

SPORTS

New Year haul sends Boro back up the league

HARROW BOROUGHS have started to climb back up the Vauxhall-Opel Premier after taking four points from their New Year fixtures.

They held mighty Yeovil to a 1-1 draw at Earlsmead in a cracking New Year's Day encounter and fought back from a disputed goal to beat Kingstonian on Saturday.

"We needed those points," said Boro boss Keith Chamberlin. "If we had lost on Saturday we would have taken only one point from the last nine. But we have taken four and that is acceptable."

Against Yeovil, Boro were handed a point by visiting keeper Dave Walter, who allowed a tame shot from Lawrence Holmes to squirt out of his grasp and trickle into the net, writes *WV News Staff*.

The match started at a hectic pace with Steve Emmanuel firing just over from a Lawrence Holmes lay-off, while at the other end Trevor How scrambled the ball clear after Stuart MacKenzie failed to hold John McGinlay's shot.

Phil Ferns then blasted a free

kick just past a post and MacKenzie was forced to pull off two fine saves, first turning over a speculative volley from Gerry Pearson and then diving full length to hold a McGinlay effort.

Boro's only other first half effort saw a Paul Morris volley, from Colin Payne's cross, flash just wide.

Yeovil took the lead in the 74th minute. Boro only half cleared a corner and the ball was floated back in for Alan Pardew to head home.

Sixty seconds later, Yeovil nearly stretched their lead but

Phil James's header crashed against the woodwork.

Walter then came to Boro's rescue. Holmes took a pass from Morris and, although forced wide, managed to put in a tame shot. The keeper went down to gather the ball on his line but fumbled and it plopped into the net.

Walter then made up for the mistake, first blocking well at Holmes's feet and then pulling off a brilliant diving save to stop the striker's header.

Boro continued their revival at Richmond Road on Saturday with a 2-1 victory over King-

stonian, writes *Tony Booth*.

An evenly contested first half saw Boro keeper MacKenzie produce a couple of fine saves to keep the home side at bay, while Adams and Townsend both went close at the other end.

Kingstonian took a 58th minute lead with a hotly disputed goal. Tutt's effort was hooked away by Steve Baiteman, who claimed that the ball had not crossed the line, but the linesman signalled a goal.

That spurred Boro into action and they equalised in the 72nd

minute, Emmanuel netting from Adams's defence-splitting pass.

Four minutes later Boro snatched the winner, Adams and Morris combining for Holmes to roll the ball home from the edge of the area.

"I was pleased with our performance and with the way the lads reacted to the disputed goal," said Chamberlin. "We worked hard for the three points and got them thanks to some sensible defending and two good finishes."

Tony Booth, Peter Johnson, Tony Baiteman, Dave Emmanuel, Holmes, Townsend, Morris, Adams.



Hands off Loddy, warning

HARROW BOROUGHS manager Keith Chamberlin has issued a "hands off" warning to clubs chasing his on-loan winger Matt Loddy (pictured above).

Loddy is currently on loan to Division Two North pace-setters Chesham, along with goalkeeper Kenny Lavender. But he is on a two-year contract with Boro and Chamberlin says: "He is not for sale."

He added: "A couple of clubs have come in for Loddy but their offers have been rejected. He is very much part of my future plans."

"He is only on loan to get some games under his belt and Chesham are fortunate to have him at present. But he will not be transferred."

Two players have been transferred from Boro to Chesham. Paul Dawson and Jon Turner are both joining the club. Dawson has recently been on loan to Chesham, while Turner has been on loan to Windsor.

Chamberlin has also released striker Cleveo Ford, who made more than 200 appearances for the club. "He does not feature in my plans," said Chamberlin.

It's Stones — at the double

WEALDSTONE pulled even further clear of the GM Vauxhall Conference relegation zone with New Year victories over fellow strugglers Kettering and Frickley.

But Stones boss Brian Hall has warned: "Things certainly look brighter but we are not out of the dark yet. We still have a lot of games left to play and some tough sides to face."

On New Year's Day, Wealdstone produced some of their best football of the season for a 2-0 victory at Kettering, writes *Dave Free*.

They made a perfect start with a goal from Andy Wallace after just two minutes. His rasping drive from the edge of the area was only parried by home keeper Harrison and the ball ballooned up and into the net.

Kettering were restricted to counter strikes as Wealdstone mounted attack after attack. Doug Keast sprung their offside trap twice, but shot wide and then had an effort blocked by Bob Iles and captain for the day Doug McClure.

On-loan Steve Hatter made his debut at centre half in a makeshift back four and settled in well, after a shaky start, while new signing Lee Madison again impressed.

Wealdstone wrapped up victory with a second goal in the 50th minute, when a free kick from the half-way line was flicked on for Wallace to prod the ball home.

"We played very well and could have won by more," said a relieved Hall.

Wealdstone: Iles, Madison, McClure, Taylor, Hatter (Goalie), T. Johnson, Greenwood, Wallace, Miller, Tonge, Dawson.

Wealdstone strung together their third successive league victory when they beat Frickley 2-1 at Lower Mead on Saturday.

And they achieved the result despite a farcical display of refereeing, writes *William Bull*.

Nuneaton official Mr A Fenn mys-



GOAL: Neil Cordice heads home Wealdstone's opening goal against Frickley.

tified the 600-plus crowd with some of his decisions. He ruled out two goals by Andy Wallace, awarded Frickley a penalty which clearly wasn't and then waved away the visitor's justifiable claims for a second spot kick.

"I was not happy with the officials. The game could have gone either way on their decisions," said Hall. "At 2-1 it became a bit farcical and we were living dangerously. We started to get confused because we did not know what was going to happen next."

Wallace's first strike, from the edge of the area, was disallowed in the 16th minute for an apparent offside. But Wealdstone then rocked Frickley with two goals in 60 seconds.

First Neil Cordice headed home a Steve Taylor free kick and then Frickley crumbled.

Donnellan's shot was parried by visiting keeper Martin Hill and the ball pinged around the box before Brian

Greenaway lofted it back in. Paul Miller's header was turned against the crossbar by Hill, but Tonge was on hand to head home the rebound.

Three minutes later, Alan Semley went past McClure in the area before falling to the ground. Mr Fenn responded to the dramatics and Steve Miles blasted home the spot kick.

Then, just before half time, stand-in centre back Robin Wainwright manhandled Semley to the ground as the striker burst through but the official waved play on.

Reserve keeper Andy Haxton, making a rare first team appearance in place of Iles, who was getting married, came to Wealdstone's rescue in the second half with a string of fine saves.

Wallace had the ball in the net again in the second half, but again his effort was ruled out, this time for an alleged infringement by Cordice.

Wealdstone: Hatter, Iles, McClure, Madison, Cordice, Wainwright, Greenwood, Wallace, Miller, Tonge, Dawson.

Shodeinde sent off as Lions roar on

Wembley 3 Epsom and Ewell 2 IN-FORM Wembley notched up their fifth league win in a row on Saturday. But their victory was marred by the sending off of Peter Shodeinde just before half time.

The big striker was dismissed for hitting out at Mark Norman after the Epsom player had elbowed him in the groin, writes *Richard Markiewicz*.

Norman, booked earlier for a wild tackle which saw Paul Bhatia limp off, enraged Alan Dafforn's men with a series of lunging challenges and was lucky not to join his victim for an early bath.

All five goals came during a breathtaking first half, with Lions taking the lead after only four minutes.

Shodeinde, who weakened havoc among the visitors defence before his departure, crossed to Eamonn O'Connor, who chested the ball down for Bhatia to blast home.

Lions looked set to stretch their lead but amazingly found themselves behind after being caught napping by the visitors.

Former Harrow Borough full back Ray Metz broke clear on the right in the 19th minute and his cross was superbly tipped over by keeper Jeff Fanner.

However, from the resulting corner, player-manager Ricky Kidd rose to head home the equaliser.

Just sixty seconds later Norman galloped through a gaping hole in the home rearward, exchanged passes with



OFF—Peter Shodeinde

Tuits and headed firmly past Fanner.

Adrian Smith made amends for an earlier miss when he restored the balance in the 40th minute, scooping the ball over Gary Dodd after Janavay's fine pass had sent him clear.

Three minutes later substitute Lance Cadogan put the home side back in front when he slotted home after Shodeinde had once again bemused the Epsom defence.

Despite being reduced to ten men for the second half Lions continued to press forward and Epsom's only two chances were wasted by substitute David Jones.

Wembley: Fanner, Morris, S. Lucas, Murphy, Janavay, Smith, Simpson, Bhatia (Captain), Shodeinde, D. Lucas (Brown 69), O'Connor.

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Hall's centre back crisis for Welling trip

WEALDSTONE manager Brian Hall is still facing a centre-half crisis as Stones prepare for a tough trip to Welling on Saturday.

Dennis Byatt and Paul Bowgett are both still suffering from a flu virus and are doubtful, while Steve Rutter is still ruled out with a leg injury received in the match with Weymouth.

Hall has signed Maidstone centre back Steve Hatter on loan to cover for the injured trio, and has also secured the signature of Weymouth midfielder Martin Hines.

"We need three points on Saturday but it may be more difficult than some people think," says Hall. "Welling are a better side than a lot of people give them credit for."

"Things are looking a bit healthier now and it is important that we do not fall by the wayside again. But I am concerned about our central defence problems."

Derek Doyle and Mark Graves, who have both had knee injuries, should be fit, but Hall is unlikely to change a winning side.

Harrow Borough manager Keith Chamberlin will

SOCCER PREVIEW

field an unchanged side for the visit of Bromley on Saturday, when Boro will be hoping to continue their climb towards the top six.

His only decision will be whether to keep Ray Duffy and Kenny Page on the substitutes' bench or give them a run out in the reserves.

Boro entertain Tooting on Tuesday and Chamberlin says: "We need the points. We have got games in hand on other teams but we will have to win those to move into the top five or six."

Welling boss Alan Dafforn may be forced to make changes for Saturday's visit to Vauxhall-Opel division one pace setters Leytonstone and Ilford.

Several of his players are carrying injuries and Dafforn says: "I'll just have to see how they are before deciding who plays."

The match will take place at Dagenham's ground because Leytonstone's stadium, which is shared with Walthamstow Avenue, has been closed down.

Meanwhile, Dafforn is

and if we can get a run going anything can happen

On Tuesday Kingsbury entertain Finchley.

Royers Lane manager Don Durkin hopes to have Barton, Colwill and Castle available again for Saturday's clash with bottom of the table Wantage Town, at Lucas Avenue.

"Although they are bottom they have started to pick up points recently," said Durkin. "But these are the sides we must beat to stay out of trouble."

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