

SPORT

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STRUGGLERS overcome to boost prospects

Comfortable victory takes Stones into play-off zone

By Nat Goodlad

WEALDSTONE moved into the National League South play-off positions courtesy of an easy 3-0 win over struggling East Thurrock United on Saturday.

Daniel Green struck inside the first 30 seconds and then again just prior to the hour, and Simon Mensah added a third for good measure.

The Stones produced the perfect start when they took the very early lead when David Pratt's header found Green, and his powerful effort from 25 yards was fumbled into his own net by visiting keeper Jack Giddens.

Jeffrey Monakana came close to doubling the advantage on seven minutes when his 30-yard effort sailed just over the crossbar.

Wealdstone continued to dominate possession and chances, coming close to a second in the 37th minute when Green's shot from the left side of the box was well saved by Giddens.

The dangerous Monakana continued to cause problems for East Thurrock and he almost added a

second but saw his strike cleared off the line by Ryan Scott.

The Stones started the second half with the same intent they had in the first and they were rewarded for their persistence in the 58th minute when Monakana produced an excellent defence-splitting pass to find Green, and he clinically put his half-volley beyond Giddens.

Only 10 minutes later, Mensah put the game beyond any doubt for the home side when, after coming on for the injured Jake Sheppard, he made an instant impact by surging forward and drawing a foul.

The free-kick from Tarryn Al-larakhia was parried away by Giddens, but Mensah was on hand to follow up and dispatch the third.

East Thurrock rarely threatened, but they did muster up an effort on target in the 74th minute when Amos Nasha prompted a fine save from Jonathan North, who did will to hold the attempt.

There was never any doubt about the end result though, and the Stones move into the play-off positions with just four games to go ahead of this Saturday's away game at Hampton & Richmond Borough, with kick-off at 3pm.



Wealdstone moved into the National League South play-off places with a win over East Thurrock United. Picture: DAN FINILL/DFINILL PHOTOGRAPHY

Another blow for Borough

HARROW UNABLE TO FOLLOW UP VICTORY WITH THREE MORE POINTS

HARROW Borough remain in danger of dropping to a mid-table finish in the Evo Stik League South Premier Division South after Chesham United inflicted their third loss in four games by winning 2-0.

Chesham are one of a host of teams closing in on Borough in the table and first-half goals from Matt Sinclair and Kieran Murphy kept them in that pack.

Steve Baker selected the same starting XI that had won at Gosport Borough the previous week but they couldn't have the same effect in this game.

Borough though, did have the game's first opportunity when Mark Bitmead volleyed well wide of the goal, and he also had an effort blocked early on.

The Generals managed to ride the early pressure and took the lead in the 29th minute when Borough went to sleep at a corner as the ball was played to Sinclair on the edge of the box, and he was given far too much time to fire past Hafed Al-Droubi.

Bitmead was once again off target before the half's end, which allowed Chesham to double their advantage when a cross bounced along the six-yard line and Murphy reacted quickest to score.

George Moore had a host of opportunities after the break to get Borough back into it, but they never looked like obtaining anything from the game late on and Chesham held on for their two-goal victory.

Borough host Wimbome Town on Saturday at 3pm.

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