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WEALDSTONE draw with promotion hopefuls



Stuart Maynard said his side were outstanding against Notts County

Picture: Jon Taffel

Stones recover from loss to earn big point

By Ryan Gray

WEALDSTONE were able to hold on to earn a point in their 0-0 draw with Notts County after a 2-0 defeat to Woking at the weekend.

Substitute Jamar Loza fired home in the 76th minute to seal the victory for the Cards before Stones were reduced to ten men in the closing stages.

The home side made a strong start and grabbed the lead with 19 minutes on the clock when Inih Efi-fiong struck home the loose ball following a corner.

Wealdstone had a number of chances, the best of which arguably fell to Josh Umerah, who dragged his effort wide in the 53rd minute.

Working boss Alan Dowson introduced Loza and Nicke Kabamba in

the 74th minute and his decision paid instant dividends as the pair combined for the second goal.

Things got worse for Wealdstone seven minutes from time when Douglas James-Taylor was sent off for a reckless challenge on Kyran Lofthouse.

However, there was a big improvement from Wealdstone on Tuesday evening and their point saw the promotion-chasing Magpies drop out of the National League play-off places into eighth, while the Stones edged themselves further away from the relegation

zone, moving up to 19th.

Jamie Mascoll had a good chance for Wealdstone 20 minutes in after a shot from outside the box, but Sam Slocombe was able to dive down and save.

Notts County came close two minutes into the second half with Jayden Richardson firing wide before Cal Roberts' volley was blocked and cleared by the home defence.

Richard Brindley fired a shot from 30 yards out but was denied by Stones goalkeeper George Wickens, who was able to tip the ball over the bar.

Richardson had a chance – but the Wealdstone defence were able to clear – before Kyle Wootton was denied in stoppage time, with Con-

nor McAvoy able to block.

After the match Stones boss Stuart Maynard said his team had been “outstanding”.

“In the first half we created enough half-chances to deserve a goal, but they are a top team and they’ve got top players and they get good blocks in and the goalie made good saves, but it’s credit to our lads,” he told the club YouTube channel.

“Tonight it was outstanding from the lads to come and be able to put their bodies on the line like that. We’ve had a four week break and we’ve just come and played against, for me, these and Stockport are the best two teams in the league that we’ve played.”

Borough out of Senior Cup

BRENTFORD B BEAT BOROUGH ON PENALTIES



London Senior Cup

HARROW Borough made their exit from the London Senior Cup in a penalty shoot-out defeat to Brentford B.

The game finished 1-1 on the night but the Bees held their nerve from the spot to win 5-4.

The visitors dominated early and their slick first-time passing instantly caused problems.

Josh DaSilva had a shot blocked from a pass from Max Haygarth, before they took the lead in the sixth minute, with Jude Russell holding off two defenders before firing an angled shot that Josh Strizovic got his hands to but couldn't keep out.

Harrow equalised in the 57th minute when James Ewington moved on to a long pass forward and stayed on his feet despite Nico Jones's trip, and finished calmly past Matthew Cox for his 25th goal of the season.

Neither side was able to find the all-important winner before the end of time, meaning the game had to be decided from the penalty spot.

Harrow went first and Ahmet Biler, Leo Donnellan and Frank Keita had their successful kicks matched by Haygarth, Dom Jefferies and Alex Gilbert for Brentford.

Anthony O'Connor then put his penalty over the bar and although Adenola netted Borough's fifth, Roy Syla and Nathan Young-Coombes's on-target efforts for the Bees meant that it was they who progressed to an away tie at Dartford in the next round of the competition.

Borough will switch their focus back to league matters this Saturday when Truro City pay a visit.