



Wycombe Wanderers Website

Match Report

Wycombe suffered their heaviest defeat of the season as Championship-bound Ipswich Town secured a comfortable 4-0 victory at Portman Road on Friday afternoon.

Goals from George Hirst, Conor Chaplin, Wes Burns and Freddie Ladapo did the damage, as Wanderers must quickly pick themselves up for the visit of Forest Green Rovers to Adams Park on Monday.

Matt Bloomfield was unable to call upon the injured Sam Vokes, Garath McCleary, Jordan Obita and Curtis Thompson, although Dominic Gape returned to the squad after his recent absence, while Jason McCarthy and Nick Freeman came in to the starting XI as Tjay De Barr and Chem Campbell made way.

Ipswich had won seven in a row without conceding and showed why, beginning brightly and moving the ball around with pace and confidence, though Wycombe's tight backline offered them little in terms of goalscoring chances in the opening half-hour.

Chris Forino and Ryan Tafazolli made important clearances in the six-yard box as crosses rained in from both wings, while George Hirst was denied an opener as he strayed offside to collect a through-ball before rounding Max Stryjek and tapping home.

Wycombe's best chance fell to Lewis Wing, who waited patiently just outside the area as Chris Forino battled for the ball and it broke for the Wanderers' no.10, but his curled effort flew just wide with Christian Walton beaten.

Stryjek made two strong saves to keep out Harry Clarke's low drive and Conor Chaplin's curling free-kick, but the deadlock was broken when Hirst escaped his marker to power home a header from Leif Davis's curling with eight minutes of the first half remaining.

With Ipswich's tails now up, Wycombe wouldn't have minded getting to the interval just one down, but the second goal arrived on 45 minutes when the lively Wes Burns cut back rather than crossing, and fed Chaplin, whose low drilled shot towards the near post flew through two defenders' legs, leaving Stryjek unsighted.

That left Wanderers with a mountain to climb in the second period, and unsurprisingly Ipswich came out with a swagger after the break, playing with freedom and striving to reach the impressive Burns down the right with every opportunity.

Burns was fouled by Forino, who received a yellow, before the same combination were involved when the winger's low cross was steered behind by the defender with Hirst waiting for a tap-in.

But it didn't take long for Burns to get in on the act, smashing home from Hirst's lay-off once a quick move had pulled Wanderers' defence out of position.

Chem Campbell replaced Joe Jacobson as Matt Bloomfield reorganised his lineup, and Tjay De Barr came on for Nick Freeman soon after, though the game would now be more about damage limitation with Ipswich's superiority on the day never in doubt.

The fourth goal came when Josh Scowen bundled Kyle Edwards over in the box, and fellow substitute Freddie Ladapo converted the penalty.

Campbell headed a tough chance wide for Wycombe as the match entered the final 10 minutes, and impressed again with a late mazy run which resulted in a corner, with Bloomfield's men knowing a shake-up is likely ahead of Monday's game, and places in the starting line-up would be up for grabs.

Dominic Gape came off the bench late on for his first appearance since the reverse fixture in December, while Christie Ward earned a league debut, as Scowen and Hanlan departed.

Lewis Wing's free-kick over the bar was the final action before the visitors departed down the tunnel knowing they were well-beaten by the division's in-form side.