

# Observer SPORT

## Second half revival saves Lions

**Wembley 1 Southwick 1**  
AFTER a slovenly first half performance, Wembley needed a second half revival to save them from defeat on Tuesday and despite intense pressure during this period they had to settle for a point against lowly Southwick.

Wembley began in a daze and allowed Southwick to take the lead after two minutes when Richard Cheal sole unmarked into the area to head home Rick Holder's cross.

Jeff Fanner came to the rescue as unforced errors presented the visitors with further scoring chances and Lions had a lot of when Farmer's header from a corner hit a post.

## More problems for Borough's troubled boss

# 'I want a transfer' says Emmanuel



© Steve Emmanuel

THERE were more problems for troubled Harrow Borough boss Alan Mayes this week this week when experienced midfielder Steve Emmanuel became the latest player to slip in a transfer request.

Emmanuel, Borough's longest serving player who holds the club record of 450 senior appearances, is the second member of the squad to ask to go since the appointment of Mayes.

There has been an Earlsmead exodus in recent weeks with Matt Luddy's departure to Windsor being followed by the transfer of Lawrence Holmes to Leytonstone.

And at the weekend Mark Adams had his wish to get away fulfilled when he was transferred to Slough Town for a fee of £3,000.

Emmanuel will be odds on to join him at a club which is fast becoming a home for Borough 'old boys' with Ray Duffy, Tony Knight, Bobby Dell and Trevor How all having

By **John Comfort**

found their way to Wexham Park.

New manager Mayes said he was disappointed with the transfer request of Emmanuel who held the post of assistant manager under Keith Chamberlin.

"I've told him I don't want him to go but circumstances have evolved where he has asked for a transfer and I think the request will be accepted.

"A decision will be made at the end of this week but whatever happens will depend on what's best for Harrow Boro."

Mayes declined to go into detail over the reasons for Emmanuel's decision but he was at pains to point out that there was no animosity between himself and the player.

While Emmanuel looks to get away, Mayes will be turning his at-

tention to the urgent need for new blood at the club as they lie precariously placed amid the relegation candidates at the foot of the Vauxhall Opel League premier division.

He did complete the signing of Phil Driver from St Albans who will take over the role of his player coach - and other new players are in the pipeline.

"I'm chasing up a few leads," said Mayes "and I'm looking at a number of possibilities, but we've got to get the right players.

"I'm not going to dive in at the deep end by rushing into any panic buying.

"Harrow are a big club and I want to get quality players - not just to get us out of trouble but also to enable me to build a side that can challenge for honours.

"I'm enthusiastic that we'll get it right, but it's not going to happen overnight."

## Fans told 'be patient' with Wilkins

MANAGER Tony Jennings has asked Wealdstone fans to be patient with troubled centre forward Paul Wilkins, whose form so far this season has drawn consistent criticism from the terraces, writes Aaron Gransby.

Wilkins, a tall, slim, experienced front player, has scored just one goal in 11 senior appearances despite scoring in three of the four pre-season matches.

His substitution in Saturday's 3-1 win over Bedworth United that sent Stones to the top of the table was greeted with cheers from supporters frustrated with his ineffectual contribution to the match.

But Jennings has some sympathy with the plight of Wilkins, brought in from Chesham City at the start of the season.

"He has been out injured and not had many games back. Although he has been training, there is no substitute for match practice."

"Admittedly his lack of goals is showing and the crowd is right in some ways to be critical. But he will get some form back at some stage."

Jennings is not concerned with Wilkins' lack of goals, but with his general performance level. "Paul Wilkins was brought here to lead the line, not specifically to score goals. He will never be a prolific goalscorer, but we have still scored in every single senior match we have played in this season, so that is not a problem."



© Tony Jennings

## Jennings is new England manager

WEALDSTONE boss Tony Jennings is the new manager of the England semi-professional team.

Jennings, assistant to Kevin Verity last season, was chosen as his successor at an FA meeting last week.

Although the old format of the four-nations tournament is no longer in operation, the England semi-pro team is expected to play a match against Wales early in the new year. Other countries are currently being approached to find more opposition.

By **Aaron Gransby**

Jennings was delighted with the appointment. "I think there is a long-term commitment to the semi-pro side now by the FA, and I think they wanted some continuity in the management."

It will mean more work for the Stones boss, but he says the club will still come first. "I will have to see more representative games

than usual and it will mean more commitment, but Wealdstone will take preference over England," he says.

Jennings will officially name his assistant within the next fortnight, but the favourite is Boston United boss Ron Reid. Jennings himself had earlier advised the FA to appoint a manager from a club still within the GM Vauxhall Conference, which is where most players will be selected from, which is

why he wants a Conference boss alongside him.

Wealdstone chairman Alan Clifton said: "Myself, the directors and all the members of the club are highly delighted about the appointment. It is a great honour for both Tony and for the club."

Clifton will officially give the FA permission to appoint Jennings in reply to a letter from Lancaster Gate this week.

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## Stones look to keep away record intact

WEALDSTONE finally have an away trip on Saturday, having played ten of their last 11 games at Lower Mead. The new Besser Homes League leaders travel to Hampshire to take on mid-table Fareham Town.

Fareham have won just one and lost three of their five home games this season, while Stones have yet to lose away. Defenders Kirk Corbin and Alan Risk, who missed the Bedworth game with thigh and hamstring injuries respectively, will both be fit and Alan Condico should be available.

Richard Evans returns to the Harrow Borough side following his three match suspension and could well return to striking duties for Saturday's home match with Kingstonian.

But Stewart Howard, who only recently got back into the side after a back injury will be out after breaking three knuckles when he fell down the stairs at home. Steve Mowle is back to fitness after injury and is available for selection.

Wembley boss Tony Waugh should have Steve

Smith back after injury for this Saturday's visit to Metropolitan Police.

And Steve Ray, who was expected to be out for several weeks after getting injured against Kingstonsian is also a likely candidate to start.

Kingsbury will be looking to get back on the promotion trail when they take on fellow contenders Staines at Silver Jubilee Park. Manager Alan Dafforn has no injury problems.

Edgware Town face Beaconsfield away in the Spartan League and will again be without Ray Mangan at the centre of defence.



© Richard Evans - back after suspension.

**Soccer fixtures**

**Saturday November 5**

Besser Homes League premier division: Farnham Town v Wealdstone, Vauxhall Opel League premier division: Harrow Borough v Kingstonsian (Earlsmead, 3pm).

Wessex Open League division one: Kingsbury Town v Staines Town (Silver Jubilee Park, 2pm); Metropolitan Police v Wembley.

Greenwich King Spartans League: Beaconsfield Ltd v Edgware Town.

Mid-Sussex League Cup: Harrow St Marys v Technicolor (Pinner Road, 2pm).

**Tuesday November 8**

Besser Homes League premier division: Rushden v Wealdstone.

Wessex Open League premier division: Leyton-Wingate v Harrow Borough.

Vauxhall Opel League division one: Kingsbury Town v Chesham United (Silver Jubilee Park, 7.30pm); Bedford v Wembley.

**Boro - Lions land plum cup opposition**

HARROW Borough and Wembley have drawn plum ties in the fourth round of the Russell Grant Middlesex Charity Cup - both landing Football League Division One opposition at home.

Harrow will take on Spurs at Earlsmead while Wembley, who were beaten by Hendon in last year's final of the competition at Wembley Stadium, take on Queens Park Rangers at Vale Farm.

Dates have yet to be put on the ties, but they must be played by November 26.

The rest of the draw is as follows: Unbridge v Kingsbury Town; Finchley v Chesham/Northwood; Hayes/Viking Sports v Hounslow/Southall; Hendon v Brentford; Staines Town v Chelsea; Feltham/Brook House v Rushley.

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