Thanks for the tip. I installed PHP 5.2.11 (instead of PHP 5.3.3) and now adding a pattern works!!
 BTW, I am using WAMP2, with Apache 2.2.17 and MySQL 5.5.8 on windows XP machine.
Please let me know if there is a more reliable configuration.
As a PHP and OO newbie, I am finding it difficult to learn this system.

Len