

SPORT

Read the latest sports news at
harrowtimes.co.uk/sport

A battling point after not making superiority count

By Anthony Matthews

WEALDSTONE withstood heavy second-half pressure to come away from Imperial Fields with a precious point on Saturday after a 1-1 draw with Dulwich Hamlet kept them in the play-off zone.

The visitors battled throughout for the share of the spoils, but matters could and should have been different if they had capitalised on several first-half chances when they were largely dominating possession.

Stones took the lead in the first half through a Bradley Hudson-Odoi penalty, while Hamlet equalised with 10 minutes left on the clock via Anthony Cook in a frantic second period.

Wealdstone manager Bobby Wilkinson said: "It was a game of two halves and yes we should have taken our chances in the first 45 minutes.

"There are two teams in every contest and Dulwich were desperate to get something out of this game, they are at home and have the right to come at us.

"I thought our work rate off the ball and battling in the second half to get a very valuable point was outstanding. The boys showed me the guts and determination we need when we are under pressure."

Stones found plenty of room to move the ball around early on but

the first strike on goal came from the hosts when Nathan Ferguson forced Jonathan North into a save.

It took 15 minutes for Stones to find their rhythm but when they did start to link up Dave Pratt went desperately close with a header that came off the woodwork from a fine Freddie Grant cross.

Dulwich hit back but were stopped by an excellent piece of defensive work from Connor Stevens when Nathan Green got free down the left.

North then held Iffy Allen's long-range effort as Stones looked increasingly comfortable.

And that feeling of strength was turned into the lead in the 22nd minute when Pratt was walloped in the face by the boot of a defender in the box and the referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot.

Hudson-Odoi despatched the penalty with ease, beating Preston Edwards low to the keeper's right.

Grant then missed a great opportunity to double Stones' lead when he blazed wide from a corner.

The visitors continued to press and Pratt's close-range effort was stopped superbly by Edwards as the half closed.

The second period was an altogether different affair as the hosts



Bradley Hudson-Odoi was on target for the Stones from the penalty spot in Saturday's draw.

went for all-out attack that would stop their opponents from breaking out.

Stones' attacking threat was increasingly nullified as Hamlet turned up the heat, but the away side continued to deal with everything that was coming at them.

The heat on the visitors' goal became incessant though, as they dropped ever deeper and North was to excel with a superb tip over to keep his side in front.

However, the continual pressure

finally told as Dulwich equalised when Cook was put clear and rifled past North from 15 yards.

The visitors continued to battle away and had a great chance in added time when Pratt knocked down for Reece Mitchell but he blazed over from just outside the box.

Meanwhile, Stones have been drawn at home to Great Woking Rovers in the FA Cup second qualifying round.

The tie is due to be played on Saturday, September 22.

Off-colour Borough knocked out

HARROW SEE FA CUP HOPES END IN DISAPPOINTING HORNCHURCH DEFEAT

HARROW Borough produced their worst performance of the season as they weakly exited the FA Cup at the first qualifying round stage with a 1-0 defeat at AFC Hornchurch on Saturday.

Although it was a tough draw and Harrow had reason to feel aggrieved at some of the refereeing, they were left to reflect on a failure to produce a chance of note against a side who were far from at their best.

After a flat start by Borough, the rest of the first half was evenly contested but largely lacking in goalmouth action. The visitors' efforts saw Ryan Haugh head over twice, Lewis Cole's ambitious effort from a narrow angle fly over and George Moore shoot at the keeper.

Harrow started the second half positively but what was to prove the game's decisive moment arrived in the 49th minute when Moore was left exposed as a deep cross came in from the right and Brad Warner beat him before firing past Hafeed Al-Droubi.

Borough had plenty of time to recover but their play largely lacked composure, although they almost equalised with six minutes of normal time remaining when substitute Harry Rush shot inches wide after a one-two with Anthony O'Connor.

The visitors were to be left aggrieved after the referee failed to deal with time-wasting from Hornchurch, although nine minutes of stoppage time were to be added as Borough's cup hopes ended in disappointing fashion.

GALAXY WINDOWS
SIMPLY THE BEST! SPECIAL OFFER FOR 2018

DOUBLE GLAZED WINDOWS
from JUST

£99

EACH

SUPERIOR QUALITY WINDOWS & DOORS...
HIGH STANDARD OF FITTING AND AFTERSALES SERVICE...

www.galaxywindows.info
sales@galaxywindows.info

TELEPHONE GALAXY WINDOWS HOTLINE
020 8427 3888

FENSA REGISTERED COMPANY

All uPVC is manufactured to British Standard specifications & new part 'L' compliance giving you total peace of mind.
Subject to conditions available on request

WHAT ABOUT THAT CHIP ON THE WINDSCREEN?

THAT'S FOR WHEN YOU GET HUNGRY!

When you're looking for ABS and not BS, search local and smart with Exchange and Mart.
150 years on the clock and still going.

Exchange and Mart

HARROW
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.

Newspaper Support Recycling - The recycled paper content of UK newspapers in 2014 was 80.6%.