

**Gayts lead the way in league**

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# SPORT

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## Wasps confident there will be no Cup upset

WASPS may be smirring after their heavy defeat against Leicester but that does not mean that High Wycombe of Division Four South can expect to spring a major upset in the Pilkington Cup at Sudbury on Saturday.

"Wasps supporters have become used to occasional bouts of erratic form over the years" said Fran Clough, who will skipper the side for the cup tie, "but we know we are capable of bouncing back, so everyone is looking forward to a major improvement."

By **Alan Bodenham**

Speaking of the Leicester game, Clough added: "At top level rugby these days if you give the ball away as often as we did, make the basic mistakes that we undoubtedly did, you will get punished and Leicester certainly punished us."

If High Wycombe did knock Wasps out of the Cup it would be the biggest shock the competition has ever seen.

One man well placed to know if

that might happen is Wasps coach Rob Smith, because he has actually coached High Wycombe this season.

Before one of their previous ties against Redruth, Smith took a session with the Bucks club's forwards. "They are a very competent group of players" he said "and they will give us a good game."

Smith's services to Saturday's opposition emphasises the strong links between the two clubs.

Many players in the past have played for both teams in their careers and Kevin Titcombe, who leads High

Wycombe, played 75 games for Wasps in the 80s and sat on the bench when the Sudbury club reached the final in 1986.

Titcombe conceded that Smith's help might backfire on his team "He probably learnt a lot about us that might be useful" he said "but everyone here is looking forward to seeing how we measure up against the best."

For Wasps, full back Alan Buzzza and centre Graham Childs are both under injury and return to the side. Rob Lozowski occupies the fly half berth.

Club skipper Mark Rigby rests for this game, his place in the back row being taken by the highly competitive and experienced Frank Emerson.

Jamie Allan is hooker in place of the injured Alan Simmons. Elsewhere, Jeff Probyn, who is reported to Wasps last week after briefly appearing for Askeans, plays for the Vandals at Bristol.

Also in the Vandals side are Damian and Phil Hopley who are reported sharp and fit and should soon be ready for first team action.

## Trophy trail starts

**HARROW** Borough, Wembley and Wealdstone all join the FA Trophy trail in third qualifying round ties on Saturday.

Stones, past winners of the competition, make the short journey to Hoxton and will be expected to put out the much troubled Diadora club.

Stones hope to have Steve Tapley fit from the Achilles tendon injury which has sidelined him for the past two weeks. If a replay is needed it will take place at Vicarage Road on Wednesday December 4.

Wembley, who meet Chalfont, have never been beyond this stage of the competition.

They will be without Charlie Flaherty who has a knee injury but hope that Andy O'Brien will have recovered from the bout of flu which prevented him from playing against Uxbridge.

Should a replay be necessary it will take place at Chalfont on Tuesday and Wednesday's Middlesex Senior Cup tie at Hanwell will be postponed.

Borough, are at home to bottom of the table Premier Division rivals Bishops Stortford, and there is no end to the selection problems for manager Peter Lawrence.

Of the on loan players, Alan Cosby is cup tied, while Wealdstone do not want Borough to play Andy Hedge and Rod Richards to avoid them being similarly ineligible should they need them. Scott Singleton is back from holiday but there are further injury doubts over Justin Beacher and Kevin Horn.

Edgware boss Brian Rider also has injury problems for his side's League visit to Feltham. Shamus Finnerty has a strained media ligament, while Eugene Flynn (ribs), Darren Coleman (leg strain), Lawrence Murphy (knee) and Colin Chace (groin) are also struggling.

Keith Williams missed Kingsbury's defeat at Flackwell but is unavailable Saturday's home game with Bracknell. Paul Gower is again missing through suspension.

Rayners Lane go to Kintbury with manager Don Durkin likely to keep the same team that earned the excellent cup win over Cirencester.

## Soccer fixtures

Saturday November 30  
FA Trophy 3rd qual round: Harrow Borough v Bishops Stortford (Eastmead, 3pm); Wembley v Chalfont St Peter (Vale Farm, 3pm); Hendon v Wealdstone.  
Diadora League Division Three: Feltham & Hounslow v Edgware Town; Kingsbury Town v Bracknell Town (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).  
Bullens League Cup: Kingsbury v Rayners Lane.  
Suburban League: Hillborough v Harrow Borough Res.  
Tuesday December 3  
Middlesex Senior Cup: Enfield v Harrow Borough.  
Wednesday December 4  
Middlesex Senior Cup: Hanwell Town v Wembley.

## Star-studded celebration for rugby club's Centenary

# TON-UP HARROW

By **John Comfort**

THE palatial Rose Room at Twickenham, the venue for Harrow Rugby Club's Centenary Dinner on Thursday, was in marked contrast to the humble Kings Head Hotel, Harrow on the Hill, where the club was formed 100 years ago.

Almost 400 club members and guests celebrated the momentous landmark in the club's history, including 20 former club captains and many former players who had come from as far away as Australia, South Africa and New Zealand to be present.

### Honoured guests present

Among the honoured guests were England World Cup hero Rob Andrew; Roger Uttley, the man who coached England to the World Cup Final; RFU President, Peter Yarranton; Dudley Wood, the secretary of the RFU; Charlie Madge, President of the Middlesex RFU, and the Mayor of Harrow, Cllr Donald Green.

Also among the star-studded list of those present were England players Paul Rendall and Jeff Probyn and England test cricketers Angus Fraser, Philip Tufnell and Derek Pringle.

Harrow chairman Terry Walker welcomed the guests and also paid tribute to the Victorian founders of the club 100 years ago.

"They believed in a style of rugby that they wanted to play and also the friendship and camaraderie they developed on the rugby field and they wanted to extend beyond that," he said. "We are here to pay tribute to our founders and also to the other club members who have taken that dream from 1891 to 1991."

In a moving speech, club skipper Steve Armstrong said that Harrow Rugby Club had been his life for the past eight years since he joined the club.

"The chance of a Centenary Years brings out the best in most people and our club, as a man, has responded this year. We have a fine and proud tradition."

And he urged club members to make it a year to remember on the field of as well. "I believe passionately in Harrow Rugby Club. Let's get together and turn this club, this year, into League Champions, Cup winners, and the most successful club with the best facilities in the borough."

The skipper also announced the club's annual awards and Trev's Trophy, for the most improved player, was won by Adrian Curtis - the first player to ever win the award twice. Rob Andrew, who made the presentation, wished the club every success for the season. "If everyone gives the commitment shown by your skipper in his speech this evening then you've got no problems," he said.

The John Elgodd Trophy for service to the club was won by John Hardy. Peter Yarranton made the presentation.

### Borough drawn at home

IN the third round of the Isthmian League Cup, Harrow Borough have been drawn at home to Carshalton Athletic.

## Kelly goes

WEALDSTONE have now terminated the contract of striker Tony Kelly.

Kelly was given two weeks notice of the club's intentions after he committed a serious breach of his contract by playing Sunday football for Forsters in the Harrow Challenge League.

The club is withholding Kelly's registration and maintaining their legal right to any transfer fee should he wish to join another club.

Kelly was signed for Stones by former boss Tony Jennings in 1989. He made 123 appearances for the club, scoring 38 goals.

## Cup tie is all-ticket

THE FA Cup second round clash between giant killers Hayes and Crawley Town on December 7 is to be all-ticket with police limiting the crowd to 6,500. Tickets, priced £5 for adults and £3 for children, are available from the Hayes clubhouse, Church Road, Hayes, any evening up to the day of the game.

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## Borough are spot on for cup success

**Harrow Borough 2 Heybridge Swifts 2**  
(Borough win 5-4 on pens)

FOR the first time in their senior history, Harrow Borough were involved in a penalty shoot-out at Earsfield on Tuesday, after 12 kicks, which themselves followed extra time, Borough won a thrilling end to a see-saw Loctite Cup encounter, writes Tony Beach.

The hosts took a 14th minute lead when Barnard's cross was punched clear by Bridge but Mark Kelly lobbed home from 25 yards. Six minutes later Kelly turned provider as his pass allowed Pye to run on and shoot against a post and Paul Ripley hooked in the rebound.

Cosby headed just wide, but Heybridge belied their status, a division below Borough, and replied through Adcock after 41 minutes with a shot inside the near post.

The visitors had three good chances before equalising in the 57th minute, Adcock following up to score again after his first effort was blocked.

With no further scores the tie went to extra time, in which O'Shea hit a post, and then finally to a penalty shoot out.

Ripley, Cosby, Barnard and Payne all scored while Hedge had his shot saved, but Crompton's save took it to sudden death. Skipper O'Shea netted and when Crompton saved Stoker's shot Borough were through to a tie at Dorking in the next round.

Harrow Borough: Crompton, Richards, Barnard, Payne, Powell, Kelly, O'Shea, Pye, Ripley, Cosby, Beacher (Horn) (Hedge).

## Limp Lions get an ear bashing from the boss

**Wembley 0 Uxbridge 1**  
MANAGER Alan Dafforn read the riot act to his Wembley side on Tuesday night after they had slumped out of the Loctite Cup, writes John Comfort.

A poor performance by the Lions had Dafforn threatening that if he had to, he would start building his squad again from scratch to get things right.

Such measures may well be regarded as a little drastic, but certainly Wembley needed a hefty boot up the rear for the careless manner in which they lost this one.

A combination of errors led to the only goal of the game eight minutes from time. Henry Clark lost possession on the right and when former Vale Farm favourite Sylvester Williams put over his cross, Rod Romaine bungled his attempt to

turn it back to Jeff Fauser, giving Danny Mills the simple task of firing home.

The first half had been evenly contested with Wembley's best chance coming in the 17th minute when Mark Witter put in a goalbound header from Clark's cross but it hit teammate Bobby Hutchinson and rebounded clear.

Wembley had by far the better of the second half but sadly caused little anxiety to the Uxbridge rearguard despite their monopoly of possession, and the nearest they came to a goal was when Peter Shodeinde fired into the net setting.

Uxbridge rarely got into Wembley territory but ironically their only chance of the half proved to show Lions the cup door.

Wembley: Fauser, Shalla, Turlock, Romaine, Shields (Shodeinde), Graham, Lawrence, Barnett, Clark, B. Hutchinson (Guller), Witter.

## WLAFL name Columbus

THE World League of American Football has awarded a franchise to Columbus, Ohio.

The new team, which has yet to be named, will compete in the North American Eastern Division along with New York/New Jersey and Montreal.

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