

SPORT

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WEALDSTONE let winning position slip late on Stones draw at home after late Sole goal

By Dec O'Reilly

WEALDSTONE were pegged back by a late St Albans equaliser on Saturday after they led for most of the second half.

Goals from Christian Smith and David Pratt either side of half-time had cancelled out David Diedhiou's opener and put the Stones in front.

However, a stoppage time goal from Liam Sole snatched a point for the visitors in a 2-2 draw.

It was the Saints who opened the scoring just before the 15-minute mark when Zane Banton's cross from the left found Lewis Knight on the edge of the box.

His shot was blocked, but the ball fell to Diedhiou who fired past Stones keeper Jonathan North.

The visitors had a strong penalty appeal waved away by referee James Durkin when midfielder Michael Clark went down in the box.

Clark was then involved in another penalty incident at the other end, when he felled Smith in the 18-yard area.

This time the spot-kick was awarded and Smith himself stepped up to score past Dean

Snedker to send the sides in level at half-time.

A quick start to the second half by Wealdstone saw Pratt latch onto Green's through ball to slot past Snedker just two minutes after the restart.

Stones looked to be in control at that stage, but when North's attempted clearance bobbed on the pitch and span behind him, almost into his own net, St Albans realised they still had a chance.

Meanwhile, at the other end, Tarryn Allarakhia's shot almost sealed the win with 12 minutes left, but Snedker got down well to save.

Liam Sole's introduction on 82 minutes eventually proved decisive when Wealdstone defender Connor Stevens headed on a Snedker goal kick in injury time.

The clearance fell to Saints midfielder Ben Wyatt who charged into the Stones penalty area where he picked out the substitute who finished past North and levelled the contest.

Sole then created another chance to win the game, but North denied him at his near post and the points were shared between the two teams.



Wealdstone were forced to settle for a point following St Albans City's late leveller. Picture: LEIGH PAGE

Borough through to cup final

HARROW BOUNCE BACK FROM HEAVY DEFEAT AGAINST FARNBOROUGH

HARROW Borough were trounced 4-1 away at Farnborough on Saturday, but enjoyed midweek success in the Middlesex County Cup semi-final.

Borough remained sixth in the Evo-Stik Southern Premier League despite finding themselves on the end of the humbling defeat, in which a late Ryan Moss consolation goal was the only redeeming factor.

By the time Moss had scored, the game was well beyond Harrow, after a first-half strike from Kurtis Cumberbatch and second-half goals from Cullen and John Oyenuga either side of Cumberbatch's second had put Farnborough 4-0 up.

Harrow's misery was fully compounded 10 minutes from time when Lewis Cole was shown a straight red card for a robust two-footed challenge.

Things looked brighter for Borough on Tuesday evening, however, as they progressed to the final of the Middlesex County Cup, beating Hayes and Yeading away 3-2 on penalties following a 2-2 draw at the Skyex Community Stadium.

Harrow made things difficult for themselves after taking a commanding 2-0 lead in the second half.

Moss scored just two minutes after half time before Ryan Haugh doubled their advantage with 20 minutes left to play.

That was enough time for Elliot Benyon and Kunle Otudeko to level the game, but Harrow eventually progressed through to the final after holding their nerve in the shootout.

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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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