

News briefly

Swim club makes splash with award

NORTH HARROW's Survive and Save club has been named Swim school of the year. The club won gold in the swim school category at the Kellogg's ASA Swimtastic awards. Survive and Save was recognised for its passionate approach to developing their swimming programme. The club's representatives will receive the award on Friday in Warwickshire.

Unplayable win for Harrow

HARROW RFC were awarded the win at Hayes after their opposition were unable to field a team. Unbeaten Harrow gained two points but slip off top spot in Herts Middlesex Four to Chess Valley on points difference. Harrow Lions thrashed Hatfield Seconds 45-0 in the Merit table.

Bassett to speak at Stones fundraiser

DAVE BASSETT will be the guest speaker at a fundraising sports dinner at Grosvenor Vale next month. The former Watford boss will be at Wealdstone's home on Saturday, November 21 for the event, which includes a three-course dinner. Tickets priced at £40 each can be bought by calling Dennis Byatt on 07811 045828 or Leo Morris on 01895 637487.

News immediately:
harrowtimes.co.uk

Super Stones keep FA Cup dreams alive

by SIMON MAIL
smail@london.newsquest.co.uk

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett admits his side have a wonderful opportunity to reach the first round of the FA Cup after being drawn against the lowest ranked side left in the competition.

The Stones will play at South Midlands Premier side Aylesbury in nine days after a comprehensive 3-0 win at home to Blue Square South strugglers Lewes. Although Wealdstone will go in as favourites, Bartlett is determined to avoid any complacency.

The Stones boss said: "They are the lowest ranked side left but their record is better than ours. They have only lost one game all season. They have a lot of experience and we won't be complacent. We will pay them the respect they deserve and we will do our homework."

"A kind draw would have been a home game but we missed out on the big boys. It gives us a wonderful opportunity but I bet the Aylesbury camp are saying exactly the same thing. Both sides will fancy their chances. It will be exciting if we win otherwise it will be hugely disappointing."

Wealdstone opened up an early lead against Lewes on Saturday when Chris O'Leary headed in Lee Chappell's corner. The hosts added the second when Greg Ngoyi seized on a loose ball and fired an effort into the net.

The Stones could have easily won by more but they completed the scoring in the second half when Ryan Ashe released Kieron Forbes and he slipped the ball underneath the goalkeeper.

The victory was their seventh on the bounce and Bartlett says confidence is soaring ahead of their match this weekend at home to Neville Southall's Margate in the FA Trophy. The former Everton and Wales goalkeeper is the caretaker manager after Terry Yorath resigned last month.

"Confidence is sky high but we have to guard against complacency," Bartlett added. "We are just going for what we feel will exploit the opposition's weaknesses. Things are ticking along very nicely but we have won nothing yet."



Cup delight: Kieron Forbes and Ryan Ashe celebrate the 3-0 win over Lewes on Saturday. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

Boro boss desperate for Trophy win

HARROW BOROUGH manager David Howell says it would be "disastrous" if his side lost in the FA Trophy this weekend.

Boro travel to Zamaretto Division One Midlands side Soham Town Rangers on Saturday and Howell is desperate for a decent cup run which would give the cash starved club a significant financial boost.

Howell said: "It's the last competition where we can make a financial gain after going out of the FA Cup and it would be disastrous if we went out on Saturday. It's hugely important and I would be lying if I said otherwise."

"The opposition are in the same league as Chesham and they knocked us out of the FA Cup. If anyone thinks we have a divine right to go through they are grossly mistaken."

"Football is riddled with upsets and we have to make sure we prepare properly for this match."

Boro look likely to be without goalkeeper Joe Day after the youngster was concussed during their 1-0 defeat at Tooting and Mitcham United on Monday night. Andray Baptiste could return between the posts after contacting Howell following his prolonged absence from training.

Howell's side conceded a goal on the stroke of half-time on Monday and their hopes were extinguished when midfielder James Fraser was sent off for a rash challenge in the second half.

The manager added: "It was a bad tackle and he did not need to launch himself. It was unnecessary and allowed the ref to make a decision."

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