

### News briefly

#### Draw keeps Boro bottom

HARROW BOROUGH remain bottom of the Ryman Premier after they could only manage a 1-1 draw with Tooting and Mitcham United. Jon Vines gave United the lead just before half-time on Tuesday but Robin Shroot scored with ten minutes left to salvage a point. Boro welcome Hastings United in the FA Trophy on Saturday.

#### Late Sonner strike for Wood

A LAST-MINUTE Sean Sonner strike and another from Michael Gordon gave Northwood a 2-1 win over Redbridge in Ryman One North on Tuesday. It came after they lost 2-1 to East Thurrock United at the weekend. Northwood face Brackley Town in the FA Trophy this Saturday.

#### More woe for Harrow

HARROW RFC's bid to avoid relegation took another blow at the weekend when they were could not put out a side against Old Hamptonians. The injury-ravaged side had to give their opponents the points as more injuries and illnesses meant Harrow were unable to field a team which would fulfil the front row safety requirements.

News immediately: [harrowtimes.co.uk](http://harrowtimes.co.uk)

## Bartlett aims to extend James' loan

by FRANK SMITH  
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WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett is looking to extend Gavin James' loan deal as the club are struggling to bring in a permanent striker.

Despite his side putting four past Staines in Tuesday's win, Bartlett still wants to snap up another forward, although he admits it is tough with the Stones' limited finances.

James, who joined from Maidenhead United until Saturday November 8, has scored three goals in his short time at Grosvenor Vale.

And Bartlett said he is planning to speak to Maidenhead boss Johnson Hippolyte about extending the 19-year-old's spell at the club.

Bartlett said: "I have got to find out what they want to do because at the moment we are desperately trying to bring in another goal scorer but it is not happening.

"He has been an important part of the squad since he signed and he needs to be playing regularly.

"I don't believe he has reached his potential and that will only happen if he is playing."

James scored in Tuesday's 4-3 victory, when he followed up on his saved penalty for the Stones' second, after Graeme Montgomery had opened the scoring.

They raced into a 4-0 lead when James Gray and Ryan Ashe also got on the scoresheet.

But the weather got worse in the second half and played a crucial role in Staines' comeback although the visitors couldn't find a leveller.

Despite it being a high-scoring game, Bartlett insists the club's priority is still a new striker.

He said: "What we are really looking for is a long term solution and we are looking around and trying to get someone in long term.

"But it is down to finances again. We have enquired about a few but nothing within budget or in a price range we can afford."

Wealdstone welcome Tiverton Town on Saturday in the second qualifying round of the FA Trophy.



Wealdstone manager Gordon Bartlett has been shouting about Gavin James' performances since joining them on loan. Picture 30C1605: HOLLY CANT

## Crusaders slip to costly defeat

THREE dropped catches in quick succession cost Middlesex \$280,000 as they lost to Trinidad and Tobago in the Stanford Super Series on Monday night.

This was the two sides' chance to cash in on the three-match series in Antigua but the Twenty20 Cup champions could only set the Caribbeans a poor target of 117 for eight.

Middlesex reduced their opponents to 50 for four after 11 overs, but vital dropped catches allowed Denesh Ramdin (41) and Darren Bravo (27) to lead the Islanders home with a score of 122 for five.

Eoin Morgan hit 30 and Neil Dexter made 39 as Middlesex recovered from a poor start.

But despite putting themselves in a good position to defend their lead, in the 14th over Ed Joyce spilled a simple catch from Bravo.

And that was followed by two more soon after from controversial loan signing Neil Carter and Morgan.

Middlesex captain Shaun Udal admitted his side were disappointed and also expressed concern at the lighting.

He said: "It is a disappointment, we wanted to be the first winners of the Stanford Champions Cup.

"In effect we were playing for our country as well, so it hurts. Every time we lose it hurts but particularly when we don't think we've done ourselves justice. That is eating away at us really.

"I have not known a ground where the visibility is as bad. Once the ball has gone above the lights you are just watching an area to see where it comes out of and you have to adjust accordingly."

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