

Bucks Free Press

Friday, March 1, 2024

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks, Chilterns and Aylesbury since 1856

£1.60

PAGE 6

Mum with 'five years to live' says signs missed



£5m to fix up holes



PAGE 3

WIN £100 of B&Q vouchers

COMPETITION ENTRY ON PAGE 32

'Murder' in suburbia

Mum found at home and man held in killing probe

By Eleanor Burleigh

A MURDER probe has been launched after a 'warm and caring' mum was found dead at her Beaconsfield home.

Police descended on the quiet suburban street of Seelys Road early on Friday, where a 40-year-old woman was found with serious injuries. She has been named as Paramjit Gosal-Gill and described by family as a 'beautiful little angel'.

A 39-year-old man has been arrested and charged with murder.

Full story: Page 2



Emerging technologies are a business game changer. Get up-to-speed on their huge potential at D5's 'Creative Tech for Comms' event.

CREATIVE TECH FOR COMMS



Red Kite Pavilion, HP22 5HL
AM & PM Sessions
Call 01442 827486

7 MARCH
2024



RADHUNI
INDIAN RESTAURANT

Radhuni Lounge & Restaurant is a stylish and welcoming space to relax and socialise. Perfect for meetings, lunches, drinks/cocktails and premium dining.

The Old Library, Princes Risborough,
HP27 9AA
01844 690446
www.radhunilounge.com

Sukhothai
Thai Restaurant

Award Winning
**Restaurant &
Takeaway**

50 High Street
Great Missenden HP16 0AU Bucks
Tel: 01494 868 911
www.sukhothaimissenden.com



20% off food bill only with
this advert or quote BFP
Sunday - Thursday only

Sport

Congratulations in order for local squash

FEBRUARY was a quieter month for the club in terms of team matches, with just the 3rd Team having a game against Beaconsfield Bears, writes Nick Colston.

Despite initially losing the first two matches against tough opponents, Holmer Green Squash and Racketball Club (HGSRC) managed to turn things around and secure a 3-2 win by winning the final three matches. The players enjoyed a nice curry afterwards and had time to reflect on the matches.

Our 1st team take on Tring on the 28th, with the 2nd and 3rd team's back in action the following week.

With a quieter February, this opened the door for the club to hold its annual championship tournament. Run over two weeks, and split into two grades, the two weeks were filled with matches between many individuals who wouldn't normally play one another.

With lots of great quality squash on display, a few unexpected results, and a great atmosphere

throughout, it all came down to finals day which was held on the 25th.

After Matt O'Regan had to pull out of the finals due to other commitments, Andrew McDermott stepped in to take on Steve Wetherall in the Grade B final.

Having stepped in, Andrew certainly stepped up taking the victory 3-0. Grade A consisted of 3 finals.

First on court it was Nic Blagg taking on Ryan Glover in the 3rd place final. Nic managed to secure the win 3-0. Up



Alex with his trophy

FOOTBALL

Loss against the league leaders



Wanderers Women team with several mascots from the day

WYCOMBE suffered their first home league defeat this season as they were defeated 4-2 against league leaders Ascot United, despite two Kine Andersen freekicks giving the Chairgirls the lead during the first half.

A pulsating first half began with both sides trying to establish control of the game however, the deadlock was broken by Ascot in the 18th minute with Yellows centre forward ability to cut the ball back into the home teams six-yard box a warning of things to come.

Wycombe struck back within two minutes from a Kine Andersen free kick from 25-yards after the Ascot keeper lost flight of the ball in the air.

Wycombe then took the lead after Amy Leach was brought down by the Ascot keeper, who was very lucky to remain on the pitch only receiving a yellow card, when clear through on goal.

The resulting free-kick from 19-yards was dispatched again by Andersen into the top corner and gave the Chairgirls the lead for the first time.

However, a lapse in concentration allowed Ascot to score once again from inside the six-yard box in the 40 minute and make it 2-2 against the run of play going into the break.

It was all to play for in the second half and as the game moved into the latter stages it was Ascot that got the key goal of the match from the penalty spot on the 69th minute.

The moment proved pivotal as a minute later they were awarded a penalty on 70 minutes following a defensive lapse and another cross into the home side's from six-yards.

With only 20 minutes to play the task for Wycombe to get back into the match was too great as Ascot retreated into a low block to protect their lead.

Player of the match for Wycombe was Kine Andersen showing her quality throughout both with and without the ball.

Next match: Away to Bagshot Lea Sunday 3rd March 2pm KO, Operatix Community Ground.

SPORT: Weekly report from the Marlow hockey teams

A mixed weekend was the women win but men lose

AFTER a week's break, here's how the Marlow Women's Hockey team fared out.

Marlow 1sts travelled to Henley as both teams showed determination to win.

Martha Goodridge had beaten the Henley keeper but was denied a goal by a great save off the line by a Henley defender.

Henley had their chances too including a penalty corner but keeper Alys Ramm and her defence held strong to keep them out.

The breakthrough came as Marlow's Lauren Hilditch, who played for Henley last season, opened the scoring for the visitors after some incredible play from Goodridge played her in.

Both teams continued to fight in the second half.

With rising tensions came cards for both teams.

Henley capitalized on a defensive error which led to a penalty corner.

They slotted the ball past the Marlow defence to draw level. Marlow had several chances to regain the lead, Mabel Daw showing her pace with some incredible runs from defence.

Marlow earned a penalty corner with 15 minutes remaining in the match.

Bethany Halbard scored her sixth goal of the season with a touch in front of the keeper to put Marlow back in the lead.

Marlow earned a well-fought three points and remain top of the league with five matches to go and 10 points to the good.

The 2nd team were at home to Chichester 1st and a first half first half brace from Helena Sykora helped secure a point in a 2-2 draw.

By David Wiltshire

Marlow had a strong first half and took a deserved lead when Emma Buxton's early pass found Sykora who smashed in from a tight angle.

Her second, an individual reverse stick effort from the top of the D, doubled Marlow's advantage.

Chichester halved the deficit with a slick corner shortly before halftime.

The away side drew level slightly fortuitously as a corner strike was charged down but the deflection looped in just under the bar.

The game became more scrappy as both sides searched for a winner in vain.

Other women's results include the following: The third team lost 3-2 to Staines 1, 4s lost 3-2 to Leighton Buzzard 2, 5s beat Windsor 3 5-2 away, 6s lost 3-2 to Yateley 2, 7s beat Harlow High Wycombe 3-0 away.

For the men's 1sts, they took a depleted squad to Bournemouth and start well and took an early lead, but fell 2-1 behind before the break.

The second half was a similar story, Bournemouth again taking their chances from corners to go 3-1 and then 4-1 up.

Marlow had similar opportunities at the other end, but couldn't execute at quite the same consistency.

Bournemouth then put the final nail in the coffin with 3 minutes to go to make it 5-1.

Man of the match was Ollie Harvey, who made his Marlow 1sts debut in the defeat.



Lauren Hilditch in action for Marlow

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

High Wycombe Rugby Club win the league



A picture of the team

HIGH Wycombe Rugby Club have won their respective league with four games to play.

The feat is even more impressive considering the South Bucks side have yet to lose a single game this season.

Wycombe, who on the championship on February 17, are top of the table, more than 20 points ahead of second place, Oxford.

The table reads as this:

1. HW RUFC

Played: 18

Won: 18

Points for: 702

Points against: 160

League points: 89

2. Oxford RFC

Played: 18

Won: 13

Points for: 429

Points against: 351

League points: 65

There was more positive news to share as the club's playing membership 'is getting back to pre-Covid levels', whilst the ladies/girls section is currently expanding.

They are also on the hunt to recruit more players, and those who are interested have been encouraged to contact the club.

It has also been revealed that the inclusion of a balcony on the back of the clubhouse over looking the pitch has resulted in an increase of spectators this season.

CHESHAM UNITED

The Generals march on at the top of the league table

THE Generals left it late before claiming their seventh consecutive win and extending their lead at the top of the table to 11 points, writes Andy Westlake.

Salisbury, in second, only managed a draw against Didcot making the day even more enjoyable for the Chesham faithful! Poole were on a run of six defeats but made it hard for Chesham who needed a late penalty to turn the game in their favour.

Once again Chesham named the same 16, but with three changes to the starting eleven – Kieran Murphy, Roddy Collins and Zak Joseph coming in and Eoin Casey, Ryan Upward and Jordan Edwards dropping to the bench. The first 45 minutes remained goalless with Chesham creating the best moment of the half on 14 minutes. A Bradley Clayton through ball found Alex Lafleur on the overlap. Lafleur then pulled the ball back to Ricardo German who was denied by visiting keeper

Lloyd Thomas.

The second half was much more entertaining with 4 goals for the 783 in attendance to enjoy!

On 74 minutes a Jordan Edwards through ball saw Ricardo German break clear and score. However, five minutes later Chesham failed to clear a throw-in, and Poole equalised. 12 minutes later (86') a penalty was awarded to the home team. A Chesham cross was cleared, and Alex Lafleur went towards the loose ball on the by-line only to have his arm pulled by Poole's Declan Rose. Although it almost certainly falls into the 'soft' category, it was right in front of the referee who had little alternative but to give it and Ricardo German (pictured) converted. The icing on the cake was a late injury time third when German sent Jordan Edwards clear to round Lloyd Thomas and fire home. 3-1 and 3 more points added to an impressive tally.

On Sunday Chesham United FC Women travelled to Ashford United Women in the FA Women's National League. It was a tough day with a referee that sin-binned 3 Chesham players in the 90 minutes. At one point Chesham were down to 9 players so it made the task of winning even harder and they ended the day on the wrong end of a 3-0 away defeat. The referee was like Harry Potter who had learnt a new spell – he had a real enthusiasm to keep trying his new sin-bin card all afternoon against Chesham!!

In contrast to that defeat Chesham's over 40 Women's Walking Footballers came back from the final day of the Thames Valley Women's Walking Football League, Division 3 as league champions!

Chesham United FC's next home game is against AFC Totton on March 16th (3pm). Chesham United FC Women are at home against Norwich City Women on March 3rd (2pm).



Photo Trevor Hyde

Reaction after late win over Cheltenham Town

MATT Bloomfield has shared his thoughts on Wycombe Wanderers' 2-0 home victory against Cheltenham Town.

Two goals in the final five minutes from Joe Low and a stunner by Bez Lubala secured the Chairboys their first league triumph in four attempts.

The win has lifted them up into 14th on 41 points for the season.

On the performance, he said: "I thought we created some really

good opportunities in the first-half but rushed a little bit in the final third, where he didn't quite have the composure to get the goal.

"But, we did hit the bar through Dale Taylor.

"There was a bit of a lull after the penalty but that Cheltenham a spring in their step, so I thought we needed a bit of fresh energy, as we've had such a busy schedule recently.

"I'm really pleased with the impact the substitutes had."

The fixture also saw Franco Ravizzoli make his league bow since joining from Milton Keynes on a free last summer.

It was only the second EFL appearance of his career, and his first since January 2022.

His last outing was against the West Ham United U21s in the EFL Trophy, which Wanderers won 2-1. Bloomfield continued: "Franco

was very good in goal.

"He didn't have a lot to do but I thought his kicking was excellent."

"He is very calm, trains consistently, and he did everything that was asked of him.

"I'm also really pleased with the clean sheet.

"He's a good friend of Sergio Torres who is a friend of mine, and we're happy to have him here."

AP'S PREVIEW

Getting reading for Barnsley

AMIDST the euphoria of guiding his team to a Wembley cup final, Wycombe boss Matt Bloomfield acknowledged that securing the club's place in League One remains his first priority, so the midweek victory over Cheltenham Town could be one of the most important results of the season.

Reaching the final of the Bristol Street Motors Trophy lifted the spirits of everyone at the club but was quickly followed by defeat at Stevenage and a reminder that they are still uncomfortably close to the relegation places.

Wycombe fans were left smarting after the setback at Stevenage where goalkeeper Max Stryjek was sent off by referee Darren Drysdale who also denied Wanderers two penalty claims. Stryjek was subsequently suspended for three matches for 'serious foul play' – a ridiculously harsh decision.

Now the Chairboys face another team chasing promotion when they entertain Barnsley at Adams Park on Saturday, March 2.

The teams met in Yorkshire in November last year, Barnsley winning 1-0 thanks to a controversial goal scored in stoppage time with Stryjek and Drysdale once again in the spotlight.

With the score at 0-0, the Wycombe 'keeper was trying to kill time when he was pushed over by Barnsley striker Sam Cosgrove before dropping the ball, allowing Cosgrove to tap it into an empty net.

Careless play by Stryjek, but with most people expecting a free kick to be awarded for a foul, Drysdale allowed the 'goal' to stand. Wanderers later revealed that PGMOL, the body in charge of referees, told the club it should have been disallowed.

It gave Barnsley their fifth win in the last six meetings between the clubs, the only exception being a 3-0 away victory for the Chairboys in August 2022. The game was notable for two brilliant long-range goals scored by Dom Gape and Nick Freeman, both of whom are now with other clubs.

Barnsley have won six of the eleven previous meetings and suffered only one defeat in five visits to Adams Park, a 1-0 success for Wanderers in December 2018.

SPORT

0963-2336



Bad news as Vincent-Young suffers big injury blow



Vincent-Young has played 21 times for Wycombe since joining

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has confirmed that full-back Kane Vincent-Young is expected to be out 'for a little while' following his latest injury setback.

The 27-year-old hobbled off after just 30 minutes in the club's 1-0 away loss against Stevenage, in which suffered a problem with his quadriceps.

It's the second major injury the ex-Ipswich Town man has suffered this season, after a problem with his hamstring caused him to sit on the sidelines for three months.

Since moving to Adams Park in the

summer, Vincent-Young has played 21 times in all competitions.

Speaking after Wycombe's 2-0 victory against Cheltenham on February 27, Bloomfield said: "Kane is out for a little while which we're really disappointed with.

"Saxon Early is also out for a little while and we're all forgetting that Brandon Hanlan has been out for a long time too.

"He was a key part to our plans and was a huge player us at the start of the season, and we've not been able to use him since November.

"But the business we've done in January was really important due to our schedule.

"Whilst you'll get some disappointing players who don't play, I'll try and be as honest as I can with them.

"For us to be at our best, we needed to chop and change for a bit so that'll probably be the way between now and the end of the season.

"This is a positive as it'll give lots of the players minutes under their belt."

One positive on the injury front is that centre back Chris Forino is due to

return 'soon' following his spell out.

The 23-year-old hasn't played since the 4-1 victory over the Brighton & Hove Albion U21s at the end of January.

Bloomfield continued: "Chris isn't too far away – he twisted his ankle when we played Brighton making a brilliant challenge, so losing him was a big blow.

"But, he's back out on the grass.

"He's not ready yet, but he's not too far away."

Up next for Wycombe is a home fixture against Barnsley on Saturday.

Owner addresses the fans at open Q and A

By James Richings

WYCOMBE Wanderers owner Rob Couhig has addressed the club's why two members of the board of directors were removed earlier on this month.

Missy Couhig [Rob's wife], and Pete Couhig [Rob's nephew], were removed of their roles on February 12 this year, as confirmed via Companies House.

This has caused speculation that a potential takeover of the Adams Park side was in the works, after Couhig announced in the summer of last year that he was planning to sell the club in the next three to four years.

However, in an open Q and A to the Wycombe fans ahead of the Chairboys' 2-0 home victory against Cheltenham Town on February 27, the American lawyer explained the current situation, where he revealed the removal of both Missy and Pete were 'fundamental errors' that weren't 'supposed to be done yet'.

He told the floor: "There are many more things we want to do with this club to make it the club it can be.

"We're starting to branch out a little bit, that's why we're adding a few more people to the board that will demonstrate where we're headed.

"The removal of Missy and Pete was a fundamental error by the lawyers as it wasn't supposed to be done yet.

"We were setting it up so it would be done later on in the year, so we filed certain papers because I do expect to bring other people onto the board including a friend of mine, Mikheil Lomtadze, who I think will be very helpful to the club in building itself up.

"In Pete's case, he's spending a

lot of time as the sporting director, and I think he's one of the reasons why we had one of our finest transfer windows ever.

"In Missy's case, quite frankly, she always said she'd serve four years, and this is her fourth year.

"Don't read too much into those but on the other hand, nothing is forever as we all know.

Mikheil Lomtadze, who is from Georgia but currently resides in Kazakhstan, has a net worth of approximately £4.8 according to Forbes magazine.

He is a former private equity investor and generated revenues of \$2.9 billion in 2022.

Rob Couhig: "One day, my day will come and go and their day will come and go.

"The one commitment I'll make to you is that when we hand on this baton, and this is a lesson I've learnt, is that whilst we own clubs, we don't own clubs.

"At the end of the day, this club is more yours than it is mine, and the next owner, I'll endeavour that is a better owner than I have ever been.

"That's the only commitment I can make to you."

The Couhigs have owned Wycombe since the 2019/20 season, and have guided the Chairboys to three Wembley finals in five years, as well as a year in the Championship.

They also appointed Matt Bloomfield as manager, which was the first managerial change the club had experienced in over a decade.



Rob Couhig spoke to the Wycombe fans ahead of Wanderers' match against Cheltenham on Feb 27 (WWTC)

New deal for fan favourite Pattenden

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed that right-wing back Jasper Pattenden has penned a new deal with the club.

The 21-year-old, who has featured in 14 competitive fixtures for the Chairboys this season, broke through into the first team back in September following an injury crisis along the right-hand side of the defence.

He has since started eight games in the league this campaign but hasn't played in the division since the 1-0 away loss against Barnsley in November.

The ex-Worthing man suffered a hamstring in the 2-0 home loss to Morecambe in the FA Cup and has only played one game since.

Despite this, his attitude and determination have been noticed by the Wycombe hierarchy, who have offered Pattenden a new deal.

Manager Matt Bloomfield said: "Jasper had to be patient for his chance, but he grabbed it when it came before he picked up an unfortunate injury.

"He's got great energy about him, and I love the way he conducts himself.

"He was the first to congratulate the boys after the win on Tuesday even though he hadn't been involved.

"We've got high hopes for him and we're delighted he's committed himself here.

"We're proud of the development programme.

"Pete Couhig put a lot of hard work into it to get it up and running and it gives guys like Jasper the chance to step up from non-league. It's been a real success story for this club."

Pattenden penned his new deal ahead of kick-off at Tuesday night's league encounter against Cheltenham Town, which the Chairboys won 2-0.