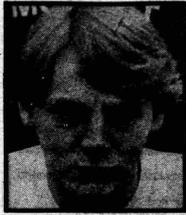


Pearce stakes claim

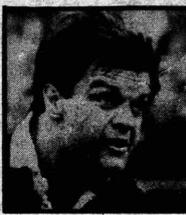


STUART PEARCE staked a strong claim to be the permanent understudy for England left back Kenny Sansom in his first two international appearances last week.

Pearce, the former Wealdstone defender catapulted to First Division fame by Coventry and then Nottingham Forest, lined up against Brazil last Tuesday and Scotland on Saturday.

Critics blamed Pearce for the goal that earned Brazil a 1-1 draw at Wembley but he had a sound game against the Scots at Hamden, earning lavish praise from England boss Bobby Robson afterwards.

Davies gets Cup call



HUW DAVIES has been summoned out of the international wilderness to shore up England's World Cup rugby campaign in Australia.

Davies, Wasps' Mr Versatility, comes in for injured full back Marcus Roose more than a year after his last England appearance.

The 28-year-old, capped by his country in three different positions, will not have far to travel to team up with his colleagues — he is already in Australia on tour with Middlesex.

Hogben too hot to handle



● Six of the best ... Richard Hogben, who took six Harrow wickets, in action during Monday's derby.

A DEVASTATING spell of bowling by Richard Hogben put Wembley on the way to a three wicket win in their derby clash with Harrow on Monday.

Hogben took 6 for 26, clean bowling everyone of his victims, as Harrow were all out for 144.

On a damp pitch, Harrow were in early difficulties as they lost their first five men for 23 runs.

But Taylor's solid 29, 39 from Scott and 30 from Baker hauled them back into contention.

Pradip Maru then got the Wembley reply off to a flying start with 35, with help from Porter (25) and an unbeaten 29 from Shah at the tail.

Baker was by far the most effective Harrow bowler, snatching 6 for 6 in a fine spell.

But it was not enough to prevent Wembley reaching 145 for the loss of seven wickets.

The previous day, Wembley played out a draw with Boynce Hill after batting first and declaring on 177 for 7.

Shah's 53 provided the backbone of their innings and opener Pradhan contributed a useful 40. Haskell rounded off their innings with an unbeaten 27.

In reply, Boynce Hill made a hesitant start in the face of a varied Wembley attack.

And they would surely have crashed to defeat if Holyoak had not stepped in to salvage a draw with a hard hitting 63.

Bowling honours were shared for Wembley between Waterman (2-8) and Lazeris (2-40), as Boynce Hill finished on 143 for 9.

Stanmore scrape home

DEPLETED Stanmore battled their way to a win and a draw in their two Bank Holiday weekend fixtures.

Graham Pauncefort's men retrieved what looked to be an almost impossible situation at Hounslow on Sunday to snatch a five run win.

Batting first, Stanmore were well placed at 80 for 2, thanks to 26 from John Varay and 32 from John Turner.

But they then slumped to 125 for 8 before Peter Nicholls and Pauncefort saved

their bacon with a ninth wicket stand of 30 which allowed them to declare at 154 for 8.

Hounslow were soon in trouble at 25 for 2 in reply, before recovering to 130 for 3 with 18 overs to go.

Clive Scott hit a sound 79 for the home side but Pauncefort blamed his attack for letting Hounslow race away. "We bowled quite a lot of rubbish at them," he moaned.

A quick change in the bowling soon payed off, however. Mark Ellis and Alastair

Fraser grabbed two wickets each and Nicholls came back to mop up the tail, taking 5 for 39 as Hounslow were dismissed for 149.

The following day, Stanmore won the toss and put Brondesbury in to bat on a damp wicket, bowling them out for 167.

Fraser took 3 for 23, while Brondesbury's Dalgligh top scored with 44.

Peter Edwards led the reply in typical fashion, rattling off 69 as Stanmore sped to 113 for 3.

Disaster then struck as Stanmore lost four wickets without scoring to slip to 124 for 8.

At the end, they were on 141 for 8, Ian Hay taking 4 for 42 for Brondesbury.

—FIXTURES—

Saturday May 28
Middlesex County Leagues: Stanmore v Southgate; Felton v Wembley.
Thames Valley Leagues: Uxbridge v Harrow.
Middlesex Cricketers Leagues: Harrow Town v Pinner; Beesborough v Harrow St Marys; Parkfield v Southey Court; Queensbury v Bank of Scotland; West Harrow v Cusps; Potters Bar v Polytechnic of North London; Wembley v United Sports Club; Cuswicks v Lantana.

Sunday May 31
Harrow v Stanmore; Wembley v Paddington; Pinner v Aylesbury; Tottenham Green v Harrow Town; Beesborough v Old Mill Hillians; Russell Manor v Parkfield; Mitcham Hill v Queensbury; Cuswicks v Harrow Weald; Trinitis Sports Club v West Harrow; Harrow St Mary's v Harrow-on-the-Hill; North Harrow v Haringey; Polytechnic of North London v Barnet; LCC v United Sports Club; CLKO v Starlight.

—SWIMMING—

Medal haul for H and W

HARROW and Wealdstone swimmers continued to swim well at the Southern Counties Championships - sessions 10-14 - at Crystal Palace at the weekend, picking up a total of 14 medals.

Julie Riegall (15/16 age group) continued her run of success with a silver medal in the girls 200m IM in 2:28.77 and a bronze in the girls 200m free in 2:12.49 - both personal best times.

Damian Loaccasio (17/18 age group) had a busy three days, competing in nine events. He ended with a silver medal in the 50m back, in 29.64, a bronze in the 50m fly, in 27.75, and five other top eight finishes.

Spencer Wheeler (16/16 age group) made good progress during the meet with fifth place in both the 50m and 100m free, in 26.45 and 57.70, and seventh in the 50m fly, in 28.57.

He also won two bronze medals in the junior boys (under 17) relays, teaming up with Andrew Connell, Robert Sapsed and Duncan Scott in the 4x50m medley and Andrew, Duncan and Matthew Young in the 4x50m free.

Duncan Scott (15/16 age group) was fourth in the 200m fly, in 2:20.28 (best 2:19.21).

Amanda Connell (19 plus age group) had a successful

time in the 50m and 100m fly, returning times of 31.89 and 69.05 to collect two silver medals.

Geoff Stewart (19 plus age group) finished in silver medal position in the 100m free (54.71) and was a finalist in the 50m free (26.13).

Rebecca Gjoor (17/18 age group) had a busy time on Monday, taking silver in the 4x50m medley relay. The team then excelled themselves by winning gold in the 4x50m free in a new event best time of 1:55.82.

Alison Derby went on to collect two more medals in the 17/18 age group, gaining bronze in both the 50m and 100m free in 28.54 and 1:01.90.

DUNCAN SCOTT travelled to Montreal, Canada, for two international galas. Duncan's Canadian training took place in Montreal's Olympic Pool. His first gala, Quebec v England was split between two venues, one at the Pointe Claire Pool and the other the St-Foy Pool.

In the Quebec v England meet, Duncan took 4th place in both of his swims. In the 200m fly his time was 2:13.57 and in the 100m fly he touched home in 1:01.70.

Town topper

GREG ZACHARIA is Kingsbury town's player of the year, pipping Paul Shields for the award by just a single vote. He received his trophy at the club's presentation night on Friday.

Martin Blain was the first winner of the Chairman's Award, presented by Mark Hart. Blain has given over 10 years' service to the club.

Young player of the year was Patrick Jackman and youth team player of the year was Kevin Grant.

Five pages this week

Youth Games special

Report and pictures p27

PLUS



Tony's Laser show

Report and picture p28

More sport pages 27-30

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