

News briefly

Sarries thrashed by Gloucester

SARACENS were thrashed 36-10 at Gloucester in the LV= Cup on Saturday. The Men in Black were well off the pace as they were punished for a catalogue of errors. Three first-half tries from the Cherry and Whites gave them a commanding 24-3 lead. Sarries gifted another couple of tries in the second half before wing James Short grabbed a consolation effort. Sarries travel to Bath in the Premiership this Sunday.

Harrow Tennis claim trophy

HARROW Lawn Tennis Club's Ladies team topped the Esporta Northwood Charity Autumn league this month winning the trophy in League 3. This means the team will be promoted in next year's tournament. Anyone is welcome at the club and for more information about their events log on to www.hlrc.net.

Harrow stay top of the table

HARROW RFC extended their 100 per cent record with a hard-fought 21-15 win at second-placed Old Abbotstonians on Sunday. Tries from Gary Conry and Barrie Whitehead helped them stay top of Herts Middlesex Three.

Stones eye Trophy win against Brackley Town

by SIMON MAIL
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WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett has backed his players to get the job done at Brackley Town in the FA Trophy this weekend.

The Stones warmed up for the third qualifying round tie with a 3-0 win at Ware in the Ryman League Cup on Tuesday night.

Bartlett believes his side are starting to turn the corner after a sluggish start to the season and he is confident they can overcome the Zamaretto Premier Division outfit this weekend.

The manager said: "They are a very experienced side and the majority of their team are ex-professionals. They haven't had the best of starts to the season but they beat Windsor 4-0 in the last round.

"It will be difficult playing at their patch but we seem to be turning the corner. We had a poor start to the season by our own expectations so every result we can get can only build our confidence for the remainder of the season."

Danny Spendlove capped his return from injury with the opening goal at Ware after only 15 minutes. Sean Cronin doubled the Stones' lead ten minutes later when the defender hooked the ball into the net.

Loanee Reece Yorke sealed the win with the third before experienced midfielder Martin Carter returned to action as a substitute after five years out of the game with a back injury. He made 161 appearances between 2001 and 2005 and Bartlett is convinced he will strengthen their options.

He added: "We are getting a quality footballer who also has a bit of experience. He left as a good footballer and you don't lose that ability."

The Stones also managed a hard-earned 0-0 draw at in-form Lowestoft Town in the league last weekend.



Kieron Forbes attacks during the Stones' goalless draw with Lowestoft Town. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

Boro will avoid complacency

HARROW BOROUGH manager David Howell will not allow his side to underestimate bottom club Croydon Athletic when they visit Earlsmead on Saturday.

Croydon have won only two matches in the Ryman Premier but Howell believes they just need one result to turn their season around.

Howell said: "Croydon have drawn with Wealdstone and Tooting. I know their management team well and they are working very hard, giving opportunities to young players. They just need that one win to get them going.

"If they [Boro] think it's just a matter of turning up then they will be in for a big shock.

"I have let them know that we can't be complacent and have to make sure we win these matches."

Boro drew 2-2 at home to Hastings United on Saturday after twice fighting back for a point.

Sam Adams put the visitors in front but striker Troy Hewitt levelled the score at half time.

Michael Phillips fired Hastings back in front but Boro salvaged a point after Daniel McGonigle headed in a 77th minute equaliser.

Howell's side eased to a 3-0 home win over Leyton in the Ryman League Cup on Tuesday night.

Hewitt was brought down in the area and he picked himself up to fire in the first goal from the penalty spot. Ryan Watts added the second after 31 minutes when his inswinging corner deceived the defence.

The hosts sealed the win early on in the second half when James Fraser converted Dewayne Clarke's cross at the far post.

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