

Stones set for season opener

WEALDSTONE launch their Ryman Premier League campaign on Saturday with a home game against Margate.

The Stones have had a mixed pre-season but Gordon Bartlett's side will hope to get off to a better start than they did in last year's campaign.

Wealdstone ended their build-up to the big kick off with a disappointing 4-1 home defeat to Enfield Town last weekend.

Kieran Knight briefly equalised for the home side but a hat-trick from Daniel Ailey sent them to defeat.

The Stones were expected to mount a play-off challenge last season but their campaign suffered from inconsistency and they finished 15 points off the top-five in 12th spot.

Bartlett has strengthened the squad this summer with the return of striker Richard Jolly their most impressive signing.

The prolific goalscorer netted 107 times during his first spell with the club between 2003-6. Jolly also scored ten goals in seven games during a loan spell from Sutton United last season.

Bartlett moved quickly to sign the striker when he discovered he was available and his arrival has increased optimism about their chances this year.

Promising midfielder Alex Dyer has also agreed a new contract despite interest from Doncaster.

After Wealdstone's opener at Grosvenor Vale, they face a trip to Carshalton Athletic on Tuesday night.

Borough boss steps up striker search

HARROW BOROUGH manager Dave Anderson admits his priority is to bring in a target man.

The new boss takes charge of his first Ryman Premier game on Saturday at Metropolitan Police but he is focused on beefing up his attack.

Anderson said: "I think we need a front player. We are missing a target man but then so is half the country. I'm still speaking to a few people at the moment but there is nothing to announce yet."

Boro enjoyed a superb season last year when they reached the play-offs and the first round of the FA Cup but the squad has been radically overhauled this summer.

Only about seven of the squad remain but Anderson has moved quickly to revamp his side.

Charlton goalkeeper Nick Pope has arrived on a three-month loan while midfielders Lee Wootton and JJ Bates have joined from Dagenham and Redbridge.

Anderson added: "Harrow Borough supporters are

very level headed.

"They had success last season but they also understand that there is no guarantee of this.

"It is a major rebuilding project but we are going about it as professionally and quickly as possible.

"I would like to think we will be playing some good football and entertaining the fans soon."

Boro finished their pre-season campaign with a 2-1 win over Brentwood Town and 4-0 victory at Ware on Saturday.

Former St Albans City manager Anderson expects a frenetic pace in their league opener but is hoping his side can hit the ground running.

He said: "Every game in the Ryman Premier League is competitive. That hasn't changed in 25 years.

"We're playing at one of the best surfaces in the league and it will be 100 miles per hour for the first two or three games.

"Every game we compete in we want to win. This is the start of the league campaign and everyone wants to get points on the board."



Harrow Borough manager Dave Anderson has set his sights on bringing in a striker.

News briefly

Southgate seal Harrow victory

HARROW CC suffered a five-wicket defeat to Southgate in Middlesex Division Two. Harrow could only muster a total of 206 all out with Ajay Patdiwala top scoring with 58. Southgate reached the target for the loss of five wickets. Harrow Town slumped to a nine-wicket defeat to Acton after being bowled out for just 71.

Junior tennis title for Close

BARNEY CLOSE won his second title of the season after victory in the Kassel Cup. The youngster beat off competition from Harrow Tennis Club and players from the German club. The Kassel Cup will sit alongside the Under-18s competition he won two months ago. He fought off two strong Kassel players to take the title.

Sarries beaten in France by Toulon

SARACENS started their pre-season campaign with a 26-17 defeat to Toulon. The Men in Black were leading until late on but tries from the hosts turned the match around. It was an encouraging performance by the Premiership champions who scored through Andy Saull and Ernst Joubert. Sarries travel to Bedford for a friendly tomorrow night.

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