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News briefly

Stevens could make debut

SARACENS prop Matt Stevens could make his debut in their LV= Cup game at the Scarlets on Saturday. The 28-year-old lasted 53 minutes of Saracens Storm's 39-29 win over London Wasps on Monday night. Stevens has just returned from a two-year ban after testing positive for cocaine. Stevens hopes his comeback can lead to an England recall in time for the World Cup this year.

Harrow look to extend lead

HARROW RFC are aiming to win their 11th consecutive match in Herts Middlesex Three this weekend. The unbeaten league leaders travel to Cuffley who are bottom of the table having lost all ten of their matches.

England off mark in one-day series

ENGLAND picked up their first win in the one-day series with Australia yesterday in Adelaide. A céntury from Jonathan Trott helped them to a 21-run victory which reduced the score to 3-1. Middlesex's Andrew Strauss hit eight and Eoin Morgan managed 24.

News immediately: harrowtimes.co.uk

Stones striker Jolly returns with a goal

by SIMON MAIL

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett believes the return of star striker Richard Jolly will add another dimension to their attack.

Jolly moved back to the Stones on a one-month loan from Sutton United and he scored in their 2-1 win over Hastings United on Monday. The striker formed a lethal partnership, in his first spell at the club, with Everton forward Jermaine Beckford scoring 107 goals in 165 appearances.

Bartlett said: "It looked like

it was falling through so we brought in Kieran Knight. But then he became available again and with the help of our supporters we were able to get

"It gives us the ideal partnership and will give us a new dimension with him up there.

"Richard looked sharp but he needs a spell of playing games. He got into very good positions but he had four very good chances. It is just a matter of time for him.'

His arrival has led to the departure of Greg Ngoyi after the striker, who joined in 2008,

opted to leave Grosvenor Vale.

Bartlett said: "It is disappointing that he hasn't hit top form this season. I didn't want him to go but he has made his decision. He would have started on Monday but chose to leave on Saturday.

"The manner of his departure is a disappointment. These were short-term stop gaps but he decided to go and we accepted it. After his time here I can't hide my disappointment at the suddenness of his departure.'

Wealdstone picked up their first victory this year beating Hendon 1-0 on Saturday thanks to an own goal.

The Stones secured back to back wins for the first time since August after seeing off Hastings United two days later.

Jolly bundled in the opener after just three minutes and the hosts doubled their lead when Peter Dean struck a superb volley into the net.

Bartlett, who takes his side to Concord Rangers on Saturday, said: "If we can keep this run going then it will make a big difference to our position in the league. A few wins and you won't be far away from the top six so it is still wide open.



Richard Jolly marked his return to Wealdstone with a goal in Monday's win over Hastings United. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

Boro bounce back with win

HARROW BOROUGH manager David Howell praised his side after they bounced back from a shock defeat with a last-gasp win over Carshalton Athletic on Tuesday night.

Boro's ten-game unbeaten run in the Ryman Premier came to an end on Saturday as they lost 1-0 at struggling Folkestone Invicta. But they recovered from trailing 1-0 against Carshalton to secure a 2-1 win. Rocky Baptiste levelled in the second half and a brilliant passing move was finished off by Ryan Watts in the final minute of the game.

Howell said: "We addressed things at half time and dominated the second half getting the win in an exciting manner.

"It was good to get the win but the way we got it was immaterial. We just needed to bounce back. The run was great but what would happen when it came to an end? We responded in exactly the way I wanted us to.

"We are in a good position and on a good run with just one defeat in three months. It gives them the confidence to go into the next few tough matches.

Howell, whose side entertain Margate this weekend, accused his side of complacency during their defeat at Folkestone and believes his players will have learned from the setback.

He said: "I thought complacency was

a major part of the result. The team looked at the fact that they were bottom and thought it was more a case of how many we would win by.

"Folkestone are a well organised side defensively. But the players looked at the table and thought it was a given they would win which it wasn't. We had to break their will and we didn't."



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