

## Soccer special by **CLAIRE PERRY**

**WANDERERS** boss Martin O'Neill said after the Macclesfield defeat that his side would probably play much worse and win another time.

His prediction came true sooner than he expected when Blues struggled to overcome rock-bottom Enfield 1-0 at Loakes Park on Saturday.

O'Neill said after the game: "We played Macclesfield off the pitch the week before, yet lost.

"I said then we would have a game where we would play badly and score a lucky goal.

"I didn't think it would happen so soon, but we weren't complaining about the three points."

Enfield arrived at Wycombe reeling from a record 9-0 defeat the week before at the hands of Runcorn.

But rather than lifting their game to the level shown at Macclesfield, Wycombe seemed to sink to Enfield's standard. The result was scrappy passing and poor finishing.

### Trophy

Simon Stapleton and Mark West broke through, but as West's shot hit the back of the net, he was ruled offside, and the goal disallowed.

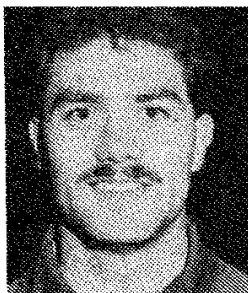
After a tough talking to at half time, Wycombe came out on the attack. Andy Kerr tried a spectacular scissors kick which beat Pape but went wide of the post.

Enfield contained the surge until West finally found the back of the net in the 80th minute.

Stapleton chipped into the penalty area, it ricocheted off an Enfield defender to the feet of West, who thumped it home.

On Wednesday night, Blues travelled to Boston in the quarter-final of the Bob Lord Trophy and won 2-0.

Both goals came in extra



☆  
**GOAL  
ACE:  
Mark  
West has  
blasted  
back to  
scoring  
form**

time, and were scored by West and Martin Lambert.

O'Neill was full of praise for the return to scoring form of West.

He said: "He played sensationally on Wednesday night, and still has the potential in him to make a League player.

"He has been working hard the last few weeks and has gained a lot of confidence, which has made all the difference.

"I've asked him to get hold of the ball and play like a centre forward, to take the ball down and not just tap through. He is in sparkling form.

"Other players are working really hard — it's a case of having confidence in their game because they all have the ability.

"The backs are playing really well, particularly Glyn Greaser who is formidable."

On Saturday, Wycombe are away to Cheltenham. The draw for the two-leg semi-final of the Bob Lord Trophy takes place next Thursday.

The teams left with Wycombe are Yeovil, Telford and Kidderminster.