

'Promising' signs from new boy Gibson in win

by FRANK SMITH
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WEALDSTONE boss Gordon Bartlett has praised Watford youngster Billy Gibson after his "promising" debut against Horsham on Tuesday.

The Stones secured the winger on a month's loan as the 19-year-old attempts to gain first-team senior football and match fitness.

Gibson made his first-team debut for Watford in August 2008 in the Carling Cup victory over Bristol Rovers but has not featured since.

He follows in the footsteps of John-Joe O'Toole and Theo Robinson, who both have had successful spells at the Ryman Premier side and went on to play league football.

Gibson played most of the 2-1 victory before being replaced by on-loan Colchester United midfielder Sam Corcoran.

Bartlett said: "Billy was decent going forward. It is not an experience any of us have witnessed before, going behind after 14 seconds, but Billy did well. He picked up the ball and had a go at people. He has a lot of pace and a few tricks up his sleeve to go with it. It was a promising debut."

Wealdstone had a shocking start to the match as Pat Harding gave Horsham the lead in the opening 30 seconds but goals from Ryan Ashe either side of half-time secured Stones' third win on the bounce.

Bartlett's men are now fifth in the Ryman Premier but are only four points off second place and have at least two games in hand on all of the sides above them.

Wealdstone suffered a blow this week though, with the news Kieron Forbes may be out for a



Continuing the Hornets connection: Billy Gibson with Watford's former head of medical Andy Rolls.

while. He is set to have a scan on his knee today [Thursday] and will definitely be out of Saturday's match with Billericay Town.

■ Wealdstone legend Stuart Pearce has offered to sponsor his former number three shirt for the next ten years.

Stones president Paul Rumens said: "Stuart called us up and said he wanted to sponsor the player's kit for his old left-back position. Like

many other clubs we have a players kit sponsorship grid that we feature in the programme and we are absolutely delighted to feature our illustrious old boy in the programme in this way.

"This is typical of how he has never forgotten his roots at Wealdstone and we thank Stuart for supporting us in this very noble way. We are hoping to see him at The Vale in the not too distant future."

Weather frustrates Borough

HARROW BOROUGH's Ryman Premier clash with Tonbridge Angels was postponed on the day of the match due to a frozen pitch.

The referee conducted a pitch inspection at 6.30pm on Tuesday and decided both goalmouth areas were dangerously hard.

Harrow were hoping to extend their unbeaten run in the league to seven matches after their 3-1 victory over Cray Wanderers on Saturday.

Borough have not lost in the league since the beginning of November and that impressive run continued at the weekend.

It looked as though it may not be Harrow's day when they went behind to a Leigh Bremner goal on ten minutes but the home side responded in the less than 60 seconds later.

Ryan Watts played a one-two with Rocky Baptiste and then fired his shot into the far corner to equalise.

The teams looked set to go into the break level but then Dewayne Clarke held off centre back Mark Willy to drill the ball past the keeper and make it 2-1.

Gary Meakin almost scored from a corner when his delivery was just cleared off the line but Harrow put the game to bed on 72 minutes.

Dean Fenton, Meakin, Rocky Baptiste and Clarke all combined to set up Kwasi Frempong, who scored at the second time of asking.

Harrow travel to Canvey Island on Saturday and then Sutton United next Tuesday. The fixture at Sutton will be free for all spectators.

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