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TV's Konnie books in at school

Fight to protect our pubs



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Furniture maker who kept Mosquito flying



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TOWN CENTRE SHAKE-UP

An artist's impression of designs for the revamp of the Curve site, with a view from the Oxford Road side

EXCLUSIVE: The Curve's transformation plans revealed

By James Richings

MAJOR plans to regenerate a tired and dilapidated part of Wycombe's town centre have been revealed – and the public's opinions are wanted.

The Curve building – formerly known as Octagon Parade and once home to Pure nightclub – could be overhauled to make way for 70 new flats and space for the community.

A public consultation starts on Monday, with residents invited to the Front Room, on Castle Street, to learn more.

Full story: Page 4



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Sport

SPORT: HOCKEY

No defeats for Marlow's two top teams

HOW did the Marlow Women's Hockey team do last week?

Marlow 1st played Oxford Hawks2 in a top-of-the-table clash at Pound Lane.

The Reds started strongly with an incredible run from

Mabel Daw in the opening minute which led to an early opportunity but Marlow were unable to capitalize. Hawks were quick in their attack too and had their chances from penalty corners.

Hawks opened the scoring with a shot from a tight angle that eluded

Marlow keeper Alys Ramm. Marlow dominated possession but were unable to find the back of the net leaving the halftime score 1-0.

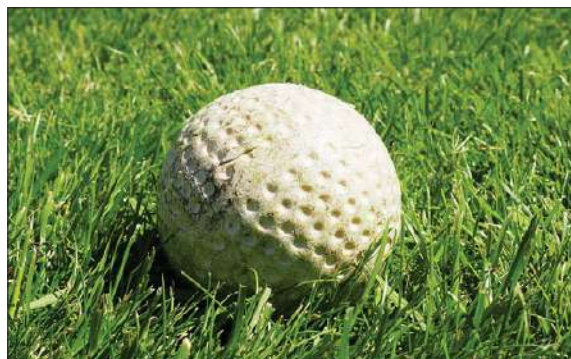
Hawks doubled their lead early in the second half which gave Marlow even more impetus to get one back. They earned a penalty corner in the 54th minute which Mabel Daw deflected past the Hawks keeper.

Marlow continued to push for an equalizer and missed numerous opportunities leaving the final score 2-1.

This first loss of the season still leaves Marlow top of the league by 9 points and looking to bounce back against Maidenhead next week at home.

The 2nd team played away and their fight against relegation continued as they held 4th placed South Berkshire 1 to a draw, earning a precious point.

Mistakes at the back gifted Berkshire an early goal but Marlow responded thanks to a deflected strike by Lenny Connetta.



Both matches took place last weekend (Pixabay)

SPORT: FOOTBALL

Sitting just outside the relegation zone after loss

WINDSOR were forced to make a key last-minute change to the team that had won its last three away games.

The Royalists set up in their now familiar 3-5-2 formation which has served them well in recent weeks and really got hold of the game in a first half in which they created a hat full of chances.

In truth, they could easily have been 4-nil up after 23 minutes had twin strikers Georg Gudjohnsen and Nathan Green been more clinical in front of goal.

Gudjohnsen did make amends on the stroke of half time however, despatching a neat half volley into the right-hand corner of the net from six-yards.

This was no more than Windsor deserved against a very good Deportivo team who can really inflict some damage if you allow them to play but seemed a shadow of the team that had inflicted a 3-nil defeat on Windsor earlier in the season at Holloways Park.

Half Time: Deportivo Galicia 0 - Windsor FC 1

As the old adage goes, if you don't take your chances, you get taken and sure enough that proved to be the case in a second half in which Deportivo looked much more like a team running on Spanish DNA.

They bravely went three up front matching Windsor's back three, leaving their two central defenders one-on-one with Gudjohnsen and Green.

This nearly proved to be their undoing in the 65th minute when Gudjohnsen with only the goalkeeper to beat, looked certain to score before pulling up with a ham-string injury.

This proved to be a turning point in the game.

Substitute striker Omar Miller-

By Kevin Scott

Talaste was unable to match Gudjohnsen's intensity which somewhat nullified Windsor's press, allowing Deportivo to dominate possession.

It therefore came as no surprise when Deportivo equalised in the 70th minute which was a fair reflection on their second half display.

Had the game ended at this point you'd suspect that both sides would have been happy with a point - but it didn't.

Somehow Referee Philip Chaykin found 15 minutes of injury time and Deportivo snatched the winning goal and all 3 points in the 104th minute.

Final Score: Deportivo Galicia FC 2 - Windsor FC 1

Windsor Team: Rudd, Supernak, White-Glean, Kambamba, Jenkins, Matani, Gudjohnsen, Smith, Rand-Brade, Pelliccia. Subs: Miller-Talaste, Al Shubasi, Inman, Watson, Healey.

The result means Windsor sit in 17th place in the Combined Counties Football League Division One table on 28 points.

Despite them sitting several places above the relegation zone, they have conceded the second most amount of goals this season with 91.

Only Holmer Green, who are second bottom, have let in the most with a staggering 99.

Windsor are in the same league with several Buckinghamshire and Berkshire outfits such as Amersham Town, Berks County and Penn & Tylers Green.

Visit www.bucksfreepress/sport for more sport articles.



Georg Gudjohnsen in Windsor

MARCHING ON
More points for Chesham

IT was another big week for the Generals who were the only senior Chesham team to take to the pitch.

Due to a waterlogged pitch, Sunday's FA Women's National League fixture against Norwich City FC Women was postponed but with games for Chesham's men on Tuesday and Saturday we have 2 Southern League Premier South games to report on.

On Tuesday night Chesham's run of seven consecutive wins came to an end, but a late header from Callum Adebisi extended their unbeaten run to 12.

Chesham's second game of the week extended their lead at the top of the league table to 15 points with a narrow 1-0 win over mid-table Hendon.

Roddy Collins returned as one of the three central defenders with Lewis Rolfe reverting to right back in place of Avan Jones.

Zak Joseph and Bradley Clayton also came in for Jordan Edwards and the injured Ogo Obi.

Chesham had the better of the early exchanges and won a couple of free kicks near the home goal but couldn't convert.

On 18 minutes Chesham had the best chance of the half, when Ricardo German set up Ryan Upward who prodded the ball just wide of the post.

Hendon's best effort came just after the half-hour, when a long-range effort forced Chesham's Zaki Oualah into a diving save.

Chesham eventually broke through on the hour. Bradley Clayton's shot was tipped over the bar.

The resulting corner was cleared but Clayton won the ball and advanced into the area only to be barged over by Simeon Oларerin.

It was an unnecessary penalty to concede but Ricardo German (pictured) happily converted to reach the 30-goal mark for the season.

The game ebbed and flowed for the last 30 minutes and in the end fizzled out tamely with only one more moment of note when Hendon had a goal disallowed for a push on T'Sharné Gallimore.

Full time came and Chesham travelled back from NW9 with another valuable three points.

With Salisbury's game getting rained off this weekend Chesham now have a 15-point lead with 9 games to play!

Chesham United FC's next home game is against AFC Totton on Saturday, March 16.

The women welcome Ashford Town on Sunday, March 10.

EX-CHAIRBOY GOES ABOARD

New club for one-time Wanderer Dennis



Dennis Adeniran played 22 times for Wycombe in his only season with the club (PA)

A FORMER Wycombe Wanderers midfielder has joined a side playing in the Israeli Premier League.

Dennis Adeniran, who spent the 2020/21 season with the Adams Park side when the Chairboys were in the Championship, penned a deal with Hapoel Petah Tikva on January 31!

His move to the Middle Eastern team comes just months after he signed for Portimonense S.C. in Portugal, following his release from Sheffield Wednesday.

He initially joined on a three-year deal but after just one appearance for the Mediterranean outfit in just half-a-season, he moved to Israel on a short-term contract with an option for a further two years.

Before his move abroad, Adeniran started his career at Fulham before

being signed by Everton.

After failing to make a single first-team appearance during his four years at Goodison Park, he joined Wanderers on loan and played 22 times in their maiden year in the second tier of English football.

Despite impressing at Adams Park, he was not resigned by then manager Gareth Ainsworth and subsequently joined Sheffield Wednesday on a free transfer.

During his two years in Yorkshire, he played 51 times and scored seven goals.

He also won a League One play-off medal after the Owls defeated Barnsley in the final last May.

His time at Wycombe was mainly impacted by injury issues.

AP'S PREVIEWS

Preparing for a Royal rumble

WYCOMBE make their shortest journey of the season when they travel 20 miles along the M4 to Reading on Saturday, seeking a first ever away win against their Berkshire neighbours.

Wanderers have lost five of their six previous visits to the Royals, a 1-1 draw in the League Cup in 1996 being the only time they have avoided defeat in the Berks-Bucks clash.

Reading were relegated to League One last season after a decade in the Championship and before that the Premier League, and their season has been dogged by financial problems and fan protests against the owner.

They are currently below Wanderers in the table but only because they had six points deducted due to failing to pay wages on time. They have been in excellent form over the last ten games with a record of W5 D3 L2, and in that spell they beat top six teams Derby County and Stevenage

In all competitions, the Chairboys have beaten Reading just three times in fifteen meetings, all coming at Adams Park.

Their most memorable win was in Division Two in 1999 when they triumphed 5-3 with striker Sean Devine scoring a hat-trick.

Wycombe's most recent success was a 1-0 victory in 2021 in a Championship fixture played behind closed doors during the Covid lockdown season. That remains their only success in the last nine games between the clubs.

Reading won 2-1 in the reverse fixture at Adams Park last November with all three goals coming late in the first half.

Sam Smith put the Royals in front on thirty minutes, Killian Phillips equalised two minutes later and what proved to be the winning goal was scored by former Chairboys player Lewis Wing just before half time.

Their attack is spearheaded by two former Cambridge United strikers, Harvey Knibbs is top scorer with ten goals followed by Smith on eight, while Wing has found the net five times.

Reading have proved to be consistent scorers this season but they have one of the worst defensive records in the division, so this local derby promises goals and entertainment.

To read more about the latest Wycombe Wanderers news, go to www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/sport.

SPORT: WANDERERS 2-4 BARNLSLEY

Wycombe's Wheeler is sent-off without touching the ball

WYCOMBE Wanderers substitute David Wheeler was sent-off after just 10 seconds as the Chairboys lost 4-2 at home to promotion-pushing Barnsley.

The Tykes rarely threatened as they absorbed the Wycombe pressure before Dale Taylor scored his eighth of the season on 17 minutes.

Barnsley nearly responded straight away but Franco Ravizzoli was on hand to brilliantly tip away a Corey O'Keefe header over the crossbar.

It was Wycombe's half as Joe Low, Garath McCleary and Kieran Sadlier all went close, but the tide turned on the stroke of half-time.

After Luke Leahy needlessly gave a free-kick away just outside the Wycombe box, Luca Connell's set-piece crashed against the crossbar before Donovan Pines tapped home for his first goal of the season.

It was a real sucker punch as Wycombe had been in control, but they managed to regain the

lead just five minutes into the second period.

Lubala's backheel found McCleary who assisted Sadlier who couldn't miss from three-yards.

However, things turned for the worse in a chaotic 16-minute period.

First, centre back Pines scored his second of the contest with another close-range attempt on 56 minutes.

Then, nine minutes later, O'Keefe put Barnsley ahead after some terrible defending in the Wanderers box.

The Chairboys responded with a triple substitution as Taylor, Sadlier and McCleary all made way for Sam Vokes, Wheeler and Gideon Kodua.

However, just five seconds after play restarted, Wheeler kicked out at O'Keefe after the ball went out of play, and referee Dean Whitestone was left with no option but to brandish a red card.

The loss of the utility player hampered the Chairboys, as Conor Grant made it 4-2 with 15 minutes left.

Wycombe remain 14th.



David Wheeler was sent off for the first time in his Wycombe Wanderers career (PA)

STARTING 11 VS THE TYKES

25. RAVIZZOLI

2. GRIMMER

17. LOW

6. TAFAZOLLI

10. LEAHY

12. MCCLEARY

8. BUTCHER

4. SCOWEN

23. SADLIER

20. TAYLOR

30. LUBALA

ATTENDANCE:

4,768 (822

AWAY)

Boss reflects on quickest red card of the season

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has reflected on David Wheeler's red card in the 4-2 home defeat to Barnsley.

The utility player was substituted in the 67th minute of the contest at Adams Park but was given his marching orders roughly 10 seconds after the game restarted.

He was penalised for kicking out at the Tykes' third goal scorer, Corey O'Keefe.

Wheeler left the pitch without touch-

ing the ball, and it's believed to be the quickest a player has ever received a red card in the EFL.

He will now serve a three-game ban. Bloomfield said: "I did see it as it happened and I've watched it back.

"There was an incident at Stevenage last week where one of my players was left on the floor with a leading elbow, and it's happened again today.

"Max Stryjek was done for dangerous play or whatever the rule, and we've proven to the FA that it wasn't

but as it wasn't an obvious error, he gets done for three games.

"Then, one of my players gets hit in the elbow in the jaw.

"It happened again today but his [Wheeler's] reaction isn't right.

"He was sent off and rightly so I'm not complaining about that.

"At the moment, we seem to get punished for things that aren't dangerous.

"Dave is off the pitch to let the ball go over his head as it's out of play, and a left elbow goes to his jaw.

"I've seen the provocation and his reaction isn't right."

On the loss, he said: "I think it was down to a slight lack of discipline."

"We let in a couple of soft goals as I believe they were completely preventable.

"The sending off doesn't help because we created many opportunities and in recent games, we've been strong.

"Even at 10-men, which is very difficult, we were creating chances."

SPORT

0963-2336



How Wycombe 'massively helped' this disabled fan



Liam O'Rourke (right) with ex-Wycombe manager Gareth

A Wycombe Wanderers fan has praised the Adams Park club for the way they have helped disabled supporters in recent seasons.

Liam O'Rourke, who has been a supporter of the Chairboys for well over 10 years, is a sufferer of cerebral palsy and uses a walking stick and sometimes a wheelchair.

However, despite his impairments, he is regularly spotted at HP12 cheering on the club he loves.

Speaking to the Free Press ahead of their home match against Barnsley, which was partnered with the Level

Playing Field football project, Mr O'Rourke said: "The disabled supporters event at Adams Park is to raise awareness of the good work the football club is doing whilst also trying to help fans who want to enjoy the games.

"I have cerebral palsy which impacts the lower half of my body and for me, things have got better in recent years as people have got educated as the world has got a bit more perceptive towards things like this.

"The club have helped me massively

as everyone behind the scenes has been very accommodating."

Level Playing Field is a registered charity in England and Wales, and acts as a campaigning and advisory organisation to its membership and other parties across all sports.

They aim to help both visibly and mentally disabled supporters of any team within the county to enjoy their matchday experience.

When visiting different stadiums as a disabled person, he continued: "Personally, Adams Park is great for me but I understand everyone will

have their preferences.

"The stadium is great for people like myself and at away games if I've been to a certain stadium, then I'll know what to expect, but I tend to do some research into the ground's facilities if I've not been there before.

"I'll also speak to other people similar to me to see what they have to say, but most of them, you don't know until you get there.

"Most of the grounds that I have attended in my life have been very helpful and the staff have been lovely. "It's not too bad."

Club captain Jacobson on antisemitic abuse

WYCOMBE Wanderers captain Joe Jacobson has revealed he was provided extra protection by the club after he received antisemitic abuse earlier this season.

The 36-year-old, who joined the Chairboys in the summer of 2014, has been targeted on social media for being among the few Jewish footballers in England's professional leagues.

And following the October 7 terror attack by Hamas which saw hostilities between Israel and Palestine increase, Jacobson has admitted he was given a security escort when visiting Adams Park.

Speaking to Sky News, the club captain who has played nearly 400 times for the Chairboys, said: "I've never had anything on social media until this season.

"It's my testimonial year and we've got a dinner planned in a couple of weeks' time.

"There's a comment, not on my Twitter but on Wycombe's Twitter calling me something and that's their first reaction and you can see they're not a Wycombe fan by their profile.

"So why are you looking to see what Wycombe are doing and see something about me reply in a certain way?"

"Those things weren't there before, but they've happened since October.

"People can have their views on the conflict, I have them and I'm not saying mine are the same as everyone else's, but, to voice an opinion like that on social media to someone is sad.

"People need to realise what they're saying isn't right or acceptable."

Since the terrorist attack last autumn in Israel committed by Hamas, there has been a sharp increase in antisemitism with the

By James Richings

UK.

The Community Security Trust (CST) revealed reports of 4,103 anti-Jewish hate incidents in 2023.

A large proportion occurred after the October 7 atrocities.

This is an increase from 1,662 in 2022.

In 2021, 2,255 reports were made.

Jacobson continued: "I sat down with the head of communications of the club and said, 'is it OK to write this?' I changed it, and he said it was 'absolutely fine'.

"Sometime later, there was a reaction as people thought it was related to the present day, which it wasn't.

"I had messages on social media and the club were sent emails and letters demanding that I apologise and if I didn't, they'd barricade the gates at Adams Park on a matchday.

"A few days later, and I didn't know at the time, one of the players wanted to join me in my car from the training ground to the stadium [on a matchday].

"I didn't think much of it but the secretary called him and asked how close we were which I thought was strange.

"I parked my car, and three or four staff members went around me and said, 'it was time to go in [the stadium]'.

"I said I was talking to fans and family members, but I was ushered in.

"I later found out they were worried someone might have been there, so some plain-clothed officers were watching out.

"Thankfully, nothing happened but I'm just going to a place of work and even though nothing happened, that can't be right."



Joe Jacobson (pictured in April 2021 against his boyhood club, Cardiff) has been with Wycombe since the summer of 2014 (PA)

When can you book tickets for the final?

THE kick-off time for Wycombe Wanderers EFL Trophy final against Peterborough United has been confirmed.

The clash at Wembley Stadium was due to take place at 3pm on April 7, but it has now been confirmed that the final will take place at 4.30pm.

A statement on the club's website, reads: "The revised start time for the fixture between Peterborough United and Wycombe Wanderers has been agreed upon following consultation with relevant stakeholders and having considered the timing of fixtures in other competitions scheduled on the same date.

"Wanderers are pleased that a resolution has been reached but recognises the disappointment of those supporters who will now be unable to attend the fixture because of the move from the original 3pm kick-off time."

The club have also confirmed that tickets for next month's final go on sale to season ticket holders on Friday, March 8.

Supporters with previous ticket history can purchase tickets from Wednesday, March 13, before they go on general sale from Monday, March 18.

This is Wanderers' first appearance in the final, and it'll be the third time in five seasons Wycombe would have played at Wembley.

For Peterborough, it'll be their second EFL Trophy showpiece and their first since they won the competition back in 2014.

The club statement continued: "The club is in dialogue with Chiltern Railways in relation to the service between High Wycombe and Wembley Stadium on the day of the final and will update supporters once information is available."

Wycombe haven't lost to Peterborough since January 2020.