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DAVE FLITCROFT The Gaffer looks ahead to tonight's encounter with The Chairboys



CAPTAIN NOTES Read the latest thoughts from Olly Lancashire as he previews this evening's game



100



WYCOMBE

WANDERERS

We pick out six players to watch

from the opposition

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SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

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want to start by extending a warm welcome once again to Gareth Ainsworth, his staff, players and the directors and supporters of Wycombe to Wiltshire tonight.

It was only a week ago that we last met tonight's opposition and I was delighted with our 1-0 win following what was a hugely professional display by the boys in tough conditions. We dealt with the wind extremely well in the first-half and my only concern at half-time was that we hadn't scored more. It was a superb finish by Harry Smith that deserved to win the game. I was delighted for the players and for the fans who backed the team so well throughout.

We had a really good and productive week on the training ground including a 6-3 win against Forest Green Rovers in a reserve fixture. This game for me showed me that we are progressing as a group. The experienced pros' commitment to the game was excellent and they led the younger players to such a convincing win, which is key in developing the next generation of players. Players like Scott Twine can only benefit from these games and experiences and the training environment is key in making sure that Scott is prepared and ready when he is thrust into a League Two game.

We also started the week off with an open training session here at The Energy Check County Ground and it was brilliant to be able to show some of you what we do on a day-to-day basis. There was a brilliant atmosphere and I know the boys really enjoyed meeting you all in the signing session after. These events are really important for football clubs such as ours and I look forward to hosting more of these in the future.

A productive weeks' work set us up for our trip to Port Vale on Saturday and we knew that it was going to be tough given



that they had won three on the bounce under Neil Aspin, who has done a brilliant job since going in at Vale Park. It was one of the most pleasing wins of the season

because it backed up a really good week and it showed that this group is continuing to improve all the time.

The players were their pursui fantastic in their pursuit of executing our game plan and I was delighted for them and I was delighted for the fans who made the trip - there is no better feeling than celebrating with fans after a much

66

The players were fantastic in their pursuit of executing our game plan and I was delighted for them and I was delighted for the fans who made the trip - there is no better feeling than celebrating with fans after a much deserved win."

deserved win.

Let's keep driving forward together.

Enjoy the game.

DAVE FLITCROFT.

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GOOD EVENING EVERYONE AND WELCOME BACK TO THE ENERGY CHECK COUNTY GROUND FOR OUR CHECKATRADE TROPHY TIE AGAINST WYCOMBE WANDERERS.



t has been a very good week for us as a team and that started with our 1-0 victory against Wycombe Wanderers in our last outing here. Going into that game we needed to bounce back from defeat and we knew about their strengths and we knew that they had been unbeaten away from home since March, so we knew it was going to be a tough game.

I thought the lads did really well in tough conditions and to come away with three points and a clean sheet was very pleasing and we were all happy with it. Everyone saw the goalkeepers taking goal kicks and their keeper nearly scored with one. The wind was one of the strongest I've ever played in but I thought we dealt with it well and we got the job done.

We had a really good week on the training pitch after the Wycombe result, the lads were on it and it was a really good week. A few of the boys played in a reserve game and did well in that so everyone was bouncing going into Port Vale and we knew it was going to be difficult given that they had won three on the bounce under their new manager, but I thought it was a very professional display and in the end it was a comfortable 3-0 win.

We've got a squad of very good players and everyone is going to play their part in the long-term this season. We are lucky here that everyone wants to be involved and everyone works hard so that when their time does come then they are ready to take that chance and obviously Kellan Gordon and Paul Mullin did that on Saturday.

The club hosted an Open Training Session last week and it was great for us as players and hopefully it was great for the fans to be able to see what we do on a day-to-day basis. It was great to meet

the fans with the signing session after and those days are great for everyone. It was a good day all round.

On to tonight and we are professionals and we all want to win every competition we enter. No one is going to say that it is more important as the league but we are going to

go out tonight to try and win the game and try as go as far in the competition as we can.

Enjoy the game this evening.

OLLY LANCASHIRE, Captain

GG It was great to mee last week at the Op

ast week at the Open Training Session and those days are great for everyone. It was a good day all round."



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PLAYER PROFILES



01

SCOTT BROWN

Brown signed for The Chairboys in the summer of 2016 following a successful trial after leaving Scottish outfit Aberdeen. Despite starting the 2016/17 season as first-choice, a groin injury saw the stopper fall down the pecking order and he finished the campaign with Cheltenham Town, keeping ten clean sheets to help Gary Johnson's men avoid the drop.

However, Brown has reclaimed his number one jersey this term and he's been a near ever-present for Wycombe in 2017/18.



A former Wales U21 Captain, Jacobson is a proven performer in the Sky Bet League Two having once helped Bristol Rovers to promotion to League One, in addition to playing a key role in their march to the Quarter-Finals of the FA Cup. Following stints with Oldham and Accrington, he moved to Shrewsbury where he was crowned their Player of the Year following a stellar 2013/14 campaign. Joined Wycombe in July 2014 and has established himself as a key figure since.

06

03

ADAM EL-ABD

The seven-time Egyptian international was Gareth Ainsworth's first signing of the summer ahead of the 2017/18 season, signing a two-year deal after leaving Shrewsbury Town. The powerful centre-back spent 20 years at Brighton from the age of nine, winning two promotions during his decade as a professional, and later moved to Bristol City before spending time on loan with Bury, Swindon and Gillingham. He captained the Shrews' side on many occasions during his one year with the club, before linking up with the Chairboys.

OUR VISITORS

07

SAM SAUNDERS

Creative midfielder Saunders returned to Adams Park on a permanent deal in January 2017, having impressed during a loan spell towards the end of the 2014/15 season. Saunders spent eight years with Brentford, most recently in the Championship, having started his EFL career with Dagenham. The free-kick specialist won promotion with both former clubs and was also inducted into the Brentford Hall of Fame, after spending eight successful years with the club.



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MATT BLOOMFIELD

Bloomfield is now in his 14th full season with the Wanderers after joining on a free transfer from Ipswich Town in 2003. Whilst with the Wanderers, Bloomfield has helped the club to two promotions, a League Cup semi-final appearance and a trip to Wembley in the Play-Off Final. His passion and determination has led to him becoming a firm fans favourite and an integral part of the club.

Bloomfield made his 400th appearance for the Blues against Blackpool in August 2016, finishing the season with five goals from midfield – equalling his best ever tally of goals scored in a single season.

Bloomfield continued to write his name in the Wycombe Wanderers history books in 2017/18, becoming the club's all-time leading appearance maker in the EFL.



ADEBAYO AKINFENWA

The 'Beast' signed for the Blues in July 2016 following his release from AFC Wimbledon, where he had slotted home a penalty in their Play-Off Final win at Wembley before issuing a come-and-get-me plea to managers via WhatsApp. The former Swansea, Gillingham and Northampton star opened his account for his new club in the 1-1 draw with Accrington in August, and went on to add important strikes in the league as well as scoring the winner in the FA Cup first round win at Portsmouth, reaching double figures by January. Akinfenwa finished the season with an equal career-best 18 goals, scooping the Players' Player and Supporters' Player of the Year at the end of his maiden campaign at Adams Park.

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SWINDON TOWN MANAGER. David Flitcroft

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