

# SPORT

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## FOOTBALL: Stones' poor run of form continues Charles hat-trick seals an unhappy new year

WEALDSTONE welcomed in the new year with a 3-0 home humbling at the hands of Hampton and Richmond Borough on Monday.

A 15-minute first-half onslaught from the visitors was enough to earn them the points, with the Stones condemned to back-to-back defeats by debutant Elliott Charles' hat-trick.

He could have had even more as the Stones racked up a third game without a win for the first time under Bobby Wilkinson, in which he made one change from the 1-1 draw with Hampton on Boxing Day.

Ciaran Brown, who is close to a move away from Grosvenor Vale to a professional club, was sacrificed for Matt Day, with new addition Marcus Johnson-Schuster added to the substitutes bench.

The quality of that draw was emphasised by the fact Hampton have not lost a league game since August, and they showed just why straight from the off when Charles headed wide inside three minutes.

It took only a quarter-of-an-hour for them to register an opener, too, with Charles making up for that early miss.

Max Kretschmar whipped in a

By Ron Walker

cross which the forward volleyed beyond Jonathan North, with the pace of his effort too much for the Stones goalkeeper despite getting hands to it.

Charles' luck was in when he grabbed a second soon after, with a goal the Wealdstone defence will want to avoid watching back.

Taofiq Olomowewe had a chance to clear from a heavy touch from the visiting striker, but slid in to miss both ball and man.

The debutant skipped through and slotted behalf North to complete a brace, albeit one he would rapidly add to.

He, and Hampton, were three to the good with only half-an-hour on the clock as Brendan Kiernan's through ball beat Eddie Oshodi, found Charles, and he finished off both the chance and Wealdstone's hope of a comeback.

The Stones had been poor early on in their Boxing Day encounter with Hampton, and they improved in the second half on New Year's Day just as they had done in the previous game.

Watford loanee Sam Howes was



Wealdstone fell to a fourth league game without a victory and lost 3-0 to Hampton and Richmond.  
Picture: AQUEUOUS SUN PHOTOGRAPHY

finally tested in the Hampton goal, and kept out efforts from Oshodi and substitute Matty Whichelow.

But the damage was long done, and now the Stones must look to turn around their recent run of form as soon as possible, as they have already dropped eight points from the play-off places.

They are back in action on Satur-

day - but life does not get any easier, with second-placed Havant and Waterlooville their next opponents.

The south coast club are unbeaten in their last 11 league games.

**Wealdstone:** North, Oshodi, Sellers (Fitchett), Olomowewe, Day, Cox, Ngamvoulou (Whichelow), Okimo, Pratt, Green, Eisa. Subs not used: Goodger, Wilson, Johnson-Schuster.

## Bad Harrow run goes on at Enfield

TOWNERS BEAT BOROUGH WITH EASE  
AS DREADFUL FORM CONTINUES

A DISASTROUS festive period for Harrow Borough was signed off with a 3-0 defeat to Enfield Town at Donkey Lane on New Year's Day.

Harrow's 16th defeat in 24 league games started as it continued, with Sam Youngs firing in the opener after just 10 minutes following some dreadful static defending in midfield.

By that point he had already fired over, while Enfield had also missed another sitter from a long throw.

Melvin Minter then saved a Simon Thomas header, before saving again from the same player amid a flurry of Town chances.

Harrow finally got their act together as the interval approached, and Charles Banya's drive was held at the second attempt by the home goalkeeper.

After half-time things did little to improve, although Banya's cross found Sahr Kabba who forced a save in the early stages.

But 11 minutes after the restart Harrow were two goals behind, when Taylor McKenzie turned in a cross from the right flank.

Harrow had not been good to begin with but got worse from there. Ryan Blake shot wide and then when Shaun Preddie gave the ball away in a dangerous area, an Enfield cross was turned into his own net by David Longe-King.

Needham Market visit Harrow in their next game on Saturday.

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TIMES

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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