

SPORT

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WEALDSTONE go down with a fight in away loss Stones' play-off hopes suffer Borough setback

By Dec O'Reilly

WEALDSTONE'S play-off bid was dealt a blow on Saturday when they were beaten 2-1 at Hampton & Richmond Borough.

Goals from Hampton striker Ruel Sotiriou either side of half-time proved too much for the Stones, despite Christian Smith's late consolation goal.

The deadlock was broken after 24 minutes when Hampton countered from a Stones corner and Ryan Hill crossed to the far-post where Sotiriou's deflected volley bounced past Jonathan North.

Bobby Wilkinson's men went into the break a goal behind looking for a big turnaround in the second half, but they started on the back foot.

Sotiriou set about trying to double his tally with a long-range effort just two minutes after the restart, but that drifted high and wide of the Stones net.

Pressure then began to mount on the home side, but Wealdstone could not create anything from it save for a Rhys Tyler shot that was blocked in the box.

Sotiriou then found his second of the game after 54 minutes when he capitalised on an error from Stones skipper Jerome Okimo.

The deficit was halved with 25 minutes remaining, as Stones set up a nervy finish for Borough.

Substitute David Pratt was fouled in the box and makeshift centre-half Smith stepped up to convert from the spot.

The home side started searching for a third to kill the game off and Tyrell Miller-Rodney almost found it in the 73rd minute when his strike from outside the box fizzed just wide of the post.

Wealdstone had the chance to level moments later when a lofted free-kick into the penalty box was headed down by Okimo for Stefan Brown but he was just beaten to the ball by Beavers goalkeeper Ashley Maynard-Brewer.

A late flurry of opportunities came Wealdstone's way, but still the equaliser was not forthcoming.

Femi Azeez had the best of the chances, but his shot from the edge of the box was saved to leave the Stones a point outside the play-off zone with three matches remaining.



Wealdstone were beaten away at Hampton on Saturday.
Picture: DAN FINILL/DFINILL PHOTOGRAPHY

Harrow keep poor home form

BOROUGH GO OUT WITH A WHIMPER AGAINST WIMBORNE TOWN AT HOME

THE lack of applause as the players came off told a story. The Harrow faithful are usually ready with an 'unlucky' or a 'well done' as their players leave the field, whatever the result. But not on Saturday. The anger is boiling up. A season that looked like a battle for a play-off place a few weeks back is now looking like one in which Harrow may not even finish in the top half of the table.

The lacklustre Borough side were on the end of a 2-0 defeat to Wimborne Town adding further misery to a recent list of disappointing results at the Rogers Family Stadium.

Wimborne took the lead in the 32nd minute, when George Moore and Frank Keita both missed tackles as right-back Jordan Lee broke into the box on the left. His first shot came back off the post but he was the first to react and slammed home at the second attempt.

The Harrow defence caved in for a second time with 20 minutes remaining when Matty Oldring found himself with yards of unopposed room to take a run at to meet a corner from the right and headed powerfully past Hafed Al-Droubi.

Borough were much improved on Tuesday night when they were beaten 4-0 by Brentford B in the Middlesex Senior Cup final after three goals in the last six minutes gave the score a lopsided look.

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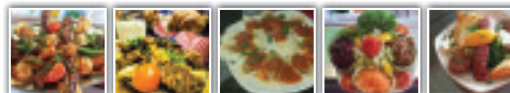
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The Harrow Times is published by Newsquest (London) Ltd, Observer House, Caxton Court, Caxton Way, Watford, Herts WD18 8RJ part of the Newsquest Media Group Ltd, Loudwater Mill, Station Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP10 9TY, a Gannett Company. Printed by Newsquest Oxfordshire, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ.

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