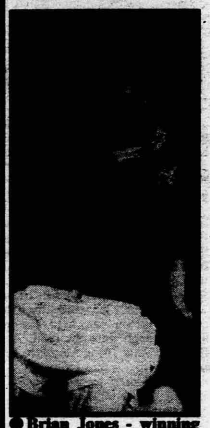
SPORT

Walsh joins Wembley

IN an attempt to alleviate Wembley FC's unhappy situation in the lower reaches of the ICIS Division One table, John Walsh has been added to the Vale Farm coaching staff.

A former Wembley and Edgware Town player, Walsh was recently relieved off his duties after 18 months as player/manager of Northwood. Prior to that he was the boss at Hertford Town

Jones is back with a winner



● Brian Jones - winning goal in return from suspension.

Hampton 1
Harrow Borough 2

BRIAN Jones crowned his return to action after a three month long suspension with the winning goal in this hard fought friendly at the Beveree on Monday night, when determination in the face of another physical battering was Borough's watchword, **writes Tony Booth.**

Borough took the lead after 16 minutes. A move started by Jason Court and David Clarke culminated in Steve Palmer's cross being headed home at the far post by Nko Ekotu.

However, Hampton began creating the better openings and levelled on on the hour, George volleying home a Singleton cross.

Enderby and Clarke both shot wide of the target before Borough regained the lead after 73 minutes. Court's battling tackles on the edge of the box created the chance for Jones who shimmied past the home keeper and netted.

Harrow Borough: Hook, Clarke, James (Enderaby), Bensted, Robinson, Marshall, Jones, Metcalfe, Court, Ekotu, Palmer.

Washed out

A WATERLOGGED Vale Farm pitch caused the cancellation of Wembley's Middlesex Charity Cup tie with Brentford on Tuesday. A new date has yet to be arranged.

Kingsbury Town's ICIS League game at Windsor was also a weather victim.

Wealdstone tell transfer-listed Vinnie: 'We'll have you back'

● Vinnie Jones in his Wealdstone days.

WEALDSTONE FC have audaciously invited their former player, Wimbledon skipper Vinnie Jones, to consider returning to them.

Jones, who announced this week that he wants to leave the Premiership club, was transferred to Wimbledon in November 1986 for a £15,000 fee having played 63 times for the Stones in his two years at Lower Mead. Wimbledon have put a £500,000 price on his head.

Said Wealdstone director, Graham Sharpe: "The half-million asking price could be something of a stumbling block because although we do have that much cash, we have been saving it to go towards a new stadium. However, we're quite prepared to offer Wimbledon the amount we received for Vinnie."

And paying the Welsh international star would be no problem for Stones. Said Mr Sharpe: "If Vinnie came back I'm sure our average weekly gate would increase at least tenfold from our current 300 or so to somewhere near Wimbledon's average, which would certainly help us to afford his wages."

While Vinnie was at Wealdstone in the mid-eighties the club won the non-league double of FA Trophy and Gola League (now Vauxhall Conference) but there was no automatic promotion to the Football League.

His last game for the club was a Conference League Cup tie against Sutton in November 1986 which Stones lost 4-2.

But if he returned he might not get an automatic place in the side. Added Mr Sharpe: "At the moment we are fifth in the ICIS Division Three table under new manager Gordon Bartlett so Vinnie might have to wait to force his way into the side. But he'd certainly be on for a nice bonus at the end of the season if we were to win promotion."

Christmas weather is snow joke for trip north

Wasps fear cup nightmare

By Alan Bodenham

WASPS coach Rob Smith is dreaming of a white Christmas - but for him it could be a nightmare.

His side travel north on Saturday for the crucial fourth round Pilkington Cup tie at Sale and with heavy falls of the white stuff forecast for the area, he is fearful of a cancellation.

Wasps already have to replay their Courage League fixture against West Hartlepool on January 13, but the trip to Sale will have to be slotted into that date if there is a cancellation.

With the winter beginning to bite, another League match lost could cause a nasty fixture pile-up.

Even if Saturday's game does go ahead, Smith does not expect any flowing rugby in tricky conditions.

"I'm sure it will be tight with the two sets of forwards fighting it out," said Smith "and I will pick a side very much with this in mind."

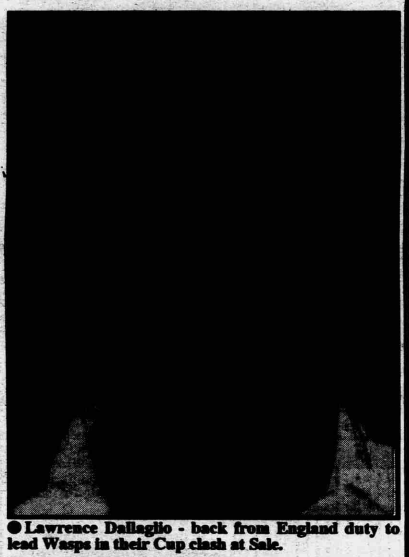
Skipper Lawrence Dallaglio will lead the side, full of confidence after emerging from England's lack lustre game against Western Samoa as one of the only players in credit. He scored the first of their two tries in a 27-9 victory.

Damian Hopley will also return but it will be no surprise if he switches from his usual club position of centre to the wing berth he occupies for England.

Jack Rowell, the England manager, is apparently very keen that he gets more games on the wing before the Five Nations tournament begins next year. Laurence Scrase, who has been playing very well for Wasps in club fixtures, could well occupy Hopley's centre berth.

Darren Molloy is likely to play at prop, with Paddy Dunston and Kevin Dunn completing the front row, and Matt Greenwood, who has been unavailable due to a family bereavement, is also set to return to the second row.

In the League match back in September, Wasps beat Sale 25-18 - but that was before the departures of Rob Andrew, Dean Ryan and Nick Popplewell to Newcastle.



● Lawrence Dallaglio - back from England duty to lead Wasps in their Cup clash at Sale.

Glen's Christmas wish is three points for Lions

THREE points from Saturday's visit by Whyteleafe are an essential for struggling Wembley as they go into what is a crucial holiday programme.

With just Barking below them in the Division One table and the clubs immediately above them picking up regular points, victory over the Surrey club and a similar result when they visit neighbours Ruislip Manor on Boxing Day will be just the Christmas present that manager Glen Charles needs.

League leaders Enfield visit Harrow Borough who will be without John Hurlock and leading scorer Mark Xavier, who are both under suspension. Bob Dowie is expected to be fit to play while Brian Jones, who made a successful return at Hampton after his long suspension, is in line for a place.

Defender Dave Bensted, who has now returned to Earlsmead after a loan period at Aylesbury, has been put on the transfer list by Borough.

Seamus Finnerty is still suspended after his sending off against Hampton and misses Edgware Town's visit to title chasing Collier Row.

Niall O'Rourke completes his suspension and will miss Kingsbury's visit to Hertford on Saturday. But he will be available to face Wealdstone on Boxing Day. Kick off is at 12 noon.

Without a game on Saturday, Wealdstone hope to have keeper Rob Tenkorang back after a back injury for the Kingsbury game. But Roy Marshall is still struggling with an injury.

The latest League tables

ICIS LEAGUE
Premier Division

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Enfield	20	14	3	3	41	14	45
Dulwich Hamlet	17	11	4	2	39	19	37
Boreham Wood	18	11	4	3	29	13	37
St Albans City	18	10	5	3	36	14	35
Carshalton Ath	17	11	2	4	30	24	35
Yeovil Tn	18	10	3	5	41	25	33
Kingstonian	18	8	7	3	25	12	31
Aylesbury Utd	17	8	5	4	30	20	29
Harrow Bwh	17	8	4	5	38	28	28
Hayes	18	8	4	6	18	14	28
Sutton Utd	17	5	8	4	31	25	23
Bishops Stort	17	6	5	6	23	21	23
Welling	17	5	5	7	17	20	20
Chertsey Tn	18	6	2	10	22	34	20
Yiewsley	18	3	7	8	17	29	16
Walton & Hersh	16	2	10	4	16	22	14
Worthing	16	2	6	8	20	32	12
Hendon	15	3	3	9	13	27	12
Molesey	17	3	3	11	17	36	12
Purfleet	14	1	6	7	13	26	9
Bromley	16	2	3	11	13	36	9
Grays Ath	16	1	5	10	8	27	8

Division One

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Hayloade Sw	17	12	3	2	42	17	39
Oxford City	17	12	2	3	37	22	38
Chesham Utd	19	8	5	6	28	21	29
Wokingham Tn	19	8	5	6	33	31	29
Bognor Regis	12	9	1	2	33	13	28
Staines Tn	16	8	3	5	28	30	27
Marlow	18	7	2	9	37	34	26
Billericay	16	7	4	5	23	23	25
Berkhamsted	16	7	4	7	21	23	25
Abingdon Tn	18	7	2	9	33	35	23
Aldershot	15	6	4	5	33	20	22
Ruislip Manor	16	6	3	7	24	30	21
Whyteleafe	20	5	6	9	35	43	21
Basingstoke Tn	15	5	5	5	25	22	20
Thame Utd	15	5	5	5	29	31	20
Uxbridge	16	5	5	6	17	25	20
Leyton Pennant	18	5	4	9	27	32	19
Barton Rovers	17	4	7	6	32	38	19
Tooting & Mitch	16	4	5	7	18	22	17
Maidenhead	17	4	5	8	15	27	17
Wembley	18	4	3	11	18	31	15
Barking	17	2	6	9	22	36	12

Division Two

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Collier Row	15	10	4	1	37	10	34
Met Police	17	9	7	1	30	10	34
Banstead Ath	16	9	6	1	22	7	33
Canvey Island	15	9	0	6	38	31	27
Wivenhoe	16	8	5	3	35	19	29
Croydon	16	9	2	5	34	21	29
Cheshunt	17	7	4	4	27	25	27
Chalfont St P	16	6	7	3	26	20	25
Hampton	14	7	4	3	24	16	25
Edgware Town	16	8	3	7	36	33	21
Ladbrokewood	16	5	5	6	29	31	20
Witham	17	6	1	10	25	39	19
Ware	16	4	5	7	25	32	17
Tilbury	15	4	4	7	18	28	16
Hungerford	16	4	4	8	18	30	16
Bedford Tn	15	3	6	6	24	28	15
Sutton Weldon	16	3	5	8	22	25	14
Bracknell	12	3	4	5	13	16	13
Egham Town	15	3	2	10	18	30	11
Hemel Hemp	16	2	2	12	18	35	8
Dorking	14	2	1	11	11	48	7

Division Three

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Horsham	17	12	4	1	42	16	40
Leighton Tn	17	11	4	2	41	16	37
East Thurrock	18	9	5	4	29	19	32
Windsor & E	15	9	3	3	46	22	30
Wealdstone	16	9	2	5	42	18	29
Epsom & Ewell	15	7	5	3	35	19	26
Harlow	16	7	5	4	28	21	26
Flackwell Hth	17	8	2	7	27	34	26
Tring Town	16	7	4	5	21	17	25
Northwood	15	7	3	5	29	19	24
Kingsbury Tn	16	6	4	6	29	23	22
Ardley	15	6	3	6	20	22	21
Hertford Utd	16	6	2	10	27	45	20
Hornchurch	16	5	3	10	17	31	18
Southall	16	5	3	10	17	46	18
Wingate & Finch	17	5	2	10	22	38	17
Hertford Town	13	5	1	7	25	27	16
Cove	19	5	1	13	20	48	16
Lewes	16	4	3	9	22	36	15
Camberley Tn	18	4	3	11	17	33	15
Clapton	16	4	2	10	22	27	14

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Soccer fixtures

Saturday December 23

ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Enfield (Earlsmead, 3pm).
ICIS League Div One: Wembley v Whyteleafe (Vale Farm, 3pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Collier Row v Edgware Town.
ICIS League Div Three: Hertford v Kingsbury Town.
Hellenic League: Ardley v Rayners Lane.

Tuesday December 26

ICIS League Premier Div: Hayes v Harrow Borough (11.15am).
ICIS League Div One: Ruislip Manor v Wembley (1.30pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Edgware Town v Chalfont St Peter (White Lion ground, 3pm).
ICIS League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Wealdstone (Silver Jubilee Park, 12 noon).

Wednesday December 27

Football Combination: QPR v Charlton Ath (Earlsmead, 7pm).

Stones get cup soaking

Hanwell Town 2 Wealdstone 0

STONES have made a habit of losing to supposedly inferior opposition in cup matches in recent seasons, so this Middlesex Charity Cup defeat at the hands of lowly Spartan League Hanwell on Tuesday night comes as no great surprise, **writes John Comfort.**

A waterlogged pitch that was debatably playable and the fact that Stones were wearing their decidedly unlucky red change strip, were both put forward as suitable excuses for their demise. In actuality, they lost because their performance on the night was akin to manure.

Stones were always chasing the game after conceding a goal in the 8th minute when Nigel Farquharson fired in a cross from Andy Paull - and they rarely looked capable of saving it, despite having the chances to do so.

Before the break Paul Sheldrick and Terry Hibbert were both denied by keeper Paul Riordan after being put clear and in the second half Hibbert had their best opportunity but sliced his shot wide after being put through by Fergus Moore.

Hanwell, by contrast, always appeared likely to add to their tally.

Keith Rowlands missed the target with only stand-in Stones keeper Peter Bulliman to beat, and Farquharson was only denied by Bulliman bringing him down just outside the box after the Hanwell striker had latched onto a poor back pass. Surprisingly, Bulliman was permitted to stay on the park by referee Kitchen.

However, Hanwell eventually sealed woeful Wealdstone's fate five minutes from time when James Moore brought down David Edgley in the area and Adam Rowlands converted the resultant penalty.

Wealdstone: Bulliman, Telsell, F. Moore, Waugh, J. Moore, Hibbert, Walton, Bernard, Walker, Sheldrick, Smith. Subs: Hart, Brathwaite, Tenkorang.

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