

# SPORT

## Wembley make a final date

Would you let this man report on your club's matches? 'No' say Wembley



**Banned: Observer's John Comfort**

**OBSERVER** Sports Editor, John Comfort, was 'shown the red card' at Vale Farm on Tuesday night when he turned up to report on Wembley FC's Middlesex Senior Cup semi final match with Northwood.

"The chairman says I can't let you in," said gateman, Chris Etherington.

The reason? Wembley chairman, Brian Gumm, unhappy with the Observer's report on the departure from the club of caretaker manager Michael Charlton, six weeks ago, has banned Mr Comfort from the ground.

"Hopefully common sense will eventually prevail," said Mr Comfort. "In the meantime we will endeavour to maintain our coverage of Wembley's matches in difficult circumstances."

## Cup glory chance for Lions breaks survival tension

**Wembley 2 Northwood 1**  
IN the midst of their hard working bid for First Division survival, Wembley's progress in the Middlesex Senior Cup has become a side-show and gone almost unnoticed.

Yet on Tuesday evening a comfortable win over Northwood incredibly saw them into the final of the competition, where they will face Hendon at Enfield FC on Easter Monday, with the opportunity of obtaining some silverware in what has been a turbulent campaign - something unimaginable

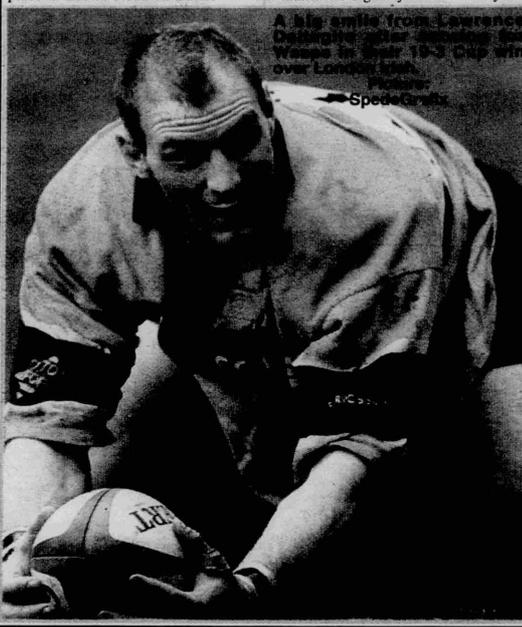
three months ago. At that time, winning a game would have been considered an achievement, let alone reaching a cup final.

The win over Northwood was fully deserved. Wembley out-fought, out-gunned and at times outclassed their opponents and the scoreline should have been more emphatic.

After withstanding early Northwood pressure the Lions took control of matters. Davis Haule's precision passing and the electrifying pace of Leon Callender combined to unlock the Northwood

## Wasps Cup clash switch

WASPS' Tetley's Bitter Cup semi final with Gloucester will take place at Loftus Road on Easter Sunday, April 4, with a 2.15pm kick off, writes Alan Bodenham. The match was originally scheduled for Good Friday but Wasps were keen to move the fixture, not because Queens Park Rangers were at home the following day, but also because Wasps fans have become used to their rugby on a Sunday.



A big smile from Lawrence Melville after the Wasps' 1-0 victory over Loftus Road.

Supremo Nigel Melville declared "We have got used to Sundays. That is the day we play so we were adamant about the switch."

The Rugby Union, Sky Television, and Gloucester all agreed to the move.

Gloucester have a good cup record against Wasps, having won three of the four meetings so far in the competition, two of them in London.

However, Wasps have beaten them home and away in the League this season.

Melville was delighted with the home draw but was obviously taking nothing for granted.

"Being at home was what we wanted," he said. "We are becoming very difficult to beat at Loftus Road. Nevertheless, we don't expect Gloucester, a side with great tradition and spirit, to be easy opponents."

rearguard and produced Wembley's first goal in the 29th minute.

Callender's run into the box was interrupted by Rene Street's challenge which was deemed illegal by referee John Keegan.

Haule converted the ensuing spot kick.

Further chances followed before Leon

Woodruffe, after bamboozling his marker with some tricky wing play, fired an awkward looping strike over the flapping keeper to make it 2-0 in the 63rd minute.

Northwood looked dead and buried but four minutes later the Lions threw them a lifeline when Keita Karamoko handled a

Woodruffe back pass and Dave Sargent hammered home from the close range free kick that followed to reduce the arrears.

The resuscitated visitors briefly threatened to equalise but were unable to pierce a solid Wembley rearguard and at the end the Lions reasserted the pressure with Callender

almost adding a third goal when he struck a post following a Sean McCarthy corner.

Nothing was going to deny Wembley a place in the final. Now for the Great Escape!

**Wembley:** Karamoko, Schwarz (Henderson), Leverie, Walters, Norris, Lindsay, Bates, McCarthy (Jones), Callender, Haule, Woodruffe. Other sub: Thompson.

## Hendon 3 Wealdstone 0

STONES lost this Middlesex Senior Cup semi-final in a game that became a farce due to the appalling conditions, writes Graham Smith.

Referee Paul Melin's decision to let the game go ahead on a waterlogged pitch did not appear to take into consideration the importance of the match and the risk of injury to

players of both sides.

The first half hour of the tie belonged to Stones.

A dangerous low cross from Brian Jones was saved by McCann, then Carl Holmes had two fine efforts superbly saved by the home keeper while another good cross from Jones went to waste as there was none to push the ball home.

After 30 minutes the heavy

rain made conditions even worse and at this point the game really should have been abandoned.

But it went on and Junior Lewis fired against a post for Hendon before the conditions helped the home side to take the lead four minutes before the break.

Ian Waugh slipped on the greasy surface, allowing Clarke

to race through and cross for Lewis to head home.

In the second half Jones went twice close to an equaliser, having a good effort tipped for a corner by McCann and then putting another shot goal inches wide.

However, with 68 minutes gone Hendon doubled their lead when Heard, who looked suspiciously offside, broke

through and although his first effort was saved by Noel Imber, he made no mistake from the rebound.

Rocky Baptiste had the chance to reduce the arrears but his soft shot was easily saved while Jones was unlucky with an effort that went inches over.

Two minutes from time a Stones clearance got stuck in the mud, leaving Lewis to hit his second goal to give home side's victory a somewhat flattering appearance.

**Wealdstone:** Imber, Waugh, Sterling, Dicker, McKay, Field, Walton, Jones, Baptiste, Holmes (Forshaw), Bircham (Benning). Other sub: Fleming.

## McCormack transfer listed by Borough

HARROW Borough have put Frank McCormack on the transfer list, at his own request and will be looking for a fee for him,

'commensurate with his ability.' The 20 year old winger was signed a year ago following his release by Colchester United.

Borough's appeal for referee David Buckridge to review David Hook's sending off against Wealdstone rejected and

the keeper will now serve a three match ban, missing Saturday's visit to Enfield and Tuesday's game at Hampton. Ryan

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## Fixtures

**Saturday March 6**  
Ryman League Premier Div: Enfield v Harrow Borough.  
Ryman League Div One: Wembley v Grays Ath (Vale Farm, 3pm); Whyteleafe v Wealdstone.  
Ryman League Div Two: Kingsbury Town v Marlow (White Lion ground, 3pm).  
Ryman League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Epsom & Ewell (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).  
**Tuesday March 9**  
Puma Cup: Dulwich Hamlet v Wealdstone.  
Ryman League Premier Div: Hampton v Harrow Borough (7.30pm).  
Ryman League Div One: Wembley v Chertsey Town (Vale Farm, 7.30pm).  
Ryman League Div Two: Edgware Town v Harlow Town (White Lion ground, 7.45pm).  
Ryman League Div Three: Ford Utd v Kingsbury Town (7.45pm).

## Tables

**RYMAN LEAGUE Premier Division**

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aylesbury	27	17	4	6	55	30	55
South Utd	27	17	4	6	55	30	55
Puffin	27	17	4	6	55	30	55
St Albans	28	14	9	5	50	33	51
Gravesend	27	14	4	9	39	30	46
Bilberray	28	12	8	7	38	30	46
Enfield	27	13	8	6	47	31	45
Bishop Cleeve	27	11	7	9	42	45	45
Alkeshot	27	10	7	10	40	37	45
Dagenham	26	11	7	8	48	37	40
Basingstoke	27	11	7	9	42	41	40
Slough	30	11	7	12	42	41	40
Harpenden	28	10	8	9	42	38	38
Harrow B	28	10	8	12	42	46	38
Chesham	28	9	12	8	42	32	32
Dulwich H	28	8	14	11	41	31	31
Walton	31	8	15	14	63	29	29
Barnet	28	7	15	16	51	27	28
Bromley	28	7	15	16	51	27	28
High Wycombe	28	7	15	16	51	27	28
Hampton	28	6	14	18	52	26	26
Bishopsgate St	28	5	16	18	69	22	22

**Division One**

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Braintree	32	17	8	7	62	32	59
Canvey	28	16	2	7	51	31	50
Bognor	28	17	4	7	49	27	55
Hilary	28	16	8	3	50	25	53
Oxford C	27	12	10	5	42	31	46
Grays	27	12	8	7	41	28	44
Wealdstone	27	12	8	7	37	41	41
Romford	28	10	9	6	43	36	39
Worthing	27	10	7	10	37	43	39
Chertsey	28	9	11	8	42	41	38
Northwood	28	10	7	11	42	38	31
Middeleshott	29	10	10	9	36	33	37
Barton	28	10	11	14	35	34	34
Marlow	28	8	13	17	28	31	31
Leyton P	26	7	9	10	42	49	30
Widnes	28	6	13	19	34	40	26
Whyteleafe	28	9	13	14	34	28	28
Yeading	26	8	14	14	41	26	26
Leatherhead	26	6	13	13	33	26	26
Slaines	26	5	12	19	39	24	24
Wickhamstead	28	6	18	16	61	21	21
Wembley	28	6	17	20	57	21	21

**Division Two**

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bedford	25	21	3	1	61	21	66
Thame	28	18	4	6	66	36	58
Wotton	25	17	3	5	66	25	54
Barnet	26	15	2	9	53	38	47
Luton	28	12	8	8	43	34	44
Windsor	23	13	4	6	49	27	43
Northwood	26	13	4	9	43	42	43
Weymouth	27	11	7	9	41	43	40
Driffield	29	10	10	14	45	39	39
Torquay	28	11	6	11	36	44	39
Hemel H	25	10	8	7	42	29	38
Marlow	25	11	4	14	58	38	38
Horsham	27	11	5	11	52	38	38
Hungerford	23	9	7	13	37	34	34
Woking	28	8	13	14	54	52	32
Wilton	28	10	10	10	48	28	32
Wokingham	28	12	8	8	36	44	32
Hertford	25	9	11	15	30	40	28
Barking	26	9	14	10	50	24	28
Wokingham	28	6	17	13	30	62	21
Bracknell	28	5	9	17	30	62	21
Alton	29	4	20	22	15	15	15

**Division Three**

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chesham	28	17	7	4	55	29	58
Ford	24	16	3	5	63	36	51
Wingate	26	15	4	7	54	33	49
Leaves	24	14	2	8	51	31	44
Ware	26	14	1	11	55	42	43
Crayke Ath	27	11	8	8	58	40	41
Egham	24	12	5	7	51	41	41
Colin C	24	12	2	10	41	38	38
Thruv	24	11	4	9	41	37	37
Camberley	22	10	6	6	50	38	36
Southam	25	10	10	15	42	42	34
E Throok	23	9	7	7	50	37	34
Ashted	27	10	4	13	37	48	34
Epsom	22	9	5	8	36	31	32
Frickwell	27	9	4	14	45	52	31
Barnet	27	7	11	13	33	47	28
Clayton	25	8	4	13	36	52	28
Kingsbury	28	6	11	11	31	69	19
Dorking	25	4	13	18	75	15	15
Tring	27	3	4	20	26	81	13