

SPORT

FA investigate approaches to Borough players

THE Football Association are looking into the attempts by Aylesbury United to sign Harrow Borough's Jason Court and Steve Butler after the Earlsmead club questioned the validity of their approach for the players.

The FA have referred the matter back

to Aylesbury after agreeing with Borough that 28 days have to elapse before seven-day approaches for players at the same club.

Borough were this week hoping not to lose another player after receiving seven-day approaches for defender Darren

Coleman from both Wealdstone and Gravesend and Northfield.

Ex-Borough boss Bob Dowie linked up with another former Earlsmead manager this week when he signed for Leighton Town, who are managed by Peter Lawrence.



Mark Xavier - scored five for Borough against Brimsdown.

'X' marks the spot in Borough eight goal County Cup romp

Harrow Borough 8 Brimsdown Rovers 1

STAR striker Mark Xavier notched a superb five goal haul as Borough battered Brimsdown in this Middlesex Senior Cup clash on Tuesday night, writes John Comfort.

With only 11 players eligible for the tie, it was an excellent effort by the goal happy Earlsmead outfit who have now scored 13 in their last two games.

Their reward is a home match

in the semi-finals against either Uxbridge or Waltham Abbey, who play their quarter final tie tonight (Thursday).

The goal spree began in the 10th minute when Ian Rutherford's clever flick sent Xavier through to fire an angled drive past Brimsdown keeper Ian Brewster.

Nko Ekoku was the architect of the second on the half hour, determinedly winning the ball in his own half before sending Xavier

away to outpace the Rovers defence and shoot home.

Two minutes before the break Xavier completed his hat-trick after a good one-two between Kenny Webster and Darren Coleman and four minutes into the second half the striker got a fourth, rounding Brewster to net after being put through by Rutherford.

There was no stopping Xavier and he made it 5-0 when he headed in Rutherford's right wing

cross in the 59th minute.

Brimdown were given a lift when Peter Ulatowski blasted in a 25 yarder three minutes later to reduce the arrears, but Borough swiftly got back on the goal trail.

Webster hit the woodwork with a free kick before Rutherford fired in the home side's sixth in the 81st minute from Ricky Denny's cross. Brimsdown defender Glen Sutton questioned the validity of the goal and got the red card for his trouble from

Ruislip referee, Mick Robinson.

Rutherford put Ekoku through to make it 7-1 in the 86th minute and, right on time, Rutherford turned in a cross from Xavier to complete the rout.

Remarkably, this was not Borough's biggest ever victory in the competition. 57 years ago they had a 9-0 win over AEC (Southall).

Harrow Borough: Hook, Issott, James, Coleman, Paris, Webster, Rutherford, Denny, Ekoku, Xavier, Bates.

Wealdstone injury crisis

Problems mount for Braintree showdown

WEALDSTONE won through to the semi-finals of the Ryman League's Vandanel Trophy with their 2-1 win at East Thurrock on Tuesday, but paid a high price in injuries for their success and are struggling to get a side together for Saturday's big home league match against Division Two leaders Braintree.

"We've got major problems, and I think I would have preferred it if we'd gone out," said an unhappy Stones boss, Gordon Bartlett, after Chris Walton (knee), Paul Lamb (ankle) and Brian Jones (calf) were added to an already lengthy injury list.

By John Comfort

Paul McKay and Stan Bowder are out, while Steve Bircham, Simon Garner and Dominic Sterling are all struggling.

"Alan Wharton (the Wealdstone physio) is going to be working hard over the next four days to try and sort things out," added Bartlett.

For Stones, Saturday's big clash will revive memories of last season's memorable 6-0 thrashing of Braintree which effectively tipped the Division Three title

chase in their favour. The Essex club are currently unbeaten in 25 league games so the Wealdstone fans will be eagerly anticipating a repeat performance, although the Stones boss is more realistic.

"It's important that we get something out of the game because we want one of those promotion spots," said Bartlett.

"But at the moment the 6-0 score of last year is a long way from our thoughts. Our problem will be getting a semblance of a side together."

Stones are looking for a bumper crowd for the game, hopefully beating the 605 they had for the Edgware derby.



Steve Fraser shoots for goal in Edgware's 3-1 win over Northwood on Saturday.

Stones ease into Trophy last four

East Thurrock Utd 1 Wealdstone 2

STONES progressed to the semi-finals of the Vandanel Trophy on Tuesday with this win over East Thurrock, writes Stephen Paul.

Kenny Gayle, called up to make his first start in this, his second spell with Stones, set up their opener after 26 minutes. He found Brian Jones whose shot was knocked in by Dennis Greene.

Greene should have extended Edgware's lead in the 64th minute when Mario

Claire was brought down by Casey. But his poor penalty kick was saved by Curtis.

It was not until the last five minutes that Stones made it 2-0 when sub Lawrence Yaku outpaced the Thurrock defence and lobbed over Curtis.

Casey pulled one back for Thurrock within a minute but in the final moments it was Wealdstone's Matt Corbould who came closest to scoring when his header hit a post.

Wealdstone: Imber, Lamb (Beckett), Corbould, Moore, Waugh, Marshall, Walton (Yaku), Jones, Colaine, Greene, Gayle. Other sub: Bonfield.

Mitchell seals semi final spot for Lions

Wembley 1 Potters Bar Town 0

WEMBLEY recorded a rare win on Tuesday night, defeating Potters Bar to progress into the semi-finals of the Middlesex Charity Cup where they will meet either Uxbridge or Hampton at Vale Farm, writes Richard Markiewicz.

The only goal of the game arrived in the 22nd minute. A couple of first time passes from Colin Hall and Alan

Mills opened up the visitors' defence and Carlton Mitchell bravely burst through the gap to stroke the ball past keeper Micky Rogers.

Rogers had earlier denied the outrunning Arron Kirwan, using his feet to block the Wembley full back's fierce low drive, while efforts from Mills and Leslie Thompson were halted by goaline clearances as Wembley dominated the opening period.

And just before the interval Rogers was called on to make another fine save, pushing aside a vicious angled strike from Ian Bates.

Wembley lost their fluency after the break, and were kept at bay by a resolute Potters Bar defence, but the one goal was sufficient for victory.



Carlton Mitchell, scorer of Wembley's winner.

Wembley: Ward, Dee, Kirwan, Walters, Scott, Mitchell, Hall, Bates, Mills (Ahmed), Thompson, Hall. Other subs: Jenkins, Downes.

Latest tables

RYMAN LEAGUE															
Premier Division															
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sutton Utd.	29	6	5	5	22	60	20	Braintree	25	16	7	0	71	32	61
Kingstonian	29	10	9	4	25	57	37	Carney Isl.	26	17	6	3	59	37	
Dagenham	27	17	4	6	48	28	55	Edgware	28	11	8	7	61	56	
Borham W.	24	14	5	5	50	25	47	Wealdstone	24	14	7	3	48	24	
Haydock	22	12	3	14	48	33	45	Northford	23	10	5	24	34	49	
Uxbridge	20	12	5	11	45	42	41	Old Palace	22	10	5	31	34	49	
Hendon	27	11	7	9	36	38	40	Chalfont	28	11	10	7	44	40	
Waltham A.H.	27	12	4	11	35	40	40	Old Palace	27	12	5	10	45	41	
Purfleet	28	10	10	8	42	43	38	Barking	27	11	8	8	47	48	
Harrow B.	28	11	11	6	38	40	37	Marlow	27	12	5	10	46	40	
Dulwich H.	27	10	6	11	40	36	36	Northwood	26	11	5	10	38	42	
Stonyh.	9	9	3	24	31	35	35	Braintree	26	10	7	12	52	37	
Aylesbury	28	10	4	14	27	48	34	Tooting	23	11	9	32	28	36	
St Albans	25	10	3	12	33	40	33	Harpenden	24	9	10	39	36	32	
Braintree	28	10	2	16	45	34	32	Wivenhoe	27	11	8	48	43	32	
Cannalton	23	8	7	8	36	41	31	Hungerford	27	8	6	13	44	48	
Marlow	28	7	12	30	37	30	30	Leighon	26	7	14	25	47	25	
Yeading	26	7	14	34	46	28	28	Northam	26	5	15	31	50	21	
Staple T.	29	8	11	21	41	47	28	Widnes	25	4	15	42	19		
Basingstoke	23	7	5	10	25	37	26	Tilbury	25	3	10	31	62	19	
Colind A.	28	6	7	15	46	25	24	Elgham	26	6	17	32	62	18	
Chesham	26	6	14	46	55	24	24	Chesham	27	1	23	21	76	9	

RYMAN LEAGUE															
Division One															
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aldershot	28	16	5	6	51	37	57	Harlow	24	15	7	5	52	29	52
Hampton	28	14	10	4	48	30	52	Harpenden	24	16	3	5	49	23	51
Grays	28	14	5	5	54	28	52	Wentworth	25	11	8	6	52	25	
Leatherhead	29	14	8	9	49	34	48	Ford	23	14	6	3	58	19	
Uxbridge	27	15	2	10	41	47	47	St. Thomas	22	15	3	42	22		
Bognor	26	13	6	7	53	27	45	Aveley	23	11	5	43	31		
Bideford	22	13	4	5	46	25	43	Facwell H.	24	10	5	9	37	35	
Chesham	27	11	9	6	51	50	41	Ware	23	10	4	8	38	33	
Northford	23	12	4	7	52	33	40	Clapton	21	10	3	30	32		
Wokingham	26	12	4	10	47	45	40	Noncham	26	8	11	43	50		
Maidenhead	24	12	2	10	44	25	38	Croydon Ath.	25	9	11	43	38		
Benhamstead	27	11	4	12	44	48	37	Epsom	23	9	5	37	32		
Leyton P.	26	8	10	11	41	44	32	Canterbury	20	8	6	49	29		
Barrow	26	8	11	9	45	45	32	Canterham C.	26	8	6	30	26		
Chesham	26	6	9	11	45	27	27	Fring	24	8	6	10	34		
Croydon	24	6	10	24	36	26	26	Wingate & F.	23	5	11	27	52		
Wokingham	26	8	11	18	21	37	28	Dorking	23	3	10	30	62		
Wokingham	27	6	14	20	46	25	25	Lewes	24	3	4	17	23		
Widley	25	6	12	25	46	25	25	King's Lynn	24	3	18	22	57		
Abingdon	25	7	15	32	52	24	24	Southall	25	2	20	21	70		

Hurd is back to boost Edgware

EDGWARE Town have defender Steve Hurd back after suspension for their visit to lowly Egham on Saturday but they will be without John Coleman, who is unavailable.

Midfielder Michael Roche has left the Wares and signed for neighbours Wembley.

Harrow Borough boss Alan Paris is expected to make a couple of new signings in time for their home match with Kingstonian. Borough will have Pat Gavin back after completing his suspension.

Alan Mills faces a late fitness test on an ankle injury

sustained against Potters Bar, and there are also question marks over the fitness of both Dave Vincent and Craig Elliott for Wembley's home game with Maidenhead United.

Les Thompson also took a knock but should be okay, while fit-again Sofiane Sardi, who scored twice for the reserves last weekend, is added to Peter Grant's squad, along with Carl Levene.

Soccer fixtures

Saturday February 14	Ryman League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Kingstonian (Earlsmead, 3pm)	Ryman League Div One: Wembley v Maidenhead Utd (Vale Farm, 3pm)	Ryman League Div Two: Wealdstone v Braintree Town (White Lion ground, 3pm)	Egham Town v Edgware Town	Ryman League Div Three: Southall v Kingbury Town (at Fring Town FC)
Tuesday February 17	Ryman League Div Two: Wealdstone v Braintree Town (White Lion ground, 7.45pm)				

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