

SPORT

Sucker punch

Chamberlin is left fuming

Wealdstone 2, Dagenham 2

A BLUNDER by Paul Bowgett cost Wealdstone the chance of picking up their first win of the season in the GM Vauxhall Conference.

He gifted Dagenham an 82nd minute equaliser just when it seemed the tide had turned for Stones.

There was some consolation for manager Brian Hall as he watched his side collect their first point after three successive defeats.

But Dagenham were a poor

Bowgett's blunder lets Dagenham off the hook

side and Hall knows that it should have been three points in the bag.

In the opening half, Stones showed plenty of imagination in their approach work but never really looked like creating a good scoring opportunity.

The game was 50 minutes

old before Stones had their best opening. Gary Donnellan's corner was met by Steve Ragan — a first half substitute for the injured Steve Tapley — but his header was cleared off the line at the far post.

Derek Doyle then saw a shot parried by keeper Darren Williams and the ball scrambled

away, before Dagenham stunned Stones with a bizarre goal in the 66th minute.

Terry Sullivan curled the ball in from the left and it somehow eluded Bowgett and crept in at the far post past a startled Bob Iles.

Brian Greenaway replaced Doug McClure with 15 minutes remaining, and almost immediately the game burst into life.

Mark Graves broke out of the Wealdstone half and spread the ball wide to Donnellan. He curled the ball to the far post where Doyle thumped home a tremendous header to put Wealdstone back on level terms.

Barely a minute later, Wealdstone were in front for the first time this season.

Graves collected the ball midway inside the Dagenham half and his curling drive flew over a surprised Williams and into the back of the net.

Wealdstone's celebrations were short lived. Four minutes later Bowgett made a mess of a cross from David Pearce and Devon Gayle was left with the easiest of opportunities to rifle the ball past Iles from just inside the box.

Wealdstone: Iles, Tapley (Ragan, 34), McClure (Greenaway, 75), Rutter, Bowgett, Wainright, Doyle, Holmes, N Cordice, Graves, Donnellan.



Head to head — Wealdstone's Mark Graves beats Allen Jacobs to the ball to get in a header against Dagenham.



Matt Loddy — on target for Boro.

HARROW Borough manager Keith Chamberlin was fuming at a tackle by Chelsea's Doug Rougiev that looks likely to keep Paul Dawson out of action for a fortnight.

Dawson was left with badly torn ligaments in his left knee following the challenge late in the first half of Monday's 3-2 defeat in a friendly with the Londoners.

And furious Chamberlin said after the game: "It's out of order when you lose players of that quality in an incident like that in a friendly against a professional side."

"There is no way Paul will play for at least a fortnight."

The incident marred an entertaining Bank Holiday treat at Earlsmead.

Boro twice fought back from a goal down before Chelsea snatched a winner in the dying seconds of the match.

Matt Loddy had a chance for Boro early on, while Kenny Lavender was kept busy at the other end with Rougiev going close before Chelsea took the lead two minutes from half-time through Miller.

Loddy equalised for Boro 11 minutes into the second half, but in the 70th minute, Chelsea were back in front when Keith Jones scored from the penalty spot.

Ten minutes later, Boro were level again through Loddy, but just

before the final whistle Terry Howard rifled home the winner from just inside the box.

Chamberlin was full of praise for two-goal Loddy, despite the disappointment of losing.

"He has got to be the success story. He scored the winner at Bromley and got two against Chelsea. What more could you want?"

Chamberlin admitted it had been a bold decision to bring him in so close to the start of the season, but he added: "He looks the one who is most likely to score."

"It's very dangerous to get too excited about the boy, but his form has been tremendous and I think he will get better."

Harrow Boro: Lavender, Dawson (Duffy), Payne, How, Bateman, Dell, Emmanuel, Holmes, Loddy, Page (Adams), Turner.
Chelsea: Francis, Howard, Dublin, Bodeby, Rougiev, Miller, McAllister, Jones, Dods, McCarty, West (Priest, Cunningham).

Confidence is still high says Hall

WEALDSTONE clawed their way off the bottom of the GM Vauxhall Conference with Tuesday's point against Dagenham — but only by one place.

And manager Brian Hall reflected: "We've played four games and should have got 10 points. All we have got is one."

And frustrated Hall added: "I thought in the four games so far we had played better football than in the season we

won the league.

"All the ingredients for the cake are right. We've done our homework on teams and we've prepared ourselves, and then suddenly the gas goes out half way through.

"Confidence in the dressing room is high, but we have got to make our chances happen and we have got to be brave."

Hall admitted he was under pressure, but conceded that he only had so many cards to play with.

"At Maidstone we did enough to have come off in front at half-time.

"At Scarborough we controlled 70 per cent of the game.

"Against Dagenham we again enjoyed 70 per cent of the play.

"Bowgett was at fault for their first goal but we got back in the game with an excellent goal from Doyle and then one from Graves who thoroughly deserved to score.

Cup win for Kingsbury

Kingsbury Town 2, Haringey Borough 0

KINGSBURY Town comfortably disposed of Haringey Borough in the preliminary round of the AC Delco Cup on Tuesday night.

A goal in each half booked Town a trip to Vauxhall-Opel Premier Division side Yeovil Town on September 24.

Kingsbury, fresh from their league win over Staines on

Saturday, took the lead on the half-hour.

A ball was driven low across the box and Logan Lewis dummied for right back Desmond Dennis who burst through on the overlap to fire the ball home.

The second came 25 minutes into the second half. Greg Zacharia pumped a free kick into the box and Gursel Gulfer laid the ball off to Stuart Atkins who applied the finishing touch.

Haringey had their chances and they went close in the first half and twice after the break, but Town keeper Mick McDonough was always in control.

Kingsbury now face a daunting task on Yeovil's famous slope against a side which is among the favourites for the Premier Division championship after finishing runners-up last season.

Kingsbury Town: McDonough, Dennis, Harley, Doran, Shields, Lewis, Forbes, Zacharia, Gulfer, Atkins, Collins (Brennan, Blain).

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Lane are back in FA Cup action

AFTER an absence of 10 years, Rayners Lane are back in the FA Cup with a preliminary round visit from Southern League Burnham and Hillingdon on Saturday.

It will be Don Durkin's first taste of the FA Cup as a manager, and he is hoping to have Paul Abell recovered from injury for the club's big day.

Should a replay be needed, it will be on Tuesday night, otherwise, Lane return to Hellenic League action with a visit from Wallingford Town on Wednesday night.

Wealdstone chairman David Morritt returned from holiday on Sunday confident that his club would soon be back among the front-runners in the GM Vauxhall Conference.

After missing the opening three games of the season — all defeats — Mr Morritt watched Wealdstone pick up their first point of the season at home to Dagenham on Tuesday night.

This Saturday, Wealdstone entertain Northwic Victoria and then travel to newly promoted Sutton United the following Tuesday.

Manager Brian Hall is still waiting for Dennis Byatt to re-



Paul Fitzgerald — joined Kingsbury Town

gain full fitness while Doug McClure should shrug off a shoulder injury by the weekend.

Harrow Borough entertain Croydon on Saturday and then travel to newly promoted St Albans City on Tuesday.

Paul Morris, who needed pain killers to play at Bromley, should be fit after missing the friendly with Chelsea on Bank Holiday Monday with a badly bruised foot.

SOCCER PREVIEW

Croydon have lost their opening three games, but Boro manager Keith Chamberlin warned: "Everyone knows they are one of the best footballing sides in the league and they will almost certainly finish in the top six this year."

"We are going to have a game on our hands. Your first win is so important and their manager will be getting the players worked up for it."

"St Albans is also going to be another tough tough game".

Wembley welcome back Fred Smart in goal for Saturday's trip to Bracknell.

Smart, who took over as reserve team player manager at the end of last season, got a surprise recall because first choice Jeff Fanner is sidelined with a stomach complaint.

Eamon O'Connor hopes to recover from injury after missing Saturday's match, but Wembley will be without Tony Simpson, who got married on Saturday, for six weeks.

Manager Alan Dafforn has

completed the signing of Chesham midfielder Dave Alexander, who has also had spells at Wycombe and Oxford.

On Tuesday, Wembley travel to Hampton.

Kingsbury Town manager Terry Dyson completed the signing of Wembley full back Paul Fitzgerald on Tuesday night. Fitzgerald had made 66 appearances for Wembley.

This Saturday Kingsbury entertain Erith and Belvedere in the FA Cup with the winners away to Walton and Hersham.

Edgware are almost certain to be without skipper John Walsh, who has missed the last two games with a knee injury, when they entertain Corinthian Casuals in the preliminary round of the FA Cup.

Lee Rider should have recovered from injury while Vince Deritis and Bobby Cooke both start two week suspensions after the match.

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