



Wigan Athletic Website

Match Report

Wigan Athletic were narrowly defeated by Wycombe Wanderers on Saturday afternoon.

On a frustrating day for everyone connected to the Football Club, Ryan Lowe's Latics were unable to break down Wycombe's resolute defence, and fell to a 1-0 loss following a first-half strike from Sam Bell.

Latics welcomed Michael Duff's side back to the Brick Community Stadium for the second time in less than a month, looking to avenge their Carabao Cup defeat.

Following a positive display in Plymouth last time out in Sky Bet League One, the Gaffer opted to make one change to his starting line-up.

After fully recovering from a knock sustained against Cardiff City, Paul Mullin came back in from the off, replacing Jensen Weir.

It was Latics who started positively in front of their home supporters, fashioning two opportunities inside the opening 10 minutes. Christian Saydee dragged his strike wide following an intelligent run and set back by Fraser Murray, while Mullin was unable to set himself quickly enough to head Steven Sessegnon's inviting cross on target.

The chances kept on coming for Lowe's men during the infancy of the League One encounter, with Murray seeing an innovative flick from a Luke Robinson ball in from the left travel over the crossbar.

Despite controlling the opening 30 minutes, Latics fell behind after Wycombe buried their first opportunity of the game. Following a quick counter attack, Bell finished Fred Onyedinma's low cross from the right to break the deadlock.

The impetus was on Latics to come back from behind yet again in the 2025/26 season, and Murray responded by creating an opportunity from nothing. The Scotsman flicked up the ball, and his shot on the bounce was well claimed by Chairboys skipper Will Norris.

It proved to be the last opportunity of the half, and the Gaffer shuffled his pack at the break in an attempt to turn the tide. Callum Wright, Joe Hungbo, and Dara Costelloe all entered the fray, and it seemed to provide the team with an instant boost as a well-worked move almost created a scoring chance for the latter.

At the other end, Sam Tickle had to react very quickly to parry Onyedinma's strike from a tight angle past the frame of the goal.

The stop-start nature of the game meant Latics struggled to get into a consistent flow, though they did put together some nice patterns of play. Will Aimson found Hungbo down the left, and Costelloe was inches away from diverting his dangerous cross home.

Costelloe again nearly brought the game back level with just four minutes remaining. A wonderful flick from Murray fed Saydee, whose cross was glanced just wide of the target by the Republic of Ireland frontman.

Matt Smith constantly tried to make things happen in the middle of the park, and his pass looked to have unlocked Wycombe's defence and played in Saydee, but the visitors recovered well.

Six minutes were added at the end of the second half, and Costelloe was denied a last-minute equaliser by an outstanding one-on-one save from Norris. It meant Latics fell to their third consecutive defeat at the Brick Community Stadium.

All attention now turns to Port Vale next week, when Lowe's men look to bounce back and return to winning ways.

