

WELWYN & HATFIELD TIMES Sport

Tel: 01707 327551 | Fax: 01707 384195 | alan.davies@whtimes.co.uk



Football: Sport 4

**Ladies net
six of
the best**



**Top Runner
Kath comes
home first**

Cross-Country: Sport 5

Lemsford Pick up a point thanks to Danny

SUBSTITUTE Danny Pickett scored a last-gasp penalty to salvage Lemsford a point at Cuffley on Saturday.

Pickett fired home a late spot-kick to make it 1-1 after Lemsford custodian Dennis Fettus had earlier saved a penalty to keep his side in the game.

Saturday's 1-1 draw continued Lemsford's improving Herts Senior County League form and made it three games without defeat.

Despite being near the bottom of Division One themselves, the Gosling club went into Saturday's derby above Cuffley, who have made a terrible start to the season.

However, with a flurry of new signings the Zep's were in buoyant mood, especially after hammering Allenburys Sports 6-1 the previous week in the Herts Intermediate Cup.

Herts Senior County League Division One Cuffley 1 Lemsford 1

The derby started slowly, with neither side mounting any serious looking attacks.

New Lemsford signing Kevin Cory had his hands full at left back, with the Cuffley right winger looking a threat, but his impact was kept to a minimum.

At the other end, strikers Matt Jones and Chris Jones were reduced to long-range efforts. Chris Jones had perhaps the best chance of the half but he fired his shot over.

After a goalless first half the second period provided a bit more action from both the players and the referee.

It was the Gosling team that came closest to opening the scoring when

Colin King's cross was met by Matt Harris, but his bullet header rattled the crossbar.

Cuffley's speedy right winger continued to cause Lemsford problems and he made the most of a breakaway to race through on goal and fire past goalkeeper Fettus to give the home side the lead.

Then came a moment that could have changed the outcome of the result.

Lemsford defender Steve Cross was adjudged to have fouled a Cuffley player in the box and the referee awarded a penalty.

With just 20 minutes remaining, a second Cuffley goal would have killed the game.

However, keeper Fettus was Lemsford's hero as he saved the spot-kick.

Lemsford took heart from that and spent the final minutes of the match trying to snatch an equaliser.

Substitute Adam Taylor launched many long throws into the box as the Cuffley defence began to come under intense pressure.

With minutes remaining the away side won a corner which looked like being one final throw of the dice.

The corner was whipped into the box and the referee spotted a handball in the area and pointed to the spot for a second time, this time for Lemsford.

Another Lemsford substitute, Danny Pickett, stepped up and showed great composure to fire the penalty past the Cuffley goalkeeper to earn his side a share of the spoils.



New management duo see their side extend unbeaten run to eight

Codicote shoot down Buntingford



Herts Senior County League Premier Codicote 2 Buntingford Town 0

CODICOTE extended their unbeaten run to eight matches with a comfortable victory over Buntingford Town on Saturday.

Goals from Glen Jones and Ian Macdonald secured Codicote a convincing 2-0 win at the John Clements Memorial Ground to continue their climb up the Premier Division table.

It was a hard-fought game, with some inspirational individual performances and a collective team effort seeing the home side bag all three points against their high-flying opponents.

The management duo of new boss Rob Kleiser and player-coach Dan Kennoy never thought it would be anything else.

Kleiser said: "This type of performance is proof of the progress the club is making and will go a long way in developing a strong level of belief amongst the players."

The first half was frenetic with both teams starting nervously and testing each other out at both ends.

Jones pounced in the 30th minute to give the hosts the lead and Codicote's prowess in front of goal was too much for Buntingford to handle as a second-half strike from Macdonald made sure of the points.

Kleiser was forced to make three changes to the side that dispatched Bedmond two weeks earlier.

Kennoy's suspension meant a rare first team start for Gareth Hopkins. Macdonald came in for the injured Rod Furness and Grant Macaree replaced Mario Santos Costa, who is currently involved in Olympic rowing trials, in the heart of the midfield.

After a panicky first 15 minutes, Tony Wells and Macaree started to dominate proceedings in the middle of the park, preventing the opposition from playing and being the pivot of numerous attacks for the home side.

Codicote took the lead on the half hour. Carl Smith played an exquisite ball down the right channel to release Foster, who produced a pinpoint cross for Jones to powerfully head home.

The Bury Lane club dominated for the rest of the first period and were only prevented from being further rewarded by the assistant referee's flag on more than one occasion.

As the half petered out, goalkeeper Dan Stephenson was called into action and he produced a superb double save from a Buntingford set-play.

The visitors came out of the blocks much sharper in the second half, pushing



hard for the equaliser.

However, the Codicote defence, marshalled expertly by man of the match Kevin Campbell and James Gurr, comfortably dealt with Buntingford's raids.

Campbell and Gurr were supported by full backs Hopkins and Russell Pugh in a high-quality defensive display by the home side.

Codicote made it 2-0 just after the hour with the same combination linking up on 65 minutes. Again Smith played in Foster down the right, but this time his cross was met by Macdonald.

He swooped to meet the ball and directed his diving header into the top corner of the net, giving the keeper no chance.

Buntingford pushed hard to gain some footing in the game, but Codicote were comfortable for the remainder of the match.

Kleiser was pleased with his side's display. "The team played well in periods, but there's still a lot of work to do if we're to challenge for any honours this season."

Kennoy added: "We hope that the players can continue to show signs of improvement as we strive to move the club forward."

The next few months will make or break Codicote's season. They faced a crucial league game against Wormley Rovers last night (Tuesday) and play Sandridge Rovers on Saturday. Those matches are followed by important cup games late in November.

