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News briefly

Sarries set to face leaders Leicester

SARACENS will face Premiership leaders Leicester Tigers at Welford Road on Saturday afternoon. The Men in Black have kept up the pressure on their rivals after they won 26-15 at London Wasps on Sunday. It was their first victory at Adams Park and extended their run to four consecutive league wins. Andy Saull scored the only try after two minutes and seven penalties from Alex Goode fired them to a valuable away win.

Strauss brilliance earns India draw

ENGLAND captain Andrew Strauss hit a superb century in their gripping draw with India in the World Cup. The Middlesex batsman scored 158 as England matched India's total of 338 in Bangalore. Strauss hit 18 fours and one six in their innings.

Former referee at fundraising event

GRAHAM POLL will be the guest speaker at Wealdstone's fundraising dinner on Thursday, March 24. The former referee will talk at the event held at Ruislip Social Club from 7.30pm. Tickets are £40 and can be bought by calling 07988 792716.

News immediately: harrowtimes.co.uk

Dean double fires in-form Stones to Harrow derby win

by SIMON MAIL

HARROW BOROUGH manager David Howell accused the referee of spoiling their match after they lost 4-2 at home to rivals Wealdstone on Tuesday night.

Borough conceded two penalties and had Danny Leech sent off during an eventful derby at Earlsmead which left their manager frustrated.

Howell said: "I thought the match was spoilt to a large extent. The referee was shocking and didn't communicate with the players. He thought that it was all about him and that everyone had come to watch him perform."

"For the first penalty no one knows what it was given for. I haven't got a clue. For the second penalty Danny swears he was nowhere near the man and yet he got a straight red."

The Stones opened the scoring midway through the half when Peter Dean tucked away a penalty. But the Reds equalised when Rocky Baptiste teed up Dewayne Clarke for a deflected finish.

Wealdstone regained the lead just before half time when Lee Chappell fired an effort past goalkeeper Nick Jupp.

The hosts suffered a major setback at the start of the second half when they were reduced to ten men. Leech was adjudged to have tugged Chappell and although Dean's penalty was saved, Alex Dyer tucked away the rebound.

Boro pulled one back when the excellent Kenta Nakashima beat Jonathan North with a free-kick but the visitors sealed the win late on after Dean sidefooted home his second of

the night.

Howell added: "I cannot fault the players for the way they fought back and pushed them all the way. Wealdstone were relieved to win and credit goes to the players for the way they kept going and took them to the wire."

Stones boss Gordon Bartlett was not entirely satisfied despite taking the derby honours.

He said: "Harrow Borough have had a fantastic season and we have had a poor one and yet there is only one point between us in the league."

"It is a local derby and another good win for us. There is an air of confidence around the place at the moment."

"I'm obviously pleased with the result but not particularly with the performance. I thought we were in control at 1-0 but we gave the ball away and they equalised."

"In the second half after going in front we dropped off for some inexplicable reason and allowed them back into the game. We need to be more clinical and have more of a winning mentality."

Wealdstone are unbeaten in eight league games, having posted six wins, but will be tested by leaders Sutton United on Saturday before hosting promotion challengers Tonbridge Angels on Monday night.

He said: "Sutton would be a wonderful scalp and it would only add to our confidence."

"They are two massive games and if we can come away from them unbeaten then I will be very pleased. It would also show how far we have come since the end of last year when we were struggling."



Lee Chappell celebrates with Peter Dean during the Stones' 4-2 win at rivals Harrow Borough. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

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