

# SPORT

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## VICTORY over Hemel retains unbeaten start



Wealdstone moved to the top of the National League South after beating Hemel Hempstead Town on Saturday.

Picture: Adam Williams

## Borough remain unbeaten

AWAY DRAW PRESERVES GOOD START FOR HARROW



Harrow Borough remain unbeaten.

HARROW Borough made it three games unbeaten in the Southern League Premier Division South with a 1-1 draw away at Hartley Wintney.

An early penalty from Mitchell Parker put the hosts ahead but Anthony O'Connor scored a fine second-half volley to ensure the points were shared.

For the third game running, Steve Baker selected the same starting XI, but the consistency didn't pay off initially as the home side took an early lead.

A cross struck Shaun Preddie on the arm and with no intent to now be considered by the referee, he had no hesitation in pointing to the spot, and Parker sent Hafed Al-Droubi the wrong way to open the scoring.

After some more pressing from the hosts, the entire dynamic of the game was changed when they were reduced to 10 men for a foul on O'Connor. The resulting free-kick, however, from Michael Bryan was well saved by Luke Williams.

Despite the numerical disadvantage, Hartley thought they had gone ahead when Parker's shot bounced down off the crossbar, with the referee awarding the goal, but after a discussion with his assistant, he reversed the decision.

The equaliser for Borough came in the 68th minute and in some style too. George Moore crossed from the right end, after readjusting his body, O'Connor smashed a volley over Williams and into the net to level proceedings.

Both sides had chances to steal all three points towards the end. Al-Droubi was forced into a full-stretch save from one of the Hartley substitutes, while Moore was also denied by an impressive stop to keep it level.

## Stones win to top table

WEALDSTONE moved up to top spot in the National League South courtesy of a 3-0 win away at Hemel Hempstead Town on Saturday.

The two sides, whose grounds are separated by little more than 18 miles, have both enjoyed good starts to the season, but goals from Michael Phillips, Dennon Lewis and Jacob Mendy did the business for the Stones as they moved to the summit.

A rather cagey opening quarter-of-an-hour came to life on 17 minutes when a wonderful Connor Smith cross from the right found Phillips to steer past Sam Beasant for his first goal of the season.

As the first half was coming to a close, the visitors started to create more opportunities and they were rewarded for their work on 43 minutes when Lewis headed in his first goal for the club from Phillips' ball in.

Wealdstone's attacking intent continued in the second half and they continued to pepper the goal with shots. Phillips and Nick Arnold were both denied

By Nat Goodlad

in quick succession by Beasant, who was doing his best to keep the scores down.

There was at last something for Norwich City loanee Aston Oxborough to do for Wealdstone later in the second half. He kept out Isaac Galliford with a comfortable save.

Wealdstone put the game beyond doubt as Danny Green whipped in a superb free-kick and Mendy was alive to loop the ball back over the keeper and make it three.

Oxborough was alert to make sure there wouldn't be an instant reply from Hemel by keeping out Galliford again, and that ensured it was three points and a clean sheet for the Stones as they moved to the top.

Next up for Dean Brennan's side is Hungerford Town at Grosvenor Vale on Saturday before the long trip down to Weymouth on bank holiday Monday.

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