

Champions Bath prove too good for Wasps

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SPORT

Edgware are held by bottom club in seaside shocker

Rigby blow for Wasps

In the latest of a recent catalogue of misfortunes for Wasps skipper Mark Rigby this broken thumb and will be out for the rest of the season, writes Alan Bodenham.

Rigby's duties as captain will be taken over by No 8 Dean Ryan. This Saturday Wasps are at home to London Scottish in a club match, kick off 3pm at Repton Avenue.

Collin Pope dies aged 68

FORMER Wasps FC director and press secretary, Collin Pope, died on Saturday after a long illness, aged 68. He leaves a wife, Sheila, a son and two daughters. Collin, who lived in London Road, Harrow on the Hill, was born in Lichfield, Staffs. Devoted to sport, he spent nearly 20 years as a correspondent with Reuters news agency, covering mainly golf, tennis and boxing. A past president of Kenton and Egham Rotary Club, he joined Wasps in 1969 and despite falling health was a regular spectator until recently. Collin's funeral takes place on Monday at Brewhouse Crematorium, Ruislip, at 12.15pm. The family has requested no flowers donations can be made to the Macmillan Nurses Fund.

Wembley quiz time WEMBLEY Sports Association is holding a sports quiz on Saturday April 4, starting at 7.45pm. Further details from Stephen Phillips on 081-952-4389.

The boys are back in town

But Ebubedike misses start of Monarchs' World title defence

THE London Monarchs begin their defence of the World League crown when they take on bitter rivals the New York Knights at Wembley Stadium on Sunday - and they will be doing it without Victor Ebubedike, their popular British running back.

To the pounding beat of 'The boys are back in town,' Monarchs returned to Britain for a media day at Crystal Palace with the news that Ebubedike will be sidelined for at least three weeks after damaging knee ligaments in Saturday's dramatic 14-13 win over the Birmingham Fire.

Said Monarchs general manager Billy Hicks: "It is a big disappointment for the Wembley fans who are so fond of Victor." It will be a new look Monarchs who will defend the title. A combination of injuries, retirements, players being signed by NFL clubs and replac-

By John Comfort

and Barcelona were soundly defeated by New York and Orlando Thunder respectively in pre-season games at the weekend while Monarchs struggled back from 13-0 down to beat Birmingham Fire in Alabama. The Fire blazed into the lead with two 32 yard field goals by Philip Coyle and a 29 yard touchdown pass from Worsath to Boyer.

Monarchs finally scored with just 6 minutes to go when back up quarterback Fred McNair threw a 77 yard touchdown pass to Sean Foster and Phil Alexander added the extra point. But there were only 15 seconds left when McNair found tight end Greg Harrell for a 2 yard touchdown to tie the scores. Alexander's successful extra point saw Monarchs to a last-gasp win.

Tickets for Saturday's match against New York, which kicks off at 6pm, are available at the Wembley box office, 900-1234.

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Wembley surge up to seventh

Whyteleaf 1 Wembley 3 WEMBLEY'S resurgence in the League continues unabated and Tuesday's splendid win at Whyteleaf lifts the Lions up to 7th place, writes Richard Markiewicz.

Wembley gradually took control during a hard fought first half. They breached a very square Whyteleaf back line on several occasions and eventually succeeded in scoring five minutes before half time.

A confused home defence was unable to deal with Bobby Hutchinson's up-and-under and while they dithered, Paul Reynolds nipped in and tabbed the loose ball past an exposed keeper.

Wembley's lead, however, did not last too long. Bad habits returned and the visitors were caught out with far too many players forward. Whyteleaf countered attacked and Ian Cox scored Jamie Facione with the simple task of levelling the scores in the 49th minute.

Wembley took a long time to get back into their stride but eventually regained composure and secured three points with two late goals.

Adrian Smith scored after 76 minutes with a low 25 yard drive after being set up by Andy O'Brien's excellent interception. A third goal came eight minutes from time when a great pass from Kenny Page found Hutchinson on the right. He wrong footed his marker and cut inside before slipping the ball into the goal area for the onrushing Steve Lawrence to hammer home.

Wembley: Fanner, Morse, Clark, O'Brien, B. Hutchinson, Graham, Adrian Smith, Reynolds (Wizer), Page, Lawrence, Headlam. Other subs: Romain.

Conroy earns precious point

Harrow borough 1 Sutton Utd 1 A PRECIOUS point from fourth in the table Sutton on Tuesday takes Borough a step further along the path to Premier Division safety, writes John Comfort.

Their share of the spoils was well merited and but for some fine goalkeeping by Sutton's Ron Fearon, they could easily have won. In the first half David Gipp broke free after Sutton's former Borough defender Sean Priddy fell over and presented him with the ball. Gipp's shot squirmed under the diving Fearon but rolled agonisingly close to the target.

From Keith Cooper's 19th minute cross, Pat Ryan and Gipp both had efforts blocked and Mickie Engwell followed up to fry the loose ball onto a post.

But it was Sutton who took the lead after 28 minutes. Gates put Feldham clear on the right and he cut in to cleverly chip the ball past the diving Crompton.

Fearon kept out two efforts from Conroy and a close range header from Steve Shea before



Steve Conroy.

League tables

Table with columns: VS Rugby, W, D, L, Pts. Rows include Wasps, Bath, London Scottish, etc.

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Soccer fixtures. Saturday March 21. Buzzer Hornes League Premier Division: Wasps v Dover Ath. (Vicarsage Road, 3pm). Diddora League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Woking (Earlsmead, 3pm). Diddora League Division One: Barking v Wembley. Diddora League Division Three: Edgware Town v Hampton (White Lion ground, 3pm); Camberley v Kingsbury Town (Helsby League: Carterton Town v Rayners Lane). Monday March 23. Capital League: Wasps v Crystal Palace (Coppell, 7.30pm). Wednesday March 25. Senior representative game: Middlesex v Essex (Earlsmead, 7.30pm).

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