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FOOTBALL: Stones do it all again at Chelmsford Wingate await winner of FA Trophy qualifying replay

By Ron Walker

A LOCAL derby with Wingate and Finchley awaits Wealdstone, subject to whether they could navigate their way through a replay against Chelmsford Town in their FA Trophy replay last night.

At the time of going to press, the Stones were gearing up for their third qualifying round replay in Essex, after the two sides drew 1-1 at Grosvenor Vale on Saturday in the original tie.

Matt Day was ruled out of the weekend game with illness, leaving Ciaron Brown to take his place in defence.

Kick-off was delayed for 10 minutes with Chelmsford's players and staff stuck in traffic on the M25, and the hurried preparations told for the visitors early on as the Stones flew out of the blocks.

The in-form Abobaker Eisa came close to giving them the perfect start, beating two defenders before his cross was narrowly diverted wide by defender Michael Spillane.

Mustafa Tiriyaki thundered a volley at the visiting goalkeeper in a bright opening, with Wealdstone

increasingly dominating the early stages.

With half-an-hour gone, the Stones took the lead. Danny Green's corner was met by a thundering header from Tiriyaki in what was the Turkish forward's first goal for the club.

A second goal before the break would have put one Wealdstone foot in the first round, but Eisa was denied by the visiting goalkeeper from a quick free-kick.

Sam Beasant then denied Eisa and Luke Williams as Stones looked to increase their advantage in the tie.

The turning point came on the hour mark, when Sam Cox's soft foul on Chris Dickson earned him a second booking, and with a man down Wealdstone began to struggle.

Daniel Green's cross then found former Barnet forward Shaun Batt, who nodded in with 10 minutes to play to earn the visitors a replay.

Wealdstone: North, Oshodi, Sellers, Brown, Olomowewe, Cox, Williams, Okimo, Tiriyaki (Wellard 62), Green, Eisa. Subs not used: Goodger, Whichelow, Wilson, Hippolyte-Patrick.



Mustafa Tiriyaki being presented with the man-of-the-match award after Saturday's game.
Picture: WEALDSTONE FC

League win still evades Harrow

BOROUGH LOSE TO LEAGUE-LEADERS AFTER DRAW AT BASEMENT WORTHING

HARROW Borough fell to their eighth defeat from nine league matches but raised their game against league-leaders Billericay Town on Tuesday.

The Boro had previously rescued a last-minute draw at basement side Worthing on Saturday, as Ryan Moss' 97th-minute free-kick earned a 2-2 draw in a game where the visitors had taken the lead through Shaun Preddie.

Tuesday night's 2-0 loss, and a return to poor form, came despite Harrow's strong performance in both halves after they had begun well against the Essex big-spenders, with Bajram Pashaj forcing an early save.

Pashaj shot just beyond the far post later in the half after a couple of missed Billericay chances, but a generally even first period ended goalless.

A moment of controversy swung the game in Billericay's favour after the break, with a questionable-looking penalty awarded to the visitors from an apparent foul by Enoch Soganile, after what looked like more of a 50/50 challenge.

Jake Robinson stepped up to score from the spot, but Harrow's heads did not drop.

Charles Banya's turn and shot brought another fine save, and Kurtis Cumberbatch's free-kick likewise.

But with four minutes to play, substitute Adam Cunnington rose highest to nod in former Liverpool winger Jermaine Pennant's corner to seal the three points.

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