SPORT

Flynn to quit as Edgware chairman

EDGWARE Town chairman, Michael Flynn, is to step down at the end of this season.

Mr Flynn, who took over the reins at the White Lion ground three years ago when Vince Deritis resigned through ill health, believes it is time for a new man to take over.

"This year has been one of high expectations, there's no doubt about that, and we had the team for it.

"But we missed the boat and I think that perhaps it's time that someone else was given the opportunity to take over and take the club on a stage further."

At the moment Edgware have no successor within the club lined up to take over from Mr Flynn and it seems increasingly likely that the post will be filled by an outsider.

Edgware would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in taking on the role.

They should contact the secretary at the White Lion ground, telephone 952 6799.

Wembley line up Cup Final date with Edgware

Wembley 2
Ashford Town 0

WEMBLEY set up a local derby clash with Edgware in the final of the Middlesex Charity Cup on Tuesday night when they saw off the brave challenge of Combined Counties League club Ashford, **writes John Comfort.**

The visitors had proved they were no mugs by putting out Ruislip Manor and Uxbridge in previous rounds and the Lions wisely did not under estimate their rivals.

A goalline clearance from Shaun Fleming was required to keep out an inswinging corner from Des Vertannes as the visitors made a lively start and later both Vertannes and Lee Holman missed the target when well placed.

Wembley livened up after the break and the strong wind they had in their favour played a big part in their opening goal seven minutes after the restart.

Kevin Beckles sent a huge clearance kick downfield and when Ashford centre back Jim Heggarty misjudged the bounce, Keith Boreham nipped in behind him to shoot past keeper Eddie Doyle.

An amazing strike by Ian Bates sealed victory 12 minutes later. Collecting a loose ball 40 yards out he turned and lashed a swerving shot goalwards that totally deceived Doyle who was left thrashing around in mid-air as the ball whistled past him into the net.

Andy Frost was unlucky not to get a consolation goal for Ashford when his well struck shot came back off the bar.

The final against Edgware is to be played at Vale Farm on Friday May 16.

Wembley: Beckles, Burgess, Walsh, Walters, Willock, Mitchell, Sardi, I.Bates, K.Boreham, Carr, Fleming. Subs: Smith, J.B.Bates, Thompson.

Final rescheduled

BECAUSE of Wembley Ladies involvment in the Womens FA Cup Final on Sunday, their Middlesex Ladies Senior Cup Final against Chelsea has now been rearranged for Wednesday May 7, kick off 7.30pm, at Uxbridge FC.

Stinging sensations

Courage League glory for Dallaglio's Wasps wonders

WASPS were crowned as the first champions of rugby union's new professional era on Saturday after their magnificent 26-15 win at Northampton clinched the Courage League Division One title.

Inspirational skipper, Lawrence Dallaglio, received the League Trophy from RFU President John Richardson after the game and declared: "It wasn't our best performance but we won and that's the main thing. The league isn't won over one day, it's won over the season and I don't think anyone can take away from us that we've been consistently the best side all season."

Wasps title success, the first time in seven years that neither Bath nor Leicester have taken the crown, was hailed by Dallaglio as a great team effort.

"There's a lot of hard work goes into this Wasps side. We're not a team of superstars, we're a team of talented individuals that come together well as a side and we've had a lot of clear direction from the coaching staff.

"It means everything to win the title. We've always had a lot of promise but we've always finished 3rd or 4th and never really achieved what the talent and the promise desired. But now we've got to maintain our status at the top of the game."

Director of Rugby Nigel Melville, the man who masterminded Wasps triumph, said: "This was a huge trophy for our club, symbolising how well we have recovered from the internal conflict 18 months ago."

The former England captain rejoined Wasps during the 1995 bust-up which ended with star players Rob Andrew, Dean Ryan Nick Popplewell and Steve Bates defecting to Newcastle.

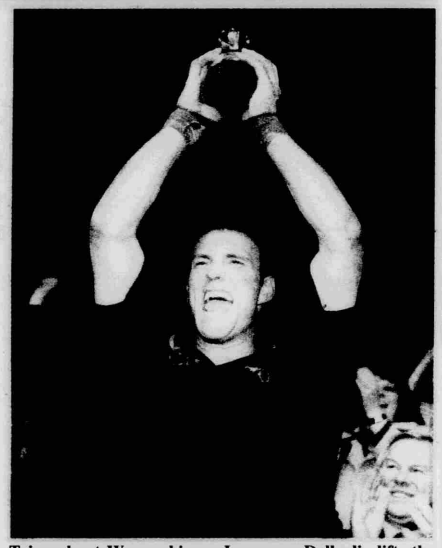
"There was a crisis but the players, and especially Dallaglio, kept the club on an even keel. Despite the losses of famous players we finished 4th and now the new generation has won the League."

The title has been a victory for Wasps' judicious spending on players but they will be looking to strengthen the squad for next season's bid to land a treble of League, Cup and European Cup.

"We've proved ourselves the best team in England and now we have to set our sights higher," said Dallaglio.

As Champions, Wasps will now play the Rest of the World side at Twickenham on May 24 - but will have a decidedly weakened line-up for that showpiece.

Dallaglio will be with the Lions in South Africa while five other Wasps will have flown to Argentina with England.



Triumphant Wasps skipper Lawrence Dallaglio lifts the Courage League Championship Trophy.

Champions looking to halt the Harlequins hoodoo

WASPS may have the championship under their belt but there will be no let up against bitter London rivals Harlequins at the Stoop on Saturday.

"We are all out to win," said director of Rugby Nigel Melville.

Supporters however are anxious that their team can reverse the results of the last three league meetings between the two sides in which Quins have come out on top.

Melville was adamant however that the past doesn't matter. "We don't care about that," he declared. "We are the champions, they have won nothing and any satisfaction they may glean from beating us must be pretty hollow."

Fans are quite keen that Lawrence Dallaglio should parade the trophy around the Stoop, but no decision has been made.

Alex King is doubtful for the game. The fly half was stretchered off near the end of the match at Northampton but was up and about soon afterwards taking part in the celebrations. He does however, have bad bruising from a knee in the back.

Wasps are sending a strong side to the Henley Sevens on Sunday where there is a very large cash prize on offer so it is likely that some players may be held in reserve. Quins are also committed to that competition so if they confirm their European qualification with a midweek victory over Northampton, their policy is likely to be the same. Whatever, the Stoop looks destined to be a 10,000 sell-out.

Towers aiming for that missing honour

LONDON Towers will be looking to land the one title that eluded them last season in the Budweiser Championships at Wembley Arena this weekend.

Towers meet Sheffield Sharks in the semi-finals on Saturday, tip off 8.45pm, and coach Kevin Cadle will be looking to atone for the errors he admits have hampered Towers' season.

Cadle, a permanent fixture of Budweiser Championship weekend, and listed in the Guinness book of Records as the most successful coach in UK basketball history, said of a season in which Towers have won the 7 Up Trophy and finished runners up in the Budweiser League: "For many clubs this would have been a very good year. By the standards we're trying to pursue, however, this has been a mediocre season.

"We've made sure we exhausted our quota of losses. We seem to take the view that if we've got a chance to lose, let's go lose."

Nevertheless, Towers are back in the Championship's final four, something Cadle hasn't once missed out on in the League's 10 year history, and he believes there is still time for him and his team to put things right and collect their second trophy of the season.

"We've struggled for consistency at times but we've had two free weeks before Wembley which hopefully will have given us time to get it right. Put us in a crunch situation where our backs are up against the wall and I like our chances."

If Towers beat Sharks on Saturday, they will face the winners of the Chester Jets v Leopards semi in the final on Sunday, tip off 6.45pm.

Tickets for the Championships are available from the Towers hotline on 0171 722 6677 or Wembley on 900 1234.

Wembley have to replay abandoned match

WEMBLEY'S vital league game with Barking, which was abandoned last Tuesday, is set to be replayed tonight (Thursday) behind closed doors at the Essex club's Mayesbrook Park ground.

Only players, respective club officials and league officers are being admitted.

The FA has not yet set a date for their enquiry into the abandonment which occured after the referee claimed to have seen someone with a knife during the mass brawl, which involved players, officials and supporters.

Barking's defeat against Collier Row on Tuesday means that a draw or win for Wembley will be enough to take them back up into Division One. Otherwise the Lions will need a result from their final game at home to already promoted Leatherhead on Saturday.

In an important last week of the season for local clubs, Wealdstone could already have won the ICIS Division Three Championship if they won at Harlow last night (Wednesday). A draw or defeat would mean they will have to win in a tricky final game at neighbours Northwood on Saturday to be sure of the title.

On Tuesday Stones meet Leighton in the final of the Associate Members Trophy at Hitchin Town FC.

SOCCER FIXTURES

Saturday May 3
ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Purfleet (Earlsmead, 3pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Wembley v Leatherhead (Vale Farm, 3pm); Met Police v Edgware Town.
ICIS League Div Three: Northwood v Wealdstone; Kingsbury Town v Wingate & Finchley (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).
Middx League: Rayners Lane v Pitshanger Dyn (Lucas Ave, 3pm)
Sunday May 4
Womens FA Cup Final: Wembley Ladies v Millwall Lionesses (West Ham Utd FC, 3pm).
Monday May 5
Football Combination: QPR v Southampton (Earlsmead, 2pm).
Tuesday May 6
Associate Members Cup Final: Leighton Town v Wealdstone (Hitchin Town FC, 7.30pm).
Wednesday May 7
Middsex Ladies Senior Cup Final: Chelsea Ladies v Wembley Ladies (Uxbridge FC, 7.30pm).

Latest tables

ICIS LEAGUE
Premier Division

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Yeovil T	41	30	8	3	79	34	98
Enfield	41	27	11	3	88	29	92
Sutton Utd	41	18	13	10	86	68	67
Yeading	41	17	14	10	56	43	65
St Albans C	41	18	10	13	64	54	64
Aylesbury U	41	17	11	13	62	54	62
Purfleet	41	17	11	13	66	60	60
Dagenham	39	16	11	11	52	39	59
Heybridge	41	15	14	12	60	61	59
Boreham W	41	14	13	14	53	50	55
Dulwich H	41	14	13	14	57	54	55
Kingstonian	41	15	8	18	75	77	53
Hitchin T	41	15	7	19	66	71	52
Oxford C	41	14	10	17	65	80	52
Carshalton	41	13	11	17	50	56	50
Bromley	41	13	8	20	65	71	47
Harrow B	**41**	**11**	**14**	**16**	**55**	**61**	**47**
Hendon	40	11	12	17	48	58	45
Bishops St	41	10	13	18	43	63	43
Staines T	41	10	8	23	45	65	38
Grays Ath	41	8	9	24	43	77	33
Chertsey T	40	8	7	25	40	91	31

Division Two

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Collier Row	41	27	12	2	90	33	93
Leatherhead	41	29	5	7	114	44	92
Wembley	**40**	**23**	**10**	**7**	**90**	**41**	**79**
Horsham	41	22	10	9	77	47	76
Barking	40	21	12	7	64	37	75
Bedford T	42	21	8	13	77	43	71
Edgware T	**41**	**19**	**14**	**8**	**70**	**48**	**71**
Banstead	40	20	5	15	72	50	65
Leighton T	41	17	12	12	63	45	63
Wivenhoe T	41	16	8	16	67	60	59
Windsor	41	16	13	12	62	61	61
Bracknell T	41	17	8	16	78	71	59
Hungerford	41	14	13	14	68	74	55
Chalfont	40	14	12	14	52	58	54
Met Police	41	14	7	20	70	71	49
Tilbury	42	14	7	21	68	77	49
Witham T	41	10	10	21	37	66	40
Egham T	41	10	8	23	45	84	38
Dorking	41	7	6	28	38	97	31
Ware	41	7	8	26	43	77	29
Cheshunt	41	9	2	30	37	103	29
Hemel Hemp	41	4	6	31	31	123	18

Division Three

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Wealdstone	**30**	**23**	**3**	**4**	**68**	**21**	**72**
Braintree T	31	22	5	4	92	28	71
Northwood	31	18	10	3	59	28	64
Harlow T	30	18	4	8	56	37	58
Aveley	31	16	6	9	62	39	54
E Thurrock	31	16	6	9	57	44	54
Camberley	31	14	6	11	52	43	48
Wingate & F	31	11	7	13	52	60	40
Hornchurch	32	11	6	15	35	51	39
Clapton	31	11	6	14	31	47	39
Lewes	32	10	8	14	45	53	38
Kingsbury	**31**	**10**	**4**	**17**	**38**	**54**	**34**
Hertford T	31	9	6	16	52	63	33
Flackwell H	31	8	5	18	35	68	29
Epsom & E	31	7	5	19	58	75	26
Tring T	31	7	3	21	33	70	24
Southall	31	5	4	22	24	69	19

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