Wasps beat Scots for morale booster — See page 94

SPORT

See page 95 — Late goals see Borough lose to league leaders

Overtime drama for World champions

Monarchs say 'good Knight' to New York

By Marcus Comfort

WILLIAM Kirksey's 24 yard interception return for a touchdown gave the London Monarchs a dramatic 26-20 overtime victory over the New York Knights on Sunday, to the delight of a jubilant 30,167 crowd at Wembley Stadium.

The Knights were beaten three times last season by the Monarchs on the way to their World Bowl triumph and there was no better way to start their defence of the title than another success over their bitter rivals.

But it was not the most convincing of performances from the champions, who were without several of last year's key players and were also missing star receiver Jon Horton, who has been mysteriously suspended for the season.

Phil Alexander scored the only points of the opening quarter with a 27 yard field goal but the Knights replied with Reg Slack connecting with Kip Lewis for a 16 yard touchdown, Kendall Trainor adding the extra point.

An exchange of field goals left Knights 10-6 ahead at half time but that lead was soon wiped out at the beginning of the third quarter when qauarterback Stan Gelbaugh brought the Wembley crowd alive by completing five straight passes, the final one being a 65 yard touchdown reception to Sean Foster.

Alexander's extra point put Monarchs 13-10 up but Knights soon regained the lead with a 41 yard touchdown reception by Cornell Burbage.

Gelbaugh then showed his class, hitting eight out of ten passes in a drive from the London 20 yard line, the final connection being an inch perfect toss to Foster for a 29 yard touchdown.

With Alexander adding the extra point Monarchs were 20-17 ahead with less than a minute to play, but poor defensive work allowed Knights back upfield and in a nail biting climax, Trainor's 32 yard field goal with just one second left took the game into overtime.

Under new league rules each team was guaranteed one possession in overtime and after two scoreless drives each, Knights began their third possession with Slack throwing a pass which Monarchs linebacker Kirksey picked off and ran in for the match winning touchdown.

Although Gelbaugh threw an impressive 349 yards while both Foster and Judd Garrett had 100 plus yards receiving, it was a mistake ridden performance from Monarchs who conceded almost 100 yards in penalties.

Considerable improvement will be required this Saturday at Wembley when they take on Frankfurt Galaxy, who started their season with a 17-0 defeat of World Bowl runners-up Barcelona Dragons. Tickets are on sale from the Wembley box office, telephone 900-1234.

Other World League results: Frankfurt 17, Barcelona 0; Sacramento 20, Birmingham 6; Orlando 13, Ohio 9; San Antonia 17, Montreal 16.

This week's game: London v Frankfurt (Wembley, Saturday 8pm); Barcelona v New York; Montreal v Orlando; Birmingham v San Antonia; Ohio v Sacramento.

England get a buzz from Wasps Ladies

● England's Wasps contingent. Back (left to right): Sue Martineau, Ailish O'Kelly. Front: Helen Harding, Claire Williets, Val Moore.

THERE was plenty of Wasps involvement in the Ladies B international at Sudbury on Friday which saw England win 15-4 against a plucky Wales side.

England were ably led by Wasps Ladies chairman, Claire Williets, who captained the side, and further inspiration for the national side came from another Sudbury starlet, teenage scrum half Helen Harding who gave a good account of herself, as did her father, the RFU panel touch judge.

Also playing in this prestigious match were Wasps first team captain and flanker, Sue Martineau, who had a storming game, and right wing Ailish O'Kelly.

Wasps even provided the two team managers for the international, Val Moore for England and Dawn Barnet for Wales.

Wasps call up Emeruwa in bid to stifle Shelford

By Alan Bedenham

WASPS have drafted in back row 'strong man' Francis Emeruwa for the visit to Northampton in the Courage League on Saturday.

Emeruwa's selection is the Sudbury club's ploy to restrain ex All Black captain Wayne Shelford, the inspiration behind Northampton's impressive bid for the league title this season. They are currently in third place in the table, a point behind Orrell and leaders Bath, with a game in hand over the latter.

In the absence of injured skipper Mark Rigby, Wasps will again be led in the back row by Dean Ryan and it will be an interesting duel between Ryan and Northampton's Tim Rodber, who started England's Grand Slam campaign this year as first choice No 8.

In the back division, Wasps have yet to finalise their line up but everyone is fit.

Steve Pilgrim will play full back but the remaining positions will a choice between the Hopley brothers, Phil and Damian, Childs, Clough and Oti,

After the disasters of this season, hard recruitment is currently going on at the Sudbury club. Five or six players are being lined up to strengthen the squad for next season.

COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP
Division One

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Orrell	8	7	0	1	144	57	14
Northampton	8	6	1	1	139	72	13
Saracens	10	6	1	3	137	124	13
Leicester	8	6	0	3	208	102	12
Gloucester	7	4	1	2	97	89	9
Wasps	8	4	0	4	108	118	8
Harlequins	8	3	1	4	145	137	7
Bristol	8	3	0	5	105	99	6
London Irish	8	2	2	4	92	102	6
Rugby	8	1	2	5	69	102	4
Nottingham	8	0	1	7	60	141	1
Rosslyn Park	8	0	0	8	65	171	0
*Bath	9	7	1	1	189	85	14

Shoot-out semi

LARKSPUR Rovers meet Parkfield in the semi-final of Harrow Borough's Shoot Out competition for youth teams during Saturday's game against Bishops Stortford at Earlsmead.

Brentford goal is good for a point

Brentford 1 Wealdstone 1

WEALDSTONE earned a well deserved Capital League point at Griffin Park on Monday night against a strong Brentford side, **writes James Smith.**

Stones started brightly with Martin Blackler going close after good work from Colin Tate and Andy Hedge, before they took the lead in the 7th minute.

A good through ball by Mark Hopson found Andy Hedge who held off Peters' challenge and squared for Grant Gallagher to slot home from six yards.

Brentford hit back and in the 13th minute Andy Driscoll darted through the Wealdstone defence only to see his shot roll past the post.

David Huson had an excellent game in goal for Stones and saved well from Tony Sealy, after good work by Marcus Gayle.

Stones came close to increasing their lead when the hard working Hopson turned his defender well and laid the ball off to Colin Tate whose shot from an acute angle was well saved by Bayes.

The second half was less eventful.

Johnson Hippolyte replaced Martin Blackler after 57 minutes and 12 minutes later he nearly made it 2-0 when Paul Goyette's corner found him at the near post and his back header was cleared off the line by Peters.

However, Brentford equalised in the 71st minute when Gayle's cross fell to Luscombe and his powerful drive hit Drummy and flew into the net.

Wealdstone: Hudson, Drummy, Goyette, Watson, Bartlett, Blackler (Hippolyte), Hedge, McGuire, Tate, Hopson, Gallagher (Donnellan).

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Shea, Byrne sit out vital six-pointer

HARROW Borough face a six pointer against fellow strugglers Bishops Stortford on Saturday, and they will do so without Steve Shea and Peter Byrne who are both suspended.

Manager George Borg is hoping to get centre back Richard Nugent on loan from Barnet as cover and if midfielder Mark Pye is fit from injury after two weeks, that will be a bonus.

Not out of the relegation mire themselves, Wealdstone face a tough away game at Bromsgrove, who still have an outside chance of the league title.

Their main injury doubt is over Grant Gallagher who sustained a groin injury in Monday's Capital League match at Brentford.

With Wayne Roach's pelvic injury looking likely to be long term, Chuck Moussaddik, has been taken on loan from Wycombe for the rest of the season. Manager Brian Hall has also signed former Harrow Borough midfielder Colin Tate from Hendon.

Wembley will be looking to extend their five match unbeaten run when they take on Leyton-Wingate at home. The Lions will again be without suspended defender Paul Shields.

Colin Chance could be back to boost Edgware after five weeks out through injury for Saturday's match at Camberley. Edgware will be without Leslie Thompson, who is suspended for three games, and both John Mangan and Laurence Murphy who are injured.

Chris Simpson missed Kingsbury Town's win at Camberley but is available for Saturday's difficult home game with Hampton. Keith Williams will be missing because of work commitments while Jason Dale is still suspended.

Rayners Lane have an attractive home game against last season's league champions Milton who still have an outside chance of retaining their title. Lane will be looking for revenge after losing 3-0 at Milton earlier in the season.

Ashley Cumberbatch should have recovered from his ankle injury but Darrel Clements is unavailable due to work commitments.

Where the locals stand in latest league tables

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE
Premier Division

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
VS Rugby	34	21	8	5	60	33	71
Bashley	33	19	8	6	58	31	65
Dover	32	17	12	3	52	23	63
Camb City	34	16	11	7	60	40	59
Bromsgrove	30	17	7	6	52	26	58
Dartford	35	15	10	10	53	38	55
Trowbridge	36	15	9	12	62	41	54
Moor Green	34	13	9	12	53	47	48
Chelmsford	35	12	11	12	45	43	47
Burton	36	13	8	15	52	53	47
Dorchester	31	12	8	11	53	52	44
Gloucester	36	12	8	16	56	62	44
Atherstone	33	12	7	14	42	51	43
Halesowen	31	10	12	9	43	36	42
Corby	31	11	8	12	54	63	41
Poole	34	9	11	14	36	61	38
Wealdstone	35	10	7	18	46	61	37
Crawley	32	9	9	14	48	55	36
Worcester	33	8	10	15	39	46	34
Waterlooville	32	8	8	16	25	45	32
Fisher	35	5	10	20	43	79	25
Gravesend	34	6	5	23	30	76	23

DIADORA LEAGUE
Premier Division

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Woking	33	26	5	2	83	17	83
Enfield	33	19	6	8	46	38	63
Sutton	35	16	10	9	75	41	58
Wokingham	35	16	9	10	63	49	57
Carshalton	34	17	4	13	58	55	55
Aylesbury	34	13	14	7	57	38	53
Kingstonian	34	15	7	12	64	50	52
Marlow	33	15	6	12	43	39	51
Chesham	33	13	9	11	46	40	48
Dagenham	34	11	14	9	55	50	47
Windsor	35	13	8	14	50	49	47
Bromley	35	12	11	12	42	46	47
St Albans	33	12	7	14	55	57	43
Hendon	35	12	7	16	52	61	43
Wivenhoe	35	13	4	18	47	68	43
Grays	34	11	9	14	45	57	42
Basingstoke	35	10	10	15	48	59	40
Hayes	35	8	13	14	42	54	37
Staines	36	9	9	18	37	65	36
Harrow B.	33	7	10	16	43	66	31
Bognor	35	7	9	19	39	71	30
Bishops S.	33	6	9	18	31	51	27

DIADORA LEAGUE
Division One

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Stevenage	33	24	6	3	71	29	78
Yeading	33	19	8	6	68	28	65
Boreham W	35	19	7	9	59	38	64
Hitchin	34	15	10	9	49	39	55
Dulwich	33	15	9	9	54	39	54
Abingdon	33	15	8	10	51	38	53
Wembley	33	16	4	13	44	40	52
Barking	35	14	9	12	48	45	51
Walton	34	12	12	10	56	45	48
Tooting	33	12	12	9	47	38	48
Dorking	34	14	6	14	59	55	48
Molesey	35	13	9	13	43	51	48
Maidenhead	34	12	5	17	48	54	41
Leyton-W	34	10	10	14	44	51	40
Uxbridge	33	11	7	15	37	51	40
Harlow	33	10	9	14	40	46	39
Croydon	33	10	6	17	42	53	36
Chalfont	33	10	6	17	46	56	36
Heybridge	34	8	9	17	26	52	33
Whyteleafe	33	7	9	17	37	60	30
Aveley	34	5	3	26	27	88	18

DIADORA LEAGUE
Division Three

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Edgware	33	24	3	6	86	37	75
Tilbury	34	22	8	4	72	36	74
Chertsey	33	23	4	6	96	35	73
Cove	35	21	7	7	69	37	70
Hampton	34	21	4	9	78	34	67
Flackwell	35	18	9	8	71	44	63
Horsham	33	17	8	8	70	43	59
Epsom	34	15	8	11	50	45	53
Thame	31	15	6	10	56	33	51
Royston	34	14	6	14	49	50	48
Collier R.	29	13	6	10	44	41	45
Hertford	32	9	9	14	44	59	36
Petersfield	34	9	9	16	36	58	36
Kingsbury	31	9	8	14	37	50	35
Camberley	34	9	7	18	44	58	34
Feltham	33	9	7	17	42	66	34
Bracknell	34	9	6	19	44	69	33
Tring	32	9	2	21	31	68	29
Hornchurch	33	7	6	20	31	70	27
Clapton	32	5	2	25	32	82	17
Eastbourne	32	3	5	24	29	96	13

Soccer fixtures

Saturday March 28

Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Bromsgrove Rovers v Wealdstone.

Diadora League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Bishops Stortford (Earlsmead, 3pm).

Diadora League Division One: Wembley v Leyton-Wingate (Vale Farm, 3pm).

Diadora League Division Three: Camberley v Edgware Town; Kingsbury Town v Hampton (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).

Hellenic League: Rayners Lane v Milton Utd (Lucas Ave, 3pm).

Monday March 30

Capital League: Wealdstone v Wokingham (Copthall, 7.30pm).

Tuesday March 31

Loctite Cup semi-final: Harrow Borough v Woking (Earlsmead, 7.30pm).

Wednesday April 1

Capital League: Wealdstone v Leyton Orient (Copthall, 7.30pm).

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