

News briefly

Canoeist selected for Olympics

RICHARD HOUNSLOW has been selected for Team GB at this summer's London Olympics. Hounslow, who was born in Harrow, was one of five slalom canoeists picked to compete for Great Britain. The 30-year-old slalom kayaker won bronze medals at the 2011 World Championships and the 2010 World and European Championships.

Harrow youngsters win league title

HARROW Under-13s completed a perfect season with a 55-5 win over Barnet to seal the Herts Middlesex Four title. The team have gone the entire season unbeaten, scoring 101 tries in 12 competitive games. The club are running three summer training sessions in June. Anyone interested in coming along should send an email to colm.foley@btopenworld.com

Sarries battle to Newcastle win

SARACENS kept their hopes of a home semi-final alive after scrapping their way to a 9-3 win at Newcastle Falcons. Three penalties from Owen Farrell ensured Sarries could still finish in the top two of the Premiership. The Men in Black are not in action this weekend but host Exeter Chiefs in their final game on Saturday, May 5.

Wealdstone close in on play-off spot

by Simon Mail

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett has called on his side to finish off the job and seal their Ryman Premier play-off spot.

The Stones' have won their last four games and only need a point at home to Concord Rangers on Saturday to end the league season in the top-five.

Bartlett said: "It's been an excellent couple of weeks for us and we just have to finish off the job now.

"We were looking at having to pick up 12 points from our last four games. It was a tall order but the lads have responded magnificently and shown a lot of character and desire.

"This is a moment we want to savour and we want as many people as possible there to get us over the finishing line."

The Stones had to come from behind to claim a 2-1 win at Met Police on Saturday.

Bartlett's side conceded the first goal when Sam Hurrell hit an unstoppable shot past Ashlee Jones.

But the visitors equalised when Alex Dyer's effort deflected into the net.

The winner came when Richard Jolly, who completed the London Marathon on Sunday, netted his 47th goal of a remarkable season.

Wealdstone picked up their third consecutive away win on Tuesday when they defeated Margate 2-0. The result

pushed them into the play-offs for the first time this season.

Wes Parker's overhead kick and an effort from striker Scott Fitzgerald took the Stones up to fourth in the table.

Bartlett, whose side will be away on Wednesday if they reach the play-offs, said: "We have grown in belief over the course of the season and it is the first time we have found ourselves in a play-off position so the timing has hopefully been very good.

"Our form over the last two months has been championship winning form with our only league defeat coming against Canvey Island which says a lot about our spirit.

"The important thing is we're not scared of anyone and will go in with a certain amount of confidence.

"The play-offs are almost a lottery but if we can continue the form we've been on then we will have a good chance.

"There is a belief within the club and not just among the players. It's been a wonderful season but can we finish it off in style?

"The strength of our squad has also been a very important factor and will stand us in good stead for the rest of the season.

"After losing in the semi-final of the FA Trophy we had to find a focus and the lads have responded brilliantly."



The Stones celebrate a crucial win at Margate. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

Reds avoid drop after shock win

HARROW BOROUGH ensured their survival in the Ryman Premier after upsetting second-placed AFC Hornchurch.

The Reds picked up a 1-0 win at Earlsmead which confirmed their league status for another year.

Manager Dave Anderson believes it was fitting reward for their form over the last couple of months.

He said: "I'm happy for the chairman and the supporters who have shown a lot of faith in me by giving me the job. I hope that I have repaid them after a difficult season where I had to rebuild the team.

"I thought it would go to the final day of the season but I'm happy to be proved wrong. It is a big relief but it is a reward for the form we've produced over the last eight weeks."

Boro sealed the priceless three points in the 62nd minute when Jon-Jo Bates picked up the ball 20 yards out and curled a superb shot past visiting keeper Joe Wooley.

Anderson admitted: "It was a little bit like Chelsea v Barcelona. In the last 15 minutes we played a formation of 6-3-1 and it was real backs to the wall stuff. But they still had a chance to win the league so they really went for it."

The Reds finish their season with a trip to Lewes this Saturday. The hosts desperately need to win the match to have any chance of reaching the play-offs.

The Reds boss added: "We have a moral obligation to prepare properly for it and we will try to give it our best shot. It will be interesting to see how my players perform now that the pressure is off us.

"Their form is up there with the best in the league but it would be nice to get a result there."

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