

SPORT

Flynn comes to Edgware's rescue

Edgware Town 2 Rainham 2
EUGENE Flynn's 80th minute goal salvaged a point for disappointing Edgware on Monday

when they seemed to be heading for a shock defeat against lowly Rainham, writes John Comfort.
Edgware were far from at

their best but certainly deserved at least a draw. They dominated the first half but struggled to find the net and although they eventually went

ahead, the visitors hit back and took a lead which appeared to be decisive until Flynn came to the rescue.

Lee Harvey's rasping 25 yard effort was pushed up and over the bar by keeper Wadhams in the opening minutes as Edgware gave early warning of their intentions. Later Harvey had a low shot saved by the keeper and Wadhams also did well to block Steve Newing's shot after Darren Morris had put him in the clear.

The goal Edgware threatened eventually came in the 25th minute. Newing's corner found Harvey unmarked at the far post for an easy header into the net.

Leslie Thompson should have made it 2-0 when he fired wide of an open goal after Wadhams failed to hold a blistering shot from Morris and it proved a costly miss for after 38 minutes Rainham drew level from virtually their first attack when Dave Allen lashed Martin King's cross past the helpless Sean Hourihan.

Rainham could have gone in ahead had Hourihan not blocked Waite's shot when he got clear five minutes later.

Edgware made little impact in the early stages of the second half, other than when Scott McGleish put a close range header straight at Wadhams.

Ironically though they were just getting back into it, with Mark Dyson having a drive cleared off the line and Wadhams magnificently saving Newing's superb 25 yard blockbuster, when Rainham took the lead in the 77th minute. Waite broke on the left and his cross found Kirby who had plenty of time to beat Hourihan with the home defence all at sea.

Flynn headed home a McGleish cross three minutes later to put Edgware back on terms, but they almost let it slip in injury time. Last defending let McKey through but he shot into the side netting with only Hourihan to beat.

Edgware: Hourihan, Brennan, Mangan, Finnerty, Harvey, Derris (Dyson), McGleish, Newing, Thompson, Morris (Hurd), Flynn.

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Borough's brave ten get a point from the leaders

Chesham United 2 Harrow Borough 2
A BRAVE and determined team effort earned Borough a share of the points against runaway league leaders Chesham on Monday, writes Tony Booth.

Going into an early two goal lead, Borough then had to endure inept refereeing, the loss of a player with a serious leg injury for the second successive match and having to play with ten men for over an hour after Martin St Hilaire had been sent off.

Borough surprised Chesham with their attacking verve, particularly through the skills of St Hilaire who rounded his marker and crossed for Steve Conroy to shoot just wide and also forced a series of corners before the visitors took an 8th minute lead.

York's backpass went just wide of his own goal as St Hilaire challenged and Pat Ryan's corner was deftly headed home by Conroy.

Soon after, Pye lost control of Shaw's cross in front of goal but in the 21st minute Ryan corner was headed

back to him and his second cross caused such havoc that St Hilaire was able to pick his spot to head over Walton and into goal.

Apparently unable to create anything positive for themselves, Chesham received considerable assistance in the 26th minute when referee Smith from Little Chalfont decided that St Hilaire's response to a challenge by Davies merited a red card. Few amongst the 1,512 crowd, Chesham's largest of the season, agreed with his judgement which

clouded the rest of the match.

Within minutes a late tackle on Ryan when in full flight brought only a booking for Chesham's Bashir, highlighting Mr Smith's inconsistency.

Five minutes into the second half Pape did well to push Dawber's shot wide but from the resultant corner Richardson bundled the ball in from close range to cut Borough's lead.

A headed goalkeeping clearance by Barnes kept out Pye's 20 yard job, after a fine Prutton-Ryan move, before

Borough lost Micky Engwell with a severe leg injury.

Bensted's miskick allowed Townsend a clear run at goal to fire Chesham level in the 74th minute and after Walton had tipped over Prutton's 20 yard drive, a fine save by Pape from Adebowale's shot ensured Borough returned home with a point that was the least their depleted team deserved.

Harrow Borough: Pape, May, Engwell (Ridout), Jackson, Bensted, Prutton, Shaw, Ryan, Pye, Conroy (Ripley), St Hilaire.

Lions firing just blanks

Maldenhead Utd 0 Wembley 0

WEMBLEY, the team that has forgotten how to win or score, ended 1992 by collecting a point following a dull, goalless draw at Maidenhead on Monday, writes Richard Markiewicz.

Wembley's display was a slight improvement on performances of late but they were a long way from reaching their full potential. The zip appears to have gone out of the side and a sterile attack never looked like scoring, an impotence made noticeable by the absence of leading scorer Bobby Hutchinson.

Lions did fashion several decent opportunities in the first half. Jon Conway tested keeper Trevor Roffey with an awkward, dipping cross-shot which the back-peddaling keeper just managed to flip over the bar. Moments later Kenny Page saw his shot on the turn, following a Henry Clark corner, brush against the base of a post. And just before half time Uche Egbe should have put Wembley in front from Conway's through pass but he fired against the advancing keeper's legs.

Sadly, Wembley were unable to maintain the momentum after the break and the game developed into a poor midfield struggle. The home side almost capitalised when a dour free kick from Paul Shields was intercepted by Paul Daddon who raced clear. But the Wembley skipper redeemed himself with an excellent recovering tackle to prevent Daddon scoring.

As usual Wembley left it to the very end to exert further serious pressure. Roffey hacked clear a well struck low drive from Conway and just before the final whistle the fully stretched keeper just managed to get his fingertips to Charlie Flaherty's blistering rising drive.

Wembley: Farmer, Flaherty, Clark, O'Brien, Shields, Headlam, Conway, Bates, Page, Egbe (Adrian Smith), Witter. Other sub: Hollingdale.

Borg and Pye in FA bother

HARROW Borough boss George Borg and midfielder Mark Pye are to be reported to the Football Association following ugly scenes at the conclusion of Borough's derby game with Hendon at Earlsmead on Saturday.

A less than pleasant game had seen

four Hendon players booked, along with Borough's Pat Ryan. The home side were particularly incensed in the closing minutes with Daly's bad tackle on Ian Stewart which ended the Borough player's involvement in the match.

At the final whistle tempers boiled over and punches were thrown in a confrontation between Pye and Hendon's

Robbie Garvey.

The restraining efforts of teammates helped to diffuse the situation and, after calm had been restored, referee Nigel Ludlow of Windsor indicated that both players were being reported to the FA for violent conduct, along with George Borg for alleged use of foul and abusive language.

Stones end Buckingham's run

Buckingham 0 Wealdstone 4

WEALDSTONE dominated this crucial league match on Monday and thoroughly deserved their emphatic victory which ended Buckingham's unbeaten home record, writes Steve Marshall.

Stones got off to a great

start and were in front after just three minutes with a memorable goal. Neil Cordice found Venables breaking down the left and his low cross was met by Tate's firm drive that beat keeper Meagrow.

Sean Pearson had an opportunity to extend his scoring re-

cord but shot high and wide when clear and Meagrow blocked Tate's close range effort soon after.

Johnson Hippolyte somehow managed to fire over from six yards after excellent work by Pearson, and at the other end Tenkorang, in a rare moment of action, dealt well with two efforts from Blencoe and Jenkins.

Just prior to half time, Meagrow did well to keep out Pettifer's fine effort.

Buckingham came close to levelling just after the break when James fired just beyond the far post, but Hippolyte made up for his earlier miss when he fired home from 10 yards after Venables had sent

him clear on 53 minutes to give Stones a two goal lead.

Venables was harshly cautioned for a challenge on Meagrow and shortly afterwards Buckingham's Bowyer was booked for a challenge on Martin Blackler.

In the final 10 minutes Bowyer received his marching orders for upending Venables in full flight and Wealdstone took full advantage.

Dermot Drummy supplied excellent passes to both Neil Cordice and David Venables for further goals to complete a wonderful Christmas for Wealdstone.

Wealdstone: Tenkorang, Pettifer, Pearson, Watson, Hicks, Cordice (Styler), Drummy, Hippolyte, Hedge, Venables, Tate (Blackler).

Stewart and Engwell doubtful

IAN Stewart, who suffered a bad leg injury against Hendon, and Micky Engwell, who sustained ligament trouble against Chesham, are both extremely doubtful for Harrow Borough's visit to Kingstonsian on Saturday.

With Andy Pape, who is on extended loan, continuing in goal, and Steve Walduck standing by, Borough have now put keeper Steve Crompton on the transfer list but will not be requiring a fee.

Adrian Smith is back after injury and could start for Wembley in their match at Molesey.

Now Martin Blackler is fit, Wealdstone have an injury free squad for their home match with Havant on Sunday.

The unavailable Colin Chance, John Coleman, and Joe Sheridan all miss Edgware's match at Witham on Saturday. Vince Derris, Eugene Flynn and Les Thompson are all doubtful with injuries.

Kingsbury will be strengthened by the return of James Power, Keith Williams, Neil Hild, and Niall O'Rourke for their home game with Thame. Mark Ivers is doubtful with a hamstring injury.

Rayners Lane will have skipper Gerry Hynes available after holiday for their away game at Watford.

Fixtures

Saturday January 2
Division 1 League Premier Division: Kingstonsian v Harrow Borough; Division 2 League Division One: Molesey v Wembley; Division 2 League Division Two: Witham Town v Edgware Town; Division 3 League Division Three: Kingsbury Town v Thame Utd (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm); National League: Watford Town v Rayners Lane.

Sunday January 3
Buzzer Homes League Southern Division: Wealdstone v Havant Town (Vicarage Road, 3pm).

Tuesday January 5
Buzzer Homes League Southern Division: Blackock Town v Wealdstone; London Challenge Cup: Hendon v Kingsbury Town.

Wednesday January 6
Middx Charity Cup: Edgware Town v Brentford (White Lion ground, 7.30pm).

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