60 July 14, 2016 harrowtimes.co.uk

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FOOTBALL: Wealdstone impress in defeat to O's

Stones are beaten by a moment of magic

A FIFTH-minute Eddie Oshodi goal and an impressive display was not enough for Wealdstone as they were beaten 2-1 by Leyton Orient at Grosvenor Vale on Tuesday night.

In their second match of pre-season, the Stones took an early lead against their League Two visitors, but Orient found a 26th-minute equaliser through last season's top scorer Jay Simpson.

Andy Hessenthaler's side took the lead seven minutes later when Sandro Semedo cut inside the Wealdstone goalscorer before unleashing a venomous effort into the bottom corner.

The Stones were very much a match for their opponents, who finished 53 places above them in the league pyramid last season. They had several chances to find an equaliser after the break, but were left empty handed.

Former Wealdstone loanee Gavin Massey nearly got Orient off to the perfect start with barely a minute gone, but from his lay-off Jordan Bowery's effort was palmed away by goalkeeper Jonathan North, and O's new boy Liam Kelly blasted the rebound over.

There was to be an early goal

By Ron Walker

though, and it came from the hosts. David Hunt's excellent free-kick deserved to be finished off and Oshodi made no mistake after receiving the ball deep inside the penalty area.

The equaliser followed 20 minutes later when new 0's signing Massey skipped past two Wealdstone defenders before laying the ball off to Simpson, who had time and space to slot the ball into the corner beyond North.

The game was turned on its head inside seven minutes when Semedo's trickery found him through on goal and he finished with aplomb to put his side in front.

After such a frantic start, chances were few and far between before half-time and after the break, strikes from Wealdstone substitutes Josh Hutchinson and trialist Sehr Kabba were not in danger of forcing an equaliser.

Oshodi nearly pulled them level with a header blocked on the goal-line, before another shot hit the side netting, but Orient, with a much-changed side for the second half, hung on for victory.



Celebrating making the breakthrough: Eddie Oshodi kisses the turf after scoring.

Picture: ALAN PALMER

Rameez puts Town at bottom

BOWLER'S SEVEN-FOR HELPS TAKE BESSBOROUGH OFF THE BASEMENT

KIBREETH Rameez starred with the ball as Bessborough moved off the bottom of the Middlesex League Division Three table and condemned hosts Harrow Town to take their place.

Harrow opened the batting and were soon a man down, when Gihan Herath was dismissed for eight by namesake Gihan Pallage. Asim Mohamed put on a strong 63

Asim Mohamed put on a strong 63 before he became Rameez's first victim, caught by Saghar Tanoli.

Rameez took a second shortly after, removing Muhammad Arshad for 80.

Charith Gunasekera departed for 14 when Rameez made it three for the afternoon, and from there Harrow fell apart. They made just 18 from the rest of their order as they were bowled out for 187 from 45.4 overs, with Rameez taking 7-69.

Bessborough began their response with 18 from Sherrick Chavda, before he fell Ibw, and fellow opener Rupert Thacker's 33 also got them off to a steady, if unspectacular, start.

Urooj Ahmed only made four before Kamlesh Desai dismissed him, as he did soon after to claim lan Barrie (17).

Tanoli made 28, but after some cheap wickets fell in the lower order, Harrow could smell an opportunity.

That was until Pallage, who had been in at seven, got them over the line comfortably, batting his way to an undefeated 44 as they reached 190-8 from 42.4 overs to seal the win.







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