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IDEAL response to narrow Billericay defeat

Onslaught rewarded as superb Stones sink Cards

WEALDSTONE delighted their fans on Monday night with an enthralling performance of guts and determination and no little skill thrown in for good measure as they beat Woking 1-0.

The victory, against an unbeaten, table-topping and highly capable Woking side was no less than Bobby Wilkinson's men deserved and the margin of success could have been greater with a little more composure in the final third.

The second-half onslaught down the slope was very impressive and just when it seemed that Stones would not get the win their superiority merited, referee Jacob Miles pointed to the spot in the 87th minute when the relentless home pressure forced a foul in the box. Substitute Matt Lench confidently despatched the penalty to wild celebrations among the home faithful in the bumper 1,323 crowd.

On an electric evening at the Vale there was a sense that this game was going to be a cracker and so it proved despite a relatively scrappy but highly competitive first half. Stones needed a win to put Saturday's narrow 1-0 defeat to Billericay behind them and their opponents

By Anthony Matthews

were looking to maintain their early season 100 per cent record.

After a spell of increasing Stones pressure towards the end of the opening period, Woking burst back into life and could have taken the lead but Jonathan North pulled off an outstanding point-blank save and then had to get down to scoop away an awkward long-range strike from a free-kick.

Stones threw off any remaining shackles after the turnaround and attacked with ferocity almost from the whistle

Pratt went down in the area on 52 minutes with what looked like a clear penalty but the referee was not interested and waved away vehement appeals.

Godfrey Poku, superb in midfield as an enforcer, then set Pratt away but the work horse striker was off target and not for the first time on the night.

The pressure on the beleaguered away side continued to mount as their attacking prowess dropped off. Bradley Bubb entered the fray for Joe White as Wealdstone searched for an opening to win the game.



A euphoric Matt Lench celebrates his winning penalty.
Picture: GEOFF SMITH/TOP-PIC PHOTOGRAPHY

Shots rained in - a powerful effort from Rhys Tyler was saved brilliantly by German stopper Berti Schotteri. Substitute Lench was making his presence felt and a mazy run into the box drew a foul that was again waved away to the dismay of players and fans alike.

But the pressure was to finally tell. Pratt was bundled over in the

area after another great run and the spot-kick was awarded with Lench smashing the ball past Schotteri with aplomb.

There was still time for more drama as the clock ran down when Cards defender Dan Spence was shown red for a second booking to add salt to the wounds of defeat for the visitors

Moore at the double in first win

BOROUGH GET OFF THE MARK AFTER THEIR WEEKEND LOSS TO WEYMOUTH

HARROW Boough's Evo-Stik League South Premier Division South campaign is up and running after they triumphed 4-2 at Kinge Langley on Tuesday night

at Kings Langley on Tuesday night.
Following Saturday's 3-2 opening-day
loss at home to Weymouth, Steve Baker's
side got off to the ideal start when
George Moore's free-kick gave the visitors
the lead inside 10 minutes.

Borough survived a let-off when a Callum Adebiyi shot hit the woodwork, but they were to strengthen their early grip on the contest when Bayley Brown fired home the second goal in the 16th minute.

Harrow took their two-goal lead into the break and any remaining doubt about the destiny of the points was ended within six minutes of the restart.

Moore doubled his tally in the 48th

Moore doubled his tally in the 48th minute, cutting in from the right before beating Garry Malone with a shot into the far comer. And the Kings keeper was to be picking the ball out of his net again within three minutes when Ryan Haugh fired in the fourth from the left.

Their opponents refused to lie down though, and were to score twice in the last 10 minutes of normal time.

Jorell Johnson headed in the hosts' first from a Jacob Cook corner in the 80th minute, and provider then turned scorer seven minutes later when Cook converted a Mitchell Weiss cross from the left at the far post.

Borough are back on the road this Saturday at Wimborne Town.







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