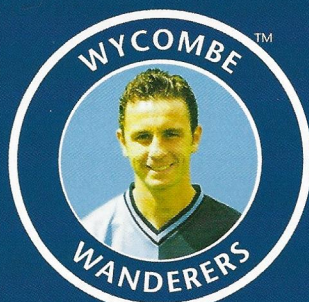


We have now played five matches in the Avon Insurance Combination with two wins and two defeats as these notes are being written, we played against Brighton at Worthing F.C. on Wednesday, I will cover that game in our next programme. Although our league position is not the most important factor for our reserves non the less we must maintain a good standard. In our recent game against Portsmouth it was a real learning curve for our lads. It is true six of the team were players with a lot of first team experience but the remaining five were inexperienced youngsters. Three of them started in the back four with only Dave Carroll, who started at right back, with a wealth of experience. Portsmouth are in the top four of the First Division and naturally have a very strong reserve side. Our 3-0 defeat was not surprising on the balance of the match, as I have said before, if we do not close people down quickly and fail to take up the correct positions on the field then the results will go this way. Having said that goalkeeper Mark Osborn did very well in the game and pulled off a number of very good saves. We finished the match with a very young back four with Ryan Parsons coming into the right back position. Overall the defence worked hard and played reasonably with both Roger Johnson and young Parsons



RESERVES

by Mick 'Brucie' Forsyth,
Reserve Team Manager
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coming through with credit.

Our team will always be susceptible to change for every game depending in who will be available from the first team squad. For the Portsmouth game we missed Keith Ryan who had played such a big part in our win over Oxford in the previous game. His experience at the back was a big help to the younger players as they can be coaxed by responsibility.

We now look forward to our next game in the Avon Insurance Combination, that is due to be played on Wednesday 3rd October at Adams Park, kick off 2pm against Bournemouth.



RESERVE FIXTURES

AUG 15	Swindon Town	a	3-1	19	Peterborough U	H	2pm
29	Barnet	H	0-2	JAN 16	Luton Town	a	2pm
SEPT 4	Oxford United	H	4-0	22	Millwall	a	2pm
19	Portsmouth	H	0-3	FEB 6	Leyton Orient	H	2pm
26	Brighton & H A	a	7pm	13	Gillingham	a	2pm
OCT 3	Bournemouth	H	2pm	20	Cardiff City	H	2pm
10	Bristol Rovers	a	7pm	MAR 13	Reading	a	2pm
31	Cheltenham Tn	a	2pm	20	Crystal Palace	H	2pm
NOV 7	Colchester Utd	H	2pm	26	Brentford	H	2pm
14	Southend Utd	a	2pm	APR 10	Bristol City	a	2pm
21	Norwich City	H	2pm	All home games played at Adams Park			Dates and Kick-off times liable to change.
27	Queens Park R	a	2pm				
DEC 5	Northampton Tn	H	2pm				
10	Cambridge Utd	a	2pm				

DIVISION ONE

(Up to and including 21/9/01)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	G/D	Pts
Portsmouth	4	4	0	0	10	2	8	12
Q.P.R.	4	3	1	0	12	2	10	10
Leyton Orient	4	3	0	1	10	4	6	9
Reading	4	3	0	1	7	1	6	9
Luton	3	3	0	0	7	2	5	9
Cardiff	4	2	2	0	9	4	5	8
Crystal Palace	4	2	1	1	12	8	4	7
Millwall	4	2	1	1	6	3	3	7
Bristol City	3	2	1	0	3	0	3	7
Southend	4	2	1	1	6	4	2	7
Gillingham	2	2	0	0	4	0	4	6
WANDERERS	4	2	0	2	7	6	1	6
Oxford	4	1	2	1	3	6	-3	5
Bristol Rovers	3	1	1	0	2	2	0	4
Swindon	4	1	1	2	3	4	-1	4
Colchester	4	1	1	2	7	10	-3	4
Barnet	4	1	0	3	2	9	-7	3
Brighton	3	0	2	1	1	2	-1	2
Northampton	3	0	2	1	2	4	-2	2
Brentford	3	0	1	2	3	6	-3	1
Norwich	3	0	1	2	2	8	-6	1
Bournemouth	4	0	1	3	3	9	-6	1
Peterborough	4	0	1	3	2	12	-10	1
Cambridge	4	0	0	4	2	9	-7	0
Cheltenham	3	0	0	3	1	9	-8	0

With the Ladies

In the first round of the Berks & Bucks Women's Cup the Ladies beat Burnham Women 5-2 to set up a second round tie against Chesham United.

The game was scrappy and not very impressive but there were some good points to take away, including Heather Scutchings adding to her goals tally and Esther Morley returning to the side after 6 weeks out with an ankle injury. Su Oakley scored the opener on 10 minutes with a neat side foot past the advancing keeper and created a couple more openings before Burnham broke and latched onto a awkward backpass to equalise. Blues lead was restored when Oakley finished a move down the left flank after Marion Lyon and Morley ran the ball out of defence. Wanderers won a number of corners before they were able to profit; Paula Benson swung the ball in left footed, Oakley won the flick-on, Morley bought the ball down and laid it back to Scutchings who buried it in the back of the net for her first. Just before half

time she made it two picking up a parried Oakley shot to score the rebound. Blues did have a lot of the play, but were stretched at the back when play broke down and the midfield were caught too far up the pitch. Burnham's early equaliser led to some panicked defending and then in the second half the South Bucks team pulled back another as concentration wandered leaving players unmarked.

That said, there were moments of great composure as Helen Scourfield and right back Nic Thorne played the ball between them as they looked for a suitable opening in front of them and were eventually able to release Karyn Atkinson in the centre who played a through ball for Oakley to run onto. Wanderers fifth goal came when Oakley picked up another through ball, nut-megged the keeper (not sure that was planned!) to knock the ball into the empty net. The score flattered the performance, we still have a lot of work to do in the games ahead. The Ladies next league game is away at Thame United.

In addition to the League squad, the Club also runs a skills workshop for women and girls aged 10 upwards of all abilities on Monday evenings.

Women's Southern Region Northern Division

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wychcombe Wanderers	2	2	0	0	16	1	6
Stocklake Ladies/Girls	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
MK Wanderers	2	2	0	0	9	3	6
Newport Pagnell	3	1	1	1	8	6	4
Thame United	2	1	1	0	7	2	4
Rover Oxford Res	3	1	0	2	6	7	3
Tring Athletic	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Luton Town Belles	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Mansfield Road	2	0	0	2	2	12	0
Holmer Green	3	0	0	3	0	22	0

For more information call
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