

GOADED WEST ON TARGET

WANDERERS' Conference season got off to a see-saw start, with their results reflecting much of the mixed form of last season.

They drew away to bogey side Yeovil and were pipped at home by Maidstone, but pocket dynamo Mark West — perhaps goaded by Kelman's search for a striker — lobbed a marvellous equaliser at Yeovil and was on form again later in the week when he snatched a goal during Maidstone's 3-2 win.

The Yeovil clash did much to inspire confidence among Blues faithfuls, who travelled down to mingle with the bumper 3,000 Somerset crowd.

Skipper Keith Barrett deserved much of the credit for the point stolen in the cauldron at Huish. His calm authority spread throughout the team and was just what the boss had ordered for the difficult atmosphere.

With Andy Robinson and Lawrence Osborne pairing up nicely in midfield it took a while for Yeovil to threaten. When they did it changed the pattern of the game.

Troubled keeper Steve Crompton went to gather a low shot from Andy Wallace on the left flank, when the ball slipped from his hands and Jeff Sherwood poached the goal.

West's goal was a superb individual effort. His speed helped him pick up a ballooned punt out of defence and the nippy striker slipped through Yeovil's defence to chip the oncoming keeper.

With 30 minutes to go Wycombe looked as though they might snatch a win but

DYNAMO:
Mark West
got the
goal for
Blues at
Yeovil



West was thwarted only by good keeping.

On Tuesday, powerful Maidstone United arrived at Loakes Park with former Blues star Noel Ashford among their number. Ashford and Mark Golley — both internationals — gave the Kent side a formidable look but it was Wycombe who showed the early form.

First Mark West then David Carroll hit the target and Blues were two up inside 20 minutes.

But Maidstone grabbed a goal back shortly before half-time and dominated the second half before collecting two more.

Tomorrow, Blues try to strengthen their Conference campaign when they travel to Chorley. Bank Holiday Monday they entertain Northwich Victoria.

● **Wanderers Superloot winners in week 9 are: £200 M.13975 S. Grace, Bourne End. £100 07090 A. Patrick, Chesham. £50 13427 M. Knight, Marlow. £25 15226 Mrs White, Aylesbury.**