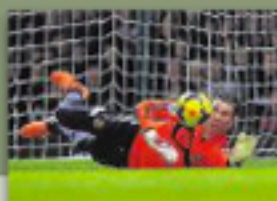


Sport

Wharf



SHOWSTOPPER

Big Sam praises Adrian's keen saving abilities **P64**

Docklands firm up position at the top

VOLLEYBALL London Docklands battled their way to a 3-1 victory over local rivals London Knights to consolidate their position at the summit of National League Division 1.

The match couldn't have started worse for Docklands, losing only their fifth set of the season, 25-21.

But the players showed great resilience as they fought back to win 3-1 in the match at Haverstock School.

Special mention must be made of the contribution of Christoph Datler and Platon Vogiatzoglou who led the charge.

Next weekend Docklands go back on the road for the first time since November with a double header against Middlesbrough and Birmingham.

Blackheath are safe from dreaded drop

RUGBY Blackheath's Jack Walsh put on an outstanding first-half performance to secure the south-east London side's national league one status.

The triumphant team saw off Coventry 26-6 at Rectory Field on Saturday thanks in large part to two tries from the scrum-half – both arising from charge-downs.

On Saturday Blackheath travel to Yorkshire for their first visit to the Brantingham Park, the home of Hull Ionians.

Shops and housing will replace West Ham's old home



Stadium's future has been sealed

LEGACY

Developer signs deal to build on Upton Park when Hammers move to Stratford

Beth Allcock
@wharf.co.uk

West Ham's Boleyn Ground will be transformed into a residential and retail village by Galliard Group once the team depart.

The London-based developer reached agreement with the club this week to purchase the stadium after the Irons move to the former Olympic Stadium in Stratford in 2016.

Galliard – which has snapped up 14 major development sites across inner London over the past two years – was chosen as the preferred bidder for its pledge to honour the team's history as well as its connection to the community.

Karren Brady, West Ham's vice-chairman, said: "The deal demonstrates we have been true to our word

by securing the regeneration of two areas of east London through our move to the Olympic Stadium.

"In addition and, most importantly for us, we can see Galliard is passionate about working with West Ham to engage supporters and deliver a fitting legacy that will honour the tradition of the famous ground. We are confident West Ham fans will be excited about the firm's vision."

Loyal supporters of the Irons will be able to vote for a particular player or event to adorn the nameplate of each building, while a landscaped space will be named the Bobby Moore Memorial Garden. The current memorial garden, by the front entrance to the ground, will be protected and brought into the new development.

Galliard has also commissioned world-renowned sculptor Frances Siegelman to create a statue of the fans' favourite and former captain, as well as other artwork to celebrate the team's east London heritage.



Legacy: Karren Brady

Rivals set for Canary Wharf clash

SQUASH

RIVALRY Nick Matthew and James Willstrop are seeded to meet in the final of next month's sold-out Canary Wharf Classic.

The two English squash stars have dominated London's most popular squash tournament, with reigning champion Willstrop claiming four

titles and Matthew three. The PSA World Tour International 50 event takes place at the stunning East Wintergarden venue from March 24-28 and the prospect of another high-quality all-English showdown has resulted in every ticket being snapped up eight weeks in advance.

However, Matthew and Willstrop face a number of daunting obstacles in every round, with a strong international field lying in wait.

Roberta Moore, daughter of Bobby, said: "I have always believed there should be some form of permanent West Ham presence on the site after the team leave and I'm really pleased that the centre point of the development will be named in honour of my father."

The wider scheme will see the creation of new homes and ground floor retail and leisure facilities, as well as underground parking.

Construction is expected to take 30 months with an anticipated completion date in late 2018.

Stephen Conway, chairman and chief executive of Galliard, said: "Working closely with West Ham and Newham Council, Galliard plans to undertake extensive consultation with local residents and businesses and the West Ham United Supporter Advisory Board in order to create a future for the site that is respectful of the cultural and economic diversity of the local area."

Sir Robin Wales, mayor of Newham, said: "We've always maintained West Ham's relocation to Stratford had the potential to deliver an Olympic legacy beyond the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park as a key part of the comprehensive regeneration of Green Street and Upton Park."

CHARLTON

It's time for Charlton to be brave, says Powell



Astrit Ajdarevic, rear, in action for Charlton against Middlesbrough

THE Addicks have an uphill task bedding in a host of newcomers to the side.

Despite encouraging performances from Reza Ghoochannejhad and Astrit Ajdarevic, both transfer window signings from Standard Liege, Charlton fell to a 2-0 defeat at home to Birmingham on Saturday.

Manager Chris Powell said he and his team would have to act quickly to help them adapt to the English league – particularly with the side caught in a relegation battle.

"It's something we've had to get on with straight away," said Powell.

"Involving them in everything we do, looking out for them and looking after them because

we know they've got to get used to us and get used to the way it is in the Championship.

"They're good guys, they've all come in and they want to lend their qualities to the team and to the squad.

"We've done our best with them to make sure that they get straight into the swing of things with regards to playing style and fitness."

Powell also picked out 18-year-old youth product Diego Poyet for praise.

"Young Diego looked for the ball and was very brave with it," said Powell.

"Those are the things you have to do and look for in the players because it's a time to be brave now, to get ourselves out of the bottom three."

Rob Virtue
Sheffield Wednesday v Charlton, Sat, 3pm.

the Wharf LEAGUE

FIRST RESULTS

DIVISION ONE	
Pavilion Casuals	0
M3551 is Back	10
Camden Pathway FC	5
Athletic Pasty	3
Landas Pandas	11
PCFC	13
Cavendish Allstars	10
Weds Vac 1	0

DIVISION TWO	
Wed Vac D2	0
Mile End Utd	0
Allstars	0
Jubilee Utd	10
Bayer Neverlusen	0
Hurford Salvi Carr	0
Wed Vac Div 2	0
Abou	10

DIVISION THREE	
FC Poor Toe	10
Efan Ekoku's Elite	19
Lads On Tour	10
Wed Vac D3	0
ISS Tigers	9
Newport Dodgers	8
FC Hangover	11
Centrepont	11

Last games on February 5.
● = Current league leaders.
The Wharf League is played at Powerleague in Crossharbour.
Go to powerleague.co.uk.