

News briefly

Wood push up the league

NORTHWOOD are up to fifth in Ryman One North after a 2-0 home win over Thamesmead on Saturday. Gambian international Pa Amadou Gai impressed on his debut in attack. The 24-year-old forward caused the visitors problems, with goals from Anthony Page and Hugo Figueiredo extending their unbeaten run to eight matches. Wood travel to Leyton in the league on Saturday.

Udal will not join IPL

MIDDLESEX CCC skipper Shaun Udal has confirmed he will not join the Indian Premier League this season. The 40-year-old has committed his future to the Crusaders after being given a contract with them until 2010. Udal helped Middlesex win the Twenty20 Cup last season.

Runner claims second spot

HARROW AC athlete Alice Braham was the runner-up in the senior women's Watford Half-Marathon on Sunday. The runner battled through bitterly cold conditions to post a time of 1.18.02 at the undulating course at Cassiobury Park. Natalie Harvey was the winner of the run after she finished in 1.17.09.

News immediately:
harrowtimes.co.uk

Borough in trouble after home collapse

by SIMON MAIL
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HARROW BOROUGH dropped into the Ryman Premier relegation zone after losing 4-1 at home to Harlow Town on Saturday.

Boro defeated their rivals last week in the League Cup but they slumped to a confidence-sapping defeat at Earlsmead at the weekend. The hosts paid the price for a poor start to the game, in their first reversal of 2009, as they trailed 3-1 at half-time.

The visitors raced into an early lead after dominating the start of the match. Jamie Richards took the ball around goalkeeper Laurie Walker and slotted into the empty net. John Frendo added the second after a speculative 30-yard strike flew into the top corner.

The hosts replied when Jonathan Constant fired the ball in after Dorian Smith headed on.

But Boro had no time to enjoy the goal as they conceded the third goal on 36 minutes when Mark Taylor converted a penalty.

Boro began the second half strongly and went close when Constant's header narrowly missed the post.

The decisive fourth goal for Harlow arrived after 60 minutes when Frendo calmly rounded Walker for his brace.

Boro's misery was sealed late on when Constant's penalty was easily saved by the visiting goalkeeper.

Boro manager David Howell said: "The game was lost in the first 45 minutes when we didn't compete well enough. When we got back to 2-1, we looked quite bright, but we lost another goal within a few minutes. We never got close enough after a poor start.

"The elements played their part. We were up against a strong wind in the first half and we did not deal with it. We gave ourselves a mountain to climb."

Boro travel to Canvey Island on Saturday and Howell is set to welcome first-team goalkeeper Andray Baptiste back to the side after recovering from a knee injury.

Howell said: "We have to go to Canvey, regardless of the conditions, and do the best we can to get the three points to give us the lift we need.

"They are a very organised side who came up last season and have done well with a decent budget. We played them earlier in the season and we should have been five or six goals up after the first 20 minutes - yet we ended up losing it 4-2.

"It's a game where we will be looking to make up for the disappointment of the Harlow result."



Harrow Borough slipped into the drop zone after their weekend defeat to Harlow Town.
Picture: JANE PARR

Late Stones winner

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett says he is only focused on getting four wins for safety despite his side edging a step closer to the playoffs.

The Stones are up to seventh in the Ryman Premier after a last-gasp 3-2 victory at Tooting and Mitcham United on Saturday.

But Bartlett said: "We have 38 points and we need four wins for safety. If we can get that in the next four games then we can start looking higher up but we have to make sure we stay in the division first."

Danny Spendlove was the matchwinner at Tooting when he struck two minutes into injury time.

After falling behind, Kieron Forbes scored his first goal for the club before the Stones conceded a second just before half time.

But they recovered for the second consecutive week to snatch the points. Ryan Ashe made it 2-2 after the restart with a superb free kick and Spendlove sealed a memorable comeback.

The Stones face AFC Hornchurch on Saturday at Grosvenor Vale. The visitors currently sit one place and one point below Wealdstone in the table.

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