

SPORT

SOCCER

'H' bomb ends the Wembley frustration

Clements sent off as Lane slump

Swindon Supermarine 2 Rayners Lane 0

LANE continued their poor run at Swindon on Saturday when they dropped the points in a game they could have won.

They started disastrously. Only four minutes had gone when Clements miskicked straight to a forward in front of goal and although Randall did well to parry his first shot, the ball ran loose for him to follow up and score.

A few minutes later the home side should have gone further ahead when a player found space on the right but he shot over.

Lane began to come more into the game and were denied an equaliser when Mills burst past the last defender but was then fouled. To everyone's surprise the offender was only booked when it should have been a red card. The resultant free kick was saved at full stretch by the Swindon keeper.

Soon after a shot from Mills scraped the post with the keeper beaten and just before half time Cott put Bicknell through with only the keeper to beat but he shot over the top.

In the second half Lane took command and from a cross by Creegan a shot by Cumberbatch went over. A left foot shot from Haigh went just wide and then Cott found Haigh and his shot was blocked when a pass to Mills in space might have proved a better option.

Despite their continuing dominance, Lane were running out of ideas and right on time they conceded a second goal when a corner found an unmarked player whose header was going into goal until Clements handled it away. Clements was promptly sent off and the spot kick was rifled home to end a miserable day for Lane.

Rayners Lane: Randall, Creegan, Matthews, Clements, Verri, Cumberbatch, Bicknell, Cott, S. Hedge (Brd), Mills, Haigh (M. Hedge).

Wembley 1 Chalfont St Peter 0 IT was almost an afternoon of frustration for Wembley on Saturday as they dominated this game against Chalfont but just could not score.

However, their perseverance was eventually rewarded and thanks to a goalkeeping error by Chalfont's Steve Ellis, Henry Clark notched the only goal of the game to maintain Wembley's momentum up the Division One table.

The muddy pitch and a blustery wind were not conducive to producing good football, but despite the conditions, the Lions ploughed forward in unrelenting fashion.

Nimble led by Lee Endersby, who

By Richard Markiewicz

despite not being totally fit still managed to torment the visiting defence, and the underrated Ian Bates, who made a determined impression in midfield, Wembley created several opportunities.

Their catalogue of near misses began in the 13th minute when Steve Lawrence burst through after latching onto a Micky Fredericks through pass only to see his goalbound strike cannon off the keeper's legs. Shortly afterwards, Paul Shirt fired over after Lawrence and Andy Smith combined to create an opening.

The Lions continued to press after the break and with the wind in their favour their chances became even more clear cut.

Lawrence once again broke clear but was bundled off the ball by a combination of keeper Ellis and a covering defender. Later he found himself in another good goalscoring position but the advancing Ellis used his outstretched hand to push clear Lawrence's strike.

Fredericks was next on the list when he failed to get a true connection to an Endersby cross and put the ball wide.

It seemed the Lions were about to rue missing those chances when Clark popped up in the 72nd minute to score

the decisive goal. Fastening onto Endersby's pass, Clark tested the keeper with a lofted cross-shot from just outside the box. However, Ellis completely misjudged the flight of Clark's strike and could only flap the ball against the underside of the crossbar and watch it plop over the line.

A goal up, Wembley were never in any danger of losing their slender lead and they should have netted a second at the end, but substitute Youssef Sakhraoui struck a post from close range after rounding the keeper.

Wembley: Moody, Flaherty, Clark, Fredericks (Sakhraoui), Shields, Daly, Shirt, Lawrence, Smith, Bates, Endersby. Other sub: Doyle.



Wembley striker Steve Lawrence shoots for goal in Saturday's Diadora League clash against Chalfont at Vale Farm.

Depleted Stones sent crashing by fellow strugglers

By Graham Smith

Bury Town 4 Wealdstone 0

DEPLETED by injuries and illness, Stones gave a poor performance and slumped to defeat against fellow strugglers Bury on Saturday.

Despite being without Richard Mellor, Jon Hall and Eugene Saunders, who were all injured, and Neil Cordic who was ill, Stones started off brightly. Gavin MacPherson shot just wide early on, then a great run from Liam Barham ended with his cross being headed just over by MacPherson.

After 23 minutes Bury's Henry missed an open goal from two yards but five minutes later Dermot Drummy failed to clear and Cormish hit a shot past Andy Hopping to put the home side in front.

Within two minutes Bury struck again when Brooks headed home Henry's cross. The Stones heads dropped although Mick Garratt came within inches of scoring with a header.

However, with 39 minutes gone Bury scored a controversial third goal. Two forwards seemed to be offside as McGill broke free and slotted past the helpless Hopping.

Wealdstone improved in the second half with Andy Hedge twice going close in the first 10 minutes. Paul Holohan's free kick was just wide then Roy Johnson put Hedge clear but he shot over.

Hopping, in his league debut for Stones, made an excellent save from Boyland, but with six minutes remaining he was beaten when Langden's free kick looped over the unfortunate keeper into the net.

Stones: Hopping, Shanahan, Keane, Dennis, Garratt, Hedge, McGrath, MacPherson, Barham, Jummy (Johnson), Holohan. Other sub: Pedler.

Ivers on hand to rescue a point for Kingsbury

By John Comfort

Kingsbury Town 1 Tring 1 A RASPING strike from Mark Ivers salvaged a point for Town on Saturday when they seemed set for a shock defeat at the hands of lowly Tring.

A goalless draw would have been an appropriate result to a poor match that owed much to the appalling state of the Silver Jubilee Park pitch at its decided lack of quality football.

But when Dino Pashias could only

find Peter Revell with his half hearted attempt to clear a Tony Mendicino cross in the 70th minute, the Tring substitute fired his side into an undesired lead and a disappointing reverse for Town seemed on the cards.

They were unfortunate not to be awarded an equaliser five minutes later

when John Kenny appeared to have forced the ball over the line in a scramble from a Dennis O'Rourke corner. But the referee waved play on.

However, justice was done with six minutes remaining. O'Rourke's free kick on the left found Ivers and he jinked past a defender before crashing a magnificent 25 yard shot into the top left hand corner of the net.

Kingsbury had chances to win it in

the closing minutes. Ivers set up Nelson Kumah but he shot weakly at keeper Massella from close in.

Then a great ball from Pashias put Kumah in to have a close range shot blocked by Massella and Ivers followed up but sadly put the loose ball into the side netting.

Kingsbury: Borfield, Pashias, D. O'Rourke, Elliott, Coleman, Simpson, Ivers, Kenny, Talbot (Lysaght), Kumah, Ash. Sub: N.O'Rourke.

Borough doubled up as Chesham halt their run

By Tony Booth

Chesham Utd 3 Harrow Borough 0 BOROUGH were top of the Diadora League form table on Saturday morning, having won five of their last six matches, but by the end of this match at Meadow Park they had been replaced by the team who had been second to them.

The hosts were the better side on the day and completed a clean sheet double over Borough with something

ing his growing reputation.

In reply, Borough responded only once, with Westley's cross-shot being palmed wide.

Even Hook couldn't stop Chesham's 30th minute opener, Adebowale setting up Mitchell who scored off a post.

Soon after Knight did well to turn Adebowale's shot over the bar then at the other end Paul Ripley tackled former Borough skipper Steve Bate-

man only to see his shot held.

While only one goal separated the sides, the result was still in the balance but a bitterly disputed second goal changed the course of the game after 63 minutes. Barnes sent a mighty header into the Borough half and Dawber ran clear of the appealing Borough defence which was convinced the forward was offside.

However, he was allowed to run on and net.

Further fine saves by Hook kept the hosts at bay until the 75th minute when Banton crossed for Adebowale to net Chesham's third goal.

After last week's deserved victory over the league leaders, this was a disappointing result for Borough but one from which they can learn and recover.

Harrow Borough: Hook, Court, O'Connor, Prutton, Knight, Pearce, Emmanuel, Shaw, Westley, Ripley, Benning. Sub: Brown, Smith.



Harrow lose in final of London Championship

HARROW'S under-14 tennis squad did exceptionally well to reach the final of the LTA Truists London Team Championships where they finished runners up to Barnet.

Sixteen London boroughs compete in the Super League competition which ran over a period of three months.

The Harrow team, sponsored by Harrow Sports Council, were victorious against Hillingdon, Brent, Sutton and Croydon before losing in the final to an impressive Barnet squad. Pictured pictured left are the Harrow squad of (left to right) Laura Herson, Claire Wass, Duncan Willetts, team coach John Gray, Rajiz Amlani, Samantha Sai and James Berr...

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