

SPORT

Wembley fall foul of their finishing failings

Chalfont St Peter 0 Wembley 0
WEMBLEY'S failings in front of goal were once again illustrated as they had to make do with a point from Tuesday night's trip to Chalfont, writes

Richard Markiewicz. Judging from the early stages of this one-sided contest it appeared that the Lions were going to overwhelm an ordinary Chalfont outfit. But they were unable to turn their

clear superiority into goals. Shaun Fleming had a fiercely struck long range drive pushed onto a post by the sprawling keeper while Nelson Kumah and Eddie Mee missed gilt-edged opportuni-

ties as Wembley continued to dominate. Husted out of their stride by over zealous tackling, Wembley lost their momentum during the middle period and it needed the appearance of substitute Steve Lawrence to get Lions back on track. But despite further pressure, chances still went begging. Sofiane Sardi went closest to breaking the deadlock with a superb strike that cannoned off the woodwork, while J.B. Bates missed the best opportunity, heading over from six yards.

In the end Wembley were almost made to rue missing their chances as the hosts staged a late rally. Two fine saves from Kevin Beckles prevented the Lions from going home with now!

Wembley: Beckles, Cumberbatch, Mee, Walters, Shields, Smith (Lawrence), Sardi, J. Bates, J.B. Bates, Kumah, Fleming. Other subs: Metherell, Walsh.

Stones are on the spot

Wealdstone 2 Enfield XI 0
A PENALTY in each half gave Stones victory in this friendly on Monday night, writes Graham Smith.

The first came after 9 minutes when Snowden handled and Rudi Hall netted against his former club. The second was awarded 14 minutes from time after Nicko Airben was fouled. Steve Bircham converted from the spot.

Wealdstone: Bush, Smart, London, Moore, Waugh, Smith (Sheldrick), Walton (Airben), Bircham, McBride (Ramirez), Ross (Lette), Hall.



Kingsbury Town 0 Erith & Belv 1
KINGSBURY slipped tamely out of the FA Cup with a disappointing performance in their preliminary round replay on Tuesday night, writes John Comfort.

In a match that was closely contested, Erith always looked the more likely to break the deadlock and came close to doing so when Steve Rutter headed onto the Town crossbar from a Scott Liddell free kick. And it was the same combination that did eventually settle it seven minutes from time, Rutter volleying home from a Liddell cross.

Kingsbury's best effort, one of very few on the night, came from Niall O'Rourke whose audacious 35 yard lob after latching onto a poor clearance, was only inches wide.

Kingsbury: Hilton, Loughlin, Zazera, Stewart, Tynan, Morris (Harrison), Ash, N.O'Rourke, Hughes, Dowle (Dwaah), Gillespie (Gower).

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Edgeware Town FC 1996/97.
Back row (left to right): Jason Dale, Richard Louch, Mark Ivers, Danny Kirby, Anthony Whytock, Laurence Murphy, Andy Carter, Steve Hurd, Seamus Finnerty, Gerry Brennan. Front: John Mangan, Dave Instone, Bobby Hutchinson, Steve Newing, John Shanahan, Eugene Flynn, Paul Dale.

Ground blow for Stones

Thumbs down for Prince Edward site

WEALDSTONE FC's ambitious plans to build themselves a new stadium complex at the Prince Edward Playing Fields site have been dashed.

After months of complex negotiations over the Canons Park site, the Sports Council's London Regional officer, David Lawrence, has told the club that objections to various aspects of the scheme by the Department of the Environment and the Sports Council itself would ensure that it would not be possible to secure the necessary planning permission.

Wealdstone's general manager, Kip Hewitt, who has been handling the club's bid to purchase and develop the

site, commented: "Recent changes to National Government policy and statements from No 10 Downing Street have obviously changed the circumstances at Prince Edward Playing Fields. This, along with an apparent lack of urgency and haste towards our proposals from the governing bodies, has resulted in this very frustrating situation."

Wealdstone chairman, Paul Rumens, was not surprisingly dismayed at the bad news.

"Naturally, I and the board are very disappointed with the outcome but certainly not surprised, as the proverbial and ironic cliché of 'moving the goalposts' has been implemented in the corridors of

power which have totally changed the complexities and current criteria regarding the uses and development of community based sports fields such as Prince Edward," he said.

"A considerable amount of time, effort and not least of all, money, has gone into this particular project. However, we are not back at square one, as the club has never left its eggs in one basket in respect of alternative options.

"We are currently talking to private developers and the council with news on other sites. The board's resolve to secure the club's future remains in no doubt. This objective will and must be achieved."

Wasps get the all clear for Tuigamala

VA'AIGA Tuigamala has been cleared to play for Wasps this season, writes Alan Bodenham.

The club has campaigned vigorously after the original application for a work permit was turned down on the advice of the Rugby Union. That recommendation was changed and Wasps' owner, Chris Wright, described the decision as "a victory for common sense. Va'aiga will not only be an asset for us but the rest of rugby union in general."

The awesome Kiwi will

make his debut against Bath on Saturday week.

This Sunday, kick off 3pm, Wasps step out at Loftus Road for the first time to face a Saracens side including Michael Lynagh and Philippe Sella.

Wasps Director of rugby, Nigel Melville, admitted that there was still work to be done after the narrow victory over Sale. "You have to say we really didn't deserve to win and I was particularly disappointed with our play in the set pieces."

The supremo hinted at changes but stressed they would be on a squad basis.

Chris Sheasby is widely tipped to make his debut in the back row and Simon Mitchell, alongside Mike Griffiths, will fill front row berths. In the backs Matthew Lewis is also a strong contender after scoring four tries for the Vandals against Sale on Saturday.

Melville also stressed the need for discipline.

"Lynagh is in cracking form with the boot and we will be seriously punished if we give

away penalties," he said.

Wasps are running a coach from Sudbury to QPR for the game, leaving at 1.45pm. Booking is essential. Contact Louis Omera on 902 4220.

● **Chris Wright is looking at Hillingdon House Farm in Uxbridge as a possible site to relocate both Wasps and QPR in the future.**

Soccer fixtures

- Saturday September 7**
FA Vase first qualifying round: Clapton v Kingsbury Town.
ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Dulwich Hamlet (Earl'smead, 3pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Edgeware Town v Horsham (White Lion ground, 3pm); Wembley v Banstead Ath (Vale Farm, 3pm).
Midx County League: Mill End v Rayners Lane.
- Sunday September 8**
FA Vase first qualifying round: Wealdstone v Kempston Rovers (White Lion ground, 2pm).
- Tuesday September 10**
Guardian Insurance Cup: Boreham Wood v Edgeware Town; Hendon v Wembley (7.45pm).
- Wednesday September 11**
Guardian Insurance Cup: Wealdstone v Horsham (White Lion ground, 7.45pm).

Wild night at Borough

SIXTIES rock star Marty Wilde is live at Harrow Borough FC on Saturday night. Tickets for members and guests are available from the club, telephone 422 5221.

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Wasps

v

Saracens

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