

SPORT

MIDWEEK SOCCER

Wembley throw it

Wembley 2, Leyton-Wingate 2
WEMBLEY threw away their chance of cup glory on Tuesday as they let Leyton-Wingate off the hook to earn a third qualifying round replay.

After falling behind surprisingly, the Lions tore into an inferior Premier Division side, went two goals up and should have buried the visitors' hopes before conceding a late penalty.

Former Harrow Boro striker Sean Baker opened the scoring for Leyton-Wingate after 19 minutes when he seized upon a poor back pass by Spud Murphy to control the ball before knocking it past the advancing Jeff Fanner.

Wembley drew level in the 32nd minute. Adrian Smith's corner to be near post was headed into his own net by Steve Lane, under pressure from Lions' Steve Lucas.

After Baker had fluffed a golden chance to put the visitors ahead, Sylvester Williams punished his slackness. Lucas' corner found the elusive winger in space just six yards out and he clipped a shot past three defenders on the goal-line.

But when they should have stepped up the pace, Wembley sat back, frustrating the good-sized crowd that had gathered at Vale Farm. And they paid for it with six minutes remaining.

Sean Baker appeared to fall, rather than be pushed, in the box, but referee Stephen Pearce pointed to the spot. Jeff Fanner did everything but keep the ball out, but it went in off the post.

Hampton 2, Kingsbury Town 2
KINGSBURY got back into league action with a draw at Hampton, and only managed that after a tremendous second half fightback.

Hampton went two up as Town failed to play in the first period, but after the break it was a different story.

With George Costa and Paul Fitzgerald in outstanding form, Town pressed forward and George Kyriacou pulled a goal back before Stuart Atkins earned the point.

Big crowd due to see Imps

WEALDSTONE entertain the mighty Lincoln City at Lower Mead on Saturday, and expect a bumper crowd for the game.

Lincoln became the first League club to be relegated under the new automatic promotion rule last season, going down despite never hitting the bottom spot until the last match.

The now legendary day saw Burnley win amid scenes of jubilation, and with Torquay reaching safety the previous night, Lincoln made the big drop.

Ironically, the Imps' home games in their first Conference campaign are up by a staggering 23 per cent, and they are averaging

2,493 — the highest in the Conference.

They have just appointed a new assistant manager. Former Southend boss Dick Bates takes over from Gordon Simmonite after Saturday's match. Simmonite is leaving Sincil Bank to pursue a career outside soccer.

Lincoln are currently lying fourth in the Conference and it is their avowed intention to return to the Barclays League at the first attempt.

They have won three and lost three of their seven away matches so far this season, drawing the other.

Edgware Town must have had high hopes of reaching Wembley

this season until they learned the draw for the first round proper of the FA Vase.

Wares must have the toughest tie of all, away to Yeading. The Middlesex club have leaped from park football to the top of the Vauxhall-Opel League Division Two South in just three short years.

Edgware are hoping that Ray Mangan's groin injury will have cleared up in time for him to play, and they will be facing their former player of the year, Seamus Finnerty, who has joined Yeading.

Harrow Boro travel to near neighbours Hayes in the Vauxhall-Opel Premier, without Steve

Emmanuel and Lawrence Holmes, who are both injured. Matt Luddy is in line to replace Holmes after scoring twice for the reserves on Tuesday, as Paul Ripley is injured and Richard Evans is still out. Evans has resumed training after his ligaments injury and Keith Chamberlin hopes he will be back in reserves team action in three weeks.

Kingsbury Town have George Costa and Paul Goodison back to face Stevenage, while Wembley entertain Worthing as both the local sides get back to Vauxhall-Opel League action. Rayners Lane travel to Didcot Town in the Hellenic Premier.



● Keith Chamberlin.

Boost for Keith

KEITH Chamberlin has been appointed manager of the Vauxhall-Opel League representative side for a match against the British Police.

The news comes as a great boost to the Harrow Borough boss, who has been under pressure from supporters after the club's poor start to the season.

The match will also renew an old rivalry, for the manager of the British Police side is former Wealdstone boss Brian Hall.

He will be including four of his own players in the squad. Steve Bateman, Mark Adams and Paul Morris are all regulars in the league team, and Chamberlin has added keeper Stuart MacKenzie as well.

The match is at Met Police's Imber Court ground on Tuesday October 27, kick off 7.30pm.

FIXTURES

Saturday October 17

GM Vaux Con: Wealdstone v Lincoln City (Lower Mead, 3); Vauxhall-Opel Premier: Hayes v Harrow Boro; Division One: Kingsbury Town v Stevenage Boro (Silver Jubilee Park, 3); Wembley v Worthing (Vale Farm, 3); FA Vase Rnd One: Yeading v Edgware Town; Hall's Brewery Hellenic Premier: Didcot Town v Rayners Lane; Middlesex County: Maple Cross v Harrow St Marys; Suburban League Cup Rnd Two: Harrow Boro res v Egham (Earlsmead, 3).

Sunday October 19

FA Cup 3rd Qual replay: Leyton-Wingate v Wembley; Suburban League: Hounslow v Harrow Boro res.

Tuesday October 20

Vauxhall-Opel Premier: Harrow Boro v Bishops Stortford (Earlsmead, 7.30).

Nobody tried to stop me, says Cordice

Stones star off to join ex boss

By Aaron Gransby

NEIL CORDICE has left Wealdstone to join Yeovil Town — and today makes the astonishing accusation that nobody tried to stop him.

Cordice, 27, has linked up with former Stones boss Brian Hall at the Vauxhall-Opel League club, after Hall made an approach for him last week.

The talented forward had just begun his ninth season at Lower Mead, but now follows Steve Rutter, Gary Donnellan and Andy Wallace to Huish.

And Cordice says he was allowed to leave. "Wealdstone never came back to me after telling me of the initial approach. Brian Hall spoke to me and we agreed terms," he told the Observer.

"Nobody spoke to me or tried to stop me going. The ball was in Wealdstone's court and they did nothing about it."

Cordice was not on a contract at the club, and so Stones will get no money for him. But he believes he has made the right move.

"Yeovil have a good chance of getting back into the Vauxhall Conference, and I took into account the fact that Wealdstone have struggled for

the last few seasons.

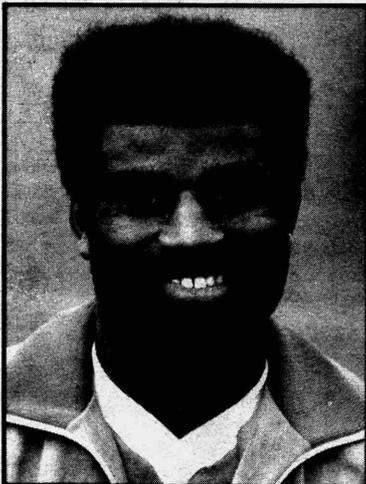
"But the club provided me with the highlight of my career and I am sorry to leave behind so many friends there."

"I told Neil we didn't want to lose him, but he has joined Yeovil. Stones boss Terry Burton said: "We don't want players to leave until others have returned from injury or we have brought in new players."

Supporters club secretary Nick DuGard expressed the disappointment at Neil's move. "He has been a great servant to the club and we are surprised to see him go. It is an extremely sad situation."

With Burton trying to build up his squad, it is an open secret at Lower Mead that some players will be leaving. But Neil Cordice, one of the most talented footballers at the club in recent years, was not expected to move.

He is the last of the Cordice brothers to leave Lower Mead. Godfrey played for Stones in the past, and the exceptional Alan is still a hero of the fans, after getting two seasons ago.



● Neil Cordice: "Nobody stopped me."

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