

News briefly

Saracens climb up Premiership

SARACENS moved up to third in the Premiership after a comfortable 26-14 home win over Harlequins on Sunday. The Men in Black suffered a dreadful start when they conceded a fifth-minute George Lowe try. But the hosts bounced back with David Strettle scoring against his former club. Schalk Brits went over from a driving maul and 14 points from the boot of Owen Farrell sealed the victory.

Harrow Borough match cancelled

HARROW BOROUGH's trip to AFC Hornchurch was postponed on Saturday due to the wintry weather. Snow on the pitch ended the prospect of the Ryman Premier game taking place. Boro's two matches last week were also called off. David Howell's side are due to visit Kingstonian on Sunday afternoon in the league.

Springboks test for Harrow

HARROW RFC are hoping to return to action this weekend when they host Sudbury and London Springboks on Saturday afternoon. Harrow have seen their games postponed due to the big freeze in recent weeks but they remain eight points clear at the top of Herts Middlesex Three.

Stones aiming to cause huge upset at Newport

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

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett has described his side as "huge underdogs" as they prepare to face Conference Premier challengers Newport County this weekend.

The Stones travel to Wales for their FA Trophy first round clash on Saturday and they will have to be at their best if they want to pull off a big upset.

Bartlett said: "This weekend is important for us. All competitions are important and there is also the financial aspect of a cup run which goes with it. We know that it would be an enormous scalp for us and that we go there well and truly as underdogs."

"We will prepare for it and give a good account of ourselves. We won't be gung ho and we will set up the side in the way which will give us the best chance of getting a result."

"We're certainly looking forward to it but we know we will be major underdogs. They are at home and will be expecting a good crowd. They're fourth in the Conference, full of ex-pros and are a full time team so it all adds up to a very difficult task. But I sincerely hope that we don't have any fear because we have got nothing to lose. I hope we just go there and express ourselves."

Wealdstone continued their improved recent form with a 2-0 home win over Aveley in the Ryman Premier on Saturday. Peter Dean missed a first-half penalty but goals from Kieron Forbes and Greg Ngoyi earned them the points.

Bartlett said: "We got the momentum back which is very important. We got the show back on the road and we looked very good at times. We said at half time that we just needed to be patient and it paid off in the second half."

"There is no doubt about it that there is an air of confidence around the place despite the two defeats last week. We knew we played well enough to get the results and we responded very well which is encouraging."

"We carved out a number of opportunities and some of the football we played was tremendous. I think the entertainment value for the fans is very good with us at the moment."

The Stones also defeated Northwood 1-0 in the Middlesex Senior Cup on Monday night after Forbes scored directly from a corner.



Danny Spendlove was brought down in the area but Peter Dean's penalty was saved by the Aveley goalkeeper.

Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

England romp to Ashes win

ANDREW STRAUSS is confident England can bring back the Ashes after his side thrashed Australia in the second Test.

The tourists completely dominated the match in Adelaide, with Kevin Pietersen top scoring on 227 as they won by an innings and 71 runs.

Middlesex batsman Strauss, who was bowled out for one run, said: "We're very pleased with what we've done in this Test match."

"There are three matches to go and we can't get too far ahead of ourselves. If we keep these standards up we have a good chance of winning."

Steve Finn made another impressive contribution for England as he picked up three wickets during the match.

The Middlesex seamer is currently tied with Graeme Swann, on nine, at the top of the series standings for wickets taken.

England have time to rest before the third Test gets underway on Thursday in Perth.



England celebrate after wrapping up victory in the second Test.

Picture: ACTION IMAGES

GALAXY WINDOWS
SIMPLY THE BEST! SPECIAL OFFER FOR 2010

DOUBLE GLAZED WINDOWS
from

£99
EACH

QUALITY CONSERVATORIES AT TRADE PRICES

HALF PRICE OPENERS & FITTINGS

SUPERIOR QUALITY WINDOWS & DOORS...
HIGH STANDARD OF FITTING AND AFTERSALES SERVICE...

www.galaxywindows.info
sales@galaxywindows.info

Telephone Galaxy Windows Hotline
020 8427 3888

FENSA All uPVC is manufactured to British Standard specifications & new part L compliance giving you total peace of mind. Subject to conditions available on request.

thehive FOOTBALL CENTRE
Camrose Avenue, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 6AG

25% OFF*

- North London's premier football venue
- State-of-the-art all weather pitches
- Grass pitches of varying sizes

www.thehivefootballcentre.com

Standard pitch hire from £40 per hour!
Call 020 8238 5920

*Offer valid from December 24th - 31st 2010

END OF YEAR SALE
UP TO 30% OFF ALL CABINETS

Inspire, Design, Create

- More Offers in Store
- Suppliers of Quality European kitchens
- Free Survey & Design Consultation
- Full Project Management
- KBSA backed Deposit Guarantee

Visit our showroom at:
66a Joel Street,
Northwood Hills,
Middlesex HA6 1NS
Tel: 01923 822 332
Mob: 07738 067 671

CALL TO BOOK YOUR CONSULTATION

intoto
kitchens

www.intoto.co.uk