

### News briefly

#### Super Saracens stun Springboks

SARACENS pulled off a stunning comeback to defeat world champions South Africa 24-23 at Wembley on Tuesday night. More than 46,000 saw the Guinness Premiership leaders fall 18-3 down towards the end of the first half. But tries from Ernst Joubert and Brad Barritt brought them level and a late drop goal from fly half Derick Hougaard settled the match. Sarries face London Wasps at Vicarage Road on Sunday in the league.

#### Harrow top after massive victory

HARROW RFC went top of Herts Middlesex Four after crushing Southgate 112-0 on Saturday. They were in ruthless form in a totally one-sided encounter. Leading 57-0 at the break, they kept up their attacking brilliance in the second half with two tries apiece for Chris Armstrong and Gary Conroy.

#### Strauss stars in South Africa win

ENGLAND captain Andrew Strauss scored 65 as he helped the side defeat South Africa A by four wickets on Tuesday. The Middlesex batsman hit seven fours in his innings as England reached their target of 281 for six. In-form Eoin Morgan, his club team-mate, struck 21 off as many balls.

News immediately:  
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## Stones face leaders in Trophy test

by SIMON MAIL  
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WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett expects their toughest game of the season when they face Farnborough in the FA Trophy on Saturday.

The Stones travel to the Zamaretto Premier leaders this weekend and after watching them in action, Bartlett believes they will be even tougher opposition than Ryman Premier pacesetters Dartford.

The Wealdstone boss said: "I think they'll be the best side we will have faced this season. They are quality and have unbelievable pace up front. They're just a very good side.

"They are comfortably top of their league and we have our work cut out. I would say they concern me more than Dartford because the one thing they have got is exceptional pace. They are a very difficult side to beat but we are capable of doing it."

Wealdstone climbed back into the play-off spots after battling to a 3-2 win over Cray Wanderers on Tuesday night. The Stones, playing their first league game for four weeks, struggled to get out of first gear and were fortunate to pinch a late winner after an own goal from the visitors.

Wealdstone took the lead after six minutes when Danny Spendlove finished off a flowing attack but they were pegged back. The hosts made it 2-1 after a penalty from Ryan Ashe before Cray equalised again.

Bartlett admitted: "Some times you have to win ugly but we abused that privilege. It was one of our worst performances of the season but we are in a results business and we won so I won't criticise my team.

"If we were playing monopoly then you would say we used up our 'get out of jail' card.

"We were slipping down without playing any games so it was an enormous three points. We are back into the play-offs with several games in hand on the other sides. If we can maintain this form into the new year then we will put ourselves in a wonderful position."



On his guard: Stones boss Gordon Bartlett expects their hardest game of the season at Farnborough.  
Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

## Boro on their way to target

HARROW BOROUGH made an encouraging start in their attempt to earn at least ten points from five Ryman Premier games.

Boro manager David Howell agreed the target with his players last week and after picking up four points in two games they are well on the way with three home matches to come.

Boro earned a 1-1 draw at Bognor Regis Town on Tuesday night. The visitors scored after only three minutes, despite having six players unavailable, when Tobi Jinadu netted following a corner.

Boro held on until the last 15 minutes of the match when a poor punch by Andray Baptiste was punished.

Howell said: "It was a good performance by us but it was a bit disappointing that we weren't able to get the win we deserved.

"It was frustrating to give away the goal when I thought we were in control of the match."

Boro fully deserved their 2-1 home win over Maidstone United on Saturday.

The hosts went in front after 22 minutes when Rocky Baptiste set up James Fraser. But Wayne Walters gave away a penalty which allowed United to tie the match.

The winner came ten minutes from time when Dewayne Clarke found Baptiste and the experienced striker netted.

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