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SPORT

Youth soccer, results round-up

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The Trophy trail comes to an end for Borough

Redbridge Forest 2
Harrow Borough 0

"THERE'S no way we deserved to lose," said manager Tom McAlister after Borough's long FA Trophy trail, which began way back in September at Bishops Cleeve, ended in East London on Monday night, ten matches later, in this second round replay, writes John Comfort.

But winning is all about scoring goals and any side that misses cast iron chances of the kind fluffed by Borough's Duncan Hardy deserves little sympathy in defeat.

Hardy's golden chance of laying the foundations of another Borough Trophy triumph came midway through the first half. Borough had taken a stranglehold on the game but needed to rubber stamp their authority with a goal and it looked to have arrived when Eamon O'Connor's cross eluded the home defence and presented Hardy with both time and space to fire into a gaping net.

But amazingly from just five yards he fired against the post and in the almighty goalmouth scramble that followed, both Martin Gurney and Phil Dicker also failed to find the net.

Borough shrugged off that setback to stay on top but when they piled forward for a corner in the 39th minute, they were caught short at the back when it broke down and Meaney raced away down the right and provided the cross for Wealdell to head unchallenged past McAlister to put Redbridge ahead.

The goal was much against the run of play and only a superb save from McAlister prevented Simmonds from giving Redbridge a second goal three minutes later.

Borough faced an uphill task in the second half but stuck to it well and both O'Connor and Hardy had efforts worthy of an equaliser well saved.

Borough's best second half chance came when a great ball from Gurney put Dicker in the clear but sadly he lost control as he broke for goal.

It was another important failure, for soon after in the 70th minute, Meaney hooked home Redbridge's second goal from a Simmonds corner and the tie was as good as over.

Cawston denied Borough a consolation goal with a superb save to keep out Gurney's bullet header while at the other end Meaney contrived an incredible miss when he broke clear and rounded McAlister only to amazingly shoot wide of the gaping goal.

Harrow Borough: McAlister, Payne, Waddock, Rogers, Priddle, O'Connor, Hopson (West), Hardy, Gurney, Beggs, Dicker. Sub: Ripley.

Wealdstone miss out on a goal feast

Wealdstone 2 Gosport 1
STONES made hard work on Tuesday night of beating a relegation haunted Gosport side who were every bit as bad as their lowly league position indicated, writes John Comfort.

The closeness of the final scoreline was laughable - it should have been about 6-1. But poor finishing, the woodwork and plain bad luck all combined to deny Stones a goal feast.

It was ironic that in a first half of almost total Wealdstone domination, it

was Gosport who opened the scoring in the 32nd minute. Stones clumsily lost possession on the edge of their area following a short goal kick and Gary Biddle gratefully accepted the chance to curl a low shot past Kevin Foster into the net.

Gosport's joy however lasted a mere 30 seconds, as straight from the kick off Stones swept into attack and Tony Kelly provided the finishing touch to Dave Flint's cross for Wealdstone's instant equaliser.

Ten minutes later Stones were in front. The impressive Craig Johnstone slammed a great shot against the Gosport crossbar and when Tony Lynch swooped on the rebound, defender Andy Darnton hooked his legs away from under him. Paul Goyette rammed home the resultant penalty kick.

The second half was a tale of missed Stones chances. Goyette and the hard working John Margerrison both slammed fierce shots against the woodwork within minutes of each other while

Lynch amazingly spooned the ball over the bar from five yards following a Goyette corner.

Flint battled his way into the box and had a low shot well saved but the best chance of the half saw Lynch's superb cross put Goyette in the clear only for him to shoot against the legs of keeper Tony Stars.

Wealdstone: Foster, Smart, Price, Harrison, Morris, Margerrison, Johnstone, Goyette, Flint, Kelly, Lynch. Subs: Tapley, Collins.

Borough release Pennock

HARROW Borough are to sever the club's last Welsh connection this week by releasing striker Ray Pennock.

Borough boss Tom McAlister said on Tuesday that he was thinking things over after Pennock had asked to be released from his contract following Saturday's defeat of Barking.

But Pennock's future had already been decided, for the necessary form to release the player was already winging its way to his Swansea home.

This was confirmed by Borough's football director Peter Rogers who said on Wednesday: "A cancellation of contract form has been sent to Ray Pennock and we are awaiting its return."

Pennock, who was signed on a free transfer from Swansea City together with defender Martyn James during the summer by former boss Keith Chamberlin, has proved a most popular player with the Borough fans. But despite his determined style, he has been in and out of the side since McAlister took over.

A huge cheer of approval from the fans greeted his arrival as substitute against Barking on Saturday and after the match he called for a showdown with McAlister over his future.



Said McAlister: "Ray asked me if I would consider doing the same for him as I had done for Martyn James, but the situation is not as easy with him and I said I'd think it over."

"I don't want to let him go but if he doesn't want to play for us then it might not be fair to hold him."

He added that Pennock would be in the squad for this Saturday's home game with Wokingham. Clearly that will no longer be so.

Borough fans thought that Martyn James was given a raw deal by the club when he was released from his contract last week. The first indication he had that he was going was when a contract cancellation form dropped through his letter box.

Pennock's unhappy release, in like manner, will doubtless be regarded in a similarly displeasing light.

Dicker injury blow

HARROW Borough suffered a severe blow on Wednesday with the news that midfielder Phil Dicker has a serious pelvic injury and will miss the rest of this season - and possibly all of next season as well.

Dicker has been struggling with the injury all season and it was diagnosed this week by Borough physiotherapist Andy McDade as one similar to that recently suffered by West Ham's Stuart Robson which put him out of action for 18 months.

McDade, who last week rejoined Borough following the departure of long serving George Price, has made an appointment for Dicker to see a specialist in five weeks time to see if the problem can be manipulated right or whether it will require an operation.

In the meantime the player has been told not to play because of the possibility of long term damage.

Gane looks for Wealdstone to battle for a result at Cambridge

WEALDSTONE boss Alan Gane will be looking for full effort from his side when they face a tough trip to Cambridge on Saturday.

Gane was pleased with his side's performance in beating Gosport, after their poor showing against Gloucester, and he will be expecting Stones to perform as well on Saturday. "We've got the players and if we battle away we're a good side. But we need to do it all the time," he said.

Alan Risk, who missed the Gosport game, is added to Gane's squad to face Cambridge. Both Paul Gbogidi and Steve Browne are still out through injury.

Wealdstone Supporters Club will be running a coach to Cambridge, leaving the Lower Mead car park at 12.30pm. Fare for the trip is £7 for adults, £6 for juniors and £4 for Junior Stones accompa-

nied by an adult. Bookings can be made by phoning 427-4064 during office hours.

The news of Phil Dicker's pelvic injury and the pending release of striker Ray Pennock gives Harrow Borough boss Tom McAlister a selection headache for Saturday's visit of Wokingham Town. He has Everard La Ronde back after being cup tied for Monday's Trophy tie at Redbridge and Greg West is also likely to be a starter.

On Tuesday Borough face league leaders Slough without the suspended Duncan Hardy.

Kingsbury Town take on high flying Woking in the quarter finals of the AC Delco Cup tonight (Thursday) without Stuart Atkins who is cup tied and Paul Shields who is suspended. Both will return for Saturday's league game with

Croydon.

Striker Steve Graham's knee injury is more serious than at first thought and he is likely to miss Wembley's first ever visit to Whyteleafe on Saturday.

The trouble is believed to be damaged ligaments.

Ray Mangan, who missed Edgware's win at Hanwell, returns to the side on Saturday when they take on Eltham - a side that manager Brian Rider expects to give his team a difficult game, as they did when they drew 2-2 at Eltham earlier in the season.

Rayners Lane play host to likely league champions Sharpness on Saturday. Manager Don Durkin expects to have a full squad to choose from and will make changes in attack in an effort to get the goals flowing again.

League tables

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier Division

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dover	27	19	4	4	51	23	61
Bath	26	17	5	3	51	20	53
Dartford	24	16	5	3	46	19	53
Atherstone	24	13	8	7	44	35	47
Cambridge C.	14	4	10	57	40	48	33
Gravesend	27	12	9	6	33	32	45
Burton	28	11	9	8	41	31	42
Wealdstone	27	11	8	11	41	34	38
Worcester	27	9	12	10	47	43	38
Bromsgrove	25	10	6	9	35	35	38
VG Rugby	25	9	8	8	27	24	35
Weymouth	27	8	13	10	38	31	33
Crawley	27	8	9	10	35	39	33
Ashford	24	9	6	9	29	33	33
Meor Green	27	8	13	10	33	35	31
Gloucester	28	8	6	9	38	40	30
Waterlooville	27	8	6	13	39	44	30
Dorchester	23	8	14	10	43	35	29
Chesham	28	8	8	14	39	45	28
Corby	26	6	3	17	29	45	21
Abchurch	27	4	4	19	29	58	16
Gosport	26	3	10	22	22	55	15

VAUXHALL LEAGUE Premier Division

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slough	25	16	8	1	50	19	56
Wokingham	25	17	5	3	40	19	55
Kingstonian	26	14	7	5	54	30	49
Aylesbury	24	14	6	4	51	18	48
Dagenham	24	12	7	7	36	29	43
Grays Ath.	26	11	8	7	37	36	41
Hendon	25	12	4	9	37	31	40
Carshalton	27	12	10	12	36	37	38
Leyton W.	26	12	3	11	34	39	38
Hayes	27	9	10	8	38	29	37
Basingstoke	24	11	4	10	32	33	37
Swines	26	10	4	12	41	43	34
Redbridge F.	27	9	10	12	42	44	35
Bishop St.	27	10	5	12	33	42	35
Swines	26	10	4	12	41	43	34
St Albans	28	9	6	13	35	41	32
Harrow Boro	23	8	7	9	32	34	31
Merrow	27	7	8	12	26	40	29
Dulwich H.	27	5	16	13	29	39	21
Bognor	23	4	11	21	43	20	18
Barking	26	4	6	16	35	53	18
Bromley	27	1	18	18	54	13	10

Division One

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wivenhoe	23	18	2	3	54	19	56
Southwick	27	15	10	2	43	16	45
Woking	21	15	4	2	52	18	49
Dorking	24	14	7	3	44	18	49
Hitchin	24	14	6	4	43	13	46
Barnham W.	24	12	8	5	40	44	44
Chesham	27	11	7	9	32	31	40
Int Polka	25	11	4	10	36	40	37
Worthing	25	10	6	9	35	35	36
Walton & H.	24	9	6	9	35	31	33
Whyteleafe	26	8	9	9	38	42	33
Lewes	25	8	12	12	32	37	31
Harlow	28	7	10	11	32	40	31
Chalfont St P.	27	8	7	12	29	39	31
Woking & M.	27	7	12	14	28	29	29
Uxbridge	26	7	7	12	34	48	28
Hampden	24	6	10	18	28	28	28
Fulford	22	4	9	9	28	31	21
Croydon	27	5	16	22	54	21	18
Wembley	26	4	8	13	33	43	20
King'sbury	24	4	7	13	27	42	19
Leatherhead	27	3	8	16	20	49	17

GREENE KING SPARTAN LEAGUE Premier Division

Club	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Northwood	26	17	6	3	66	29	57
Edgware	25	17	5	3	60	29	56
Berkingside	25	17	5	3	64	35	48
Chesham	22	13	5	1	56	26	44
Constitution Cas.	21	13	5	3	53	25	44
Haringey	24	13	4	7	45	40	43
Seaford	24	10	5	5	34	40	35
Waltham	20	11	6	3	36	23	39
Waltham Abb.	24	8	7	9	41	44	31
Harrow Town	25	7	16	12	32	45	25
Birmadown	23	6	7	10	28	33	25
Beckton	24	6	7	11	34	44	25
Wand & Nor.	26	6	5	11	34	28	25
North Greenford	25	6	14	15	35	52	21
Brook House	25	5	6	14	32	54	21
Eltham	23	6	3	14	29	53	21
Thamesmead	24	4	14	13	33	72	20
Amersham	23	4	8	13	29	45	18
Beaconsfield	24	3	7	14	23	61	18

Soccer fixtures

Thursday February 15
AC Delco Cup quarter final:
Kingsbury Town v Woking (Silver Jubilee Park, 7.45pm).

Saturday February 17
Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Cambridge City v Wealdstone (Earlham, 3pm).

Vauxhall League Premier Division: Harrow v Wokingham (Earlham, 3pm).

Vauxhall League Division One: Kingsbury Town v Croydon (Silver Jubilee Park, 3pm); Whyteleafe v Wembley (Wembley, 3pm).

Greene King Spartan League Premier Division: Edgware v Eltham (White Lion ground, 3pm).

Federated Homes League: Rayners Lane v Sharpness (Lucas Avenue, 3pm).

Tuesday February 20
Vauxhall League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Slough Town (Earlham, 7.30pm).

Vauxhall League Division One: Waltham v Wembley (Wembley, 3pm).

Capital League: Wealdstone v Welling Utd (Lower Mead, 7.30pm).

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