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A police officer standing
at the scene watch
around Bowden Lane
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Game called off in FA Cup

FLACKWELL Heath's FA Cup match against Farnham Town was abandoned with 26 minutes remaining due to a 'medical emergency' involving one of their players.

In the cup tie at Wilks Park on September 2, the fixture was brought to a halt when Flackwell's Matthew Ayres collapsed.

The incident happened in the 64th minute of the contest with Farnham leading 2-1 against the Buckinghamshire outfit.

The seriousness of the incident led the referee to take both sets of players off the pitch so that the ex-Aylesbury United man could receive treatment.

Medical professionals along with paramedics helped the stricken player before he was taken to a nearby hospital.

He was eventually discharged several hours later and is expected to 'rest' before making his next appearance for the club.

In a statement that was shared on Twitter, Flackwell said: "Matthew Ayres collapsed on the pitch in the 64th minute.

"There was a delay of around 30 minutes before an ambulance arrived.

"Once assessed by Paramedics on the pitch he was taken by ambulance to hospital.

"The game was subsequently abandoned by the match referee.

"After all the necessary tests came back Matthew returned home [that evening], and will now rest for the next few days.

"We'd like to thank Farnham Town FC, we appreciate that it wasn't an ideal end to the day but at Flackwell Heath FC, our player's welfare is of the utmost importance.

The club also praised their medical team in a separate post, where they stated: "We'd also like to thank our head physio, Stacia Murray.

"Stacia's knowledge and professionalism is second to none & some could say she is one of the best signings we've ever made.

"Thank you for keeping us all safe Stacia."

It has since been revealed that Ayres suffered an asthma attack which led to his collapse, and that it was at Flackwell's request to not resume the fixture 'due to player distress'.

The rearranged match took place on September 6 at Wilks Park which resulted in a 2-1 victory for Farnham.

Celebrating two centuries in HW



High Wycombe will celebrate their 200th year in business this September Image: High Wycombe Cricket Club

HIGH Wycombe Cricket Club will celebrate a unique milestone this month.

The London Road-based sports team will turn 200-years-old and to honour the occasion, a two-day event in the middle of September is expected to see hundreds of people from the town and beyond attend their annual 'Big Bash' event.

Posted by High Wycombe Cricket Club on Tuesday, 22 August 2023

Ironically, no cricket will be played on the 16th and 17th of this month when they host their anniversary celebrations.

Teddie Casterton, who is associated with the cricket club, told the Free Press: "It's a testament to how the club has been run.

"There's no secret that every club has had its own challenges but with the structure that we have in place along with the members that we currently have and had in the past, they are just some of the reasons why we've been able to stand strong for 200 years.

"We're so honoured and happy to still be here and as we've gone through the years, our cricket has got better, we've got more members and more people are walking through the door.

"This is a community that's strong and the biggest achievement we've had is the fact that we're still here.

"We've had families from all over come to us not just for the cricket, but for the community spirit as well.

"We've got a history that we're proud of."

One of the biggest events High

By James Richings

Wycombe has enjoyed in recent years was when they hosted an international T20 match between Barbados and St Vincent & The Grenadines in August 2022.

It was attended by more than 3,000 people and with the town having strong links to the Caribbean, the fixture has been regarded as one of the most successful in the club's history.

It also benefitted HWCC financially after what was a 'difficult period' during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Teddie continued: "It was a monumental day and in the few years I've been with High Wycombe, I've never seen so many people here.

"We had Caribbean music, games such as dominos, and food and the cricket was good too.

"It was great to see this place packed out and on top of that, it was wonderful to know cricket brought together so many people.

"We know that the two has got its Caribbean links to the town, but to see people from all walks of life mingle and chat and laugh was fantastic.

"It came after what was really difficult 18 months during Covid, it was something that the town needed where everyone could come together and enjoy themselves.

"It was a perfect day."

Finally, on the Big Bash event in the middle of September, he concluded: "There will be live bands, lots of hot food, multiple activities and a motorcycle event."



The club named four 17-year-olds on the bench as Wanderers lost 4-1 at Ascot United - the match was also played on a 3G pitch

Chairgirls lose opening game at Ascot United

WYCOMBE Wanderers Women lost their first game of the season with a 4-1 defeat away at Ascot United.

Several injuries met four 17-year-olds were drafted onto the substitutes bench and after a shaky start, the Chairgirls went 1-0 down in the 10th minute, then 2-0 down 16 minutes later.

It was then three just before the break, before a fourth was scored with 22 minutes left.

Amy Leach managed to pull one back in stoppage time in what was a day to forget for Wycombe

Assistant manager Dan Weber

said: "It was a tough start and we did not play well.

"A lot of the basics were not there for us today and that caused us problems in retaining the ball and being able to create chances.

"Ascot were clinical in the few chances they had, and we were not.

"Again, another lesson.

"It was a disappointing start to the season, but it was the first game and still plenty of opportunities to put that right.

"We go again next week."

Up next is Oxford City at home on September 10.



Bloomfield on bodies

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has provided an injury update following the club's 1-0 away win at Northampton Town.

The Chairboys made one change to the side that lost to Sutton United in the League Cup on Tuesday night with Luke Leahy replacing Harry Boyes.

However, they are still without Jack Grimmer and Joe Jacobson, whilst Ryan Tafazolli and Dale Taylor, who went off in the victory against Bristol Rovers last weekend, were also absent.

Additionally, Richard Keogh, who scored in the victory at Sixfields, was taken off with a suspected shoulder injury despite his pleas to remain on the pitch, whilst Garath McCleary was also taken off with a

'knock'.

Bloomfield said: "It's important to rest and see where we are for Blackpool in two weeks time.

"We could see a couple come back, maybe, maybe not.

"It might be a bit too early for some as we've still got Jack [Grimmer] and JJ [Joe Jacobson out], along with Dale [Taylor] and Taff [Ryan Tafazolli].

"G-Mac [Garath McCleary] also got a knock too.

"The games are getting longer so this is a squad game, but I'm pleased with the way we saw out the game.

"This isn't just about the players that are playing, it's about everyone as the games are getting longer and we need the bodies."

Ten points from the last 12 for Wycombe

WYCOMBE Wanderers made it back-to-back wins for the first time under Matt Bloomfield with a 1-0 away victory at Northampton Town.

In what was the first league meeting between the two sides since the 2015/16 season, it was the Chairboys who took the lead after five minutes through an unlikely source.

Luke Leahy's dangerously low free-kick was fumbled by goalkeeper Max Thompson which was followed by a goalmouth scramble.

The ball pinballed its way around the danger zone before it was nodded home by Richard Keogh.

It was the 37-year-old's first goal for Wanderers and it came 6,503 days after his first Wycombe game back in November 2005.

It was also his first in any capacity since May 2019.

This made it the longest space of time any Chairboys player has had from their debut to scoring their first goal for the club.

However, despite going a goal up, Northampton began to take control.

Attempts from Marc Leonard, Sam Sherring and Kieron Bowie missed the target, whilst Patrick Brough and Sam Hoskins forced Max Stryjek into several decent saves.

Leahy's free-kick is whipped into the box where it's fumbled by Max Thompson.

A scramble into the box follows and there's Keogh to head it home from close-range.

Down the other end, Leahy's free-kick from 30-yards that went narrowly wide was the closest the Chairboys came to doubling their lead.

The second period continued to how the first ended with Stryjek again being called into action.

First, he was on hand to deny Hoskins before Louis Appere tested the palms of the Polish shot-stopper.

Wycombe continued to hold on and created chances of their own, as Kane Vincent-Young, Garath McCleary and substitutes Brandon Hanlan and Tjay De Barr all went close.

Richard Keogh's goal comes 6,503 days after his first Wycombe appearance.

This is the longest space of time any Wycombe player has had from their debut to when their first goal was scored.

The result was Wanderers' first win away at Northampton in a league fixture since May 2015, and their first whilst keeping a clean sheet since April, when they defeated Forest Green Rovers on Easter Monday 2-0 at Adams Park.

It's also the first time they've kept a shut out on the road in an away league match since March.

Up next for the Chairboys is Blackpool at home on September 16.

Matt Bloomfield's team have a free weekend on September 9 due to several of the club's players being called up to their respective countries for the international weekend.

Attendance: 6,570 (856 away).

Wycombe are now unbeaten in four matches this season in the league after losing the opening two fixtures of the campaign (PA)

Which Chairboys are on their travels?

WYCOMBE Wanderers' upcoming league fixture against Cambridge United has been postponed due to several international call-ups.

The decision was made at the end of August after it was anticipated that four of the Chairboys' squad would receive the call to play for their respective countries.

So, which players will be taking part in the international break between September 8 to September 13?

Tjay De Barr - Gibraltar

The 23-year-old attacker has only played four times this season but has made an impression when he has featured.

So it was no surprise that he has been selected to play in Gibraltar's next two international games which are against Malta and Greece respectively.

He has made 32 appearances for his country.

Joe Low - Wales U21

It's fair to say that the ex-Bristol City man is very much enjoying life in south Buckinghamshire.

He is currently Wanderers' top scorer this season with three goals from his four league appearances, which included a double on his debut against Leyton Orient.

So it would have been a shock if he wasn't picked to play for the Wales U21 team in their two games this month.

They are against Lithuania and the Czech Republic.

Kilian Phillips - Republic of Ireland U21

Another new face that walked into the door at Adams Park this sum-

mer, Phillips has shown the Wycombe faithful what he is all about.

Standing over six feet tall, the American-born Republic of Ireland midfielder has not been afraid to make challenges, make his presence known to the opposition and try his luck at goal.

So a call-up for the on-loan Crystal Palace man was somewhat expected.

The ROI U21s will take on Turkey and San Marino.

Dale Taylor - Northern Ireland

One of the 11 new arrivals for Matt Bloomfield's side, Taylor had featured in every single of the club's competitive fixtures since joining on loan from Nottingham Forest.

The striker also scored his first goal for the Chairboys in the 3-2 win over Leyton Orient which secured the club's inaugural win of the season, and their first in any capacity since April.

He was stretched off in Wanderers' 2-1 win over Bristol Rovers on August 26 but was still called up to the Northern Ireland squad to face Slovenia and Kazakhstan respectively.

However, he has since left the squad due to the extent of his damaged calf.

The Chairboys playing for their nations will mean that for the third season in a row, Wycombe's home fixture versus the Amber Army will take place during the week rather than on Saturday.



Defender Joe Low (left) and striker Dale Taylor (right) were selected to play for their respective countries this month (PA)

SPORT

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Ikpeazu scored six goals in one season with Wycombe (PA)

Uche Ikpeazu could still join the Chairboys but no deal 'imminent'

UCHE Ikpeazu is still 'very much on Wycombe's radar' as he continues to look for a new club.

The 28-year-old Ugandan forward has been a free agent since June following his release from the Turkish side, Konyaspor, after just one season.

There had been lukewarm links potentially

reuniting the one-time fan favourite back at Adams Park, amid interest from Championship outfits in Queens Park Rangers, Huddersfield Town and Sheffield Wednesday respectively.

However, reports from the Sheffield Star suggested that the ex-Cambridge United man was due to

sign for Wanderers following a medical at the end of August.

A personal trainer working with Ikpeazu also hinted about a pending return to Wycombe on social media, but no transfer materialised ahead of deadline day.

However, it is believed that the Chairboys are still

interested in bringing him back to Buckinghamshire, but 'no deal is imminent for him'.

Ikpeazu has had several positive talks with Wanderers boss Matt Bloomfield this summer, and with him being a free agent, he is able to join teams outside the transfer window closing.

Sadlier signs to boost options

By James Richings

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed the signing of the former West Ham United man Kieran Sadlier.

The 28-year-old has become the 12th new face to arrive at Adams Park this summer and joins the Chairboys on a free transfer following his release from fellow League One side, Bolton Wanderers.

Speaking on his move to Buckinghamshire, he said: "I'm delighted to be here, and I can't wait to get started."

Sadlier initially began his career with Cambridge United before moving to the Hammers at the age of 11 in 2005.

He would spend the next eight years in East London and would have two seasons in the first team, but did not make a competitive appearance for the Premier League side.

A brief move to Scotland followed in January 2015 where he signed for St Mirren, scoring once in 11 matches, but he requested a move back to England that summer so he could be near his family.

A transfer to Peterborough United soon followed at the start of the 2015/16 season, but after just one appearance in three months, he joined Halifax Town on loan for the winter of 2015.

January 2016 saw Sadlier on the move once more as he was transferred to Sligo Rovers in the League of Ireland Premier Division where he had his career breakthrough. He would spend two seasons

with the club and scored 18 goals in 54 appearances.

This would land him a transfer to Cork City in the summer of 2017, and after six goals in 21 matches in his first season, he would then enjoy the best goal-scoring season of his career to date in 2018, as he bagged 26 strikes in 49 games.

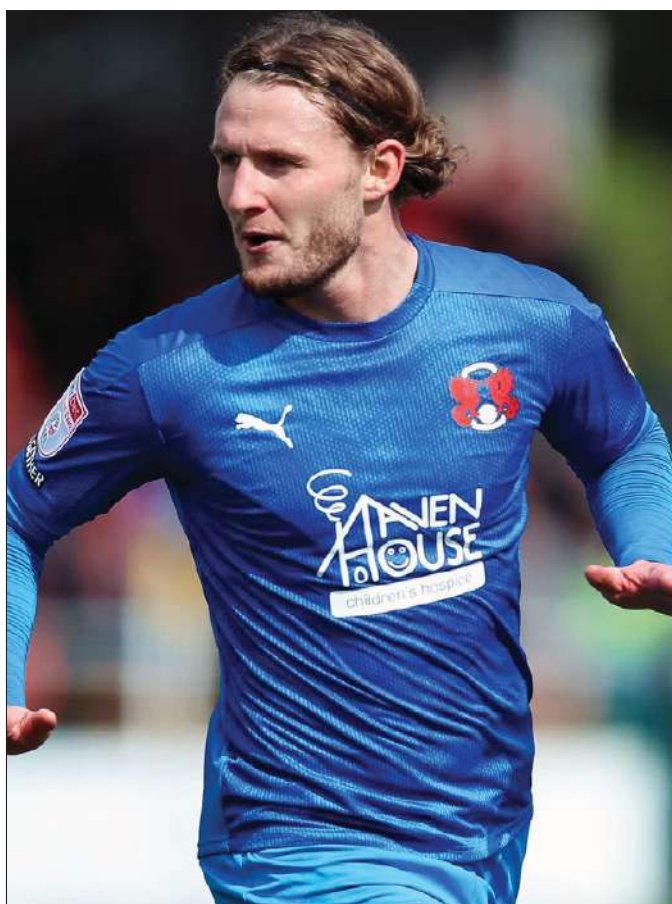
Clubs in England were starting to notice his performances and this encouraged Doncaster Rovers, then of League One, to sign Sadlier on an 18-month contract in January 2019.

A move to Rotherham United followed in 2020 but after just 37 appearances in two seasons, he eventually transferred to Bolton Wanderers at the start of the 2021/22 campaign.

He featured in 46 matches and scored nine goals before moving out to Leyton Orient on loan for the remainder of last season, where he helped the O's gain promotion back into League One after a nine-year absence.

Internationally, Sadlier has represented the Republic of Ireland U17s, U19s and U21s, and was called-up to the first-team squad in the autumn of 2019, but has yet to make his senior debut.

He will wear the number 23 shirt for Wycombe which was last worn by Jordan Obita who joined Hibernian in July.



Kieran Sadlier (pictured playing for Leyton Orient) is a Chairboy (PA)



A very busy summer (PA)

Another new face at AP

WYCOMBE Wanderers have secured the signing of utility player Max Cavana on a short-deal team.

The American youngster joins the Chairboys after impressing his pre-season whilst featuring in several friendly matches.

This includes in Wanderers' 7-0 away loss at Hanwell Town back in July, when the entirety of the Wycombe squad was made up of trialists.

Prior to signing for Wanderers, the Baton Rouge-born defender/midfielder won the Louisiana Boys Soccer Player of the Year award for 2022/23.

He also had a brief stint at Thame United this summer where he was a trialist.

His confirmation as Wycombe player, their 13th new arrival this summer, took place one day after he played in a practise match against the Watford U21s at Marlow Road.

The fixture finished 1-1 with a trialist getting on the scoresheet. He will be part of the development squad and has been handed the number 40 shirt.

To read more about the latest Wycombe Wanderers news, go to www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/sport or follow James Richings on Twitter.

The handle is @James_BFP. You can also follow us on Tik Tok (@bucksfreepress).