

SPORT

Tigers task holds no fear for Wasps

AFTER three wins on the trot, Wasps will travel to Leicester on Saturday for their Allied Dunbar clash full of confidence writes Alan Rodenham.

"We are really looking forward to it," said supremo Nigel Melville. Skipper Lawrence Dallaglio is also clearly relishing the challenge, and said "It's great going to Welford Road."

"A big game against the Tigers is just the sort of test we want. It's big time rugby and we love it."

Certainly things appear to be turning the corner for Dallaglio's men.

Internationals, Andy Gomarsall and Nick Greenstock, who have been long term injuries, are now back in contention.

Also, several players are hitting

prime form, among them giant lock, Simon Shaw, who is back to his best and showed it against Gloucester where he had an outstanding match.

Will Green is another getting back to his best and is relishing the challenge of getting to grips with a formidable Leicester front row.

Melville finalises his side later this week but one definite returnee will be fly half Alex King, who missed the Gloucester win as he was suffering with a back spasm.

Greenstock and Gomarsall are only likely to be on the replacements bench.

The game is being shown live on Sky tv and if it is half as good as the corresponding fixture last year, which Wasps lost 18-12, fans are in for a treat.

Clements moves into the Kingsbury Town hotseat

JOHN Clements is the new manager of Kingsbury Town.

The former Windsor, Maidenhead, Chesham and Burnham boss, who has been out of football for the past two seasons, takes over this week, replacing caretaker boss Bobby Cook, who has

been in charge since the resignation of Peter Blain.

Said Kingsbury chairman, Allan Davies: "We are pleased to have got such an experienced manager. He knows the financial score at the club but is ambitious and sees us as a challenge

and believes he can do things here."

Clements has appointed Alan Rowe, who was formerly with Yeading and Egham, as his assistant manager.

The duo face their first match in charge on Saturday when Town are at home to Flackwell Heath.



Peter Scrivenor keeps the way clear for Mike Friday to feed his backs in Wasps' win over Gloucester on Sunday.

Picture: Edmond Terakopian

Mullings, Harrison are a knockout

LOCAL boxers Patrick Mullings and Audley Harrison have both scored significant victories this week.

Mullings, Harrow's WBC international Super bantamweight title holder, finished off his bout with Sita Makinza at York Hall on Saturday with a powerful uppercut that broke his French opponent's jaw and forced the referee to stop the contest in the fourth round.

He is now in line to meet Michael Brodie for the British and Commonwealth titles and will also be defending his WBC crown against Martin Krestov in March.

Super heavyweight Harrison, from Kingsbury, overpowered B. Munroe of Hornchurch in the ABA North East London Division Final at Stretford, dramatically stopping his opponent in the first to move into the London Finals of the championships at York Hall on January 29.

Harrison has his sights set on the European Championships in Hungary in May and then a place in the British team for the Commonwealth Games in September.

Lane move up second

Rayners Lane 2 Northfield CAV 1

LANE overcame a strong CAV side to move into second place in the Midlands League table and maintain their challenge for honours.

Lane scored the only goal of the game came midway through the first half when a chipped ball to the far post eluded the onrushing Bird but landed nicely for Bicknell to bundle over the line.

After the break Lane should have doubled their lead after Metcalfe was brought down in the box to set up Verri to maintain his 100 per cent record from the penalty spot this season, but he blasted the kick over the bar.

Metcalfe was also unlucky with a shot that hit a post and rolled along the goaline before going out for a goal kick.

Rayners Lane: Barnard, Coward, Verri, Smith, Coakley, Mitchell, Donnelly, Bird, Bicknell, Oriol, Metcalfe. Subs: Clements, Mills, Woodward.

Newing sees red

Striker talks himself off as Stones make it three out of three against Edgware

By John Comfort

only the leg of Stones keeper Darren Bonfield prevented Alan Murray putting them ahead after he had been put clear by Newing.

Bonfield then parried a Fabio Valenti cross, forcing him to bravely block Murray's goalbound strike and when the ball was returned to the goalmouth, Steve Fraser amazingly fired wide of an open goal.

Wealdstone made the most of these let offs and on 20 minutes took the lead.

A great run by the effervescent Brian Jones, which including an audacious 'nutmegging' of Edgware defender Steve Hurd, ended with him rounding keeper James Goodman only to have his angled shot hacked clear on the line by Joe Lyons.

But Jones regained possession and found Paul Lamb on the edge of the area and his rising shot slipped through Goodman's grasp into the net.

Stones began to get on top but right on the break they surrendered the lead when Murray put Fraser through to beat the advancing Bonfield.

Only Bonfield's save prevented Fraser repeating the trick when he got clear again seconds later.

Edgware had a lucky escape early in the second half when another superb Jones run ended with a fierce shot against an upright. But with 52 minutes gone Stones did regain the lead, Dennis Greene's astute 25 yard free kick going in off the crossbar.

Newing complained about the free kick and was booked, and then inexplicably moaned again after the goal had been scored to receive his second caution - and a red card.

Against 10 men, Stones cruised home and only the bar prevented Green from extending their lead four minutes from time.

Victory made it three out of three for Wealdstone against Wares this season.

The final clash in this intriguing and always eventful series, this time in the league, takes place on April 11.

Edgware: Goodman, Smart, Sheridan, Hurd, Finnerty, McCluskey (Coleman), Lyons, Murray, Fraser, Newing, Valenti (Sutton). Other subs: Whytock.

Wealdstone: Bonfield, Corbould, Sterling, Moore, Waugh, Beckett (Bowler), Lamb, Jones (Walton), Celaire (Garner), Greene, Bircham.



Steve Newing - sending off effectively ended Edgware's hopes against Wealdstone.

Borough put out cup holders to stop rot

Harrow Borough 2 Staines Town 1

AT long last, Harrow's winless run was ended when they knocked holders Staines out of the Middlesex Senior Cup in Tuesday's replay, writes Tony Booth.

It was Borough's first victory since the beginning of December and earned them a third round tie at

home to either Brimsdown Rovers or Harefield United.

As in all their recent matches, Borough had the vast majority of first half possession and pressure only to fail at the final hurdle - goalscoring.

They did however take the lead in the 17th minute after Kenny Webster's free kick was headed into

the goalmouth by Jason Court. Pat Gavin won a challenge for the ball and Mark Xavier forced it past diving keeper Lovett.

A constant barrage of Borough pressure then went unrewarded and two minutes before the break they conceded a poor equaliser when an Ellis corner was headed in from close range by Noad.

Just for a change, Borough also dominated the second half and on 56 minutes they regained the lead.

Xavier's left wing run ended when he beat two defenders and shot goalwards and when Lovett parried his effort, Gavin followed up to net from 12 yards.

Xavier's cross-shot and Gavin's powerful header were both tipped

over, and Borough should have had a penalty when Clement clearly brought down Xavier in the area.

But the home side had already done enough for a deserved victory and now they need to restore some sanity to their league form.

Harrow Borough: Hook, Webster, James (Ekoju), Court, Paris, Issott, Hurlock (Butler), Metcalfe, Gavin, Xavier, Denny (Rutherford).

Two more sign for Lions

PETER Grant's latest recruits for Wembley are ex Uxbridge and Edgware Town striker, Leon Latty, and another ex-Wares player, defender Aaron Kirwin.

Carlton Mitchell is available for Wembley's home game with Wokingham Town on Saturday after completing his suspension, but both Wayne Walters and Les Thompson are banned.

Andy Smith, Ashley Cumberbatch and Shaun

Fleming are still struggling with injuries.

Darren Coleman is back after suspension for Harrow Borough's home game with Aylesbury, but David Clarke starts a ban and will be missing.

Roy Marshall and Paul McKay, rested against Edgware, will return to the Wealdstone side to face Wivenhoe.

Nathan Beckett and Brian Jones are expected to be fit for

selection after picking up injuries in the Wares clash.

Edgware have no injury problems for their visit to Harrow on Saturday but they will be without Steve Newing, who starts a suspension, for Tuesday's big clash with league leaders Canvey.

The injured Donnelly misses Rayners Lane's League Cup clash with Hounslow. Both Cott and Horden return.

Bonfield is so safe

WEALDSTONE keeper, Darren Bonfield, has won the Ryman League Division Two Guardian Insurance Safe Hands Award for December.

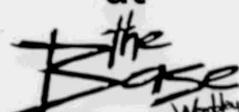
Ironically, he was replaced on Saturday at Banstead by Noel Imber who conceded four goals as Stones lost 4-1.

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Soccer fixtures

Saturday January 17

Ryman League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Aylesbury United (Earlsmead, 3pm).

Ryman League Div One: Wembley v Wokingham Town (Vale Farm, 3pm).

Ryman League Div Two: Harsham v Edgware Town; Wealdstone v Wivenhoe Town (White Lion ground, 3pm).

Ryman League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Flackwell Heath (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).

Middlesex County League Alec Smith Cup: Rayners Lane v Hounslow Borough.

Monday January 19

Full Members Cup: Dagenham & Redbridge v Harrow Borough.

Tuesday January 20

Ryman League Div Two: Edgware Town v Canvey Island (White Lion ground, 7.30pm).

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