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WIN and draw for Wealdstone in pre-season games



Craig Fasanmade scored in both pre-season friendly matches against Bedford and Chesham for Wealdstone

Picture: Jon Taffel

Harrow fighter at Wembley

LEARY TO FIGHT BIG TASTY ON BELLATOR UNDERCARD



Charlie Leary

HARROW MMA fighter Charlie Leary will be on the preliminary undercard at the London Bellator event held at the SSE Wembley Arena on Friday, October 1.

Leary whose record stands at 17 wins, 11 defeats and one draw, will be going head to head with Gavin Hughes, who has won ten and lost only two.

It will be Leary's first fight since October 2020 when he beat Kiefer Crosbie by means of stoppage.

He will be searching for back-to-back victories for the first time since 2016, where he won the final bout of a five match winning streak.

Since then, he has been unable to find consecutive victories.

His opponent, known as "Big Tasty" lost his last fight to Daniele Scatizzi by way of submission, after he tapped out from a guillotine choke.

Both of his defeats have come in his last three fights, with a knock out loss to Martin van Staden coming before a submission victory over Mohammad Yahya.

Their fight will be shown in the UK on BBC iPlayer prior to the rematch between number one ranked Douglas "The Phenom" Lima (32-9) and number two ranked Michael "Venom" Page (19-1).

Lima won the last time the pair met in May 2019, with a leg kick to uppercut in the second round.

The event begins at 5.30pm BST and Leary's fight will be the third of the evening to take place on the preliminary card.

It will be the first time MMA fans have been allowed to fill an arena in Europe since February 2020.

The four fights on the main card will begin at around 9pm.

Stones play twice more

By Ryan Gray

WEALDSTONE'S pre-season preparations continued with a 2-2 draw away at Bedford and a 4-1 win at Chesham United.

At the weekend they twice had to come from behind, first through Jack Cook and then through Craig Fasanmade as they refused to be beaten at Bedford.

Then on Tuesday evening, goals from Fasanmade Matt Buse, Rhys Browne and a trialist helped them put Chesham to the sword.

Speaking after the win Chesham, Wealdstone's Matt Saunders said the win was much deserved.

"I thought it was a fair reflection of the game if I'm being honest," he said in a club interview.

"Fair play to them they defended their box brilliantly first half, but the reality is you kind of knew it, if these games continue, you'll score your goals in the 60th, 70th minutes.

"It was good today to get the rewards that we know we should be getting."

The Stones' pre-season continues this weekend at Colchester United, a game

that was originally due to take place at Grosvenor Vale, but has been moved to Colchester's JobServe Community Stadium with no fans in attendance at the request of United, who are concerned about the rising Covid-19 figures.

The U's Technical Director Jon De Souza explained: "We're really disappointed to take this action because going to Wealdstone has proved to be fantastic pre-season preparation in the past, and it wasn't an easy decision to make."

"But with rising cases and everything geared towards the Carlisle game on August 7, we felt that it was prudent to take minimum risks with the final game of the pre-season schedule.

"I must say a big thank you to Wealdstone for their co-operation and we're sure it will prove to be a tough test wherever we play them. We wish them well for their season ahead."



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