

# SPORT

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## WEALDSTONE midfielder makes most of his chance



Doing well - Liam Buse scored the only goal of the game for Wealdstone against Grimsby

## Harrow set for Pompey cup clash

**BOROUGH READY FOR FRATTON PARK TIE**



Excited - Harrow boss Steve Baker

STEVE BAKER is glad Harrow Borough got the big draw he felt the whole club deserved when they were paired with former FA Cup winners Portsmouth – and the Boro boss was even happier they avoided Dagenham & Redbridge.

The Pitching In Southern League Premier South outfit beat National League South Chelmsford City to reach the first round proper.

It was their second Step 2 scalp having dumped Welling United out in the second round qualifying.

Next they travel to 2008 FA Cup winners Pompey in a draw that has the whole club bouncing. And Baker is pleased he can play keeper Josh Strizovic, who is on loan from the Daggers.

“You could see our ball number swirling around in the bowl – honestly I was like a five-year-old watching it,” said Baker.

“I was talking to somebody the day before and saying that my family don’t live too far from Portsmouth so they would be brilliant.

“The one we were concerned about was Dagenham & Redbridge because our keeper is on loan from there so he wouldn’t be able to play.

“Their ball came out just before us. When it came out I was thinking, ‘Please don’t be’. Imagine getting Dagenham away and having no goalie – that would about sum Harrow Borough up!

“Thankfully it didn’t. Then when we came out against Portsmouth it was fantastic. For Step 3, 4 or 5 clubs, the first round really is the Holy Grail. Once you get there, you want a big one.

“The players have been brilliant and sometimes you get what you deserve.”

# Buse shines for Stones

By Ryan Gray

WEALDSTONE’S Matt Buse is relishing finally being given an opportunity to impress.

The midfielder signed from Torquay in the summer amid a fair bit of fanfare but initially found starts in short supply.

However, opportunity knocked for Buse last time out and he took the chance with both hands, scoring the winning goal and picking up the man of the match award against high-flying Grimsby Town.

“It’s been tough,” said Buse. “Football can be tough at times as you want to play every week, but you can either sit around and be unhappy or get on with it, train hard and take your opportunity.

“I feel like I did that against Grimsby.” Buse bagged the only goal of the game just before the half hour mark and was pleased to pick up the three points against the promotion chasing Mariners.

“It went OK,” said the 24-year-old. “We didn’t have as much possession as we have had in other games, but we were hard to beat and we got the result.

“They are a good side, but we believe we can beat anyone on our day.

“We aren’t going to play a better side than that so we have to believe we can beat anyone.”

Wealdstone now sit 19th in the table and Buse’s match-winning strike was praised by boss Stuart Maynard.

“What a strike from Busey,” said Maynard.

“I always said the team that starts the season isn’t always the one that finishes it.

“Busey has been patient, bided his time, he turns up for training and gives it everything.

“We all need to be in it together.”

Tickets for Wealdstone’s next match, at home to Barnet on Saturday November 13, are now available to purchase online with fans being urged to buy them in advance.

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The Harrow Times is published by Newsquest (London) Ltd, Observer House, Caxton Court, Caxton Way, Watford, Herts WD18 8RJ part of the Newsquest Media Group Ltd, Loudwater Mill, Station Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP10 9TY, a Gannett Company. Printed by Newsquest Oxfordshire, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ.

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