

News briefly

Bath sunk by Sarries revival

SARACENS produced a gutsy second-half fightback to win 17-13 at Bath in the Premiership on Sunday. The Men in Black were 13-3 down at half time before two tries helped them turn the match around. Kameli Ratuvou scored their first try after being set up by Owen Farrell and James Short. Wing Short added his second try in as many games to seal the points. Sarries travel to Gloucester on Saturday afternoon.

Harrow extend unbeaten run

HARROW RFC maintained their 100 per cent record in Herts Middlesex Three after thrashing Chess Valley 50-10 on Saturday. Sean Pratt scored a first-half hat-trick and Gary Conroy was also on target. In the second half, David Ross, Barrie Whitehead, Simon Bram and Shane Togher scored for the league leaders.

Egypt success for golfers

DARREN BRAGG finished second in the Taba International Pro Am. The Harrow pro hit rounds of 71, 68 and 69 for an eight-under-par total. Adrian Cafaro finished seventh with a total of two-under-par. In the team event, Cafaro came third with Bragg in fifth spot.

Leaders held by Borough

by JONATHAN NORTH

HARROW BOROUGH boss David Howell was left frustrated despite holding Ryman Premier leaders Sutton United to a 0-0 draw on Tuesday night.

Howell believes his men did more than enough to win the game claiming it was "two points lost rather than one point gained".

The manager said: "I think we were guilty of over playing in the final third of the pitch and perhaps making the wrong decisions about when to pass and when to shoot. It was an extremely entertaining 0-0 draw with the game swinging from end to end, but I think everyone in the ground knew that we did enough to win the game."

Despite his frustration, Howell was happy with certain aspects of the performance including a third clean sheet in five games.

But it was a continuation of the excellent form Borough have been in since they lost 2-0 in the first round of the FA Cup to Chesterfield which delighted Howell the most.

He said: "People were quick to claim that our excellent FA Cup run would distract us and seriously damage our league form. But on the Monday after our defeat, we went away to Aveley and won and have remained unbeaten since then."

Sutton goalkeeper Kevin Scriven had to be on his toes on numerous occasions making a sharp save from Rocky Baptiste in the first half and was kept busy throughout the entire game.

Boro needed two late goals in their 3-1 victory over Croydon Athletic on Saturday. Troy Hewitt opened the scoring after only ten minutes with an excellent goal from the edge of the box. However they allowed Croydon back in to the game after 37 minutes when Danny Elgar slotted the ball past Nick Jupp.

It looked like it could be a frustrating afternoon for Borough as chances came and went but they finally made their advantage tell when Wayne Walters scored in the 81st minute, with Baptiste adding the third in the 90th minute.

Boro have another tough game on Saturday when they entertain promotion challengers Carshalton Athletic but Howell knows that his team are more than capable of getting a positive result.

He said: "We have played the best team in the division twice now and we could have won both games. We can take huge confidence from this and look to push on through out the rest of the season."



Sean Cronin was the Stones' hero after the defender kept a clean sheet in goal against Brackley. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

Saviour Cronin rescues Stones

SEAN CRONIN came to Wealdstone's rescue after the defender stood in as an emergency goalkeeper in their FA Trophy win.

The Stones faced a crisis at Brackley Town on Saturday with up to six goalkeepers unavailable including former Watford shot stopper Jonathan North. Cronin stepped in as a last resort and remarkably kept a clean sheet.

Cronin was called into action in the second half when he pulled off a superb reflex save from Francis Green's volley.

Stones boss Gordon Bartlett said: "The fans were singing Wales' number one. He pulled off one superb save and dealt with everything that was thrown at him. If I had to put him in again I would."

It looked as if the match was heading for a replay but the Stones left it late before snatching a 90th minute winner through Peter Dean. Wealdstone's reward is a trip to Conference Premier play-off chasers Newport County in the first round proper on Saturday, December 11.

Wealdstone's resurgence continued with a 3-2 win at Carshalton Athletic in the Ryman Premier on Tuesday night.

The Stones made a very slow start to the season but three wins in four games have revived their hopes of a successful campaign.

Wealdstone opened the scoring after 19 minutes when midfielder Alex Dyer calmly lifted the ball over the goalkeeper. Bartlett's side doubled their lead within three minutes when a counter-attack down the right resulted in Danny Spendlove finding the net. The Stones added the third goal after an hour when Lee Chappell's cross was tucked away again by Dyer.

Wealdstone still had to withstand late pressure from the home side as goals from Justyn Roberts and David Obaze set up a nervous finish. James Hammond made his debut for the club after the defender joined from Leyton.

Bartlett's side travel to league leaders Sutton United on Saturday.

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