



# Wycombe Wanderers Website

## Match Report

**Halloween at Adams Park saw plenty of chances needed for a thriller, however the killer blow wasn't quite struck from either side's forward line.**

Garath McCleary was denied by the superb Jack Stevens before Liam Bennett came close to gifting Wanderers the three points, however honours ended even as neither side found the breakthrough.

Matt Bloomfield made two changes to the Chairboys starting XI, with Joe Low missing out through suspension and Harry Boyes dropping to the bench. Ryan Tafazolli and Sam Vokes both made long-awaited returns to the side.

A rapid start ensued, lead by Brandon Hanlan for the Chairboys as he forced a corner from his intercepted cut back. Freddie Potts recycled the cleared corner, however his incisive through ball was just taken from the toes of Wanderers' leading marksman Luke Leahy and defended well at the vital final moment.

Leahy and Hanlan linked up once again just after the tenth minute, with Brandon receiving a pinpoint pass from the midfielder-turned-defender. An unfortunate slip just before his strike denied Hanlan from firing Wycombe ahead, but a positive opening had the Chairboys playing with freedom.

Fortunes favoured Wycombe as the half developed, with U's centre half Ryan Bennett firing a thunderous header off the bar and the post before being clawed away from the Blues' goalmouth, leaving both sets of fans in dismay as to how the visitors hadn't pulled themselves ahead.

Wanderers luck seemed to come to a crashing halt just before the half time break, as Sam Vokes fired a tame shot at Jack Stevens when through one-on-one before limping aside with a hamstring pain. The Welsh target man's evening ended early on his return to the team, a painful moment as the ex Premier League marksman grimaced his way down the tunnel.

### **Half time: Wycombe 0-0 Cambridge**

Luke Leahy continued to pull the strings from left back for Bloomfield's men as the second half opened up; fizzing a perfect pass through for David Wheeler whose cut back was just too short for Hanlan to fire home.

Garath McCleary orchestrated a wondrous attacking move as the former Jamaican international displayed his prowess, slipping through Dale Taylor. Despite McCleary's incision, Jack Stevens remained equal to Taylor's run and denied the Forest loanee one-on-one.

McCleary continued to prove vital to Wanderers' attacking heartbeat moments later, playing Wheelers cross into the path of Killian Phillips that just lacked the power to truly test what proved a resolute Cambridge defence.

Champagne football left Wycombe amazed as to how they didn't lead with eighty on the clock, with Dale Taylor rouletting away from his defender before sliding a through ball into McCleary, yet somehow Stevens just tipped the fizzed left footed effort wide.

Chances continued at a plenty for the Blues, first with Wheeler volleying narrowly over Tafazolli's header, before Luke Leahy whipped a free kick millimetres over the bar and into the agonised terrace.

End to end action developed as the clock struck ninety on Halloween, with Max Stryjek pulling a treat out of the goodie bag to keep Wycombe level, denying Lankester from point blank range.

Just moments before the full time whistle, Cambridge full back Liam Bennett nearly gifted all three points to Wycombe with a spectacular back pass that bounced just over the U's bar from all of forty yards.

Despite dramatic action at both ends of the pitch, both sides were forced to settle for an agonising goalless draw in HP12; not quite the Halloween thriller that the Chairboys hoped for.

### **Full time: Wycombe Wanderers 0-0 Cambridge United**