

News briefly

Baseball stars on parade

ONE of Britain's top baseball teams will be holding an open day at Playgolf Northwick Park this Saturday. Players from National League club Herts Falcons will be available to meet fans between 12 and 4pm. Children aged under 13 will be able to get free lessons with the stars. For more information log on to www.hertsbaseball.com.

Tigers seal away points

KINGSBURY LONDON TIGERS won 3-2 at Hanwell Town in the South Midlands Premier on Saturday. After conceding a goal, the Tigers equalised from a Tarik Elleklhifi penalty on 30 minutes. Two goals just before the break secured the victory as Marco Tagbajumi struck and Edson Cata headed in the third.

Strauss knock levels series

ANDREW STRAUSS scored an unbeaten 79 as England made it 2-2 in the one-day series in the West Indies. The Middlesex batsman led the visitors to the win on Sunday as they scored 136 for one to win by nine wickets under the Duckworth-Lewis system. The final match is tomorrow.

News immediately:
harrowtimes.co.uk

Super Stones close in on play-off spot

by SIMON MAIL
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WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett admits his side's Ryman Premier play-off hopes are in their own hands after a 3-1 win over Ashford Town on Tuesday night.

The Stones climbed into the top-five for the first time this season after their third consecutive victory in the league. They followed up a crucial 1-0 win over Horsham on Saturday by toppling Ashford and are now in the thick of a promotion battle.

Bartlett said: "It's moved into our own hands. If we pick up maximum points in our last five games then we will be in the play-offs.

"The players are just enjoying winning and they realise that they are in with a really good opportunity this year. I always had the belief, but the players have started to learn from their disappointments earlier in the season, and they have a real belief on the park.

"We had a run of home games where we needed to get maximum points. But what we didn't expect was sides like Carshalton and AFC Hornchurch to drop points. They seem to have choked and we have to make sure we keep our feet on the ground and concentrate on winning the next game."

The Stones got off to a flyer on Tuesday after they struck inside the first four minutes through Chris O'Leary's spectacular 25-yard half-volley. They doubled the lead straight after the restart when Greg Ngoyi steered the ball into the net following Davis Haule's flick-on. The visitors pulled one back but in-form striker Ngoyi headed in the third to seal another three points for the Stones.

Wealdstone have an exciting run-in over the last five games, which includes a derby with rivals Harrow Borough, but first they must travel to play-off contenders Maidstone United this weekend.

Meanwhile Bartlett has revealed he has contributed to the new 100:400 scheme, which is aimed at getting 100 people to give £400 each, towards a total of £40,000 for the financially stricken club. The manager says there has been a good response from the supporters as the club seek to hold onto their best players next season.



Helping hand: Greg Ngoyi's brace on Tuesday fired the Stones into the top-five.

Picture: WEALDSTONE FC

Boro end drought with win

HARROW BOROUGH manager David Howell heaped praise on his players after a superb 3-2 win at promotion chasers Carshalton on Tuesday night.

Boro ended a run of three consecutive goalless draws by stunning Carshalton and boosting their chances of avoiding the drop.

Howell was delighted with his side after they carried out his plan perfectly and the manager insists they were always in a false position at the wrong end of the table.

He said: "It was a very good team performance. They carried out my plan to the letter and I have to give them credit for working so hard throughout the 90 minutes.

"I always felt the league was telling little fibs because we weren't playing enough games. I thought we were in a false position, because we were not losing games and playing well, but not moving up the table because we didn't play enough matches."

Gary Noel led the line on his own up front on Tuesday and the striker played a starring role in the win. He gave them a 1-0 lead at half-time and doubled their advantage 15 minutes into the second half.

The hosts pulled one back before they wasted a chance to equalise when Boro goalkeeper Richard Wilmot pulled off a penalty save. The visitors extended their lead when Lee Hall fired home before Carshalton struck deep into injury time.

Boro have the chance to move further away from trouble this weekend when they host third bottom Margate at Earlsmead.

Howell said: "It is a must win game for Margate because they want to close the gap. If we beat them that is one team they can't pull into the quagmire. We just hope we can express ourselves and enjoy our football."

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