

# SPORT

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## FOOTBALL: Wealdstone concede late to draw Bartlett frustrated as Stones blow it again

IT WAS a case of same old for Wealdstone boss Gordon Bartlett on Monday evening as the Stones conceded in the final minutes to drop two points against Oxford City.

A brace from Bradley Hudson-Odoi had seen the Stones leading 2-1 at Grosvenor Vale with minutes remaining.

However, after Johnny Wright was harshly sent off for a second yellow card, former Watford winger Matty Whichelow cracked home a stunning effort from 20 yards to steal a point for the City.

The Stones had blown a four-goal lead to draw with Truro City in their last home match and they suffered the same fate to draw with Gosport Borough in late January.

"That's my frustration," said Bartlett. "I think we've had the lead in injury time three times lately and thrown it away."

"You can talk about luck until the cows come home but it's been a saga throughout the season. When it's going well something pops up to change it."

"The last three home games we've been in a winning position and every time in injury time we've conceded."

By Tom Bodell

"We've deserved something but, call it game management or naivety, we've given the ball away in very good areas and that's allowed them to get on the front foot and score."

Bartlett continued: "I was particularly disappointed on Monday but I can't knock the attitude, application or work over the last few weeks."

"That's two defeats in 12 games in the league but games are there to be won which proves we're good enough."

As well as conceding late goals, another theme of Wealdstone's season has been injury and availability issues.

Bartlett was without 10 players for Monday's clash with Oxford and that led him to starting 42-year-old striker Scott McGleish at centre-back.

The manager's bold decision was emphatically rewarded, however, with the player-coach named man-of-the-match.

"It was typical of Scott McGleish," said Bartlett. "That's only his second start of the season."

"I brought him onto the coaching staff and by his own admission he



Winger Bradley Hudson-Odoi puts Wealdstone 2-1 up on Monday night with his second goal.

Picture: ALAN PALMER

won't do that every week.

"His attitude is a shining example to anyone and I don't just mean at Wealdstone - I mean at any club. That performance typifies what we, or any team in our position, need to be collectively."

Wealdstone will hope to have Wes Parker and Elliott Godfrey back for Saturday's trip to Weston-super-

Mare but Jack Smith and Tom Hamblin are both still a fortnight away.

Goalkeeper Jonathan North is expected back in early March.

Midfielder Michael Corcoran is suspended by the club pending the outcome of their investigation into his conviction for racially aggravated harassment and assaulting a police officer.

## Ten-man Harrow lose again

KEEPER SEES RED AS HARROW BOROUGH GO DOWN TO GRAYS

TEN-man Harrow Borough ended up with an outfield player in goal as they made it five straight defeats in the Isthmian Premier Division with a 3-2 loss at Grays Athletic on Saturday.

Billy Granger, deputising for Brendan Hazlett who was serving a suspension of his own, was sent off midway through the first half meaning David Taylor donned the gloves for Steve Baker's side.

The Reds made an encouraging start and went ahead on 28 minutes when Fejiri Okerabirhie - one of five changes made by Baker - netted.

The lead was short-lived, however, and Bradley Fortnam-Tomlinson levelled for the hosts ten minutes before half time.

Worse was to follow as, six minutes into the second half, Fortnam-Tomlinson repeated the trick to put Grays in front for the first time.

Dumebi Dumuka added a third for Grays after 68 minutes, taking the game away from Harrow.

Boro skipper Marc Charles-Smith did reduce the arrears with ten minutes remaining but it wasn't enough.

Harrow picked up a welcome win on Tuesday evening as they advanced to round three of the London Senior Cup by beating South East Counties League side Beckenham Town 3-2.

The Reds hosts Canvey Island on Saturday and visit Brentwood Town on Tuesday.

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