

Bucks Free Press

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks & Chiltern Districts

At the heart of the community since 1856

www.bucksfreepress.co.uk

Friday, January 3, 2020

£1.10



FAMILY TRIBUTES

Special service to remember relatives

Full list of names: Page 12



DOUBLE CHRISTMAS STABBING

KNIFE ATTACKS ROCK TOWN

■ Two teenagers stabbed in separate fights across town

■ Community horrified by attacks during Christmas celebrations

■ Call for witnesses to come forward as man arrested

Full story: Page 3



NEWS

Football fans in strip club shock



Page 4

CRIME

Detectives hunt hit-and-run driver



Page 6

COMMUNITY

Top honours for celeb and locals



Page 10

BIGGEST EVER
SALE

60% OFF THOUSANDS OF MATTRESSES

dormeo

The Home of a Great Night's Sleep

Stunning windows,
doors & conservatories

Triple glazing specialists - No extra cost TEN YEAR INSURANCE BACKED GUARENTEE
Make your conservatory a functional room all year long, by replacing its roof with a Guardian roof



Payne's of
Glass

Conservatories,
Garden Rooms,
Orangeries, Windows,
Doors & Home
Extensions.

Aluminium,
Hardwood, PVCu

01494 565526 /
07793 639150
paynesofglass.co.uk
ray@paynesofglass.co.uk
High Wycombe,
Buckinghamshire

Brants of Ruislip Ltd
Fencing, Garden Machinery & Forestry supplies
01844 343663 Thame Rd, Uxbridge, Middx

STIHL HONDA HAYTER
POWER EQUIPMENT

SUPPLIERS OF
FENCING & GARDEN
MACHINERY

AMAZING DEALS ON ALL
CHAINSAWS & LEAF BLOWERS

You can now order our products for local delivery
online at www.brantsltd.co.uk or call 01844 343663

WANDERERS



Fireworks
end cracker
of day at
Adams Park

WYCOMBE fans were spoilt to a New Year's Day extravaganza as a fireworks display took place at Adams Park.

The festival of explosions happened minutes after the Chairboys' 1-1 draw with Ipswich concluded, with thousands of fans leaving the stadium to get vantage points around the ground to watch the display.

The fireworks were organised by the Couhig family, who could buy the club in the middle of the month, as a sign of appreciation towards the Wycombe faithful.

Rob Couhig addressed the fans and thanked them for the support they have shown since the start of the season.

The American also revealed his happiness and excitement at the club's lofty position in League One, with the investor addressing the club as 'we' during his speech, whilst also repeating the fact that the club currently sit on top of the league, much to the fans delight.

The firework display lasted for around 10 minutes and was met with a huge round of a applause by the Wycombe faithful.

Wycombe's next home game is against Rochdale on January 18.



There was a fireworks display at the end of the match. Photos by Liam McAvoY / PRiME Media Images.

Draw ends run of losses

By James Richings



DAVID Wheeler scored his third goal of the season as Wycombe ended a run of three consecutive defeats with a hard-earned draw against Ipswich.

The Chairboys, who remain on top of the League One table, had the first meaningful chance of the contest after seven minutes when Paul Smyth saw his effort from six yards go just wide of an empty goal after Alex Samuel put in a low cross.

Seconds later, Ipswich nearly took the lead when Darius Charles, who has started every league game he has played in this season, blocked Gwion Edwards' effort off the line.

Three minutes later, Joe Jacobson had a free-kick brush Will Norris' goal from 25-yards but other than that, both teams were tentative in their approach, as the Chairboys and Ipswich defended well to stop any attacks entering the final third.

At the start of the second-half, Ipswich came out like a different team as they gave Wycombe no time at all on the ball.

This was evident three minutes into the second period when Alan Judge's low shot was brilliantly saved by Ryan Allsop, with the rebound by James Norwood being blocked by Giles Phillips.

It was an onslaught of Ipswich attacks as Luke Garbutt, who is on loan from Everton and spent last season at Oxford United, fired in a low and teasing ball into the box.

The ball eluded every Wycombe player and managed to find its way to Norwood, who could only slide the ball just wide.

So from the way the game was going, it was only a matter of time before the Tractor Boys would take the lead, and they did in the 55th minute.

After Anthony Stewart was penalised for fouling Kayden Jackson



30-yards from goal, Garbutt whipped in the resulting free-kick whilst the Wycombe players were organising their wall and positions.

From the resulting free-kick, Norwood, who has only scored three league goals in his last 12 league matches, smashed in a diving header from six-yards in front of the travelling fans.

It was the 29-year-old's ninth goal of the season.

Conceding the goal seemed to kick Wycombe into life as the Chairboys started to grow into the game but were again shut out from the stubborn Ipswich defence.

But on 66 minutes, Wycombe got their equaliser.

Adebayo Akinfenwa, who had come on for Smyth a minute previously, flicked on Alex Samuel's pass

onto Wheeler, who brilliantly lobbed the on-coming Norris to make it 1-1.

And the home side nearly won it when Samuel, who was named man-of-the-match, saw his acrobatic effort go centimetres wide on 83 minutes.

The draw means Wycombe remain on top of League One on 44 points, three points clear of Rotherham who moved into second after they defeated Blackpool 2-1, whilst Oxford (who started the day in second), lost away to Doncaster.

Ipswich drop to fifth. The result means Wycombe are now winless in four, while Ipswich have not won in eight.

Next up for Wycombe is a trip to Sunderland on January 11.

Their next home game is against Rochdale on January 18.



Wycombe beaten as visitors run riot at Adams Park

WYCOMBE conceded four goals at home for the first time since April 2018, as Coventry ran riot at Adams Park.

The defeat, which was Wycombe's first at home in the league this season, saw the league leaders make a number of mistakes, as Coventry took the lead in the third minute through Sam McCallum, who fired past Ryan Allsop.

It was the 19-year-old's first league goal of the season and the first league goal of his career.

Coventry continued to control the match but were pegged back when Adebayo Akinfenwa bagged his seventh goal of the season in the 14th minute, with a low but scruffy finish underneath Marko Marosi.

It was the 37-year-old's first game back since his red card against Oxford on December 21, and his first home goal since September.

However, this would be the best moment of the match for Wy-



combe as they were given a footballing lesson by the Sky Blues.

Not even a minute after Akinfenwa had given Wycombe their equaliser, the league leaders were 2-1 down after some comical de-

fending from Sido Jombati.

The right-back, who was playing his fourth league game of the season since coming back from injury, produced a terrible back pass to Allsop, which Matt Godden

latched on to.

Jombati tried to make up for his error but tripped up the clean through Godden in the penalty area, and referee Kevin Johnson had no option but to point to the spot.

The right-back was booked for the foul, and Godden stepped up to take the resulting spot-kick, which was buried into the bottom left-hand corner.

Wycombe just couldn't get into the game despite getting their early equaliser, and the game was effectively over when Coventry got their third two minutes before the break, when Godden rounded Allsop from Shipley's ball to make it 3-1.

It was his second of the contest.

The second-half was a continuation from the first as Coventry outplayed the hosts, and the game was sealed in the 50th minute when Godden completed his hat-trick by scoring one of the goals of the

season.

Godden, who had only scored three league goals for Coventry since his big money move from Peterborough in the summer, scored an incredible volley from a blistering Sky Blues counter attack, as Coventry showed no mercy.

The defeat means that Wycombe have lost at home in the league for the first time this season, and it's the first time since February that the Chairboys have suffered three straight losses, but they still remain on top of League One.

On the other hand, this was Coventry's first away win in the league this season, as they keep up their good record against Wycombe.

In the 10 games that Wycombe and Coventry have played each other, Coventry have won nine of those matches.

Wycombe's only victory against the Sky Blues was back in October 1993, when the Chairboys defeated Coventry 4-2 in a League Cup tie.

SPORT

**Fireworks fun
BLUES SEE IN
NEW YEAR WITH
A BANG - P38**



WANDERERS: Chairboys boss looks to the future Ainsworth 'excited' by impending takeover



Rob (left) and Pete Couhig (right) at Adams Park on New Year's Day watching the Ipswich match

GARETH Ainsworth revealed that he is 'excited' as Wycombe Wanderers are close to being taken over in a major deal.

The Couhig family, who have been involved with the club since the summer, could potentially complete the deal as soon as the middle of the month, which will be in time for Wycombe's next home fixture against Rochdale.

And Ainsworth, who was speaking after his side's 1-1 draw with Ipswich Town on New Year's Day, believes it could be a great time to follow the club, and that 'meetings have been scheduled' about how the club can move forward in terms of transfers.

Ainsworth said: "The next game we've got here, the Couhig's are going to be taking over the club and we're going to put a structure in place.

By James Richings

"We've already got many meetings in place on what we're going to do and how we're going to do it, and try and attack this January window, which will be really difficult.

"So structurally, we're going to start building this club, but it is not going to happen overnight.

"But on the pitch, it seems to have happened over night and I don't want to burst anyone's bubble, but we are going for it.

"We're aiming for the Championship but we're not aiming for the Championship straight away.

"It probably looks like we are as we're top of the league, and all these people are saying we're upsetting the form book and that we'll come off the rails, but I'm

asking, 'what rails are we on here?'

"Because it is phenomenal what these boys have achieved.

"They have done brilliantly for me, and I think behind the scenes we're like a swan, everything on top looks fine, smooth and going well, but underneath the water, we're paddling like mad because that is what we are doing. I have got a chance with the Couhig's to maybe stick around because this club could be bigger than it has ever been and that excites me.

"Don't anyone tell me to look for a new challenge because you couldn't manage this club for a week because, it's a hell of a challenge."

The match against Ipswich saw Ainsworth make four changes from the defeat against Coventry on December 29, with Paul Smyth, Nick Freeman, Alex Samuel and Darius Charles coming in for Curtis Thompson, Scott Kashket, Sido

Jombati and Adebayo Akinfenwa. And Ainsworth admitted that the injuries the club are facing were impacting the team. Ainsworth added: "We're stretched at the moment.

"Jack Grimmer, Dominic Gape, Fred Onyedima and Curtis Thompson are all on the injury list at the moment and with Rolando Aarons only just coming back, it has been tough so it was a great point against a huge club in Ipswich Town."

Wycombe do not have a game this weekend as they are out of the FA Cup, and their league fixture against Peterborough has been postponed, due to Posh's involvement in the competition.

This means the Chairboys' next fixture is on January 11 against Sunderland at the Stadium of Light, whilst their next home match is on January 18 against 18th placed Rochdale.



Wycombe Wanderers v Ipswich

Boss hails Chairboys team spirit

WANDERERS

GARETH Ainsworth was full of praise after his side ended a run of three defeats in a row, with a well-earned point against Ipswich Town on New Year's Day.

David Wheeler rescued a point for the Chairboys by bagging his third goal of the season in the 66th minute, 12 minutes after James Norwood had given Ipswich the lead.

The result means that Wycombe remain on top of League One, three points clear of second-place Rotherham, but the draw means that the Chairboys are now winless in four games and have only picked up four points from their last 15 available.

In particular, Ainsworth praised Alex Samuel, who was named Man of the Match.

It was also the first time that Ipswich had visited Adams Park.

Speaking after the game, Ainsworth said: "The whole team switched-off on the free-kick [which led to Ipswich's goal] and that's unlike us and they won't do that against Sunderland, believe me.

"But I'm glad we got back into the game as I thought we deserved it and it was so nice to see the ball drop into the goal.

"I also thought Alex was really close with his acrobatics as well and that would have been great.

"Alex is a good lad and his work rate deserves goals, which is something he is trying to add to his game.

"And I thought the work rate from him and Bloomfield were great, as there were some real grafting performances today and it has given Wycombe a good result today."

Wycombe's next game is against Sunderland on January 11 and their next home match is against Rochdale on January 18.

0963-2336



9 770963 233456