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DAGGERS comeback knocks Stones out of FA Cup



Angelo Balanta heads in the winner for Dagenham & Redbridge against Wealdstone in the FA Cup Picture: Jon Taffel

Borough to face Pompey

HARROW DRAWN AGAINST PORTSMOUTH IN FA CUP



Harrow will play Portsmouth Picture: Harrow Borough

JAMES Ewington's hat-trick was the crowning glory of a stunning second-half comeback from Harrow that saw them overcome Conference South opponents and progress to the First Round Proper for the fifth time in the club's history, where they will face League One Portsmouth away from home.

Shaun Freddie passed a pre-match fitness test, so returned to central defence alongside James Mansfield. Imran Uche moved forward to midfield, where he was to have a truly outstanding afternoon, topped off by scoring the final goal. Lewis Cole dropped to the bench.

Harrow began the game at a cracking pace and they were ahead after 35 minutes as Michael Bryan drew defenders towards him with a jinking run on the left, playing the ball back to James Taylor whose deep cross to the far post was volleyed home first time by Ewington.

However, the goal had the effect of sparking Chelmsford into life and within six minutes it was they who were in front. First Charlie Sheringham applied a neat finish to Guy Norton's cross before Cameron James scrambled home a corner.

However, the second half belonged to Harrow, with Ewington adding two more goals to the one he had scored in the first half to put Borough back in front, before Uche finished off the scoring to confirm Harrow's place in the first round proper.

Monday's draw paired them against League one side, and 2008's FA Cup winners, Portsmouth away at Fratton Park.

Stones out of FA Cup

WEALDSTONE were stunned by ten-man Dagenham & Redbridge's late comeback at The Vale that knocked them out of the FA Cup.

Stones had a great start to the match, with their opponents having a man sent off in the third minute of the match, which they followed up with the opening goal just moments later.

However, a last gasp brace from Dagenham's skipper Angelo Balanta turned the game on its head in the closing stages of the match.

Stones boss Stuart Maynard made two changes to the side that were beaten by Eastleigh last week, with captain Jerome Okimo returning from injury, alongside top scorer Josh Umerah.

The visitors quickly found themselves in a terrible position, with top goal scorer Paul McCallum given his marching orders by referee Tom Bishop with only two minutes of the match played after a full-blooded challenge on Alex Dyer.

Wealdstone swiftly made things worse for their visitors, with Milton Keynes

By Ryan Gray

Dons' loanee Jay Bird meeting a Okimo's well-measured pass and rifling home on half-volley.

Dagenham were handed a vital lifeline in the 69th minute when the referee pointed to the penalty spot after substitute Joey Jones was upended in the box.

But George Wickens pulled off a smart save to deny Balanta.

Where most teams might have given up, Dagenham continued to push for an equaliser, which they eventually found in the 87th minute when substitute Matt Robinson slipped Balanta in behind with a well measured pass.

The skipper would not be denied on this occasion, emphatically firing past Wickens to level the scoring.

There was still time for the visitors to seal victory, with Balanta adding his and Dagenham's second in the final minute, knocking the Stones out of the cup.

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