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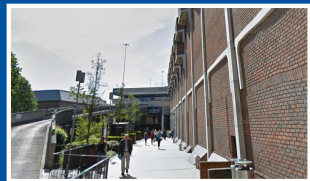
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STRICT CHANGES

New measures as NHS crisis continues

Coronavirus latest - Pages 6, 7, 8 & 9



INSIDE

• 8-page Homes supplement • 8-page Puzzles special • 7-day TV guide • 3 pages of Nostalgia

SOCIAL WORKER 'MURDERED'

■ Tributes to woman found dead next to her sister - **Page 4**

■ Manhunt after second park stabbing - **Page 13**



CRIME

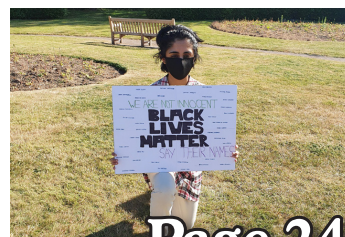
Career criminal
Tasered family



Page 5

NEWS

Protest for Black
Lives Matter



Page 24

11-Plus exams set to be delayed amid virus?

Full story:
Page 2

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SPORT

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Wycombe with a shot at the Championship



Gareth Ainsworth

WYCOMBE have made the play-offs as the club finishes third in the league amid a club vote to end League One and League Two early on an unweighted points-per-game system.

This means The Chairboys have finished in their highest ever position in English football and gives Gareth Ainsworth's men a chance to gain promotion to the Championship.

Oxford United, Portsmouth and Fleetwood Town will join Wycombe in the play-offs with Coventry City and Rotherham United gaining automatic promotion.

Wycombe will face Fleetwood Town, who finished sixth, in the semi-final of the play-offs. The date of the fixture is yet to be announced.

Tranmere Rovers, who had proposed an alternative framework to finish the season, have been relegated alongside Southend and Bolton Wanderers to League Two.

A statement from the EFL reads:

By Robert Folker

"League One Clubs have voted by an overwhelming majority to formally end the 2019/20 season.

"As a result, the final league standings have now been confirmed meaning that Coventry City have been confirmed as Champions with Rotherham United securing the second automatic promotion place to the Championship.

"Wycombe Wanderers, Oxford United, Portsmouth and Fleetwood Town will contest the Sky Bet Play-Offs with the schedule to be announced in due course, while Tranmere Rovers, Southend United and Bolton Wanderers will start the 2020/21 season in League Two."

Swindon, Crewe and Plymouth have been promoted to League One, while Cheltenham, Exeter, Colchester and Northampton will contest the League Two play-offs.

EFL chairman Rick Parry said: "Whilst it has always remained the

board's position to play the remainder of the season where possible, the decision reached at today's meeting follows a full and considered consultation period with our member clubs.

"The board has endeavoured to listen to all views and alternative approaches but understands that the decisions taken will not be met with universal satisfaction from all clubs.

"Today's outcome ensures that the league and its clubs remains as faithful as possible to the previously agreed regulations and that there is consistency in the approach adopted across the EFL in all divisions if required.

"It is clear that the challenges facing the league from the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic are unprecedented and I thank the contribution of EFL clubs in making this important determination."

Wycombe replaced Peterborough United in the play-off positions and this has sparked outrage from Peterborough.

Peterborough owner, Darragh MacAnthony, said on Sky Sports' 'The Football Show': "Every letter from the EFL stated that we wanted to finish the season and we went along with that.

"I spoke to Rick Parry, the chairman, in May and I said to him, 'what are we doing? Things seem to be improving' and he said 'we want to finish the season, there's no reason not to finish the season' so again we went along with that.

"We voted for football. We will always vote for football. I understand the health concerns but we've now been told football is back – the Premier League is back, the Championship is back."

However, Wycombe will believe that they deserve a play-off spot having spent the majority of the season in the top two.

Ainsworth and his side will be eager to create history at Adams Park this summer by getting The Chairboys into the second tier of English football.



Wycombe to pack Adams Park with club flags

LEAGUE ONE PLAY-OFF

WYCOMBE Wanderers are hoping to pack Adams Park with fan flags and banners in The Chairboys' play-off semi-final clash with Fleetwood Town.

The club have asked fans to send their own flags to the ground so they can be used for the game and be seen on TV.

The game must be played behind closed doors due to the coronavirus pandemic and stringent social distancing measures but fans will be able to watch the game on TV or the club's official stream.

At this point however, there has been no official announcement in relation to broadcast details for supporters, although this is expected to be made in due course.

A statement from the club said: "Wanderers are inviting fans to arrange for their giant WWFC flags to be delivered to Adams Park so they can be displayed in the stadium for the play-off semi-final home leg against Fleetwood Town.

"We're looking for large flags and banners that will be seen on TV and in photos, not the regular sizes which are available from the shop. These should be on display in your own homes and offices around the community.

"Instead, if you're the owner of a large WWFC flag, please email media@wwfc.com to make arrangements for it being delivered to Adams Park.

"Order your Wycombe Wanderers quartered flag from the club's new online store to display proudly in your front window or office throughout the forthcoming play-off campaign."

The date of the fixture has yet to be announced but the players are back in training this week to prepare for the first leg of the semi-final as they bid to reach the second tier.