

It's hard going for Wasps

See page 90

SPORT

See page 91

Late goals win it for Wembley

Kirit receives his top player award



NORTH London Poly CC's star all-rounder Kirit Chhanara receives his Observer Britannic Assurance Player of the Season Award from Keith Curry of Britannia Assurance.

Kirit, the first player to ever win two Britannic Assurance Player of the Month awards during the season, had a magnificent year both with the bat and ball.

His top score was a superb unbeaten 146 against Hanwell and there were other centuries against Lohana and Birkbeck College. Half centuries or more were rife with Harrow St Marys, Lohana, Kenpak, Kings Langley, Boyne Hill, Oakdale, Phoenixians, Hatfield Hyde, Hendon Buccaneers, Hendon/Edgware and Ruislip all feeling the brunt of his fine batting.

He also secured a wealth of wickets, claiming six wicket hauls against Clapham, Abbots Langley and Ruislip Manor.

Harrow youngsters coached by Rob

ENGLAND World Cup hero Rob Andrew paid a visit to Harrow Rugby Club's Wood Lane ground on Sunday to give some coaching to the club's young players.

The Wasps' fly-half, who is due to join French club Toulouse this week, was fulfilling a promise made at Harrow's Centenary Dinner to come along and give the youngsters a boost.

He stayed for over an hour to the delight of the 75 young players present, aged from 8-19, and was assisted in his coaching session by Harrow coaches Kevin Faraday, Peter Fletcher and club colts organiser Ron Baldwin.

Wasps' cup clash is all-ticket

WASPS' fourth round Pilkington Cup clash against Harlequins on January 25 has been made all ticket.

Tickets will go on sale at the home match against Bedford on Saturday December 21.

This Saturday Wasps face what is viewed as a make or break game away to resurgent Gloucester at Kingsholm.

After the setback against Leicester last month, Wasps have bounced back with a Cup win over High Wycombe and a league success over Rugby, although the latter left a lot to be desired.

But a good victory over unbeaten Gloucester is imperative if they are to stay in the Courage Championship race.

If Wasps lose this one they will be two games down and needing to win the rest of their league matches to have even a slender hope of honours.

The side selected to face Gloucester is unchanged from that which beat Rugby last week.

The line-up is: Buzza, Pilgrim Childs, Clough, Oti, Lozowski, Bates, Holmes, Allen, Dunston, O'Leary, Kinsey, White, Harris, Rigby.

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP

Table with columns: Division One, p, w, d, l, f, a, pts. Lists teams like Orrell, Bristol, Gloucester, Harlequins, Leicester, Wasps, Bath, Northampton, Saracens, London Irish, Rugby, Rosslyn Park, Nottingham.

League tables

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE

Table with columns: Premier Division, p, w, d, l, f, a, pts. Lists teams like Camb City, Dover, VS Rugby, Bashley, Bedford, Gloucester, Trowbridge, Corby, Dorchester, Halesowen, Wealdstone, Bromsgrove, Crawley, Atherstone, Fisher, Weymouth, Gravesend, Chelmsford, Burton.

DIADORA LEAGUE

Table with columns: Premier Division, p, w, d, l, f, a, pts. Lists teams like Woking, Enfield, Wokingham, Camshott, Kingsdonian, Sutton, Bromley, Chessham, Dagenham, St Albans, Aylesbury, Basingsloka, Windsor, Hayes, Harrow, Hendon, Grays, Meopham, Staines, Bognor, Wivenhoe, Bishopsgate.

Edgware hope to have key man for big match

Race on to get Murphy fit for Vase

EDGWARE are battling to get key midfielder Laurence Murphy fit for Saturday's important FA Vase third round clash with West Midlands League side Hinckley Athletic.

Murphy sustained a knee injury in the last round and missed Saturday's league win over Epsom. Manager Brian Rider also has injury problems with Seamus Finnerty (knee) and Colin Chance (groin) but both are expected to play against Hinckley.

With a place at Wembley just four matches away, Rider is expecting a tough game. "They're all tough when you get to this stage," he said.

Wealdstone have injury problems for their league match with Dorchester.

Wayne Roach hasn't recovered from an ear infection while Mark Hopson suffered an ankle injury against Barnet and is definitely out. On the plus side, Steve Tapley is now fit after injury and Mark Harrison is available for selection after completing his three week ban.

Monday at Vicarage Road is a possible date if a replay is required for Stones' Middlesex Senior Cup tie with Hendon.

Harrow Borough boss Peter Lawrence has familiar selection problems for Saturday's attractive home match with Sutton, but the situation appears to be easing and Keith Cooper could make a return.

Steve Shea is also likely to reappear soon, but Steve Conroy is to have an operation for his groin injury and could be out for another

two months. X-rays have revealed that Borough's 19 year old midfielder Kevin Horn has broken his left leg. Horn was injured in a tackle by Heybridge defender Richard Sach in last week's Lutcite Cup tie.

On-loan Kevin Foster is expected to continue to deputise for Jeff Fanner, who broke a finger against Hanwell, in Wembley's home match with Harlow Town. Paul Shields, with a hamstring injury, is again doubtful.

Kingsbury will be looking for a morale boosting win when bottom of the table Eastbourne are the visitors to Silver Jubilee Park on Saturday. New signing from Yeading, midfielder Vinny Murphy, has an ankle injury but is expected to be fit.

Rayners Lane have a difficult game at Swindon Athletic who beat them at home three weeks ago. Lane hope to have Ian Woodward back from injury while Darrell Clements and Mark Harwood are added to the squad for selection.



Laurence Murphy.

Soccer fixtures

Table of soccer fixtures for Saturday December 14, Sunday December 15, Monday December 16, Tuesday December 17, Wednesday December 18, Thursday December 19.

Steve on the spot to put Borough through

KEEPER Steve Crompton was the Borough hero on Tuesday as the Earlsmead outfit allowed themselves to be dragged into their second dramatic penalty shoot-out in recent weeks to decide this Middlesex Charity Cup tie, writes John Comfort.



Steve Crompton.

Harrow Borough 0 Cockfosters 0 (Harrow win 4-3 on pens)

Had it not been for some appalling finishing it wouldn't have been necessary, but Borough just seemed totally incapable of scoring - a situation that even extra time failed to rectify - and the spot kick decider was brought into play.

Harrow Borough: Crompton, Johnstone, Barnard, Payne, Powell, Henry, Becher (Siewert), Pys, Ripley, Henstock, Kelly. Other subs: Smale, Ford, O'Shea.

Cockfosters keeper Paul Thom saved the first of Borough's opening five penalties, though he clearly moved long before Craig Johnstone struck the ball, and although Colin Payne, Mark Barnard and Paul Ripley all tucked their efforts away, when David Henstock, a new signing from St Albans, put his kicking into orbit over the clubhouse, it seemed they were going to pay a heavy price for their earlier woeful finishing.

Steve Robinson stepped up to take the final kick for Cockfosters which should have put

them through but his fiercely struck shot was superbly saved by the diving Crompton - and it went to sudden death.

Neil Henry scored to put the pressure on the visitors, and when Crompton kept out Justin Gentle's reply for Cockfosters with his legs, it left Borough 4-3 winners and gave them an away match at Staines in the next round.

Harrow Borough: Crompton, Johnstone, Barnard, Payne, Powell, Henry, Becher (Siewert), Pys, Ripley, Henstock, Kelly. Other subs: Smale, Ford, O'Shea.

Capital reverse for Wealdstone

Wealdstone 2 Barnet 5 STONES made bad start to their home Capital League fixture which was played at Underhill when Derek Payne scored from a Tony Lynch cross to put Barnet ahead after only two minutes, writes Graham Smith.

Wealdstone levelled in the 8th minute when Neil Cordice slotted home a Leo Donnellan cross but Barnet went back in front when Cooper's centre hit Mark Harrison on the back and flew into the net.

Barnet extended their lead

in the 56th minute when Milson beat two defenders and crossed for Richard Nugent to head home and Hayrettin's 20 yard shot beat Hudson to make it 4-1 six minutes later.

Stones hit back in the 70th minute when Phillips fumbled the ball and Johnson Hippolyte slotted home, but in the final minute Barnet notched a fifth goal when Peter Cawley headed home from a corner.

Wealdstone: Hudson, Hedge, Harrison, Tapley, Bartlett (Grove), McCue, Hopson (McShannon), Cordice, Hippolyte, Donnellan, Pearson.

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