

SPORT

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WEALDSTONE continue strong start to season Seagulls are seen off by confident Stones

ELLIOT Benyon's seventh goal in nine games was enough to give Wealdstone a 1-0 victory over Weston-super-Mare at Grosvenor Vale on Monday night.

The hot-shot striker added his third goal in as many days from Omar Koroma's cross after 65 minutes in what proved the only goal of the game.

The Stones then showed their attritional side to grind out the win despite pressure from the Seagulls.

Albeit after a game more than many of their opponents, it leaves Gordon Barlett's side sitting fifth in the play-off places, with 16 points from their opening nine games.

On Saturday, in front of a bumper crowd of 1,003 for Non League Day, the Stones had been pegged back in injury time in a 2-2 draw with fellow promotion-chasers Poole Town, after taking the lead in either half through a pair of Benyon goals.

They showed little sign of a hangover from that disappointment on Monday night, however. Benyon nearly opened the scoring in a first half devoid of chances, but saw his effort cleared off the line by Seka-

ni Simpson.

By Ron Walker

Weston were the first to show their hand in the second half, when Tom Meecham forced an excellent save out of Jonathan North, and the introduction of Ricky Wellard and Koroma around the hour mark would prove much needed to revitalise Bartlett's side.

The changes bore fruit almost immediately, as Koroma's first time on the ball produced the winner, and his low ball found Benyon who kept up his scoring form.

Whicheloh could have doubled the lead within six minutes with a 30-yard screamer which cannoned off the crossbar with Weston keeper Luke Purnell beaten.

With time running out, Weston might have snatched a point when Dayle Grubb played in defender Jason Pope - but he had left his shooting boots in the West Country, and blazed his effort over the bar.

The Stones will next travel to Ebbsfleet United on Saturday with an unbeaten away record under their belt to date, and can further cement their strong start against the side sitting tenth in the table.



Wealdstone go close against Weston during Monday's victory.

Picture: ALAN PALMER

Borough extend FA Cup run

COMFORTABLE 4-1 VICTORY FOR TEAM OVER SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN

HARROW BOROUGH will travel to Uxbridge in the second round of FA Cup qualifying after a 4-1 win over Sawbridgeworth Town on Saturday.

Boro controlled the early exchanges against a side who were experiencing their first taste of life in the opening qualifying round, but were nearly caught out when Luke Williams was forced into a full-length save following a counter attack.

But they took the lead just before the half-hour mark when Marc Charles-Smith converted Michael Bryan's low cross, and doubled their advantage through Francis Babalola with the first half in its dying embers.

Harrow added a third to kill off the tie inside the last ten minutes after again dominating the second period, when in-form Ibrahim Meite, on as a substitute, calmly slotted home.

And even after Louis Bristow had pulled a late consolation back, there was still time for Bryan to add a fourth in the final seconds and seal a comfortable win over the Essex Senior League side.

Boro will now face eighth-tier Uxbridge on September 17 as they look to reach the third round of qualifying for the FA Cup proper for the first time since 2014, and will net a cool £4,500 payday should they do so.

The Reds return to action in the Ryman Premier Division on Saturday at home to Needham Market.

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The Harrow Times is published by Newsquest (London) Ltd, Observer House, Caxton Court, Caxton Way, Watford, Herts WD18 8RJ part of the Newsquest Media Group Ltd, Loudwater Mill, Station Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP10 9TY, a Gannett Company. Printed by Newsquest Oxfordshire, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ. Newspaper Support Recycling - The recycled paper content of UK newspapers in 2014 was 80.6%.