

News briefly

Rich pickings after Bank victory

HARROW RFC climbed up to third in the table after a 25-14 win over Bank of England in Herts Middlesex One. An early penalty try fired Harrow into the lead before the opposition cancelled it out. Bank of England took the lead but tries from Simon Bram and Peter Pratt turned the match around.

Saracens battle to Welsh victory

SARACENS battled to a 28-23 win at London Welsh on Sunday in the Premiership. Charlie Hodgson produced a superb individual performance as he scored all of the Men in Black's points in Oxford. The former England fly-half scored a try for Sarries as they got the better of the newly-promoted side. Saracens launch their Heineken Cup campaign at Edinburgh on Saturday.

Stones offering free entrance

WEALDSTONE are offering free entrance to kids for this weekend's home game with Thurrock. As part of Non-League Day, under-16s will be able to watch the Ryman Premier clash for free. Half price entry will also be available for anyone showing a professional club season ticket as the club look for a bumper turnout.

Stones stun Kingstonian

WEALDSTONE boss Gordon Bartlett believes his side can remain in the title hunt if they replicate the performance which dismantled Kingstonian 5-2.

The Stones temporarily went top of the Ryman Premier on Monday night after they staged a stunning comeback from 2-0 down at Grosvenor Vale.

Bartlett said: "Everybody expected us to be up there at the start of the season. We've been disappointing so far but that was really encouraging and set the standard of what we're capable of achieving."

"If we can hit that level on a regular basis then there's no reason why we can't be up there at the end of the season. It was an excellent team performance."

Wealdstone got off to a shaky start after they conceded twice early on through efforts from Andre McCollin and Gary McDonald.

But the Stones fought back on level terms after goals from Richard Jolly and the outstanding Alex Dyer.

Wealdstone took a lead into the break through a strike from Peter Dean.

Tom Pett flicked in the fourth goal and substitute Nathan Webb sealed a superb recovery from the hosts.

Bartlett said: "It was a very open game but we gave away two goals. To be two down in 19 minutes was not the best start against one of the top sides in the league but what a fantastic way to win a game."

"We needed a spark but we are up near the top of the league without getting into our stride."

"I suppose it has got to be one of our best league wins to turn it around. I had calls from other managers who think we'll now be one of the favourites this year."

The Stones boss, whose side won 1-0 at Bognor Regis Town on Saturday, continued: "It's the best we've played this season and it's encouraging that we're near the top of the league and we haven't really performed yet prior to the game."

"I believe this has been a slow start performance wise but the difference is we've been getting results this season."

In other news, defender Alan Massey has left the club after signing for Conference Premier side Braintree Town.

Bartlett said: "I'm bitterly disappointed as a football manager because I want my team to do well. But we've seen a young boy turn into a man and he deserves his opportunity."

"We would welcome him back with open arms if the situation arises. But it is another example of a player from here going on to bigger and better things."

Harrow Borough sunk by Wingate

HARROW BOROUGH squandered a lead as they slumped to a 2-1 defeat at Wingate & Finchley on Tuesday night.

Dave Anderson's side were in total control in the first half and deservedly led 1-0 but they threw away the advantage in a disappointing second half.

The visitors took the lead after 21 minutes when Nicolai Tararov released Simeon Akinola and he managed to fire past the home goalkeeper.

Wingate shot stopper Bobby Smith denied Boro from grabbing a second goal when he turned Tararov's effort on to the crossbar.

Steve Ferguson also had another opportunity as Boro threatened to double their advantage but Smith once again denied them with a decent save.

The Reds were punished midway through the second half when Danny Leech was adjudged to have blocked a shot with his arm.

To make matters worse, James Burgess was shown a red card for an off the ball incident as Boro were reduced to ten men.

Jordan Fowler made no mistake from the penalty spot and the momentum was with the home side.

The winning goal came when Daniel Morris' strike was parried by Elvijs Putnins and Murat Karagol tucked away the rebound.

It left the Reds contemplating their fourth consecutive away defeat in the league.

Anderson's side are back on the road again this weekend when they travel to fourth placed Bury Town in the Ryman Premier League.



Alex Dyer attacks during the Stones' stunning comeback against Kingstonian.

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