

SPORT

SOCCER

Solomon send off makes it hard work for Stones



● Sent off - Gerry Solomon.

Wendstone 3 Tonbridge 2
STONES certainly made life hard for themselves before securing a victory over Tonbridge on Saturday that lifted them up to 7th in the Beazer Southern Division table.

They were cruising home at 3-1 up with five minutes to go. But then poor defending allowed the visitors to reduce the arrears and when Gerry Solomon foolishly got himself sent off, Stones were left to survive a nail biting finale with only ten men before the points were finally in the bag.

Wendstone had the better of the first half but only managed a single goal for their efforts - scored in the 19th minute. Tommy Mason found Tim Buzaglio to the left of the Tonbridge area and he rode defender Tin-

By John Comfort
gley's challenge before squaring the ball for Simon Quail to slide it past keeper Wright.

It was almost 2-0 when Wright was penalised for picking up a back pass three minutes later. Quail's short free kick was blasted goalward by Tim Buzaglio but Wright redeemed himself with a fine diving save.

Billy Hudson missed a good chance soon after when a Mason corner was flicked on to him but he shot weakly at Wright.

Tonbridge shocked Stones with an equaliser after 33 minutes. Tingley's free kick from the right bounced awkwardly in front of Kevin Robbins and

he was only able to parry it away and Mawson was quickly in to lash the loose ball into the net.

Having lost Richard Buzaglio with a knee injury midway through the half, Stones then lost brother Tim with a hand injury at the break but they still had the edge in the second half and Quail was unlucky with a rising shot that Wright tipped over.

But they had a let off when Freeman, looking well offside, burst clear but Robbins parried his shot away.

The game turned Stones way after 66 minutes when they were awarded a penalty after Quail was pulled back as he tried to round defender Jarvis in the area. After prolonged Tonbridge protests, Quail himself dispatched the spot kick.

With 12 minutes remaining a third goal seemed to settle the issue for Stones. Quail's great pass put Hudson away on the left and his cross was lashed home by a jubilant Rod Findley.

But with five minutes left Abboh headed the visitors' second goal and Stones suffered a further blow when Solomon spat at Embilen after being fouled by the Tonbridge striker and was sent off. Why Clark, who clearly struck Solomon in the scuffle which followed, didn't go as well, was something of a mystery.

It left Stones defending desperately in the closing minutes but they held on for a victory that was well deserved.

Wendstone: Robbins, Jones, Solomon, M. Hill, Shanahan, Mason, Kent, McGrath, T. Buzaglio (Findley), Quail, R. Buzaglio. Other sub: D. Hill.

Town's hopes take a knock

Kingsbury Town 1 Collier Row 2

KINGSBURY'S promotion hopes took a jolt on Saturday when they let slip a half time lead and lost to a useful Collier Row side.

The first half was evenly contested. Play swung from end to end but there were no real chances until the closing stages of the half when a Collier Row defender had to clear off the line after an Ian Brown-Peterside kick-in had been headed goalward by Anthony Sibanda.

Two minutes into stoppage time Kingsbury went in front. A defence splitting pass from Sibanda put Brown-Peterside through and he beat the last defender before firing under diving keeper Alan Knight. The lead didn't last long for the visitors came out for the second half and scored almost straight from the kick off as Chris Rose put Darren Southgate in to volley past Darren Bonfield.

Sibanda might have restored the Kingsbury lead when he got clear midway through the half but Knight did well to keep out his shot.

But it was Collier Row who looked the stronger side and with nine minutes remaining their substitute Peter Shea got through to beat Bonfield to give his side maximum points.

Kingsbury: Bonfield, D. O'Rourke, Hayward, Evans, Kenny, Elliott, Ash (Donaghy), Brown-Peterside, Sibanda, Ivers, Whylock. Other sub: Kingsholt.

Borough saved by Davies and Hook show

Harrow Borough 1 Kingsbury 1

BOROUGH had to thank the heroics of keeper David Hook and a last gasp goal from Kevin Davies that marked his first appearance in three months after injury for the point they gained against Kingstonian on Wednesday, writes Tony Booth.

Five minutes of injury time had already elapsed when Barton conceded a rash free kick which Eamon O'Connor directed into the danger area from the right and Davies directed pinpoint header inside the near post past Root's despairing dive.

The match had been marred in the third minute by Ndah's careless challenge on Neil Fraser which seriously limited Borough's leading goalscorer who was eventually substituted at half time. Fraser had only one real chance but shot over and Borough's other first half opportunities came through two Metcalfe headers which failed to beat Root.

The visitors took a 14th minute lead when Bradshaw's cross wasn't cleared and Sugrue fired a dipping shot over Hook.

The Surrey side continued to hold the upper hand in the second half. Akeomaoh got clear of the home defence only to lose control of the ball, then he headed onto a post in the 68th minute.

Okeula forced Hook to save well when he broke away, then Bradshaw had a close range shot tipped over by the Borough keeper.

Another excellent diving save after Okeula had taken the ball past him saw Hook inspire his team to one last effort. And they responded with the point-clinching goal from Davies.

Harrow Borough: Hook, Knight, O'Connor, Seabrook, Bensted (Davies), McKay, Hurlock, Metcalfe, Westley, Fraser (Lawford), Benning.

Steve starts off the fireworks for Edgware

By Tom Hooks

Edgware Town 5 Cheshunt 2

IN keeping with Guy Fawkes' Day, Steve Newing got this match off to a spectacular start, shooting Edgware into the lead from an Andy Dale cross after only 30 seconds.

The home team could not have hoped for a better start and could easily have gone further ahead with attempts from Jason Dale in the early stages. Indeed the visitors hardly staged an attack worthy of mention and how they survived a furious assault on their goal on 25 minutes remains a mystery. In a frantic spell Newing struck the bar twice from close range and follow up efforts were blocked before the ball was scrambled clear.

However, Cheshunt gradually got back into the game and on 35 minutes a well hit low shot from 25 yards evaded Harvey's dive to give them their equaliser and worse followed as right on half time a hopeful ball into the box fell to the unmarked Hughes who put his side 2-1 up.

By this stage the dulcet tones of manager McGleish could be heard around the ground but he must surely have saved himself for the half time talk for his team came out to produce the best second half display seen at Edgware for a long time.

Cheshunt were put under the cosh and the inevitable happened on 60 minutes when a fine five-man move ended with Gerry Brennan shooting from the narrowest of angles and John Coleman helping the ball into the net on the goal-line for the equaliser.

10 minutes later Edgware were in front when Ted John dribbled brilliantly to the byline and crossed to the far post for the home fans to be treated to the rare sight of Newing scoring a goal with a header to put his side in front.

On 80 minutes the lead was extended. Perseverance from Roche and Brennan led to Newing crossing from the right and Coleman was on hand to score from close range.

The home side were now rampant and the scoring was completed after good work by Roche, Coleman and Flynn left the impressive John with an easy scoring chance which he eagerly accepted.

Edgware: Harvey, A. Dale, Sallman, Sue, Finnerty, Brennan, Flynn, Coleman, J. Dale (Roche), Newing, John. Other sub: Ferry.



● Edgware striker Steve Newing shoots for goal in Saturday's 5-2 win over Cheshunt.

Sakhraoui steers Wembley back from the dead

Lions hit back to save a point

By Richard Markiewicz

Steve Daly back pass. That was in the 8th minute and it allowed Chertsey to take the initiative.

Fanner later redeemed himself with a couple of fine saves as Chertsey went in search of a second goal. But, ironically, it was an error at the other end in the 33rd minute that resulted in Wembley levelling the scores. Jon Denton's miskick on the edge of the penalty area was seized

upon by Kenny Page and he slipped the ball wide for Giuliano Grazioli to slot past the keeper.

However, seven minutes later, Chertsey re-established the lead. A quickly taken free kick caught the visitors napping and after eluding his marker, Hamid Harrak netted with a powerful strike.

The onrushing Grazioli, foiled by the spreadeagled keeper, almost levelled the scores at the start of the second half. However, Chertsey retaliated and things looked bleak for

the Lions when Lee Charles headed home a Ricky Hill cross to extend the lead in the 56th minute.

At 3-1, Chertsey had complete control of matters, but they committed the cardinal sin of thinking it was all over and failed to take into account Wembley's persistence in chasing a lost cause.

It was the start of a splendid Wembley fightback and they wiped out the deficit with two goals set up by Youssef Sakhraoui.

In the 67th minute Sakhraoui showed off his silky skills by bemusing a defender on the left, whipping in a cross which Page cut back into the stride of Andy Smith who hammered the ball into the roof of the net.

Nine minutes later the determination of the Lions was aptly illustrated by the lunging Sakhraoui bravely winning possession of a 50-50 ball on the halfway line.

Charlie Flaherty picked it up and delivered a perfect left footed defence splitting pass into the path of Grazioli whose clinical finish levelled the scores.

Wembley: Fanner, Flaherty, Catlin (Clark), Sakhraoui (McGinty), Shields, Daly, Cumberbatch, Bhatia, Smith, Page, Grazioli.

Chertsey: Fanner, Flaherty, Catlin (Clark), Sakhraoui (McGinty), Shields, Daly, Cumberbatch, Bhatia, Smith, Page, Grazioli.

Calling all former Kingsbury players

KINGSBURY Town FC are holding a Past and Present Players evening in their Silver Jubilee Park clubhouse on Saturday November 26.

All former Kingsbury players are welcome to come along.

Five goal Thompson puts Lane in seventh heaven

Rayners Lane 7 Letcombe 2
LANE duly overcame second from bottom Letcombe - but only after a tentative start in which the visitors looked the better side.

Early on Lane missed a good chance when Harrison's corner found Bird who blazed over, but after this let off Letcombe began to play with confidence and although they did not create any clear opportunities, they forced the home side back on the defensive.

It was against the run of play that Lane took the lead. In a goalmouth scramble from a Clements corner, Thompson chested the ball down and hit an unstoppable shot into the net.

This goal settled Lane and their dominance from then on was rewarded when a sweeping move involving Howard, Clements and Bird ended with a cross which the keeper failed to hold and Thompson forced the ball home.

Lane quickly went three up in the

second half when Thompson completed his hat-trick after being put through by Metcalfe and he got his fourth minutes later, forcing home a cross by Hafid Ibnahaten who had been put clear on the right by Howard's clever reverse pass.

Soon after Thompson returned the compliment, crossing for Ibnahaten to score his first goal for Lane, and having got the taste for goal, the Moroccan quickly got a second, running onto Harrison's through ball and rounding two defenders before slotting home.

Lane got their seventh then a long ball by Harrison was missed by two defenders, allowing Thompson through to score but in the closing stages the home defence fell asleep, allowing the visitors to make the scoreline more respectable with two late goals.

Rayners Lane: Randall, Clements, Haigh, Mills (M. Hodge), Woodward (S. Hodge), Harrison, Bird, Howard, Metcalfe, Thompson, Ibnahaten.

Aylesbury Utd 3 Harrow Borough 0
AS THE drizzle fell at Buckingham Road on Saturday, so the goals rained down on Borough with the heavy defeat they so narrowly avoided against Kingstonian four days earlier being belatedly enacted.

Borough were strengthened by the return after suspension of the energetic Andy Prutton and, in the second half, by the skilful Lee Enderby, but wasted opportunities in attack and lapses in defence sunk the visitors.

Aylesbury quickly took the initiative and in the early minutes Hobbs headed just over then Seabrook cleared a Williams shot off the line and Hercules saw his shot rebound off a post. David Hook did well to turn Heard's cross shot over the bar, then held a close range header from Hercules as Borough struggled.

The traffic wasn't all one way. Westley and Prutton both shot over and O'Connor forced a good diving save from Wild, as did Fraser right on half time.

The second half pattern was little different from the first. Bashir saw his shot cleared off the line and Hook made a good save from Williams but it was only a matter of time before Aylesbury scored and in the 56th minute it happened. Heard's shot was blocked by Hook

There's no escape for Borough this time!

By Tony Booth

only for Williams to shoot in off the crossbar. Two minutes later Bashir's free kick was only half cleared and Hazel shot inside the far post to make it 2-0.

Williams and Hercules missed good chances but after 69 minutes Bashir's cross was met by a diving header from Hercules which flashed across goal and inside the far post for Aylesbury's third goal.

Enderby had just been brought on by that stage and soon had Aylesbury feeling thankful that he had not been introduced earlier. From Westley's quick throw in Enderby rounded a defender before forcing Wild to push his angled drive wide. Then Enderby's cross left Bensted unmarked six yards out but with the goal unguarded he hit his shot against the bar.

When the winger gave Prutton the chance from which he shot wide, it was obvious Borough would not even manage a consolation, but they were pleased to see Heard's shot bounce off their bar in the last minute.

Harrow Borough: Hook, Knight, O'Connor, Seabrook, Bensted, McKay (Enderby), Prutton, Metcalfe, Westley, Fraser, Benning (Davies).