

SPORT

Wasps are aiming for place in Europe

Derby win is so crucial

WITH four European places on offer at the end of the season, Wasps' Courage League clash with London rivals Harlequins on Saturday takes on an added importance.

Bath and Leicester have opened up a six point gap at the top of the table and seem certain to take the top two places, while Wasps and Quins are currently level in third place on 12 points with three clubs two points further adrift.

A victory for the Sudbury outfit over Quins will therefore put some

daylight between them and their bitter rivals and the chasing pack.

But Wasps will have to show considerable improvement on their efforts against Harlequins back in September when they lost 29-20 at the Stoop.

That was before Rob Andrew, Dean Ryan and Nick Popplewell moved north so the omens are far from good.

Kick off at Repton Avenue on Saturday is at 3pm. Admission will be for the ground only. All seats for the

match have been sold.

Wasps warmed up for the Quins clash with a less than impressive 18-9 Pilkington Cup win at Sale last Saturday when two late tries secured their place in the fifth round.

They struggled for most of the game and were 6-3 down at the break and 9-6 adrift going into the closing stages.

But then skipper Lawrence Dallaglio and scrum half Andy Gomersall both went over for late scores to see them through.

Wembley draw a blank

THE weather hit Wembley from all sides over the holiday period.

A waterlogged Vale Farm pitch caused the cancellation of Saturday's ICIS League Division One game with Whyteleafe, then the big freeze hit their Boxing Day fixture at

Rushlip Manor which suffered due to a frost-bowed pitch.

Edgware's home game with Chalfont and Harrow Borough's match at Hayes were also victims of the wintry conditions on Boxing Day.

No justice for unlucky Edgware

Collier Row 1

EDGWARE Town 0

EDGWARE battled valiantly on a waterlogged pitch that was clearly unplayable on Saturday and their defeat by the league leaders was without doubt a travesty of justice, writes Tom Hook.

They took the game to the home side from the start and in the opening minutes John Coleman was just wide from 25 yards, while Eugene Flynn and Steve Newing also went close.

They looked as though they had gone ahead on 10 minutes when Mark Ivers lobbed over Chapman only for the ball to stick in the mud in the goal-mouth, allowing the keeper to retrieve it.

Against the run of play Collier Row took the lead in the 15th minute. Hazle rounded two Edgware defenders on the right and his low cross evaded all but Brett Alger who turned it into his own net from close range.

The second half opened with Edgware under pressure but they weathered the storm and battled back for an equaliser. Lady Luck was not with them. Newing had a good effort charged down and Coleman ran through only to be foiled by a brave save from Chapman, then in the dying minutes Newing hit the bar from a corner as Collier Row grimly hung on.

Edgware: Carter, Alger, Sheridan, Hurd, Shanahan (Argin), Hurd, Flynn, Louch, Roche, Valenti (Grant), Ivers, Newing, Coleman.

Four goal haul for Newing

STEVE Newing was Edgware's four goal hero in their easy 7-0 win over lowly Dorking last Wednesday.

Michael Roche, Mark Ivers and Richard Louch were the other Edgware scorers.

Edgware: Carter, Alger, Sheridan, Hurd, Instone, Louch, Roche, Ivers, Newing, Coleman. Subs: Clark, Valenti, Grant.

Kumah hits a hat-trick

NELSON Kumah notched a fine hat-trick for Kingsbury on Saturday in a 4-0 win at Hertford. Vernon Nelson was Town's other marksman.

WEMBLEY TROPHY
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Lewis leads Towers to Trophy final

LONDON Towers are through to the final of the 7 UP Trophy following their magnificent 92-25 win at Birmingham last Wednesday.

They led by a slender two points from the first leg of this semi-final tie, but comfortably defeated their rivals for an aggregate 156-137 win thanks to a 29 point haul from Danny Lewis and 18 points from Tony Windless, who was returning after a knee injury.

In the final at the NEC Birmingham on January 13, the Towers will face Worthing Bears who had a shock 72-69 victory at Sheffield Sharks to secure a 158-156 aggregate success.

Towers spent the Christmas holiday break engaged in European competition at the Ostend Four Team Tournament.

They lost 88-77 to Sheffield's European conquerors, Sunair Ostend, in their opening game (Henlan 23, Windless 19, Austin 14) but with



● Danny Lewis - among the points.
Danny Lewis hitting 31 points and Tony Windless 20, they beat Israeli team Maccabi Rishon 94-86 in the third place play-off.

Soccer fixtures

Saturday December 30
ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Hendon (Earlmead, 3pm).
ICIS League Div One: Wembley v Bognor Regis (Vale Farm, 3pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Dorking v Edgware Town (3pm).
ICIS League Div Three: Wealdstone v Camberley Town (White Lion ground, 3pm); Harham v Kingsbury Town.

Sunday January 1
ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Worthing (Earlmead, 3pm).
ICIS League Div One: Wembley v Thame (Vale Farm, 6pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Sutton Walden v Edgware Town (3pm).
ICIS League Div Three: Wealdstone v Northwood (White Lion ground, 7.30pm).

Tuesday January 2
ICIS League Div Three: Epsom & Ewell v Kingsbury Town (7.45pm).

Honours end even in game that should never have taken place

Kingsbury Town 0
Wealdstone 0

A BOXING Day of crowd of 320 witnessed a goalless draw in this local derby but in all honesty it should never have been played, writes Graham Smith.

On a frostbound pitch, the referee should not even have considered starting it in all honesty it should never have been played, writes Graham Smith.

The best chance of the first half fell to Stones with Paul

Sheldrick put through with only Darren Bonfield to beat. But the home keeper saved well at the expense of a corner from which Steve Croad headed Lee Smart's kick straight into the grateful hands of Bonfield.

For Kingsbury, their dangerous man Jeb Hughes had a good chance but a timely tackle from Fergus Moore prevented him from scoring.

The opening stages of the second half saw a dangerous

Neil Yates cross sliced to safety while at the other end Rob Tenkorang made a fine save to deny Nelson Kumah.

A goaline clearance from Jason Zazera saved Town in the 56th minute, keeping out an effort from Yates.

It was Stones who came closest on the hour when Fer-

gus Moore's header from a Smart free kick hit the crossbar.

But the 'lottery' ended deadlocked with the points shared and, thankfully, no serious injuries.

Wealdstone: Tenkorang, Smart, F. Moore, Waugh, Croad, Hibbert (J. Moore), Welton, Yates (Tassell), Walker (Brathwaite), Sheldrick, Smith.

Champs get a blasting from Borough



● Neil Fraser - two goal haul against champs.

Harrow Borough 3
Enfield 1

GEORGE Borg's champions and league leaders were sent packing empty handed on Saturday by a Borough side that was in sparkling form, writes John Comfort.

The visitors ended up well beaten and the final scoreline probably flattered them, for as well as scoring three times, the hosts, who were without suspended leading goalscorer Mark Xavier, also hit the woodwork twice - and missed a penalty.

Star of the show for Borough was striker Neil Fraser whose two well ta-

ken goals were his first since returning to the side from a lengthy injury lay-off.

Enfield looked the better side in the early stages and the legs of keeper David Hook kept out efforts from Steve Moss and John Richardson before they took the lead on 24 minutes when David Nolan's snap shot from 20 yards found the net with the aid of a cruel deflection.

However, Borough took just two minutes to get level. Christian Metcalfe's corner was half cleared to Lee Enderby just inside the box and he su-

perbly controlled the ball, jinked round a defender and drilled a great low shot past Andy Pape into the corner of the net.

An upright denied Fraser before the break and 13 minutes into the second half he was thwarted again when Enderby's cross-shot was pushed out to him by Pape and he fired onto the crossbar.

Borough could have been forgiven for thinking it was not going to be their day, particularly after Pape held onto a well struck 74th minute penalty from Jason Court, awarded after Gary Black-

ford had upended Enderby.

However, they - and Fraser - were not to be denied. Just one minute after the penalty miss, the striker rose superbly to head Metcalfe cross past Pape to belatedly put the home side ahead.

A well deserved win was sealed with two minutes remaining. Enderby sent Ekoku free on the left and he out-paced Nolan before crossing low for Fraser to clinically beat Pape.

Harrow Borough: Hook, Clarke, James, Court, Down, Marshall, Jones (Applin), Metcalfe, Ekoku, Fraser, Enderby. Other subs: F. Dixon, Berrard.

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Vale Farm title is Michelle's alone

AFTER having shared last year's Vale Farm Gymnastics Club Championships title with Sarah Cavill, Michelle Guiseris went one better this year, winning the title outfit this time round.

Sarah came second and Juliette Carey took third place.

The squad coaches were pleased with the improvement shown from last year's scores and with the way those gymnasts taking part in their first competition worked hard, showing great promise for the future.

Medal winners
Vault: 1 Michelle Guiseris; 2 Finesse Duncan; 3 Sarah Cavill.
Bars: 1 Michelle Guiseris; 2 Kristina Agala; Claire Richardson & Joanna Dook.
Beam: 1 Claire Richardson; 2 Michelle Guiseris; 3 Sarah Cavill.
Floor: 1 Sarah Cavill; 2 Camilla Buchanan; 3 Michelle Guiseris.
2 Piece Competition
Floor: 1 Lisa Goodfellow; 2 Soraya Jamal; 3 Cressida Niyandu, Hannah Quarry & Natasha Cerynd.
Vault: 1 Nickyala Ramsay; 2 Nadia Long-Franco; 3 Sophia Morrison & Antonia Niyandu.
Overalls: 1 Lisa Goodfellow & Soraya Jamal; 2 Sophia Morrison.

● Vale Farm Gym Club top three (from left) Sarah Cavill, Michelle Guiseris, and Juliette Carey.

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