

Cup woe for local clubs

NO joy for the town big local clubs bidding for glory in the final qualifying round of the FA Cup on Saturday. Wycombe Wanderers and Slough Town went out of the competition by the odd goal in three against quality opposition.

Wycombe's unbeaten run of 11 games was ended in midweek at Kidderminster in the Clubcall Cup, but the were more disappointed by the FA Cup exit in a

FA CUP SPOTLIGHT

closely contested match at Loakes Park against current Conference leaders Kettering Town.

A crowd of 2,454, the second biggest non-league crowd of the day, witnessed a bruising encounter which ended with six men booked, but few goal chances. There was little doubt the visitors were the stronger on the day, but Wanderers will still be disappointed they did not earn at least a replay.

Town took the lead through ex-Peterborough striker Robbie Cooke after 35 minutes but Wanderers fought back well to equalise through Mark West who scrambled the ball home following a corner right on half time.

The match degenerated into a rather physical contest with both sides desperate to avoid defeat. Kettering's aggression earned the wrath of the majority of the crowd and with the game looking set to go a

replay on Tuesday evening, Cooke was on hand again with just four minutes remaining to end Blues' dreams of glory.

No champagne celebrations at Wexham Park either, as Slough Town went down 2-1 against the Beazer Homes (formerly Southern) League leaders Dartford.

Neal Stanley was the scorer of the Rebels' only goal against the well-organised Kent side, managed by former Spurs and England star Peter Taylor.

ers' run of 11 games without defeat, but they have still not lost a Conference match since September 10 and they will be hoping to extend that sequence on Saturday when they make the long trip to Boston United, who boast the finest ground in non-League football.

At present, they lie in a challenging position, just five points behind leaders Kettering and will be confident of ending Blues' steady climb up the table, particularly after last week's excellent 5-0 victory over much-fancied Barnet.

There don't appear to be any easy games for **Beaconsfield United** as they struggle to haul themselves clear of the Greene King Spartan league danger zone. On Saturday, they play host to Edgware, last season's double champions and although the visitors are not quite the force they were, they will still prove to be formidable opponents for Ian Bradley's side.

Though Chalfont pipped Met Police for the division two south championship last season, they have never yet achieved a victory over the boys in blue and can expect another difficult game on Tuesday.

Slough Town on Saturday have a home match against Dulwich Hamlet and the Rebels will undoubtedly start favourites.

Two cup defeats in the last eight days have ended **Wycombe Wander-**

Fixtures

Tonight

Vauxhall-Opel League division one: Chesham United v Worthing, The Meadow, 7.45pm

Saturday

FA Vase first round: Amersham Town v Tilbury, Spratley's Meadow, 3pm.

GM Vauxhall Conference: Boston United v Wycombe Wanderers, 3pm.

Vauxhall-Opel League premier division: Slough Town v Dulwich Hamlet, Wexham Park, 3pm

Division one: Chesham United v Southwick, The Meadow, 3pm; Uxbridge v Chalfont St Peter, 3pm.

Greene King Spartan League: Beaconsfield United v Edgware, Holloway Park, 2.30pm.

Tuesday

Vauxhall-Opel League division one: Chalfont St Peter v Met Police, Playing Fields, 7.30pm