

# SPORT

## It's the same again in Mayor's Trophy final

THE Mayor of Harrow's Knockout Final will be a repeat of last season's clash, with holders Bessborough taking on Harrow Town.

20 over specialists, Bessborough, will be bidding for their second hat-trick of successes in the last seven years, while Town, who disappointed against their rivals last season, will be aiming for revenge and a first ever title in only their third final appearance in the 37 years of the Trophy's existence.

The match is scheduled to start at 5pm tonight (Thursday) at Harrow CC's Payne's Folly ground. In the semi-finals Bessborough had a seven wicket win over Startlight while Town defeated Stanmore by 25 runs.

## Gayts eye up the title

AFTER pushing their way to the top of the table after the last match at Enfield, Old Gaytonians AC will be looking to clinch the British Athletics League Division Three title on Saturday when they stage the final round at Watford's Woodside Stadium.

Gayts manager Phil Parry reports that his team for this vital fixture is as good as any turned out in the past.

Scottish international decathlete, Jamie Quarry, is now available and he goes at 110 hurdles, pole vault, long jump and discus, while Mark Phillips returns over 100m and 200m. Stuart Taylor, recently down to a sub 1.52.0, goes over 800m and the team manager himself, the Scottish champion and winner at Enfield, is raring to go in the javelin.

Ray Chesworth comes in at 400m for his League debut and Parry also gives first outings to Ghanaian shot sensation, Felix Hyde, who is just 19 years old but is already ranked 5th overall in the UK, and to Maurice Fenton in the hammer.

Mike Nolan switches to 1500m and Matt Bateson continues his recent form at 3000m steeplechase.

## Quail goes

WEALDSTONE have transferred striker Simon Quail to Premier Division Bromley for a nominal fee. Defenders Rod Findley and Terry Birch have been released by the club.

Week 10 winners  
£180 10-15-120; £75 16-01-75; £35 4-12-75; £20 2-01-130; £20 member 1302.

# Stones going up

## 'That's a promise' says chairman

By John Comfort

PROMOTION in their first season in Division Three of the ICIS League is being guaranteed by Wealdstone FC's ebullient chairman, Paul Rumens, who put his head firmly on the block on Tuesday when he gave a "we are going up" promise to the club's fervent supporters.

"We are on our way back in non-league football," declared Rumens who, in the past decade has sadly seen Wealdstone fall dramatically from being the first club to complete the non-league 'double' to their current plight of being homeless hopefuls in the lowest division of a feeder league.

"We are in the league we should be in, albeit in division three, and I am promising that we will only be in this divi-

sion for just one season. We are going up. If I didn't believe that, why should anybody else believe it?"

"We have got one of the best managers in non-league football, and although he says that his record counts for nothing, it's all in the past, I am in a very buoyant and confident mood and I believe he has the players who can do the job and they can win promotion at the first attempt.

"For the first time in many years we have had a proper pre-season build up and I have never seen a fitter or sharper Wealdstone side."

The fans clearly think so as well, for there has been a record number of applications for season tickets.

Admission prices to see Stones - now sharing with Edgware at the White Lion ground remain unaltered at £3.50 for the fifth successive season, although that will rise by 50p if the club is in the top five in the division.

Rumens is urging supporters to get along and see the new Stones. "Gordon has put



Paul Rumens - promotion promise.

together a side that wants to play for Wealdstone and wants to win. It took a lot of persuasion to get a manager with great success to come down from the premier division to division three, but he believes what I and the board and the fans want.

"That is why I am confident we will do well. We'll get beaten on a few occasions, but I don't think we'll get beaten enough."

"This is the eve of a new era for the club and I desperately want people to come along and enjoy it."

## Tough opening six could be make or break for Borough

SUCCESS in the Harrow Senior Cup has given Harrow Borough a trophy before the season has even begun, but manager Harry Manoe is under no illusions that adding it to the season proper will be anything other than tough.

A credible 10th place last season, Borough will need to get off to a good start if they are to match that effort, but a tricky opener at Hitchin on Saturday and games against the likes of Aylesbury, champions Enfield, St Albans and bogey side Kingstonsian early on will make that no easy task.

"I think we're strong enough," said Manoe "but we've got a tough first game and our first six are as hard as they come."

"After those we'll get a better idea, and if things come together early on I'll be hoping

for something better than last season."

Borough have been working on a new 4-4-2 formation this season. "It will take a while to settle," said Manoe "but it seems to suit us."

The manager's new signings include defender Stephen Palmer from Luton, centre back Dave Sue from Edgware, midfielder Brian Jones from Bedford, ex-Woking midfielder Mark Biggs from Wealdstone, and strikers Uche Egbu and Mark Xavier from Histon and Uko Ekoku from Hampton.

Departures include Tony Knight, who has retired, while Graham Pearce and Tony Smith have been released.

Midfielder Andy Prutton is going to Premier Division new boys, Boreham Wood. A suitable fee is being negotiated.

Injuries will give Manoe some early season selection headaches.

Christian Metcalfe has a broken toe, Neil Fraser, John Lawford, and Dave Bensted have knee injuries while Frank Appiah and Dave Sue are also injured.

Borough will be running a supporters coach to Hitchin on Saturday, leaving Earlsmead at 12.30pm.

## We'll be in the hunt says confident Jock

DESPITE a less than impressive pre-season build up, Edgware Town boss Jock McGleish is in confident mood that, in his first full season in charge, his side will be among the promotion candidates.

"Yes, we'll figure in it," he said. "I shouldn't be in the job if I wasn't able to say that!"

But he added that the opening games will be crucial. "I'll have a better idea of our chances after the first six games. If we get a confident start we could start rolling and be up there with them, but if not, it could be a struggle."

McGleish will be hoping that injuries, which have blighted recent seasons, will not be as severe in the new cam-

paign, for that will sorely test the club's strength in depth and force him to throw in at the deep end some of their talented youngsters, including Terry Dunning, Fabio Valentini and Gary Somershal.

But that will not unduly concern the boss. "They are all promising youngsters and I wouldn't have any worries about playing them. It's difficult with our finances to get really top quality players, so we have to build from the bottom."

McGleish has released Paul and Darren Ferry, Steve Sailsman, Les Thompson and Sean Griffiths, while keeper Kevin Beckles has gone to Wembley and centre back Dave Sue has joined Harrow Borough.

Arriving are goalkeepers Lee Ward from Hayes and Andy Carter from Haringey Borough, defender Tony Anglin from Wealdstone, and midfielders Steve Hurd from Rushlip Manor and Asim Ahmed from Wembley. Former Chesham striker Carl Lindo could also be signed.

Edgware start with a tough home game on Saturday against Witham who just missed out on promotion last season, and will be without Michael Roche and Mark Christodoulou who are both unavailable.

## A telling season for Kingsbury

WITH the club committed to spending £10,000 on covered accommodation to meet League requirements, Kingsbury Town boss Peter Blain knows there is no money in the kitty to sign up quality players for the new season, which starts with a derby game at Northwood on Saturday.

And there are other problems. He has lost Mark Ivers and James Moore to Wealdstone, has Craig Elliott sidelined with a serious knee injury and could lose Nelson Kumah, who is set to go to university, while both Steve Evans and Paul Gover miss the first two weeks of the campaign through suspensions.

However, he has made several new signings, forward Jeb Hughes from Harefield, centre half Derek Victor from Northwood, and former Edgware defender Jason Zazzera, also from Harefield, and his squad will be boosted by the return of Chris Simpson, who has now fully recovered from breaking his leg last season.

Kingsbury finished 9th last season and Blain would be happy with a repeat performance. "I will be disappointed if we're not in a confident mid-table position," he said.

"With money we could draw players in but we haven't got it so this will be very much a telling season where we'll hope to compete and hold our own. Hopefully if we get a good start that will lift the side and we'll start to buzz."

## Boss Bartlett feels the heat

WITH only Rod Brathwaite, John Shanahan and Marvin Hall surviving from last season, Wealdstone start their first ICIS League Division Three campaign with virtually a whole new side under Gordon Bartlett.

And an impressive list of signings by the new boss, headed by centre back Steve Croad, who captained his Yeading FA Vase winning team, coupled with a string of useful pre-season results, have made Stones the local side strongly tipped to go places when the real action gets underway.

As well as Croad, Bartlett has signed keeper Robert Wild from Aylesbury, defenders Paul Bhatia (ex-Kingsbury),

Ben Marskell (ex-Harrow Borough), James Moore (from Kingsbury) and Fergus Moore (from Uxbridge), midfielders Neil Yates (from Barton), Chris Walton (ex-Hayes), and Lee Tekell (from Aveyley), and strikers Steve Birch (from Southall), Troy Brasher (from Hayes) and Mark Ivers (from Kingsbury).

Former Stones keeper Rob Tenkorang has also rejoined the club while former Yeading forward Paul Sheldrick and midfielder Keith Boreham have both been offered terms and could be added to the list.

With promotion fully expected at the first attempt, Bartlett knows the pressure will be firmly on when Stones open up at Cove on Saturday.

"Things have gone a little too well so far and people are starting to get high expectations," he said.

"But nothing happens automatically. We're further forward than I anticipated we'd be, but now we've got to carry the good work forward to where it matters."

And is promotion on? "We must get success, that has been made blatantly clear," he said. "Clearly the pressure is on all of us and it's all about how we cope with it."

"I'm very hopeful we can achieve it. If we show the same application we have done, there's a chance, and there will have to be some good sides in the league to stop us."

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## Lawrence is back for Lions

MIDFIELD dynamo Steve Lawrence has completed his suspension and will be free to play in Wembley's first home League game of the season on Saturday - a derby with neighbours Uxbridge.

However, Ian and John Bates are still banned and will sit it out as the Lions attempt to make amends for their defeat in the opener at Whyteleaf.

A Wembley team, consisting mainly of reserve players, drew 2-2 at Rayners Lane on Tuesday, Mark Witter scoring one of their goals from the penalty spot.

## More spot kick agony for Edgware

PENALTY miss specialists Edgware fluffed another on Tuesday night, and paid for it as they lost 2-1 in a friendly against Hendon.

Steve Newing was the culprit, firing wide after he had been pushed in the area. He had earlier given Edgware the lead, blasting home a free kick from 25 yards, but Hendon levelled with a Gary McVie header on 32 minutes and notched a late winner through Junior Haynes.

Edgware: Ward, Murray, Shotton, Finnerty, White, Brownson, Dale (Pillar), Coleman, Lindo (John), Newing.

## Soccer fixtures

Saturday August 19  
ICIS League Premier Div: Hitchin v Harrow Borough  
ICIS League Div One: Wembley v Uxbridge (Vale Farm, 3pm)  
ICIS League Div Two: Edgware Town v Witham (White Lion ground, 3pm)  
ICIS League Div Three: Cove v Wealdstone; Northwood v Kingsbury Town.  
Tuesday August 22  
Guardian League Cup: Edgware Town v Harrow (White Lion ground, 7.30pm); Whetstone v Wealdstone.  
ICIS League Div One: Basingstoke v Wembley.  
ICIS League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Cove (Silver Jubilee Park, 7.30pm).  
Wednesday August 23  
ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Aylesbury Utd (Earlsmead, 7.30pm).

## MARK Ivers goal a minute from time earned Wealdstone a 2-2 draw at Bedford Town on Tuesday night.

Bedford opened the scoring through Boon just before the break after Robert Wild dropped a cross, but Steve Fraser levelled on 52 minutes from Fergus Moore's pass.

Reed restored Bedford's lead but Rod Brathwaite's pass set up Ivers for the equaliser.

Wealdstone: Wild, Marskell (Shanahan), F. Moore (J. Moore), Bhatia, Croad, Tekell (Brathwaite), Walton, Yates, Fraser (Pillar), Sheldrick (Borch), Hart.

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