

Bucks Free Press

Friday, February 16, 2024

High Wycombe, South Bucks, Chilterns and Aylesbury since 1856

£1.60

PAGE 4

Give us a voice

Renewed efforts to get Wycombe a town council



Inquest opens into triple stabbing deaths



PAGE 6

'We won't get A&E back,' says MP

High Wycombe's hospital 'not equipped for it'



THE lack of an A&E service at High Wycombe's hospital is due to advances in modern medicine, says MP Steve Baker.

Mr Baker addressed the issue, explaining that the nature of presentday healthcare means that High Wycombe's hospital is simply not equipped to host a full-scale A&E department.

By Isabella Perin

The Free Press asked for his comment after a woman from Flackwell Heath waited "16 hours" to have her son seen at Stoke Mandeville

Steve Baker said: "Unfor-

tunately, modern medicine means a full A&E in Wycombe is just not possible.

"No amount of political will could trump the reality of improved modern medicine and it is misleading to suggest otherwise."

Full story: Page 7

Bank on it! Four pages of nostalgia



PAGES 56-61

Divorce, separation, finances & child arrangements.

Contact our family team today to arrange a free consultation.

Call 01753 709262 or visit kiddrapinet.co.uk



Download our free GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING DIVORCE kiddrapinet.co.uk/divorceorseparation

kiddrapinet SOLICITORS

New T Kash AUTHENTIC INDIAN CUISINE IN GREAT MISSENDEN

Award Winning Chef 2022

Banquet Night Every Tuesday Evening 5.30pm-10.30pm

Please visit our website to view menu

56 High Street, Great Missenden, HP16 0AU Tel: 01494 866 953 Email: info@newakash.com



FREE DELIVERY WITHIN 3 MILE RADIUS

Jai Ho

Fine Indian Restaurant & Takeaway

T: 01494 717351 / 717352

Book Now For Mothers Day



ORDER ONLINE jai-ho.co.uk Hazlemere Cross Road, Hazlemere, HP15 7LG

Sport

SPORT: HOCKEY IN THE TOWN**How did the Marlow teams do last week?**

THE men's 1st team were away to runaway South Central Premier League 1 leaders Reading 2 who were the better team and won 4-0.

Marlow had some chances but failed to score and frantic defending led to two penalty strokes, both converted.

Two other goals came along and Marlow remained in 6th place 12 points above the next team and not far behind the teams above, apart from Reading who are well away at the top.

The 2nd team were away to the top of the table Amersham and Chalfont 1sts in what promised to be a close-fought encounter.

The first half was very even with Marlow unable to capitalise on some great build-up play after effectively pressing their opponents and winning the ball in good areas.

A&C took a 1-0 lead into halftime after converting a short corner past the Marlow defence.

The second half was played much the same way as the first with both

teams cancelling each other out and chances for the forwards hard to come by.

A breakaway goal for A&C out them 2-0. Raj in goal made some great saves and a save off the line by Dave Harding kept Marlow in the contest.

A late goal by Dan Field gave Marlow hope but they ran out of time to find the equaliser. It was a tough game but Marlow came away with their heads held high after putting in a good team performance and frustrating the top-of-the-league team.



It was a mixed weekend for Marlow

SPORT: WANDERERS KNOCKED OUT IN THE QFS**Chairgirls are defeated in the cup by the Cherries**

A WEEK after the Wanderers' home win against unbeaten league leaders, Bournemouth Sports, the Chairgirls see themselves knocked out of the League Cup, after the South Coast side defeated Wycombe 1-0.

A first-half posed various opportunities for both sides to gain the lead, with Bournemouth gaining the edge earliest. An early corner in the third minute for the hosts was sent in confidently but rolled off the crossbar and out of play for a goal-kick, maintaining the square scoreline in the opening minutes.

A quick retaliation from the Blues conjured opportunity for conversion, as a quick-footed Krystal Follett weaved her way round Sports' defence down the right wing before sending in a curling strike from the edge of the box which just inched over the crossbar.

A commendable defensive display from the visitors at the hands of goalkeeper Chelsea Coles, who made a vital save in the 11th minute, as she tipped an on-target 30-yard free-kick over the bar and out to safety.

With the first 45 ending goalless, the second half was set to be vital for both sides as they looked to progress to the semi-finals of the Cup.

The final 45 began with a dominating start from the Chairgirls, as they controlled the pace of play and accumulated the earliest convincing chances of the half with Follett and Emma Newberry coming close to gaining the lead.

Five minutes into the half, Follett looked keen to work on a pass from Katie Riddington

By Darcie Panayiotou

which rebounded off one of Bournemouth's defenders and into her path, but her shot was just shy of the target. Soon after Follett's attempt, the Chairgirls were awarded a corner, which was taken by Newberry, but her in-swinging kick from the right rattled off the crossbar.

Another close opportunity for Wycombe to convert followed a lay-off of the ball from Riddington to find Follett situated on the far post, but quick defensive moves from the hosts denied a look in at goal.

Sports gained the lead in the 69th minute as they took advantage of a corner which dropped into the box and was slotted in from close-range.

In need of an equaliser to take the game to penalties, the Wanderers came close as first-team debutant, Daisy Thompson, got ahead of the hosts' back-line to send in a shot but was blocked by the keeper who stepped off her line to collect the ball.

A last late attempt of getting back on level terms resulted from a corner sent in from the left to find player of the match, Emily McCartney, whose header was caught by the keeper.

Bournemouth Sports earned their progression to the Semi Finals of the League Cup as they secured a 1-0 win, ending Wycombe's look-in at silverware this season.

The Chairgirls head back to action on Sunday February 25, as they take on Ascot United in the league, home at the 1878 Stadium.



It wasn't Wycombe's day on the South Coast against Bournemouth (PA)

SPORT: FOOTBALL**Greens beaten again**

LOOKING at recent form, the home side with five straight wins against visitors on a four-game run, all defeats and no goals for; the result would not be a surprise.

Holmer Green FC lost again as they fell to a 4-0 away defeat to British Airways.

With games running out, the same team that went down versus Langley at Uxbridge took the field for the visitors

The strong wind was blowing across the pitch, ahead of the expected rain which arrived on 25 minutes of play.

By then The Greens had played reasonably and had a fair share of the possession and territory, but as usual hadn't really troubled the BA 'keeper.

The goal came on 16 minutes, when a poorly cleared ball arrived at the feet of a home player 25 yards out.

He quickly assessed the situation and creamed a low shot across Matt Gilbert and in off the far post.

The Greens competed well for the remainder of the half, but picked up a significant caution for Sammy Hill just before the break.

An injury to Lewis Cousins saw Kudzai Chunga enter the game on 49 minutes.

Then Ewan Philpot picked up a caution. Oscar Raymond also had to be replaced.

This time by the returning Ruairidh Barnes, who hadn't played since mid-December.

But Holmer were still in the match, and in with a chance until the hour mark.

Then after Philpot had quite definitely fouled an opponent in an insignificant part of the field, Hill kicked the ball away.

The Referee reached for his cards.

It was the centre-back who was shown Yellow followed by Red. Still Holmer kept themselves in the game.

But on 77 minutes concentration lapsed and BA helped themselves to a second goal.

After Ollie White had come on for skipper James Saxby on 82 minutes, the home side fashioned a third goal in similar circumstances to their second. The final goal came in stoppage time, again in off a post.

Holmer Green's fixture with Rising Ballers Kensington, scheduled for Saturday, February 10, was postponed due to an unplayable pitch.

FIXTURES:

Bedfont v Bagshot
Berks County v London Colney
Brook House v Westside
Eversley & California v Amersham Town
FC Deportivo Galicia v Molesey
Holmer Green v Spartans Youth
Langley v London Samurai
Oxhey Jets v British Airways
Windsor v Penn & Tylers Green
Woodley United v Hillingdon
Yateley United v RB Kensington

FOOTBALL: FIVE STAR SHOWING

A day to remember for the Chairboys



It was the first time that Wycombe had scored five in a league game and won since September 2016

WYCOMBE Wanderers made it two league wins from two as they smashed promotion-pushing Peterborough United 5-2 in an entertaining encounter at Adams Park.

The day began with the Chairboys sitting in 16th place, just four points clear of the relegation zone, whilst the Posh were fourth, three points off the automatic promotion places.

But Wanderers peppered Nicholas Bilokapic with attempts, and on 38 minutes, Kane Vincent-Young produced an incredible Cruyff turn on the left-hand side, beat three defenders whilst on a mazy dribble which included a textbook stepover, before firing in a low cross that was turned into his own his net by Archie Collins.

Wycombe then doubled their lead right on the stroke of half-time as Jack Grimmer scored his first Adams Park goal for the

club since joining nearly five years ago.

Boos were heard at half-time from the Posh faithful as they were flat during the first period, before things got worse at the start of the second half.

Bilokapic was pressured into giving the ball away by substitute Beryly Lubala, with his stray pass finding the feet of Sadlier who smashed home from the edge of the box.

It was his fifth of the season, and his third in as many games.

Peterborough managed to get two goals back in the space of 120 seconds through a brilliant strike from David Ajiboye and an own goal through Ryan Tafazolli, but strikes from Sam Vokes and David Wheeler, both substitutes, wrapped up an amazing afternoon at Adams Park.

It's the first time in two years that Wanderers had scored five at home.

AP'S PREVIEWS

The derby that's not a derby

FOR the third time in a week Wycombe face one of the top teams in League One when they entertain Oxford United at Adams Park on Saturday, February 17 in what is being billed as the 'M40 derby'.

The punishing schedule began with a memorable 5-2 demolition of promotion hopefuls Peterborough United in one of the most exciting and entertaining games seen at Adams Park for a long time.

Wycombe's fast, attacking brand of football was a joy to behold and with key players like Josh Scowen and Chris Forino close to returning from injury, there is real competition for starting places in Matt Bloomfield's squad.

The Wanderers boss made four changes for the midweek trip to Bolton Wanderers yet they still created a hatful of chances, but an off night in front of goal cost them dearly as they lost 2-1.

Now the Chairboys face another top six side in Oxford, who have been in the promotion picture for most of the season, despite their recent form being patchy. They had lost two and drawn three before a midweek victory over Wigan Athletic.

Wanderers have an excellent record against their near neighbours, unbeaten in the last six meetings with four wins including victories home and away last season.

They met earlier in this campaign in a thriller at the Kassam Stadium which saw referee Seb Stockbridge award three penalties. Two of them were converted by Wycombe's Luke Leahy, but he was adjudged to have committed a foul in stoppage time that led to Cameron Branagan scoring from the spot to earn Oxford a 2-2 draw.

Liam Manning was boss of Oxford that day but a month later he was replaced by locally born Des Buckingham, his first managerial role in this country after successful spells coaching in New Zealand, Australia and India.

Buckingham is one of the few coaches in the EFL who never played at professional level, and he began coaching Oxford's youth teams when he was still a teenager himself.

A bigger than usual crowd is expected at Adams Park as Wycombe have the chance to put more daylight between themselves and the bottom four.

MATCH REPORT: BOLTON W 2-1 WYCOMBE W

Positive display on the road despite midweek 2-1 defeat

WYCOMBE Wanderers came to rue their chances as promotion-pushing Bolton Wanderers defeated the Chairboys 2-1 at the Toughsheet Stadium.

Captain Gethin Jones would sink a header from an elaborate set piece in the 31st minute, and Jón Daði Böðvarsson's deft piece of skill to turn the ball into the bottom left corner in extra time would ensure the Trotter's victory, whilst a Luke Leahy penalty deep into stoppage time would prove a consolation

goal for Matt Bloomfield's side.

Wanderers started the game off well, with Freddie Potts dragging an early chance wide of the left post before the game quickly opened up with both teams pushing high and leaving space open.

Wycombe would have a major chance when Joel Coleman, making his Bolton debut, would misplace the ball to Dale Taylor.

He would find Beryly Lubala, who, in a one-on-one situation, tamely passed the ball to the

keeper's grateful hands.

Wanderers are playing with confidence with an EFL Trophy semi-final coming up, along with two back-to-back wins in the league, as Matt Butcher went close, before Chem Campbell also tried his luck

But it would be Bolton that got the game's first goal, as an intricate corner by Nathaniel Ogbeta, was headed home by Jones.

Despite this, several chances would come for Wycombe, as Dale Taylor went close, and Keiran Sadlier, once of Bolton, had his attempt blocked before Butcher's long-range shot went high and wide.

The second period saw both teams have many attempts, but in the first minute of stoppage time, Bolton wrapped up the win thanks to Böðvarsson's seventh of the season.

There was still some drama in the final few seconds, as goalkeeper Coleman brought down David Wheeler in the penalty box, giving the Chairboys a spot kick, which Luke Leahy converted.



Luke Leahy (pictured against Derby) scored his ninth of the season against the Trotters on February 13 (PA)

THE STARTING 11 AT BOLTON

1. Stryjek

26. McCarthy

6. Tafazolli

17. Low

10. Leahy

11. Campbell

19. Potts

8. Butcher

23. Sadlier

30. Lubala

20. Taylor

SUBS USED:

Lonwijk,

Wheeler,

McCleary,

Vokes, Kone

The best home performance of the season?

MATT Bloomfield has explained why he opted to start rookie striker Richard Kone in the club's 5-2 home victory against Peterborough.

It was expected that Sam Vokes was due to feature in the first 11, but the manager decided to give the young Ivorian forward his first-ever start in an EFL fixture.

An Archie Collins own goal, a Jack Grimmer finish, a wonderful thunderbolt from Kieran Sadlier and late strikes by Vokes and David Wheeler

gave the Chairboys their second win in two weeks.

It also means they are now unbeaten in their last five games against the Posh.

Bloomfield said: "Sam had a good game against Cheltenham last week, but he had a slight issue with his calf."

"I also thought it would be a running game against Peterborough, so I didn't want to risk Sam and that's why we started with Richard."

"Sam's a huge player for us and he's

already missed a large part of the season."

On the result, he added: "We've had testing moments so to enjoy a day like today in front of our supporters against an incredible team in our league is great."

"I told the boys that I have huge belief in them."

"I've seen the pain they've gone through and I see what they give me on the training ground."

"We've had moments go against us

but that hasn't altered my belief in the group at all."

"The character the boys showed was really important as it helped us get over the line."

"We've had a few good weeks in front of goal as we've tweaked a few things."

"The competition within the group has heightened, and the boys are playing with a lot of confidence."

"We had a few lean periods so for the goals to come at once shows we're working well."

SPORT

0963-2336



Cheers for Chesham as they continue to stride



Ryan Upward scores a goal of the season (Trevor Hyde)

IT'S been another busy week at The Meadow with two home games on the weekend of February 11 and 12, as Chesham United FC welcomed Swindon Supermarine FC, whilst Chesham United Women hosted AFC Wimbledon Women on Sunday.

First to the men – the Generals came into the game seven points clear at the top of the table and the team were keen to retain that advantage with a solid performance.

Chesham turned on the style to claim their fifth consecutive win and maintain their lead at the top of the

table.

Swindon won the reverse fixture back in November but there was never a chance of a repeat once Jordan Edwards (32') had opened the scoring, and Chesham went on to play some quality, dominant, highly entertaining football with at least one goal that will linger long in the memory.

With Edward's goal the only score of the first half, half-time gave the home team a 1-0 advantage.

Swindon had a couple of attacks early in the second half but Chesham

were soon back into their stride. Just after the hour mark Ogo Obi (62') was able to double Chesham's lead with a crisp shot.

On 82 minutes Callum Adebisi broke away following a corner and set up Jordan Edwards who ran through and slotted past the keeper to make it 3-0.

Chesham wrapped up the points with one of the goals of the season on 89 minutes, when Lewis Rolfe headed a Bradley Clayton free kick back across goal and Ryan Upward scored with a spectacular overhead kick (pictured). On Sunday, Chesham United FC

Women welcomed FA Women's National League table toppers AFC Wimbledon Women to The Meadow

Four goals for AFC Wimbledon gave the visitors all three points but for Chesham it was a really solid, high tempo performance that will stand us in really good stead for games to come.

Chesham United's next home game is on February 24 against Poole Town (3pm).

The Women welcome Sudbury United Women on Sunday, February 18 (2pm).

Adam's Park named in honour of Adam Ankers

By James Richings

WYCOMBE Wanderers will rename its stadium for one week-end following the death of a young fan.

The home of the Chairboys will be referred to as Adam's Park, rather than Adams Park, for when they take on M40 neighbours Oxford United on February 17, in honour of 17-year-old, Adam Ankers.

The teenager passed away earlier this month after suffering a cardiac arrest.

This was during one of the club's under 19 fixtures, where he was also a member of the Wanderers Foundation.

Wycombe confirmed the news of the name change on February 14, after they received the blessing from the family of Frank Adams, whom the stadium was named after when it opened in 1990.

It is planned that the warm-up t-shirts and other items used from Saturday's fixture against Oxford will be made available for fundraising purposes, through Wycombe Wanderers Foundation, to raise money for Thames Valley Air Ambulance and Harefield Hospital, which provided specialist medical care to Adam after he fell ill.

Adam's family and teammates from Henley College will be attending the fixture at Adam's Park, and his family released the following statement: "His loss to the family is both shocking and devastating; he was so very loved and we will never forget what a bright light he was to us.

"His passion and talent were for sport and especially football; he was absolutely living his dream and had so much more potential.

"He represented his county in Athletics and was playing for Wycombe Wanderers Foundation U19 team when he suffered a cardiac arrest and collapsed during the game.

"Despite the attempts by staff, Air Ambulance paramedics who were on the scene within minutes, and later specialist medical teams from the renowned Harefield's Hospital, Adam's injuries were not survivable; he passed away peacefully, surrounded by the love of his family.

"We wish to extend our thanks to all those who came to Adam's help and the outstanding professionalism, care and compassion that they provided to him.

"We also add our thanks for the support provided to the family by Henley College, the Wycombe Wanderers Foundation and Wycombe Wanderers Football Club."

The club have remained in close contact with the Ankers family and, with their wishes, will celebrate Adam's life with a minute's applause ahead of kick-off at the Oxford fixture.

During Wanderers' previous home fixture against Peterborough United, a standing ovation was conducted in Adam's memory in the 17th minute.

To read the full statement issued by Adam's friends and family following his tragic and sad passing, please go to wwfc.com/news/2024/february/14/its-adam-s-park/.

The match will kick-off at 3pm at Adam's Park.



Adam Ankers died on February 5 whilst playing a match for the Wycombe's U19s. He was only 17-years-old, (Alastair Ankers)

New club following exit in January

EX-WYCOMBE Wanderers defender Richard Keogh has joined a new club.

The 37-year-old has penned a short-term deal with Forest Green Rovers of League Two, with the West Country outfit currently sitting bottom of the Football League table, nine points off safety.

He made his debut in the club's 4-0 home loss against Mansfield Town on February 10, playing the full 90 minutes wearing the number 36 shirt.

He said: "I'm excited to get going and I'm looking forward to getting into the thick of it straight away.

"Myself and the gaffer have a long-standing relationship, and when he called me, the whole challenge excited me. I want to come here and help the group in any way I can.

"I wouldn't be here if I wasn't ready for the challenge ahead. There's loads of points to play for, there's a good feel around the place with the new gaffer in place, so we just need to keep pushing each other."

Keogh, played 25 for Wycombe between August and January, before his contract was terminated by mutual consent during the previous transfer window.

Prior to his second move to Adams Park (he had brief stint in Bucks back in the autumn/winter of 2005), he spent seven successful years at Derby County before also playing for Milton Keynes, Huddersfield Town Blackpool and Ipswich Town.

He has also played for Coventry City, Carlisle United, Cheltenham Town, Bristol City, Stoke City and Vikingur in Iceland.

The central defender also played 26 times for the Republic of Ireland first team, scoring once.