

# SPORT

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## Stones old boys send Town through in upset

By Ryan Gray

MATT Ball scored a late winner to knock his former side out of the FA Trophy at Biggleswade Town on Saturday as Wealdstone suffered a 2-1 defeat.

Another ex-Stones player Joe White had put the hosts in front, but Bobby Wilkinson's men were to level through a Christian Smith penalty only to be knocked out in the closing stages by their lower division hosts.

Wealdstone had some young new additions in their side, with Colchester youth loanee Eoin McKeown starting the match and Alexander Samizadeh and Pawel Kowalkowski on the bench, plugging gaps left by a spate of injuries.

Biggleswade took advantage of the depleted side and tested their opponents early on with purposeful balls into the 18-yard box that gave Jonathan North some early work.

The rain was also difficult to deal with at Langford Road and meant Wealdstone were weathering two storms for the opening 20 minutes.

That pressure on the Stones goal finally created a breakthrough after half-an-hour when a corner swung into the near post was flicked into the net by White.

Their lead would not last long however, as Smith levelled from the penalty spot after Bradley Hudson-Odoi was brought down inside the box.

The Stones would go on to finish the half the stronger side, with Godfrey Poku nearly catching Biggleswade keeper Sam Donkin out of position, but a great save meant the sides went in level at the break.

McKeown had his first sight of goal soon after the interval. He drilled a shot low across the keeper but missed the target by a couple of yards.

The weather continued to affect the game with players on both sides struggling to stay on their feet, which might have been in the referee's mind when he ruled out a penalty for Biggleswade after a risky challenge from Glenn Wilson.

But the winner arrived for the home side with just five minutes remaining and it was scored by another former Wealdstone player, Ball, who finished from the edge of the area. He then tormented the travelling Stones fans by celebrating directly in front of them.

There were further confrontations following the match, but Stones were left to deal with having been knocked out of the cup by a team from a lower division.



Defeated in the driving rain: Wealdstone's FA Trophy hopes were ended on Saturday. Picture: GEOFF SMITH/TOP-PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Borough continue to rise up table

LATE KEARNEY WINNER TAKES BAKER'S MEN UP TO FOURTH IN THE LEAGUE

HARROW Borough climbed to fourth in the Southern League Premier Division South table after coming from behind to beat Beaconsfield Town 2-1.

Steve Baker's side started the game on the front foot, but went behind against the run of play when the Rams took the lead in the fourth minute as Marvin Morgan beat the offside trap and slipped the ball past Hafed Al-Droubi.

Harrow started their comeback just seven minutes later when a dangerous Beaconsfield attack was stopped by Josh Andrew's long clearance, which released Dylan Kearney, who clipped the ball over Ravan Constable in the Rams goal.

Borough dominated most of the rest of the half but could not break through a tough Beaconsfield defence, whose resolute performance ensured the sides went in level at the break.

The Rams began the second period in the ascendancy, with Brendon Matthew's attempt to chip Al-Droubi falling wide of the post.

The second half continued in much the same fashion, with the away side trying to get themselves back on top.

While it was Beaconsfield who looked most likely to find the winner, it was Borough who eventually snatched the lead just four minutes from time.

Kearney got his second of the game when he met Michael Bryan's corner with his head and powered the ball into the net to seal another important win for Borough.

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