

# SPORT

## Injury time goal cruelly puts out unlucky Wembley

**Wembley 1**  
**Nuneaton Borough 2**  
**WEMBLEY'S** great FA Cup run was cruelly brought to a dramatic end in Monday's 4th qualifying round second replay when 10-man Nuneaton scored a match winning goal two minutes into injury time, writes **John Comfort**.

After a dismal first half performance, the Lions found themselves a goal down, scored in the 27th minute by Darren Bullock who cut in from the left and fired in a hopeful 25 yard shot that should have caused keeper Jeff Fanner no trouble, but he somehow allowed the ball to slip past him at the near post.

In the second half the Lions responded superbly to manager Alan Dafforn's half time tongue lashing and pounded away at the visitors for much of the half. Their best chances fell to Andy Smith who was twice put clear by Booby Hutchinson. Smith's shot in the 63rd minute was

blocked by keeper Manuel's legs then four minutes later the keeper repeated the feat and when Smith latched onto the rebound, his follow up effort was cleared off the line.

It was no surprise then when Wembley finally equalised in the 77th minute, Mark Witter netting at the near post after a forceful run and cross by Steve Lawrence.

Only one result seemed likely after that, particularly after Nuneaton were reduced to 10 men five minutes

later when Matthew Tarry was sent off for his over the top challenge on Tony Headlam.

Headlam had a great 25 yarder superbly tipped over by Manuel and Andy O'Brien's close range header was also well saved as Wembley powered forward, but two minutes into injury time, and with extra time beckoning, tragedy struck.

A long ball out of defence caught Wembley flat footed and Culpin went clear. Paul Shields' challenge

sent him tumbling in the area but before Nuneaton's cries for a penalty had died, Symonds collected the loose ball and rifled it past the helpless Fanner.

There was hardly time to restart the game before the final whistle went and Wembley's cup glory dreams were over.

**Wembley:** Fanner, Morse (Page), Clark, O'Brien, Shields, Headlam, Adrian Smith (Conroy), Andy Smith, Lawrence, Witter, Hutchinson.

when Tate followed up, his effort was kicked off the line.

However, in the 18th minute Smith headed Sudbury level from an Osmond corner and with 35 minutes gone the home side went in front when Lowe set up Farthing to beat Hudson.

Stones thought they had equalised in the 54th minute when Tapley's pass found Blackler who shot past Mockler and the ball seemed to go over the line before being cleared but an out of position linesman ruled otherwise.

Barker fired in Sudbury's third goal in the 66th minute, but to their credit Stones kept battling away.

Tate had a shot tipped over by Mockler, and when Drummy set him up soon after, his goalbound shot beat the keeper but hit Gunn on the line.

**Wealdstone:** Hudson, Shanahan, Watson, Tapley, Gayle, Hedge, Blackler, Hippolyte, Tate, Drummy, Venables. Sub: Pearson, Adamson.

# D-Day passes but no decision yet

# Stones are still waiting

**WEALDSTONE** go to Margate on Saturday, wondering whether it will be the last match in the club's illustrious history.

The October 31 deadline set by their administrators, Buchler Phillips, has passed and the club is now anxiously awaiting the decision which will shape their future - if indeed they have one.

However, club chairman David Pollock gave the club cause for hope on Wednesday when he said: "I have been going through the figures and I will be meeting with the administrators to see where we go from here. But I am cautiously optimistic about the short term future of the club."

The administrators have said that unless Wealdstone can bring income above expenditure by cost cutting and fundraising, they will be forced to shut down the club to safeguard cash needed to proceed with litigation resulting from the sale of their Lower Mead ground to the Tesco supermarket chain. The wait for those actions to come to court could be anything up to 18 months.

Putting the club on hold will mean resigning from the Beazer Homes League and ceasing playing activities for anything between one and

**By**  
**John Comfort**  
 two years. If they fail to win the litigation, it could be permanent.

In their bid to sway the administrators, many drastic cuts have already been made. And the club's Blue Ribbon lottery scheme membership is over 1,500 and heading swiftly for the 2,000 mark required to give them a healthy £6,000 monthly cash boost which the administrators say will be sufficient to keep them ticking over.

At Saturday's game with Ashford, the Wealdstone FC Supporters Club were circulating a petition urging the administrators not to close the club. Over 200 signatures were collected.

Staunch Wealdstone supporter Neale Harvey, who travels up from his Bath home to support the Stones, has organised a sponsored walk to the club's match at Finner on December 5 to raise funds and over 50 supporters have already indicated they will be joining him.

The walk will start from Harrow and Wealdstone Station at 7.30pm and anyone else interested in joining Neale can contact him on 0225-445481.

# Borough rage at ref as they get hit for six

**Harrow Borough 3**  
**St Albans City 6**  
**THE** incredibly poor refereeing of Tony Williams was no reflection on play. For the greater part of it Borough were the better side but infuriatingly they continue to concede goals faster than they can score them.

Ian Stewart swept them into a 15th minute lead from a Paul Ripley cross but it only lasted three minutes before Gurney equalised when Borough failed to clear Clark's centre.

Stewart set up Ripley to restore the lead in the 29th minute but this time it lasted less than a minute before Stewart lost the ball to Cockram on the right and his cross drifted past attackers and defenders alike and found the far corner of the net.

Clark's looping header put St Albans in front right on the break but there was still time

earned him a red card.

As for the game itself, the final scoreline was no reflection on play. For the greater part of it Borough were the better side but infuriatingly they continue to concede goals faster than they can score them.

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Clark's looping header put St Albans in front right on the break but there was still time

for Ripley to break clear and fire against a post at the other end.

The same spot proved far kinder to Clark in the 59th when his shot went in off it to make it 4-2 to the visitors.

The introduction of Martin St Hilaire soon paid dividends for Borough as his great run set up Ripley to reduce the arrears in the 64th minute and even when reduced to 10 men, the home side were still well on top.

But Clark broke to hit St Albans' killer fifth goal after 84 minutes and Borough's unhappy night was completed when Steve Conroy turned King's free kick into his own net two minutes later.

**Harrow Borough:** Crompton, May (St Hilaire), Engwall, Bersted, Payne, Shaw, Prutton, Ryan, Ripley, Conroy, Stewart. Other sub: Henderson.

# Kingsbury away in Vase

**IN** the second round of the FA Vase, Kingsbury Town have been drawn away to Harefield United, a side they defeated 2-0 earlier in the season in the Diadora League Cup.

Edgware Town have a home tie against Barton Rovers. Both matches are scheduled to be played on Saturday November 21.

**Wembley sign Egbe**  
**STRIKER** Uche Egbe, recently released by Hendon, has been signed by Wembley and is likely to make his debut in Saturday's home game with Heybridge.

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# Stones say farewell to Peter

**THE** latest victim of Wealdstone's cost cutting, administrative director Peter Braxton, said farewell on Saturday after twelve and a half years with the club.

Wealdstone chairman David Pollock presented him with a pen set in recognition of his services.

**Soccer fixtures**

Thursday November 5  
 Friendly: Kingsbury Town v Sandridge Rovers (Silver Jubilee Park, 7.30pm)

Saturday November 7  
 Diadora League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Dulwich Hamlet (Earlsmead, 3pm)  
 Diadora League Division One: Wembley v Heybridge Swifts (Vale Farm, 3pm)  
 Diadora League Division Two: Worthing v Edgware Town  
 Beazer Homes League Southern Division: Margate v Wealdstone  
 Hellenic League: Rayners Lane v Headington Amateurs (Lucas Ave, 2.30pm)

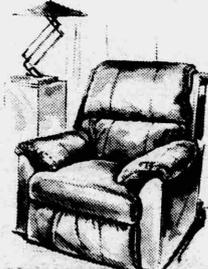
Wednesday November 11  
 Middlesex Senior Cup: Wealdstone v Harrow Borough (Vicarsage Road, 7.30pm); Edgware Town v Welwyn GC (White Lion ground, 7.30pm)

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