

MEMORABLE MATCH No. 15

WEALDSTONE 6

STEVENAGE ATHLETIC 5

F A Cup, 3rd Qualifying Round

2nd October 1965

Attendance: 2,539

Whenever we have a survey in the *EE* asking our readers about their most memorable games, not surprisingly matches such as the Trophy Final, the day we won the Gola League at Kettering, beating Reading in the F A Cup at Lower Mead figure quite highly in the votes, but there is also a sizeable vote amongst our older readers for a F A Cup 3rd Qualifying Round tie against Stevenage Athletic way back in late 1965. It was an incredible match and we relive that magical day once again.....

"Spectators invaded the field to congratulate Wealdstone on a remarkable F A Cup win. Losing 3-5 to the Southern League professionals, Stevenage, with seven minutes to go, Wealdstone fought back to win 6-5. All three goals were scored by Hugh Lindsay, the England amateur international.

Before this startling climax there had been many incidents on the field as Stevenage players repeatedly surrounded the referee, Mr.D.S.Adey of Hornchurch.

On at least two occasions it seemed that players had to restrain one of their colleagues from attacking him. At the interval a Wealdstone committee man restrained one supporter who seemed to have the same intention.

Mr. Adey's reaction was to send one player, J. Brooks, formerly of Tottenham Hotspurs, with whom he was an England international, off the field and to warn several others.

Never in front until a 35-yard free kick by Hugh Lindsay screamed into the net in the last minute, Wealdstone achieved a fantastic over Stevenage at Lower Mead.

Saving a seemingly lost cause Lindsay had completed a hat-trick in seven minutes and scored for the fourth time after the professionals had held and lost the lead four times.

Small wonder a section of the 2,539 crowd erupted on to the field to cheer their heroes off, as indeed some of them had done a couple of minutes earlier, believing Cashmore's unsuccessful effort to hook Lindsay's shot off the line to be the last kick.

Stevenage afterwards attributed their defeat to the referee who ordered Brooks off the field for bad language just before the interval.

The fact is that without him, Stevenage were leading 5-3 with only seven minutes to go. Then they collapsed before a magnificent rally that was slow to build up but irresistible when it got under way.

An 83rd minute penalty was an obvious one, the ball being handled when destined for the net; the equaliser was beyond dispute; and Lindsay's last superb shot will be remembered for years.

Normally sympathy might be felt for a team so near success when a player short. But Stevenage merited none. Some of their tackling was nothing short of brutal, the wingers Bremer and Allen being the special target.

All this marred a match that exploded into action with three goals in the first seven minutes. With Goymer still unfit and Childs failing a late test, Wealdstone began apprehensively. The ball quickly being put back three times to Smith.

This did nothing to increase the young goalkeeper's confidence and after two minutes he was beaten by a low shot by Sheriffs, who seized his chance when an attempted clearance by McKendry was charged down.

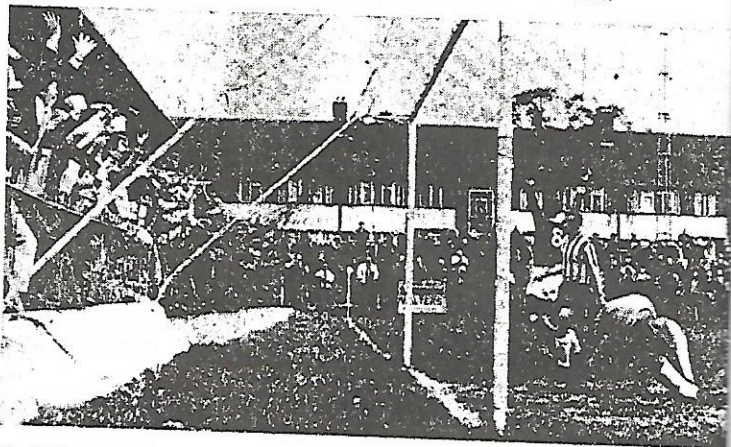
But Wealdstone were at once back on terms, a clever overhead kick by Dilsworth being thumped into the back of the net by

**STONE'S SENSATIONAL
F.A. CUP
VICTORY**

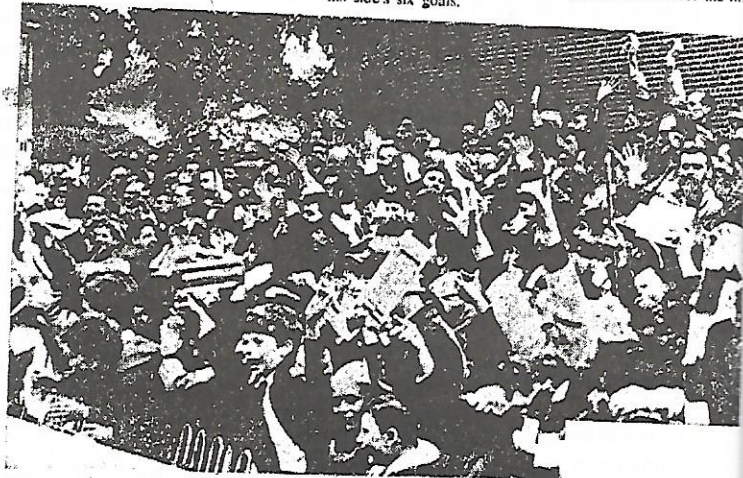
LINDSAY'S GREAT WINNER



Four-goal hero of Wealdstone's remarkable F.A. Cup win over Stevnage on Saturday, Hugh Lindsay has excited young fans to the dressing room after the final whistle.



Jim Cooley, Wealdstone inside-right, raises his hands in triumph as the ball bulges into the net for the first of his side's six goals.



Joy reflected in spectators' faces as the winning goal is scored.

Cooley, and it was then hammer-and-tongs. Chandler shooting well for Stevenage and Cooley forcing Peacock to save at the foot of the post.

After seven minutes Stevenage were in front again. Cashmore going through unchallenged when a Wealdstone attack broke down and Walker stationing himself near the far post to nod the expected centre home.

As Wealdstone stormed back the visitors panicked into profusion of corners and free kicks and Dilsworth made the score 2-2 by forcing the ball home from close range after Cooley shot had been blocked.

That was after 21 minutes and Stevenage were still under pressure 13 minutes later when a good shot by England from 30 yards out got past Smith to put Wealdstone behind for the third time.

With the interval near came Brooke's dismissal. After a bad foul on Allen, Townsend lobbed the ball into the penalty area and Mr. Adey ruled that a forward had been fouled.

The decision seemed harsh and there were protests before Lindsay was able to take the kick and lash the ball past Peacock. The protest redoubled and Brooks was sent off.

Re-appearing with a leg heavily bandaged as the result of first-half "marking" Bremer was badly brought down right at the start of the second half. Another name was taken and Stevenage had lost their last impartial friend.

Yet Wealdstone seemed quite unable to capitalise on their numerical advantage and Stevenage took up the running.

England was especially dangerous and when Doyle, an almost impeccable, steady influence in the first half, pulled him down just inside the area, Cashmore easily scored from the penalty spot. Almost immediately Sheriff was unlucky to see a hard shot bounce off Smith for a corner and

with Wealdstone still off the boil a fifth goal by Walker after 63 minutes promised to be decisive.

But Townsend and Lindsay were continuously at work probing for openings.

At last, a dual effort between Cooley and Dilsworth induced the game's third penalty and Lindsay's powerful kick heralded a few minutes of glory and triumph, the equalising goal being cleverly hooked in by Lindsay.

WEALDSTONE: Smith; Doyle, Richards, Townsend, Ashworth, McKendry; Allen, Cooley, Dilsworth, Lindsay, Bremer



Referee D. S. Adey reaches for his notebook as Stevenage players hold off a player apparently bent on attacking him. This was before the first penalty incident. A recurrence after Lindsay had scored from the kick ended with Johnny Brooks, former England and Spurs player, being ordered off the field.