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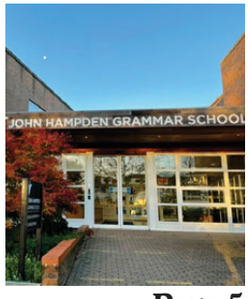

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Bayo returns to Bucks

WYCOMBE Wanderers legend Adebayo Akinfenwa has confirmed he is returning to the town this month.

The 40-year-old, who retired from the game in May this year, will be at the Wycombe Swan Theatre on Wednesday, October 26 for the premiere of his brand-new film, 'Beast Mode On.'

The story will follow Akinfenwa, along with his brothers Dele and Yemi, as they join his journey from a popular footballer to the grind of life, which will include his final few months at Adams Park.

During his last season as a Wanderer, the former Millwall, Gillingham, and Northampton Town man scored six goals in 39 matches, which included a Goal of the Season contender against his old club, AFC Wimbledon.

His last game as a professional was in the 2-0 loss against Sunderland in this year's League One play-off final.

The film includes contributions from Wanderers boss Gareth Ainsworth, ex-club captain Matt Bloomfield, former and current boxers George Groves and Chris Eubank Jnr, ex-NFL star Marshawn Lynch, Wycombe captain Joe Jacobson, cult hero David Stockdale and the YouTuber, musician and entertainer, KSI.

Two screenings will take place on October 26 with the first at 2pm.

This will be classified as 'U', and will feature a short on-stage introduction from Akinfenwa, who will also be available for photos/autographs in the lobby upon exit.

The VIP screening follows later that evening at 7.30pm, classified 12, with general admission tickets available in the Circle and Upper Circle, plus an on-stage Q&A with the striker at the end.

Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for under 16s for the 2pm screening, and £20 for adults and £10 for under 16s for the VIP 7.30pm screening plus Q&A.

Speaking on his return to the town which Akinfenwa played for six years in, the former EFL striker took to Twitter to say that he 'can't wait' for the premier to be shown.

To purchase tickets, visit the Wycombe Swan website for more information for availability.

Adebayo Akinfenwa will be visiting the Wycombe Swan on October 26 due the premier for his movie (PA)

Akinfenwa won two promotions with Wanderers (PA)

The Chairgirls lost to Bournemouth last weekend

Beaten by the Cherries

WYCOMBE Wanderers Women were back in league action against unbeaten Bournemouth Sports, in which they lost 1-0 at the1878 Stadium.

The Chairgirls had a good opportunity to score from a close range indirect free kick following a back pass but were unable to convert the chance.

Wycombe goalkeeper Sophie Cheadle made several excellent saves before the visitors finally broke the deadlock late in the first half.

Manager Carl Simon said: "We defended really well against a very strong attacking side but we're unable to get our own attacking game going. The players gave everything for the team and I'm extremely proud of their efforts."

Next up is the Chairgirls away fixture in the County Cup against Reading FC 1st team.

Beaconsfield Town U18s make history with cup win

A KEVIN Billicki hat-trick and a Rylee Holland strike have sent Beaconsfield Town Under 18s to the FA Youth Cup first-round proper for the first time in their history, following a 4-2 win away at Alfold.

The triumph at the Alfolds Elliot Scott Group Stadium means the Rams could face EFL opposition in the next round of the competition.

Billiki's hat-trick, which was scored in the first-half, put Beaconsfield in a 3-0 lead before the hosts pulled two goals back either side of half-time.

It wasn't until with five minutes to go that Holland got the Rams' fourth to clinch the tie.

The ties will be played in the week ending November 5.

Beaconsfield's win has put the club in the next round

Chairman Peter Bromage-Smith described the win as a 'brilliant occasion' for the club and that he was 'incredibly proud' of the young squad on their achievements.

Beaconsfield Town Under 18s' team on the night: Lawson Clarke, Josh Stranks, Callum Johnson, Alfie Tucker, Jacob Wilson, Sam Thurston©, Freddie Solly, Kian Austin, Kevin Billicki, Ben parrott, Aiden Bennet, Harry Doyle, Noah Henry, Rylee Holland, Oliver Holmes, FinnGaywood, Josh Pedley, Regan Forbes.

Notts Forest hit for six by Wanderers

The match took place last weekend in Burnham

WYCOMBE Wanderers Women Under 18s smashed Nottingham Forest 6-0 at Burnham's 1878 Stadium last week.

The message was clear after five minutes when Dani Yakobovich scored in the early stages, before

Not to be outdone, striker Molly Carter tried to add to her goal tally for th season but the ball went out just wide.

With this confidence and aplomb, the Chairgirls put pressure on the red shirts.

With another superb defensive play from the back line, rarely were Notts Forest given many chances to cause the blues any great threat.

On 10 minutes Char Hill's had a glorious shot from 25 yards denied by the crossbar, narrowly missing the advancing Carter, who also had a great strike denied by the woodwork shortly after.

Further attempts from Georgia Price who made a run through the pack and Jess Fuller, who looked strong in mid-field.

Forrest, settled into their game and started to put pressure on but on the half-hour mark, a great left footed corner from Char Hill gave Carter the opportunity to score another goal for the blues, giving them a two goal lead.

EJ Connell followed up with more threatening shots at the Notts GK.

Further substitutions didn't let up on the pressure on Forest's defence.

Some well-crafted link up work in midfield gave the Chairgirls confidence going into half-time.

Wycombe opened the second half with a nice through-ball from Yakobovich to Carter, who added to her score sheet with another gaol to make it 3-0.

After a disallowed goal from Freya Harris, EJ Connell put a long ball through, and Harris finally planted her first goal for Wycombe Wanderers taking the Chairgirls to a 4-0 lead.

Forest tried to find a foot hold in the game and tested keeper Gemma Harvey with some good shots.

After 60 minutes Yakobovich found Harris, whose pace troubled the Forest defence all morning, and she despatched the ball wonderfully into the far netting making the score 5-0.

The game ended with a free kick from 30 yards out being delivered into the top of the net by Amelia Sage to make it six.

This was another solid performance against a depleted but hugely spirited Notts Forest side, who we wish well for the remainder of their season.

Claiming a derby win at the Kassam

By James Richings

WYCOMBE Wanderers' 1-0 away win at Oxford United was overshadowed due to a medical emergency that saw the derby get halted for more than 40 minutes.

On 15 minutes, just four minutes after Max Stryjek saved a Cameron Brannagan penalty and then a rebound from James Henry, hundreds of fans in the West Side of the Kassam Stadium suddenly stood up in unison to alert the medical team within the ground.

It became apparent that the situation was grave, as match referee Keith Stroud instructed both sets of players return to the changing rooms so that the person in question could receive treatment.

After several updates from the Oxford United team, it was confirmed the match would restart at 4pm, nearly an hour after initially stopping.

The stricken spectator was eventually taken away from the ground to a nearby hospital, which is believed to be the John Radcliffe which is based within the city.

The match restarted with Wanderers being the better side and despite losing Dominic Gape after 19 minutes through injury, Wycombe took the lead just after the half-hour mark.

Alfie Mawson's brilliant fizzing cross was smashed in by Chris Forino in front of the United fans.

The header was the centre back's first of the season, which makes him the ninth different goal scorer for the Chairboys this league campaign.

Oxford began to play their stuff in the latter stages of the opening period, as Stryjek was on hand to keep United at bay, as Wycombe went into the break a goal ahead.

Wycombe's 1-0 win over Oxford United at the Kassam was the club's first at the stadium since November 2014. It also ended a run of three straight league defeats in League One (PA)

The second half saw Oxford boss the ball and again Stryjek being called into action as he saved a George Long header.

Karl Robinson's men continued to put Wanderers under pressure but they could not find a way past a stubborn back five that had kept just three clean sheets in the league this season up until the M40 derby.

At the other end, Sam Vokes nearly tapped home a Garath McCleary cross on the hour mark.

However, Wycombe held onto the win, which was their first at the Kassam since November 2014.

They are now 17th in the League One table with 14 points from their opening 12 matches in which they have won four, drawn two and lost six.

They are level on points with Lincoln City and Cheltenham Town but are above point club due to goal difference.

Up next is Peterborough United at home on October 15.

Attendance at the Kassam: 10,007 (way fans: 1,387).

Analysis on Oxford United win

Gareth Ainsworth (PA)

WYCOMBE boss Gareth Ainsworth has shared his thoughts on his side's 1-0 away win at Oxford United.

Chris Forino's 33rd minute header from a brilliant Alfie Mawson cross secured the Chairboys' first win at the Kassam Stadium in eight years.

It ended a run of three straight losses, as well as not winning in their last four visits to Oxfordshire.

Ainsworth said: "To get the win was really needed and it was super special.

"That's why I went up to the fans at the end there.

"My staff, my players, and my fans are with me and it felt like that today.

"They understand which is great.

"I'm so happy to give them a win in this derby game, which was played like a derby."

Ainsworth decided to go with five at the back which saw Alfie Mawson, Chris Forino, and Joe Jacobson play as centre backs, whilst Jordan Obita and Jason McCarthy were in the flank positions.

This system allowed Wanderers to defend any attacking balls that came their way.

And despite Oxford having nearly 30 shots on goal, less than 10 tested Max Stryjek who saved a first-half penalty from Cameron Brannagan.

Ainsworth added: "We have both got injuries which is why we are both where we are in the table so today [October 8] was a big game for the two of us.

"I have to empathize with Karl [Robinson] because when you can't put your best players out on the pitch, you struggle for points but come the second half of the season, both sides will be fighting up there.

"The system we chose today was one to try and frustrate Oxford so we decided to deny them space.

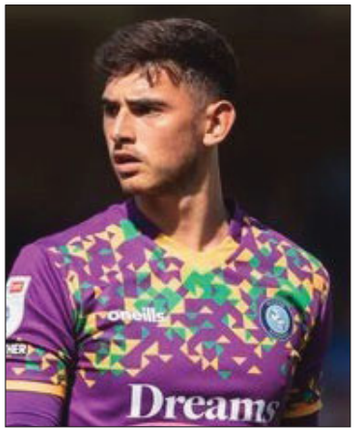
"It doesn't always work but it was like MK in the play-offs (second leg) last season.

"If we defend like that, we will always be a danger on the counter with players like Anis and Garath and Sam.

"It's a first win in three and it'll be a starting point to where we want to be."

Wycombe are now 17th in the table on 14 points, and welcome Peterborough United at Adams Park in their next fixture.

Dickinson moves to Hungerford Town



Dickinson played the first four league games for Wycombe this season (PA)

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed that second choice goalkeeper Tyla Dickinson has moved out on loan to Non League Hungerford Town.

The 21-year-old, who joined the Chairboys last summer on a free transfer from Queens Park Rangers, confirmed his arrived with the Crusaders on October 8.

He made his debut on the same day as his new side defeated Bath City 3-2 in the National League South.

Since being at Adams Park, Dickinson has played seven competitive game for the club keeping one clean sheet.

This was on his Wanderers debut against Burton Albion on the opening day of this league season which Wycombe won 3-0.

Since then, he has played against Bolton Wanderers, Northampton Town, Shrewsbury Town, Exeter City, Bristol City and Stevenage.

His departure means Josh Blunkell will act now as the second choice for the club, following his brief loan spell away at Suffolk side AFC Sudbury.

Going into Wanderers' EFL Trophy match against Peterborough United on October 18, it is not known which keeper will start in the fixture, as Max Stryjek and Dickinson have both played in the previous two games in the competition.

Kevin Betsy (pictured in August 2022) was fired after just 16 games in charge of the League Two team (PA)

Betsy gets the boot

FORMER Wycombe Wanderers striker Kevin Betsy has been fired from his job as Crawley Town's manager after just four months in charge.

The 44-year-old, who scored 25 goals for Wycombe across two spells, took over the reins in what was first managerial role in the EFL, following stints in the England youth set up between 2016 and 2021.

He was also Arsenal's Under 23 boss for the 2021/22 season before joining the League Two club.

However, after just 16 matches in charge which only saw three wins, Betsy, along with assistant Mnager Dan Micciche, were deemed surplus to requirements.

In a brief statement, Crawley said: "On behalf of everyone at Crawley Town, the club would like to thank Kevin and Dan for all of their efforts during their time at the club and wish them both well for the future.

"Lewis Young will serve as interim manager."

The Sussex-club are currently bottom of League Two after 12 games of the season.

During his time at Adams Park, Betsy was part of the squad that reached the 2007 League Cup semi-finals where they faced eventual winners, Chelsea.

Magnificent Mawson impresses Ainsworth

Alfie Mawson (pictured against Derby County in September) produced a brilliant assist for Chris Forino's goal against Oxford on October 8 (PA)

By James Richings

WYCOMBE Wanderers boss Gareth Ainsworth believes Chairboys defender Alfie Mawson is 'the best centre half in League One'.

The 28-year-old kept his third clean sheet in 10 League One games since returning to Adams Park this summer in the club's 1-0 away win against Oxford United on October 8.

His display at the Kassam Stadium also saw him produce a stunning assist for Chris Forino's first goal of the campaign on 33 minutes.

The former Swansea City and Fulham man also put in numerous blocks to secure Wanderers' first win at the stadium in eight years.

This ended a run of three league defeats along with their winless spell at Oxford, as they had not won in their previous four visits to the city.

Speaking on Mawson's performance, Ainsworth said: "Alfie is the best centre half in League One.

"In his prime, he had an England call up and those moments are why he was called up and why he played in the Premier League.

"Injuries have really hurt his career but we are looking after him.

"He looks like a million dollars at the moment and credit to the medical team for that.

"With all the injuries that we have, people will be thinking 'what's going on?' but they are keeping players like Alfie Mawson, Sam Vokes, Garath McCleary going on.

"They are sensational players for this team and Alfie has delivered with that brilliant pass."

Ainsworth also praised the performance of Chris Forino in the 1-0 victory.

The centre back's first goal of the season was a brilliantly well-taken header from a zinger of a cross by Mawson, which resulted in Oxford keeper Simon Eastwood remaining stationary.

It was his third goal in 30 matches for the club.

On the goal, as well as the defensive display, Ainsworth continued: "I want to talk about the header from Chris Forino.

"There was so much to do with that, and the boy has been through the mill in his life, being released here there and everywhere, I thought he had a fantastic game.

"There are still several learning points but what header in a local derby at the main end, what a brilliant moment.

"I'm proud of the boys and giving players like Jasper Pattenden and Tjay De Barr minutes as well was a real positive."

Since rejoining Wanderers from Fulham in the summer, he has started all but one league match following his debut against Shrewsbury Town.

Alan Parry on facing P'borough at Adams Park

Can Wycombe win on Sat? (PA)

AFTER claiming the bragging rights in the M40 derby with a 1-0 win at neighbours Oxford, Wycombe now face a more unlikely rival when Peterborough visit Adams Park on Saturday, October 15.

There were no ill feelings between Wanderers and Posh until two years ago when the local newspaper in Peterborough printed disparaging articles about Wycombe's season in the Championship.

Columnist Alan Swann wrote: 'They are so far out of their depth they are predictably stinking out the second tier.' Swann also said Wycombe's promotion was 'thoroughly undeserved' and described manager Gareth Ainsworth as 'overrated.'

Swann's comments understandably angered Wycombe fans, but there is no previous record of bad blood between the clubs even though there is a long history to these fixtures.

They first met in 1973, 20 years before Wanderers joined the Football League, when a capacity crowd of 13,000 packed into the old Loakes Park ground for a Second Round FA Cup tie.

A Wycombe team that included legendary figures like goalkeeper John Maskell and all-time record scorer Tony 'Bodger' Horseman lost 3-1, their consolation goal scored by Larry Pritchard, rated one of the finest players in the club's Non League era.

Iconic names also figured in the first ever league meetings between the clubs in 1994/95, as Wycombe won both games 3-1 with Cyrille Regis, Simon Garner and Steve Brown getting the goals.

If history is anything to go by, we can expect another feast of goals at Adams Park on Saturday.

In 1996/97 a 6-3 thrashing at London Road led to the dismissal of Alan Smith, Wycombe's unpopular manager at the time.

In 2018/19, Wanderers lost 4-2 away with Ryan Tafazolli – then a Posh player – scoring an own goal. The following season, Bayo Akinfenwa netted a last minute penalty in a thrilling 3-3 draw at Adams Park, with Posh winning the return fixture 4-0. Brentford's Ivan Toney scored twice that evening for Peterborough.

The Posh have made a solid start since their relegation from the Championship last season when they picked up fewer points than Wycombe did, no doubt to Mr.Swann's disappointment!

SPORT

0963-2336

Supporter taken ill during M40 derby

The match between Oxford United and Wycombe Wanderers was stopped after a fan collapsed inside the Kassam Stadium (PA)

By James Richings

WYCOMBE Wanderers' away fixture against Oxford United was halted for around 40 minutes following a 'medical emergency' at the Kassam Stadium.

In the match which was 0-0 at the time, hundreds of people in the West Stand of the ground suddenly stood up and alerted the officials.

An announcement was then made confirming that the fixture between the two Thames Valley teams will be 'delayed by a few minutes' due to the incident.

Play was stopped on 15 minutes.

This was just four minutes after Wycombe keeper Max Stryjek saved a Cameron Brannagan penalty, and then James Henry's rebound.

The Polish stopper had given away the spot-kick for fouling Marcus Browne.

STRYJEK then went down injured and required treatment, which was when the medical incident took place.

It was then confirmed that the match would restart at 3.50pm, before being changed to 4pm, to allow both sets of players the chance to warm up.

The fixture eventually began for a second time at 3.59pm.

Following the match, both Wanderers boss Gareth Ainsworth and United manager Karl Robinson explained that the fan had suffered a 'suspected heart problem', and that he was taken to a nearby hospital where he currently remains.

Saturday's hosts have since issued an update regarding the fan who fell ill at the Kassam, with both managers revealing that the fixture was close to being abandoned due to the seriousness of the incident.

However, the supporter remains in a stable condition in hospital, with the fan's wife 'thanking' both clubs for their help.

A statement on the Oxford United website reads: "Oxford United would like to thank supporters, staff, and our opponents Wycombe Wanderers for their help and understanding during a medical situation that delayed yesterday's game by 45 minutes.

"A supporter became seriously unwell after 15 minutes of the match but thanks to the swift action of the safety and medical teams he received immediate attention and was taken to hospital in Oxford.

"The club would like to place on record our thanks to the stewards and both the crowd medical team and the first team medical staff who attended the incident.

"We would also like to thank Wycombe Wanderers for their help, and the match officials for their expert handling of a very difficult situation.

"Having spoken to the supporter's wife this morning she also thanked all involved although her husband remains in hospital. Our best wishes go to him and all of his family and friends."

"We would also like to thank both sets of supporters.

"The biggest crowd of the season, just over 10,000, were there to enjoy the game and every fan in the ground behaved with compassion and understanding of the situation."

The match took place on Oct 10

Defeated in BCD friendly fixture

WYCOMBE Wanderers lost a behind-closed-doors friendly match at home to Maidenhead United.

The fixture, which took place in the afternoon of Monday, October 10 at Adams Park, saw the Non League team defeat the Chairboys 2-1 at Adams Park.

The home side had taken the lead through a Jack Wakely's goal on nine minutes.

However, just 120 seconds later, Adrian Clifton equalised via a penalty before Shawn McCoulsky put the Magpies ahead just before the break.

The Wycombe Wanderers team from the match

Josh Blunkell, Sullay Kaikai, Daryl Horgan, Jack Wakely, Ali Al-Hamadi, Adam Leathers, Tjay De Barr, Jasper Pattenden, Antonie Makoli, Ben Kaninda, Trialist.

Subs (both used): Jack Young and Arnold Matshazi

Four Chairboys make the TOTW

FOUR Wycombe Wanderers players have been included in the most recent EFL League One Team of the Week.

Following the club's brilliant 1-0 away victory at Thames Valley rivals Oxford United on October 8, goalkeeper Max Stryjek, goalscorer Chris Forino, provider of the goal Alfie Mawson and captain Joe Jacobson all starred in the win at the Kassam Stadium, which was their first at the ground for eight years.

During the match, Stryjek made several important stops which included denying a penalty from Cameron Brannagan, along with stopping James Henry's rebound from going in.

Joe Jacobson made numerous blocks to keep Oxford at bay, which Alfie Mawson's incredible pass was nodded in by his centre back partner, Chris Forino.

It was the perfect day for Gareth Ainsworth's men as the victory stopped Wycombe's four-game winless streak at the Kassam which resulted in three losses and one draw.

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