

**SPORT**

**SOCCER**

# Early errors kill off Wares' cup hopes

## McGleish's men make their exit



Wembley striker Keith Boreham bears down on the Tilbury goal.

**Boreham Wood 3  
Edgware Town 2**

EDGWARE were left cursing their early defensive slackness on Saturday after two goals in the first eight minutes left this FA Cup third qualifying round tie as good as over almost before it had started.

They were given some hope by John Coleman's opportunist goal midway through the second half but thereafter only the home side's poor finishing

By **John Comfort**

and, inevitably, the continued brilliance of Andy Carter, prevented Boreham Wood settling the issue with a third goal until a minute from time.

Although Carl Lindo replied for Edgware within a minute, it came too late to save the Wares from their second Cup defeat at Meadow Park in the space of five days.

Edgware's poor start allowed Boreham Wood to go in front after only five minutes, the unmarked Tony Samuels heading a Tony Joyce cross past the helpless Carter.

Worst followed as three minutes later Tony Samuels put Dean Samuels through to outpace Paul McCluskey and fire past the advancing Carter.

Shell shocked Wares did eventually settle with John Mangan and Gerry Brennan both going close.

But it was Boreham Wood who continued to look the more likely to add to the scoreline with Dave Hatchett amazingly firing wide of an open goal after Carter had parried a Tony Samuels shot, then Marc Liburd thumping a shot

against an upright.

Danny Kirby had an early second half chance blocked but generally an Edgware goal looked unlikely until one came out of the blue in the 62nd minute after home keeper Martin Taylor collected a back pass and took the ball out to the far corner of his area.

His dreadful clearance attempt only found Coleman lurking five yards away, and he quickly controlled it and sent a superb angled lob sailing over the stranded keeper into the net and Edgware were back in the hunt.

Sadly, they were unable to make further inroads and again it was the home side who took the initiative, Liburd going clear three times, missing the target twice and forcing Carter into a fine save on the third occasion.

The home side finally seemed to have sewn things up a minute from time when Terry Robbins crashed a Liburd cross into the roof of the net but straight from the kick off Carl Lindo's header from Dave Instone's cross looped over Taylor into the net to reduce the arrears.

But there was to be no last

ditch escape act by the Wares. And in the dying seconds Carter's brave dive denied Tony Samuels and Brennan had to clear Liburd's follow up effort off the line.

**Edgware:** Carter, Brennan, Mangan, McCluskey, Finnelly, Lally, Kirby (Murphy), Hurd (Whytack), Lindo, Ivers (Instone), Coleman.

**Wembley 3 Tilbury 1**

WEMBLEY showed in this victory over Tilbury on Saturday that they have both the commitment and ability to shoot their way back to the First Division.

Ten years have elapsed since the Dockers last visited Vale Farm. On the evidence of this game they will be in no hurry to return.

From the first minute Wembley looked the more hungry, tenacious and threatening side. Whenever Tilbury had possession, the Lions closed them down quickly and purposefully, allowing the visitors' midfield no time to dwell on the ball, and as a result they were hurried into mistakes. Having won the ball, Wembley showed intelligent movement which in turn allowed them more options and time to play.

By **Greg Seridarian**

The Wembley forward line troubled the Tilbury defence throughout and but for some wasteful finishing would have put their side ahead long before the 27th minute opener from Nelson Kumah who slotted low into the corner of the net to break the deadlock.

Having given Wembley the lead the striker then set up the second in the 44th minute. He set off on a run down the right and when he squared the ball into the middle, Jon-Barrie Bates was first to react, striking it firmly into the roof of the net.

For Tilbury, their best attack followed a good run by Paul Barnett who squared the ball for Kevin Broderick but his fierce

drive was tipped over by Kevin Beckles. In contrast, the majority of the second half was rather low key with both sides conceding possession too easily.

However, Wembley sealed the game towards the end when a corner resulted in a low cross from the right and Boreham found freedom in the box to sweep the ball into the net.

The visitors did manage a consolation goal four minutes from time and soon after Mark Cox forced a good save from Beckles. Had they scored again it would have made for an interesting final two minutes. But in the context of the match it would have flattered the visitors.

**Wembley:** Beckles, Cumberbatch, Sue, Walters, Shields, J.B. Bates, Lawrence, I. Bates, Boreham, Kumah, Fleming, Subs: Stefanos, Ellis, Thompson.



Andy Carter - who gave another superb goalkeeping performance.

## Borough come so close to upsetting Swifts

**Heybridge Swifts 0  
Harrow Borough 0**

BOROUGH followed up their narrow defeat against the league leaders the previous week by sharing the points at second placed Heybridge on Saturday - and were very unfortunate not to take all three.

The visitors started strongly, and netted in the 7th minute when Nko Ekoku's pass set up Mark Xavier who was crudely felled but Brian Jones drove the loose ball home from 20 yards.

However, referee Gagen ruled out the "goal," gave Borough a free kick and didn't even caution the Heybridge offender. As if to prove that there is sometimes no justice in football, Lee Endersby's free kick was well saved.

Borough were on top for long periods of the half but their best efforts, a diving header from Xavier and a free kick from Jones, were both saved.

In the second half Borough continued to have the better of the game, Jones driving over after an Ekoku Xavier one-two, and Xavier shooting over from Endersby's cross.

With Peter Scriven giving you another assured performance in goal, ably assisted

By **Tony Booth**

by a sound defence, only one side appeared likely winners - and that was Borough.

Ekoku, Hurlock, and Metcalfe all went close and Jones had an effort blocked, but Borough's best match winning opportunities came in the last minute when Jones sent Mark Witter clear. He crossed for Xavier whose shot was blocked by keeper Banks, Endersby's follow up was cleared off the line by Keen and then Jones fired the loose ball goalward only to see it saved by a relieved Banks.

**Harrow Borough:** Scriven, Day, James, Court, Dowie, Hurlock, Jones, Metcalfe, Ekoku (Witter), Xavier, Endersby. Other subs: Issott, Santos.



Wembley's Jon-Barrie Bates about to get a helping hand from a Tilbury defender as he shields the ball in Saturday's match at Vale Farm.

## Walker is a winner for Stones

**Wealdstone 1 Aveley 0**

A GOOD battling all-round performance from Stones gave them a deserved victory over a physical Aveley side on Saturday.

Stones started brightly but their first scoring chance didn't come until the 18th minute when Roy Marshall's flick found Steve Bircham who blasted over. Three minutes later Darren Bonfield had to make an outstanding save at the other end to keep out an effort from Wallace.

Just before half time the adventurous John Massey went close, while Roy Marshall, who again had an excellent game, had an effort cleared off the line.

The only goal of the game came after 64 minutes. A Bircham corner found Chris Walton and his cross was headed past O'Neil by Lee Walker, who was fortunate not to be cautioned for taking off his shirt while celebrating the goal.

Stones should have extended their lead eight minutes later when another Bircham corner was met by the unlucky Steve Fraser whose fine header was cleared off the line by Frostick.

By **Graham Smith**



Lee Walker - headed Wealdstone's winner.

Temper flared later when Aveley defender Seymour, who was fortunate to escape a caution after several bad tackles, elbowed Stones defender Paul London, for which he received only a booking.

With the Wealdstone defence in solid form, the home side comfortably retained their lead to the final whistle for three most valuable points.

**Wealdstone:** Bonfield, Massey, London, Moore, Waugh, Marshall, Walton, Hibbert, Walker, Fraser (Hamatt), Bircham. Other subs: Smith, Jones.

## Lane in second gear cup stroll

**Rayners Lane 3  
Hayes St Clarets 2**

LANE came through this Russell Grant Middlesex Cup group match on Saturday without ever getting out of second gear.

Playing some neat, incisive football, they threatened to overrun an over-worked Hayes back line but, as in previous games, they failed to fulfill their promise.

A cross from the influential Reilly gave Metcalfe the opportunity to head the opening goal but poor defending at a free kick allowed Hayes to level.

This spurred the visitors and with Lane struggling to up their game, they took the lead early in the second half.

Metcalfe hauled Lane level, stabbing a loose ball home from close range following a Bicknell corner midway through the half and it was from the

same route that the home side's winner also came. Oriot reacting quickest following a poor clearance, to drive the ball home from the edge of the box.

Metcalfe could have made the win more emphatic but the lively striker, after being put clear by Cott, fired the wrong side of the post.

**Rayners Lane:** Randall, Clements, Collins, Rice, Bird, Reilly, Cott, Bicknell, Metcalfe, Stewart, Hordem. Subs: Onot, Creegan.

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