

SPORT

Win over Hearts does the trick for LNER

LNER are sitting pretty at the top of Division One of the Observer Pool League after a 7-3 win in a tricky match at the Queen of Hearts.

Aaron Collman and Steve Homans reduced the deficit for the Hearts, it was too little too late as Kevin McGarrell and Iain McDonald wrapped up the points.

The Plough Kingsbury did all they could to keep things tight at the top with an emphatic 9-1 destruction of Abbey CC. The Greenwood took the last three frames to draw 5-5 with Windermere.

The Goodwill showed the form that won them promotion last year when they defeated the Belmont 7-3 with frames from John James, Neil Deering, John Carver, Kevin McElwaine, James McCormack, Sean Turnbull and John Sergeant. Winners for Belmont were K. Clarke, S. Palester and D. Pugh.

Pinner Green moved up mid-table with a 7-3 victory over struggling Plough Kingsbury B. Tagg and Kavanagh playing out important frames.

In Division Two the Eastcote Arms produced a battling performance to win 6-4 at Camden Sports and move into second place, Mick Ferguson, Andy Peabody, Pat Wilson, Lee Harwood, Les Hubbard and captain John Smith being their frame winners. L. Jordan, C. Seward, J. Gammell and S. Connor scored for Camden.

Colindale Snooker Club defeated Wealdstone Inn 6-4 in a re-scheduled match and then repeated the scoreline in their match against Windermere B.

Preston B took the points against Wealdstone Inn, P. Iorakim and Billy Hennessy wrapping up a 7-3 win, while South Harrow BL had a 9-1 win over Oldfield Tavern.

Chance to enter mini marathon

THE eleventh Harrow Mini-Marathon will be held on Sunday in Harrow Recreation ground, featuring races for all the family, starting at 2.15pm.

There is a special incentive for local boys and girls aged between 11 and 17. Harrow athletes in the under-14, under-16 and under-18 categories will be eligible to represent the Borough in the Flora London Mini-Marathon.

In addition there will be a 5000 metres race for adults and a shorter event for youngsters aged between 8 and 12.

Entries will be taken on the day up to 30 minutes before each race. Entry fee is £2.50.

WEALDSTONE FC BLUE RIBBON LOTTERY
 Week 36 winners
 £150 M-04-611; £75 M-09-235; £55 A-10-356; £60 Z-11-016; £50 member 2056.

Wembley are stung by Bees

Wembley 0 Brentford 1

LUCKLESS Wembley fell at the first hurdle in their defence of the Middlesex Charity Cup on Tuesday night, beaten by a second half sucker punch after dominating most of the match, writes John Comfort.

Manager Glen Charles called for fervour and hunger from his side, and he got them both - but unfortunately he didn't get goals. The after effects of Saturday's FA Trophy defeat were swiftly shrugged off as Wembley played some quality football against their Endsleigh League opponents, but sadly the finish was missing and they were made to pay a heavy price.

The first half was evenly contested and finished goalless, but after the break it was all one-way traffic to the Bees goal.

The pattern was set in the opening minutes as Steve Lawrence had a close range blockster charged down, then Brian Hammett was left with John Cotter to beat but had his shot pushed away by the keeper.

Hammett twice, Andy Smith and Lawrence all put good efforts just off target but Wembley's best scoring chance came after 76 minutes when Rob Hollingsdale's cross found the lively Hammett unmarked but Cotter superbly saved his point blank range header.

Three minutes later the inevitable happened. Brentford hoofed the ball out of defence to the right flank, leaving Wembley keeper Kevin Beckles caught in two minds over whether to leave his goal or stay on his line. Bees striker Ryan Denys raced through and with Beckles stranded in no man's land, he sent a superb lobbed shot over him into the far corner of the net.

It was totally against the run of play and although the Lions battled gamely on to the final whistle in search of an equaliser, they were unable to deny Brentford a victory that they most certainly did not deserve.

Wembley: Beckles, Hammett, Hollingsdale, Walters, Child, Granville, Lawrence, Sardi, Smith (May), J. B. Bates, Fleming. Other subs: McCleod, Burgess.



Jon-Barrie Bates on the ball in Wembley's FA Trophy match against Northwich on Saturday. Match report on page 107.

Shot down again but Towers remain favourites for final

BIRMINGHAM Bullets had the distinction of becoming the first team this season to defeat London Towers twice following their 79-77 National Cup semi-final success on Monday, but with just a two point deficit to overcome, Kevin Cadle's team are still firm favourites for a final place.

Down 42-40 at the interval, Towers were hit by a 15-0 second half spell by the Bullets that saw them 69-54 adrift.

But Cadle responded by putting his strongest five on court and by the conclusion the deficit had been whittled down to a mere two points which Towers were fully expected to overturn in last night's (Wednesday's) second leg at Wembley Court.

Tony Windless (28) led the scoring for Towers, with Martin Henlan hitting 12 and Steve Bucknall 9.

The Towers scored a vital 84-78 Budweiser League victory over the Leopards at the Docklands Arena on Friday night, the game going ahead despite the nearby IRA bombing atrocity just 30 minutes before tip off.

In a hard fought game there

was plenty of rivalry as Leopards had two ex-Towers players, Ian Whyte and Kenny Scott, in their line-up.

Leopards concentrated their defensive efforts on stifling Towers American star Danny Lewis but this was only partially successful as ex-Laker, Steve Bucknall, top scored with 27 points and the Towers' other American, Tony Windless, finished with 24.

The game was close throughout with half time scores level at 40-40. But the Towers came through in the end, Bucknall, Lewis and Windless landing the last eight points of the game from the line to take the score from 77-77 to a final 84-78.

With eight weeks of the regular season remaining, Towers are neck and neck with Sheffield Sharks at the top of the League table and the two teams clash in a crucial match at Wembley Court tomorrow (Friday) night which could ultimately decide the destiny of the title. Tip off is at 8.15pm.

The Towers are in action again on Sunday when they visit Doncaster Panthers, tip off 5.30pm.

London Towers £10 family night
 Bring this special cut out coupon with you to the London Towers home of Wembley Court to see the Budweiser League game vs Sheffield Sharks on Friday February 16, tip off 8.15pm. 2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children will get in for £10.

Bath time for Wasps

By Alan Bodenham

EVENTS off the pitch concerning new stand developments may currently be the talk of Sudbury but that will be forced into the background on Saturday when Wasps face the sternest of tasks - an away trip to Bath in the Courage League.

The west country super stars looked to be running away with the League title but were stopped in their tracks by Leicester in January and last weekend were within a whisker of being embarrassed by Second Division Wakefield in the Pilkington Cup.

Wasps of course are amongst the elite, being one of the few clubs to have come away from the Recreation Ground with a League victory under their belts, and this always gives them a certain amount of confidence.

Coach Rob Smith has yet to name his side, but he is in the luxurious position of having a full squad to select from -

not surprising since his players have been out of action since beating Wintonington Park in the Cup.

Lawrence Dallaglio, Andy Gomersall and Nick Greenstock were all at the England training session on Tuesday, which was particularly good news for centre Greenstock, as injury has kept him out of contention since the New Year.

Gomersall is likely to replace Steve Bates at scrum half and Shane Roiser, who returned to action at Wintonington Park, is also fit to take on England international John Sleightholme.

Wasps opponents in the quarter finals of the Pilkington Cup on Saturday February 24 will be Gloucester. Coaches will be running to Kingsholm for the game.

Match tickets can be obtained from the club.

Wasps were caught out by the rapidity of the thaw last week. With their pitch frozen, they cancelled their league game against Sale on Thursday morning in order to prevent the Cheshire club from travelling.

But on Saturday playing conditions were near perfect, with Wembley FC emphasising the point on their adjacent Vale Farm pitch, ironically playing an FA Trophy match against Northwich, from Cheshire, who travelled down that morning.

Sale game has been rearranged for March 23, providing that Wasps are not involved in the semi-finals of the Pilkington Cup.

Other new league dates are March 9 for the game with Harlequins and a provisional date of April 20 for the home game with West Hartlepool.

Cash boost for Stones



WEALDSTONE FC have received a bumper financial boost from their supporters club in the shape of a £1000 donation. Pictured above, Stones chairman Paul Rumens (right) receives the cheque from Howard Kraus, chairman of the Wealdstone FC Supporters Club.

The Supporters Club will be holding their 1996 sports quiz on Thursday February 22 in the main hall at Edgware Town FC, commencing at 7.30pm. Entry details are available from David Albert on 203-5060.

Banned Jones left on the sidelines

BRIAN Jones sits out Harrow Borough's home game with Grays on Saturday, serving a one match ban for his sending off against Boreham Wood.

Dave Clarke continues his ban but Lee Enderby returns after suspension and Rob Marshall is back after injury.

Borough have no midweek game unless last night's Middlesex Senior Cup tie with Uxbridge ended in a draw, in which case they face a replay at Honeycroft on Tuesday.

Rested for the midweek Cup game with Brentford, midfielder Ian Bates is set to return to the Wembley side to visit Chesham on Saturday, while Ashley Cumberbatch comes into consideration after recovering from injury.

Steve Lawrence and Wayne Walters have now completed

their suspensions, but Youssef Sakhraoui and Hurracia Wilcock have one more match to go, while Paul Shields has now had another two games added to his current ban for his injudicious comments on his recent sending off.

A recall for keeper Rob Tenkorang is likely for Wealdstone's home game with Harfield on Saturday. Skipper Steve Croad will also be back but Ian Waugh is still sidelined through suspension.

John Shanahan is suspended and misses Edgware Town's visit to top of the table Canvey Island, along with Danny Buckley.

Acc marksman Nelson Kumah is suspended and will miss Kingsbury Town's home game with Southall.

Injuries rule Creegan and Oriot out of Rayners Lane's side for the visit to Pegasus Juniors.

PRATTS MOTOR INSURANCE
 Established 60 Years
ASK US TO QUOTE OUR LOWEST RATE FOR YOUR CAR
 OPEN EVENINGS AND SATURDAY
 Open: 9.00am-9.00pm Monday-Friday
 9.00am-5.00pm Saturday
 IMMEDIATE COVER FROM OUR OFFICE AT
40 LONG LANE HILLINGDON
TEL: UXBRIDGE (01895) 232212

Where were you when Hurst scored?
 MCDUGALL Craig has been commissioned to make a programme for ITV to celebrate the 30th anniversary of England's 1966 World Cup win and are looking for personal memories connected with the tournament - and particularly the final itself - to link the triumph on the pitch to the mood of national excitement that surrounded the finals.

Were you one of the people on the pitch as Geoff Hurst scored the final goal at Wembley on July 30 1966? Were you in the ground, watching at home with relatives or only able to hear snatches of the game on the radio or working and not able to hear anything at all. Or were you one of the many who watched the game on television around the world.

Did you or any of your relations have the lack of foresight to get married on the afternoon of the final? Were you dragged somewhere against your will, shopping, to a fete or did the whole thing pass you by?

Do you recall the aftermath? Were you one of the people padding in the fountains in Trafalgar Square or drinking in your local pub? Do you have any unusual souvenirs connected with the tournament?

If any of the above describes your memories or you just have a funny story to tell, ring Nick Ward or Gill Waddington at McDougall Craig on 0171-240-7272.

Flint Insurance
 Registered Insurance Brokers
COMPETITIVE QUOTATIONS
 We guarantee unbeatable rates for all lady drivers
FOR MOTOR INSURANCE SPECIAL RATES FOR:
 Young Drivers
 High Performance Cars
 Hot Hatches!!
HOUSEHOLD INSURANCE Buildings and Contents
TEL. 0181-427 6464
 Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30 Sat 9.30-12.30
C. C. FLINT & CO. LTD.
51 STATION ROAD, NORTH HARROW MIDDLESEX HA2 7SR