

News briefly

**Harrow drop down after withdrawal**

Harrow RFC have slipped to second in London Three North West after the withdrawal of London New Zealand. This means all their results have been removed and Harrow are now below Grasshoppers with a game in hand. Harrow extended their unbeaten run with a 20-15 win at Welwyn last weekend. Chris West scored their opening try as Harrow edged to the points.

**Saracens return to form with victory**

Saracens halted back-to-back defeats with a comprehensive 40-3 home win over Newcastle Falcons on Sunday. The Men in Black were in superb form as they secured a bonus-point victory with five tries against Dean Richards' side. Charlie Hodgson marked his first start of the season with a try while there were also efforts from David Strettle (2), Jamie George and Alex Goode.

**Middlesex batsman signs new contract**

Middlesex opener Sam Robson has agreed a new two-year contract with the club. The 24-year-old was in superb form last season scoring 1,180 first-class runs at an average of 47.2. His form has also earned him selection for the forthcoming England Performance Programme in Australia. The news follows confirmation batsman/wicketkeeper Adam Rossington has penned a new two-year deal.

## Late Trophy goal sinks Wealdstone

Wealdstone suffered FA Trophy heartbreak after a 92nd minute goal fired Maidstone United to a 1-0 replay win on Tuesday night.

The Stones had looked in control of the tie, against the Ryman Premier Division leaders, when they led 2-0 on Saturday. But Maidstone fought back to force a replay which they edged after the dramatic finale at the Gallagher Stadium.

Manager Gordon Bartlett said: "Football can be so cruel. It's a massive blow from a financial point of view and also for the team. "We had enough chances to have won two games and for them to score in the last minute was very cruel but it seems to be a recurring story.

"We were the better side in both games but we haven't won and it hurts."

The visitors made a bright start and should have taken the lead through Scott McGleish but he blasted over from inside the penalty area.

Stones keeper Jonathan North was called into action when he parried Fabio Saraiva's strike.

Tom Hamblin conceded a penalty after handling the ball in the second half but Frannie Collin's spot kick was well saved by North.

McGleish had another decent opportunity for the Stones but he put his close-range effort wide of the post.

The chances kept falling to McGleish but his effort was saved by Lee Worgan and the striker smashed the rebound effort over the crossbar.

Just as the match appeared to be heading for extra time, disaster struck for Bartlett's side.

Rory Hill's shot was parried by North but he responded by knocking the ball into the path of Zac Attwood who fired home the decisive goal.

Bartlett's side had looked on course to win the second qualifying round tie after going into a 2-0 lead in the first match.

Tom Pett's cross was headed home by Tom Hamblin and then a stunning team move helped extend the Stones lead when James Hammond's cross was finished off by McGleish.

But Alex Brown pulled one back before the break and a late equaliser from Alex Flisher denied Wealdstone.



Wealdstone were shattered after Maidstone hit a 92nd minute winner on Tuesday. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

**Harrow Borough net away point**

Harrow Borough battled to a 1-1 draw at Hampton and Richmond Borough in the Ryman Premier Division on Tuesday night.

The visitors extended their unbeaten away run to four games and came away from the contest feeling they should have taken all three points.

Dave Anderson's side grabbed the lead in the 18th minute when Steve Butterworth picked up the ball on the right and ran into the penalty area before firing past Rodney Chiweshe.

It took just six minutes for the home side to equalise when the visitors failed to clear the ball and Charlie Moore scored.

Boro thought they should have had a penalty in the second half when Danny Leech was clattered to the ground by Stuart Lake but the referee decided otherwise.

The Reds earned an impressive 4-2 home win over Cray Wanderers on Saturday.

Butterworth, who has joined from Carshalton Athletic, marked his home debut with a hat-trick.

The hosts took the lead after 21 minutes when Victor Osubu fired past the Cray keeper.

Butterworth rounded the keeper for the Reds' second goal before Shamir Mullings pulled one back for Wanderers.

Butterworth struck his second of the game from the edge of the area but a handball by Michael Barima enabled Tommy Whitnell to send James Shea the wrong way.

A foul on Osubu allowed Butterworth to net his third from the penalty spot.

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