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MIXED fortunes for Wealdstone in opening week



Wealdstone celebrate a goal during their win over Dartford. Picture: ADAM WILLIAMS

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Stones suffer first defeat

WEALDSTONE suffered their first defeat of the National League South season after losing 1-0 at Dulwich Hamlet on Tuesday night.

The Stones had a few chances but were punished by a first-half finish from Richard Orlu which settled the contest.

Striker Ross Lafayette went close to an equaliser in the second half but his shot flew wide of the target.

Wealdstone had no trouble finding the net on Saturday after a 4-1 home win over Dartford in their league opener.

The Stones made a fast start and could have opened the scoring in the second minute when Sanchez Watt missed the target at the back post.

Wealdstone's pressure continued and defender Michee Efete was awarded a penalty after being fouled in the area. Lafayette stepped up and confidently fired past goalkeeper Mark Smith for the breakthrough.

Only two goalline clearances from Darts defenders prevented Danny Green and Watt from extending the Stones' lead.

By Simon Mail

The visitors were second best but almost equalised against the run of play when Ben Greenhalgh's free-kick struck the crossbar.

But Dartford did level the match just before half-time when Josh Hill headed home from Ryan Hayes' corner.

Wealdstone had to wait until the 76th minute to regain the lead, with Dennon Lewis' cross diverted in for an own goal.

It took just five minutes for the hosts to make it 3-1 with Connor Stevens powering a header into the net.

The Stones' dominant finish to the game was rounded off with their fourth goal after 87 minutes.

Nick Arnold surged forward down the right and his cross was neatly finished by Lafayette.

Wealdstone will look for their first away points of the campaign at Braintree Town on Saturday.

Boro sign ex-Rovers winger

OTUDEKO BOLSTERS CLUB'S ATTACKING OPTIONS



Harrow Borough lost 2-1 to Chertsey Town in their friendly

HARROW Borough have completed the signing of former Bristol Rovers winger Kunle Otudeko.

The Reds have brought in the versatile attacker ahead of the start of the season.

Winger Otudeko previously had spells with the Watford youth team, Oxford City and Hayes and Yeading United.

Boro manager Steve Baker told the club website: "Kunle is an extremely quick and talented forward who I'm sure will excite the supporters and fit in well with our attacking style of play."

His arrival follows on from the news Boro have signed Kensley Maloney in a busy summer of transfer activity.

The former Burnham and Bracknell Town midfielder will add to the club's options in their midfield this season.

Baker said: "We look forward to seeing Kensley play a key part for the forthcoming season."

Boro finished their pre-season schedule with a 2-1 home defeat to Chertsey Town on Tuesday night.

This followed on from a 3-2 defeat at home to Bracknell Town.

Baker's side can now focus on the new season which gets underway on Saturday.

The Reds are at home to Merthyr Town in the Southern League Premier Division South before visiting rivals Hayes and Yeading on Tuesday night.

Boro finished seventh last season as they narrowly missed out on a place in the play-offs.

Baker will be hoping his summer signings can help the side mount another challenge next season and contend for a top-five finish.

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