

SPORT

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WEALDSTONE: McGleish praises keepers' effort North's penalty heroics take Stones to cup final

By Harry Gray

SCOTT McGleish has hailed Wealdstone keeper John North after he saved three penalties to take them into the final of the Middlesex Senior Cup.

North's heroics came after the last four tie with Hendon finished goalless and sets up a final against Hampton & Richmond Borough on May 6.

McGleish highlighted North's quality after the match and says his presence in goal meant Stones always had a chance of securing victory.

"When you go to penalties, and you have someone like John North in goal, you fancy yourself every time," he said.

"We set out every year to do our best in any competition we are in and get to the final. We are fortunate enough this year to finally get their again."

As is often the case with semi-finals, the match proved to be a cagey affair and neither side looked like winning in normal time.

Gordon Bartlett's side were solid in defence once again as they kept

their third clean sheet in a row.

The cup win followed on from a 1-0 National League South triumph over Margate on Saturday.

New signing Aryan Tajbakhsh, who joined the club on a 28-day loan from Crawley Town, wasted little time endearing himself to his new club with the only goal of the game.

The midfielder showed his quality to control a well-placed half-volley, giving the Margate keeper no chance and securing Wealdstone's first win since the end of January.

The result leaves Stones 13th in the table and takes them to within five points of the top 10.

They will look to build on the win against Welling United on Saturday.

Welling have discovered a new-found solidity in recent weeks, taking five points from their last three league games.

They currently occupy 15th spot in the table but victory would leave them just two points behind Wealdstone.

United came out on top when the sides last met as they secured a 1-0 win on home soil against Stones in October.



Wealdstone's players can prepare for a Middlesex Senior Cup final after a penalty shootout win over Hendon on Tuesday. Picture: ALAN PALMER

Two wins on the trot for Borough

LEISTON AND WORTHING BEATEN AS
HARROW FIND GOALSCORING TOUCH

HARROW Borough enjoyed a productive few days as they secured back-to-back wins in the Ryman League Premier Division.

Saturday saw Borough hit Leiston with a late double to come away with a 3-1 win.

The hosts started the brighter and Steve Brown gave them the lead after 14 minutes, powering in a header at the back post.

A defensive mix-up allowed Leiston to level just after the hour mark and the game look destined to end in stalemate before a defining final eight minutes.

Firstly, a driven low cross was expertly converted by Sahr Kabba and the result was sealed in the 88th minute when Newman reacted quickest to turn in a miscued shot.

Borough were in equally goal friendly mood on Tuesday night and put in a clinical display to ease to a 4-0 win over Worthing.

Despite the emphatic scoreline, it took Borough until the cusp of half-time to grab the go ahead goal through George Nicholas' close-range finish.

The second half proved to be altogether more productive for the visitors as they hit Worthing for three goals without reply.

Michael Bryan scored the all important second to give his side breathing space with 13 minutes remaining.

Three minutes later the game was all but ended as a contest when Kabba burst down the right and crossed for Kurtis Cumberbatch to score.

A role reversal saw Cumberbatch lay-on the fourth for Kabba at the death and complete a win which takes Harrow up to 17th.

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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.

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