## Bucks Free Press

## Match Report



## Wycombe Wanderers have progressed into the second round of the League Cup for the fifth consecutive season after a 1-0 away win over League One rivals Leyton Orient.

In a game which both sides could have won, James Tilley's low cross in injury-time was knocked into his own net by Os captain Jack Simpson, as Mike Dodds' men secured their first win of the season.

The Chairboys made eight changes to the side that lost 2-1 against Stockport County over the weekend, with Dan Casey, Fred Onyedinma and George Abbott being the only names to keep their place in the starting 11.

One notable name that began the contest in East London was Cam Stones.

The teenager, who joined the club's academy earlier this summer, made his presence known in the cup tie as he demanded the ball, had a few pop shots, went into challenges and got the odd ticking off from the referee.

He was one of many Wanderers players who stood out in the opening 45 minutes as Wycombe edged their League One opponents.

Despite it being a second-string side, the Chairboys looked good going forward with Onyedinma, who was captaining the side, setting up Fin Back, whose shot was blocked off the line after five minutes.

From the resulting corner, Alex Hartridge's looping header was again cleared off the line despite his appeals that his attempt had crossed the line.

Wycombe continued to dominate as Stones fired wide before the two Danes in Magnus Westergaard and Anders Hagelskjær, tried their luck but to no avail.

For Orient, their best chances to go ahead came from Manchester United Ioanee Jack Moorhouse, who forced Will Norris into two comfortable saves.

Charlie Wellens, the son of the O's boss Richie, fired a deflected shot just over the bar, before Will Norris' clearance smashed into the oncoming Demetri Mitchell.

Thankfully, his mistake didn't cost Wanderers as the ball went wide of the mark.

Both sides went into the break all square, but just 30 seconds into the second period, Wycombe had a glorious chance to take the lead.

A loose back pass found Stones, who rounded the keeper, with the ball eventually finding record signing, Westergaard.

He went for a first-time bending finish and smashed it into the side-netting.

Wycombe continued to go forward as substitute Armando Junior Quitirna fired wide on two occasions, whilst James Tilley also went close.

And the latter would play a huge role in Wycombe's winner, as his cross was knocked into by Simpson in injury time to send Wanderers through.

The victory ends a run of seven games without a win.

Up next is a trip to Doncaster Rovers in the league on Saturday.

## Wycombe Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds said he was 'proud' of his team's performance against Leyton Orient in the League Cup, as the Chairboys advanced into the second round.

In what was the first meeting between the two teams in the competition since August 1995, an injury-time own goal from Orient captain Jack Simpson sent the Adams Park team through as they won 1-0 at Brisbane Road.

It not only secured Wanderers' first win of the season, but also marked the fifth year in a row they have made it into the second round.

Dodds made eight changes to the side that lost to Stockport on Saturday, and he was pleased with their efforts.

He said: "Winning is very important, but we're at the start of something new for this football club.

"I always knew that this opening period was going to be very difficult for us in terms of the direction we want to go in.

"I've had six weeks with the group with 12 new players, so there is a huge amount of change, and it will take time to settle down and embed.

"I'm proud that we played a team that had so much intensity, and we continued to try and play [and not change our style].

"To be in this position after six weeks is exciting."

When asked if the win would be a morale booster after no wins in seven, which included six defeats, he added: "Not really.

"I spoke to the guys after Saturday to gauge the mood, as we had lost the opening two games, and they were polar opposite.

"Training has been bright and bubbly, they love the way we're trying to play and completely buy into it.

"The players took on the ball and tried to play, which gives me even more belief in what we want to do.

"In general, I thought some of our play was good, but I thought it was brave too, which makes me feel proud."

One of the standout players in East London was 16-year-old Cameron Stones.

The teenager, who joined earlier this summer after being released by Queens Park Rangers, started the cup tie and enjoyed numerous touches, had several shots at goal, and was not afraid to get his presence known.

Most notably in the first half, he latched onto a ball from Fred Onyedinma and went around his man, but fired his attempt over the bar.

Following his shining performance, he is expected to make an appearance in the next round.

Fellow academy player Arthur Gregory also played, coming on as a second-half substitute.

Speaking at full-time, Dodds said: "He was released by QPR six months ago and he joined our academy programme.

"He came and trained with us a few weeks ago, and I can see why everyone is so excited that we have kept him with us.

The win is important, but it also gives the fans a bit of an insight into the direction we're heading into when it comes to young players.

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