

SPORT

Derby controversy

By **Graham Smith**

Wealdstone 1 Northwood 1
WEALDSTONE threw away two valuable promotion points in a derby match on Monday that was tinged with controversy.

Northwood keeper Daryl Pelton was fortunate to get away with just a booking as early as the 2nd minute when he rushed from his goal and brought down onrushing Stones

Lucky let off for Woods keeper as vital promotion points slip away from Stones

midfielder Brian Jones.

But 10 minutes later he definitely should have gone for an early bath after wrestling Jones to the ground to concede a penalty. Pelton threw the ball at referee Bland of East Barnet but remarkably the official took no action whatsoever.

Dennis Greene scored from the spot to put Stones ahead but they were unable to add to their lead and just before the break they were lucky not to concede a penalty themselves when Roy Marshall tripped Paul Halbert.

10 minutes into the second half

Wealdstone should have made the game safe but with the goal at his mercy, Greene put a Jones cross over the bar from just a few feet out. It was the miss of the season.

After that Stones faded away and the introduction of Garner, Walton and Boreham made no difference.

It became only a matter of time before Northwood scored an equaliser and it arrived 10 minutes from time in fluke fashion when a shot from ex-Stone, Terry Hibbert, spun off Marshall's boot and hit the underside of the crossbar before finding the net.

With rivals Bedford winning, two lost points make Stones promotion task that much harder.

Wealdstone: Inber, Dobson, Peaks, Moore, Horner, Marshall, McKay, Jones (Boreham), Bircham (Walton), Greene (Garner), Benning.

Stones job loss for Layne

WEALDSTONE FC's fall time administrative and commercial manager, Layne Patterson, is to lose his job at the end of the season.

Mr Patterson, who has held the post for the past four years, is being sacrificed by Stones in their bid to preserve precious club funds in the final run in to them securing their new ground at the Prince Edward Playing Fields.

However, although he is taken off the club payroll, Mr Patterson will still remain as a director of Wealdstone and retain responsibility for the commercial

Big Borough clash ends in deadlock

Harrow Borough 0 Hendon 0
WITH little at stake other than local pride, it was perhaps not surprising that this derby clash on Monday ended goalless, writes John Comfort.

A hard fought encounter was dominated by two sound defences, with attacking flair down to a minimum. As a result neither goalkeeper was seriously tested in the entire 90 minutes.

For Borough, player-manager Alan Paris excelled in the home rearguard while Kenny Webster and Danny Nwaokolo also performed well. But further forward the mediocrity was only broken by the occasional midfield sparkle of Jon-Barrie Bates.

Up front Borough were without the injured Mark Xavier, but stand-in, Steve Brown, gave not the slightest hint of repeating his hat-trick heroics of last week.

Brown had Borough's best chance of the first half, a low angled shot which the diving Gary McCann saved.

But Hendon had the better of the half and only the outstretched leg of David Hook prevented Paul Whitmarsh scoring from close range after Paul Adolphe misheaded an attempted clearance towards his own goal.

The second half was closely contested and it was only in later stages that an end to the deadlock seemed possible.

A rare error by Paris allowed Michael Banton through onto Fred Hyatt's pass but Hook raced from his goal and did enough to force the Hendon striker into hastily shooting wide.

Nko Ekoku should have won it for Borough with 10 minutes remaining. Webster's free kick was nodded back across goal by John Mutch at the far post but Ekoku's weak header from close range was easily saved by McCann.

Harrow Borough: Hook, Webster, Nwaokolo, Mutch, Paris, Adolphe, Tomlinson, Ekoku, Gavin, Brown, Bates. Subs: Lord, McGarrell, James.



Sad Edgware held by bottom club

Cheshunt 2 Edgware Town 2
EDGWARE again had trouble getting out of first gear against lowly opposition on Monday as they were held to a draw by bottom of the table Cheshunt.

writes Tom Hooks.

A goal in the first minute raised memories of Edgware's 8-0 thrashing of their hosts back in December. Chandler's back pass was picked up by keeper Sopp to concede a free kick just 10 yards out. Steve Fraser touched the ball to Steve Newing who hammered it low into the corner of the net.

But instead of capitalising on this good fortune, Edgware then allowed Cheshunt to get back into the game. Andy

Carter saved from Chandler, Sinclair and Menzies as the home side strove for an equaliser which eventually arrived on the stroke of half time. Edgware struggled to clear a corner and the ball fell invitingly to the unmarked Wilkie who crashed it low into the net.

The weather deteriorated in the second half and so did the play. Lee Smart did put Wares ahead again, on 78 minutes when his low shot from 20

yards sped into the bottom corner of the net under the body of the embarrassed Sopp, but again Cheshunt bounced back as Edgware rested on their laurels.

Whytock cleared off the line with Carter beaten but on 83 minutes the keeper punched away a hopeful lob only as far as Chandler who gleefully lashed the ball into the net for the equaliser.

Edgware: Carter, Smart, Sheridan, Hurd, Finney, McCluskey (Glynn), Lyons, Elliott, Fraser (Valenti), Newing, Coleman (Whytock).

Banned Bates is sidelined

MIDFIELDER Jon-Barrie Bates joins the already suspended Darren Coleman on the sidelines on Saturday when he serves a one-match ban for an accumulation of bookings, and they both miss Harrow Borough's visit to Gravesend.

Striker Mark Xavier is expected to be fit to play.

Striker Alan Mills is fit again and is added to manager Peter Grant squad for Wembley's visit to Hampton.

The Lions will be looking to end a miserable run against Hampton. This is their fourth meeting with the Beavers this season and they have lost the previous three, being knocked out of both County Cup competitions and losing at Vale Farm in the League.

Paul Lamb and Dominic Sterling are still both suspended and will miss Wealdstone's important match at Tooting.

Without a league game on Saturday, Rayners Lane are hoping to arrange a friendly against Old Salvatorians.

Fixtures

Saturday April 18
Ryman League Premier Div: Gravesend & Northfleet v Harrow Borough.
Ryman League Div One: Hampton v Wembley.
Ryman League Div Two: Edgware Town v Banstead Ath (White Lion ground, 3pm); Tooting & Mitcham Utd v Wealdstone.
Ryman League Div Three: Kingsbury Town v Tring Town (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm).
Tuesday April 21
Ryman League Div One: Grays Ath v Wembley (7.45pm).
Ryman League Div Two: Edgware Town v Leighton Town (White Lion ground, 7.45pm).

Yvonne takes over
HARROW Borough FC fund raising director, Yvonne Wilkinson, has taken over as acting company secretary following the recent departure of Ray Snook.

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Edgware Town v Wares

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