

# SPORT

## Wealdstone in fiasco at Fisher

WEALDSTONE'S Beazer Homes League match at Fisher on Tuesday ended in uproar with Wealdstone Supporters Club chairman, Howard Kraiss, left contemplating legal action over claims that he had been struck by a player.

"I have never seen anything like it," said Mr Kraiss. "I'm thinking about legal action and at the moment my feeling is to say yes. I'll make a decision after talking to club chairman Paul Rumens.

"But I'm certainly not going to let the

matter die. We can complain to Fisher, the League and the FA - it's just a case of how far we go."

Stones' home clash with Fisher back in November had been an ill-tempered affair, and Tuesday's match was no different.

Fisher's Jason Huntley, who had been sent off at the Warren, got his marching orders again after Stones striker Paul Brown took exception to a bad tackle and the two players began fighting, with players

from both sides joining in. Brown was also dismissed.

The Fisher manager was sent off in the second half after persistently arguing with the referee and at the final whistle the incident involving Howard Kraiss was followed by a skirmish between Fisher players in the players tunnel.

Such was the hostile atmosphere that, after changing, the Wealdstone players were smuggled out of a back door, boarded their coach and left the ground.

### Boro County duo

HARROW Borough's Paul Ripley and Andy Fruton were in the Middlesex FA team which defeated Essex 5-1 at Wingate and Flackley FC last Wednesday.

Ripley put Middlesex ahead when he scored from a penalty.

### Supporters a.g.m.

WEALDSTONE FC Supporters Club held their annual general meeting at Wealdstone Social Club, Station Road, Wealdstone, on Tuesday April 12.

It starts at 8pm and all members are welcome.

### Looney at Lane

RAYNES Lane FC's patron, the Member Raving Looney Party's Screaming Lord Sutch, and the Savage, will be on playing (music that is) at the club on Saturday April 9. Tickets, 50, from Dave or Alan on 828-2253 (daytime).

## Super sub saves Stones

Fisher 93 1 Wealdstone 1

SUPER sub John Shanahan scored a late equaliser to earn Wealdstone a richly deserved point from an ill-tempered match at Fisher on Tuesday, writes Graham Smith.

Andy Hopping saved well from Mehmet in the 12th minute but Stones came close when a good shot from newcomer Roddy Brathwaite was parried away for a corner.

Both sides were down to ten men after 20 minutes when Paul Brown objected to a bad tackle from Jason Huntley and a fight broke out. Players from both sides joined in and play was held up for four minutes while officials sorted it out. Huntley and Brown were then given their marching orders.

Fisher opened the scoring five minutes before the break when Young's through ball

found Mehmet and west beat the advancing Andy Hopping and were in off a post.

Paul Holohan was in the thick of the action for Stones. His 25 yard shot in the opening minute of the second half was well saved by Jones and soon after he beat two defenders and found Brathwaite, but his effort went wide.

Gerry Elward and Brathwaite both went close before Stones finally levelled with a fine goal five minutes from time. Jason Chewins made an excellent tackle on Bunter and his sweet pass found Brathwaite who laid it back for Elward. He put over a perfect ball for Shanahan who hit a glorious angled shot from 18 yards into the roof of the net.

Wealdstone: Hopping, Angus, Charns, Daniels, Judd, Dunsany, Gilbert (Pride), Elwood, Brown, Brathwaite, Holohan (Shanahan).

## Staines stand in way of end to County famine

# Edgware aim for cup glory

By John Comfort

COUNTY Cup successes have not figured prominently in the history of Edgware Town FC, but they will be aiming to put that right on Monday at Hayes when they take on Staines Town in the Final of the Middlesex Senior Cup.

Edgware's last appearance at this stage was 20 long years ago when they lost a two-legged final against Hendon by 3-1 and 1-0. Club secretary Tom Higgins remembers it well, for he played in both games.

A dogged defender, he had to mark Keiron Somers, half of the Somers and Roger Connell strike force which had led Walton to an FA Amateur Cup Final triumph at Wembley against Slough three years earlier. "They were a right handful," recalls Tom.

Edgware have made three other appearances in the Senior Cup Final. They lost 2-0 to Wealdstone in 1946, went down 3-0 to Southall in 1954 and enjoyed their only success 46 years ago when they beat Enfield 2-1 in the 1948 final.

Mighty Enfield were amongst a series of better placed clubs who have fallen to the Wars on route to this season's final. The others were Ruislip Manor, neighbours Wembley and Uxbridge.

Those successes alone give Edgware boss Brian Rider good reason to be confident of his side's chances of success. "We've had four hard games against higher opposition to get to the final so on form we

have to fancy our chances," he said.

But they have to sweat their way through two league games before the final, against bottom of the table Rainham last night (Wednesday) and second from bottom Lewes on Saturday.

With Hamid Harek (foot), Steve Sailsman (groin) and Dave Sue (knee) all carrying injuries, Rider will be hoping that his players come through unscathed for the big one.

Staines, who have won the competition on six previous occasions, reached the final by beating Hampton, trophy holders Harrow Borough and then Wealdstone after extra time in the semi-finals.

After a poor start to the season they have been ominously running into form of late, and a 14-0 crushing of Croydon followed by a 6-0 beating of Ruislip Manor highlights their ability to find the net.

Staines narrowly beat a depleted Edgware side 1-0 in the Middlesex Charity Cup two weeks ago but with their star player Phil Grainger cup tied and unable to play in Monday's final, a full strength Wars side will be a good bet to gain ample revenge.

The final kicks off at Hayes at 3pm and if necessary will be decided by extra time and then a penalty shoot out.



Edgware secretary, Tom Higgins, proudly shows his runners-up trophy from the last time the club were in the County Cup Final. Picture: Sophie Powell.

## Court back on the sidelines

HARROW Borough take on Dorking at Earlsmead on Saturday and will be without Jason Court who has a back injury which could be out of the reckoning for a couple of weeks.

Dave Beasted is available after serving a one match suspension and Jason Shaw is scoring fitness and could be considered for a place.

After a week's rest with a knee alignment injury, Andy Smith is expected to be fit for Wembley's home game with Leyton.

Tony Heslop, Bobby Hutchinson and Mark Witter are also in contention for places in Glen Charles' line up.

Wealdstone have signed striker Rod Brathwaite from Kingstonian. Brathwaite, who has recently been on loan to Hayes, made his debut in the midweek draw at Fisher and plays his first home match this Saturday when Stones take on the rearguard Dunstable.

Leaving the club is defender Jon Pettifer, who has joined Chalfont St Peter.

After holding league leaders Bracknell in midweek, Kingsbury will be looking to do just as well when second placed Chestnut visit them on Saturday. Neil Hide could well make a welcome return to Peter Blain's side.

Rayners Lane hope to bounce back from last week's drubbing in two home fixtures over Easter, against North Leigh on Saturday and Wantage Town on Monday.

Fergus Meaney (ligaments) is their only fitness doubt. Lane beat North Leigh away recently but lost at Wantage in the opening game of the season.



Jason Court - back injury.

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## Dynamic Darren keeps league leaders at bay

**Kingsbury Town 0 Bracknell 0**

KEEPER Darren Bonfield's top class performance earned Kingsbury a deserved point against league leaders Bracknell on Tuesday night, writes John Comfort.

His sound handling, coupled with a series of fine saves, denied the lively visitors and throughout kept Town in with a chance of snatching an unlikely win.

They might even have been achieved 10 minutes from time, but Mark Ivers put a free header wide from close in.

And soon after both Ivers and Craig Elliott failed to get a touch when Nelson Kumah's low cross beckoned invitingly in front of an open goal.

But the better chances fell to the visitors. Bonfield denied Day in the very first minute after he found himself with only the keeper to beat and midway through the second half a flying save from Bonfield kept out a blockbuster from Purser.

In the dying minutes Bonfield was finally beaten by Wood's shot but a post came to Kingsbury's rescue and Wilson followed up to put the rebound into the side netting.

The game was marred by an injury to Bracknell midfielder Gary Phillips who was carried off and taken to hospital with a suspected broken ankle.

Kingsbury: Bonfield, Dale, Walsh, Evans, Ash, Simpson, Pashas (O'Rourke), Brennan, Kumah, Ivers, Elliot. Other sub: Tabot.

## Wembley stunned by early goals

A GOAL after just 41 seconds from England international Karen Burke stunned Wembley Ladies in their National League Premier Division match away to Womens FA Cup Finalists, Knowsley United.

Five minutes later Knowsley scored again through Maria Harper to secure a 2-0 victory.

It was a disappointing performance from Wembley who will be looking for better on Sunday when they take on league leaders Doncaster Belles at Vale Farm, kick off 2pm.

Wembley: Jacky Elmerrman, Janine Meylan, Debbie Wood (Viv Leach), Carol Harwood, Jackie Spencer, Tracy Koch, Julie Lorton, Jan Murray, Paula Gleave, Yvonne Baldo, Aysla Lizar. Other sub: Gloria Morgan.

## Soccer fixtures

Saturday April 2

Districts League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Dorking (Earlsmead, 3pm).

Districts League Div One: Wembley v Leyton (Vale Farm, 3pm).

Districts League Div Two: Edgware Town v Lewes (White Lion ground, 3pm).

Districts League Div Three: Kingsbury v Chesham (St. John's Park, 3pm).

Best Home League Southern Div: Wealdstone v Dunstable (The Warren, 3pm).

National League: Rayners Lane v North Leigh (Lace, Ave, 3pm).

Monday April 4

Middlesex Senior Cup Final: Edgware Town v Staines Town (Hayes FC, 3pm).

Districts League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Yeading (Earlsmead, 3pm).

Districts League Div One: Ruislip Manor v Wembley (3pm).

Best Home League Southern Div: Buckingham v Wealdstone (3pm).

National League: Rayners Lane v Wantage Town (Lace, Ave, 3pm).

Wednesday April 6

Middlesex Charity Cup: Harrow Borough v Brentford (Earlsmead, 7.45pm).

Districts League Div Two: Edgware Town v Chesham (White Lion ground, 7.45pm).

Districts League Div Three: Felsham & Hounslow v Kingsbury Town (7.45pm).

WEMBLEY LADIES

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