

# SPORT

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### Wasps eye up Cup clash with on form Irish

GARETH Rees did the honours for Wasps at Monday's Tetley's Bitter Cup draw at Twickenham and pulled out a plum quarter final tie at home to in-form London Irish, writes Alan Bodenham.

The two sides met at the same stage of the cup last season, their first meeting in the competition, and Wasps' 41-7 win at Sunbury was one of their most impressive of the campaign.

Back in September Wasps collected both League points with a 36-24 win, also at Sunbury. But since then the Exiles have been reinforced with some high quality imports from the southern hemisphere, including ex All-Black fly half, Steve Bachop, and under coach Dick Best the team has become the form horse of English rugby.

10 wins out of 11 have taken them up to third in the Allied Dunbar Premiership and they reached the Cup quarter finals with a hugely impressive 21-6 victory over Northampton at Franklins Gardens on Saturday.

However, Wasps supreme Nigel Melville was delighted with the draw.

"They are certainly the form team at the moment," he said "and we will probably start underdogs. "But that does not bother us at all."

# Honours even

## It's a replay as Stones fail to halt Harrow hoodoo

Wealdstone 2 Harrow Borough 2 INCREDIBLY it is 14 years since Wealdstone last got the better of Borough and that miserable run was extended by at least another week on Tuesday after a pulsating Middlesex Senior Cup clash between the bitter rivals that had everything bar a winner. Stones were twice in front courtesy of excellent strikes by Carl Holmes and seeming-ly set to break the jinx, but on each occasion Borough brave-

ly battled back to level the scores - and only an amazing goal-line clearance in the final minute of extra time prevented them from dramatically snatching a last-gasp victory. Certainly in the early stages of this action packed tie Borough looked more likely to earn a third round visit to Conference club Hayes. Otis Roberts should have

scored when poor Stones defending allowed him a clear run at goal but Noel Imber parried away his fierce shot. Then Shaun Fleming prevented both Leon Laty and Gilbert Johns forcing home a Roberts cross at the far post. Stones began to get on top in the second quarter and only a great flying save from the in-form David Hook kept out a bullet header from Holmes, with Mick Swaysland following in to fire against the woodwork and wide.

Within the space of a minute, Hook saved a powerful drive from Swaysland before play switched to the other end where Aidan O'Brien put Johns clear and only Ian Waugh's fine tackle saved a certain goal for Borough. But with 36 minutes gone it was Wealdstone who drew first blood. Fleming's superb pass split the Borough defence and Holmes cracked in to lash home a cracking half volley from 18 yards. Stones just had the edge in

a fairly evenly contested second half and they were unlucky not to add to their lead when Steve Bircham's excellent pass put Holmes through to crack a rising drive onto the Borough crossbar and Brian Jones had his follow up shot blocked on the line. But the visitors weren't finished and with 10 minutes remaining they drew level. Phil Dicker's missed challenge let Paul Adolphe clear on the left and his hard, low cross was knocked back at the

far post by Danny Nwaokolo for Ishmael Dodds to score his first competitive goal for Borough from close range. That forced extra time and only two minutes had elapsed before Stones went back in front when a Jones cross was half cleared to Holmes who turned smartly to drill a low shot past Hook. Dicker's tackle denied Nwaokolo an open goal as Borough hit back and three minutes into the second period they were back on level terms again when a Jon-Barrie Bates effort was deflected into the path of Dodds whose low cross-shot was turned in by Pat Gavin. Either side could have won it after that. Roberts was a little fortunate to receive only a yellow card after bringing Swaysland down en route to the Borough goal, while at the other end Dodds shot weakly at Imber after Adolphe put him clear. Then right on the final whistle Dodds seemed to have won it for Borough but somehow Dominic Sterling managed to keep out his close range shot with an amazing acrobatic goal-line clearance. Part two, with extra time and a penalty shoot out if required, is at Earlsmead this Tuesday. It's a game not to be missed!



Left: Harrow Borough's Carl Holmes (left) and Wealdstone's Shaun Fleming (right) in action. Right: Harrow Borough's Paul Adolphe (left) and Wealdstone's Phil Dicker (right) in action.

## Moore back to face Stones

FORMER Wealdstone skipper, Fergus Moore, makes a swift return to the White Lion ground this Saturday with his new club, Chertsey Town. Stones boss Gordon Bartlett has numerous injury problems for the game with question marks hanging over Dominic Sterling, Phil Dicker, Paul Lamb and Chris Walton. Striker Ricky Baptiste, the man whose ineffectual play cost Stones their place in the League Cup, has now had his move from Middlesex League Willdesden signed and sealed, and he looks set

for a place in the side. Wembley will be aiming to build on their win over Leatherhead when they visit Barton Rovers. Michael Gorman, who comes to Vale Farm from Yeading, is the latest signing of new Lions manager Errol Dyer. Edgware visit Leighton without the suspended Craig Elliott. If the Wares drew their

Middlesex Senior Cup tie with Wembley last night (Wednesday) the replay is likely to be at Vale Farm on Tuesday. This will mean the cancellation of Edgware's visit to Harlow in the Vandanel Trophy the following night. Without a league game on Saturday, Harrow Borough visit Staines for a friendly.

## Soccer Fixtures

**Saturday February 6**  
Ryman League Div One: Barton Rovers v Wembley; Wealdstone v Chertsey Town (White Lion ground, Spm).  
Ryman League Div Two: Leighton Town v Edgware Town.  
Ryman League Div Three: Ware v Kingsbury Town.  
Friendly: Staines Town v Harrow Borough.  
**Tuesday February 9**  
Middlex Senior Cup replay: Harrow Borough v Wealdstone (Earlsmead, 7.30pm).  
**Wednesday February 10**  
Vandanel Trophy: Harlow Town v Edgware Town.

## World Champs at Borough

WORLD Champions France will be at Harrow Borough's Earlsmead ground on Monday for an hour and a half training session in preparation for their international match against England at Wembley Stadium on Wednesday evening. France used Harrow for training when they last played England at Wembley back in 1992. Turkey, San Marino and Bulgaria have also made use of the Earlsmead facilities before internationals.

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1,000	130.16	150.15	206.25	284.54	11.8%	NO FEES
10,000	110.14	127.05	174.52	240.76	12.8%	NO FEES
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**The latest Ryman League tables**

Premier Division					Division One					Division Two					Division Three																
P	W	D	L	Pts	P	W	D	L	Pts	P	W	D	L	Pts	P	W	D	L	Pts												
Aylesbury	23	15	5	3	44	18	5pts	Barnet	25	14	6	5	53	26	48	Bedford	23	16	5	2	49	14	53	Chesham	22	13	5	4	40	22	44
Portlith	27	15	4	8	51	30	49	Bognor	24	15	3	6	41	23	48	Thame	24	15	3	6	59	32	48	Wingate	20	13	3	4	47	23	42
St Albans	26	13	8	3	45	28	47	Canvey	23	15	2	6	42	27	47	Harlow	19	14	4	1	56	17	46	Port	18	12	3	3	52	26	39
Sutton Utd	23	14	4	5	45	28	46	Hitchin	22	13	7	2	45	21	46	Leighton	23	10	8	5	33	27	38	Lewes	20	11	2	7	43	28	35
Widley	25	12	7	6	36	27	43	Chervey	24	9	6	9	39	34	36	Barnstead	21	11	8	8	42	35	Croydon Ath.	21	9	6	6	42	27	33	
Grays	22	11	3	8	29	24	36	Oldc'd C	21	9	8	4	36	28	35	Edgware	22	10	7	4	44	35	35	Tisbury	18	9	4	5	33	21	31
Hendon	24	9	7	8	44	41	34	Grays	21	9	6	5	24	25	33	Northwood	21	10	3	8	33	36	33	Ware	20	10	1	9	37	34	31
Barnham W.	25	8	10	7	39	41	34	Worthing	22	8	6	32	35	32	Widow.	17	10	2	5	41	29	32	Camden	16	9	3	4	39	32	30	
Aldershot	23	9	6	8	43	24	33	Ramrod	21	8	7	6	38	33	31	Horsham	22	9	5	6	42	34	32	Eggon	16	9	3	4	41	29	30
Dagenham	23	9	6	8	46	37	33	Wealdstone	21	8	4	8	28	26	31	Tring	21	9	5	7	30	30	32	Enfield	23	9	6	8	38	31	33
Waltham	26	9	4	11	40	41	33	Maldenhead	22	7	8	7	32	29	29	Watlington	20	8	7	5	33	34	31	Watford	23	9	6	8	39	32	32
Chesham	24	9	5	10	41	44	32	Uxbridge	22	7	6	9	30	28	27	Marlow	25	9	4	12	47	48	31	Southall	20	7	3	10	32	30	26
Stourbridge	22	8	9	36	31	31	Croydon	21	7	6	8	30	28	27	Harrowford	20	8	1	11	26	25	25	Ashey	20	7	3	10	27	24		
Walton	25	8	5	12	32	32	Barnet	24	6	9	10	26	29	25	Harlow	20	8	1	11	26	25	25	Wokingham	23	7	3	10	27	24		
Bromley	25	6	12	40	44	27	Leyton P.	25	6	8	37	43	26	Mer Police	20	7	3	10	23	23	Epsom	16	6	4	6	24	24				
Dulwich H.	24	7	11	25	32	27	Staines	24	5	8	11	18	37	Widow.	23	5	6	12	22	24	Corin C.	17	7	1	9	25	32				
Carshalton	27	7	14	32	35	27	Whyteleafe	20	6	4	10	29	34	22	Wilverton	21	6	5	10	38	43	23	Handchuff	19	5	6	8	20	21		
Sleaf	24	6	11	29	40	25	Ludlowhead	21	4	5	11	31	26	21	Barking	21	7	10	24	36	19	Kingsbury	21	4	1	16	27	18			
Hampton	23	6	11	26	45	24	Bucknham	23	4	6	13	31	32	18	Backwell	23	4	5	14	24	17	Darling	19	3	2	14	26	11			
Haywards	25	5	6	14	24	24	Yadley	21	4	5	12	25	33	17	Arlington	23	3	4	16	23	19	Tring	22	4	1	17	21	10			
Belsham	25	4	7	14	33	19	Wembley	24	2	6	16	15	12	Wokingham	23	3	2	18	20	11											

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