

SPORT

SOCCER

An unhappy ending all round for Stones' family day

WEALDSTONE'S unbeaten home Ryman League record went crashing in this defeat by a physical Croydon side who had one player carried off with a broken leg and another sent off in a bad-tempered game on Sunday. writes GRAHAM SMITH

The crowd of 592 - best of the season so far - saw Noel Imber save well from Barry Ferdinand - England and Spurs star Les' cousin - early on.

After 20 minutes, Pearson missed an easy

chance, but two minutes later Ferdinand was carried off after breaking a leg in a 50-50 challenge with Dominic Sterling.

Soon after, the hard-working Fergus Moore saw an effort hit the crossbar and then the skipper found the net only to be ruled offside. Then a Brian Jones effort hit the post.

In the first minute of the second half, Jones had a good shot saved by Bower. But then the visitors were reduced to ten men when ex-Stone

Solomon Eriemo was sent off for a second bookable offence in the 63rd minute.

Good work from sub Sammy Dale allowed him to place a low cross which Jones was inches away from touching in.

Then, with nine minutes remaining, Wealdstone, conceded a very poor goal. Croydon's Davy looked clearly offside as he ran in on keeper Imber, who should have kicked the ball out of the ground. Instead he came out and it seemed as if he was going to

head the ball away but he changed his mind and swung out a leg instead. The resulting poor clearance bounced off Davy who had the easiest of chances of shooting into the empty net.

Just before the end, a fight broke out involving 12 players - a sad end to Wealdstone's 'Family Day' with one of the worst performances of the season.

WEALDSTONE: Imber; Waugh, Sterling, Moore, Benning (McKay), Dicker, Walton, Jones, Kent, Holmes (Dale), Lamb. Sub: Dell.

SWIMMING

Golden victory by Juia

HARROW & Wealdstone Swimming Club had a very successful day at the annual Barnet Novices meet, the highlight being gold for 10-year-old Julia Warburton in the 50m backstroke.

There were silvers for Shelley Parker & Chris Timms (50m butterfly), Heidi Swanston (50m freestyle), Tom Davies, Nick Trower, John White, James Byrne (1987 boys freestyle relay team), Michael Lim, Jonathan Swanston, Alex Warburton, James O'Connor (1989 boys freestyle relay team), Lucy Read, Atoka Bhutaini, Harriet Allen, Kate Riggs (1987 girls medley relay team).

Bronze medals went to: Gemma Rees (50m backstroke), Heidi Swanston (100m L.M.), Heidi Swanston, Joanne Hiskey, Danni Moss, Louise Brady (girls 1986 freestyle relay team), Chris Timms, Nick Trower, Tom Davies, John White (1987 boys medley relay team).

Other finalists were: Heidi Swanston & Liam McCormack (50m backstroke), Joanne Hiskey, Nick Trower, Liam McCormack & Shelley Parker (50m breaststroke), James Byrne, Liam McCormack, Stacie Craig & Richard Plastow (50m fly), Chris Timms, Louise Brady, Gemma Rees, Liam McCormack & James Byrne (50m freestyle).

There were 16 first places, eight seconds and 11 thirds for the club in the first round of the 1998 Speedo League.

They finished in second place behind Chelmsford Swimming Club.

The following swimmers achieved first places: Tomoko Matsushita (open medley breaststroke), Lee Mohamed, Andrew Swanston, Julian Knowles, Matthew Glass (boys 15 & under freestyle relay team), John White (10-11 yrs backstroke), Simon Colwill (13 & under breaststroke), Julian Knowles (15 & under backstroke), Eleanor Davis (13 & under open backstroke), Andrew Swanston (15 & under butterfly), Heidi Swanston (13 & under butterfly), Bradley Lydon (13 & under butterfly & freestyle), Louise Brady (13 & under freestyle), Kate Semmens (15 & under breaststroke), Michael Clark (15 & under breaststroke), Julian Knowles, Michael Clark, Matthew Glass, Lee Mohamed (boys 15 & under medley relay team).

HOCKEY

Easy for Harrow

MILL HILL 0 Harrow 4 HARROW Ladies started well against Mill Hill but despite several chances they failed to get an early goal.

It was against the run of play that in a rare Mill Hill attack they were awarded a penalty stroke, but keeper Julie Fielder was equal to the task and made a fine diving save to her left.

This spurred Harrow into action and they quickly ran in three goals in 15 minutes. Kerri Lendon scored the first with a solo run past three players. Jo Shardlow the second deflecting in a Kerri Lendon free hit and Tasha Lendon the third after fine work down the right by Natalie Hilliard.

With a comfortable 3-0 half-time lead, Harrow hoped for an avalanche of second half goals. But they were only able to add one further through Kelly Lendon. Nevertheless a good start to the league campaign.

Guidford 2 Harrow 3

HARROW Ladies faced a difficult away trip in the English Cup when drawn against Guidford, one division above them. But they triumphed in a dramatic penalty shootout and now face Watlington from Surrey in the next round on November 1.

CHESS

Check-ered start

HARROW chess club had a poor start to the season. In the eight-board Middlesex League match at Hackney, Richard Dickson was the only Harrow winner, though Colin Crouch, Sid Golding and Mike Williams all drew their games.

In the Hingston League, Harrow's C team went down 4-1 at West Drayton where Roy Maddock and Lee Branca ended draws.

Gavin sees red as Lawford hits three

HARROW Borough strolled to their second consecutive away Ryman League win while keeping their fourth clean sheet on the trot at Slough on Saturday.

John Lawford grabbed a superb opportunist hat-trick, but their victory was marred by the sending off of Pat Gavin with nine minutes left for a push on Slough central defender Simon Line.

Having been hacked down from behind in front of the referee by a vicious two-footed tackle, Gavin jumped to his feet and clearly pushed Line in the face. Line staggered back clutching his hands to his head staggered back four or five steps and collapsed as if shot by a sniper in the main stand.

With Gavin having been rightly dismissed, Line then made a remarkable recovery and escaped with only a yellow card.

But Boro had sewn up the points by this time with another excellent performance that must have had the Slough faithful or what there were of them in a season low crowd of 4332, wondering if their late admission into the Ryman League was worthwhile.

Boro started on the back foot repelling early pressure but this turned out to be the

BY PAUL DAVIDSON
Slough 0 Harrow Borough 3

only period of the game when they were not on top. Slough centre-forward McVie blazed high and wide from 25 yards early on and Boro had to scramble the ball clear following a home corner, but Roberts could have put Boro one up when his free kick was cleared after deliberate hand ball was given by the ref with strangely no booking for the offending home player.

This was not the only time the ref seemed to favour Slough but Boro kept ignoring some strange one-sided decisions from the officials and their reward was a to take the lead in the 16th minute with an excellent goal from John Lawford. A minute earlier it looked as though he must score when Pat Gavin's excellent header from Paul Adolphe's deep cross fell to him in the six-yard box but he missed the target. He was happy to make amends a minute later when a through ball from well inside the Boro half by a rapidly improving Danny Nwaokolo was taken in his stride by Lawford and with a defender snapping at his heels, he calmly side-footed the ball into the corner of the net past the helpless keeper.

Gavin should have doubled Boro's lead when he headed wide from McCormack's corner, won down

the left after good work by Lawford. Boro attacked straight from restart and Bates' header from a good Lawford cross was hacked behind for an early corner. Gavin just failed to connect with an Adolphe cross and then James drove the ball across the face of goal with no-one managing to get the necessary touch.

Suddenly Slough started to make a fight of it and it needed a superb tackle from Nwaokolo to stop a home breakaway before the Rebels player-manager Hardyman drove just over from 25 yards to remind Boro the game was not over.

But Boro made it safe in the 70th minute with a second, rather scrambled goal.

A Roberts' corner was headed goalwards by Gavin and clearly handled on the post by left-back Hughes.

But while Boro players appealed, Lawford reacted quickly and got a touch as the ball spun into the net.

Lawford completed his hat-trick in the 78th minute when he slotted home from the edge of the six yard box after Gavin's downward header from a superb outswinging cross by Lord, as Slough appealed for offside.

Boro played out the remaining time comfortably in control and though the sending off took some of gloss of the result, manager Alan Paris was well pleased with another superb performance that augers well for the rest of the season.

HARROW BOROUGH: Hook, O'Brien, James, Roberts, Nwaokolo, Paris, Adolphe, Bates, Gavin, Lawford, McCormack, (Lord). Sub: not used: N. Kurnah, Doodis.

Late set-backs spell defeat for the Manorians

Old Manorians 1 Phoenix OB 3

OLD MANORIANS produced one of their more indifferent performances against Phoenix Old Boys, crashing to two very late goals.

Manorians made a bright start, taking the lead through Chris Keating and then having a strong penalty appeal turned down.

Once Phoenix equalised, Manorians struggled to hang on and eventually crashed to their first defeat of the season.

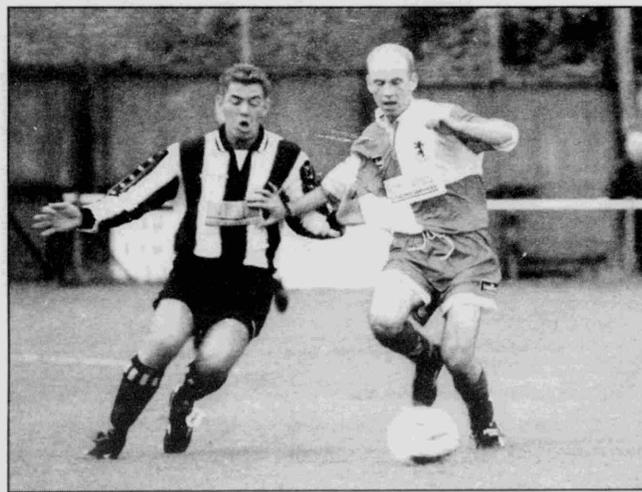
David Farling was the Man-of-the-Match.

Some outstanding football by Manorians seconds helped them to overcome a strong Budweillers seconds 6-1.

Tony Dyde and Zak Ajawin both grabbed two goals, with Robert Rahman and Simon Robinson netting the other.

Other results: Cardinal Manning 2nd 0 Manorians 3rd 0; Manorians 4th 0 Cardinal Manning 3rd 6; Manorians 5th 2 Kingsburians 5th 1.

AFA Cup: Manorians 6th 5 Barclays Bank 6th 1; Alportians Vets 1 0 Manorians Vets 5.



Attacking force...Edgware on the ball in their exciting 4-3 FA Vase victory over Harwich & Parkstone on Saturday. Report back page. Picture: JONATHAN GOLDBERG

Goals galore but still no win

Worthing 5 Wembley 3

THERE were goals galore at Woodside Road on Saturday but no joy for Wembley as their winless run since the start of the season was extended to 13 matches. writes Richard Markiewicz.

This result sent them to the bottom of the Ryman League First Division but it was an extraordinary contest begun in bizarre fashion.

Worthing's Ben Carrington was booked after only five seconds for lunging at Wembley skipper Ian Bates and the game proceeded in a similar manner throughout.

With both defences looking insecure it was no surprise that

goals soon began to flow. Worthing opened the scoring in the sixth minute when the fully-stretched Ken Beckles could only parry Carrington's close-range header and Mark Burt slid in to poke home the rebound.

Carrington then capitalised on Jason McKay's miskick to make it 2-0 nine minutes later and it looked as if Wembley were about to suffer another hiding. But in the 31st minute the visitors managed to pull a goal back with Leon Callender scoring after new-boy Leon Woodruffe had breached the home defence with an excellent run down the left flank.

Bates, who hit the post, and Tony Millard, who missed the target both rising unopposed, should

have scored with free headers following corners, soon after. And then thanks to some woeful Wembley defending. Worthing hit back to double their total with Lee Weston making it 3-1 in the 38th minute and four minutes later Simon Funnell adding a fourth.

But the action in the half was not over as James Wise almost scored for the Lions in the 44th minute with a superb long-range strike which skimmed the top of the crossbar.

More careless defending allowed Worthing extending their advantage at the start of the second half before Wembley got their act together and hauled themselves back in contention with two goals in as many minutes.

In the 54th minute a fine through ball by Les Thompson, who had an excellent game, despite lacking match

fitness, set up Jesse Hall whose cross-cum-shot was deflected by a defender into his own net.

Two minutes later it was 4-3. Thompson superbly wrong-footed his marker with a swift turn after receiving a McKay throw and drilled the ball across the face of the Worthing goal for Callender to slot home his second goal of the game.

A complete recovery was on the cards but Wembley's hopes were dashed when they were reduced to ten men in 68th minute after McKay was sent off for a bad challenge.

Carrington, giving Beckles no chance with a stupendous half-volley made it 5-3 from the free-kick that followed and Worthing retained the initiative until the final whistle.

WEMBLEY: Beckles, Woodruffe, Kirwan, Walters, Millard, Wise, Bates (McCluskey 84), McKay, Callender, Thompson (Levene 75), Hall. Sub: Alday.

Two sent off as Lane unbeaten record crashes

Basingstoke 2 Rayners Lane 1

RAYNERS Lane lost their unbeaten record and their top spot in the Chiltonian League in controversial style on Saturday.

Playing against third-placed Basingstoke, the first half was very competitive and both teams showed good attacking flair.

Basingstoke took the initiative early in the game and stand-in goalkeeper Simon Middleton was forced to pull off several good saves.

But Lane started to produce their best football of the season and in the 30th minute took the lead when Tommy Metcalfe earned an indirect free kick in the opponent's box. The kick was headed to John Sheppard and he curled the ball into the far corner of the net.

Slack defending in the final ten minutes of the half enabled the home side to

score twice before the interval.

The second half was spoiled by an over zealous display of refereeing. While the game had flowed in the first half, it was constantly stopped with the ref brandishing yellow and red cards and Lane coming off worse.

They had two players sent off - substitute Danny Mills who had only been on the pitch for ten minutes was dismissed for verbal abuse and Daryl Kingstott went in the dying minutes for a second bookable offence.

There was little quality play to talk about and with the shape of the team torn apart, Lane did well to only go down 2-1.

RAYNERS LANE: Middleton; Bainborough, Bird, Sheppard, Woodward, Foster, Crofts, Metcalfe, Campbell, Williams, Kingstott. Subs: Murphy, Mills.

Road Running Long and the short of it

TWENTY EIGHT teams from 10 different clubs took part in the Long Short Road Relay on Sunday which started its 50 mile journey in Pinner and finished on Royston Heath in Hertfordshire.

The event, co-organised by Metros Running Club and Royston Runners, is a fund-raising event for the British Heart Foundation and celebrates the life of Clive Long who was a member of both clubs, until his death three years ago.

The five stage relay was hotly contested at the sharp end with three teams going well under the five hour mark. The eventual winners were Fairlands Valley Spartans "Spartans" team an overall time of 4:51.11, having benefited from a navigational error by Muswell Hill, who came in one minute behind.

Best of the Metros teams were the "A" team who finished in seventh place, followed by the "Real Alers" in eighth place. The "Bedgeree Chums" broke the six-hour mark for the first time to finish in 14th place, with the all female team of "Fit, Fast, Fruity, Fresh and Fragrant" in 17th. The "Metros Movers" came in 28th place. Fairlands Valley "Boudicca" team were comfortable winners of the women's trophy smashing their own course record by a massive 23 minutes.

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