

Quality was poor admits Jim

ONE of Wycombe's less inspiring performances of the season failed to ruin Jim Kelman's weekend as he savoured the prospect of a last 16 tie in the FA Trophy.

Victory, rather than the manner of victory, was the important thing against Wealdstone and it leaves Wanderers just four games away from a memorable trip to Wembley.

Kelman, not surprisingly, was untroubled by the lack of entertainment value in Saturday's game. He said: "We didn't play particularly well and I would be the first to admit it. But we have lost out three times already on pitches like that and it was just nice to come away with a win.

"With the exception of John Kerr, who got behind their defence in both halves, our front runners never got going. Kevin Durham was up against his old mate Kirk Corbin, who knows him inside out, and it was probably that which tied him down.

"But I was very pleased with the way our defence coped despite the fact that Keith Barrett and Sean Norman are both still out and I didn't think Wealdstone ever looked like getting the better of us.

"It was nice to win the game with such a good goal and avoid a midweek replay. It means we have got a full week to clear up our injury problems.

Keith Barrett receives an injection in his achilles tendon on Tuesday and should be back in full training after the weekend, hopefully for a return to action in two to three weeks. Another week's rest should do the trick for Sean Norman's back and John Granville's thigh shouldn't be far off the mark by Saturday either.

"Matt Crossley's leg is coming on tremendously well and Kevin Day's groin strain is improving all the time. There is still strong interest in him from Aylesbury."

● Jim Kelman has been chosen to manage an FA XI to take on the Amateur Football Alliance at Windsor and Eton on Wednesday, February 15.

The FA line up will be drawn from the first and second divisions of the Vauxhall Opel League and the lower reaches of the Beazer Homes League. It is likely to include Wycombe's third choice keeper Steve Crompton, currently on loan to Basingstoke, and Burnham centre back Martin Turner. Wanderers' David Jones will act as physio for the side.