

# Bucks Free Press

Friday, August 2, 2024

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## Gervais to test his new show at Swan

## 'Carers treat me like piece of meat'

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# Girl in fight for her life after stabbing



By Eleanor Burleigh

A TEENAGE girl was last night fighting for her life in hospital after a stabbing in High Wycombe in the early hours.

Police were called to the A404 junction on Amersham Road at 1.35am, after reports of a stabbing.

The girl, said to have suffered life-threatening injuries, was found at the scene and taken to hospital.

Officers arrested a 17-year-old girl from High Wycombe on suspicion of causing grievous bodily harm with intent.

Full story: Page 4

## Female, 17, held following incident in the early hours

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## Capsey praises squad in Hundred



Alice Capsey in the runs at the start of the Hundred

ALICE Capsey is pleased to see England's leading lights take charge in the women's Hundred after taking up head coach Jon Lewis' challenge to dominate the tournament.

An undefeated summer saw England sweep aside Pakistan and New Zealand with ease and Lewis told his squad to continue proving they were a cut above as they dispersed around the country for the fourth edition of The Hundred.

Capsey has already heeded the call at Oval Invincibles, reeling off successive half-centuries against Birmingham Phoenix and Welsh Fire to start the campaign on a high.

That made her the first player to pass the 100-run barrier, followed closely by international team-mates Sophia Dunkley and Nat Sciver-Brunt, with captain Heather Knight close behind. Among the big-name overseas signings, only Australia's Ellyse Perry commands a place in the top five scorers.

And, as they tune up for October's T20 World Cup in Bangladesh, it is a club Capsey is happy to be part of.

"It's pleasing from an England point of view that we are finding form. We've had a very successful summer so it was just about taking that into the Hundred and building on what we've started with an eye on the World Cup," she told the PA news agency.

Capsey was arguably the first true breakout star of The Hundred, emerging as a fearless 16-year-old back in 2021 and quickly catapulted into the England set-up.

Just before her 20th birthday she still feels a kinship with the setting and wants to do her best to elevate the competition.



Adam Peaty won Olympic silver in the men's 100 metres breaststroke on Sunday (Martin Rickett/PA)

## Hope for Peaty to join relay team

ADAM Peaty has raised hopes he could compete in his Olympic relay events later this week as he returned to the pool following two days of "bed rest".

Hours after winning silver in the men's 100 metres breaststroke, Peaty tested positive for Covid, having struggled with a sore throat ahead of Sunday's final before his symptoms worsened.

Unlike the last Olympics in Tokyo, there are no specific coronavirus restrictions but Team GB said in a statement "all usual precautions (were) being taken to keep the delegation healthy".

Peaty's diagnosis led to doubts about whether he would be fit enough to take to the pool in the men's and mixed 4x100m medley relays, with the 29-year-old crucial

to their hopes on the breaststroke leg.

But he posted a picture of himself on his Instagram story in a swimming pool with the caption: "Back in the water with the French public today (two days of bed rest)."

Peaty could decide to compete in the finals only but Team GB do not have to disclose their entry lists until the beginning of the session.

# Glover's team has to settle for silver

By PA Reporters

HELEN Glover missed out on a third Olympic title as Great Britain were agonisingly edged out in a dramatic women's four final at Paris 2024.

The mum-of-three, who won pairs gold at London 2012 and Rio 2016, took four years out of the sport before the Tokyo Olympics and 12 months off after those Games before deciding to come back for more.

Alongside Rebecca Shorten, Esme Booth and Sam Redgrave, the 38-year-old helped the British crew gradually close the gap on the Netherlands after a fast start from the Dutch.

It was anyone's race with 500 metres to go, with the two crews neck and neck, and Britain looked as if they would just get the upper hand as they pushed for glory.

But the Netherlands held on to cross the line in six minutes 27.31 seconds – 0.18secs ahead of the



GB's Helen Glover, Esme Booth, Sam Redgrave and Rebecca Shorten after claiming silver in the women's four

British boat.

Afterwards Glover said: "I think today we put it all out there, we raced the plan we wanted to race, we raced together with so much heart. You know what, there can't be regret looking back and knowing you did all you can."

Great Britain men's four followed up immediately with a bronze medal.

The quartet of Oli Wilkes, David Ambler, Matt Aldridge and Freddie Davidson swept past Italy 800 metres from home into third place, eventually settling for bronze with the United States taking gold and New Zealand silver.

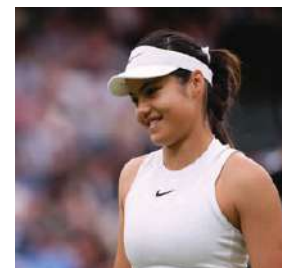
Earlier the women's four secured the first British medal of the day with a bronze in the women's double sculls.

Becky Wilde and Mathilda Hodgkins Byrne, in lane two, went out hard from the start and led at the 500m mark with Romania taking over by halfway.

New Zealand eventually moved into pole position for gold to edge out Romania, but Wilde and Hodgkins Byrne staved off a late challenge from the Netherlands.

It was quite an achievement for the pair to win medals as Wilde had surgery on her forearms 10 months ago and Hodgkins Byrne took time away from the sport after Tokyo 2020 to have her son Freddie, now two.

## Raducanu in Washington quarter-finals



EMMA Raducanu powered past Peyton Stearns in straight sets to secure a place in the quarter-finals of the Washington Open.

The 21-year-old defeated the US talent 7-6 6-2, despite lengthy match delays due to a sudden downpour.

Raducanu encountered choppy waters in the fourth game, surviving two break points as her double faults piled up, but she showed resolve to close out the game and then break her opponent in the fifth.

Stearns, ranked 51 in the world, produced some classy shots but Raducanu remained in control until heavy rain started falling as she served to secure the opening set.

After a two-hour delay, she clinched the first set 7-6 (8-6) in a tiebreaker.

## Injuries hit Man Utd



MANCHESTER United's injury problems continue to mount with Marcus Rashford and Antony forced off in their 3-2 friendly win over Real Betis.

Erik ten Hag had already lost £52million signing Leny Yoro and Rasmus Hojlund to fitness issues during the pre-season tour of the United States.

Rashford scored from the penalty spot in the victory over Betis, but walked off in discomfort before the hour mark after he took a whack to his right ankle.

Antony was one of eight players sent on at Snapdragon Stadium, but he could not finish the match.

## KEMPSTON ROVERS 2-3 AYLESBURY VALE



Aylesbury Vale Dynamos returned to winning ways in Bedford after suffering defeat to Arlesey on Saturday

# Dynamos return to winning ways after five goal thriller

**A**YLESBURY Vale Dynamos returned to winning ways, edging out Kempston Rovers 3-2 in a five goal thriller in Bedford.

There was an early blow for Dynamos as Rheon Pascal, starting his first match, got an elbow in the eye and was taken off and replaced by Bakary Deffah and taken to hospital for a check up.

Abu Khan had an early sighter but as he collected Nathan Brownsword's ball through, he was called offside.

Khan became provider a few minutes later when he found Jacob Williamson and his shot went harmlessly over the bar.

21 minutes in and the best move of the match saw Princewell Madu hit a cross-field ball over to Jake Baldwin on the left flank, he beat his man and swung in a great cross where Madu raced through but didn't get a clean connection and the keeper gathered.

Just before the half hour, Baldwin had a couple of chances.

**By Iain Willcocks**

Firstly, collecting an Alfie Anderson pass, his shot was saved and moments later, Deffah won the ball back and Baldwin's shot was well blocked.

Exaucece Buanga then hit a ball over the top to the rapid Khan, who had his shot blocked as well.

34 minutes in and despite some good pressure from Dynamos, it was Kempston who broke the deadlock. A good cross hit Williamson and went past Oscar Cole into the net.

The home team were pushing for another goal before half time but some great defending by Buanga saw to that. Manager, Batch, wanted a quick start to the second half and that is exactly what he got. Khan collected a ball out from Jordan Jenkins and he played the ball into the path of Anderson, who raced clear and slotted the ball under the keeper.

10 minutes later and Dynamos took the lead. Baldwin wriggled clear on the left wing and sent a lovely cross into the box where Deffah arrived to volley home.

Dynamos barely had time to celebrate as Kempston went straight down the other end, won a corner and levelled up with a header at the back post.

On 68 minutes, Jacob combined well with Deffah and he hit a low shot to the front post but the keeper parried it and Kempston cleared.

Moments later Dynamos were back in front. Deffah created the opportunity with a lovely through ball to skipper Baldwin, and he steadied himself and hit the target to get off the mark for the season.

With 15 minutes remaining Blaaze Lawrence came on for Khan, who got a couple of knocks during the match. Kempston did have a decent chance with less than 10 minutes to go but their deflected shot was well grabbed by Cole. Baldwin was replaced by youngster, Max Sato, with a few minutes remaining.

Lawrence and Williamson worked the ball well between them and the latter's long range effort wasn't too far away from the target.

The moment of the match came in the 94th minute as Kempston managed to find room and their shot beat Cole as he came out to narrow the angle and all thought this was the equaliser.

However, they didn't bank on the very impressive Lawrence, on his club debut, racing in to clear for a corner, inches away from the goal.

There was still time for Brownsword to get the first Yellow Card of the season...but the game ended with victory for Dynamos.

**Team:** Oscar Cole; Princewell Madu, Nathan Brownsword, Exaucece Buanga, Jordan Jenkins; Dave Brown, Jacob Williamson, Rheon Pascal; Abu Khan, Alfie Anderson, Jake Baldwin  
**Subs:** Bakary Deffah, Blaaze Lawrence, Max Sato, Owen Broughton, James Timmins

### FOOTBALL

## Team looks strong as season nears

**T**HE new season is rapidly approaching – where did July go? Where is summer? – and we are very much

having to spend our time paying attention to some of the important details – players registrations, league requirements, fixture and travel arrangements, commercial agreements and very importantly, our forthcoming ground-grading inspection, writes chairman Peter Brown.

The regulations and implementation of ground-grading rules have moved on a lot from the early 1990s and we are certainly prepared, but many of us have been around long enough to remember when our club missed out on promotion to the National Conference in 1993 because of ground-grading compliance. Although there is more consideration on the timing nowadays, it is imperative that we do not fall short of the requirements needed and I urge anyone that has any spare time this coming Monday to pop along to the club and offer your help with some of the small finer details as we prepare for the inspection next week. So many people have put in many hours around the ground, whatever skills you have, we would love to see you at The Meadow on Monday, anytime during the day that suits you, there will be someone around to greet you.

On the pitch we had a win away at a very good Chertsey Town side on Tuesday night, winning the match 2-0 with the new players starting to look very settled in a Chesham shirt and I am very pleased with how we have strengthened the squad this season. In fact I have seen some of the odds coming out at bookmakers and it is quite surprising what odds are being given for us to win the league, as low as 14/1 in some instances, which is an indication of how the footballing world is viewing our progress and transfer business over the summer. For a newly promoted side, that has never played in the National League before, to be given such low odds is very unusual.

I think one of the reasons things are coming together well is the fact that we got a lot of our business done early in the summer; started training with a fairly settled squad and went into the pre-season games with a stable squad. I can't wait to see what they can achieve in the new season ahead and I would very much like us to start the season with the entire squad sponsored in the matchday programme. The cost is just £60 per player which I hope makes it affordable for everyone, you will have your name mentioned alongside the player inside every home programme and you will have the opportunity to meet and have your photo taken with your chosen player. The entire management team have already been sponsored, but we do still have plenty of availability, please contact Michele Brookes at commercial@cheshamunited.co.uk.

## Sport

## CHAIRBOYS

## Chelsea held in pre season tie

WYCOMBE Wanderers held Premier League giants Chelsea to a 2-2 draw in a behind-closed-doors friendly on Wednesday.

Played in four quarters consisting of 30 minutes, Ryan Tafazolli and Dan Udoh netted for the Chairboys.

Sam Vokes gained valuable minutes after recovering from a small injury, while 17-year-old Jahiem Dotse featured too.

Four trialists made appearances for Matt Bloomfield's side while the players wearing the Blue of Chelsea are unknown.

## Fans are invited to seat clean

WYCOMBE Wanderers supporters are invited to help at a seat-cleaning session at Adams Park next week.

Supporters will be tackling the remainder 8,000+ seats at the ground with a bucket and sponge on Thursday, August 8 from 9am after volunteers started the task last week.

The club will provide cleaning equipment and drinks, but supporters are asked bring their own lunch and snacks.

Register interest by emailing Trust director Nigel Kingston on nigemart2019@gmail.com.

## Reusable cup trial in fanzone

A trial with reusable cups in the Wycombe Wanderers fanzone will kick-off this season.

Sponsored by Thames Air & Water Tech, the cups can be stacked in containers around the Chairboys Village after use, and will be washed ready for the next game.

Ben Brown, the club's senior commercial executive, told the club website: "Thames Air & Water Tech have been a partner of the club for many years and we're delighted that they've pledged their support to this important step forward in our sustainability project.

"The club has listened to feedback from supporters and we're really pleased to bring this initiative to fruition with the help of a local partner.

"This is a pilot year for us in the Chairboys Village and if it proves to be a success then we'll look to roll it out in other areas of the stadium."

## THE LATEST CHAIRBOYS AND EFL NEWS



Wycombe fans will traipse to the capital for a lunchtime kick-off between Christmas and New Year. Image: PA

## Wycombe Wanderers to feature twice on Sky Sports

By James Earnshaw

**T**HE English Football League have confirmed that Wycombe Wanderers will be broadcast live on Sky Sports twice between August and December.

After signing a new television deal with Sky, each club is to be televised more than 20 times per season on Sky Sports.

The governing body also committed to releasing fixture changes earlier than what had been the norm, with all televised matches before the opening weekend of January confirmed before a ball is kicked.

On Saturday, October 19, the visit of last year's Bristol Street Motors final opponents, Peterborough United, has been brought forward to a 12.30pm kick-off at Adams Park.

Similarly, the Chairboys' visit to the Valley to face Charlton Athletic on December 29 will now also kick-off at 12.30.

In another fixture change, however unrelated to Sky Sports,

Wycombe will now visit play-off finalists Bolton Wanderers on Friday, December 20 in order to ease fixture congestion.

In line with the EFL and Sky Sports' commitment to confirming all broadcast-selected EFL matches for the period up to the FA Cup third round, there should be no further changes to the schedule in this time. However, the fixture with Bolton could be changed if either side reaches the fifth round of the Carabao Cup.

The next selections, that will include matches up to and including March, will be announced before the end of November.

On top of a new deal with Sky Sports, the EFL have agreed a multi-year deal with CBS in America.

CBS Sports will air at least 250 EFL matches each season across the Championship, League One, League Two, Carabao Cup and

Bristol Street Motors Trophy beginning in August and continuing through the end of the 2027/28 season.

Matches will air on Paramount+ with select matches airing on CBS Sports Network and CBS Sports Golazo Network.

CBS Sports' live EFL coverage will feature:

A minimum 155 Championship matches A minimum 38 League One and League Two matches All 15 Play-Off matches A minimum 30 Carabao Cup matches Three Bristol Street Motors Trophy matches

"The exciting action and prestige of the EFL, as the oldest league in the world, adds tremendous value to CBS Sports' premium soccer portfolio," said Dan Weinberg, Executive Vice President, Programming, CBS Sports.

"With the EFL's compelling storylines and growing popularity coupled with our first-class coverage, we look forward to further elevating this league in the U.S. CBS Sports continues to be the premier

destination for European football fans in this country with Paramount+ and CBS Sports Golazo Network as must-haves with their wide array of soccer properties and robust year-round match coverage."

"Appetite for football in the North American markets has been growing year on year, and this partnership with CBS Sports and their leadership in covering the sport marks a significant milestone," said Trevor Birch, Chief Executive Officer at the EFL.

"The EFL is already broadcast to a global audience of 400 million across 182 territories, beaming into more than 250 million homes outside of the UK.

"We believe that American fans will embrace the excitement, tradition, and competitiveness that is embodied by our EFL competitions. This is an exciting time for the League and our Clubs, and we look forward to sharing our matches with viewers across the United States."

# BERKS AND BUCKS FA GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL AWARDS



Chalfont Saints were awarded Club of the Year at the county awards

## Chalfont Saints named 'Club of the Year' at ceremony

**C**HALFONT Saints FC has been awarded "Club of the Year" and Saints coach, Emily McCarthy, has been awarded Coach of the Year (Disability pathway) at the prestigious 2024 Berks and Bucks FA Grassroots Football Awards.

In addition, Coach Kate Dunkley was highly commended in the Coach of the Year (Female pathway) category, and Mike Saunders, long-standing Club Secretary was highly commended in the 'Bobby Moore' Award – an 'extra special award for those who have gone above and beyond in their volunteer work for football in their area'.

Success at these awards are fundamentally down to the tireless work behind the scenes of huge number of individuals who volunteer their time for the club, as well as the exceptional contribution by the named individuals themselves.

As well as supporting physical development through sport, it is clear that the members have been able to develop team-building skills, leadership and confidence through football.

Parents and coaches observe this through improvements in on-pitch play, communication and development across the teams, and numerous positive comments have been made back to coaches.

Club Chairman, Allen Davies, said: "I'm tremendously proud of the recognition for the club, and for Emily, Kate and Mike from these prestigious awards. Chalfont Saints has a strong ethos of inclusion, fun and development of our members through playing football, and these awards demonstrate that."

The Grassroots Football Awards are run by regional FAs every year as a way of recognising the contribution of volunteers across their respective counties for the work they do in developing the national game, encouraging participation by all, and fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for players of all levels.

The winners at the Berks and Bucks event were selected from over 1,000 nominations by the 600 or so grassroots clubs in the region.

Chalfont Saints FC has been a thriving community grassroots football club since 1988, based at the Epilepsy Society pitches in Chalfont St Peter. The club has grown to now have about 350 members across 25 teams, with boys u7-u18, boys u12 and u15 Junior Premier League teams, girls teams from u9-u15, a Sunday League men's team and a well-established inclusive group of more than 60 children and young adults who have a variety of

needs and disabilities.

The club also encourages development of volunteer coaches, principally from parents, and the development of its own group of referees – with everyone able to be financially supported by the club in relevant qualifications. The club is always looking for new players and is open to sponsors and supporters for the next season.

Steph Clark, Football Communications Officer at Berks & Bucks FA said: "Events like the annual Grassroots Football Awards are always incredibly special as they provide a wonderful opportunity for us to recognise, thank and celebrate the extraordinary achievements of our dedicated volunteer workforce."

"There are thousands of people involved in the grassroots game across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and South Oxfordshire who dedicate their time and effort to support clubs and leagues in their local communities to ensure grassroots football in our region goes ahead week in and week out. To be nominated for an award alone is a wonderful achievement, to be a shortlisted finalist or category winner is certainly cause for celebration and something everyone can be incredibly proud of – congratulations!"



Mike Saunders, long standing Club Secretary was highly commended in the 'Bobby Moore' Award



Chalfont Saints coach, Emily McCarthy, has been awarded Coach of the Year (Disability pathway)

# SPORT

0963-2336



## Wycombe make historic teenage signing after trial



Wycombe sign Jahiem Dotse

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed the signing of teenage forward Jahiem Dotse after a trial period with the Development Squad.

Seventeen-year-old Dotse impressed the youth side and now becomes the youngest Chairboys arrival since the closure of the Academy back in 2012.

Despite his young age, the striker has plenty of experience in the men's game, most recently starring for Blackfield & Langley in Hampshire.

Prior to his spell in non-league, the

forward progressed through National League Eastleigh's scholarship programme.

Wycombe were forced to scrap their youth system 12 years ago, citing "financial limitations" and the "increased demands" of the Elite Player Performance Plan (EPPP).

Opening a development squad to provide opportunities for young players, new owner Mikhail Lomtadze has made improving the youth system a priority since taking over from Rob Couhig over the summer.

Moving to Harlington Training Ground in London last month, the club statement said: "Formerly the training base of Chelsea and Queens Park Rangers, Harlington will become the new location for the club's first-team operation as well as enabling the development of a new academy."

In an X [Twitter] post that was shared from the official Kaspi account [the company which Lomtadze owns], on May 6, it revealed that the Kazakhstani businessman aims to have a 'world-

class football academy with branches in both England and Kazakhstan.'

Lomtadze explained: "It was my longing dream to create a world-class professional children's football academy in Kazakhstan and England, where the best and most talented young football players and future stars will be trained.

"Studying at the academy will be completely free, young athletes will have the opportunity to learn from the best coaches in our country and the homeland of football - England."

## Win for Wycombe as they defeat Watford

WYCOMBE Wanderers earned their second friendly win in as many games as they defeated Championship side Watford 3-2 at Adams Park.

The victory came just three days after the Chairboys thumped Portsmouth 4-0 on the South Coast, with Matt Bloomfield's team looking to sharp against the Hertfordshire-based team.

Wanderers looked fit and ready versus Tom Cleverley's side and they took the lead after just three minutes, but Beryly Lubala was deemed to have fouled goalkeeper Jonathan Bond before Luke Leahy tapped home.

The latter was then involved in another Wycombe attack just minutes later, as an inch-perfect cross from Garath McCleary was caught sweetly on the volley by Wycombe's number 10.

Bond was on hand once again to produce a fine save.

But against the run of play, the visitors took through the Georgian player, Giorgi Chakvetadze.

He managed to beat three defenders with a great individual run, before slotting past Nathan Bishop into the bottom left of the net.

The setback took the wind out of Wycombe's sails for a while, before the Wanderers equalised in controversial circumstances.

Defender Wesley Hoedt went down injured on his own accord, and instead of following convention and putting the ball out of play, Wycombe continued to attack and Lubala tapped home from close range to level things up.

### James Richings

james.richings@newsquest.co.uk

The Hornets were incensed by the incident and the ignoring of the convention, and a small scuffle occurred between both sets of players as it finished 1-1 for the opening period.

Wycombe then dominated throughout the second half as Tyreeq Bakinson's shot was only parried away by Bond, which then allowed the on-rushing Josh Scowen to steam in and poke the ball over the line from close range.

Wanderers were now 2-1 up and well in control as an onslaught of Chairboys attacks were unleashed on the Watford goal.

Luke Leahy hit the bar on three occasions - with his second attempt giving Wycombe their third strike on the night.

His long-range attempt crashed against the woodwork, before Richard Kone tapped home.

Watford pulled one back in stoppage time when Bishop parried a shot from distance out into the path of Rajovic, but the night belonged to Wanderers.

New signings in Alex Hartridge, Bakinson, Dan Harvie and Bishop all had great games, whilst Leahy, Garath McCleary, Kieran Sadlier and Kone all looking excellent as well.

Plenty of positives to take for Wycombe, as they head to Swindon on Saturday, for the final pre-season test.

The Chairboys then start the season away at Wrexham on August 10.



Wycombe's 3-2 win over Watford will be their only pre-season home match this summer Image: NQ

## Manager on Chairboys' friendly victory

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has admitted he 'liked' the 'feisty' and 'edgy' pre-season encounter against Watford.

The Chairboys defeated the Championship outfit 3-2 at Adams Park on July 30 with Bez Lubala, Josh Scowen and Richard Kone all getting on the scoresheet for the home side.

However, there were several clashes and flashpoints between both sets of players in the non-competitive fixture as shoves, pushes and flare-ups were seen.

Bloomfield said: "It was feisty, it was edgy, but I didn't mind it.

"I liked it.

"I think the last thing you want to do is play these games in pre-season as friendlies, and suddenly we get to Wrexham and it's and it's a real test as you're not ready for it. So I liked it. I enjoyed it. It's a contact sport.

"There were certain decisions that could have gone either way, but the main point was that it was a keenly fought game between two decent teams and we were pleased with a lot of the outcomes."

The victory was Wycombe's second in as many games following the 4-0 triumph away at Portsmouth on July 27.

The club's final friendly this summer is against Swindon Town on August 3.

Bloomfield continued: "You're going to get moments that you're pleased.

"There were moments [against Watford] where I was extremely proud of the character and the personality we played."

"Essentially, that's what pre-season is for, to make sure we're ready for the league campaign.

"So it was good to see everyone in action but there's always lots to improve on and we'll be dissecting that and making sure we get better."

Finally, on the season opener against Wrexham in a couple of weeks, the 40-year-old concluded: "The challenge for us is to keep debriefing, keep improving, keep evolving and keep trying to get better every game.

"By the time Wrexham comes around, we have to be ready for that because that's when it matters."