

# SPORT

## Clash with Cardiff will be no friendly for Weedon's men

WASPS take on Cardiff at Loftus Road on Sunday, kick off 2.15pm, in a so called Anglo-Welsh friendly, writes Alan Bodenham.

Christmas run out however. "We've got a big point to prove," declared the tough New Zealander.

Cardiff triumphed 26-24 on that occasion in a thrilling match where the lead remarkably changed hands three

times in the last five minutes. "We will have a strong side out," said Weedon.

# Another new boss for Lions

THE Wembley FC managerial merry-go-round is on the move again following the sudden departure of Jock McGleish, who has been replaced in the Vale Farm hotseat by the little known Michael Charlton.

Charlton, in his first managerial appointment, remarkably becomes the seventh Lions boss in less than two years, following in the footsteps of Glen Charles, John Walsh, Paul Shields, Peter Grant, Ian Mellor, and McGleish.

Former Edgware boss McGleish, who only took over the post five months ago, stepped down after a



Jock McGleish - called it a day!

**By John Comfort**

meeting last Thursday with club chairman Brian Gumm, who was believed to be unhappy with the performance of his manager's coaching staff.

"There was no problem with Jock and there was no argument," said Mr Gumm. "He was being let down by others. I said to him that I thought perhaps it was time to call it a day and he agreed. It was an amicable parting."

McGleish said that it was indicated that if he changed his coaching staff - assistant Paul McCuskey and coach Robert Dale - he would have stayed.

"But I couldn't do that," he said.

## Charlton is new man in Vale Farm hotseat as McGleish calls it a day

"There were a number of things I could see the chairman's point of view over, but I didn't put up any argument."

"I was fed up to the back teeth and I just handed him his keys and said 'I'm off.' I won't be losing any sleep over it."

Although Wembley are still rooted to the bottom of the Ryman League Division One table, performances have been improving recently and McGleish said he felt that he was starting to get things right and the players were responding.

Now he believes the Lions are doomed.

In a parting shot he said: "The club's going nowhere and I think they'll go down. I hope they get out of trouble, but I can't see

it happening." In the meantime John Still has been in touch with McGleish and it now seems likely that he will take a coaching job with the Underhill club.

Charlton, whose background has been in coaching for the past six years, takes on the onerous task of attempting to save Wembley from the drop.

He took charge of the team, picked by captain Ian Bates, for Saturday's derby clash with Wealdstone and was full of confidence afterwards, despite a 2-0 defeat.

"There were lots of positives out there and plenty to build on," he said. "If I can get the players I want I think we will be alright."



## Depleted Wembley get no charity

**Ashford Town 3 Wembley 1**  
THE non-arrival of several personnel, and another reporting sick, forced Wembley to field a skeleton line up at Ashford on Tuesday which included several half-fit players and just one substitute, and this ultimately led to their Middlesex Charity Cup exit, writes Richard Markiewicz.

Players annoyingly going AWOL often hampered Jock McGleish's selection plans and was a contributory factor to his departure. Whether his successor, who has promised to make several new signings, will be as tolerant remains to be seen.

Despite being severely depleted, the Lions did not perform badly and dominated this second round tie, but could not turn their superiority into goals.

Steve White, with a fierce rising drive which was tipped over, and Les Thompson, who hit the side netting after latching onto Ian Bates' defence splitting pass, both came close during the early stages.

Ashford hardly threatened but still managed to score three times, courtesy of some haphazard Wembley defending. Their first came in the 22nd minute, Ian Kieaman firing home Anthony Eggington's knock down from a corner.

Wembley almost equalised when Nick Christie hit the bar with a deft lob, while Dave Vincent's flying header was superbly saved following a well worked free kick involving Bates and Sean McCarthy.

However, a second Ashford goal

right on half time, Baron Jolly scoring from a penalty after Adrian Creamer's foul on the onrushing Ian Yates, and a third two minutes after the restart, Laurence Munns forcing the ball home to end a goalmouth pantomime, effectively ended the tie.

To their credit Wembley kept battling on bravely and Wayne Walters emerged from his defensive position to reduce the arrears in the 72nd minute with a tremendous 35 yard strike.

Had Thompson, Vincent and Simon Whall been more accurate with their finishing as Wembley pressed forward it might have been different. But it was not to be!

Wembley: Creamer, Christie, Kirwan, Walters, Norris, Henderson, McCarthy, Bates, White (Whall), Vincent, Thompson.

# Benevolent Borough are given what four

**Purfleet 4 Harrow Borough 0**  
CHRISTMAS came early for the good folk of Purfleet on Monday as their visitors from the west arrived bearing gifts in the form of an emergency defence that could not cope with the hosts' second half attacks, writes Simon Grigor.

Alan Paris, Danny Nwaokolo and Jon-Barrie Bates, all on one-match suspensions, plus the unavailable Otis Roberts.

Aidan O'Brien was on the bench after returning from trials at Hartlepool United.

Coach Eddie Stein returned to an old friend by recruiting David Howell to play at centre half, surely breaking a club record for the longest

spell between appearances. Howell last played for Borough in August 1984.

He was joined in defence by Sean James, persuaded out of 'retirement,' Kenny Webster, returning from Aylesbury, and Darren Coleman, still suffering from food poisoning.

Harrow's rag-bag team started well enough and in

the first 15 minutes Francis McCormack had a shot blocked, Pat Gavin fired just wide, Nelson Kumah's shot was saved and Paul Adolphe had an effort blocked.

However, with 27 minutes gone it was Purfleet who took the lead when a corner was played short and then crossed for Southon to head home. Borough could count

themselves unlucky to be behind at the break, but in the second half it was a different story.

Harrow had early efforts from James and Kumah but the game was effectively over when Purfleet went two up in the 52nd minute, Georgiou breaking away from James to force the ball over David Hook.

Hook held two more shots and Obiero volleyed against the bar as the home side's pressure grew and with 80 minutes gone a very square Borough defence let Obiegami through to fire in Purfleet's third.

The final nail in the coffin was driven in just before the final whistle. McCormack lost the ball

inside the Purfleet half and the home side broke clear. Obiegami's shot was blocked by Hook but the ball broke to Obiero who fired home.

**Harrow Borough:** Hook, Webster, James, Howell (J. Kumah), Coleman (O'Brien), Randall, Adolphe, Toussaint (Dodd), Gavin, N. Kumah, McCormack.

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## Lamb back for Stones but banned Dell is out

WEALDSTONE have defender Steve Dell out through suspension for Saturday's home League game with Leatherhead, but Paul Lamb returns after completing a ban.

Brian Jones has also served his suspension but the jaw injury sustained against Molesey will keep him out, while Chris Walton is also doubtful.

With Alan Paris, Danny Nwaokolo and Jon-Barrie Bates back from suspension, and Otis Roberts also available, Harrow Borough's line-up at St Albans is likely to be more familiar than that which faced Purfleet.

Kenny Webster has returned to the club from Aylesbury as a non-contract

player, and Lee Randall, who formerly played for Slough in the Conference, has been signed from Chesham.

Jeremy Lord has left Earlsmead and joined neighbours Yeading. Flu hit Gerry Brennan and Steve White, who has a hamstring injury, are doubtful for Wembley's tough trip to League leaders, Bognor.

Steve Evans is still sidelined with a back injury and misses Edgware Town's visit to Hertford. Otherwise Steve Newing has a full squad to select from.

Kingsbury will not be relishing Saturday's visit of Lewes. The Sussex club hit nine against Clapton on Tuesday evening to go second in the table.

## Cup away day

IN the third round of the Puma Cup, Wealdstone are away to Oxford City while Harrow Borough, if they win their second round tie against Romford on Tuesday, will visit Hitchin Town.

Edgware Town have a tough task in the third round of the Vandanel Trophy, away to Harlow.

## Wares game off

EDGWARE TOWN'S League game with Tooting on Tuesday was called off because the Surrey club were involved in an FA Vase replay against Chipstead.

## Soccer fixtures

**Saturday December 19**  
Ryman League Premier Div: St Albans City v Harrow Borough  
Ryman League Div One: Bognor Regis Town v Wembley Wealdstone v Leatherhead (White Lion ground, 3pm)  
Ryman League Div Two: Hertford v Edgware Town

**Ryman League Div Three:**  
Kingsbury Town v Lewes (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm)  
**Monday December 21**  
Middlesex Charity Cup: Ruislip Manor v Wealdstone (7.30pm)  
**Tuesday December 22**  
Puma Cup: Harrow Borough v Romford (Earlsmead, 7.30pm)

## Early reports please

BECAUSE of early Christmas deadlines, all reports for next week's paper must reach our offices no later than 5pm on Monday.

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15,000	148.75	174.85	245.29	342.29	NO FEES
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