



Wanderers in League One

WYCOMBE Wanderers will play League One football next season after clinching promotion in the most dramatic fashion on Saturday.

In front of a bumper Adams Park crowd, they lost 2-1 to Notts County but held on to the final automatic promotion spot on goal difference.

Needing one point to be certain of promotion, Wycombe thought they'd blown it when County scored an 89th minute winner.

Exeter took advantage to move above them into second place, while Bury drew level with Blues on 78 points with a last minute penalty.

But despite five minutes of injury time they couldn't score the second goal that would have dumped Wanderers into the play-offs.

Don't miss the special souvenir Blues News supplement, free with tomorrow's Bucks Free Press.



● Match report on Page 30

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Going up!

WYCOMBE Wanderers have done it! But they made their fans sweat on the final day of the League Two season before promotion was finally clinched by results elsewhere.

Blues hosted Notts County at Adams Park needing just a point to see off the challenge of Exeter City and Bury Town and secure an automatic promotion place.

However, they made a worrying start when John Thompson fired the visitors in front with a long-range effort midway through the first half.

Wycombe dug deep and drew level when captain David McCracken bundled home Lewis Hunt's low cross after 52 minutes.

Blues should have steamrolled their guests after that, but nerves got the better of them and in the final stages they invited trouble by dropping deeper and deeper.

With 89 minutes gone, disaster struck when Thompson curled home County's winner and with Exeter winning their game and Bury going 1-0

up with a last-minute penalty against Accrington to draw level on 78 points with Blues, Peter Taylor's team were facing catastrophe.

But Bury needed a second goal to edge above them on goal difference and although Wanderers fans and players alike suffered five minutes of agony waiting for the final score from Gigg Lane to arrive, Bury didn't get it and Blues went up by slenderest of margins – a goal difference of plus 21 compared to Bury's plus 20.

Taylor, who won his fifth promotion on Saturday to join Neil Warnock as the most prolific promotion winner currently working in English football, said: "I've matched a good manager in Neil and I'm very proud, but the most important thing is the players and the club.

"We made hard work of it today and we've got to learn from that, but this is what we set out to do in August and thankfully we've done it.

"This is a very good football club and we're looking to push on now. We're not looking to be bottom of division one, that's for certain."



THEY'VE DONE IT: Wanderers players celebrate promotion in the dressing room after a dramatic last day, when they lost to Notts County but went up on goal difference

Don't miss our eight-page promotion pull-out in Friday's Bucks Free Press