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#### **OFFICIALS**

Referee:

MR. ALLEN ROBINSON (Waterlooville)

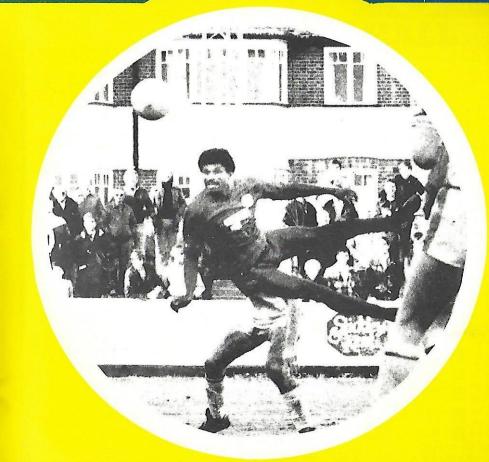
Linesmen:

Mr. R. Wiseman (Bromley)

Mr. M. J. Cotton (Camberley)

#### **TEAMS**

| Wealdstone Blue and Yellow | v  | Enfield<br>All white |
|----------------------------|----|----------------------|
| BOB ILES                   | 1  | DAVE MALLETT         |
| FRED BARWICK               | 2  | TREVOR SAVAGE        |
| STEVE PERKINS              | 3  | JOHN TONE            |
| DENNIS BYATT               | 4  | KEITH BARRETT        |
| PAUL BOWGETT               | 5  | ROBERT TURPIN        |
| DAVID PRICE                | 6  | NICK IRONTON         |
| BRIAN GREENAWAY            | 7  | JIMMY NEIGHBOUR      |
| GARY DONELLAN              | 8  | PAUL TAYLOR          |
| ALAN CORDICE               | 9  | NOEL ASHFORD         |
| MARK GRAVES                | 10 | LEE HOLMES           |
| ROBIN WAINWRIGHT           | 11 | STEVE KING           |
| CHRIS DIBBLE               | 12 | DAVE FLINT           |



#### HERE NEXT

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v ENFIELD 30p

F.A. CUP

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Medical Officer
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#### ON THE

BALL

with



#### **BRIAN HALL**

AT 5 p.m. today about half the men in the country will be asking their wives and children to quieten down so that they can hear the classified football results. Our result will be amongst them, and all we are asking is that we come in the category of "Home Wins". A place in the second round would naturally go down very well for us. I think everyone here today knows that the game is going to be a very hard fought battle, and that is what makes football such tremendous sport.

I mentioned last week about my being aware and understanding that the players performances can be inconsistent. As a Manager, I am hopefully able to correct those inconsistencies by whichever method I think that player or players need, i.e. by motivation, discussion, coaching, demanding or possibly even leaving him out of the side. Players know that being accused of being inconsistent is really a critism, and very often they will ask for the actual incident involved. But one thing is for sure, at least we communicate by some means or other.

What I have observed recently in some games (not necessarily at Wealdstone) is the old inconsistency of the interpretation of the rules, an actual incident? certainly!

Wednesdays international Greece versus Denmark, did you see it? A Greek player was booked for dissent, but later the Greek goal-keeper was not even spoken to for a most blatent professional foul on the edge of his own penalty area. Which was the worst offence? I think I could talk for ever on such isolated incidents. Unfortunately I am not permitted to discuss such situations with any Official. Therefore no communication on a subject which I have positive views about, I assure you it is most frustrating.

I saw Luxemburg versus England on Sportsnight this week and having had a technical hitch with the highlights and also with Brian Clough interview on the side of the pitch when the sound kept cutting out, the Presenter (Steve Rider) apologised because of communication problems. My answer to A.T.V. is "Don't worry Steve, it happens at all levels".

Great game aint it.

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#### WATFORD FIXTURE CLASH TO **BLAME . . . SAY FANS** by Colin Pope

WE have had a fantastic response to the questionaire published in a recent programme regarding our gates, and my sincere thanks to everyone who has taken the trouble to respond so positively.

An analysis of your comments shows that the great majority of people who replied believe that our clash of fixtures with Watford is the No.1. reason for us not getting much bigger gates. Eradicate that, they say, and we shall average 1000.

Season ticket holder Mr. H. E. Palmer, and his son Keith, lists this as the chief reason, while Mr. Bill Lock believes a reason could be that our team plays too defensively to be entertaining. Several, including Mr. J. B. Jones, a supporter for 30 years, and 'KWD' think our admission charges for pensioners and under 16's is too high. This is a theme echoed in several letters as well.

Others who list the Watford fixture clash as largely responsible include M. G. Smith; Mr. M. Thomas and Mr. A. Holman.

A common theme running right through the returned questionaires, and letters received, is that the behaviour of an element of the crowd behind the goals is a major factor. Many say that obscene chanting prevalent on some occasions is a major reason why more people do not attend. (We make an appeal regarding this nuisance elsewhere in this programme).

Letters have positively flowed in, including a lengthy one from Mr. K. A. Barnes, of Bishops Stortford who found our set-up 'magnificent', paying a warm tribute to the restuarant, and standard of food, and ends by saying our programme was 'one of the best Non-League publications in the British Isles'.

Without exception, everyone thinks the local press coverage we receive is 'very poor', and one writer believes that no matter how many people actually attend, 'at least 2,000 people never miss reading about Wealdstone' - or would if they got the chance! Notto put too fine a point on it, the Observer, in fact, does come in for criticism at not adequately covering the senior club in their area. Another writer says we should next conduct an inquiry into why the Observer's football coverage is so poor and instances the coverage Enfield get in the Enfield Gazette!

I can assure you that chairman David Morritt and his Directors are delighted at your response, and they have all received copies of your letters to consider the points you raised. Thanks a lot for your interest, and we have learned a lot . . .

#### **OUR RECORD AGAINST ENFIELD**

THERE have been 120 matches between Wealdstone and Enfield with the 'Stones recording 49 wins. Enfield 55, with the other 16 ending all-square. Of 498 goals scoreed Enfield have scored most, 261 to Wealdstone's 237.

The last time our paths crossed in the FA Cup was on the 25th November 1978, also in the 1st Round Proper, when Enfield had a convincing 5-0 win on this ground in front of 1250 spectators. Their scorers were O'Sullivan, Searle, King 2 and Wright. Referee K. Styles (Barnsley) sent Wealdstone's Fred Barwick off five minutes before the interval with Enfield just one goal ahead. Teams:- WEALDSTONE: I. Cranstone, J. McVeigh, A. Fursdon, S. Horgan, D. Parratt, F. Barwick, S. Brinkman, A. Wilkinson, R. Moss, N. Johnson, S. Briscoe, J. Arnold (Sub)

ENFIELD: T. Moore, M. Wright, J. Tone, T. Gibson, K. Elley, M. O'Sullivan, R. Howell, T. Jennings, K. Searle, I. Bishop, S. King, T. Bass (Sub).



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#### **ENFIELD - AN ILLUSTRIOUS NAME**

WE accord a sincere welcome to the Directors, Players and Supporters of illustrious Enfield for this  $first \, round \, FA \, Cup \, tie \, today-one \, of \, the \, most \, famous \, names \, in \, Non-League \, soccer, \, with \, a \, veritable$ catalogue of achievements since their formation in 1893.

This is perhaps the pairing that neither Club would have wished, for perhaps we see enough of each other in the Alliance Premier!

Like Bishops Stortford in the previous round, Enfield are bonny Cup fighters. Who can forget their success in 1980/81 when they went into the 4th round, and drew at Barnsley before losing the replay at White Hart Lane before 36,000. They have, in fact, reached the 1st round nine times, the second round seven times, and the third round twice.

They joined the Alliance League in 1982 and have an unparallelled record since then.

In their first season they finished runners-up in the Championship and Bob Lord Trophy, and became the first Alliance club to win the FA Trophy. Last season Enfield went one better, winning the League title, just failing to score 100 goals in the process.

#### STONES GYM OPENS . . .

IT'S all happening again at Lower Mead Stadium! The Stones Gym adjacent to the Morritt Suite is now in operation, and magnificent it looks, too. What a great job Ground Maintenance Manager Colin Saxby, and his men, have done so quickly, and we must be one of the few Non-League clubs to have a fully equipped gym on our premises.

It will, of course, be invaluable to our squad when manager Brian Hall cannot get the lads outside during the winter. It will also be open to the public, a £30 annual subscription also combining membership of Morritt's and we are already being inundated with applications. Gym membership only costs £20. The honour of being the first member went to the Mayor of Harrow, Councillor John Campbell who was in with his cheque before the paint was dry last Friday!

#### ... FOLLOWED BY STONES LODGE!

WORK is now in full swing on the big house immediately behind the gym which will be known as 'Stones Lodge'. Colin and Deanne Saxby, the Restuarant/Bar Manager will be moving in there shortly, and there will be accommodation for Directors of visiting Clubs wishing to stay overnight rather than face a long journey back after the match. To be able to offer our own residential accomodation must be a 'first' in the 'big-time' Leagues, let alone the Alliance!

This is one more phase in chairman David Morritt's avowed intention of having all the right facilities – and more besides – when the call does come for us to join the Football League. The strides Wealdstone FC has made in the last two years is quite remarkable, and many envious eyes are being cast our way . . .

#### **GOULD STRIKES GOLD!**

YOU will have read in the Press last Sunday, and again on Monday, what a marvellous debut Stuart Pearce had for Coventry City last Saturday. Indeed he played a big part in the goal by which they beat QPR and one can understand manager Terry Venables bemoaning the fact that he didn't sign Stuart. Discussions did take place but Coventry's Bobby Gould came up with the asking price without demurring and so clinched the deal, to his great delight. Congratulations to manager Brian Hall for setting up such an excellent deal for the Club.

Colin Pope

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#### FOR A FEW DOLLARS MORE . . . . by Robert Nothman

COULD you believe your eyes and ears? Is football in such a prosperous state so as to allow players, earning upwards of £50,000 excluding win bonuses and minor little perks like free houses and motor cars, to demand "substantial" pay rises? Well, I don't think you have to go to a super accountant to get a negative response.

What amused me so much was the way John Wark admitted, after submitting his written request to the Ipswich board, that the general public would probably think that he, and others like Paul Mariner and Ken Sansom were greedy. Call you greedy, John? Wouldn't dream of it. Of course you deserve to earn around seven times more than the average British worker for kicking a piece of leather around a field for 90 minutes, once or maybe twice a week. An oversimplification perhaps, but you get my message.

I mean, what do these guys expect? To sit relaxing in the bath for the rest of their lives beckoning every so often to Jeeves to pass them the Imperial Leather? Since when has an annual income of £50,000, excuding free luxurious accommodation and transport, not been sufficient to support a

family of four in reasonable comfort?

"But what are they going to do once they've finished playing football?" I hear you ask. Well, you don't mean to tell me that such widely known players as Mariner, Wark and Sansom, who all come across on TV as reasonably articulate and intelligent people, won't be approached to sponsor some kind of product, or join some sort of sportswear firm, or even become a member of the evergrowing bank of ex-footballers turned journalists/broadcasters. Sadly, the players who do have the genuine worry and reality of unemployment once they hang up their boots, are those from the lower divisions, who actually need the pay rises. C'est la vie, mon ami—the rich get richer, whilst the poor get poorer . . .

Undoubtedly, the saddest part of this latest fuss about wages is the clear illustration oc the mistrust which still exists between directors and players. Even at Ipswich, renowned for its loyalty to staff and happy family atmosphere, the players obviously don't believe the club is paying them as much as it can afford. An 'Us-and-Them' attitude still remains in football, whereby club directors complain that the club has no money and the players are just greedy, whilst for their part, the players sneer at the 'unscrupulous directors', who seem to be reaping the success they have provided

In the case of Ipswich though, I have few doubts as to who is in the wrong. I hold no objection to players trying to earn as much as they can out of the game – after all it's only human nature – but to ask for a rise when you're already earning lavishly, and the Club has no more to give, smacks of sheer avarice.

#### **WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE, LADS!**

SEVERAL letters have been received complaining that on some occasions there is obscene chanting from behind the goals, and that it puts some people off bringing their children, or wives to our games.

The culprits appear to be only a handful but please, lads, the Club would be appreciative if you would 'cool' it. Please look at it from our point of view; it does get us a bad name, and even if our gate suffers by a dozen people because of it, we end up the losers.

It is generally acknowledged that we have the best and most loyal Supporters in the Alliance League, a tag we're very proud of, and one which we wish to keep. So, chaps, shout by all means, but keep it respectable. Thanks a lot . . .

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#### THE TAMPA BAY CONNECTION

CLUB Chairman David Mornitt returned from a 10-day trip to Florida on Sunday and during his stay there met Rodney Marsh, manager of Tampa Bay Rowdies, and Gordon Jago, former boss of New York Cosmos.

A match between the Rowdies and Wealdstone at Tampa was set up, possibly next May, David revealing that Wealdstone will be going out to Florida if we win the Alliance championship this season. Certainly a great incentive for our squad!

#### JOHNNY AND BARRY TAKEN ILL

WE'RE sad to report that two well-known football personalities suffered illness this last week. Our own member, Johnny Ryan, who now runs the highly-successful Country and Western night here every Thursday suffered a slight stroke at Bideford, while attending a Conference. Happily Johnny is making good progress.

While his team were playing at Gateshead last Saturday Barnet manager Barry Fry was taken ill with a suspected heart attack. Barry was able to travel back before being admitted to hospital locally, but was soon released, but is confined to bed for a while.

We wish them both a very speedy recovery.



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#### WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB **ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE** FIXTURES — SFASON 1983/84

|     |              |          | LIVIA                  | nuco .       | _ OE       | HOUL   | 1 1303/04                         |          |
|-----|--------------|----------|------------------------|--------------|------------|--------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| ı   | Date         |          | Opponents              | Venue        | Comp       | Result | Scorers                           |          |
| ı   | Aug.         | 20       | Gateshead              | Away         | APL        | D1-1   | Donellan                          |          |
| ı   | Aug.         | 23       | Yeovil Town            | Home         | APL        | W1-0   | Bowgett                           |          |
|     | Aug.         | 27       | Kidderminster Harriers | Home         | APL        | W2-0   | Cordice (A) 2                     |          |
|     | Aug.         | 30       |                        | Away         | APL        | W2-1   | Graves 2                          |          |
| ı   | Sep.         | 3        |                        | Away         | APL        | W1-0   | Graves                            |          |
|     | Sep.         | 10       | Bangor City            | Home         | APL        | W5-0   | Bowgett, Donellan, Graves 2, John | son      |
|     | Sep.         | 17       | Cambridge City         | Away         | FAC        | W2-1   | Johnson, Graves                   |          |
|     | Sep.         | 20       | Bath City              | Away         | APL        | D0-0   |                                   |          |
|     | Sep.         | 24       | Altrincham             | Home         | APL        | W3-1   | Graves 3                          |          |
| •   | Sep.         | 28       | Yeovil Town            | Away         | APL        | D0-0   |                                   |          |
| ı   | Oct.         | 1        | Aveley                 | Away         | FAC        | D1-1   | Byatt (pen)                       |          |
| •   | Oct.         | 4        | Aveley                 | Home         | FAC        | W2-0   | Johnson, Byatt (pen)              |          |
|     | Oct.         | 8        | Boston United          | Home         | APL        | D1-1   | Johnson                           |          |
|     | Oct.         | 15       | Basildon United        | Home         | FAC        | W3-1   | Greenaway, Graves, Cordice (A)    |          |
|     | Oct.         | 22       | Weymouth               | Away         | APL        | W4-0   | Bowgett, Greenaway 2, Barwick     |          |
|     | Oct.         | 29       | Bishops Stortford      | Home         | FAC        | W1-0   | Cordice (A)                       |          |
|     | Nov.         | 8        | Barnet                 | Home         | APLT       | L1-3   | Johnson •                         |          |
|     | Nov.         | 12       | Dagenham               | Away         | APL        | L0-1   |                                   |          |
|     | Nov.         | 15       | Hendon                 | Home         | MSC        | L1-2   | Barwick                           |          |
|     | Nov.         | 19       | Enfield                | Home         | FAC        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Nov.         | 26       | Nuneaton Borough       | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
| ſ   | Nov.         | 29       | Barnet                 | Away         | APLT       |        |                                   |          |
|     | Dec.         | 3        | Worcester City         | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Dec.         | 10       | Bath City              | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Dec.         | 17       | Maidstone United       | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Dec.         | 21       | Boston United          | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Dec.         | 26       | Kettering Town         | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Dec.         | 31       | Enfield                | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
| 0 0 | Jan.         | 2        | Kettering Town         | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Jan.         |          | Maidstone United       | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Jan.         | 14<br>21 | 10/                    |              | FAT        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Jan.         | 24       | Weymouth               | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Jan.<br>Jan. | 28       | Barnet<br>Runcorn      | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Feb.         | 4        | Enfield                | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Feb.         | 11       | Kidderminster Harriers | Home         | APL<br>APL |        |                                   | i        |
|     | Feb.         | 14       | Trowbridge Town        | Away<br>Home | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Feb.         | 18       |                        | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Feb.         | 25       | Frickley Athletic      | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Mar.         | 3        | Scarborough            | Home         | APL        |        | To be arranged:                   | ı        |
|     | Mar.         | 10       | Nuneaton Borough       | Away         | APL        |        | To be affailiged.                 | ı        |
|     | Mar.         |          | Telford United         | Home         | APL        |        | Bangor City                       | Away APL |
|     | Mar.         |          | Runcorn                | Home         | APL        |        | Dangur Gity                       | AWAY APL |
|     | Mar.         | 31       | Scarborough            | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Apr.         |          | Worcester City         | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Apr.         | 7        | Barnet                 | Away         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Apr.         |          | Northwich Victoria     | Home         | APL        |        |                                   | 3        |
|     | Apr.         | 21       | Gateshead              | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Apr.         | 23       | Dagenham               | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | Apr.         | 100      | Frickley Athletic      | Home         | APL        |        |                                   |          |
|     | .b           |          | J ritinotio            | 1101110      |            |        |                                   | = 88     |

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#### **ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE**

(Up to and including Wednesday 16th November 1983)

|                        |    | HOME GOALS |   |   | AWAY GOALS |    |   | <b>WEALDSTONE RESULTS</b> |   |    |    |     |      |      |
|------------------------|----|------------|---|---|------------|----|---|---------------------------|---|----|----|-----|------|------|
|                        | P  | W          | D | L | F          | A  | W | D                         | L | F  | A  | Pts | HOME | AWAY |
| Nuneaton Borough       | 16 | 8          | 0 | 1 | 21         | 7  | 5 | 0                         | 2 | 9  | 6  | 31  |      |      |
| Runcorn                | 15 | 6          | 2 | 0 | 15         | 5  | 4 | 2                         | 1 | 10 | 7  | 28  |      |      |
| Northwich Victoria     | 17 | 7          | 1 | 1 | 20         | 8  | 3 | 1                         | 4 | 6  | 8  | 25  |      |      |
| Altrincham             | 18 | 6          | 1 | 3 | 22         | 13 | 3 | 2                         | 3 | 9  | 10 | 24  | W3-1 |      |
| Telford United         | 17 | 5          | 1 | 3 | 13         | 11 | 3 | 3                         | 2 | 9  | 8  | 23  |      | W1-0 |
| Maidstone United       | 16 | 4          | 2 | 1 | 12         | 4  | 3 | 3                         | 3 | 11 | 8  | 22  |      |      |
| Worcester City         | 15 | 4          | 1 | 1 | 16         | 6  | 4 | 1                         | 4 | 14 | 14 | 22  |      |      |
| Scarborough            | 16 | 6          | 3 | 0 | 17         | 4  | 2 | 1                         | 4 | 8  | 14 | 22  |      |      |
| WEALDSTONE             | 12 | 4          | 1 | 0 | 12         | 2  | 3 | 3                         | 1 | 8  | 3  | 21  |      |      |
| Weymouth               | 17 | 1          | 2 | 5 | 8          | 16 | 5 | 2                         | 2 | 13 | 10 | 21  |      | W4-0 |
| Enfield                | 17 | 3          | 2 | 3 | 11         | 9  | 3 | 2                         | 4 | 16 | 13 | 19  |      |      |
| Barnet                 | 15 | 2          | 2 | 3 | 7          | 10 | 3 | 3                         | 2 | 12 | 9  | 18  |      |      |
| Dagenham               | 16 | 4          | 1 | 2 | 13         | 10 | 2 | 2                         | 5 | 11 | 19 | 17  |      | L0-1 |
| Frickley Athletic      | 14 | 6          | 1 | 1 | 18         | 4  | 1 | 0                         | 5 | 4  | 15 | 16  |      |      |
| Boston United          | 17 | 3          | 2 | 2 | 14         | 10 | 2 | 2                         | 6 | 10 | 18 | 16  | D1-1 |      |
| Kettering Town         | 16 | 3          | 1 | 3 | 8          | 9  | 2 | 2                         | 5 | 9  | 18 | 15  |      |      |
| Yeovil Town            | 15 | 4          | 2 | 1 | 8          | 4  | 1 | 1                         | 6 | 3  | 17 | 14  | W1-0 | D0-0 |
| Bath City              | 16 | 2          | 3 | 2 | 6          | 3  | 1 | 2                         | 6 | 11 | 19 | 12  |      | D0-0 |
| Bangor City            | 12 | 4          | 0 | 3 | 13         | 10 | 0 | 0                         | 5 | 2  | 15 | 8   | W5-0 |      |
| Gateshead              | 15 | 2          | 3 | 4 | 9          | 11 | 0 | 1                         | 5 | 5  | 17 | 8   |      | D1-1 |
| Kidderminster Harriers | 14 | 1          | 2 | 5 | 4          | 11 | 1 | 0                         | 5 | 2  | 10 | 7   | W2-0 |      |
| Trowbridge Town        | 16 | 0          | 1 | 8 | 6          | 21 | 1 | 1                         | 5 | 6  | 15 | 5   |      | W2-1 |
|                        |    |            |   |   |            |    |   |                           |   |    |    |     |      |      |

#### **WEALDSTONE GOALSCORERS 1983/84**

|                 | APL | APLT | FAC | FAT | MSC | FR | TOTAL |
|-----------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|----|-------|
| Mark Graves     | 8   | -    | 2   | -   | E   | 5  | 15    |
| Nigel Johnson   | 2   | 1    | 2   | -   | -   | 2  | 7     |
| Paul Bowgett    | 3   | -    | -   | -   | -   | 3  | 6     |
| Alan Cordice    | 2   | -    | 2   | -   | -   | 1  | 5     |
| Brian Greenaway | 2   | 4    | 1   | -   | -   | •  | 3     |
| Gary Donellan   | 2   | -    | _   | -   | -   | -  | 2     |
| Dennis Byatt    | -   | 12   | 2   | -   | -   | -  | 2     |
| Fred Barwick    | 1   |      | _   | -   | 1   |    | 2     |
| Neil Cordice    | -   | 4    |     | -   | 2   | 1  | 1     |
| Steve McCargo   | -   | -    | -   | -   | +   | 1  | 1     |
| TOTALS          | 20  | 1    | 9   | -   | 1   | 13 | 44    |

#### FRIENDLIES 1983/84

| Aug. | 9  | Wimbledon XI  | Home | D2-2 | Cordice (A), Johnson          |
|------|----|---------------|------|------|-------------------------------|
| Aug. | 13 | Q.P.R.XI      | Home | L1-5 | Johnson                       |
| Aug. | 16 | Luton Town XI | Home | D1-1 | Bowgett                       |
| Sep. | 12 | Wimbledon XI  | Home | W6-0 | Graves 5, Bowgett             |
| Nov. | 5  | V. S. Rugby   | Away | W3-2 | Cordice (N), Bowgett, McCargo |
|      |    |               |      |      |                               |

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#### FOOTBALL THE SPANISH WAY by BOB HOLMES (Evening Standard)

RECENTLY I went to Spain for a sunshine break, hoping to take in some football at the same time. Unfortunately the team I wanted to see, Barcelona, were away the week I was there so I missed the chance to visit the Campo Nuevo, the stadium the Spaniards insist is the eighth wonder of the world.

Instead I found myself late on a Sunday afternoon popping along with my three kids to see Calella versus Iberia at the Campo Municipale (municipal field) in the Spanish equivalent of non-League football.

The similarities between English and Spanish semi-professional football were plain to see—the familiar mudheap of a car park that had to be traipsed across to reach the entrance to the ground, the one pay window, and the tiny ground with its mixture of the dilapidated and the brand new.

But there were differences – the fact that the match was played on a Sunday and the 4.30 kick-off (presumably it's too hot to kick-off at 3.00 in the early part of the season).

Also I didn't have to pay for the bambinos (it cost me £1.50 to get in) but they did insist that I buy some raffle tickets. However, at about 50p for 12, I didn't mind.

Another notable difference was that the bar, which sold alcohol, food and hot drinks was open throughout the match and it was an open bar so you could watch the game and drink at the same time.

There was a small club room for members from where they could watch the game. Inside was a log fire and I understood why they needed that when it became bitterly cold in the early evening.

There was no programme but that seems commonplace on the Continent and I couldn't understand a word they said over the tannoy system.

An entertaining game (won 1-0 by Iberia) was played at a furious pace and was about Southern League standard.

Two noticable things were the state of the pitch, which was hardly up to average parks standard, and the way the referee penalised feet up. A foot off the ground, even a few inches, almost guaranteed a free kick.

Althogether it was an instructive afternoon and if you go to Spain don't be afraid to go and see the local team — you'll enjoy it.



Mr. Paddy Power

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wishes Wealdstone FC lots of luck this season

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#### SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

GOOD afternoon to you all. It's FA Cup day today and for this First Round tie we extend a warm welcome to our old rivals - the players, officials and supporters of ENFIELD FC. The two clubs have met on countless occasions in the past both in league and cup competitions. In fact our visitors inflicted one of our heaviest home defeats (since we turned professional) back in November 1978 when they recorded a 5-0 win, which coincidentally was also in the FA Cup 1st Round. However, the magic of the FA Cup competition seems endless and I'm sure that today's game will be tight and competitive and also entertaining to you all this afternoon. The winner will be going into the hat for the 2nd Round draw on Monday and I would urge our supporters to get behind the team from the start to help the lads into the next stage.

On the question of vocal support I would ask a small minority of our supporters to channel their voices into encouragement and support of our own team. Recently, unnecessary bad language directed at both opponents and officials has become increasingly obvious from the terrace. The Supporters Club committee and our Directors with to see a stop to this type of "support" and would

ask those offenders to kindly desist. Our recent bad run of results continued, unfortunately, on Tuesday evening when Hendon ousted us from the Middlesex Senior Cup competition for this season. Our visitors took an early lead and despite Fred Barwick popping up in the 33rd minute with his customary goal in this competition

Hendon netted the winner in the dying minutes of the game. Our AGM wa held last Monday and although the attendance was disappointingly low those present spent an enjoyable evening listening to the various officers' reports on the past year's activities. We are still actively seeking helpers on match days to assist in the Club Shop, sell raffle tickets and to help in the tea bars. Anyone able to offer assistance, even on an occasional basis

should call at the Club Shop for further details. If you haven't yet joined the Supporters Club membership is a vailable today from the Club Shop - Adults £1, Senior Citizens and Children 50p. Benefits include match days membership of Morritts which gives you a chance to grab a pint or three before or after a home fixture. Cheap travel on coaches to away games together with some discounts in local shops are also on offer. Join today!

Our apologies for not running our usual raffle on Tuesday evening due to staff shortages - normal service is resumed today with tickets still at 5 for 10p, three prizes at stake and the draw made at halftime. It might be your lucky day so buy your tickets before the big kick-off! UP THE STONES





DAVE HEATH, Secretary

#### THE HARD SELL by TIM PARKS (Enfield Gazette)

WHAT do you, as a supporter, look for in your local newspaper?

Match reports? Certainly. Pictures? Certainly. Interviews? Certainly. Informed comment? Certainly. Talking points? Certainly.

But do you get them all? Rarely.

When I was a keen, eager youngster who turned to the sports pages of my local paper each week to find out how the 'Stones were doing, my appetite for Saturday's game was whetted by up-to-theminute team news, gossip and the sort of comment that was always readable.

Not popular with the club or the devoted fan, perhaps, but impossible to put down.

Many's the time I disagreed with what was written. Many's the time I sided with the club in their condemnation of that week's column. But, come what may, I never missed a copy.

It was compulsive reading - opinionated, pompous, contentious, and always informed.

The easy way out, as a local newspaper sports editor, is to "follow the party line" and agree with anything and everything that goes on at the club.

It means keeping quiet when a big story breaks. It means not criticising the team or the manager – or the chairman – when things go wrong. It means, in short, not voicing an opinion.

But who's going to buy your newspaper when there's nothing in it to read? Fans don't want straight match reports – after all, if they are true fans they'll have been at the game to see for themselves.

They want something to talk about. Several weeks ago the Harrow Observer carried out a survey as to why more people don't come to Wealdstone... and, for the first time in months, supporters felt that their local paper really cared.

It was involved; it showed an interest. The fact that the apathy of the Harrow Observer itself has had a lot to do with the dropping-off in interest in the club is neither here nor there.

It demonstrated that there is still a lot of people in Harrow who would be prepared to watch their local club if their appetite was whetted.

For, it cannot be denied, the media is magnificently manipulative. Splash a full-page FA Cup preview in the local paper and the club are guaranteed an extra few hundred on the gate, depending on the opposition.

Build up the game. Spice up the teams. Concentrate on certain players. David Price, who played in three successive FA Cup Finals for Arsenal in the late 'Seventies, now playing through all the qualifying rounds. Alam Cordice in opposition to his non-League striking partner, Noel Ashford.

Will Keith Barrett, another international defender, be able to cope with the extraordinary pace of Cordice? Will Wealdstone's magnificent centre-backs be unhinged by the guile of Steve King, probably the best winger outside the League? Can they subdue the talented Nicky Ironton in midfield?

These are the questions that should have had several thousand alamouring at the turnstiles this afternoon, eager to learn the answers.

We're the lucky ones. We're here. I just feel sorry for all those who might have been tempted, but

#### LEADING ALLIANCE SCORERS

| Paul Culpin (Nuneaton)   | 17 |
|--------------------------|----|
| Paul Moss (Worcester)    | 14 |
| Steve Mahoney (Barnet)   | 13 |
| John Bartley (Maidstone) | 11 |
| Noel Ashford (Enfield)   | 10 |
| Mark Graves (Wealdstone) | 10 |
| Im Lumby (Boston)        | 10 |



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