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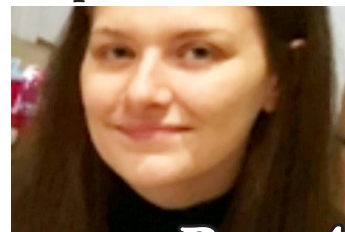
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WANDERERS: New owner 'humbled' by fans support

Couhig: I can't wait to start

NEW Wycombe Wanderers majority shareholder Rob Couhig admitted he was "humbled" to join the club's board after reaching the 75 per cent of votes in favour of being voted on.

Couhig, along with wife Missy, nephew Pete and Mark Palmer, football consultant for the Couhigs, was announced last week by chairman Trevor Stroud to be elected onto the board following a 92 per cent turnout by Legacy Members.

The official result will be announced after the fortnight voting period next week but Couhig has already reached the number of votes required.

He said in a video this morning to Blues fans: "I can't begin to tell you how excited that makes me.

"It also humbles me because I know how much this club means to you and to those others who follow this club and have for so many years.

"Missy and I look forward to spending many quality days, months and years with you as we move

forward. Peter and Mark have already hit the ground running and they will continue to do so and they are as excited as Missy and I are.

"I want to make a couple of commitments to you. I want to commit to you that we will honour the traditions of the club.

"The worldwide Wycombe phenomena exists because of you and because of its history. We recognise that and we will always honour it.

"We will always be honest with you in our dealings with the club and how we intend to move it forward.

"Unquestionably, we will make decisions you disagree with.

"However, know you will always have a place at the table to discuss it and we will always listen to your comments.

"I want to commit to you every day that we will be making this the best club in England both on and off the pitch.

"I can't wait to get started."

Ladies bow out of FA Cup

Chairgirls

WYCOMBE Wanderers Ladies' fantastic FA Cup run came to an end at the hands of National League side and local rivals Chesham United.

The hosts are a division above the Chairgirls, who only stepped up to regional Premier Division status this season, and the difference in game management and taking chances was evident.

The opening minutes looked positive for the Chairgirls as a couple of longer passes into areas behind full-backs almost bore fruit with Chante Inniss getting in and firing a cross into the box which was narrowly missed by Tara Woodward.

However, in the fifth minute, Chesham broke at pace and a cross was drilled into the visitors penalty area and was too hot to handle for Amy Batkin, and Gemma Fraser was on hand to stroke home from six yards.

Chesham ramped up the pressure which saw the visitors' composure lapse briefly with a couple of breaks from wide areas causing the Wycombe defence some nervous moments. Thanks to the presence of Natalie Barette and Katie Hudson, any danger was averted.

Wycombe continued to press the ball aggressively but in a rare moment of lapse in concentration, Kat Bower found herself unchallenged and able to thread a pass through to a teammate who found herself in an ocean of space with time to pick her spot and calmly slot home on 30 minutes.

Woodward, whose hold up play for the Chairgirls was excellent, carved out a chance when she struck from 25 yards with the keeper stranded but her shot ended up narrowly over the bar.

The second half saw the Chairgirls flying into some early challenges to try to unsettle their more senior opponents with skipper Charlotte Bagshaw setting the standard. The pressing of the Chairgirls was paying dividends as they secured possession in the Chesham half of the pitch but the final ball often lacked the quality required to create clear goal scoring opportunities.

Chesham revised their game strategy in the final half hour by opting to hit longer channel balls to put the Wycombe back line under more sustained pressure which was likely to create at least another chance for the rapid pace of Fraser. She got her second goal of the game on 85 minutes when a cross from the left found her at the near post for a finish inside the six-yard area.



American investor Rob Couhig (right) with chairman Trevor Stroud and Mark Palmer

WYCOMBE: Striker hopes injury woes are in the past

Kashket full of confidence and ambitious goals tally



Scott Kashket celebrates his winner at Rotherham

WYCOMBE forward Scott Kashket admitted he feels full of confidence at the moment after two goals in two games for the Chairboys.

Kashket opened the scoring in the 1-1 draw at Blackpool before his superb finish gave the Blues a 1-0 win over Rotherham at the weekend.

That made it four in the season for the striker and he is relishing his opportunity in the front three.

He said: "My aim is when I have the chance is to hit the target and try and make the keeper work.

"If I put too much on it and it misses the target, it doesn't matter how well you hit, it won't go in.

"You always have to try and hit the target and make the keeper work and save it as that is all you can do."

Kashket's winner against the Millers came courtesy of a sublime pass from Anthony Stewart.

The former Leyton Orient man coolly slotted the ball home in typical fashion - albeit with his weaker right foot.

He commented: "The plan is I was meant to start doing some weaker foot finishing with Dobbo.

"He did say I need to practice on weak foot as I lean up and hit a lot more over the bar.

"Maybe I lash at it a bit sometimes on my right foot but I knew where the keeper was and I thought if I put it to the side of him, I had a

By Nicholas Tunney

very good chance. I have watched it back and it was a better finish than I thought."

Wycombe are flying high in League One, sitting in second place going into this weekend's clash with Shrewsbury.

With a win, Wycombe go top with Ipswich not playing, and Kashket explained it would be nice to get to the summit but not vitally important at this stage of the campaign.

He added: "When you think about it, of course, it would be lovely to sit at the top of the table.

"I don't think anyone has given it that much thought and we are just taking it as a team, game-by-game, but it would be a great incentive to sit top and look down at everyone else in the league."

Kashket also admitted to having targets for the season and one is just to stay fit all year after a torrid run of injuries over the past two years.

He said: "One of my aims is to stay fit all year and that has been a struggle for me previously.

"I haven't missed a game all season and am very happy with how my body is and I aim to get 20 goals in all competitions and there is a lot of hard work to go but I am very happy so far."

WANDERERS

In-form Kashket gives the



By Nicholas Tunney

WYCOMBE Wanderers jumped to second in League One with an excellent 1-0 win against Rotherham at the New York Stadium.

Scott Kashket netted the only goal of the tight match - which saw the Chairboys defend their lead for the majority of the game.

The visitors started the encounter as the brighter of the two sides - and made an instant impact within the opening five minutes. A smart ball over the top from Anthony Stewart towards Kashket diswayed Millers keeper Daniel Iversen - and with the Danish-stopper several yards off his line, the Chairboys forward slotted his effort calmly into the back of the net from just outside the area.

Throughout the rest of the first half, Ainsworth's charges looked capable of doubling their advantage - and remained in control up until the break. Joe Jacobson bent his 25-yard free-kick wide of the mark from an awkward angle before Kashket was denied his second of the match after Iversen pulled off a remarkable save from close range.

As the match reached the hour mark, the Millers pressed on and looked the more likely to net a leveller.

Matt Crooks had the ball swept away from his grasp with sight of goal and Michael Smith nodded his effort across goal, despite having time and space to aim for goal himself.

Despite clocking up ten corners, Warne's side failed to make their aerial presence count - and a cumulative effort from both Allsop and the Chairboys defence restricted the home side's opportunities as the game drew to its conclusion.

With a second half of limited chances for both sides, the Chairboys looked like adding to their lead on few occasions. Ten minutes were



left on the clock when Bloomfield forced Iversen into a superb reaction save to deny his half-volley in the area, and with Akinfenwa lurking, the ball was well cleared by Michael Ihiekwe.

Chairboys a priceless win



Scott Kashket of Wycombe Wanderers celebrates his goal with Rolando Aarons and David Wheeler. Photos: PRIME Media Images

SPORT

Rugby
Round-up from all
our Bucks sides
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WYCOMBE: Exciting times ahead on the pitch

Ainsworth keeps lid on league position



Wycombe Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth admits there is a very long way to go despite his side's brilliant start to their League One campaign.

The Chairboys sit in second place and they could go top this weekend if they beat Shrewsbury at Adams Park on Saturday afternoon.

However, as the season makes its way into November, Ainsworth pinpointed the fact that Wycombe

By Nicholas Tunney

sat on the fringes of the play-offs last November and the likes of Walsall were flying high before they subsequently got relegated.

He said: "There were some teams who were in a relegation fight last season who were above at this stage last year.

"We climbed to ninth in Novem-

ber/December time so I am very naive to think this can carry on as there are so many games left to play and points left to play for.

"We are not going to look at the table at the moment and think we are fine and a top end team.

"We aren't.

"You have to keep working hard and grafting and the aim is to be this top end team and you need a bit of luck as well with injuries and sus-

pensions and get consistency."

Wanderers entertain Shrewsbury this weekend and Ainsworth is anticipating a very tough game against a side who have only lost three of their 14 league games.

He added: "They are very solid and they are a big side.

"They are very compact and they don't concede many goals at all.

"It will be a tough game as always as they are dangerous."



Rob Couhig

Couhig 'excited' at new era

Wycombe Wanderers

NEW Wycombe majority shareholder Rob Couhig admits he is "very excited" to be leading the club into a new era and explained there is plenty of hard work ahead.

Couhig was voted onto the board by the club's Legacy Members after reaching the 75 per cent needed.

The American is also joined on the board by wife Missy, nephew Pete and football consultant Mark Palmer and he admits they are all looking forward to the future with the real work starting now.

He said: "I am very, very excited.

"I think the vote of confidence is extremely gratifying, not just to me but to Pete, Missy and Mark and to our entire organisation.

"It creates a real sense of obligation. We must perform because people have put their confidence in us and that is sort of the daunting part of it."

Last week, Couhig posted a video on Twitter, stating that he wanted the club to become the "best in England" and he explained you have to have ambition in whatever you do.

He added: "You must have ambition or why bother?

"Are we going to go out and beat Liverpool? No. But why wouldn't we spend every waking moment trying to be the very best we can be, on and off the pitch.

"If we are the best club we can be, on and off the pitch, that makes us the best club in England.

"Our first priority is on the pitch and I feel comfortable with Gareth and Dobbo and the crew is that we have a good understanding.

"Off the pitch, we have miles to go. Right now, the club is playing at a high level for League One. Off it, we are playing at a reasonable level for League Two."

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