

Bucks Free Press

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ARMED POLICE CALLED AS YOUTHS 'SEEN WITH WEAPONS': P9

KILLER REMAINS AT LARGE



**Fresh appeal on
20th anniversary
of murder that
shocked village**

POLICE have renewed their appeal for information on the 20th anniversary of the murder of a young woman whose body was found in woodland near Wooburn Green. On July 29, 2006, the body of 23-year-old Beata Bryl was discovered in woods off Hedsor Lane.

By James Richings

The Polish national had been brutally murdered before her body was set alight.

Two decades later, nobody has ever been charged in connection with her death.

Full story: Page 5



COLD CASES: UNSOLVED KILLINGS - P30

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Sport

Bucks succumb to first defeat of campaign

BUCKS men suffered their first defeat of the season on Tuesday.

The team went down by eight wickets to Northumberland in their National Counties Clubberly Championship match on Tuesday at Benwell Hill.

It was a match filled with highs and lows, but the hosts reached their 221 target with nearly nine overs to spare.

The game began with a delayed start of nearly four hours due to rain on Sunday, which saw Bucks struggle after choosing to bat first.

Opener Billy Dodds made a solid attempt with 79 runs from 147 balls, but succeeding struggles saw Bucks slip to 156-8.

Their hope was revived by a ninth-wicket stand of 76 by Ed Bragg, with a Bucks career best of 57, and skipper Conner Haddow, who made 42.

Bucks managed to reach 257 from 80.5 overs.

Despite their challenges, they took the lead in the first innings, with Northumberland slipping from 86-1 to 212 all out.

Haddow was Bucks' best



Bucks Men lost to Northumberland

bowler, taking 3-43 from 20 overs.

Despite this early success, Bucks couldn't sustain the momentum.

Ewan Cox impressed with his lively 51 off 56 balls, including a six and nine fours.

However, with little support from

teammates, the visitors could only reach 175 all out just after lunch on the third day.

Northumberland captain and left-arm spinner Oliver McGee struck well for the opponents, taking 4-25.

With ample time to chase down the

221 target, Northumberland remained untroubled.

Sol Bell's impeccable 106 not out was well supported by Johnny Bushnell's 57 not out.

Their unbroken third-wicket stand of 105 in 25 overs saw them home with an eight-wicket victory.

Bushnell had earlier inflicted damage on Bucks, taking 6-88 from 22 overs.

However, Bucks remain determined in the face of their defeat.

They are eyeing a swift return to winning ways when they take on Suffolk at Chesham in a three-day match starting this Sunday.

They comfortably beat Staffordshire in their opening Eastern Division 1 match.

The current Eastern Division 1 table sees Northumberland, Staffordshire, and Bucks all sitting on equal wins and losses, with the table placing them based on bonus points.

Suffolk are also yet to lose a game this year, while Cambridgeshire suffered a defeat in their only match currently played this season.

Maynard out at York despite amazing season

AYLESBURY-BORN manager Stuart Maynard has left his role as York City boss with immediate effect, despite guiding the Minstermen back into the Football League in dramatic fashion last season.

York confirmed Maynard's departure on Sunday, July 27 saying the decision had been taken because of a "difference in direction and vision" between the manager and the club's board.

In a statement, the National League champions said: "York City Football Club can confirm that Stuart Maynard will be leaving his role as First Team Manager, with immediate effect.

"This has not been an easy decision, and it is not one the board has taken lightly.

"Ultimately, it comes down to a difference in direction and vision for the football club."

The club added that while supporters may find the decision difficult to understand, the board believes it is in the club's best long-term interests and thanked Maynard for his contribution.

The departure brings an end to a highly successful spell in charge for the Buckinghamshire-born manager, who was appointed in August 2025 following the dismissal of former Wycombe Wanderers defender Adam Hinshelwood.

Maynard, who was born in Aylesbury, enjoyed two spells with Aylesbury United and also represented Aylesbury Vale Dynamos and Chesham United.

After making the transition into management, he was recruited by York in August last year, and made an incredible impact.

Maynard won 33 of his 45 matches in charge and suffered just five defeats as York secured a return to the Football League for the first time since 2016.

The promotion was achieved in extraordinary circumstances on the final day of the 2025/26 National League season in a dramatic showdown away to second-placed Rochdale.

With York needing only a point to clinch the title and automatic promotion, Rochdale appeared set to snatch top spot in the fifth minute of stoppage time when striker Emmanuel Dieseruvwe fired the hosts in front.

The goal sparked jubilant scenes at Spotland, including a pitch invasion which led to a lengthy delay as supporters believed promotion was within touching distance.

However, the drama was far from over.

Deep into the 13th minute of added time, York substitute Josh Stones scored a dramatic equaliser to send the travelling supporters into raptures and secure the point Maynard's side required.

The result sealed the National League title for York with an impressive 108 points, two clear of Rochdale, who finished second on 106.

Rochdale would eventually earn promotion themselves by defeating Boreham Wood in the National League play-off final at Wembley Stadium a few weeks later.

Trio make the step-up with United after stellar seasons

CHESHAM United has announced three summer signings.

The club have secured Lordon Akolbire, Harry Hoath, and Joseph Adewunmi for the 2026-27 season.

All three players are stepping up from Step 3 after standout seasons.

They are expected to bring quality and competition to the squad.

The trio has been with the squad throughout pre-season.

A Chesham United spokesperson said: "Everyone at Chesham United would like to extend a warm welcome to Lordon, Harry, and Joseph.

"We look forward to seeing them in Claret and Blue throughout the 2026/27 season."

Lordon Akolbire, 23, comes from Isthmian Premier Division side Cheshunt.

He was a consistent performer and a fan favourite at his previous club, displaying his skills as a right wing-back.

His energetic and attack-minded style has been bolstered by the experience gained from his time at Colchester United and his loan spell at Bishop's Stortford.

His arrival brings both defensive discipline and a fresh, exciting approach to the squad.

Chesham United spoke about Lordon Akolbire, saying: "Lordon offers real quality down the right flank while also having the defensive discipline required to compete at National League South level."

Harry Hoath, 22, joins from Southern League Premier Division South side Hanwell Town.

He has journeyed through the ranks from Maidenhead United to Holyport, Thatcham Town, Uxbridge, and Marlow.

Ramy Abou-Setta

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His experience across the non-league pyramid has given him the skills and knowledge to be a valuable addition to the team.

His skills at left-sided centre-back, his aerial presence, and his expertise in possession will enhance the Generals' defence.

Speaking about his qualities, Chesham United said: "Predominantly a left-sided centre-back, Harry combines composure in possession with an aerial presence and is comfortable bringing the ball out from the back."

Joseph Adewunmi, 25, is another new face at the Meadow who joins from the National League South side, Dulwich Hamlet.

His reputation in the non-league game speaks for itself.

After spells at Clapton, Fisher, and Heybridge Swifts, he moved to Champion Hill and continued to develop at Step 2.

He is known for his strength in one-on-one situations, his speed, and his commanding presence at the heart of the defence.

Chesham United refers to Joseph Adewunmi as "A powerful and athletic central defender."

The club acknowledges the skills and attributes these three new signings bring to the squad.

They believe that the addition of these players will further strengthen their team for the upcoming National League South campaign.

As Chesham United looks forward to the 2026-27 season, they are optimistic about the contribution their new signings will bring to the team - both in Claret and Blue.



Lordon Akolbire Image: Chesham United

‘Solid and organised’ – Duff gives verdict on friendly win

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Michael Duff called his team ‘solid and organised’ as they beat Portsmouth in a pre-season friendly.

The Chairboys took the lead inside two minutes from Ewan Henderson before Cauley Woodrow made it two in the early stages of the second period.

Teenager Micah Olabiya made it with 20 minutes to go before Thomas Waddingham headed home a consolation for Pompey with seconds remaining.

The victory came just hours after another Chairboys XI beat Yeovil Town in a behind-closed-doors match at Marlow Road.

Speaking on the victory against the Blues, Duff said: “We were good against a Championship team.

“We were solid and organised, and there are still bits we can work on.

“We can’t work on everything at once, but I thought our build-up play and getting into the wide areas was good.

“They obviously had a lot of the ball, but I didn’t think they looked like hurting us. I think they were shaping the strength of their team a little bit as well.

“The main things we wanted to see were the build-up and attacking quickly, and we’ve been building that gradually through pre-season.

“We’ve gone from the back third into the middle third, then into the wide areas.

“Now it’s the final part, with the goals hopefully coming from more transitions.



Michael Duff was pleased with his side’s showing. Image: John Walton

“Overall, I thought we performed alright.”

There were many changes with the squad being a mix of first-teamers and academy players as the season edges closer.

The 2026/27 campaign will begin on Friday, August 7 for the Chairboys, as they will take on Stevenage in the League Cup at Adams Park.

He added: “Today was about managing minutes.

“We’ve got some good players who played in another game today, and a lot of the squad are at different stages of their fitness.

“We’ve got some good minutes into some senior players this afternoon and next week’s team will look different again.

“We’re still three weeks away from the start of the season, so people are getting excited.

“If we’d lost 5-0 today, you wouldn’t be too down because you learn a couple of things. One player might be ahead of where he needs to be and another a bit behind.

“You can’t change the narrative because you win a

game.

“There were things we worked on that came out in the performance, which is all you’re looking for in pre-season.

“We’ve had some players complete 90 minutes for the first time and, hopefully, there are no injuries, so I think it’s been a good day all round.”

Former Wanderers defender joins club in Israel

A former Wycombe Wanderers defender whose scored one of the club’s greatest-ever goals this decade has completed a move to the Middle East.

Nigel Lonwijk has joined Israeli Premier League side Maccabi Haifa on a permanent deal, bringing his six-and-a-half-year spell with Championship outfit Wolverhampton Wanderers to an end.

The 24-year-old is fondly remembered by Chairboys supporters following a short but memorable loan spell at Adams Park during the second half of the 2023/24 season.

Having joined Wanderers in January, the Dutch defender made 13 appearances in all competitions and scored twice as Matt Bloomfield’s side reached the EFL Trophy final at Wembley.

His most memorable contribution came in March of that year, when he produced an audacious scorpion-kick finish in a 2-1 victory over Thames Valley rivals Reading.

The goal, which but Wanderers 1-0 up, helped secure Wycombe’s first-ever away win against the Royals and was later voted the club’s Goal of the Season.

Lonwijk’s other goal also proved decisive, with the defender netting an 86th-minute winner as Wanderers beat Port Vale 2-1 away from home.

He also started at Wembley as Wycombe fell to a 2-1 defeat against Peterborough United in the EFL Trophy final.

The move to Israel concludes a lengthy association with Wolves, who signed Lonwijk from PSV Eindhoven in January 2020.

After initially joining the club’s academy, he progressed through the youth ranks and regularly featured for the under-21 side while gaining experience around the first-team set-up.

Although he never made a competitive senior appearance for Wolves, he was named on the bench during the Premier League campaign under Nuno Espirito Santo and was also an unused substitute during the club’s FA Cup trip to Chorley.

The centre-back spent much of his Wolves career gaining valuable experience out on loan.

As well as his spell at Wycombe, he represented Plymouth Argyle, Fortuna Sittard, Grasshopper Club Zurich, Huddersfield Town and Luton Town.

One of the standout moments of his development came during the 2022/23 season, when he made 41 appearances for Plymouth as the Pilgrims secured the League One title.

In total, Lonwijk leaves Wolves with 151 senior appearances to his name across his various loan spells.

Pompey sunk in pre-season friendly

AN early goal in each half saw Wycombe Wanderers defeat Championship side Portsmouth 3-1 at Adams Park.

In the club’s first pre-season home match in front of spectators for two years, the Chairboys took the lead inside the opening two minutes thanks to Ewan Henderson.

Dan Harvie, deployed at right-back, burst down the flank before finding Fred Onyedimma.

Fresh from signing a new contract extension to remain in Buckinghamshire, the Nigerian smashed a low ball into the box which found the Scotsman, who fired home.

Chances in the opening 45 minutes were few and far between. Aaron Morley saw a shot blocked, while new signing Silko Thomas, who joined from Leicester earlier this month, also tried his luck but to no avail.

Portsmouth offered little threat during the first half.

The second period started just like the

first, with Wanderers scoring inside the opening two minutes.

Substitute Micah Olabiya, who recently signed his first professional contract, did brilliantly to create some space.

The ball eventually found Cauley Woodrow, who made it two.

The striker nearly grabbed his second moments later when a long-range effort was pushed away by goalkeeper Nicolas Schmid.

It was then 3-0 with 20 minutes remaining as Olabiya curled home a brilliant effort after being assisted by Jamie Mullins.

In the final few moments, Conor Hazard made a brilliant save to deny Josh Knight to keep his clean sheet in tact.

However, he was unable to keep out substitute Thomas Waddingham, who headed home with seconds remaining.

Earlier in the day, a separate Chairboys XI defeated National League side Yeovil Town 3-2 in a behind-closed-doors friendly at Marlow Road.



The match was Wycombe’s first pre-season home game in two years

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Injury updates on Anders Hagelskjær and Dan Casey



Hagelskjær played 33 times last season
Image: John Walton

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Michael Duff has eased concerns over Anders Hagelskjær's fitness after the defender was seen hobbling off during Saturday's 3-1 pre-season victory over Portsmouth.

The Danish centre-back was replaced after 68 minutes by teenager Mo Kieta, with some supporters fearing he may have suffered another injury when leaving the pitch.

However, Duff insists there is

no fresh issue and explained that Hagelskjær's discomfort is linked to an ongoing problem with stiff Achilles tendons rather than a new setback.

He said: "That's just Anders.

"He's got stiff Achilles tendons, so once he stops it takes him a few minutes to get going again.

"I asked the physios and they don't seem to think there's anything to be concerned about.

"He's been in all summer, as

has Dan Casey because of the timing of their injuries.

"Neither is quite ready for 90 minutes yet, but they're both getting close to where we need them to be."

Hagelskjær has been working his way back to full fitness after suffering an injury in February.

His last competitive appearance came in Wanderers' 3-0 home victory over Burton Albion on February 28, when he was forced off

before the hour mark following a collision involving former Wycombe goalkeeper Will Norris and Burton forward Jake Beesley.

Since joining from Norwegian side Molde in January 2025, the club's former record signing has made 35 appearances for the Chairboys, with 33 of those coming last season.

He has also scored once for the club, netting in a 3-2 defeat away at Reading in February.

New signings excited by Wycombe challenge

James Richings

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NEW signings Silko Thomas and Conor Hazard have both spoken of their excitement at joining Wycombe Wanderers after making their first appearances at Adams Park in Saturday's 3-1 pre-season victory over Portsmouth.

Summer recruit Thomas admitted the afternoon could hardly have gone much better as he got a first taste of playing in front of the Wanderers faithful.

"It was brilliant," he said. "Obviously good to get a win against a good team as well.

"Definitely giving us a lot of confidence to go into the next game and also into the league game as well."

With an eye already on the final pre-season fixture against Ipswich Town, Thomas believes maintaining momentum is important heading into the new campaign.

"It's all about confidence," he added. "We'll go into the next training session thinking about the next game and I'm looking forward to it."

The winger also revealed he has quickly settled into life at the club following his summer arrival.

"It's been really good. Exciting really. A new challenge.

"Our main goal is to be promoted this season, so I'm really looking forward to it. The boys are good, the staff are good, everything. Amazing."

Goalkeeper Hazard echoed those sentiments despite his frustration at being denied



Silko Thomas (left) and Conor Hazard both joined Wycombe this summer. Image: NQ/PA

a clean sheet late on against Portsmouth.

"It was brilliant," he said. "It was good to get the first 90 minutes over with in pre-season and the boys have been brilliant welcoming you in.

"The staff, everyone, the whole club seems to be really

set up to do good things this year."

Hazard also explained why he chose Wycombe despite attracting interest from elsewhere following his departure from Plymouth Argyle.

"I just think the whole setup of the football club," he said.

"From speaking to the staff and everyone involved, it is a club with high ambitions that want to do really, really well and I really want to be a part of it."

The competitive season for Wycombe will start on Friday, August 7 against Stevenage in the League Cup.

Swansea defender Parker signs on loan deal

WYCOMBE Wanderers have completed the signing of Swansea City defender Sam Parker on a season-long loan deal.

The right-back, who turned 20 earlier this month, arrives in South Buckinghamshire a the club's seventh new signing of the summer.

His unveiling comes just days after head coach Michael Duff openly admitted that signing a right-back was one of the club's priorities before the start of the new League One campaign.

Wanderers have been left short in the position following an injury to Jack Grimmer, while Declan Skura recently departed on loan forcing left-back Dan Harvie to fill in on the right side of defence during 3-1 friendly win over Portsmouth on Saturday.

Duff revealed after that match that Wycombe were looking to strengthen in the area and hoped to bring in at least two or three more players before the transfer window closes.

Director of Football Strategy and Data Intelligence Tom Stockwell believes Parker has all the attributes needed to make an immediate impact at Adams Park.

"It's great to welcome Sam to the club on a season-long loan from Swansea City," Stockwell told the club website.

"Sam broke into Swansea's first team at the back end of the season and impressed with how quickly he adapted to senior football at Championship level.

"Sam is a very athletic full-back.

"His pace and agility make him tough to beat in a 1v1 situation.

"His high-level top speed will be a real asset to us on the top line as he looks to support the attacks by breaking the back line and delivering crosses into the opposition box."

Stockwell added that Parker arrives having already completed a full pre-season programme with Swansea, including the Championship club's recent training camp in Austria.

Parker's move remains subject to EFL and FA approval.