SPORT

Elleray under fire in Cup controversy

HARROW referee David Elleray was at the centre of controversy on Sunday after failing to give a goal by Jon Howard for Chesterfield in their FA cup semi-final against Middlesbrough at Old Trafford.

Video evidence showed that Howard's shot crossed the line after hitting the crossbar. Harrow School housemaster Ellerary, was later reported as having accepted the shot had crossed the line but said it didn't matter as he had already spotted an infringement before the player shot.

Inside Observer Sport

Win tickets to see England play Georgia at Wembley

See page 129

Wasps v Sale voucher to get 2 tickets for the price of one

See page 130

Weekend soccer match reports

Stones draw a blank in Kingsbury derby

Borough almost safe after win at Yeading

See page 131

Promotion is now in our own hands says Wembley boss

Wembley boss Glen Charles - 'destiny is in our own hands.'

Wembley 0
Witham Town 0

WITH results elsewhere going their way, the point gained by Wembley on Tuesday night proved far more valuable to their promotion aspirations than their lamentable performance deserved, **writes John Comfort.**

"It was easily our worst performance of the season," admitted Lions boss Glen Charles, "but ironically it has left us with our destiny in our own hands which we didn't have before the game.

"Now, if we win our last four games we go up."

Two of those are against promotion rivals, Barking and Leatherhead, and two against strugglers, Ware and Hemel, but none of them will be easy, says Charles.

"They are going to be four torrid games for us. At this time of the season everyone is scrapping for points and the form book goes out of the window. The promotion race will go right down to the wire."

Wembley were decidedly lacking in goal punch against Witham, particularly in the opening half hour which they totally dominated.

Jon-Barrie Bates fluffed their best scoring opportunity, miskicking wide with the goal at his mercy.

Witham enjoyed their best spell at the start of the second half but Wembley gradually regained control, although they still lacked the killer touch, with Les Thompson firing over from close in after keeper Jon O'Brien found a Jon-Barrie Bates shot too hot to handle.

There were two close calls in the closing minutes. Only a remarkable goalline clearance by Gary Boreham prevented Geoff Sawyer snatching a winner for the visitors, and Wembley then broke straight upfield where the legs of O'Brien kept out Keith Boreham's close range effort.

Wembley: Beckles, Cumberbatch, G.Boreham, Smith (Willock), Shields, J.B.Bates, Sardi, I.Bates, Carr (K.Boreham), Thompson, Fleming. Other sub: Mitchell.

Wares left to ponder on what might have been

Barking 1 Edgware Town 1

A DRAW on Tuesday night with a promotion candidate to follow the previous week's win over likely champions Collier Row, has left Edgware pondering on what might have been had their form maintained a little more consistency throughout the season, **writes Tom Hooks.**

On a dustbowl of a pitch that made good football difficult, Edgware adjusted well and early on John Coleman went close after a Joe Lyons throw in had caused havoc in the home defence.

However, the Wares' best effort of the first half came when Mark Ivers played the ball neatly to Laurence Murphy whose 20 yard volley on the run was well saved by Marc Baker.

Barking seemingly posing little threat, but they broke in the 33rd minute and scored a goal they hardly deserved, Hoddy's hopeful through ball being being controlled and then lobbed over the advancing Andy Carter by Paul Rogan.

The second half was dominated by Edgware and they were rewarded in the 60th minute when Steve Hurd powerfully headed home a Steve Newing corner for the equaliser.

In the dying minutes substitute Busby Finch had the chance to win it for Wares from a Newing cross but with only Marc Baker to beat, his shot hit the legs of the keeper who was going the wrong way.

Edgware: Carter, Hurd, Lyons, Finnerty, McCluskey, Brennan, Coleman, Ivers, Lindo (Finch), Newing, Murphy (Dale). Other sub: Whytock.

Play-off shock for Towers

Cadle's men are given the bird again by Eagles

LONDON Towers have been taken to a deciding third leg in the Budweiser Championship play-offs after suffering their second shock home defeat at the hands of Newcastle Eagles in the space of 10 days at Wembley on Tuesday night.

Having comfortably won 91-79 in the first leg at Newcastle on Friday (Danny Lewis 23, Tony Windless 19, Karl Brown 15), the return leg should have been little more than a formality for the Towers, and with a 36-31 advantage at half time, the script was seemingly being followed.

However, the margin was cut to just two points at 56-54 after the third quarter and when Newcastle started the final period with a 19-4 run to move into a 73-60 lead, the visitors had the game won.

Towers managed to narrow the gap to three points but Newcastle claimed the last seven points from the foul line for an unexpected 80-70 triumph.

Karl Brown (19) and Keith Robinson (18) were the Towers' top scorers.

The deciding third leg will take place at Wembley Hall on Sunday, tip off 6.30pm.

The winners will go through to Wembley Arena on May 3 for the semi-finals of the Budweiser Championships - the only domestic honour to elude the Towers last season.

Said Towers coach Kevin Cadle: "To say I'm disappointed in the way we threw away the League would be an understatement.

"However the Championship is one trophy this organsation has yet to win so the guys have something to motivate them and bring this club more success."

Stones bid for Cup Final spot

WEALDSTONE take a brief rest from championship chasing when bid for a place in the Associate Members Trophy Final away to Division Two leaders Leatherhead tonight (Thursday).

But hey are likely to face the Tanners with a less than full strength side. Terry Hibbert is definitely out through injury, there are question marks over the fitness of Simon Garner and Steve Bircham, while Paul McKay is unavailable.

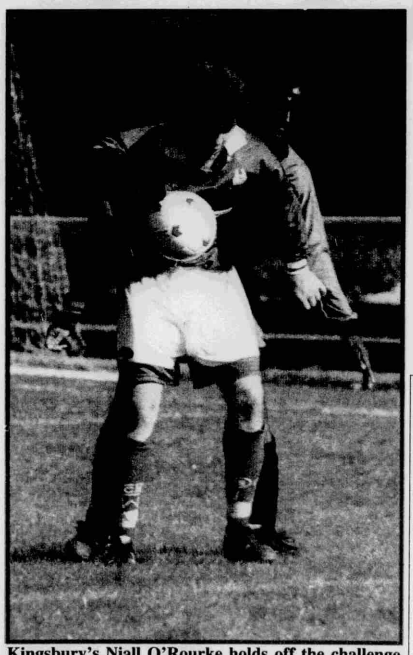
On Saturday Stones look to move three points nearer to the league title when they face Epsom in their last home game. Under-16s are again being admitted free with the special coupon on this page and accompanying adults can get in for half price.

Harrow Borough expect to have Kenny Webster and Jason Court fit from minor injuries for Saturday's home game with Sutton. Sean James, who has a virus, is doubtful.

Lowly Ware are **Wembley's** opponents on Saturday as they seek vital promotion points. The Lions will be without Wayne Walters, who is suspended.

Danny Kirby who has an injured back, and Eugene Flynn, who has a knee injury, will be missing from the **Edgware** side at Wivenhoe. But Karl Thomas returns after completing his suspension.

With the Middlesex League title won, **Rayners Lane** are looking to make it a double and on Saturday meet Willesden in the semi final of the Alec Smith League Cup. They will be boosted by the return of Tom Metcalfe.



Kingsbury's Niall O'Rourke holds off the challenge of Wealdstone defender Dominic Sterling in Saturday's derby game that ended in a 0-0 draw.

Borough see the light

HARROW Borough have been granted permission for new floodlights at their Earlsmead ground. Harrow Council's planning committee gave their consent on Tuesday evening for the four new 25 metre high columns which will house the existing lights.

WEALDSTONE FC
BLUE RIBBON LOTTERY
Week 45
£50 4582; £60 Z-07-065; £65 A-01-721; £75 M-04-696; £150 M-06-486.

SOCCER FIXTURES

Thursday April 17
Associate Members Trophy semi-final: Leatherhead v Wealdstone (7.45pm).
Saturday April 19
ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Sutton Utd (Earlsmead, 3pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Wembley v Ware (Vale Farm, 3pm); Wivenhoe Town v Edgware Town.
ICIS League Div Three: Wealdstone v Epsom & Ewell (White Lion ground, 3pm); East Thurrock v Kingsbury Town.
Alec Smith Cup semi-final: Rayners Lane v Willesden Constantine (Lucas Ave, 3pm)
Monday April 21
Football Combination: QPR v Tottenham (Earlsmead, 7pm).
Tuesday April 22
Middx Charity Cup semi-final: Hampton v Edgware Town (7.45pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Barking v Wembley (7.45pm).
Wednesday April 23
ICIS League Div Three: Harlow Town v Wealdstone (7.45pm).

The latest soccer league tables

ICIS LEAGUE
Premier Division

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Yeovil T	37	27	7	3	69	29	88
Enfield	37	24	11	2	79	26	83
Sutton Utd	36	17	11	8	76	58	62
St Albans C	38	17	9	12	63	52	60
Yeading	38	15	14	9	53	41	59
Aylesbury U	37	16	9	12	57	48	57
Purfleet	39	16	11	12	62	56	57
Dulwich H	38	14	12	12	57	50	54
Heybridge	38	14	12	12	58	61	54
Kingstonian	39	15	8	16	75	73	53
Oxford C	37	14	9	14	61	67	51
Carshalton	40	13	10	17	50	56	49
Dagenham	33	13	9	11	43	33	48
Boreham W	37	12	12	13	47	47	48
Hitchin T	37	14	6	17	60	62	48
Bromley	37	12	8	17	57	61	44
Harrow B	**39**	**10**	**13**	**16**	**51**	**58**	**43**
Hendon	38	9	12	17	42	56	39
Bishops St	38	9	12	17	38	58	39
Staines T	37	9	7	21	43	63	34
Grays Ath	37	8	8	21	39	67	32
Chertsey T	38	7	6	25	35	89	27
Division Two							
Leatherhead	39	27	5	7	105	44	86
Collier Row	36	23	11	2	82	31	80
Wembley	**38**	**21**	**10**	**7**	**83**	**39**	**73**
Barking	37	20	12	5	59	32	72
Horsham	37	20	10	7	67	39	70
Edgware T	**39**	**17**	**14**	**8**	**66**	**47**	**65**
Bedford T	39	19	7	13	72	43	64
Leighton T	39	16	12	11	61	44	60
Wivenhoe T	37	16	7	14	58	50	55
Windsor	39	14	13	12	58	60	55
Chalfont	37	14	12	11	51	45	54
Banstead	35	16	5	14	60	46	53
Bracknell T	39	15	8	16	72	70	53
Hungerford	39	13	12	14	64	72	51
Tilbury	40	14	7	19	66	70	49
Met Police	37	13	7	17	58	61	46
Witham T	39	10	9	20	37	65	39
Egham T	38	9	8	21	41	80	35
Cheshunt	39	9	2	28	37	93	29
Ware	38	7	7	24	42	73	28
Dorking	37	6	6	25	37	87	28
Hemel Hemp	38	4	6	28	26	107	18
Division Three							
Wealdstone	**28**	**21**	**3**	**4**	**65**	**20**	**66**
Braintree T	29	20	5	4	63	27	65
Northwood	29	17	10	2	54	24	61
Harlow T	28	16	4	8	50	34	52
Aveley	29	14	6	9	55	37	48
Camberley	29	13	6	10	48	39	45
E Thurrock	28	13	6	9	47	41	45
Wingate & F	29	10	7	12	48	57	37
Clapton	28	10	6	12	29	42	36
Lewes	31	9	8	14	41	53	35
Kingsbury	**29**	**10**	**4**	**15**	**35**	**47**	**34**
Hertford T	29	9	6	14	50	55	33
Hornchurch	29	9	6	14	29	48	33
Flackwell H	29	8	5	16	34	61	29
Epsom & E	27	7	5	15	55	63	26
Tring T	29	7	3	19	28	63	24
Southall	28	4	4	20	23	63	16

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

FREE FOOTBALL
FOR UNDER 16s AT
WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB
Complimentary Ticket
WEALDSTONE v EPSOM & EWELL
SATURDAY 19th APRIL 1997 3.00pm
at the White Lion Ground, High Street, Edgware
Come along and celebrate promotion with your local football club at the above match.
*HALF PRICE TO ADULTS
accompanying children with this ticket
FURTHER INFORMATION:
Tel: 0181-381 1671

CHEQUECASHING
Don't have a bank account?
Don't want to use your bank account?
If you have received a wages cheque, a tax rebate, a council cheque, a DSS cheque or any other cheque from a recognised company - then we can cash it while you wait!
This includes cheques crossed "Account payee Only" and "Not Negotiable". Proof of identity required.
248 HIGH ROAD, HARROW WEALD
IS NOW OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-6PM
(CLOSED TUESDAYS) SATURDAY 10AM-5PM
0181-933 2244

Typesetting & Origination: Imedia Print & Design Limited. Tel: 01923 211000. Printed by the Essex Chronicle Series Ltd, Chelmsford. Published by Middlesex County Press Ltd. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper.

Image © Reach PLC. Image created courtesy of THE BRITISH LIBRARY BOARD