

SPORT

Patterson quits in row over letter

WEALDSTONE FC director and commercial manager, Layne Patterson, has resigned as chairman of the organising committee of the Harrow Senior Cup in protest over a critical letter written to the

Observer by Tony Booth, a vice-president of Harrow Borough FC.

Stones are also considering whether to continue in the competition, which was instigated by Mr Patterson and

took place for the first time in August.

The letter, published last week, was described by Wealdstone press officer Graham Sharpe as "an entirely unjustified and unacceptable attack

on Wealdstone FC" and contained unwarranted slurs on Wealdstone FC and its officials and supporters.

He added "Wealdstone will be reconsidering its position with relation to the proposed 1996 competition. We can see little point in continuing a competition which was devised to foster good relations between the four major sides in Harrow and their supporters."

Borough football director Peter Rogers, the competition's secretary, said he was "very sad that Layne had taken this decision. I hope he'll take time and think about it."

He dismissed suggestions that Mr Booth's letter had Borough support. "It has been implied that Harrow Borough supported what was written. But what we cannot do is to censor people's letters."

Harrow's big day at Oval

HARROW CC play the biggest game in the club's 107 year history on Saturday when they meet Maiden Wanderers in the final of the Evening Standard Trophy at the Oval.

The £4,000 prize on offer for the winners is the biggest cash prize in club cricket and Harrow know that they face a tough task to beat their Essex League opponents, who put out neighbours Stanmore in the quarter finals.

But Harrow will be in confident mood, for although they have struggled this season in the Thames Valley League, they have found considerable form in this 50 overs competition and have put out Beddington and Wimbledon from the Surrey Championship, local rivals Wembley from the Middlesex County League, Thames Valley League Lenebury, Kent League Beckenham and Essex League Wanstead on their way to the final.

Harrow expect to have good support at the Oval. They are running three coaches to the game and anyone wishing to book a place should ring the club on 422-0932. The fare is £5.

Admission to the match is free and entry is via the Vauxhall entrance to the ground. Play starts at 10.30am.

Cup exit extends Wembley's sad winless run

Wembley 1 Carshalton Ath 3 SAD Wembley bowed out of the Guardian Insurance Cup on Tuesday, well beaten by Carshalton to extend their winless start to the season to five matches, writes Richard Markiewicz.

There was no questioning Wembley's workrate and endeavour which was first class, but there seemed to be little substance to their efforts. In contrast, the Premier Division visitors

when necessary, were able to step up a gear and their superiority was emphasised with three first half goals which established a commanding lead.

All three stemmed from pinpoint cross from the right wing which undid a slack home defence. Ian Hazel flicked on the first of those for Francis Vines to nod home the opener in the 19th minute.

The Robins increased their lead 10

minutes later with a far post header from Andy Salako and on the stroke of half time Eddie Saunders forced the ball over the line after another accurate delivery had caused problems.

The home side did create a couple of chances themselves. An awkward strike from Ashley Cumberbatch produced a fine one-handed save by the keeper who later used his legs to thwart the onrushing Ian Bates.

But they produced little after the break despite vast territorial advantage. Although Steve Dalry, with a diving header from an Ian Bates pass during a neatly constructed free kick, managed to reduce the areas in the 72nd minute, Carshalton's place in the second round was already securely booked.

Wembley: Beckles, Cumberbatch, Hollingdale, Walters, Shickle, Daly, Barry, I. Bates, Smith, McGinty (Witlock), JS Bates. Other subs: Codrington, Granville.

Euro task for Towers

LONDON Towers tip off the new basketball season with the home leg of their European Korac Cup tie with Paris St Germain Racing Basket at Wembley Court tonight (Thursday), at 8pm.

This will be the first opportunity for the capital's leading club to show off their strengthened squad from which much is expected this season.

Joining the bright lights at Wembley are Steve Bucknall, the only Englishman to have played in the NBA, and Neville Austin, the 6'10" England international centre. Both have come from Thames Valley while the third newcomer, Andy Gardner has been signed from Derby where he was their MVP last season.

They join the nucleus of last season's squad which finished third in the Budweiser League. Americans Tony 'Hurricane' Windless and 'Diamond' Danny Lewis return, as do English internationals Martin Henlan, Joel 'Magic' Moore and Mark Hubbard. The squad is completed by club captain Roger Duhaney, veteran Andrew McKella and probably the best young player in Britain, Errol Seaman.

The most successful coach in British basketball, Kevin Cadie, remains in charge and is now assisted by former Portsmouth head coach, Dan Lloyd. The new look Towers have impressed during pre-season matches but the Parisians will present a strong challenge. Al-

though they have lost last season's team leader Yann Bonato to rivals Limoges, coach Chris Singleton has signed ex-Utah Jazz star Steven Howard, along with Bermuda player Ian Lockhart. The Towers will be looking to say goodbye rather than to rue their loss to the French after the return leg in Paris on September 13.

Towers coach Kevin Cadie said: "We are looking for a winning start to the season. Paris will be a tough challenge but we certainly do not have anything to fear. While our principle goals are the four domestic competitions, a successful European campaign is part of a long term Towers strategy and we believe we have the talent and experience to succeed."

Injury hit Borough shown cup door

Chesham Utd 4 Harrow Borough 1

INJURY hit Borough gave a disappointing performance at Chesham on Tuesday and slipped sadly out of the Guardian Insurance Cup.

After a goalless first half they went behind four minutes into the second period when ex-Borough player Gavin MacPherson hooked home a corner to put Chesham in front.

Mark Biggins slotted in an equaliser after 70 minutes, following good inter-play with Brian Jones, but the game then turned away from Borough with 10 minutes to go when referee Reynolds awarded the home side a penalty.

John Kerr went down under the combined challenge of Jones and keeper David Hook. Josh Price netted from the spot to put Chesham back in front.

With Borough committed to attack, they were caught short four minutes later as Liam Heffernan broke free and although Hook blocked his first shot, he slotted in the loose ball to make it 3-1.

Two minutes from time Cooper scored a fourth.

In the closing stages Borough had a strong penalty appeal turned down and were also denied a second goal when Lee Enderby netted only to be ruled offside.

Harrow Borough: Hook, O'Connor (Saebrook), Palmer, Williams, Berrsted, Appleby, Biggins, Jones, Davies (Eldout), Xavier, Enderby. Other subs: Robinson.

No end to deadlock for Town

Kingsbury Town 1 Bracknell 1

330 minutes of FA Cup action has now failed to separate Kingsbury and Bracknell and the tie now goes to a third replay on the Berkshire club's ground tonight (Thursday), writes John Comfort.

Monday's match at Silver Jubilee Park was more open than the previous two encounters, and both sides had chances to win it. But another draw was indicative of how closely matched the teams are.

Bracknell drew first blood on 24 minutes - ironically just seconds after Kingsbury had fluffed their best chance of the half. Niall O'Rourke failed to grab keeper Henly after being put clear by Jason Zazzera and play quickly switched to the other end where Derek Victor brought down Paul Mulvaney in the area and Justin Day despatched the resultant penalty kick.

Nelson Kumah fired against Henly's legs after going clear and the keeper kept out a bullet header from Damian Gillespie before Kingsbury drew level on 44 minutes. Kumah again got clear only to lose control but Gillespie was on hand to slot home the loose ball.

Henly's superb save which kept out Dennis O'Rourke's low drive was the highlight of the second half and a header from Bracknell's Tallentire than hit the crossbar was the closest either side came to a winner in extra time.

Kingsbury: Borfield, D. O'Rourke, Gillespie, Zazzera, Stewart, Victor, Ford (Thomas), Kenny, Hughes (Peterside), Kumah, N. O'Rourke. Other subs: Duru.

Brave 10-man Stones make their exit in thriller

Tooting 4 Wealdstone 3 BATTLING 10-man Stones lost by the odd goal in seven in a thrilling Guardian Insurance Cup tie at Tooting on Tuesday night, writes Graham Smith.

They lost Paul Bhatia on 30 minutes when he was sent off for handling to deny Rootes a goalscoring chance, and from the resulting free kick, Rob Tenkorang superbly tipped Dennington's effort onto the bar and clear. Earlier he had saved a Dennington penalty after Steve Croad had held back Tompkins.

Tooting took the lead through Tompkins on 32 minutes and 10 minutes later Dennington's shot was deflected past Tenkorang to make it 2-0. Stones reduced the arrears after 58 minutes, James Moore starting the move which led to Troy Birch crossing for Neil Yates to smash the ball into the roof of the net.

James scored Tooting's third five minutes later but within a minute James Moore set up Paul Sheldrick to make it 3-2 on close range.

Bealey's shot deflected off the unlucky James Moore past

Tenkorang to put the home side 4-2 ahead.

But on 75 minutes Stones cut the deficit to a single goal again with a Birch penalty after Chris Walton had been pushed by Edwards.

In a match where Stones showed great commitment, Birch was unlucky not to score an equaliser when his good shot was excellently saved by Orkney, turning the ball onto a post.

Wealdstone: Tenkorang, Marshall (J. Moore), F. Moore, Bhatia, Croad, Yates-Walton, Tekell (Ivans), Fraser (Strathmore), Sheldrick, Birch.

Edgeware Town 0 Bishops Stortford 2

EDGWARE paid for defensive blunders as they went out of the Guardian Insurance Cup on Tuesday night, their first defeat of the season, writes John Comfort.

Stortford's 23rd minute opener was set up by Mark White's weak attempted header back to keeper Andy Hopping. Ian Hollamby nipped smartly in and fired home.

Five minutes into the second half a poor back pass ultimately settled the issue. Hollamby shut down and blocked Hopping's clearance

kick, the ball found Lee Burns and he set up Hollamby to score his second goal.

Edgeware were not without their chances. Just after Stortford's first goal Steve Newing put Steve Herd clear but he shot woefully straight at keeper Gavin King.

In the second half Newing got clear and had his low shot pushed away by the diving King and later on Ted John's good effort was touched onto a post and wide by the keeper.

Edgeware: Hopping, Murray (Alger), Sheridan (Petrou), Finnerty, White, Brennan, Dale (Ahmed), Coleman, John, Newing, Herd.

Borough, Lions join Cup trail

HARROW Borough and Wembley join the FA Cup trail on Saturday with contrasting first qualifying round ties.

ICIS Division Two leaders Leatherhead are certain to give Borough a tough time. Borough hope to have Uche Egbe and David Clarke fit after injury and John Hurlock recovered from a bout of flu.

But Dave Sue is still doubtful with a shoulder injury sustained against Enfield.

Wembley's opponents at Vale Farm, Langford, should provide the Lions with their first competitive win of the season.

Steve Lawrence and Mark McGinty are both injured and are doubtful for the clash. Definitely missing is Youssif Sakhraoui, who is suspended.

New look Wealdstone get their toughest test to date with

a Cup visit to Premier Division side Grays.

They have no injury problems for the match. If a replay is required it will take place at the White Lion ground on Wednesday.

Stones have added to their squad by signing ex-Harrow Borough utility player, Tony Smith.

After suffering their first defeat of the season in midweek, expect Edgeware boss Jock McGleish to make changes for

the FA Cup visit of Chesham. Almost certainly out is Andy Murray who has a knee injury.

In the event of a draw, it will take place at Chesham on Tuesday, with Edgeware's league match against Ware being cancelled.

Kingsbury look to settle their preliminary round tie with Bracknell at the fourth attempt tonight (Thursday). The winners are at home to Thamesmead on Saturday. The losers will be without a game.

Thursday September 7
FA Cup first round 3rd replay: Bracknell v Kingsbury Town.
Saturday September 9
FA Cup 1st qual rounds: Edgeware Town v Chesham Utd (White Lion ground, 3pm), Grays Ath v Wealdstone, Harrow Borough v Leatherhead (Earlhamstead, 7pm), Kingsbury Town v Bracknell, ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v St Albans City (Earlhamstead, 7.30pm).
Hellenic League: Cheltenham

Saracens v Rayners Lane.
Tuesday September 12
ICIS League Div Two: Ware v Edgeware Town.
ICIS League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Lewes (Silver Jubilee Park, 7.30pm).
Football Combination: QPR v Norwich (Earlhamstead, 7pm).
Football Combination: QPR v QPR v Norwich (Earlhamstead, 7pm).
ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v St Albans City (Earlhamstead, 7.30pm).



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