

THE postponement of Wycombe's Hitachi Cup quarter-final match at home to Wokingham on Tuesday night, means that the Blues are still in one cup competition, following their surprise exit from the FA Trophy on Saturday.

A strong wind came too late to dry out the now slow-draining Loakes Park pitch and the game will be played, conditions permitting, this coming Tuesday.

At least for this match Mike Keen will be able to call on the services of key defender Anton Vircavs, whose absence through suspension, was sorely missed at Bromsgrove on Saturday.

Remarkable

Against all the odds, the Southern League Midland Division side won the Trophy second round tie 2-0 by making the most of their limited chances and by defending in numbers.

On every statistical count — barring the vital one of goals — Wycombe were streets ahead of their opponents. The Blues forced 18 corners to one against, and had the remarkable number of seven shots cleared off the goalline.

Trevor How, who pushed up to join the forwards late on, appeared set to score with a well-directed header, only for goalkeeper Derek Allen to bring off a fantastic save.

Numerous other efforts



Trevor How twists violently to send in a powerful header that brought a remarkable save from the Bromsgrove goalkeeper on Saturday.

Blues are stunned by Trophy shock

were scrambled clear, but Wycombe really only have themselves to blame against a more committed side, who were expert at denying them space.

The same could not be said about the Wycombe defence. With Vircavs away, Andy Harman was given the demanding role of centre-half and really struggled.

He lost an aerial challenge which allowed Mirek

Kalewski to set up Maurice O'Connell for the first goal after 15 minutes, while the whole defence was caught square when the talented Melvin Langford added the second in the 55th minute.

Wycombe's only consolation was that Bromsgrove have received the worst of all possible draws — away to Telford in the third round on February 25.

Wanderers are unable to

get this defeat out of their system for they do not have an Isthmian League match tomorrow (Saturday) due to a fixture list quirk. They are now getting rather dangerously behind with their programme.

One or two first team men could play for the Reserves in their Suburban League match against Wembley at Bisham Abbey tomorrow, kick-off 2.30pm.