

SPORT

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FOOTBALL: Wealdstone held to goalless draw Stones frustrated by 10- man Chippenham Town

By Ron Walker

WEALDSTONE boss Bobby Wilkinson said his side deserved more as they played out a second straight goalless league draw on the road at Chippenham Town on Saturday, despite the hosts playing with 10 men for more than an hour.

It told its own story that the dismissal of Jamie Guthrie 24 minutes into the contest was the main talking point for both sides, although his foul was notably poor and could have been more of a danger to Ryan Sellers than it would prove.

But as it transpired when the Stones last faced a team with a numerical disadvantage, the dismissal would only serve to frustrate the visitors, who could not break down a home defence desperate for a rare clean sheet on the back of a poor run of form.

It was a case of *deja vu*, as last time out, away from home, Bath City shut out the Stones at Twer-ton Park after having a man sent off early on.

Wealdstone did create chances though, and Matt Day's 20th-min-

ute effort somehow nestled in the arms of Jared Thompson when he looked certain to score.

Thompson would later save a rasping drive from the same player before a comical own goal by the hosts was averted by the width of the post, cannoning away to safety with Wealdstone unable to turn home the rebound.

Substitute Harry Goodger shot wide twice late on as the Stones ramped up the pressure, but they would be forced to settle for a late point, albeit one which complements their recent run of home wins.

Wilkinson said after the game: "I am pleased overall. It was always going to be a tough one with their excellent home record and after their bad result last week.

"We looked more composed in the second half and had enough chances to win the game two or even three-nil, so it was frustrating in that sense.

"No, we didn't get the win but I felt it was a particularly good team performance today."

Wealdstone: North, Wilson, Sellers, Hill, Day, Williams, Cox, Okimo, Fitchett, Green, Hippolyte-Patrick.



Wealdstone came close to edging ahead at Chippenham, but had to settle for a second straight away stalemate.
Picture: RONNIE RAFFLE

Boro go through in county cup

HARROW EDGE OUT BEDFONT SPORTS 3-2 TO PROGRESS IN MIDDLESEX CUP

HARROW advanced in the Middlesex Senior Cup with a late winner from Michael Bryan putting them beyond Bedfont Sports with a 3-2 victory on Tuesday night.

The Boro had been looking likely to exit the competition at the first stage when the hosts went ahead in both halves.

Ant O'Connor ensured Steve Baker's side went in level at half-time, and Adam Richards again restored parity in the final 10 minutes, after Bedfont had gone back in front on the hour mark.

But there was still more drama to follow, and Bryan's winner, three minutes from time, gave Harrow the victory in a pulsating game.

Harrow were also beaten 2-1 at Harlow for a first defeat in four league games in the Bostik Premier League on Saturday.

Kurtis Cumberbatch's first-half opener gave the visitors a half-time lead, against a side who had only won twice all season, and one the Boro would have expected to at least take something from.

But Harrow completed an impressive turnaround after the break, started off by Alex Read's penalty within five minutes of the restart to pull themselves level.

And Reece Dobson gave the hosts the victory as he slotted home what would prove the winning goal, and one which drops Harrow down to fifth in the table.

The Boro host 11th-placed Brightlingsea Regent at Earlsmead on Saturday, with the visitors on a run of seven games without a win away from home.

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