

SPORT

Wasps Euro boost

Alan Bodenham reports from Swansea on Page 131

Friendly match breaks sporting standstill

LOCAL sport in Harrow and Brent came to a virtual standstill on Saturday as the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales took place.

All football and cricket matches were cancelled and the Rugby Union stopped all League matches - with Wasps moving their first Heineken European Cup game at Swansea to the following day.

But the Rugby Union did not extend their ban to friendlies and Kingsburians played Wembley at the Roger Bannister Stadium in Hatch End, after Brent Council had stopped sporting fixtures on their sports grounds.

Kingsburians fixtures secretary Bruce Bland said:

"Both clubs had a vote earlier in the week and decided to go ahead with match in the afternoon, though three of our players pulled out.

"We did not feel it was disrespectful because all the shops opened at 2pm.

"Brent Council would not allow us to play at Northwick Park, so we switched the game to Wembley's ground, which is in the borough of Harrow. But we only had about 20 spectators."

Harrow Council also imposed a sporting ban but lifted it for events starting after 3pm.

A Wembley rugby club spokesman said a full first team did not turn out, though no Wembley players had objected to playing the match, which kicked off at 3.30pm.

RFU spokesman Richard Prescott said the RFU had instructed all clubs that no league fixtures were to be played. The match between Wembley and Kingsburians was a friendly and therefore did not fall under the ban.

Some Middlesex cricket league matches also went ahead, starting at 2.30pm.

Supersub grabs the glory in Vase nine-goal thriller

Hornchurch 4 Wealdstone 5
WEALDSTONE battled back from a two-goal deficit to win their first round FA Vase encounter in a thriller against ICIS Division Three side Hornchurch on Tuesday night.

In a match which went to extra-time, tempers flared.

Stones should have taken the lead after five minutes when Dominic Sterling was brought down by Barnett in the area, but a poor spot-kick from Steve Bircham allowed keeper Orman to save.

Hornchurch took the lead 10 minutes later when Stones' defence failed to deal effectively with a Harding corner. The resultant loose ball was fired home by Woolley past a helpless Noel Imber.

Stones equalised barely minutes later when a Terry Hibbert cross was hit home by Dominic Sterling.

In the 24th minute, Hornchurch were awarded a penalty following a foul by Paul McKay on Halls and Hunt made no mistake with the strike.

The home side's third goal came five minutes later when a lax Wealdstone defence allowed striker Cox some space. Imber had no chance, and Hornchurch were unbelievably leading 3-1.

Moments before the break, Wealdstone pulled one back when Simon Garner smashed the ball past keeper Orman.

But then, to the annoyance of the Stones' supporters Garner was substituted by Keith Boreham. It proved however to be a superb move. Twelve minutes from time Stones levelled when a Brian Jones free-kick was deflected into



WEALDSTONE FC have extended their sponsorship with Harrow's premier mobile communications company, Jordan Farah Mobile Communications. This will be the third season that the ICIS League Division Three Champions have linked up with Jordan Farah, who have recently relocated to 60, Greenhill Way, Harrow, due to an expansion of their business. Said Wealdstone commercial manager, Layne Patterson: "We are obviously delighted to continue our association with Jordan Farah who have been most generous to our club and like ourselves, are very much

on the up." Said Matthew Jordan, managing director of Jordan Farah: "I'm more than happy to extend our association with the Stones and hope that Gordon Bartlett and the lads can maybe add some more silverware to the collection. "We are delighted to be connected with the club and happy to see that they were once again the best supporter club in the area." On Monday, Stones boss Gordon Bartlett presented Matthew Jordan with one of the club's new shirts in appreciation of their sponsorship (pictured).

By **Graham Smith**

the net by Barham. That gave the ex-Harrow Borough star his first goal for his new club.

But soon after the equaliser Hornchurch went ahead again. Cox robbed Roy Marshall and shot the ball past a helpless Imber, giving the home player

his second goal. Boreham forced the extra-time, when he struck home a Stan Bowdler cross, six minutes into injury time.

And the sub sealed it for Stones in the 16th minute of extra time, after Orman failed to gather a Terry Hibbert effort.

Minutes later, tensions erupted, when Fergus Moore ran 15 yards and grabbed Hornchurch's

Bulgen, who had just been sent off for a serious foul on substitute Chris Walton. Moore was lucky to escape with just a caution.

But the game was all but over and Wealdstone now visit Harefield in the next round.

Wealdstone: Imber, Bowdler, Sterling, Moore, Waugh, Marshall (Sub Walton), McKay, Hibbert, Jones Garner (Sub Boreham), Bircham.

Harding hat-trick sends Borough crashing

Harrow Borough 0 Canvey Island 3

HARROW Borough's run in the Guardian Insurance Cup lasted a mere 90 minutes as they bowed out to Canvey Island, a team two divisions below them, on Tuesday night, writes Tony Booth.

Last year Harrow made the quarter-finals of the competition.

The resting of some Harrow players by manager Bob Dowie was questioned early on in the game by the small Earlsmead crowd, as Canvey got to grips with their Premier Division hosts.

Ian Rutherford had Borough's best chance after being fed by Nko Ekoku, but he stabbed the ball into the side netting as he tried to get the ball past Canvey keeper, Horne.

Borough's Jason Court picked up a booking for a foul before the half-time whistle.

Harrow started the second-half brilliantly, having a number of good chances.

Ekoku curled a free-kick over the crossbar and a David Clarke free-kick was saved at the foot of the posts by Horne, but they failed to score.

It was a Harding cross shot in the 63rd minute which eluded Quay's dive and rebounded off the far post into the net.

Harrow's fortunes further declined when Court was sent off after receiving his second yellow card for stopping a Canvey Island forward with his arm.

Quay made two fine saves as Canvey used the Harrow pressure to mount swift breaks. The Canvey defence contained Harrow by not allowing the wings to penetrate. With four minutes to go, Harding, who was unmarked six yards out, converted a cross from the right.

A minute later Harding scored his hat-trick when beat Alexander to hammer the ball across Quay into the net. Late efforts by Borough's Gavin and Rutherford were comfortably dealt with by the Canvey defence.

Borough face Burgess Hill Town in an FA Cup encounter tomorrow.

The management and fans will no doubt be praying that some of the injured players have returned to fitness, enabling Harrow to emulate their performance against Dagenham two weeks ago - one which many long-serving fans rated as one of the club's best.

Harrow Borough: Quay, David Clarke, Ekoku (Sub, Dwain Clarke 83), Court, Coleman, Alexander, Hurlock, Nolan (Sub Paris 69), Rutherford, Xavier (Sub Gavin 74), Butler.

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Wembley's run ends

Hitchin Town 2 v Wembley 0

WEMBLEY tumbled out of the Guardian Insurance Cup on Tuesday night, writes Richard Markiewicz.

The ICIS Premier Division club dominated play throughout the goalless first half.

Hitchin hit the woodwork twice, while Wembley's only chance was driven wide by Bradley Anderson.

The Wembley defence was opened up 10 minutes into the second by Dominic Grime, who then set up Rudi Hall and Wembley failed to respond.

Visiting officials also appeared to lose interest and while spending the remainder of the game playing with the secretary's dog, glancing at photographs of the floral tribute at Kensington Palace and booking a taxi back to the station, they nearly failed to notice Tony Clark scor-

ing Hitchin's second goal, four minutes from time.

This defeat ended Wembley's unbeaten record. Tomorrow Wembley face Whitehawk at home in the first qualifying round of the FA Cup.

Meanwhile Wembley will also be playing on Sunday at Wembley Stadium as part of the London Borough of Brent's Festival of Football against a Select XI. Kick-off is at 3pm.

Wembley: Miller, Cumberbatch, Dockwray, Walters, Bates, Smith, Toussaint (Mee 73), Mitchell (Elliot 21), Anderson, Thompson (Williams 77), Sardi.

FIXTURES: Saturday Wembley v Whitehawk (FA Cup 1st qualifying rnd). Tuesday Sept 16 Aldershot v Wembley 7.45. (Subject to FA Cup results).

Jovo steals the big basketball show

RED STAR Belgrade, the most un-fancied of the European teams competing in the Sainsbury's Classic Basketball Tournament, went home from Wembley Arena with the winners' trophy safely under wraps after pipping Israeli champions Maccabi Tel-Aviv 71-70 in the final.

Maccabi paraded 6ft 10in American centre Rashard Griffith, whose £630,000 contract makes him the highest paid sportsman in Israel's history. Unfortunately for Maccabi, Red Star's Jovo Stanojevic stole the show, scoring 17 points and regularly out-witting the huge Griffith, who managed a total of just 10 points.

In a nail-biting finale, Maccabi had their only chance to take the game into overtime, but Doron Sheffer's foot strayed over the three-point

line as he nailed the final basket of the game, which counted for just two points.

In the third-fourth place play-off, London Towers were beaten 71-48 by the Greek side AEK Athens.

Towers' coach Kevin Cadle said: "This tournament has been excellent training for our first league game and especially for what we will expect in our European campaign."

London Towers first home game of the season is on Sunday, when they take on Chester Jets in Wembley Hall 1. Tip-off is 6.30pm. Tickets are priced at £6 adults and £4 children in advance, £1 more on the door. For tickets call London Towers on 0171-722 6677 or Wembley on 900 1234.

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