

News briefly

Headstone Rangers land Kane Cup

HEADSTONE RANGERS celebrated a 3-1 extra-time win over Harefield CCFC in the Harrow Sunday Challenge League Kane Cup final. Harefield took the lead but Matt Rogers grabbed an equaliser eight minutes before the end. Nick Wale fired Headstone into the lead with a fine solo effort in the first period of extra time. Rogers sealed the win with a header.

Bessborough hit by friendly defeats

BESSBOROUGH CC went down to a four-wicket defeat to Old Actonians in their friendly. Captain Daniel Hawes hit a century (104) as they posted a total of 212 for eight. Despite Rohan Karkhanis picking up five for 63, Old Actonians were able to reach the target for the loss of six wickets. Bessborough Seconds also lost to Old Actonians Seconds by four wickets while the Firsts earned a 76-run win over Paddington on Sunday.

Promising league start for Acorn

ACORN LAWN TENNIS CLUB's men's team got their Slazenger Middlesex League campaign off to a bright start with a 20-4 win at Harrow. George Christea and Greg Ostroff did not drop a set. Neil Phillips and Petro Stoian, Ravi Gupta and Kavi Shah all dropped one set for the team.

Stones chasing play-off glory

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett admits this is a "wonderful opportunity" for his side to win promotion.

The Stones secured their place in the Ryman Premier Division play-offs after finishing the season in third spot.

Bartlett's side were due to host Concord Rangers yesterday night [Wednesday] for the right to face Lowestoft Town or East Thurrock United on Bank Holiday Monday.

The Stones boss said: "You don't get many opportunities to get promoted during your career. It's a wonderful opportunity for one of these clubs to go up.

"This is what we wanted at the start of the season so now let's go and do it. We've got to go out and make sure we give it our best shot."

Bartlett added: "I think this would be a very good year to go up because the Ryman will be very strong next year with teams such as Billericay, Hornchurch and Grays Athletic around.

"Besides I think it is about time we did and earned a new challenge in a different league."

The Stones ensured a home semi-final after beating Canvey Island 2-0 in their final league game on Saturday.

Richard Jolly netted twice and the manager admitted promotion would be the ideal way to bring down the curtain on the prolific striker's career.

Bartlett said: "It would be a lovely way for Richard to finish his playing career.

"I was pleased for him that he was able to get a couple of goals in his last ever league game."

Wealdstone had to wait until the 50th minute for Jolly to turn the ball in from close range.

The forward quickly added a second goal when he chased down a back header and tucked the ball home.

Bartlett said: "It was important to get the three points and we were delighted with our third consecutive clean sheet."



Richard Jolly celebrates scoring in the Stones' home win over Canvey Island. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

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Harrow Borough ensure survival

HARROW BOROUGH boss Dave Anderson insisted he was pleased with his side's season after they secured their Ryman Premier Division status.

The Reds finished in 15th place and Anderson felt this was a decent achievement considering their limited resources.

Anderson said: "We're pleased for everyone at the club that we managed to secure our status.

"Promotions and relegations are great for a reporter but as a manager you have to deal in reality. The fact was we were always likely to be closer to the bottom than the top.

"I think this was always the target to stay up with the budget we've got. I would say our budget is lower than five of the seven teams who finished below us."

The Reds finished the campaign with a goalless draw at Margate but a 3-2 win over Bognor Regis Town at the end of last week ensured their survival.

Goals from Jordan Berry, Ola Williams and Vences Bola earned the victory.

Anderson said: "Of course we were relieved and it was nice to come from behind twice to get the win. We played well."

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