AFC Bournemouth. Kick off is at 2pm and all Wycombe Wanderers supporters are welcome.

WANDERERS: Boss hails Bayo's nerves of steel

Ainsworth: We are so proud of our Adams Park record



Gareth Ainsworth and Adebayo Akinfenwa chat during the Posh draw. Photo: PRIME Media Images

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth believes his side thoroughly deserved a point after their brilliant second half display against Peterborough to rescue a 3-3 draw.

Wanderers went 2-0 down to goals from Mo Eisa and Josh Knight but hauled themselves level thanks to Adebayo Akinfenwa and a Christy Pym own goal.

Ivan Toney put Posh 3-2 ahead before Curtis Thompson received his marching orders with a second booking.

However, Wycombe threw caution to the wind and Akinfenwa stepped up in the 95th minute to score a deserved penalty and Ryan Allsop made a heroic double save after that to preserve a point.

Ainsworth said: "We chucked everything in front of the ball.

"At 3-3, 10 men, 94 minutes, we chucked everything at the them.

"We are so proud of our home record and we don't feel like we are little Wycombe anymore. We can compete with anyone.

"Peterborough are an awesome and if they aren't in the top three or four at the end of the year, I will be very surprised.

"It was a great game to watch and for the fans, it feels like a win.

"Sitting second with the international break coming up is going to be

By Nicholas Tunney

a nice thing."

Thompson had a tough task against Wycombe playmaker Marcus Maddison and Ainsworth praised the midfielder for the job he did on the Posh man.

He added: "I think Curtis won that one.

"For me, Maddison is possibly the best player in League One and I said to Curtis he won that one here.

"His job was to keep him quiet and man-mark him.

"It worked but we conceded two sloppy goals and I wanted to restrict the space in midfield and conceding killed us as we had to revert to a high press.

"The boys took on what I wanted after the break and we were much the better side second half."

Ainsworth also praised Akinfenwa for his equalising penalty, with the marksman in red-hot form with four goals in three games.

He said: "The big man produced nerves of steel.

"He is priceless for us at the moment and he has four in three for us.

"Jacobson is the penalty taker but Alex Samuel and Nick Freeman are next in line.

"It was a fantastic penalty because it hit the back of the net."

WANDERERS

Wanderers earn a vital



By Nicholas Tunney

WYCOMBE Wanderers scored in stoppage time to earn a deserved 3-3 draw with Peterborough at Adams Park.

Adebayo Akinfenwa's injury-time penalty proved to be the equaliser as Wycombe fought back to twice to earn a share of the spoils.

Peterborough squandered a 2-0 and a 3-2 lead with Akinfenwa celebrating his 150th appearance with a brace, the second coming from the spot in stoppage time following a foul by Dan Butler on Scott Kashket.

Mo Eisa found the breakthrough on nine minutes, collecting a pass from Frazer Blake-Tracy before curling home with his right-foot past the despairing dive of goalkeeper Ryan Allsop for his ninth goal of the campaign.

Posh doubled the lead on 38 minutes, a Marcus Maddison free-kick was not properly dealt with and the ball fell nicely for Josh Knight who took a touch and rifled the ball into the back of the net with the man on the line just unable to keep it out.

The home side reduced the arrears on 54 minutes as a free-kick from Gape was headed past Pym by Akinfenwa on his 150th appearance for the club, for his fourth goal of the season.

The Blues drew level on 62 minutes thanks to a Frankie Kent own goal after great work by Jack Grimmer.

Posh got themselves back in front on 70 minutes through a brilliant strike by Toney before Thompson was sent off for a second bookable offence.

Akinfenwa had the last laugh as Wycombe preserved their unbeaten home record.

Wycombe: Allsop, Gape, Stewart, Wheeler (sub: Kashket, 73), Phillips, Thompson, Grimmer, Akinfenwa, Charles, Freeman, Onyedina (sub: Aaron, 43).

Peterborough: Pym, Beever, Reed, Toney, Blake-Tracy (sub: Butler, 89), Boyd, Mason.

home point against Posh



Wycombe stormed back in a thrilling finish as they grabbed a 3-3 draw against Peterborough. Photos: PRIME Media Images

SPORT

Rugby

Chinnor win thriller
over league rivals
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WYCOMBE: Chairman pledges Couhig support European legends 'made takeover bid'



Dennis Bergkamp was rumoured to be among a consortium who made a takeover bid for Wycombe Wanderers

A CONSORTIUM of former European legends lodged a bid to take over Wycombe Wanderers, according to reports in *The Athletic*.

The group, including former Arsenal striker Dennis Bergkamp, Celtic legend Henrik Larsson, ex-Liverpool man Dirk Kuyt worked alongside Ronald Koeman – who acted as an advisor, had made a bid for the club.

The ex-players reportedly submitted proposals to wipe out the Chairboys debt and overhaul the club's academy.

The *Athletic* report suggests that

By Nicholas Tunney and Matt Joy

Wycombe's board pulled the plug on the deal after choosing to pursue another takeover offer – with a decision on the future of the club's ownership expected this month.

The same publication reported that the retired players have already been in contact with Wycombe's chairman Trevor Stroud.

Currently, American businessman Rob Couhig is in poll position to take over the reigns at Adams Park.

The *Athletic* have reported that Bergkamp, Larsson and Kuyt remain determined to own an English club. It is reportedly possible that the group could even return to the negotiating table with Wycombe should the current takeover fail to materialise.

Meanwhile, Wycombe chairman Trevor Stroud reaffirmed his support for Rob Couhig ahead of the Legacy Members vote meeting on Tuesday.

He said: "The Trust board were in discussions with a number of interested parties in the summer,

and after careful consideration, voted unanimously in favour of Rob Couhig's proposal.

"Since reaching this decision in June, we have had no further contact with the alternative parties, nor have we received any formal offers other than Rob's, and we have had no reason to doubt that our decision was the correct one.

"Our commitment to working with Rob and his team has only been strengthened over the past three months, as a result of the dedication, integrity and expertise displayed."



Gareth Ainsworth

Ainsworth linked with job

Wycombe Wanderers

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth is reportedly one of five managers wanted for the vacant job at Sunderland, the Bucks Free Press understands.

Sunderland sacked Jack Ross earlier this week and have drawn up a list of managers they want to succeed the Scotsman.

Ainsworth is apparently one of that quintet currently in a job who the Black Cats board want to speak to.

Meanwhile, the Wycombe boss saw his side endure a poor 1-0 defeat to Stevenage in their opening group game of their Leasing.com Trophy campaign.

Jason Cowley scored the only goal of the game in the first half, planting a thumping header past Cameron Yates.

Ainsworth said: "This is a competition I want to do well in.

"In recent years we haven't been too concerned about going out because the year we got to the semi-finals (2017), the competition really took a toll on our squad.

"We had some poor league results and some poor league form but with the amount of quality I now have in the squad we should be doing OK in this competition.

"Unfortunately it didn't work here. I changed about eight from Saturday but I expected a bit more than I got.

"We lacked a bit of quality and some of the players were possibly a bit tired.

"The injuries we have too, it would have been nice to field a stronger team but there was a couple of debuts made there and they will only learn from this.

"Cameron and Jacob [Gardiner-Smith] came in and they did OK and it is good experience for these guys."

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