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WEALDSTONE caught out away at the Mariners



Wealdstone players look dejected at full time after losing away at Grimsby Town Picture: Jon Taffel

Narrow loss away at Grimsby for Stones

GRIMSBY survived a nervy finish to secure a 2-1 victory against Wealdstone at Blundell Park.

The Mariners were in control of the National League clash after Michee Efete was credited with getting the final touch for the opener with 34 minutes gone.

Efete headed home a second shortly after the interval before the visitors struck back through Jamie Mascoll.

Wealdstone sensed they might be able to salvage a point from the encounter but Grimsby held on to take all three points.

After the match, Stones boss Stuart Maynard said he was pleased with his side's performance overall in tricky conditions, but that he was frustrated with the manner in which they had

By Ryan Gray

conceded the two goals.

"I always believed it would be a game of two halves and we said it from minute one," he told the club Youtube channel. "When we turned up, the wind was gaining and it was so hard to get out. It's just disappointing to concede from two set pieces which we've been so good at defensively this season. They're two sloppy goals. I've not watched it back on the video but it's just a little bit frustrating, because if they did open us up, you could have taken it but to concede with two set pieces is frustrating.

"But the lads kept going and what a finished from Mascoll."

In the end Maynard concluded that the difference between the two teams had been marginal, but conceded that Arjan Raikhy had simply been a step above his own players, while he knew what to expect from former Wealdstone man Efete.

"He's dangerous. He's probably one of the most dangerous in the league from set pieces," Maynard said about his former player.

"He gets in there somehow and always gets across his man and it's a great header, you have to give credit where credit's due. He was a great servant for us at Wealdstone and helped us get promoted. He's gone on and done well to be where he is. It's always gutting when someone comes back to haunt you and goes and scores against

you. We wish him well, he's a good lad.

"The lad who put the two balls in is on loan from Aston Villa in the Premier League. He went on loan to Stockport earlier in the season but couldn't get the game time. You can see that he's some player. He's got real serious end product. But there are small margin sometimes in these games, one can't ask more from our players."

Maynard concluded by thanking the Wealdstone fans for making the effort to travel to Grimsby for the game.

"It's a credit to them to travel this far," he said. "I've got to thank them for travelling up here and getting right behind the lads and they stayed behind the lads, all the way until the end. That's all we can ask them from the football club."

Borough lose to late goal

HARROW CONCEDE LATE IN HAYES & YEADING DEFEAT



Harrow boss Steve Baker

Picture: Harrow Borough FC

CHARLIE Wassmer fired home the only goal of a tight yet fascinating game as Hayes & Yeading beat Harrow Borough 1-0.

There were probably more chances in the first quarter of the game than there were for the rest of it. Ahmet Biler was the first to have an effort on goal, his fierce 20-yarder batted down by Jack Smith.

The visitors' Frances Amartey then hit a powerful drive from the edge of the box that was well held by Josh Strizovic.

Antonio Dembele then battled for a James Taylor through ball with Wassmer; got away from him and, spotting Smith frantically trying to regain his position, attempted to bend the ball in at the far post but curling it just wide.

Amartey threatened again, holding off Taylor to draw a save from Strizovic.

James Ewington then outpaced the Hayes defence to move on to a header forward but, with the ball not 'sitting' on a bumpy surface, he fired his left-foot shot narrowly over.

On a quick break by the visitors, Moses Emmanuel outmuscled James Mansfield but shot wide while Ezra Ikebuasi and Lewis Cole made brave blocks in a scramble in the home goal before Strizovic made a great one-handed save to keep out Amartey.

Biler and George Moore combined on the left to give Frank Keita a near-post opportunity that he lifted over the bar before the frantic first half came to an end.

The second period saw far fewer attempts on goal as a midfield battle developed.

Borough suffered a blow when Ikebuasi limped off and, without a defender on the bench, had to make do with ten men.

Then, in the 87th minute, Hayes won a throw-in on the left and after the long delivery was allowed to drop, Wassmer reacted quickest to drive the ball across Strizovic into the far corner.