

A merry Christmas to all readers of

# Observer Sport

## Stones lack killer touch

By Steve Marshall  
Burton Albion 1  
Wealdstone 1

STONES had by far the better of this game at bottom of the table Burton but failed to finish off their rivals and a late surge earned the home side a point.

Wealdstone should have gone ahead after two minutes when a short Burton goal kick back fired. Hippolyte picked up the ball and found Browne but his shot was parried away by keeper Nick Goodwin.

Confident Stones finally took the lead after 21 minutes. Tiv Lowe's curling free kick flew through a rack of players and skidded into the far corner of the net.

Soon after Derek Payne's deep cross was knocked back by Browne but Wilson tripped over Cordice as he was about to shoot and the chance was lost.

Burton's only effort of the half saw Foster's free kick well saved by Wayne Roach.

After the restart Goodwin saved well from Payne, Browne and Hippolyte as Stones continued to dominate but then Burton came into the game and Davies missed a good chance when he fired over from 18 yards.

Intense Burton pressure finally paid off in the 83rd minute. Sims drove into the penalty area where Dave Elliott dived in to head firmly into the corner of the net.

After Roach saved from Kurila, Elliott almost brought the house down in injury time when he volleyed over from just six yards.

Wealdstone: Roach, Watson, Lowe, Bartlett, Dummy, Cordice, Browne (Hedge), Payne, Hippolyte (Dorran), Wilson, Goyette.

## Blank day

KINGSBURY Town were without a game on Saturday because their scheduled Diadora League opponents Collier Row were involved in an FA Vase tie against West Midlands Police.

## Borough suffer in seven goal shocker

Aylesbury Utd 7  
Harrow Borough 1

By Tony Booth

BOROUGH suffered their heaviest ever Isthmian League defeat at Aylesbury on Saturday, despite taking an early lead.

It was the first time they had conceded seven goals in an Isthmian game. The last time they let in as many in a competitive match was when they crashed to a 7-0 defeat against Dartford in the FA Cup in 1970.

At Aylesbury it had all started so well for Borough. Colin Payne's 2nd minute throw in to Paul Ripley allowed him to run to byeline and cross to the near post where the shortest player on the field, Gareth Stewart, headed over the tallest player on the

field, Aylesbury keeper Garner, to put the visitors ahead.

After Crompton had saved well from Davies, it looked as if Borough might weather the Aylesbury storm which followed, but after holding their lead for 26 minutes, former Borough midfielder Francis Cassidy rolled a free kick to newly re-signed Samsom who fired in a shot from 20 yards for the equaliser.

Borough replied with a good header by Smale from Payne's cross but Garner was equal to it and the hosts moved swiftly upfield and played head tennis across the Borough area before

Sansom headed his second goal.

Borough's man of the match, Crompton, made two flying saves as half time approached and Ripley was close to equalising when his volley from Pye's cross was held.

Borough's worst second half for many a season began when Shea was grounded near halfway but play was allowed to continue and Powell was adjudged to have fouled Mason in the area, giving Sansom the chance to complete his hat-trick from the penalty spot after 49 minutes.

Still in the game at this stage, Aylesbury responded with a Pye header just over the bar from Ripley's cross, but after Crompton denied Hercules with a good save, substitute Williams ran

clear of the square Borough defence to clinch the points by rounding Crompton and shooting in after 62 minutes.

Two substitutions for Harrow failed to stem the flow of Aylesbury attacks and Wright cleared of the line from Williams only for Sansom to net his fourth after 76 minutes.

Straight from the kick off Hercules cleared from his own half and Williams rounded both Wright and Crompton before making 11-6-1.

With the crowd baying for more, Sansom's cross was turned in at the near post by Williams who thus completed his hat-trick and Borough's annihilation.

Harrow Borough: Crompton, Shea, Barnard, Payne, Powell (Wright), Henry, O'Shea, Pye, Ripley, Smale (Hemstock), Stewart.

## Lions get a Xmas stuffing

By Richard Markiewicz

Hitchin 4 Wembley 0

WEMBLEY received an early Christmas stuffing at Hitchin after never recovering after conceding two early goals.

Stuart Brown opened the scoring in the 8th minute when he lifted Paul Olney's cross over Kevin Foster.

Another goal followed five minutes later. Mark McGonagle breached Wembley's offside trap and rounded Foster before slotting home Hitchin's second.

Wembley's attempts to hit back were ruined by their hapless forwards continually getting themselves caught offside.

Little progress was made in this department although Mark Witter and Bobby Hutchinson both had attempts at goal unconvincingly flapped clear by the keeper.

Substitute Kevin Page hit the bar with a header in the second half but just when it seemed that the visitors were about to come to terms with Hitchin's offside play, the home side suddenly struck again with two more goals.

Olney made it 3-0 in the 75th minute when he latched onto Aaron Tighe's through ball and found the net with an angled drive, and full back Darren Thompson completed the scoring three minutes later with a 30 yard strike.

Wembley: Foster, Fishery, Turkel, O'Brien, Bhalia (Page), Graham, Lawrence, Bennett (A. Smith), Clark, B. Hutchinson, Witter.

# Edgware keep the twin towers in sight

Edgware Town 2  
Hinckley Athletic 1

By John Comfort

EDGWARE equalled the club's best ever performance in the FA Vase on Saturday when they defeated Hinckley to earn a fourth round tie at home to Western League outfit Welton Rovers.

Despite the gale force wind, it was a well contested game which Edgware seemed to have sewn up when they went into a two goal lead after 57 minutes. But they then conceded a sloppy goal, which put Hinckley right back in contention, and were forced to endure a number of anxious moments before clinching their place in the next round.

Hinckley went close to opening the scoring after only 11 minutes when Milne's free kick deceived Kevin Beckles and when it canoned off his body, Taylor followed up, but thankfully put the loose ball wide.

Good work by Martyn Kidd set up Edgware's first chance soon after but from his cross, both Steve Newing and Eugene Flynn had efforts blocked before Vince Deritis fired off target.

It was Edgware who finally broke the deadlock after 19 minutes. Gerry Brennan found Les Thompson on the right and his excellent cross on the run from the byeline saw the impressive Colin Chance race in to finish with precision.

With the elements in their favour, Edgware dominated the rest of the half but were sadly unable to extend their lead. Thompson, Kidd and Newing all had efforts well saved and a single goal advantage seemed insufficient to face the elements after the break.

That feeling was reinforced as Hinckley powered forward at the start of the second half, but they left themselves open to quick counter attacks and with 12 minutes gone Edgware struck again. A good one-two culminated in Newing

● Edgware's Vince Deritis fires for goal against Hinckley.

sending Thompson clear and his low shot beat advancing keeper Goodman and curled agonisingly slowly into the far post to make it 2-0.

That should have been that but four minutes later Edgware let Hinckley back in the game. Beckles could only flap at a Taylor corner and when his defence failed to clear the loose ball, Stanborough fired home from close range.

Beckles saved uneasily from both Stanborough and Taylor as Hinckley pressed for the equaliser, but at the other end it was Edgware who went

closest to another goal. Newing blazed wide after a great run by Kidd and with five minutes left Edgware were denied a clear penalty when Montgomery held Vince Deritis down in the area. Although a linesman flagged for the spot kick, referee Leach amazingly chose to ignore him.

Fortunately it was not crucial as Edgware hung on to move a step nearer to the twin towers.

Edgware: Beckles, Brennan, Sheehan, Finnelly, Coleman, Deritis, Kidd, Thompson, Chance, Newing, Flynn. Subs: Mitchell, Evans.

## Holiday deadlines

BECAUSE of revised deadlines due to the holiday period the Observer will be going to press earlier than normal next week.

Reports can be phoned to 427-4404 between 4-8pm on Sunday, or faxed to 863-0932.

Items received after that deadline are unlikely to be published.

## Venue for World Bowl

MONTREAL is to host next year's World Bowl.

The Championship decider for the World League of American Football, which was this year held at Wembley Stadium and won by the London Monarchs, will be staged at Montreal's Olympic Stadium on June 6.

# PRATTS MOTOR INSURANCE

# SEASONAL GREETINGS OPEN AS USUAL

EXCEPT  
CHRISTMAS EVE (Close 6pm)  
CHRISTMAS DAY (Closed)  
BOXING DAY 26th (Closed)  
NEW YEAR'S DAY (Closed)

ON OTHER DAYS  
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OPEN 9am to 6pm Saturdays

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## Where the locals stand in latest league tables

### BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE

Premier Division

p w d l f a pts

VS Rugby	18	13	2	3	38	20 41
Cambs City	21	12	4	5	41	24 40
Bashley	19	12	4	3	35	18 40
Sutton	19	10	8	1	30	12 38
Dove	21	10	2	9	37	30 32
Gloucester	20	9	4	7	43	25 31
Towbridge	19	8	4	6	29	25 31
Dartford	19	8	4	6	29	25 31
Corby	19	8	3	8	35	42 27
Dorchester	17	7	5	5	29	23 26
Halesowen	18	6	7	5	30	24 25
Wealdstone	21	7	4	10	30	34 25
Moor Green	18	6	5	7	27	25 23
Pool	18	6	5	7	20	33 23
Waterlooville	19	6	4	9	18	24 22
Crawley	16	6	3	7	28	29 21
Bromley	18	5	5	8	18	14 20
Atherstone	17	5	3	9	20	28 18
Fisher	21	4	6	11	28	45 18
Gravesend	18	5	2	11	22	48 17
Worcester	17	4	4	9	21	26 16
Chelmsford	18	3	6	11	30	17 30
Burton	18	2	6	10	16	33 12

### DIADORA LEAGUE

Premier Division

p w d l f a pts

Woking	21	16	4	1	54	10 52
Enfield	18	11	3	2	22	14 36
Wokingham	18	10	5	4	45	28 35
Sutton	20	9	7	4	39	24 34
Canthalton	20	10	2	8	39	35 32
Kingstonian	19	9	4	6	37	25 31
Bromley	18	9	4	5	28	25 31
Dagenham	19	7	7	5	29	27 28
Chesham	17	6	4	24	17 27	
St Albans	18	6	7	3	34	31 27
Aylesbury	18	6	7	5	31	25 25
Basingsloke	19	7	4	8	30	35 25
Hendon	20	7	2	11	33	38 23
Harrow	16	5	7	4	23	22 22
Bognor	21	6	1	11	28	44 22
Windsor	17	6	3	8	28	25 21
Harrow B	20	5	6	9	30	43 21
Marlow	19	6	1	12	31	32 19
Grays	17	6	1	10	23	37 19
Staines	20	5	3	12	19 38 18	
Wivenhoe	21	5	1	15	23 51 16	
Bishops S	19	3	4	12	15 28 13	

### DIADORA LEAGUE

Division One

p w d l f a pts

Stevenage	18	12	4	2	36	19 40
Dulwich	20	11	5	4	29	20 37
Abingdon	18	10	4	4	25	14 34
Barking	20	9	6	5	31	23 33
Boreham W	19	9	4	6	36	26 31
Tooling	17	8	6	3	26	16 30
Yeading	16	8	5	3	33	15 29
Molesley	20	8	5	7	28	27 28
Walton	19	7	7	5	35	25 28
Hitchin	19	6	8	5	25	22 26
Wembley	18	7	2	9	18	25 23
Uxbridge	20	6	5	9	22	35 23
Croydon	18	6	3	9	28	31 21
Leyton W	19	5	6	8	24	27 21
Dorking	18	5	4	8	28	31 20
Heybridge	17	5	7	11	15 20	
Harrow	15	4	6	19	20 19	
Whyteleafe	19	4	7	8	22	32 19
Maldenhead	15	4	3	8	18	26 15
Chalfont	18	4	3	11	20 31 15	
Avley	17	2	13	10 14 8		

### DIADORA LEAGUE

Division Three

p w d l f a pts

Edgware	19	15	1	3	50	17 48
Cove	20	12	4	4	42	19 40
Flackwell	18	10	4	4	25	14 34
Chertsey	18	11	3	4	51	20 36
Tisbury	17	10	6	1	34	17 36
Horsham	13	9	2	2	27	14 29
Cammerley	21	8	3	10	32	37 27
Thames	14	6	2	4	26	12 28
Petersfield	16	6	3	9	31	34 21
Royston	18	6	4	8	22	30 22
Hampton	15	6	3	6	24	19 21
Blacknall	18	6	3	9	31	34 21
Collier R	13	6	3	4	21	16 21
Epsom	16	5	6	5	21	20 20
Tring	13	2	2	9	21	37 16
Feltham	20	5	3	12	25 43 18	
Hornchurch	20	5	2	13	16 36 17	
Hertford	16	4	4	8	22 32 16	
Kingsbury	17	3	4	10	15 23 13	
Clapton	16	3	3	10	16 46 9	
Eastbourne	17	2	13	21 14 9 8		

## Soccer fixtures

Thursday December 28  
Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Wealdstone v Fisher Ath. (Vicarage Road, 11.30am)

Saturday December 28  
Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Wealdstone v Halesowen Town (Vicarage Road, 3pm).  
Diadora League Premier Division: Bishops Cleeve v Harrow Borough.  
Diadora League Division One: Leyton-Wingate v Wembley.  
Diadora League Division Three: Edgware Town v Camberley (White Lion ground, 3pm); Hampton v Kingsbury Town.  
Hellenic League: Headington Amateurs v Rayners Lane (2.15pm).

Wednesday January 1  
Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Chelmsford City v Wealdstone (3pm).  
Diadora League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Hendon (Earlsmead, 3pm).  
Diadora League Division Three: Kingsbury Town v Edgware Town (Silver Jubilee Park, 12 noon).

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