

Double glory!

Gareth Ainsworth and Joe Jacobson win League 1 awards.





Gareth Ainsworth and Joe Jacobson have been named the Sky Bet League 1 Manager and Player of the Month for November.

The Blues boss saw off competition from Graham Coughlan, Kenny Jackett and Paul Warne to earn his first League 1 trophy, having guided his side to 10 points from four games without conceding a single league goal in the month.

Jacobson was a star performer throughout November, contributing to all four clean sheets whilst scoring twice and providing one assist to clinch the trophy. He was voted ahead of Armand Gnanduillet, Daryl Murphy and Matty Taylor.

Ainsworth said: "It's a really proud moment to receive this award and for us as a club to be recognised for how we've been performing this season. I know the award is for the manager, but it's really for the whole team of staff around me who deserve the credit too.

"We had a great month, with some tough games, but to collect 10 points without conceding a goal was a fantastic return, and we played some really good football along the way too. Thank you to the panel who chose us to win the award and now we're looking forward to getting back into action on Saturday after a long break with no game.

"Joe is one of the most humble guys I know. He's been playing some of the best football of his career, and I'm really proud to have been able to give him five years at this club to enjoy longevity and be part of the culture that we've created.

"He's been a phenomenal left-back for us throughout that time, and in particular this season, he's showed what a threat his left foot can be with many brilliant assists and important goals, alongside the 11 clean sheets we've been able to pick up, and he thoroughly deserves his award."

Jacobson said: "It's a real honour to win this award and it's something I always hoped I might achieve at some point during my career. I think the whole team has had a fantastic season so far – everyone knows their jobs, works hard for each other, and it seems to be working.

"Last month I think you could have given this award to any of our defenders or goalkeeper because we've been really proud of our defensive record, not conceding a goal for quite some time now, but it's a special accolade for me to collect the trophy and I'm proud to have played my part in helping the team at both ends of the pitch."

Danny Wilson chairs the Sky Bet Manager of the Month judging panel.

He said: "What an achievement for Gareth and Wycombe, especially considering the resources available to them.

"Forty points at this stage of the season is promotion form in anyone's eyes, even though I'm sure Gareth won't want to say it at the moment.

"Speculation around Gareth's future earlier in the season may have derailed some clubs but his determination to push Wycombe as far as possible has certainly galvanised the team and club even more."

Sky Sports' EFL pundit Don Goodman said: "The Chairboys' unbeaten league run now stretches back to mid-September, testament to the job long-term manager Gareth Ainsworth is doing at Adams Park this season.

"Wycombe's stinginess at the back and determination to keep clean sheets is the envy of Sky Bet League One at present, with none of their four November opponents able to find the net."

Sky Bet EFL trader Ivor Davies said: "The EFL's longest serving manager guided Wycombe to a near-perfect record in November to leave them four points clear of Ipswich at the top of League One.

"We still make Ipswich 9/4 favourites to win the league but The Chairboys are into 5/1 second-favourites from 25/1 at the start of the month - and are now 13/8 to be promoted."

On Jacobson's award, Don Goodman said: "Wycombe's number 3 took November firmly by the scruff of the neck, leading his side to a healthy lead at the very top of the Sky Bet League One table.

"The left-back contributed to a perfect slate of four clean sheets, as well as proving his worth from dead ball situations, firing home two penalties and coming up with a pair of free-kick assists for his grateful teammates."

Sky Bet EFL trader Ivor Davies said: "Jacobson was in outstanding form during November, as a part of a mean defence that kept four clean sheets in as many games.

"He's a huge 150/1 to win the Golden Boot despite being the league leaders' joint top scorer with six goals.."

The judging panel for the Sky Bet awards comprises former Barnsley manager Danny Wilson, Sky Sports' EFL expert Don Goodman; EFL Communications Director Mark Rowan and Sky Bet EFL trader Ivor Davies.

The achievement marks a proud day for Ainsworth, whose son Kane turns 13 and whose band - The Cold Blooded Hearts - have released their first single, The Wanderer, across all major digital platforms.