



Leggett sets his sights

FORMER Streatham Redskin Chris Leggett this week talked of his hopes for a Lee Valley future, *writes Paul Newman.*

The Great Britain international wants to join the Lions for next season along with younger brother Andy — and the indications are positive.

Said Chris: "We're going to train with Lee Valley in July and see how it works out. We've heard a lot about the Lions and they seem to have a very promising team."

Leggett (21) is a proven performer who has scored lots of goals in the premier division. And his teenage brother is one of the most exciting prospects in the country. At just 17 he has had a season and a half's experience in the top division and was in the full British side at 15.

The duo have no fears about dropping a division, as Chris points out: "If the Finnish imports are as good as I've heard, then the Lions will be in the premier soon anyway."

They left Streatham after a heavy defeat at Murrayfield in the play-offs.

"We had a big argument in the dressing room afterwards and decided to leave," said Chris. "At times I wasn't sure what was going on there last season and it was time to move on."

It was quite a wrench for the brothers because they live in Streatham and have been with their local club for many years. They even missed out on an appearance in the Wembley finals in May because of their decision to quit.

Said Chris: "That was a big disappointment, but you have to take the rough with the smooth."

And many Lions fans may remember the shooting power of Chris.

He scored four goals for a 'Red-Bruins' team that visited Lee Valley a year ago.

"I remember how nice the rink was," he said. "And I know Mike Smith because of his Streatham connections, so I'm looking forward to training with the guys."

Both are forwards and would add to the strength of the Lions immensely.

But as the Leggetts plan to move to East London, a Lions player may be going the other way.

Highly talented Dave Rapley could be heading back to Streatham after a season and a half with the Lions. Manager Mike Smith is due to talk to Rapley in a bid to keep him at Lee Valley.

Altrincham's Gary Bayliss and Bernie Butler are also destined for the Lions.

Meanwhile, Mark Stancampiano, the American who guested for Lee Valley at Nottingham, will probably be a Richmond Flyers player next season.

He very much wants to return to London after the friendly reception he received at Lee Valley and his agent has approached Richmond.

They are very keen and a move could be finalised soon. It is still not clear whether the first division will be regionalised or not next season, but a decision will be made by the end of June.