

SPORT

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COMFORTABLE victory follows thrilling draw Dominant first half brings disappointing run to end

WEALDSTONE brought their four-game winless run to an end on Monday night as they comfortably beat East Thurrock United 3-0 at Grosvenor Vale.

Goals from Bradley Bubb, Ricky Wellard and Jeffrey Monakana sealed the win for Bobby Wilkinson's men, which moved them up to 11th place in the National League South.

After captain Jerome Okimo came within inches of opening the scoring when his effort from the edge of the area flew just wide, the Stones took the lead in the 11th minute when Wellard's cross was nodded home by Bubb.

Four minutes later and provider turned goal scorer, as Wellard doubled the home side's advantage when he placed a low effort past Lukas Lidakevicius to increase the Ruislip-based club's lead.

Moments before half-time and it was three with Monakana getting on the scoresheet as he beat the offside trap before rounding Lidakevicius and slotting the ball home from a tight angle.

The second half was more of a subdued affair, but Wilkinson's side almost made it four when Danny

By Bradley Hayden

Green knocked the ball past Lidakevicius, but he could only put the effort wide under pressure.

That win came after a thrilling 4-4 draw with Chippenham Town at the Vale on Saturday, which saw the Stones fight back from 2-0 and 3-1 down to claim a point, in a match which had three red cards, a hat-trick and two overhead kicks.

The visitors took an early 2-0 lead thanks to Nick McCootie's overhead kick and a swift counter attack which was finished off by Andy Sandell.

Glenn Wilson pulled one back for the Stones four minutes later, but that only proved to be a temporary reprieve as Chippenham made it 3-1 thanks to Sandell's second of the afternoon.

The game's lively first half continued when Wealdstone pulled one back on the stroke of half-time when Bubb hit an even better overhead kick which flew past Jason Matthews, before Chippenham were reduced to 10 men as Dean Evans was shown a second yellow card for a foul on Ryan Sellers.

But Wealdstone's numerical ad-



Following three successive defeats, Bobby Wilkinson has led Wealdstone to four points in their last two games.
Picture: ALAN PALMER PHOTOGRAPHY

vantage didn't last long, as Eddie Oshodi was dismissed just minutes after the second half got underway.

In a frantic affair, Wilkinson's men then got back on level terms when David Pratt nodded home from close range, before the visitors were then reduced to nine when Alex Ferguson was shown a second yellow.

Wealdstone responded by taking

the lead for the first time thanks to Pratt, who notched his second of the game after he flicked home Wellard's corner.

But all Wealdstone's work was to go to waste with nine minutes remaining, as Chippenham scored an unlikely equaliser through Sandell, who netted his hat-trick to secure the nine-man visitors a point.

Impressive success on the road

BOROUGH END THEIR AWAY CAMPAIGN WITH FOUR-GOAL WIN AT WANDERERS

HARROW Borough ended their away campaign on a high with an impressive 4-0 victory at Dorking Wanderers on Tuesday night to enjoy a rare move into the top half of the table.

The win built on Saturday's 1-0 triumph at Needham Market and extended Borough's strong end to the season to one defeat in eight games heading into Saturday's last fixture at home to relegation-threatened Burgess Hill Town.

After settling into the game, Steve Baker's side soon began to take charge and went in front in the 16th minute when following a corner, Michael Bryan cut the ball back to Adam Richards to find the bottom corner.

That was the catalyst for half-of-an-hour of football unsurpassed this season as Harrow took complete control.

Borough doubled their lead in the 22nd minute when a corner was half cleared to George Moore on the right edge of the penalty area and he came inside a couple of yards before firing past goalkeeper Slavomir Huk.

The onslaught continued and the third goal was to arrive in first-half stoppage-time when Huk was penalised for picking up a back pass, Bryan tapped the free-kick back to Moore and he did the rest from around 14 yards.

What proved to be the final goal was scored after 53 minutes when after Moore had seen his shot blocked, Anthony O'Connor picked up the ball and guided it over the advancing keeper.

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