

SPORT

Kingsbury set for silverware

Blain's men ready to end trophy famine

THE trophy cabinet at Silver Jubilee Park has seen little use in recent years, but Kingsbury Town get the chance to rectify that on Saturday when they face Tottenham Omada in the final of the London Senior Cup at Dulwich Hamlet.

It is seven years since Kingsbury were last in a Cup Final, when they were beaten 4-0 in the Middlesex Charity Cup by Chelsea at Stamford Bridge, and a full ten years since they actually won some silverware - triumphing in the same competition in 1986.

On Saturday they will be favourites to take the trophy, although it has to be said that their record against Spartan League opposition in recent seasons has not been good.

However, having beaten Spartan bogey side, Willesden Hawkeye, in the semi-final, they will be confident of coming out on top.

Town will be going into the final with little knowledge of their opponents. "I don't know anything about them," said manager Peter Blain. "We'll be just going there and playing our own game and hopefully it will be good enough."

Kingsbury's only injury doubt for the final is Kevin Stewart who has missed the last two games. But he is likely to be fit to face Tottenham.

Wealdstone also face a vital game on Saturday. In a make or break clash, they meet Leighton, looking to complete a double over the league leaders and to take three crucial points to sustain their slim promotion challenge.

Stones will be without striker Steve Fraser who is on holiday, and they could also face a goalkeeping problem. Defender Roy Marshall stepped in at Hertford when Rob Tenkoring failed to show and could be in contention again if Tenkoring, Lee Brown or Peter Bulliman are unavailable.

Victory is also a must on Saturday for Wembley who face fellow strugglers Abingdon at Vale Farm. The Lions are likely to be without Robert Hollingdale, who is suffering from a groin injury.

Brian Jones returns after suspension for Harrow Borough's home game with Walton. But defender Jason Court will be missing. He has been advised to rest after having a pin inserted in a finger which he recently broke.

Paul Fishenden is doubtful with a back problem, keeper David Hook is still sidelined and Grant Robinson, who was concussed at Purfleet, is likely to miss the rest of the season.

Edgware are caught in end of season rut

**Edgware Town 0
Hemel Hempstead 0**

THE end of the season apparently arrived three weeks early for Edgware with this miserable affair on Tuesday, writes John Comford.

Two sides with absolutely nothing

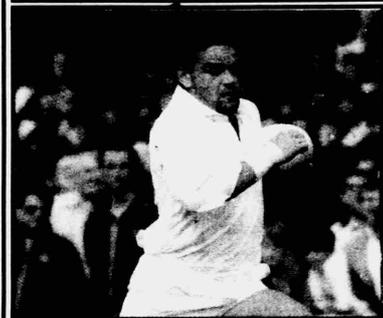
to play for, served up 90 minutes of sheer boredom.

Between them they failed to contrive a single scoring opportunity in the first half and while there was some improvement after the break, the likelihood of a goal was always decidedly remote.

Steve Newing had Edgware's best chance, heading over from close in, while John Coleman had a well struck drive pushed wide by diving keeper Lee Ward. There was little else worthy of mention.

Edgware: Carter, Brennan, Dale, Shanahan, Flynn, Finney, Murphy (Hurd), Instone, Ivers, Newing, Coleman. Other subs: Anglin, Grant.

England stars to visit Harrow



Will Carling - coming to Mancini Sports.

WILL Carling will be leading a galaxy of England international sports stars will be visiting Mancini Sports on Tuesday as part of the celebrations for the opening of the new St George's Centre.

Joining the England rugby captain will be the man hotly tipped to succeed him next season, Wasps skipper Lawrence Dallaglio, as well as Carling's England and Harlequins teammate, Jason Leonard.

Soccer fans are also in for a treat, for joining the rugby action at Mancini's in St Anns, in association with Nike, will be Arsenal and England trio, Ian Wright, Lee Dixon and Steve Bould. The six stars will be there at 3.30pm and sports fans will get the chance to come along and meet them and get autographs.

Controversy as Town are beaten

**Windsor & Eton 2
Kingsbury Town 1**

A CONTROVERSIAL 52nd minute goal sent Kingsbury sliding to defeat on Tuesday and that was certainly bad news for Wealdstone, who were desperately hoping for a favour from their neighbours.

The goal was given when a low, hard cross was played across the Town goalmouth where defender Paul Tynan, facing his own goal, dithered over his clearance but managed to get a touch back towards Darren Bonfield. The keeper fell on the ball but the referee ruled that it was over the line and awarded a goal.

Even Windsor agreed that it wasn't, but they were happy to accept the gift.

Earlier Kingsbury had got off to a poor start, going behind in the 2nd minute when Keith Boreham netted for the home side.

But Town hit back and when Nelson Kumah was brought down as he broke into the area, the striker got up to net a 38th minute equaliser from the penalty spot.

The controversial goal put the home side back in front but Kingsbury had two late chances to have taken at least a point. However, a defender got there first after Windsor keeper Gary Phillips fumbled a Jason Zazzera cross, and in injury time, Tynan put a header over from a Zazzera corner.

Kingsbury: Bonfield, Loughlin, Zazzera, Gower, Tynan, Morris, Vernon, Leslie, Hughes, Kumah, Ash. Subs: D. O'Rourke, Moore, Soley.

Concor fixtures

Thursday April 18
 ICIS League Div Two: Braconell v Edgware Town (7.45pm).
Saturday April 20
 London Senior Cup Final: Kingsbury Town v Tottenham Omada (Dulwich Hamlet FC, 3pm).
 ICIS League Div One: Wembley v Abingdon Town (Vale Farm, 3pm).
 ICIS League Div Two: Hampton v Edgware Town.
 ICIS League Div Three: Wealdstone v Leighton Town (White Lion ground, 3pm).
Tuesday April 23
 ICIS League Premier Div: Hayes v Harrow Borough.
 ICIS League Div One: Wembley v Leyton Pennant (Vale Farm, 7.50pm).
 ICIS League Div Three: Epsom v Kingsbury Town (7.45pm).
Wednesday April 24
 Hellenic League: Headington Amateurs v Rayners Lane.

Another defeat gives Wembley that sinking feeling

Wembley 1 Marlow 2

THE relegation noose around Wembley's neck became a little tighter following their latest defeat against Marlow on Tuesday, writes Richard Markiewicz.

The bright, winning form of recent weeks has suddenly deserted the Lions when they need it most and with just one point from their past four matches, they need to get out of

their winless rut in order to preserve their First Division status.

Tuesday's game was typical of the majority of Wembley's performances at Vale Farm this season. Plenty of determination and commitment, but nothing to show for their efforts.

Despite dominating this contest, Wembley found themselves a goal behind after 29 minutes. The home

defence were caught napping by a quickly taken free kick and Matthew McDonnell fired home.

Wembley did their best to fight back but were frustrated by Marlow's uncompromising defensive tactics. Ian Bates had a header, from a Huraccia Willock corner, blocked on the line, Bryan Hammat and Andy Smith both went close.

Despite increasing the pressure,

however, it appeared that Wembley were never going to score.

But their equaliser eventually arrived from an unlikely source when Marlow player-manager Peter Rhoades-Brown, headed an Ashley Cumberbatch cross past his own keeper in the 81st minute.

Wembley, perhaps, should have thanked the gods and been satisfied with a draw. But four minutes from

time they threw away their precious point when Paul Shields and Kevin Beckles collided in their attempts to clear a free kick, and after the ball had hit a post, then bounced in the goalmouth as if in a pinball machine, it eventually fell to McDonnell who planted it into the back of the net.

Wembley: Beckles, Willock, Ponnou (Sardil), Walters, Shields, Cumberbatch, J. Bates, I. Bates, Smith (Child), Hammat, Fleming. Other subs: Granville.

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Wasps all set to qualify for Euro Cup - if there is one

THE only thing that is certain in rugby union at the moment is that nothing is certain, writes Alan Bodenham.

Wasps can be pretty confident, though, that they will now finish in the top four of the Courage League and thus, if there is one, qualify for next season's European competition.

The Sudbury men face the first of two fixtures against West Hartlepool on Saturday, kick off 3pm, that will end their season.

The Teesiders have had a disastrous Courage League campaign and are without a win.

If Wasps, who have hit a rich seam of form, are playing their best rugby of the season, nearest rivals Sale face daunting away fixtures at champions Leicester, who they played last night (Wednesday) and Bath.

Coach Rob Smith will select his strongest side and as no real injury worries following the comprehensive win over Orrell.

Wasps stand solidly behind the other English

clubs who threatened to pull out of the Courage League and Pilkington Cup last week following the breakdown of talks with the RFU.

Wasps' representative, Ivor Montlake, still remains optimistic that a solution can be found. Amongst many club officials however, there is a general feeling of bewilderment.

The situation was complicated still further earlier this week when the RFU faced the threat of expulsion from the Five Nations Championship if they persisted in negotiating a separate television deal.

If such an expulsion did take place it would surely precipitate a breaking away by the clubs, and television money is one of the issues at the heart of their dispute with the RFU.

It might well arise that an England team, made up of players from the breakaway clubs, Wasps included, take part in the Five Nations Championship, possibly playing their home games at Wembley.

Karen takes coaching at Stanmore

KAREN Briggs, the four times World Champion, five times European Champion and Commonwealth Games gold medalist, will be taking a special two hour coaching session with Stanmore Judo Club at the Mike Heafey Leisure Centre, Wood Lane, Stanmore on Saturday April 27, from 10am-12 noon.

Any practising judo player who would like to participate on the day or anyone who is thinking of taking up the sport, is welcome to come along. The cost is £4.

Stanmore Judo Club, whose instructor is three times Brit-

ish Champion, Barry Cooper, meets on Mondays, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

Anyone wishing to join should contact Barry on 01923 261867 or just turn up at the Mike Heafey Centre any Saturday morning at 9am. The first lesson is free.

Super sub Smith ends jinx

Hertford 1 Wealdstone 2

SUPER sub Tony Smith broke the jinx of Wealdstone's unlucky ICIS red change strip on Tuesday, scoring the goal 11 minutes from time, which gave his side a vital win, writes Graham Smith.

In an exciting game, the visitors opened the scoring after just 10 minutes when Lee Walker was held back in the box and he converted the resulting spot kick.

But 10 minutes later defender Roy Marshall, who, with Rob Tenkoring and Lee Brown unavailable, gave a more than adequate performance as stand-in keeper, was beaten by an unstoppable shot from Evans which brought Hertford level.

From then on Stones dominated with an ex-

cellent hardworking performance. Lee Tekell hit the crossbar and later a Chris Walton effort hit a post and rebounded into the grateful arms of Lee Bozzer.

The keeper made two good saves to deny Walker and Lee Smart, but just when it appeared that the red strip was going to be unlucky again, Smith struck. Bozzer made a rare error, missing a cross from Smart, and Smith chested the ball home to give Stones their 14th league goal of the season.

The victory would have been more convincing, but Bozzer made two outstanding saves and the crossbar kept out an effort from Steve Croad.

Wealdstone: Marshall, Smart, Moore, Waugh, Croad, Knight, Walton, Tekell (Smith), Walker, Sheddick (Bozzer), Bircham.

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