

SPORT

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SUCCESS sets up Maidenhead visit in next round



Wealdstone brushed aside Bristol Manor Farm in their FA Cup third qualifying round replay after a goalless original tie.

Picture: MontImageMedia

Patience 'was key' for Stones

BRENNAN DELIGHTED WITH FA CUP ADVANCEMENT



Dean Brennan watches on.

Picture: Adam Williams

DEAN Brennan said patience "was key" for Wealdstone in their 4-0 FA Cup third qualifying round replay win against Bristol Manor Farm.

After being held to a goalless draw by their step eight opponents in Saturday's original tie, goals from Jacob Mendy, Michee Etefe, Billy Clifford and Dennon Lewis set up a clash with Maidenhead United.

Speaking to the club website after the game, Brennan said: "Patience was key for us. Full credit to Bristol Manor Farm, they made blocks, they defended warrior-like over the two games. We felt that with the game back here in the replay, the pitch is a little bit better, a bit slicker, it was nice for us tonight."

"We just had patience. I think Mendy scored the first goal, a fantastic team goal. We created plenty of chances and all in I'm delighted with the victory."

Wealdstone have been going well in the National League South, currently sitting at the top of the table, and Brennan says confidence will be high upon their return to league matches at Chelmsford City.

He said: "I think the confidence is high within the group. I think that's our 14th game and we've got 11 victories in the 14 games, so confidence is high. The competition for places is good. We managed to get some minutes out of a few lads today."

"We've got no Connor Smith this weekend and I don't think Mendy is available either, so those two will miss out this weekend and that's a bit of a blow. It's a tough place to go, I have no doubt that they'll be in and around the title race. They're investing, they've got a top manager and they're a good football club, so we're looking forward to the game."

Rout secures cup passage

By Joseph Findlay-Bada

WEALDSTONE progressed into the FA Cup fourth qualifying round with a resounding 4-0 victory over Bristol Manor Farm in a third qualifying round replay.

After a disappointing goalless draw on Saturday afternoon against a side two divisions below them, the Stones showed their superior quality to romp home with a convincing win three days later.

Goals from Jacob Mendy, Michee Etefe, Billy Clifford and Dennon Lewis guided Wealdstone through to a tie away at National League Maidenhead United to decide who will go through to the first round proper.

The Stones began the on the front foot and went close in the opening 20 minutes, with Lewis and Mendy firing shots just wide of the Farm goal.

Wealdstone almost conceded against the run of play, but Lewis Leigh-Gilchrist curled his shot just wide of the post on a rare venture forward in the first half.

However, it was the Stones who finally made their pressure pay minutes before half-time, as the dangerous Mendy looped

home a header over Ben John to give Wealdstone a slender lead at the interval.

Shortly after the break, Brennan's side continued their dominance, doubling their lead through full-back Etefe, who rounded John and slotted into an empty net, and Clifford curled in a wonderful third with 20 minutes to play.

Wealdstone rounded off the scoring when a sloppy defensive error was punished by Lewis, who glided past the helpless John and passed the ball in to make it four.

The first tie saw a game in which Wealdstone dominated for large parts away at a Bristol team low on confidence and languishing at the bottom of their league.

Stones forward Ross Lafayette had the best opportunity of the match from the penalty spot, but Farm goalkeeper John guessed correctly and kept the tie level and send the match to a replay.

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