

Harrow are hit by injury jinx

See page 52

SPORT

Borough get off the bottom

See page 54

League tables

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier Division table with columns for team, p, w, d, l, f, a, pts. Lists teams like Worcester, Dover, Bromsgrove, etc.

Hall's back but with no 'double' promises

'That's all history, it's water under the bridge' says Stones boss

Gulfer ends the agony

Wembley 1 Northwood 0 GURSEL Gulfer's 88th minute winner...

BRIAN Hall returned to the Wealdstone manager's job he vacated three years ago with a warning to Stones' fans...

BY JOHN



COMFORT

'I'm aware of the fact that there are still memories of the great double side,' he said 'but that's all history, it's water under the bridge.'

'It's possible that Alan Clifton felt that given the principles I had employed then, he thinks there is perhaps a chance that it can happen again.'

'But it took three years to build the double side. I can't turn a team round in a week or a month or even a year.'

'But the chairman is a very persuasive and optimistic man and he makes you feel welcome and wanted. So I felt that if he really thought I could do it, I'd give it a try.'

With Wealdstone's squad still overloaded, Hall will be forced to work under the same constraints that were responsible for the sacking of Alan Gane.

'My brief is clearly laid down,' he said. 'The club is overstocked with players and we've got to be realistic in making it a viable proposition and there will be some pruning.'

'I'll be doing it my way and it won't be popular with everyone - but I'm not paid to be popular.'

Already gone is midfielder Paul Chigbidi who was signed from Dulwich Hamlet. He was sold on Tuesday to Kingstonian for £10,000.

And on Tuesday Hall released both defender Solomon Eriemo and striker Samson Olayele.

Hall said that new signings would be made where he felt they were appropriate but he would have to work within the guidelines of the brief he had been given.

Hall's first signing however is for his management team with Fareham's Chris Brady agreeing to join him as coach at Lower Mead. Brady coached Fareham to the FA Trophy semi-final three years ago.

Wealdstone chairman Alan Clifton, who narrowed the 18 applicants for the manager's job down to three and then decided to go for Hall who was not on the short list, said he was 'very happy' with the appointment.

'I was disappointed when he went to Yeovil and I'm delighted he's agreed to come back.'



Welcome back to Wealdstone. Manager Brian Hall (left) with club chairman Alan Clifton.

Only the difficult conditions offered limp excuse for this miserable affair and with neither side seemingly capable of a constructive move, let alone a goal, extra time appeared inevitable.

But then out of the blue Steve Salsman dispossessed a Northwood defender on the left and he laid the ball square across the penalty area and Gulfer raced in to curl a low shot round keeper Lavender to settle the issue.

The rest was best forgotten. Wembley: Fanner, Larkin, Fitzgerald, Bennett, Shields, Gulfer, T. Waugh, Witter (F. Werry), Graham, B. Hutchinson, Salsman. Other sub: Strachan.

Kingsbury let it slip three times

Hornchurch 3 Kingsbury Town 3 KINGSBURY let three times in this Lottie Trophy tie on Tuesday, but failed to consolidate their advantage and had to settle for a replay.

They opened the scoring in the 8th minute when Jason Dale scored but Niall O'Rourke through to net but Hornchurch levelled after 71 minutes through Mark Sexton who volleyed home from a half cleared corner.

Troy Birch restored the lead after 74 minutes when he took a Cecil Collins through ball and went round the keeper to score but it lasted just a minute before Andy Stroud equalised to take the match into extra time.

Kingsbury were back in front again within five minutes when O'Rourke scored after a Birch shot had been charged down and they held it until three minutes from the end when Dave Allen's goal earned Hornchurch a second chance.

Kingsbury: Duffy, Keane, Donald, Stapleton, K. Williams, Kearns, Dale, Surridge, O'Rourke (Papa), Collins, Birch. Other sub: O'Donoghue.

First half goal blast puts Boro' through

Dorking 1 Harrow Borough 4 BOROUGH ended Dorking's seven match winning run on Tuesday when they triumphed in this Lottie Cup first round tie, writes Tony Booth.

Aided by two further debutants, rejuvenated Borough penned the home side in their own half from the start and stormed into a four goal interval lead.

Mark Hopson shot just wide and

Danny Aluko had an effort blocked on the line before Borough took a 13th minute lead when Cooper raced onto Craig Johnstone's clearance and put over a first time cross which Pye flicked on for Johnstone to arrow home a 20 yard shot.

Four minutes later Payne's pass caused panic in the home defence and Paul Ripley intercepted to return keeper Caswell and make it 2-0.

After 30 minutes Pye and Barnard gave Johnstone the opening to chip Caswell from 25 yards for Borough's third and six minutes later Barnard cleared off the line and set up an attack that culminated in Hopson putting Pye free on halfway and he strode clear to sidestep Caswell and make it 4-0.

In the second half Crompton made a good save from Shoeidine but thereafter was only troubled by the hosts' 65th minute penalty, harshly awarded for a 'ball to hand' incident involving Barnard. Goring netted but it was no more than that as Borough moved into a second round tie at home to Bishop's Cleeve.

Harrow Borough: Crompton, C. Payne, Barnard, Aluko (Colwill), Shea, O'Connor, Johnstone, Pye, Ripley, Hopson, Cooper.

of the year and misses Wembley's league match at home to Leveson on Saturday. Charlie Flaherty is still troubled with a groin injury but is expected to play. Lance Cadogan has the cast on his broken wrist removed during the week and may be back.

The injured Robbie James and Gerald Mulhern are again doubts for Kingsbury Town when they travel to Royston on Saturday. Phil Williams has a groin problem which is likely to keep him sidelined until the New Year.

Rayners Lane manager Don Durkin is hoping to have Danny Mills (bad back) and Tony Verni (ankle injury) available for the difficult away game at Kintbury. But he will definitely be without the injured Fergus Meaney (knee), Gary Woolsey (ligaments) and Steve Cott (cheek bone).

Soccer fixtures

Saturday December 15: Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Moor Green v Wealdstone. Vauxhall League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Grays Athletic (Earlsmead, 3pm). Vauxhall League Division One: Wembley v Lewes (Vale Farm, 3pm). Vauxhall League Division Two North: Purfleet v Edgware Town. Rayston v Kingsbury Town. Lucette League: Kintbury Rangers v Rayners Lane. Suburban League: Wealdstone Res. v Feltham (Lower Mead, 3pm). Tuesday December 18: AC Delco Cup: Wembley v Windsor & Eton (Vale Farm, 7.30pm). Vauxhall League Division Two North: Kingsbury Town v Edgware Town (Silver Jubilee Park, 7.30pm). Lucette Youth Cup: Harrow Borough v Abingdon Town (Earlsmead, 7.30pm). Wednesday December 19: Capital League President's Cup: Wealdstone v Colchester Utd (Lower Mead, 7.30pm).

Welcome for Hall

WEALDSTONE FC members and shareholders gave Brian Hall an enthusiastic welcome back as manager at the club's annual general meeting on Tuesday.

The business side of the meeting was promptly concluded and a general forum followed at which club chairman Alan Clifton enlightened members on the reasons for the sacking of Hall's predecessor, Alan Gane.

Borough through

AN Evans hat-trick and further goals from Alleyne 2, and Collins saw Harrow Borough Reserves to a 6-1 win over North Greenford United in the Middlesex Premier Cup.

Ferguson on the mend

WEALDSTONE defender Ian Ferguson began his comeback after breaking his leg when he appeared for 20 minutes on Tuesday evening in a reserve team friendly match against Rayners Lane. Stones lost the match 4-2.

Problems for Stones

WEALDSTONE boss Brian Hall has a spate of injury problems to contend with for Saturday's league match at Moor Green.

Tony Kelly has a cut toe and Steve Tapley a gashed head but both are expected to be fit to play, but doubtful are Peter Bartlett, who is still struggling with ankle ligaments trouble, and Steve Smart, who has gone down with food poisoning.

Ian Henry, who missed the abandoned game at Cambridge due to being stuck in M6 traffic for 10 hours, returns to the side, and also in the reckoning for a place is Paul Morris who returned to the club this week after being out in the cold since last season following a clash of personalities with ex-manager Alan Gane.

Wealdstone are running a supporters coach to Moor Green, leaving Lower Mead at 11.30am. Tickets, priced £10 for adults, £8 for juniors and £6 for Junior Stones, can be booked by ringing 427-4064.

Harrow Borough are expected to have their on loan from Barnet duo, Dean Murphy and Ivor Angel, back for Saturday's tough home game with Grays, both played for the Underhill club in midweek and missed Tuesday's win at Dorking.

Domino Di Cicco has a slight knock but is expected to be fit while new signings Daniel Oluko from Bedford and former Rayners Lane player Darren Colwill, who has played for both Slough and Staines this season, are also in contention for places.

Good news for Borough is that injured stars Kevin Mull, Jeremy Arnall and Gavin McPherson are on the mend and are expected to play for the reserves on Saturday. Laurence Murphy is suspended until the end

Morris is back for Stones

WEALDSTONE 1 Southend 2 POPULAR Paul Morris, who went into 'retirement' last season, made a surprise substitute appearance for Stones in this Capital League match against Southend on Monday night, writes Graham Smith.

And he marked his return by setting up Stones' goal in the 63rd minute when his pass was headed on by Barry Blackman for Samson Olayele to slot home.

That goal equalised Southend's opener in the 17th minute when Ling's first time cross was hit home via a post by Scott.

Southend scored their winner through Ling in the 71st minute and although Wealdstone pressed in the latter stages, with Corey Browne particularly impressive, they were unable to salvage a point.

Wealdstone: Vagg, Watson, Eriemo, Tapley, Harrison, L. Donnellan, Olayele, Gyecic, Campbell (Morris), Blackman, M. Brown (C. Browne).

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