

SPORT

Another classic for return of the Irish?

TWO weeks after their epic cup confrontation, Wasps and London Irish meet again at Loftus Road on Sunday, this time in the Allied Dunbar Premiership, kick off 3pm.

BY ALAN BODENHAM
Eleven and a half thousand turned up for that game and hopefully a large chunk of

those will return to see if the sides can reproduce such a brilliant contest. "Consistency will be our watchword," said Wasps supremo Nigel Melville.

"We played really well that day and feel that we can do even better. We have not been beaten at home since November and we are determined to keep our good record

Hook is back for Borough

DAVID Hook returns in the Harrow Borough goal for the visit of Dulwich Hamlet on Saturday, after completing his three match suspension.

Danny Kwakolo is an injury doubt. Mark Cooper, recently signed from Northwood, could again deputise.

Wealdstone are hoping that striker Mick Swaysland will have recovered from a knee injury to play in Saturdays home game with Barton. Definitely out is Lewis Reid who suffered a neck injury in a car accident, but Gerry Brennan returns after being cup tied for Tuesday's game at Dulwich.

Craig Elliott is Edgware's only injury doubt as Edgware look to refine their winning ways at lowly Barking.

Fixtures

Saturday March 13
Ryman League Premier Div: Harrow Borough v Dulwich Hamlet (Earlsmead, 3pm).
Ryman League Div One: Molesey v Wembley, Wealdstone v Barton Rovers (White Lion ground, 3pm).
Ryman League Div Two: Barking v Edgware Town.

Ryman League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Fickwell Heath (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).

Monday March 15
Ryman League Premier Div: Dagenham & Redbridge v Harrow Borough (7.30pm).

Tuesday March 16
Ryman League Div One: Wembley v Uxbridge (Vale Farm, 7.30pm).

Ryman League Div Two: Edgware Town v Tooting & Mitcham Utd (White Lion ground, 7.45pm).

Ryman League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Tilbury (Silver Jubilee Park, 7.45pm).

It's looking grim for Lions

Defeat puts Wembley in serious relegation trouble



FOLLOWING a brief stay of execution, the Grim Reaper returned to hammer on the Vale Farm door on Tuesday night as Wembley's latest defeat plunged them into serious relegation trouble!

After last month's winning streak, two losses in four days has now put a severe damper on their survival bid.

However, things could have been different had the woodwork not come to Chertsey's rescue early in the first half to prevent first Davis Haule and then new signing, Carl Lindo, from scoring for the Lions who, despite being much changed

Wembley 0
Chertsey Town 3

But it obviously wasn't going to be Wembley's night as the woodwork denied them a goal for the third time - a rasping drive from Carl Levene thudding against the foot of an upright.

And eleven minutes from time Chertsey rubbed further salt into the Lions' wounds when Selby, with a near spot header, knocked in Martin Carter's cross to make it 3-0 and complete Wembley's misery.

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

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going." Melville knows, more than anyone, how Wasps' form has fluctuated this season.

World beating performances against Saracens and Bath in particular, have been followed by disappointing defeats a week later.

The game may not have the same prestige as the Cup quarter final, but it is just as important to both sides.

A top six finishing position will probably be the minimum requirement for next season's revamped European Cup competition.

At present London Irish are in fourth with Wasps in fifth but several clubs are in a close chasing group, ready to take advantage of any slip ups.

Melville reported that all the Wasps players on international duty at the weekend returned without injury this week.

But he said "Some of them are a bit on the stiff side. They will all be available for selection on Sunday though."

In the cup tie Wasps players came out on top in several of the crucial individual confrontations.

Alex King in particular outdid the classy Steve Bachup, Martyn Wood at scrum half had a super game against the experienced Kevin Putt and Rob Henderson gave a roasting to Brendan Venter.

The question now is can they repeat the dose?

No end in sight to the Borough happy to hold strugglers

EDGWARE'S dismal league run continued with a comprehensive defeat against high flying Harlow although the margin of the scoreline somewhat flattered the visitors, who scored goals in the last minute of each half.

For the most part play was both scrappy and frantic as both sides struggled to create any openings. Andy Carter did well to hold a fierce early volley from Moore, but Edgware failed to trouble Harlow keeper

Shepherd. Then just when it seemed the half would end scoreless, the visitors broke the deadlock.

Nicolson cut in from the left to set up Pike and although his first shot cannoned off Carter's chest, he was given plenty of time to put in the rebound.

The second half followed much the same pattern. Edgware introduced Christian Glynn which at last led to openings and could, and should, have produced goals.

But their finishing was inept, with Peter Sutton being the principal culprit.

Edgware Town 0
Harlow Town 3
BY TOM HOOKS

However, just after Steve Newing had a 25 yard free kick tipped over, Harlow extended their lead on 53 minutes, Kelly running clear to slot past Carter.

Sutton put two clear chances off target and had another goalbound shot deflected wide by a defender and with those misses went Wares' hopes of getting back in the game.

In the dying moments Harlow added to the home side's misery when Samuels slipped through to score their third goal.

Edgware: Carter, Norton, Murray, Makaman, Harro, Newing, Carr, Valent, Housle, Whytock, Sutton. Subs: Jenkins, Ivers, Glynn.

AFTER the five goal mauling at Enfield on Saturday, Borough were reasonably happy with this away point at relegation threatened Hampton on Tuesday night, but it was an untidy, shapeless game.

With Hampton not having scored for four games and Borough also finding it difficult to hit the net, a goalless draw was probably the inevitable outcome - and so it proved.

Real chances were few in the first half. Andy Murfin forced a save from Russell from a free kick, Paul Adolphe drove wide with a snap shot, while a clever flick from Pat Gavin gave Adolphe another chance which Russell saved.

Jon-Barric Bates went close with a 20 yard effort that flew inches over but overall the first half was a dreary affair.

The introduction of transfer listed Frank McCormack in the second half put a spark into Borough's play and within seconds of coming on he hammered a shot which

beat beat Russell but curled just wide. McCormack then went close with another good effort following a cross by Murfin.

Borough defended well when they had to with Alan Paris and Sean James showing determination, and in the final minute James got in an excellent tackle to dispossess McWilliams when the Hampton player looked clear.

Harrow Borough: Finn, O'Brien, James, Roberts (Randal), Cooper, Paris, Adolphe (McCormack), Bates, Gavin, Murfin (Duro), Harding.

Hampton 0
Harrow Borough 0
BY LAWRIE HARRIES

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All over now as Stones pay penalty

Dulwich Hamlet 1
Wealdstone 0
BY JOHN COMFORT

blocked, he fired past Noel Imber at the second attempt.

Stunned Stones had a glorious chance to level the scores on 33 minutes when Jones was pushed in the area by Tony Chinn and referee Bone awarded a penalty.

Jones took the kick himself and struck it well but keeper Les Cleveley pulled off a good save.

The second half was one-way traffic but despite their wealth of possession Stones rarely troubled Cleveley.

Their best chance fell to Rocky Baptiste, who was put through by the outstanding Dominic Sterling, but he shot straight at Cleveley, while Jones had a great low shot parried away by the diving keeper.

But at the final whistle the home goal was still intact - unlike Wealdstone's season.

Wealdstone: Imber, Waugh, Sterling, Diener, Lamb, Bunting, Wallon, Jones, Baptiste (Holmes), Bircham, McKay. Other subs: Fleming, Walker.

Brian Jones - missed crucial penalty.

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