

### News briefly

#### Saracens thrash Leicester Tigers

SARACENS humiliated Leicester Tigers after thrashing them 50-25 at Welford Road on Saturday. The Premiership champions ripped their weakened opponents apart as they ran in six tries. Charlie Hodgson and Ernst Joubert scored in the first half. Jamie George, Owen Farrell, Brad Barritt and Joubert were also on target after the break as Leicester suffered their biggest home defeat.

#### Finn selected for England's tour

MIDDLESEX seamer Steve Finn has been picked for England's 15-man squad for their tour of India next month. The fast bowler will head with the squad for their trip which features five one-day internationals and a Twenty20 match. England have picked a young squad and Finn is the only player picked from Middlesex.

#### Wealdstone Ladies thrash Ascot

WEALDSTONE LADIES romped to a 9-0 win over Ascot after Rosie Watts netted four goals. Watts scored after just five minutes and she quickly added the second. Nicola Dixon scored in the second half before Lauren Simmons found the net. Catherine Fahy added a brace and Dixon struck again before another two from Watts.

## Stones boss frustrated after losing to leaders

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett felt his side were unlucky not to take anything from their 2-0 defeat to Ryman Premier leaders Hendon.

The Stones held their own for long spells but two goals in the last ten minutes sent them to a third consecutive home defeat.

But Bartlett said: "If you take away the result, the performance was good enough. We have got to emphasise the performance."

"We criticised the defeats against Wingate and Beaconsfield and rightly so but against Hendon we didn't really get the rub of the green."

"We are all very disappointed with the result but there are a lot of positives we can take from the defeat. I still have total belief in the players."

"I think Hendon got away with it a bit. They weathered quite a lot of pressure and won it with a set-piece and a mistake from us."

"You have to give them credit but with the exception of the first 20 minutes I thought we were in control until the goal."

"In the second half we were in the ascendancy but we didn't really create enough clear cut chances."

The Stones came close with former goalkeeper Sean Thomas making several crucial saves but

the visitors' second goal came from ex-striker Greg Ngoyi.

Bartlett commented: "In both cases I made a decision because they weren't in the side but they are both great lads and I have nothing against them at all."

"You always get players coming up against old clubs and they are buzzing and desperate to make an impression."

Wealdstone battled to a 1-1 draw at AFC Hornchurch on Saturday after an equaliser from Richard Jolly. Bartlett was pleased with the point especially as it came against such a physically imposing side.

The manager said: "We got a very good point against a big strong Essex side. In boxing terms, it was like a middleweight taking on a heavyweight. So full credit to the players for sticking to the task and getting a good draw."

The Stones face a trip to in-form Lewes this weekend but Bartlett is confident they can claim a result.

He said: "We stated after the FA Cup game that our next six games were against the top eight. It hasn't started the best with one point from two games but I still have confidence we will come out of it with more points."

"I know that Lewes are a big side but they like to play and we will do our homework."



The Stones battled to a hard-earned point at AFC Hornchurch on Saturday.

Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

## Boro in good shape for cup

HARROW BOROUGH warmed up for their FA Cup tie at Dartford this weekend with an encouraging 3-1 win at Horsham on Tuesday night.

The Reds face a daunting clash at Conference South promotion chasers Dartford in the second qualifying round but go into the match off the back of consecutive away wins.

Dartford have made a superb start to the season and have won all of their six home league games. But Boro reached the first round proper last year and will be aiming for a similar run again.

Dave Anderson's side recovered from falling behind early on to post their second win of the campaign.

Ray Freeman fired the hosts in front after just 18 minutes but the visitors cancelled this out within ten minutes.

Rob Wolleaston cut the ball back and Evrando Delgado finished it off for the equaliser.

It took just two minutes for Boro to take the lead for the first time on the night.

JJ Bates barged his way through the defence and exchanged passes with Reggie Savage before unleashing a strike past goalkeeper Matt Armstrong-Ford.

The Reds were well on top and it was no surprise when they added the third goal midway through the second half. Bates and substitute Dean Fenton combined before setting up Delgado for his second of the game.

Boro also battled back to earn a 1-1 draw at home to Hastings United on Saturday.

After conceding the opener, the Reds levelled the match with a 76th minute effort from Bates.

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