### Bucks Free Press

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# 410 new homes plan approved



#### Two developments backed despite objections

TWO new developments in High Wycombe comprising 410 homes have been approved by Buckinghamshire Council's strategic sites committee.

One is an estate of 370 houses planned by Persimmon and Redrow on fields north of the A404 Amersham Road in between Terriers Farm and Hazlemere

#### **By Charlie Smith**

Recreation Ground.

The other is a 40-home site on a smaller adjacent field off De Havilland Court, which is being delivered by Find Estates.

Councillors approved the first application by six votes to four at a meeting last Thursday evening, while the second passed

unanimously.
The committee backed both plans despite nearly 200 objections from residents concerned about the new estates resulting in a 'lack of separation' between High Wycombe and Hazlemere.

Full story: Page 5

# Storm floods chaos



### Bobby on the beat in 1960s Wycombe



**NOSTALGIA: PAGE 42** 

TOKEN:

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#### **FOOTBALL**

#### Flackwell earn third win in seven days

FLACKWELL Heath made it three wins in seven days as they defeated playoff rivals Thame United 2-0 on Tuesday. The current run of form sets the team in a good position for the upcoming tough test, when recently relegated Berkhamsted travel to Wilks Park on Saturday.

Saturday.
Similar to recent
home games, Flackwell
performed
impressively
throughout, with strong
performances across

the park from the likes of Phil Pryor, Jamie Ayres and former Red Kites Harry Mepham and Wiktor Makowski. Chances came and went for both sides, up until the deadlock was broken in the 18th minute, as Flackwell benefited from a real moment of brotherly understanding - a cross was whipped in by younger brother Jamie Ayres onto the head of Matt Ayres to give the home side the lead. The impressive Makowski then

doubled the home side's lead 10 minutes later, following an assist from the everdetermined Jack Shakespeare. In the second half, Shakespeare was sent off after an off the ball incident, leaving the Heathens with the job of solidity and securing the three points.

The Heathens currently sit in third, with the potential to overtake Berkhamsted on Saturday if they can defeat 'The Comrades'.



Wilks Park, home of Flackwell Heath

#### **FOOTBALL**

### Three points out of six for Chesham United in pair

HESHAM United picked up three points from a tough pair of fixtures at Truro City and Hampton & Richmond Borough

& Richmond Borough.
On Saturday, Michael Murray's side lost 2-1 to Truro before picking up a 2-1 victory at the Meadow against Borough.

This was a game played in the midst of 'Storm Bert' and it was remarkable that it was played at all given the conditions. The kick-off was delayed by 45 minutes to allow for a mopping-up operation following torrential rain, and any further rain might have led to an abandonment but fortunately the game was completed with the home team sealing a comeback win

The wind was swirling but was largely in Chesham's favour in the first half. Chesham had more of the ball early on but both teams were struggling to adapt to the conditions and the ball was out of play for much of the time. Midway through the half Mitchell Weiss shot just wide, then at the other end Levi Andoh's shot bounced away off the legs of Ben Goode. However shortly before half-time Chesham took the lead when the ball dropped to Connor Stevens in the Truro area, and he lashed it into the net.

Chesham started the second

Chesham started the second half strongly and came close when an Alex Lafleur corner was hit just over the bar in a crowded area, then a Nathan Minhas shot was tipped onto the bar by home keeper Dan Lavercombe. By this stage conditions were starting to ease slightly, and the home team began to come more into the game but without threatening an equaliser. However, on 73 minutes a move down the home right led to

#### **By Andy Westlake**

the ball being pulled back for Jaze Kabia to fire into the net. Chesham then lost possession from the resulting kick-off and the ball was played forward for Tyler Harvey to control and shoot into the top corner of the net from just inside the area to complete an unexpected turnaround. Despite lots of effort in the final 15 minutes Truro held on for a 2-1 win.

On to mid-week then and the visit of Hampton & Richmond at The Meadow on Tuesday night. Chesham's manager described Chesham's victory as "an absolute robbery" as Chesham, with their backs to the wall, managed to deliver a 2-1 home win to some very happy home fans.

Bradley Clayton scored the only goal of the first half putting Chesham in front at half time but a second half red card for T'Sharne Gallimore and a converted penalty from Hampton's James Roberts put the game in balance as 10 man Chesham went into defensive mode at 1-1. However, with 15 minutes to go Mitchell Weiss skipped past two on a run from halfway, fed Alex Lafleur who found Nathan Minhas at the back post who fired through Curd in the Hampton goal. After 7 minutes of time added on Chesham held out for an important 2-1 win with a fabulous defensive display. The 3 points take them to 10th in the table.

Next up Eastbourne Borough visit The Meadow on Saturday 30th with Hornchurch FC on Tuesday evening under lights. Chesham's women travel to London Bees in the FAWNL on Sunday afternoon.



Nathan Minhas with the winner against Hampton. Photo Neale Blackburn.

#### **HOCKEY**

### Win and draw for Marlow men's sides

MARLOW Hockey Club Men's 1sts earned a big 3-0 win over Basingstoke, although the result perhaps did not tell the full story.

did not tell the full story.

Despite dominating the game from start to finish, they found goals hard to come by

goals hard to come by.

In the first half, Marlow had Basingstoke for the taking but failed to convert numerous chances, including several penalty corners and with no goals to show for their efforts the half remained goalless.

In the second half, they continued in the same way. Still, eventually, a well-worked movement involving several players opened up the visitors' defence and Marlow went ahead thanks to Josh Covus in the 52nd minute.

Covus was in the right place five minutes later to score again, following up a short corner. A third goal followed shortly

A third goal followed shortly after through Louis Cadinouche to make the score more reflective of how Marlow had controlled the game.

The win moves Marlow into second place in the table and next week they are away to Oxford OBU.

Marlow 2nds started strongly away to Sonning 1sts and dominated the opening minutes.

Falling behind in the second half in somewhat controversial circumstances, they had to settle for a 2-2 draw.

After a neat move down the right the ball was centred to Dan Field who tucked away at the far post. Despite further chances, Marlow couldn't open up a wider gap to the home side. Sonning gradually came into the game, crafting a few chances. Marlow's defence was resolute with several goal-line clearances. but right on half time the home side found an equaliser.

The second half was a more frantic affair. Chances went both ways. Marlow lost a player to a green card and Sonning worked the ball through to a player in the D.

The umpire awarded a penalty stroke and a yellow card, sending Marlow down to nine. With the stroke converted, Sonning had the lead - and Marlow several frantic minutes of re-organising.

minutes of re-organising.
Having regrouped, Marlow pushed forward in search of goals. Henry May was a constant irritant for the home side while Matt Ashton pushed forward from half back to terrorise Sonning. It was via a short corner that Marlow levelled, with Phil Cowell the scorer.

The final minutes saw Marlow create several chances but the game ended all square. The team is at home to Witney 1sts on Saturday at 11.45.

• Other results: the 3rd team drew 0-0 with Newbury & Thatcham 2, 4s beat Wootten Wanderers 1sts 4-1 Away,

ers 1sts 4-1 Away, 5s lost 6-1 to Slough 2 Away, 6s lost 3-2 to Wycombe 4 away, 7s beat Wallingford 5 3-2-

### Beaconsfield are defeated at Welwyn Garden City

Town were beaten 1-0 away at Welwyn Garden City in a game of limited chances, on a stormy afternoon, writes Arran White.

A slow start to the game was always to be expected given the torrential rain and high winds that battered Herns Way all afternoon. On a heavy pitch both teams struggled to create anything meaning-ful and were limited to half chances. Beaconsfield had 2 chances to mention, both coming from skipper Matty Harriot who saw his efforts go wide of the post on both occasions. The hosts also struggled to create chances, with their best chance forcing Beaconsfield keeper Ed Brearey into a fine save, as the game entered half time delicately balanced at 0-0.

As the weather deterio

rated further, the second half began just as the first had finished. It felt like an afternoon where the game would be settled by a mistake or moment of brilliance from someone.

It wasn't long before one of those moments came. A ball through the Beaconsfield defence was passed back to the goalkeeper in the eyes of the referee, giving him the chance to award an indirect free kick inside the box. Welwyn Garden City made that moment count, with the first shot blocked before being smashed home by Bailey Stevenson. The referee's decision seemed harsh but looked to be a



Manu Oke-William goes close to scoring for Beaconsfield

defining moment in the

Beaconsfield pushed for an equaliser, going close through Manu Oke – William, who saw his shot saved following a great winger

Grant.

There was another contentious moment as the game neared its end, when Welwyn Garden City player appeared to push someone to the floor. The referee decided a yellow

card each was just punishment, a decision which again seemed harsh on Beaconsfield.

The final few minutes were played out in with Beaconsfield well on top, but in extremely difficult

conditions they could not find a way to square the game.

Beaconsfield are back in action on Saturday 30th when they take on local opposition Thame United at Holloways Park

#### HOCKEY Marlow Women beat Bath

MARLOW Hockey Club Women's 1st welcomed their only league opponent they had yet to play, Bath Buccaneers, and earned a 2-0 victory.

Both teams have had mixed results so the outcome was hard to predict.

The visitors started well and earned a penalty corner in the opening minutes which they were unsuccessful in converting.

Marlow their own penalty moments later, with captain Martha Goodridge's shot hitting the post.
A fantastic piece of skill from

Goodridge broke the deadlock as she slotted the ball past the Bath Buccaneers' keeper to give Marlow the lead.

This goal gave Marlow the confidence to play the hockey that they are capable of and they then dominated possession.

The visitors started the second half well and forced Ramm to make more vital saves. Marlow showed their strength with Rachel Clarke working tirelessly in midfield to win another penalty corner.

A deflection past the Bath de-

fence from Lauren Hilditch doubled Marlow's lead

Marlow kept their composure and played out the final minutes of the game to take all three points improving their position

#### HOCKEY Seconds hit six

THE Marlow Hockey Club Women's 2nd team hit Maidenhead 2nds for six with their display of attacking intent.

Kerri Smith bagged a first-half hat trick, reacting sharply to convert from close range at two corners and a field goal.

Marlow kept the intensity up in the second period and Jazzy Elsden added a fourth with a reverse stick effort.

Maidenhead converted a corner to make it 4-1 but any hopes of an unlikely comeback were thwarted when Olivia Xiao's tenacity in the D was rewarded with a goal.

Smith rounded off a fantastic personal and team performance with a deft touch past the keeper from Pippa Lloyd's ball in

#### **LET US KNOW** Have a story?

IF you have a match report or an interesting sports story, let us know by emailing James Richings (james.richings@ newsquest.co.uk) and James Earnshaw (james.earnshaw@ newsquest.co.uk).

#### **FOOTBALL**

#### Windsor earn back-to-back victories

streak behind them with a hard-earned 3-2 victory over Chalfont St Peter on a freezing cold Friday evening at Holloways Park.

In the end the final score somewhat flattered the visitors who had to wait until the 96th minute for a second goal to make the score look more respectable.

Windsor looked the more potent in front of goal but failed to make the most of the exceptional pace of both Troy Williams and Avta Akhsiashvili.

It was Avta Akhsiashvili, who would finally break the deadlock in the 35th minute, sliding the ball under the advancing Chalfont keeper from 15 yards from Troy Williams' unselfish and perfectly-weighted, pass

The home side started the second half in disciplined fashion and looked much less likely to concede their customary early second half goal. In fact the opposite happened: four minutes in. Maks Jarzabek

latched onto a poor clearance on the edge of the box to hit a sublime shot into the righthand corner of the net.

Chalfont looked deflated and Windsor the more likely to add a third goal. However, Chalfont's Daniel Thomas against the run of play, picked up the ball on the right of the Windsor penalty area before curling a beautiful shot into the left-hand corner of the

Windsor continued to press and it was the busy Sam Healey who mopped up a half clearance from a Williams shot to guide the ball into the net for Windsor's third.

A flurry of Windsor substitutes unsettled the balance of the side and the evergreen Gareth Risbridger conceded a penalty six minutes into time added on which was neatly despatched by Jacob Bennett.

The Jacks backed this up with a 2-1 victory over Bedfont on Tuesday and host Holmer Green on Tuesday, December 3 (7.45pm ko)



Windsor celebrate. Credit: Trophy Photography

#### SPORT: JASPER REPLACES JACK AT RIGHT BACK Praise for Pattenden as Wycombe win

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has praised the attitude of right-back Jasper Pattenden following his recent stint in the team.

The 22-year-old has started the last four league matches in which he has helped the Chairboys keep three clean sheets in that time.

He has displaced regular right-back and club captain Jack Grimmer to the bench after the latter suffered a concussion in Wycombe's 3-0 home victory against Leyton Orient on October

26.

Speaking after the 1-0 win over Mansfield Town, he said: "

"It's not been easy to leave out Jack Grimmer because he's our captain and has been brilliant this season.

"Sadly, he got his concussion against Orient and Jasper grabbed his opportunity with both hands.

"Similar to last season when Franco [Ravizzoli] came in for Max [Stryjek] after his sending off.

"Sometimes you have to live your values and if the

boys grabbed the opportunity and retain the shirt, it's theirs to lose and Jasper has done that.

"But I need to give credit to Jack, as he has done brilliantly in supporting him, and he's one of our biggest cheerleaders.

"He's helped him out a

Pattenden joined Wycombe in the summer of 2022 from Non League Worthing, and has played 36 times for the Chairboys in all competitions.



Jasper Pattenden joined Wycombe in 2022. Image: PA

#### **FOOTBALL: LINCOLN 2-3 WYCOMBE**

## Wanderers earn first win at Lincoln since Jan 2011

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has thanked the fans for their support during the club's 3-2 away win at Lincoln City.

Despite going behind through a Tendayi Darikwa strike, goals from Richard Kone, Fred Onyedinma and Joe Low put the Chairboys ahead.

And despite Luke Leahy missing a penalty and Darikwa bagging a second moments before the game concluded, Wanderers held on to secure their 11th league win in 14 matches this season.

The result also means Bloomfield's team are now four points clear of second-placed Wrexham with a game in hand

with a game in hand.

Speaking of the support that followed Wycombe to Sincil Bank on November 23, he said: "I'm so pleased.

"Thank you to our supporters because to come up in the wind and rain and keep signing when we were 1-0 down...that in a way radiated to our players.

"It shone through so thank you.

"They're backing us and I hope they're enjoying the football we're playing."

The victory up in Lincolnshire set several records for Wycombe. It was their first triumph at Sincil Bank since January 2011, it was the first time the club had achieved nine consecutive wins in all competitions since 1992, the club have now scored in 20 straight league games, as well as netting in 21 of their 22 matches this season.

Bloomfield paid tribute to his players for these accolades but admitted that 'there are still a lot of things we can improve on.'

#### **By James Richings**

He continued: "The work rate the boys have shown has been ton class

"We do a lot of work on the training ground as we work very hard on our patterns and our second goal paid off from that

"We repeat the same patterns and I apologise for that sometimes, but, the way they go about doing their work is great.

"But it would have been nice to have been a bit more comfortable at the end, as we just need to stick to our jobs and see things out.

"There were times when we made it a lot tougher for ourselves but I'm so proud of the team as it's all about that."

On conceding two goals in a league match for the sixth time this season, he added: "I'm disappointed with the goals against again.

"We need to look at that, but the character the players showed is brilliant, as they believe in the process.

"We also need to recognise that Franco [Ravizzoli's] save at 2-1 was huge and should have got a few more down the other end.

"There are still a lot of things we can improve on as I thought we could have been cleaner but for me, it's all about enjoying the moment."

This is the first of 10 matches Wycombe will play in all competitions between November 23 and December 29, with away trips to Exeter City, Shrewsbury, Stevenage and Charlton Athletic to come in the league.



Matt Bloomfield was full of praise for his side after Wycombe's win over Lincoln on November 23 (PA)

#### **WANDERERS**

# Can the Chairboys be champs of League 1?

AN updated supercomputer has predicted where Wycombe Wanderers will finish in the league this season.

The Chairboys currently sit top

The Chairboys currently sit top of the League One table with 12 victories from their opening 16 games, accumulating 38 points in the process.

At the time of writing, Matt Bloomfield's side are four points clear of second place Wrexham, with the Adams Park team having a game in hand over the Welsh outfit.

Their brilliant start to the campaign has also seen Wanderers score in 22 of their 23 matches in all competitions this season, which includes netting in each of their last 21 league outings – a run that stretches back to April.

Several days after Wycombe's 1-0 win over Crawley Town in the third tier, Grosvenor Casinos suggested that the Chairboys would finish the campaign in seventh place, missing out on the play-offs by a single point.

However, that victory against the Red Devils began a winning league run which has now reached seven matches

Now, the prediction table has changed with Casino Hawks suggesting that Wycombe will WIN the league.

They have put the Chairboys top of the standings with 99 points, six clear of second-placed Birmingham City.

Stockport County, Bolton Wanderers, Wrexham and Huddersfield Town will also get into the play-offs according to their predictions.

A spokesperson from Casino Hawks said: "This table represents the model's prediction of the final standings at the end of the season

"It incorporates any actual results that have occurred so far if any and predicts the exact scores for the remaining games to compile a final league table."

Of course, the predicted table has no bearing on what will happen by May, but, Wycombe are very much the team to beat in the division at this present moment.

The Chairboys set several records following their 3-2 win away at Lincoln City on November 23, which included a record ninth straight win in all competitions – a feat that has never happened for the club since joining the Football League in 1993.

This last occurred in 1992 in the Conference (now the National League).

The win at Sincil Bank was also their first away at Lincoln since January 2011, and it was also the 13th time in 15 league games they have scored more than once in the same game.

Days later, they made it 10 wins in a row with a 1-0 victory over Mansfield Town.

#### **SPORT: CHAIRBOYS STAY TOP**

#### Wanderers hero admits his goal was a cross



Four of Luke Leahy's five goals this season have been scored at Adams Park. This includes the winner against Mansfield

WYCOMBE Wanderers midfielder Luke Leahy has admitted that his late winner against Mansfield Town on Tuesday evening was meant as a cross

The Chairboys' vice captain's firsttime delivery looped over Stags keeper Christy Pym in the third minute of injury time as Matt Bloomfield's side made it 10 wins in a row in all competitions.

For Leahy, it was redemption after he missed a penalty in the recent 3-2 away win at Lincoln City, which was his second failed spot kick of the campaign.

He has now scored five for the season, which each goal coming in the last eight games.

The result means Wycombe remain top of League One, four points clear of

Wrexham in second.
Speaking to the press at full time, Leahy said: "It was a cross, but when you are doing well, those sort of things go in and it's a great feeling.

"We stuck at it and it was a great feeling at the end with all the boys, as it shows what the thing we have got at the moment.

"I missed a penalty on Saturday and it's one of those things where this [the goal] makes up for that personal setback for me, even though we won [against Lincoln on Saturday].
"You see the scenes at the end, we

have this never say die attitude and long may that continue.'

Since joining Wycombe last summer from Shrewsbury Town, Leahy has scored 17 goals in 69 matches.

#### **FOOTBALL**

#### Garner is up for the FÂ Cup

THIS weekend's FA Cup second round tie between Wealdstone and Wycombe Wanderers will be unique encounter for both

An 11.30am kick-off time between two sides who were played each other during their Non League days, Saturday's fixture will be on for the football purists who fancy something different.

And for one former Wycombe hero, the match will be a tad spcial to them.

Simon Garner, who featured for both teams in the latter stages of his career, is hoping for a good contest.

He said: "I had a great time at both clubs. "Firstly under Martin O'Neill

at Wycombe where we got promoted to the old Second Division and then almost went straight up the following season.

"It was at the back end of my career when I signed for Weald-stone who were by then all the way down in the third tier of the

Isthmian League.
"I won my first league title there and then we got promoted again the following season.

'More than the success on the field, they were great times with two great bunches of lads.

'The dressing rooms were very enjoyable and we had a good time together, on and off the pitch."

Garner, who now works as a self-employed painter and decorator and lives in Bourne End. remains Blackburn Rovers' alltime top goalscorer and joined Wycombe having played for the Ewood Park side for more than a decade before spending two years at West Bromwich Albion.

While Wycombe are the favourites. Garner says anything could

He added: "I guess that's the magic of the cup.

"Wycombe are top of League One and in great form. Matt Bloomfield has got a good squad together and he's doing a great job there.

"They will be expected to win, no doubt about that, but you can't write off Wealdstone. There's no pressure on them. even if they are at home, and we all know anything can happen."

Last year he published his autobiography, entitled One Last Shot, where he reflected at length on a successful career, including cup success of his own.

Garner said: "Sadly I never experienced a good FA Cup run, but we did win the Full Members Cup at Blackburn in 1987.

"We were the underdogs a cou-ple of times, including against Chelsea in the quarter final, and then in the final we beat Charl-ton who were in the league above

"So it just goes to show, anything can happen."

Simon Garner's book is available from £12.99 at www.simongarnerbook co uk

### **WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1-0 MANSFIELD TOWN** Luke Leahy leaves it late with a last-minute winner

WYCOMBE Wanderers made it 10 wins in a row as a 94th-minute Luke Leahy cross/shot secured a 1-0 win over Mansfield Town on Tuesday evening, November 26.

The Chairboys went into their first league match at Adams Park in exactly a month off the back of seven consecutive wins in the division.

But in a flat opening 45 minutes, Fred Onyedinma, Richard Kone and Garath McCleary did their best to try and stretch the Stags' defence to no avail.

The Chairboys' two best chances of the first half fell to Aaron Morley, but his bending effort was easily gathered by Christy Pym, whilst Cameron Humphreys also went close from inside the six-yard

The second period saw Wycombe go through the gears but a stop-start half due to small fouls being given away made it a choppy 45 for both teams.

The introduction of Brandon Hanlan and Dan Udoh in the latter stages added that much-needed pace up top as Wanderers started to tire, but this gave Ni-gel Clough's team a bit of push-up top. Franco Ravizzoli was on

hand to deny an Aaron Lewis free-kick in the final 15 minutes which was the Stags' first shot on target.

It looked like Wycombe were going to settle for a point, but in the last seconds of the contest, Le-ahy's cross/shot looped over Pym and into the top corner.

Adams Park erupted with joy, as Wycombe thus made it eight league wins in a row and 10 in all competitions.

This means, the Chairboys remain top of the League One table, four points clear of second place Wrexham.



Luke Leahy (far left) scored Wycombe's winner in the last minute of injury-time.

#### Sell out crowd expected for Wealdstone away

WYCOMBE Wanderers have sold out their allotted ticket allocation for this month's FA Cup fixture away at Wealdstone.

The Chairboys were given 1,025 tickets for the match which takes place on Saturday, November 30.

It will kick-off at the unique time of 11.30am at the Vale Stadium, making it the club's first competitive match to take place in the morning this century.

Tickets for the cup tie became available to purchase on November 18.

and by November 21, none were left. Whilst tickets for the travelling Wycombe support have all been snapped up, some are still available in

the home end. They can be purchased through Wealdstone's website.

If you are unable to attend the fixture in Ruislip, you can watch the second round tie live on ITV1.

The Chairboys progressed to the next stage of the competition after defeating York City 3-2 at Adams Park in the first round at the start of

The fixture saw Luke Leahy score a brace, Gideon Kodua register his first goal at home for Wanderers, and the much-anticipated return of forward Brandon Hanlan.

The striker had missed the last year after rupturing his ACL 12 months ago.

They will now take on the struggling National League club who sit in 20th place, winning just four of their 18 league matches this season.

Wealdstone progressed into the second round after an impressive 1-0 victory over League Two Grimsby Town at Blundell Park.

The result was one of the shocks of the round.

The winning and losing clubs will receive £75,000 and £25,000 respectively from the competition's prize fund.

Additionally, the teams involved in the BBC and ITV's live broadcast selections will also receive £60,000.

#### Injury update ahead of FA Cup clash at Wealdstone



Tyreeq Bakinson should return this weekend. Image: PA

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has provided an injury update on several members of the club's first team.

Despite winning the last 10 competitive matches in a row, the Chairboys are still missing a handful of key players.

Some are expected to be back soon, whilst others will remain absent until the New Year.

Speaking on specific players, Bloomfield told the Free Press after the midweek win over Mansfield Town on November 26: "Tyreeq [Bakinson] is very close and I hope to have him back in the squad for the weekend against Wealdstone.

"But Josh [Scowen] won't be back.

"He'll be out for a little while, which is a shame. "Kieran [Sadlier] put

"Kieran [Sadlier] put something out on social media [about his injury] and he should be back in a couple of weeks, if not sooner, and Gideon [Kodua], should be back by Christmas.

"Also, Sam Vokes is back on the grass, which is great news. "We want the competition for

Despite the lengthy injury list, Wycombe sit top of the League One table, four points clear of second place Wrexham.

But the league will not be the priority this weekend as Wanderers face Wealdstone away in the FA Cup in which changes are expected.

If Wycombe progress, they

could land themselves a lucrative home or away tie

against a Premier League side.
Bloomfield added: "There will
be changes for Wealdstone as I
don't think it's possible for the
same 11 to go Saturday,
Tuesday, Saturday, Tuesday and
with the schedule that we have,

"I you believe in the squad and believe in the group."

changes are a must.

The match on November 30 will start at 11.30am and will be live on ITV One.

# Wycombe's perfect 10 secured with late win

WYCOMBE MANAGER Matt Bloomfield admitted that his side lacked fluidity despite beating Mansfield 1-0 at Adams Park

despite Deating Manshera
1-0 at Adams Park.
Luke Leahy's cross looped
over the head of goalkeeper
Christy Pym in the fourth
minute of added time to
secure the Chairboys' 10th
consecutive win in all competitions, which is also
their eighth victory on the
bounce in League One

bounce in League One.
The match was anything but a classic as both sides rarely threatened.

Yet the result meant Wanderers remained top of the table, four points clear of second-placed Wrexham with a game in hand.

They also scored in their 21st consecutive league match – a run that dates back to last April.

Bloomfield said after his 100th league game as manager: "We weren't as fluid as what we have been in recent games

cent games.
"I felt the game was very stop-start with all the fouls that were being given, I didn't feel we were able to get any momentum.

get any momentum.

"There were a few way-ward touches and passes which disrupted our flow so we never got into that rhythm.

"No game has been perfect this season so you need to adapt to the situation, and if tonight was one of these games, we will pick the bones out of it and try to

It was a frustrating match for Wycombe, and this was evident in the midway

#### **By James Richings**

point of the second half, when referee Craig Hicks gave Wanderers a free-kick despite striker Brandon Hanlan being clear through on goal.

Bloomfield added: "Doubt (about not winning) came into my mind when Brandon was through but the referee blew his whistle to give us a free-kick

give us a free-kick.

"I thought if the game gets stopped in that manner, then it's not going to be our day.

"Not losing faith, but we weren't clean at the top of the pitch, and I think it was the lowest XG we have had in the league this season."

in the league this season."

Mansfield manager Nigel Clough sympathised with his players, admitting that Wycombe's winner was a fluke.

The Stags, in what is their first season back in the third tier since 2003, sit in 10th.

He said: "Everyone is devastated and it's not just about losing, it's about the manner.

"To lose in the 93rd minute with a fluke after how hard we had worked, we couldn't do more than what we did.

"You can't do anything with a last-minute fluke. It is just a fluke.

"He's put a cross in at the far post, we've got men there to deal with it as we have done all game and it's

floated in the top corner.
"The players are devastated."



Matt Bloomfield's side have won 10 games in a row, including securing eight back-to-back league wins. Image: PA

### Swindon will head to South Bucks

A DATE has been confirmed for Wycombe Wanderers' fixture against Swindon Town in the EFL Trophy.

The Chairboys will play the Robins in the round of 32 on Tuesday, December 10 at Adams Park with the match kicking off at 70m

the match kicking off at 7pm.
The two sides last met in August at the County Ground, which Swindon won 1-0 in a pre-season friendly

You will have to go back to the 2017/18 season when Wycombe played the Wiltshire-based team in a competitive fixture, was a thrilling encounter in League Two.

Marc Richards gave Swindon the lead inside two minutes at Adams Park before Luke O'Nien equalised a minute later.

Craig Mackail-Smith put Wanderers ahead in the 10th minute but Matt Taylor's incredible freekick from 40-yards on the hour mark put Swindon level.

Adebayo Akinfenwa thought he won it with a late header, only for it to be disallowed, but the forward had another chance moments later to give Wycombe the lead, and eventually the win.

Tickets for the match will be announced in due course.

nounced in due course. In the EFL Trophy, the two teams have met each on five occasions (2000/01, 2002/03, 2006/07, 2013/14 and 2017/18), with Wycombe winning in two of those fixtures.

It hasn't been the best of seasons so far for the ex-Premier League side, who are sitting just outside the League Two relegation places.

They are 22nd in the division on 13 points, winning just two of their 17 matches so far.

The Robins have recently appointed ex-QPR boss Ian Holloway as manager.

He has won two of his five games in charge.