

SPORT

Charlton chance for Lyons

EDGWARE Town's young full back, Joe Lyons, is currently on trial with Charlton Athletic.

On Monday he played in a Charlton side that lost 4-2 in a friendly against the touring Chinese World Cup team.

At Charlton's request he was subsequently rested from Edgware's Guardian Insurance Cup clash with Wealdstone on Tuesday as he was last night (Wednesday) due to play in Charlton's Football Combination

match against Oxford United. Lyons is scheduled for more Combination action next Thursday at Harrow Borough's Earlsmead ground playing for Charlton against Queens Park Rangers.

Super Mario swoops to steer Wealdstone through

Wealdstone 2 Edgware Town 1

MARIO Cleaire was the toast of Wealdstone on Tuesday night after his goal 10 minutes from time completed a fine Stones comeback, putting them through this Guardian Insurance tie and avenging last season's Middlesex Charity Cup defeat at the hands of Edgware, writes John Comfort.

No-one deserved to be a winner more than 19 year old Cleaire. A dynamic package of strength, speed and determination, he was a thorn in the side of Wares for the full 90 minutes and his decisive strike was just reward for his outstanding contribution to a hard fought clash between deadly rivals.

The match was very much one of two halves, with Edgware taking the honours in the first period when Stones were, as manager Gordon Bartlett admitted "absolutely woeful."

In an explosive start, Karl Thomas set a new record for

a booking for Edgware, being cautioned just 20 seconds from the kick off for a late challenge on Paul Lamb.

Seven minutes later Edgware were ahead. John Coleman charged down Dominic Sterling's clearance attempt and the ball ran nicely for Mark Ivers to crash it past the helpless Noel Imber.

Stones should have levelled on 15 minutes when Steve Bircham found Simon Garner but his weak shot from close range hit Andy Carter's leg and Paul McCluskey cleared.

Cleaire then got clear twice but was brought down by Carter on the first occasion - the keeper being fortunate not to be booked - and had his shot blocked on the second.

In the early stages of the second half Cleaire had a header blocked by Carter while at the other end Imber parried a fierce shot from Steve Newing.

But Stones began to get on top and with Ian Waugh having a shot blocked, Stan Bowder having an effort



Wealdstone FC 1997/98. Back row (left to right): Alan Wharton (physio), James Bush, Roy Marshall, Tony Smith, Terry Hibbert, Steve Atkins, Noel Imber, Lee Walker, Darren Bonfield, Dominic Sterling, Ian Waugh, Andy Edmunds, Mario Cleaire, Brian Jones, Graham Smith (kit manager). Front: Gordon Bartlett (manager), Paul Lamb, Simon Garner, Alan Galloway, Steve Bircham, Keith Boreham, Paul McKay, Chris Walton, Stan Bowder, Leo Morris (assistant manager).

cleared off the line and Cleaire just off target with a volley, an equaliser was inevitable.

It finally came after 76 minutes when Garner's header from a Bowder cross was de-

flected out to Paul McKay and he drilled home from 15 yards.

Four minutes later a superb reflex save from Carter kept

out a close range Brian Jones header but it only served to de-

lay the winning goal as from Bircham's corner, Cleaire delicately glanced a header into the corner of the net.

Thomas could still have saved Wares when Newing set

him up with only Imber to beat in the closing minutes, but he wastefully fired over.

Stones are at home to Barton in the next round.

Wealdstone: Imber, Bowder, Sterling, Moore, Atkins (Jones).

Waugh, McKay, Lamb, Cleaire, Garner (Walton), Bircham. Other sub: Hibbert.

Edgware: Carter, Smart, Sheridan (Wallace), Hurd, McCluskey, Brennan, Coleman (Valenti), Ivers, Sutton, Newing, Thomas. Other sub: Whytock.

Locals hit cup trail

Trio in preliminary round action

THE long road that leads to the Twin Towers begins on Saturday with Wembley, Wealdstone and Kingsbury Town all in action in the humble surroundings of the FA Cup's preliminary round.

Wembley and Kingsbury both face Unijet Sussex League opposition, while Wealdstone have the toughest task of the three - away to ICIS Division One side, Leatherhead. Stones beat the Tanners 3-0 in the semi finals of the Associate Members Trophy last season, but can expect a decidedly tougher task this time.

They expect to have Roy Marshall back after missing the Edgware game with a toe injury, but the holidaying Keith Boreham will be absent, along with Paul McKay, who is attending a wedding. There is some doubt about Steve Bircham who has a back injury.

Wembley skipper Ian Bates has served his four match suspension and is in the squad for

the trip to Selsey.

Shawn Fleming, who has missed the last two games due to domestic commitments, also returns, while the only doubt is Craig Elliott, who has a dead leg injury.

If a replay is required it will take place at Vale Farm on Tuesday, with the scheduled league game at Barton being cancelled.

Kingsbury take on Sussex League Portfield at Silver Jubilee Park without Sean Loughlin who is suspended for two games.

With Kevin Stewart (broken leg) and Paul Tynan (knee) already sidelined with long term injuries, Damien Gillespie looks set for a place in the Town defence.

Harrow Borough are in league action at Dagenham and have a goalkeeping problem following the ankle injury suffered by David Hook. Paul O'Reilly played at Oxford on Tuesday but has returned to Aylesbury. Boss

Bob Dowie needs to find another replacement.

Borough will be without Nko Ekoku, who is serving a one match ban, while Gavin Maguire and new signing from Northwood, defender David Nolan, are both injured.

As well as Nolan, Borough have also signed defender Andy Alexander from Grays.

Fixtures

Saturday August 30
FA Cup preliminary round: Selsey v Wembley; Leatherhead v Wealdstone; Kingsbury Town v Portfield (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).

ICIS League Premier Div: Dagenham & Redbridge v Harrow Borough

Tuesday September 2

ICIS League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Sutton Utd (Earlsmead, 7.30pm)

ICIS League Div One: Barton Rovers v Wembley

ICIS League Div Two: Chalfont St Peter v Wealdstone; Edgware Town v Hungerford (White Lion ground, 7.30pm)

Oxford City 2 Harrow Borough 4

TWO goals in the last ten minutes enabled Harrow to turn what could have been defeat into victory at Marsh Lane on Tuesday night, in a match marred by the late dismissal of Christian Metcalfe, along with Oxford's Caffer, writes Tony Booth.

Borough recalled David Clarke after injury, but were without injured keeper David Hook. Paul O'Reilly, on loan from Aylesbury, replaced him.

Pat Gavin, Mark Xavier and Kenny

Wembley 2 Leighton Town 1

WEMBLEY progressed into the first round of the Guardian Insurance Cup on Tuesday thanks to a couple of goals from Leslie Thompson, writes Richard Markiewicz.

Thompson's first strike arrived in the 18th minute when he neatly flicked Luke Dockwray's low centre over the keeper after Eddy Mee's astute pass on the left.

Wembley could have established a

commanding lead had Chris Toussaint not attempted to beat one man too many after skilfully forcing himself into promising goalscoring positions.

But eventually the Lions doubled their total in the 58th minute when Thompson converted Toussaint's excellent cross.

Three minutes later, however, Simon Jackson, scoring direct from a corner, to reduce the deficit for the visitors.

Mee almost increased Wembley's

lead, going close with a couple of well hit strikes. But the result was always in doubt, particularly after a late Leighton rally during which Ken Hollis sent a thunderous strike against the crossbar.

And it was not until the referee blew the final whistle that Wembley's trip to Hitchin in the next round was booked.

Wembley: Miller, Cumberbatch, Dockwray, Walters, Ross, Smith, Mitchell, Anderson (Gardi), Thompson, Mee (Elliott), Toussaint (Williams).

skilfully hook home. Soon after Caffer and Metcalfe got their marching orders following a fracas before Borough sealed victory with a fourth goal in the 89th minute.

Play was waved on after a foul on Xavier and the ball broke to Clarke who raced halfway to calmly beat the advancing keeper with a perfect 20 yard shot into the top corner of goal.

Harrow Borough: O'Reilly, Clarke, James (EKOKU), Court, Coleman, Paris, Hurlock, Metcalfe, Gavin (Hooper), Xavier, Webster. Other sub: Alexander.

Auction raises £1200 for Boro' lights fund



Borough chairman, Jim Ripley (centre), with Frank Worthington and Malcolm Allison.

HARROW Borough FC's sportsmans dinner last Thursday raised over £1200 for the club's floodlights fund.

In an auction of footballing items, a signed Manchester United ball proved to be the top attraction, going for £220, while a signed Arsenal strip fetched £180.

Guest speakers for the evening were former Manchester City and Crystal Palace boss, Malcolm Allison, and ex-England international striker, Frank Worthington.

Borough's new floodlights were erected last Thursday. They will be switched on for the first time on Tuesday when Sutton United are the visitors to Earlsmead.

Shaw makes swift return to Bristol

Giant second row Simon Shaw makes his Wasps debut in the Allied Dunbar Premiership opener on Saturday against his former club, Bristol, writes Alan Bodenham.

"It won't be a problem for Simon," said Wasps supremo, Nigel Melville. "Like the rest of us he is keen to get going."

The west country club struggled last year and only hung onto to their top division status after overcoming Bedford in a play off.

They started as favourites for the drop and their opener at Gloucester, where they were thrashed 36-13, will not have changed that rating.

Wasps have never lost to Bristol in a league match.

Lawrence Dallaglio is back to lead the side after missing the friendly at Saracens. Elsewhere Melville has no injury problems and will pick his side from strength.

Former Wasps hooker, Kevin Dunn, will be in the line up against his former team.

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Metcalfe off but late goals win it for Borough

Webster were all just off target with shots while Darren Coleman went close with a header before Borough took a deserved lead in the 32nd minute. Jason Court's free kick being powerfully headed into his own net by Andy Smith.

However, the Oxford defender made amends in the 43rd minute. Murphy's corner was poorly flagged but Smith netted for his own team on this occasion to bring the scores level.

Soon after the interval Pat Gavin

blasted a clear opportunity over the bar and Borough were made to pay for that miss in the 53rd minute when a series of defensive errors ended with Carlisle heading in Lee's cross.

Borough responded in the best possible manner, drawing level nine minutes later from a Clarke corner which Xavier headed powerfully down into the net from six yards.

With 82 minutes gone Borough took the lead, Metcalfe's cross being headed back across goal for Xavier to

skilfully hook home. Soon after Caffer and Metcalfe got their marching orders following a fracas before Borough sealed victory with a fourth goal in the 89th minute.

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