

News briefly

Wealdstone held to Lowestoft draw

Wealdstone battled to a 1-1 draw at Lowestoft Town in the Ryman Premier Division on Tuesday night. The Stones struggled to find their usual fluency in tough, windy conditions. But Gordon Bartlett's side opened the scoring when Scott McGleish fired them in front. Lowestoft levelled in the second half when Jake Reed netted. The sides face each other again this weekend at the Vale.

Harrow Borough lose to Billericay

Harrow Borough suffered a 2-1 defeat at Billericay Town in the Ryman Premier Division on Tuesday night. Dave Anderson's side opened the scoring after 36 minutes through Spencer Bellotti but the hosts turned it around with two goals. The Reds return to action this weekend at East Thurrock United.

Acorn running tennis camp

Acorn Tennis Club are running a half-term camp for five to 16 year olds. The Canons Park based club will hold the sessions between Monday, February 17 and Friday, February 22. Bookings via Karen on 07950575319 or by emailing k.l.dawson@live.co.uk.

News immediately:
harrowtimes.co.uk

Lord's reward for youngsters

Harrow's young cricketers have booked a return trip to Lord's, but only after an early scare at the Balfour Beatty London Youth Games Indoor Cricket male qualifiers at the weekend.

The defending champions lost their opening group game to Havering at Harrow Leisure Centre on Saturday.

But they fought back with thumping victories over Merton and Lambeth where they bludgeoned an impressive 102 and 126 runs respectively in their ten over innings.

They were then thrown a

lifeline when Havering slipped up in their last game when chasing Merton's imposing total of 112 and were bowled out for 77.

It meant a fourth successive trip to Lord's for Harrow and for team manager Raj Kanagaraj the possibility of a fifth title in just nine years.

Kanagaraj said: "Because we are reigning champions, it's added pressure to retain the title.

"We had 50 turning out for the trials and we have 12 in the squad. I wanted the boys to focus on the day, to go and

enjoy it and to play the basics. The first match we didn't bat the full overs, we were all out for 59.

"But we really put pressure on them fielding and bowling. We needed Merton to beat Havering and that's what happened.

"This is my ninth year and this is the sixth year we have qualified. It's a great achievement considering the talent of the boys and the standard of the Borough teams participate in the competition. The boys are looking forward to Lord's and we are going to enjoy the atmosphere.

"I would like to thank all the parents, players and Aruna Jayawardene for helping with the training and scoring on the match day for all their help, support and commitment and finally thank Harvi Singh from the Harrow Sports Development Team for all his help and support and commitment."

To find out more about the competing or volunteering at London Youth Games, log on to londonyouthgames.org.



Harrow's team have qualified for the final at Lord's.

National final for Kirk

Stanmore's Pat Kirk went one better than last year by reaching the final of the EIBA ladies national champion of championships competition at Lakeside Coastal Resort in Hayling Island.

Having dismissed Lynda Jarman from Cambridge 21-2 in the first round, the Herga Indoor Bowls Club member, which is based in Wealdstone, then edged past Linda Gray 21-18 to set up a semi-final clash with England skip Janice Gower from Cumbria.

Gower who had previously beaten fellow international Kathy Hawes knew she was in for a fight when Kirk matched her shot for shot in a game that saw the lead change hands six times.

The large crowd were spell-bound as Gower edged into a 20-19 lead and Kirk stood one shot up with her last bowl to play.

By this time Kirk's skill and tenacity had made her the crowd favourite and an immaculate draw to within two inches of the jack helped claim a 21-20 victory which brought the biggest roar of the day.

The final against Bournemouth's Julie Leake, yet another England international, saw Kirk holding her own at 9-9 after nine ends but the toll of playing two full games in the day began to tell and she went down 21-10.

"I don't know what I'm doing here among the young bright things" said Kirk. "I'm getting too old for this caper."

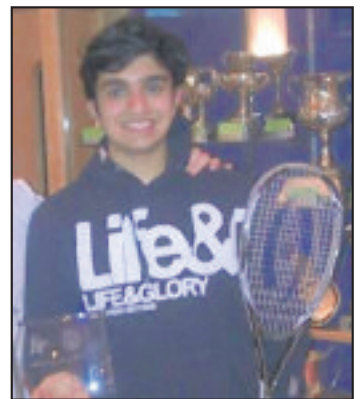
Wimbledon title triumph

Teenager Hasnaat Farooqi won the Under-15s silver squash tournament in Wimbledon at the weekend.

Farooqi [pictured] attends Buckingham College School in Harrow.

He took out the UK's number one seed Tom Walsh in a 70 minute battle which ended 3-2 in the semi-finals.

Farooqi went on to take the title 3-2 after a gruelling 85 minute clash against Elliot Ridge from Yorkshire.



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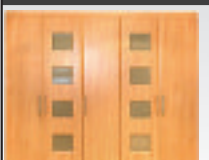
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HARROW TIMES

The Harrow Times is published by Newsquest (London) Ltd, part of Newsquest Media Group Ltd, registered office Newspaper House, 58 Church Street, Weybridge, KT13 8DP - a Gannett company, No.3105111. Printed by Newsquest Oxford Ltd.