

Boss: Setback won't derail our challenge

WANDERERS boss Paul Lambert says he won't allow Saturday's 1-0 home defeat against Rochdale wipe out all the good work his side have put in over the last six games.

Blues fell to their first defeat in seven outings when they were beaten by Tom Kennedy's late penalty for Rochdale.

The defiant boss said: "I'm not going to let one defeat affect us. We are still well in there and we won't let one defeat throw all the good work out the window.

"We've been beat, but I'm sure there will be loads of twists and turns between now and the end of the season."

Results elsewhere meant that it wasn't as bad a day as it could have been for Wycombe who stay in the play-off zone, six points off the automatic berths.

Lambert said: "There's nothing in the league at the moment."

But Lambert admitted his team got what they deserved on the day.

He said: "We never deserved to win. We never got going. We were laboured and whether that's a hangover from the game at Mansfield last Tuesday I don't know, but we never got going.

"I'm not going to take anything away from Rochdale. On



Differing fortunes: Scott McGleish scored four goals in the 4-0 win at Mansfield on Tuesday but he was put of luck with this, his only chance, on Saturday

the day they were the better side."

Wanderers looked to have done enough to cling onto a draw until a double error from Craig Woodman consigned them to their first defeat since their 6-0 drubbing at Stockport County on December 8.

He tried to play his way out of his own six yard box and when he lost possession he fouled Ben Muirhead as he tried to repair his mistake.

The ref didn't spot it but the

linesman called penalty and Lambert had no arguments – even though a Rochdale press photographer claimed to have a photograph showing Woody nicking the ball away first.

But Lambert said: "It was a clear penalty whatever way you want to look at it."

He preferred to blame Woodman for over-playing in the box in the first place.

It was an exact replica of the mistake Tom Williams made against Swindon in the FA Cup

and Williams never played for the club again. He was off-loaded to League Two rivals Peterborough United at the first opportunity in the transfer window.

Lambert said: "Craig knows himself what an error it was.

"Craig has been playing terrifically well for us but when you go and take a chance like that pulling the ball down in the box that's what can happen.

"It was a carbon copy of Tom Williams' error but Craig Woodman for the last number of weeks has been excellent for us and I'm not going to let one massive error blight my judgement of a player."

● Wanderers reserves will be without defender Lewis Christon for tonight's trip to Didcot in the Berks and Bucks Cup second round after allowing the 19-year-old to join Conference side Woking on a month's loan.

The centre back, who will remain at Kingfield until February 12, was an unused substitute for the Cardinals in their 4-2 FA Trophy defeat at the hands of Aldershot Town on Saturday.

Meanwhile, keeper Jamie Young could return for the reserves in tonight's game.