

Wembley fears ease in four goal spree See page 46

SPORT

Borough are blasted by boss See page 47

Sent off Surridge does Town no favours

Kingsbury Town 0 Vauxhall Motors 2 THE sending off of midfielder Steve Surridge turned this game on Tuesday, just when Kingsbury looked set to get something out of it, writes John Comfort.

Behind to a 23rd minute goal from Chris Campbell, Kingsbury were pressing hard in the second half and showing every sign of leveling matters.

Their best chance came in the 73rd minute when Niall O'Rourke powered in a close range header from Gerald Mulhern's corner but keeper Turner miraculously clawed the ball away.

But then Vauxhall broke to win a corner and in the scramble from Drisall's kick, grounded Kingsbury keeper Mick Coffey seemed to have the ball kicked from his grasp. Connelly netted and when Surridge lashed out in frustration over the goal, referee Fellows promptly sent him off.

With Kingsbury 2-0 down and having only 10 men, the game was effectively over as a contest, but the home side battled well to the end and were unlucky not to reduce the deficit before the final whistle.

Kingsbury: Coffey, Keane, Donald, Cook (Dale), K. Williams, Surridge, O'Rourke, Bhatia, P. Williams (Mulhern), Petrou, Simpson.

Wealdstone let down by poor finishing

Chelmsford 0 Wealdstone 0 ONLY poor finishing prevented Wealdstone from attaining maximum points in a highly entertaining match on Monday, writes Steve Marshall.

In the first half Tapley's free kick was headed down by Blackman and Kelly's low drive was smothered by Lewington, then Watson, Hayrettin and Smart combined to set up Gipp for a close range effort that was blocked.

A Blackman drive cannoned off a defender and soon after a five man move involving Hayrettin, Gipp and Kelly left Gipp free only yards from goal but he hesitated and the chance was lost.

Blackman and Smart missed good chances before the break and a minute into the second half Lewington saved well from Kelly.

The Wealdstone defence enjoyed a splendid night and Roach was only required to make one major save, from Daly in the 63rd minute.

Wealdstone: Roach, Watson, Smart (Goodison), Tapley, Harrison, Hayrettin, Goyette, Bartlett, Kelly, Blackman, Gipp (Martin).

Mean Monarchs dismantle the Machine

LONDON Monarchs maintained their 100 per cent record in the World League of American football with a 45-7 trouncing of the Montreal Machine at Wembley on Saturday, and with Barcelona losing to San Antonio, they are now the League's only unbeaten team, writes Marcus Comfort.

Jon Horton was the star the show for Monarchs with three touchdown receptions, while quarterback Stan Gelbaugh threw for 286 yards, completing 17 of 29 passes for four touchdowns.

The game began with both sides failing to progress on their opening drives but at

halting Montreal again, Monarchs opened the scoring. Gelbaugh hit Judd Garrett for a 47 yard completion and but for Richard Shelton's tackle a touchdown was a certainty. A few plays later Monarchs had to settle for a 22 yards Phil Alexander field goal.

Within 11 seconds of gaining possession again Monarchs added to their score with Horton's first touchdown, from a 4 yard reception. Alexander added the extra point to give Monarchs a 10-0 lead at the end of the quarter.

In the second quarter Horton hauled in a 41 yard touchdown pass and Alexander's

extra point saw Monarchs into a 17-0 half time lead.

The crowd were promised fireworks at half time but they didn't end there as three touchdowns were scored in the first four minutes of the second half. Monarchs were first to score with a World League record kick off return of 93 yards and a touchdown for Dana Brinson. Alexander's extra point was swiftly followed by a 20 yard touchdown run by Montreal's Ricky Johnson.

Monarchs soon cancelled that out when a two minute drive culminated in a Garrett 40 yard touchdown reception, with Alexander

adding the extra point.

In the final quarter Gelbaugh threw a 12 yard touchdown pass to the game's MVP Horton before being replaced by John Witkowski who completed the scoring with a 22 yard touchdown pass to Tony Sargent.

Victor Ebubedike came on in the closing minutes at full back, much to the delight of the crowd, and on his only carry rushed for eight yards. He also led the special team with four tackles.

This Sunday Monarchs face the winless Raleigh Durham Skyhawks at Wembley Stadium, kick off 6pm.

Club ends its 20 year exile of overseas stars

Kiwi joins Stanmore

NEW Zealand test player Jonathan Millmow is to become the first overseas cricketer to play for Stanmore in their 20 years of membership of the Middlesex County League.

But Stanmore, who have steadfastly declined to join the bandwagon of recruiting foreign players pursued by many of their rivals, say they are not setting a precedent by taking on the 24 year old pace bowler.

Said club captain Graham Pouncefort: "Jonathan has played host to the Frasers, Peter Edwards and Michael Waite when they have been playing in New Zealand in recent years and this is something of a reciprocal arrangement."



BY JOHN COMFORT

"He is a friend of the club and has come over to play here and in those circumstances it would seem to be stretching a policy in saying he can't play for us. We are absolutely delighted to have him."

Millmow, who toured with the Kiwis last year but played in only one day internationals and not the test matches, is being put up by the Fraser family during his stay.

The Kiwi will making his debut for Stanmore in Saturday's seasonal opener at home to Watford Town. He will not however be eligible to play in Sunday's National Cup match at Polytechnic.

A qualified coach, Millmow will also be helping out with the coaching of Stanmore's colts teams.

At the Middlesex County League's annual general meeting, member clubs voted to re-

strict overseas players to two per team this season. A Stanmore proposal that it should be only one received a majority of votes, but not the two thirds required for it to become a new rule.

Stanmore have retained all of last season's players and have several new additions including Harrow swimming international Guy Bullpit, who is a slow left arm bowler, together with batsmen Geoff Hurrell and wicketkeeper Mike Cross, who have both moved into the area from Sudbury, Suffolk.

Stanmore finished 7th in the league last year after being top in the opening weeks. With the boost of Millmow, skipper Pouncefort will be expecting a more sustained challenge for honours this season.

Diadora are League's new sponsors

ITALIAN specialist sports shoe and clothing company, Diadora, are the new sponsors of the Isthmian Football League.

From next season the League will be known as the Diadora Football League, with Diadora replacing Vauxhall Motors, who have sponsored the Isthmian League for the past six years.

The deal, worth £400,000 over the next three years, includes championship and goalscoring awards; rewards for clubs who are successful in the FA Cup, FA Trophy and FA Vase; and a range of mer-

chandising materials. It is the largest sponsorship of its kind in non-league football.

Former Olympic athlete Seb Coe, the chairman of Diaco Ltd, Diadora's UK distribution company, said: "Diadora is a company that believes wholeheartedly in the encouragement of sport at all levels. We know that non-league football provides the springboard for many of our up and coming young soccer stars."

"We believe it is high time grass roots sports saw more support from within the sport and leisure industry and we at Diadora look forward to this being the start of a long and happy relationship."

Isthmian League chairman Alan Turvey said: "Securing such a prestigious sponsorship in a difficult economic climate is extremely pleasing. I think Diadora's foresight in supporting community football in such a positive manner should be applauded."

The sponsorship covers all four Isthmian League Divisions. A new sponsor for the League Cup, formerly the AC Delco Cup, is still being sought.

Award scheme to recognise cricketing achievements



THE Observer has linked up again with County Championship sponsors Britannic Assurance to recognise the achievements of local cricketers throughout the summer.

Each month of the season will be making an award to the Britannic Assurance 'Player of the Month'.

The recipient will be selected from performances recorded in the Observer, together with nominations made by readers, and the winner will be the player considered to have made the most notable series of achievements during the relevant month.

Monthly award winners will receive a trophy, tickets for himself and his family to see a Britannic County Cricket Championship match of his choice, plus a Britannic Assurance sponsorship item of either a leisure jacket, a rugby shirt or golf umbrella.

At the end of the season Britannic will also be making an additional award for the 'Player of the Season'.

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Wealdstone watch out for souvenir hunters

WEALDSTONE officials will be keeping a wary eye out for souvenir hunters on Saturday when Stones play their final first team fixture at Lower Mead.

Rumours that supporters will be looking to carry away their own mementoes of the ground that has been Wealdstone's home for 60 years have been rife, but club vice-chairman Peter Braxton says there will be no early dismantling of Lower Mead.

"I can't think that there's much here that anyone would want, but we have been asked if we are having an open day so they can take things like a sod of earth from the pitch. But it's not going to happen on Saturday," he said.

"We've still got another month's business here, including junior cup finals, and we don't want to disappoint them." On the playing front Stones hope to have Mark Hopson back to face Cambridge after recovering from a lengthy back injury. But Neil Cordice is doubtful with a groin injury.

Harrow Borough manager Peter Lawrence will be doubly delighted if his side put one over on St Albans on Saturday. For it was the St Albans who controversially sacked him last season and if Borough win and rivals Barking draw or lose, Borough will be assured of Premier Division soccer for another season.

Borough go into this latest crunch match with no injury worries and a fervent desire to 'win this one for the boss'.

Wembley's relegation fears receded after the fine win at Harlow on Saturday and they

will be anxious to follow up that success at Boreham Wood tonight (Thursday) and at home to fast fading Southwick on Saturday.

Edgware have no new injury problems for their game at Tilbury on Saturday, but Laurence Murphy will again be missing as he completes his three match suspension.

Kingsbury are likely to be unchanged for their match with Finchley at Witham.

For their last away fixture of the season, Rayners Lane meet Almondsbury Picksons,

who are on an unbeaten run of ten games. Lane manager Don Durkin is expecting to be able to select his side from almost a full squad.

Wayne Coakley and Jimmy Schurer are back after injury and Neil Owen, Ian Woodward and Paul Abell are available after missing the 1-1 draw at Pegasus.

Soccer fixtures Thursday April 25 Vauxhall League Division One: Boreham Wood v Wembley, Capital League: Wealdstone v Leyton Orient (Lower Mead, 7.30pm). Saturday April 27 Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Wealdstone v Cambridge City (Lower Mead, 3pm). Vauxhall League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v St Albans (Camford, 3pm). Vauxhall League Division One: Wembley v Southwick (Vale Farm, 1.30pm). Vauxhall League Division Two City: Lower Mead v Spm. North: Tilbury v Edgware Town; Finchley v Kingsbury Town (at Witham Town FC). Heleneic League: Almondsbury Picksons v Rayners Lane. Suburban League: Handon Res. v Wealdstone Res. (6pm). Wednesday May 1 Capital League: Cambridge Utd v Wealdstone (5pm). Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Cambridge City v Wealdstone (7.45pm). * 3 pts deducted by league.

Where the locals stand in the league tables

Table with columns for BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE, VAUXHALL LEAGUE Premier Division, VAUXHALL LEAGUE Division One, VAUXHALL LEAGUE Division Two North, and VAUXHALL LEAGUE Division Two South. Rows list various clubs and their league positions.