

Bucks Free Press

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TEEN ROBBERS GET LOCKED UP OVER STABBING

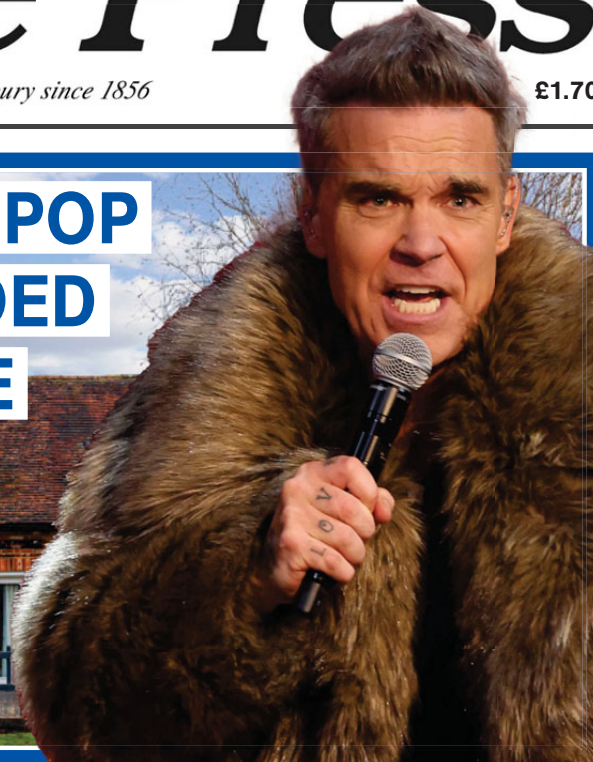


PAGE 5

HOUSE WHERE POP STARS RECORDED IS UP FOR SALE



PROPERTY: PAGES 39-46



£100 AMAZON VOUCHER TO BE WON: PAGE 23

Bus lane camera never switched on



Bus boss says blocking lanes must be stopped

BUS lanes must be kept clear at peak times, Carousel Buses has said following news that a new traffic camera in Wycombe has not been switched on yet. The camera next to the bus lane on the A40 London Road is one of 14 Buckinghamshire

By Charlie Smith

Council has rolled out to enforce moving traffic rules. The technology spots a variety of traffic offences.

Full story: Page 5



PAGES 8-9

FRESH BID TO CATCH MOTHER'S MURDERER



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HOCKEY

Hockey in Marlow continues to thrive



Marlow receive their pennant for promotion

HAVING won their last match, Marlow Hockey men's first team were presented with the pennant awarded to the winners of South Central Premier League One.

Next season, they will be in the National League and probably in the West Conference.

So, Marlow men will be joining the Women's first team, who were promoted last season and held their own at that level in their first season.

To have two teams in the National League is a great tribute to the coaches and all those who work so hard behind the scenes and has taken many years to achieve.

That leaves 12 other teams to mention. They have had mixed fortunes, but the main thing is that hockey has been enjoyable and the

support from families and volunteers needed to run an operation of this size is enormous.

Underpinning everything is the large junior operation, which goes on all week, giving coaching and match play chances to up to 500 juniors.

League positions:

Mens: 2nds- 9th, 3s- 3rd, 4s-3rd, 5s-9th, 6s- 1st and promoted, 7s- 1st and promoted with a goal difference of plus 60.

Women's: 2nds- 1st and promoted, 3s- 6th, 4s- 3rd, 5s- 12th, 6s- 4th, 7s- 12th.

*The junior highlights this year were the GU18 reaching the indoor national finals as well as the U12 indoor competitions run by Rachel Baker.

FOOTBALL

Beaconsfield return to winning ways on the road

BEACONSFIELD Town returned to winning ways, with a good performance to beat Kings Langley 2-0 away from home, writes Arran White.

After an even start to the game, Beaconsfield began to get on the front foot, and limited Kings Langley to a couple of half chances on the break. The first real chance for the opener for Beaconsfield came when Usman Lalustani was played through and found himself one on one with the home sides keeper, however the keeper did well to quickly close him down and make it difficult to get a shot away, and keep the scoreline poised at 0-0.

A rare mix up at the back for Beaconsfield gave Kings Langley a sight of an open goal after the ball had found its way past the defence and on rushing keeper Tommy Dymott, however the angle was awkward for the attacker who saw his shot fly well wide of the far post. Beaconsfield continued to create chances and found

a deserved lead in the 34th minute when the ball came to Josh Marcon who calmly fired it past the keeper and into the bottom corner. Beaconsfield could have extended their lead from a corner just before the break, but Ibbby Sankoh's header flew just over the bar.

It was a fast start for Beaconsfield in the second half, and they doubled their advantage in the 47th minute with Lalustani linking up with Marcon, who still had plenty to do and fired a great shot into the top corner from just outside the box, for his and Beaconsfield's second of the afternoon. Beaconsfield looked a real threat after the second goal, and dominated the rest of the second half, with Kings Langley having a couple of late chances to pull on back in the closing stages, but they were well defended by a strong Beaconsfield defence.

Beaconsfield are on the road again tomorrow, travelling to Biggleswade FC.



Beaconsfield take on Kings Langley'. Image: Arran White

Holmer Green earn win and clean sheet

AT the fourth time of asking, The Greens finally recorded a win at Spartans Youth, winning 2-0, writes John Anderson.

Not only that, they kept a clean sheet for the sixth time this season.

The visitors started well, taking the game to Spartans. Holmer nearly scored on five minutes. A regulation left-wing cross to the far post was headed back across goal by Oskar Esplund-Evans. Jeffrey Fordjour controlled the ball, performed a neat turn and fired a shot off

the underside of the crossbar. At this point the home 'keeper inexplicably went down. This ploy was probably deliberate, as the home side had started with only ten men. A huge centre-half came on, having arrived late. That did not stop Esplund-Evans soon getting in a cross of his own, which Lloyd Majaya mis-headed. The ball fell kindly for Aaron Bryan, but he could not keep his effort down. The Greens were playing good football, and on 16 minutes took the lead. Bryan headed a Spartans' defensive throw in-

side to Martin Lancaster. The skipper put a hanging cross into the home penalty-area, where a defender could only head the ball at Josh Peck. The striker added to his two midweek goals by turning and placing the ball just inside the home goalpost, despite being surrounded by three defenders.

On 50 minutes there was a complete mix-up in the home defence. Although facing away from goal, Peck intelligently flicked the loose ball over the adjacent goalkeeper and defenders, but it drifted just past

the right-hand post. Peck only had to wait the minutes for another defensive howler to arise. This time the 'keeper was short with a pass out to a wide defender; and the ball went straight to Peck. Initially the gift was not controlled perfectly, probably due to the element of surprise. But Peck quickly regained his composure and moved forward to tuck the ball firmly under the advancing custodian.

The Greens safely saw out the match, with only a few very minor incursions into their own penalty-area.

GOLF

Bucks teen helps England

BUCKS teenager Ellie Lichtenhein helped England Under-16s beat Spain 16-8 in their international match at Seaton Carew Golf Club.

England found themselves 8-4 up after day one and despite Spain fighting back to level the morning foursomes 2-2 on Sunday, a dominant England singles display in the afternoon saw them win 6-2 to romp to victory.

England Girls won 9-5-2.5 overall, while the Boys won 6.5-5.5. Emily Peaford and Lauren Crump were England's star performers, having both won all four of their matches played.

England Assistant Performance Manager India Clyburn said: "It's been a great two days of competitive matches between us and Spain. Seaton Carew stood up as a great test of links golf with some cold weather and a stiff breeze, especially on Sunday afternoon, but overall the team played great and it's great to see the hard work over winter pay off.

"These matches are perfect opportunities to gain that international match experience. It's yet another win for us and we're looking forward to getting the season underway, with four of the girls heading to Scotland this week for the Scottish Girls' Championship at Arbroath Golf Club."

FOOTBALL

Aylesbury Duck Trail returns for another year

AYLESBURY United have teamed up with Aylesbury Town Council - and our very own Derek the Duck - again this year for another Easter Duck Trail around Aylesbury.

From April 7-21, 10 life-sized Ducks will be hiding in local businesses around the town, each holding a secret letter, which when brought together will form a clever anagram puzzle.

Decipher the anagram by 6pm on April 21 and you'll be in with a chance of winning a fantastic prize.

The Ducks lost 4-1 at home to Real Bedfont on Saturday, Luqman Kassim scoring the hosts' only goal of the day.

Sport

BERKS AND BUCKS FINAL

Bracknell Town defeat Heathens in final

FLACKWELL Heath lost the Berks and Bucks FA Senior Cup final, at Slough Town's Arbour Park, to Bracknell Town, 3-1, writes Arran White.

The game got off to a frantic pace with both sides getting in to attacking areas. Flackwell's Jack Shakespeare forced Bracknell's Micheal Eacott into a smart save within minutes of kick off.

Bracknell ignored the warning from Flackwell, who broke through and took an early lead inside five minutes, Wiktor Makowski firing in to make

it 1-0 with a fierce shot from just inside the box.

Flackwell looked on top after the goal, and looked to add a second, getting forwards on several occasions. A Bracknell found a way through in the 43rd minute. Substitute Gabriel George, who had only been on the pitch a matter of minutes, had an initial shot saved before following up the rebound to make it 1-1 as the game entered half time.

The second half started with Bracknell appealing for a penalty, but the referee quickly waved it

away. However, it did not take long for Bracknell to take an early second half lead. A ball in the box was not fully cleared, and Jordan Esprit slide in to poke it home to make it 2-1. Bracknell began to look the better side from there on, and despite Flackwell having a good chance from a freekick, it was Bracknell who scored again. Gabriel George had a good effort from a freekick saved by Carl Dennison but made no mistake in smashing home the rebound to give Bracknell a commanding 3-1 lead in the 79th minute.



The Berks & Bucks FA Cup. Photo: Arran White

FOOTBALL

Chesham stun huge crowd at promotion-chasing side

CHESHAM United achieved arguably their best result of the season with a 2-1 victory at promotion-chasing Torquay United.

More than 3,600 home supporters packed into Plainmoor while 70 travelled from Buckinghamshire to Devon Their five other away wins have come against teams near the foot of the table, but Torquay are title hopefuls and Chesham matched them most of the way and pinched the points with a late winner.

Chesham had the first chance in the fourth minute, when Mitchell Weiss beat the offside trap but keeper James Hamon came out to block. At the other end Cody Cooke controlled a long clearance but shot over the bar from the edge of the area.

Torquay's main threat came from set pieces, and one corner from Jordan Young bounced up off Offrande Zanzala at the far post but Ben Goode was able to grab the ball. Another Young corner was headed back across goal and Zanzala nodded over, but eventually the home side took the lead following another corner.

Young's kick was headed towards goal by Jordan Dyer, the ball came off Callum Adebisi onto the post and over the line with Dyer eventually being credited with the goal. In stoppage time Torquay's Cody Cooke curled a shot over, then in the next minute Jordan Young's shot produced a fine low save from Ben Goode. The half ended with a shot from the edge of the area by Mitchell Weiss that took a slight deflection and went just wide.

The home side started the second half confidently and it was a surprise when Chesham

By Andy Westlake

equalised out of the blue on 49 minutes. Alex Lafleur shot right footed from the edge of the area and Zak Joseph jumped out of the way of it, which left Hamon unsuspected and unable to stop the ball finding its way into the corner of the net. The goal changed the game as Torquay lost confidence and Chesham began to look the better side.

Torquay began to claw their way back into the game but their main threat was still aerial, and from one Young corner Jay Foulston headed down and up but Ben Goode tipped over. Another Young corner was headed towards goal by Emmanuel Ilesanmi but Goode again tipped over. Chesham won a corner of their own which Connor Roberts took low and Joe Grant shot over. As Torquay became increasingly desperate Chesham broke away late on, and Joe Grant combined with Nathan Minhas to set up Alex Lafleur who drilled a left-foot drive into the corner of the net past Hamon's left hand on 89'. The home side again pushed forward and won a free kick which Jordan Young took but Ilesanmi headed wide at the far post.

Full time and Chesham United won the game 1-2 and secured three points that seals their place in National League South for next season. They currently occupy 14th place in the table with chances still to come to improve on that position.

Chesham's next game is this Saturday against Farnborough while Chesham's 1st team women travel to Chatham Town on Sunday.



Alex Lafleur celebrates his equaliser. Image Neale Blackburn

FOOTBALL

Flackwell win again

FLACKWELL Heath came out 6-4 winners in a ten goal thriller in Hertfordshire in-front of a bumper 1045 crowd, writes Mark Glynn.

The reason for the huge attendance was Hertford Town had a long serving volunteer celebrating his 93rd birthday and his birthday wish was to get a thousand fans in for this league game.

It didn't take long for Flackwell to start spoiling Hertford's celebrations, straight from kick off a long range shot from Shakespeare awkwardly bounced in front of the keeper who couldn't stop it flying into the back of the net.

With the home crowd behind them, Hertford weren't going to let Flackwell have it all their own way and hit back in the sixth minute, the impressive Carr linked up well with Gblahan and equalised with a neat finish. Carr lifted by the equaliser went on a mazy run beating two Flackwell defenders and put the ball on a plate for Painter to put the home side 2-1 up in the ninth minute. With the momentum fully with Hertford now and Flackwell reeling a long goal kick mis-read by Dennison fell kindly to Gblahan who lobbed the back tracking keeper.

It would have been easy for Flackwell to lose hope but they didn't and got a goal back on the 16th minute, centre back Mapley prodding the ball in after his header rebounded back to his feet.

In what was a common theme in the first half, Carr found himself in space down the right yet again and managed to get his cross to the back post for Painter to make the score 4-2 in the 36th minute.

With the two goal lead extended all Hertford had to do was see the game into half time and they would have been in a very strong position, the inform Shakespeare had other ideas though and clawed another goal back in the 41st minute. Flackwell's number ten guided a delightful header into the far corner from a perfectly placed Avery cross, the sides went in with the score at 4-3 after a whirlwind first half.

After what you could only imagine were some strong words in the Flackwell changing room the visitors came out a different side showing more aggression and front foot football.

On the 61st minute Harding was played through on goal but the keeper was out quickly to challenge the forward. Makowski who reacted quickest to slot home the loose ball and level up the score to 4-4.

This time it was Flackwell's turn to turn the screw and just four minutes later after a deft chipped through ball from Harding Makowski got to the ball first and was cleared out by the keeper, penalty to Flackwell and Makowski remained as cool as ever from the spot to put the visitors up 4-5.

With Flackwell a lot more solid in the second half they defended a lot better against the dangerous Hertford attack and in the 85th minute they struck the killer blow.

The win strengthens Flackwell's position in third place. Flackwell host Welwyn Garden City at Wilkes Park on Saturday.

Dodds reflects on a 'harsh week' after defeat to Reading

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds said it has been a 'harsh' week for the club after they dropped more points in the promotion push.

The Chairboys lost 1-0 away to Reading on April 5 thanks to a 77th-minute Harvey Knibbs penalty, just four days after they drew 0-0 to bottom-of-the-table Shrewsbury Town.

This was after the Adams Park side had an incredible 32 shots on goal.

The result in Berkshire means Wycombe remain third but are now six points behind Wrexham who occupy the last automatic promotion place.

A place in the play-offs looks certain now, but Dodds wants 'more quality' from his team after drawing two blanks in consecutive games.

He said: "If I am being honest, it has been a really harsh week.

"The fans, the players and the people behind the scenes at the club don't deserve what has happened.

"We have had over 50 shots on goal in two games and we've not scored, yet today's opposition has had.

"Will Norris hardly made a save and we should have six points.

"It is tough to take and we'll feel sorry for ourselves for the next few hours, but we'll dust ourselves off for Tuesday [against Huddersfield]."

The first period saw Wycombe be the better of the two sides as Richard Kone, Cameron Humphreys and Adam Reach all went close before Garath McCleary's



Mike Dodds has seen his side have more than 50 shots on goal in the last two games without scoring

header was brilliantly saved by Joel Pereira in the second period.

Reading just defended after they won a penalty from a Humphreys foul on ex-Wanderers man Chem Campbell, Knibbs scored his 16th of the season and they defended for their lives.

Despite this, Dodds is confident that a wave of goals will

be scored in one of the club's next six matches.

He continued: "From my perspective, listening to the players from what they have said to each other, they know the performances are fine.

I think we need a little bit of luck in the final third and sadly, we haven't had that in recent games.

"If we keep performing

like we have done in recent games, we will be fine.

"I hate talking about data because the reality is that I have lost a game of football, but Reading had an XG of 0.10 – they did not look like scoring in any way today.

"I saw it was going one way and was waiting for that moment to land for us.

"When the penalty hap-

pens and they score, the game completely changes.

"It's been a harsh week for everyone connected to the club, but if we keep creating those chances, a team is going have a lot of goals scored against them in the next six games.

"I just want more quality as we need to score from our chances."

FOOTBALL

Loss hits bid for automatic promotion

WYCOMBE Wanderers' push for promotion took another stumble as they lost 1-0 away to Thames Valley neighbours Reading.

On a glorious Saturday lunchtime which saw 1,672 Chairboys fans make the short trip across the M4, Mike Dodds' side started the better.

In the opening two minutes, Adam Reach's lob nearly caught out goalkeeper Joel Pereira, but the ex-Manchester United man was able to claw it away.

Wycombe continued to show their dominance during the opening periods as Richard Kone went close but again, Pereira kept it out, before Cameron Humphreys fired his shot on the touchline into the side netting.

After a very bright start for Wycombe, the all-Thames Valley affair began to fizzle out as the latter stages of the first-half were more of a midfield battle.

This culminated in Wanderers' Xavier Simons and Amadou Mbengue clashing after the latter wiped the former who was on a menacing run forward.

Both sets of players got involved in the scrap before referee Thomas Kirk issued two yellow cards to players who started the meleé.

The second period saw Wycombe again look good in the final third but rarely tested Pereira in the Reading goal.

Josh Scowen fired over, Kone missed the target whilst substitute Dan Udoh went close.

The Chairboys' best chance of the latter stages fell to former Reading man Garath McCleary, as his header from inside the six-yard box was brilliantly tipped away by Pereira.

The stop was so stunning that several Wanderers players were in disbelief that the winger's header did not find the net.

Wycombe were lacking ideas in the final 15 minutes despite making a triple change which saw Alex Lowry, Gideon Kodua and Udoh, it was the Royals who took the lead.

Humphreys' careless tackle on ex-Wanderers man Chem Campbell in the penalty area left Thomas Kirk no option but to point to the spot.

Up-stepped Harvey Knibbs who slotted home his 16th of the season and his second against Wycombe this season.

The defeat is a demoralising one for the Chairboys, because coupled with Wrexham's home victory against Burton Albion, a shot in the automatic promotion places looks highly unlikely.

Wycombe remain third on 75 points.

Up next is Huddersfield Town away on April 8.

FOOTBALL

Manager asks Wanderers to 'stick with us'

MIKE Dodds has asked the Wycombe Wanderers supporters to 'stick with us' as the club continues to fight for a place in the Championship.

With five league games left of the season, the Chairboys currently sit in third, one place and three points behind second-place Wrexham who occupy the last automatic promotion place.

It has been an inconsistent couple of months for the Adams Park side as they have only managed to secure back-to-back league wins just once this calendar year, but, after a hard-fought 1-0 triumph against Huddersfield Town on Tuesday night, Dodds insists the club 'have a chance of being successful'.

Speaking to the Wanderers media team ahead of this weekend's home clash against Stevenage, he said: "One thing I do ask is that the fans stick with us.

"[Saturday] could be one of those afternoons where a team just wants to sit in

and make things difficult.

"It might not be, I don't know, but Stevenage are a well-oiled machine out of possession so they'll be hard to break down.

"We'll have to try and find solutions for that over the next couple of days."

Speaking on the supporters, he added: "I can appreciate the stress the fans have been going through for the last five games - I'm not naïve to all those stresses and anxieties.

"I think I said when I came to the football club that we need to be balanced and level.

"I will be respectful towards the stress and anxiety as I know how much it means to people, but we can't get emotional with that.

"We need to be focused on what we need to do.

"We need to turn up on Saturday against Stevenage, be focused on getting three points and not focus on anyone else.

"If we do that for the next five games, we give ourselves a chance of being successful."



Wycombe sit three points off the automatic promotion places



SPORT

Wycombe legends team up to co-host new podcast



Alan Parry (left) and Gareth Ainsworth (right) will co-host it

WYCOMBE heroes Martin O'Neill, Gareth Ainsworth and Adebayor Akinfenwa feature in a brand new podcast, co-hosted by Wanderers fan and broadcast legend, Alan Parry

'Shall we sing a song 4U', explores the links between football and music with Ainsworth, who is also the lead singer in the rock band, the Cold Blooded Hearts, being a joint presenter.

Speaking about the launch of

the podcast, Parry, who worked at Sky Sports for several years, said: "We have guests from the world of football talking about their love of music and well-known names from the entertainment business chatting about their favourite football teams."

"Martin O'Neill and Bayo have some very surprising tastes in music whilst another of our guests Henning Wehn tells us how he became a big Wycombe

fan."

Continuing the Wanderers theme, the podcast is produced in partnership with major club sponsor Cherry Red Records.

Other guests include punk rock fanatic and former Nottingham Forest left-back Stuart Pearce and Cookham-based entertainer Timmy Mallett.

'Shall we sing a song 4U' is available on the usual platforms including X, YouTube and Instagram.

Dodds hails 'gutsy win' over Huddersfield Town

WYCOMBE Wanderers boss Mike Dodds hailed his side's "gutsy" performance as they claimed a 1-0 victory away to Huddersfield Town.

Daniel Udoh fired home the game's only goal in the 63rd minute for his eighth league goal of the season.

The result cuts Wrexham's advantage in second place back down to three points in the race to join Birmingham in achieving automatic promotion.

Speaking at full time, Dodds said: "It's a really important three points, not just in terms of the league table - which I know everyone will obviously focus on, I understand that - but just for the group."

"They've been hurting the last two games, because they've taken one point from a possible six before this evening when we genuinely feel it should have been six and now it should be nine from nine."

"But look, it is what it is. I think that's just rewards for the previous two performances if anything, and that's not to take away from tonight's performance."

"It was a different type of performance. It wasn't as fluid, and it wasn't as controlled in terms of possession, but this is a really good Huddersfield team, regardless of league position."

"They've got a huge budget for this league. You've just got to look at the stadium and the surroundings, it's all geared up to be a Championship football club, so we knew it was going to be a dif-

James Richings

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ficult evening.

"We knew we had to set up slightly differently, but the players executed exactly what we wanted from them, and it's just rewards for a really kind of gutsy performance."

Wycombe's next five games will see them face two teams who currently sit in the play-offs in Charlton Athletic and Stockport County respectively, whilst also facing Bolton Wanderers who are also hoping to break into the top six.

They will also face Leyton Orient who have an outside chance of reaching the play-offs and Stevenage who are midtable.

With five cup finals coming up, Wycombe's hero from Tuesday night, Dan Udoh, has urged the club's fans to 'keep on supporting' the team as the season nears its climax.

He said: "Full credit to them for travelling all this way [to Huddersfield]."

"It's not an easy journey and they've done it on a Tuesday night off their own back."

"We're going to need them as they'll be important for the next five games."

"If we're going to get over the line and get what we need to get, we need every single one of them."

"Please keep on supporting us and thank you."

Up next is Stevenage at Adams Park on Saturday lunchtime.



Mike Dodds has now won five of his 13 games in charge of Wycombe. Image: Nick Potts/PA

Important win keeps promotion push alive

WYCOMBE Wanderers gave their automatic promotion hopes a boost as they claimed an important 1-0 win away at Huddersfield Town.

Both sides were heavily incentivised to push for the victory, with the Chairboys hoping to narrow their six-point gap to second-placed Wrexham and the Terriers two points off the play-off places.

In what was the first meeting between the two sides at the John Smith's Stadium in four years, the hosts went close inside a minute after Lasse Sorensen played in Ben Wiles, but his shot from a narrow-angle ran wide of the far post.

The ex-Premier League outfit continued to dominate the ball in the first half from there, but counter-attacking Wycombe had all the best chances.

Josh Ruffels got back superbly to stop Richard Kone from getting a one-on-one with Lee Nicholls, and Caleb Taylor had a set-piece header cleared off the line by Dion Charles.

The opening half fizzled out before Mike Dodds' side bossed the last few moments, ending the first 45 with eight shots as both teams went into the break goalless.

This means Wycombe have had 58 attempts at goal in their last two-and-a-half games without scoring.

Despite this, Wanderers took the lead just after the hour, with Kone seizing on Ruffels' poor touch in the final third and playing in Daniel Udoh to fire home.

It was his eighth of the league season and his ninth overall since joining from Shrewsbury Town in the summer.

Wycombe have also never lost a game in which the Nigerian had scored in, winning seven and drawing twice.

Huddersfield pushed for an equaliser, but Will Norris turned a late Wiles header over the bar.

Norris was also on hand to push away an Antony Evans free-kick, as he kept his seventh clean sheet in 13 matches since joining from Portsmouth.

The result means Wycombe remain third, but only three points behind Wrexham with five games to go.