

News briefly

Saracens set for key Heineken clash

SARACENS host Biarritz in their pivotal Heineken Cup clash this weekend. The Men in Black know that a win will send them through to the last-eight of the competition. Sarries kept up the pressure on Premiership leaders Harlequins after a 26-19 win over Bath on Sunday. Tries from Steve Borthwick and Chris Wyles helped them close to within three points of Quins.

Wealdstone Ladies thrash Banbury

WEALDSTONE LADIES ran riot as they crushed Banbury 15-0. Nicola Dixon and Catherine Fahy gave the visitors a 2-0 lead. Stevie Wickes scored a hat-trick before Dixon added another three goals. Fahy also went on to complete her hat-trick while there was a treble for Lauren Simmons. Rebecca Mills and Fiona Williamson also netted.

Harrow begin year with Pinner rout

HARROW RFC increased their lead at the top of Herts Mid-lexes Two after thrashing Pinner and Grammarians 51-0. Harrow ran in nine tries in their one-sided encounter. Harrow Lions battled to a 31-29 win over St Albans despite a late fightback.

News immediately: harrowtimes.co.uk

League leaders held by Reds

by SIMON MAIL

HARROW BOROUGH manager Dave Anderson felt his deserved to beat leaders AFC Hornchurch on Tuesday night.

The Reds produced an encouraging performance as they held Hornchurch to a goalless draw.

Anderson said: "We played really well and I think we deserved to win the game. But if you had offered me a point before the game I would have taken it."

"We finished the game much stronger than them."

Goalkeeper Will Viner made the first significant save when he turned Martin Tuohy's shot around the post.

Jon Hunt forced another brilliant stop from Viner when his free-kick was pushed away.

Anderson's side came under pressure in the second half when Tuohy's drive was blocked on the line.

Boro took control of the game in the final 15 minutes and had chances to take the points.

Jon Jo Bates exchanged passes with Lee Wooton before striking an effort which was saved by home keeper Joe Wooley.

Anderson added: "Will had a good game but I thought their goalkeeper was much busier than ours. On chances we had more than them."

"I thought there were a lot of pos-

itives. We've kept another clean sheet and we've had three good performances in a row.

"I don't look at results. I love runs of performances and if we get that we won't win them all but it will give them confidence."

The Reds were stung at the death on Saturday as they went down to a 1-0 defeat at Kingstonian in the Ryman Premier.

It looked as if the visitors would hold out for a hard-earned point but they conceded one minute into injury time.

Gary MacDonald fired the ball past Viner to deal a cruel blow to Anderson's side.

Borough return to action this weekend with a crucial game at home to bottom side Horsham.

But Anderson insists there will be no complacency from his side despite being favourites.

He added: "We have just played Hornchurch who are top and now we are playing Horsham at the bottom but there will be very little between the sides."

"The division is a bookmakers' dream because it is so difficult to predict the results."

"You can't afford to have an off day."

"If you're application isn't right then you won't win, it's as simple as that. That's what makes it a difficult and interesting division."

Next Match @ Underhill:
Crewe Alexandra
League 2
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www.barnetfc.com - 020 8449 6325

Stones poised for FA Trophy test

WEALDSTONE will be targeting an FA Trophy upset this weekend when they host Barrow at Grosvenor Vale.

The Stones will take on the Conference Premier side at home on Saturday and they go into the match on a fine run. Gordon Bartlett's side have not lost in their last 11 games but this will be put to the test against their opponents.

Wealdstone suffered a frustrating evening on Tuesday when they were held to a 1-1 draw at bottom side Horsham.

Bartlett's team suffered a bad start to the night when a flat tyre on the team coach meant they had only 15 minutes to warm up before the game.

The visitors took the lead six minutes before the break when Peter Dean stabbed the ball home from close range.

But a freak own goal from Sean Cronin midway through the second half denied the Stones all three points.

The Stones did pick up a valuable 1-0 home win over play-off contenders Lewes on Saturday.

Wealdstone grabbed the winner early on when David Hicks threaded a ball through to Scott Fitzgerald and he calmly netted.

Bartlett said: "We were excellent in the first half and totally dominated the game but their keeper was outstanding and pulled off five great saves."



Scott Fitzgerald netted the winner for the Stones against Lewes.

Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

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