

SPORT

Wasps want a Bristol semi

WASPS Captain Dave Pegler is hoping that Bristol can overcome Leicester in their delayed John Player Cup quarter final next Saturday.

Then Wasps and their West Country counterparts would be able to renew an old, but friendly rivalry in the semi final at Sudbury on March 28.

Pegler is a former Bristol regular and believes that a clash between them and Wasps could turn into a

classic encounter.

"It would be nice," he admitted. "I would get a chance to see some old friends. Bristol's Andy Dunne is a former Wasps Captain and there are very good links between our clubs.

"But in all honesty we are just happy to be at home once again. People are going to be nervous in the semis and it is nice to go into your own changing rooms and play on your own pitch."

He added: "We can approach it more as another Saturday game as opposed to making extensive travel arrangements."

Wasps, with their third home tie in a row, will rarely get a better chance to go back to Twickenham — and Pegler knows it.

"Playing at Twickenham in the John Player Cup final is a highlight of the club season," he said. "We've been there before and would love to go back again."



New deadline

DUE to a change in The Observer's production deadlines, all sports copy must reach our offices no later than first post on Tuesday.

A teaser

WHAT have athletes Andrea Whitcombe and Carianne McIntosh, Kingsbury Town Football Club and Harrow's London Youth Games team got in common? All is revealed on Page 24.

Paul's move

TITLE chasing Arsenal have loaned Paul Merson, the former Forest United player, to Brentford.

Ladies' cue

A SNOOKER club exclusively for women has started at Harrow Leisure Centre. Sessions take place on Thursdays from 7-9 pm and a qualified coach will be on hand to offer guidance. For details phone 863 5611, extension 2724.

Final fling

CENTURY Bowls Club champion Don Crawford, of Grammers Avenue, Preston Road, will be competing in the London and Southern Area Finals of the Lombard Champion of Champions tournament at Eastbourne today (Thursday).

Super swim

SIX girls from Brent Flamingoes Synchronised Swimming Club were among the 34 competitors at the Middlesex Age Group Competition, at St Georges Pool, Stepney, on Saturday.

Their most successful performers were Emma Pratt and Josephine Wells. Emma was first in both the figures and solo in the 9-10 years, while Josephine was also first in the figures and solo in the 13-14 years, with her solo score of 67.8 the highest in the competition.

More sport on 23-26

Now Andy quits Stones

ANDY WALLACE became the fourth Wealdstone player to quit the club last week.

The former Kingstonian midfielder walked out on Thursday — and manager Colin Meldrum says he has no idea where he is.

Wallace, a South London policeman, could now join his former manager Brian Hall at Yeovil Town, providing he can cope with the lengthy travelling involved.

Since Meldrum's arrival, Wallace had been out of favour at Lower Mead and was relegated to substitute for their matches against Boston and Scarborough.

Another former Stones favourite being linked with Yeovil is winger Gary Donnellan, who left a week before Wallace.

Defender Steve Rutter has already joined Hall at Hush, while the fourth player to leave, striker Keith Tonge, has signed for Dagenham.

Meldrum said this week: "I did not force them out. They went entirely of their own choice. There was no animosity and I wished them well."

He added that he would not be rushing into making any signings before the end of the season.

"Our priority is to use the players we have got to get a few points from our last eight games."

Slough fall to the record breakers

Harrow Borough 4 Slough Town 0 CLUB records tumbled all around as Harrow Borough claimed the prized scalp of third placed Slough Town with another marvellous display at Earlsmead on Tuesday.

The figures are as impressive as the scintillating form that has taken Boro to fourth in the Vauxhall Opel Premier Division.

They are unbeaten in all competitions for 11 matches and have now rattled off eight wins in a row.

Keeper Stuart MacKenzie has kept a club record five clean sheets and has not let a goal in during 495 minutes of action.

It is little wonder then, that happy Boro boss Keith Chamberlin is setting his sights firmly on a league runners-up spot.

Two first half goals from Bobby Dell set Boro on their way to victory against a Slough side who had not lost away from home since September.

Dell, who only scored his first goal for the club three weeks ago, fired home in the 12th minute after John Kerr flicked on a Ray Duffy corner.

The celebrations had hardly died down when he dived in two minutes later to head a Mark Adams cross inside the far post.

Chances came and went as Slough felt the full force of Boro's new found confidence.

And the visitors finally caved in again when Holmes applied the final touch to a second half Morris header.

Substitute Matt Loddy

Bobby's double delight

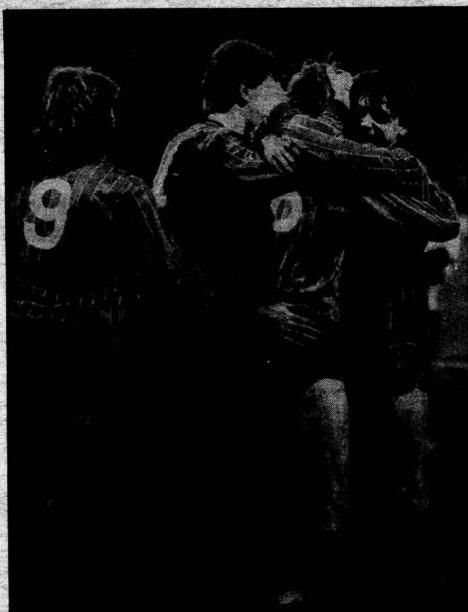
then came on to put the icing on the cake, steering his shot inside the far post after more good work by Dell in the 89th minute.

Boro's present embarrassment of riches was perfectly summed up by the sight of Tony Guard sitting un-used on the bench.

He is a former Swansea City professional who has just signed a one year contract at Earlsmead. But, for the moment at least, he just cannot break into the side.

Said Chamberlin: "Tony is a signing for the future. He has been a pro and I am pleased he has signed. He has had to be patient with the side doing so well. But his chance will come. He has not signed a contract to play in the reserves."

Harrow Borough: MacKenzie, Duffy, Johnson, Hall, Bennett, Dell, Chamberlin, Holmes, Kerr (Loddy), Morris, Adams. Other sub: Guard (not used).



● Goal — Bobby Dell (No 6) is mobbed by his team-mates after putting Boro ahead on Tuesday.

Meldrum aims to clean up in Bath trip

Wealdstone, without a league game on Saturday, travel to Bath for a re-arranged game on Tuesday night, with manager Colin Meldrum expecting to have a full squad to choose from.

Doug McClure is available again after suspension and Steve Tapley has recovered from knee ligament damage.

Stones lost their first two matches under Meldrum's stewardship but have since taken four points out of a possible six.

"We changed a few things around after those two defeats, tightened up at the back and have improved 99 per cent," said Meldrum. "No games are easy but everyone will be in the right frame of mind."

He planned to give some players who have not yet appeared in his team a run-out in Tuesday night's Capital League trip to Wycombe before making his final selection.

"I said I would give everybody a chance and I will stick by that," he said.

Full back Colin Payne is again ruled out as Harrow Borough travel to Windsor and Eton seek-

SOCCER PREVIEW

ing their ninth league win in a row on Saturday.

Payne is still suffering from a mystery knee injury, and may have to see a specialist.

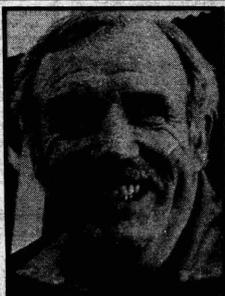
Apart from Payne, manager Keith Chamberlin has a fully fit squad at his disposal.

"Windsor are fighting relegation and the pitch will be a mudheap, so we will have to roll up our sleeves and get on with it," he said.

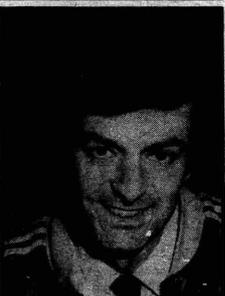
Mick McDonough should be back in goal for Kingsbury Town for Saturday's trip to Oxford. He has been suffering from tonsillitis.

There are doubts over full back Paul Fitzgerald, who damaged a calf in Saturday's defeat at Leytonstone, but manager Terry Dyson expects everyone else to be fit.

"If we perform as well as we



Colin Meldrum — no selection problems.



Keith Chamberlin — a tough game at Windsor.

did at Leytonstone we should have a very good chance of winning," said Dyson.

On Tuesday, Town entertain Tilbury.

Wembley entertain Grays at Vale Farm on Saturday hoping to keep their promotion surge going.

But they will definitely be without injury victims Sylvester Williams and Charlie Flaherty and suspended striker Peter Sho-deinde.

Skipper Spud Murphy looks set to return, however. Lions are at home to Leatherhead on Tuesdays.

Rayners Lane boss Don Durkin hopes to welcome back Darren Colwill for Saturday's meeting with Penhill at Lucas Avenue. But there are doubts

over the fitness of Gary Johns and Darrell Clements, both injured in the victory over Morris Motors.

"It is an important game for us against a team just below us in the league," says Durkin. "We were well beaten 3-0 in the away fixture and the players have something to prove."

In the London Spartan League, high flying Edgware bid to keep their fine run going at mid table Southgate Athletic on Saturday, boosted by the return of defender David Ede, who has been out with hamstring trouble.

Harrow St Marys have bounced back to form just in time in division one of the Middlesex County League. For they travel to unbeaten league leaders Ever-shed Social on Saturday.

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