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## WEALDSTONE peg back Bromley at the Vale



Josh Umerah equalises for Wealdstone against Bromley in the 89th minute

Picture: Jon Taffel

# Stones come from behind to earn a point

WEALDSTONE ensured Bromley remained five points off the National League play-off spots with a 1-1 draw at Grosvenor Vale that prevented the promotion hopefuls from putting an end to a poor run of form.

Byron Webster's effort was cancelled out late on by Josh Umerah to leave the Ravens winless in eight league games.

Stones meanwhile remain on track to avoid the drop this season, with five teams scrapping it out behind them in the league table, looking to avoid the remaining two relegation spots, with safety already mathematically beyond Dover Athletic, due to their points deduction.

By Ryan Gray

Bromley almost went ahead in the 21st minute when Corey Whitely smashed an effort against the crossbar from distance.

Webster then had a header cleared off the line, James Alabi saw a shot saved and Michael Cheek missed a one-on-one as the Ravens pushed hard for the breakthrough, but were held back by some defending that verged on heroic at times.

After Aaron Henry hit the crossbar for Wealdstone, Bromley looked like they would finally

put their winless streak behind them, as they went ahead in the 73rd minute.

Webster climbed highest to get on the end of a long throw from Chris Bush and headed beyond George Wickens to give the visitors an advantage going into the game's closing stages.

The lead was almost doubled soon after in bizarre circumstances through Bromley goalkeeper Ellery Balcombe's goal kick, which required a smart save from the alert Wickens.

Balcombe then had more regular duties to attend to, making two big saves in quick succession to keep the Stones out.

However he could not deny

the home side any longer in the 89th minute.

Umerah, who had only been on the pitch for seven minutes by this point, having been a late roll of the dice from the bench by Stones boss Stuart Maynard, bundled the ball over the line for a much-deserved equaliser.

With seven minutes of time added on and the wind in their sails after the late goal, Stones pushed forward and tried to claim the victory.

Nikola Tavares almost found the strike that would have given the hosts all three points, but he was denied by the woodwork and the game finished with the scores level.

## Borough let Merthyr win slip

STOPPAGE TIME GOAL DENIES HARROW WIN



Harrow drew with Merthyr

Picture: Bruce Viveash

A GOAL six minutes into stoppage-time meant Harrow Borough picked up only a point from their game against Merthyr Town as they had to settle for a 1-1 draw.

Yasin Ben El-Mhanni came in for Kunle Otudeko in the only change to the side that began in Tiverton last Saturday.

A number of chances went begging in the first half, with an El-Mhanni free-kick fumbled by visiting keeper Cogman and George Moore's piledriver bravely blocked.

Josh Strizovic made a super one-handed save to turn away Curtis Jemmett-Hutson's shot.

At the other end, George Moore had a 30-yarder go wide while a corner reached James Ewington at the far post, but his shot was blocked.

Harrow began the second half brightly and Moore hit the foot of the post with a low shot from the edge of the box.

Jaimie Cogman pushed away a Michael Bryan left-footer, and Ewington netted but was ruled offside.

This good spell for Harrow culminated in the game's opening goal, on the hour, when El-Mhanni's free-kick deflected off the wall, Cogman reacted brilliantly to turn the ball onto the bar, but Ezra Ikebusasi was on hand to bundle in.

Borough should have doubled their lead immediately after but Leo Donnellan contrived to head Moore's clever cross wide when it looked easier to score. Ewington was then sent through on goal, but was stopped by a great tackle by Joe Woodiwiss.

Merthyr threatened for the first time in the half when Jemmett-Hutson shot over, before Luke Cummings cleared the bar from an angle.

Six minutes of stoppage time were indicated, and with five of them gone, Keyon Reffell lashed past Strizovic for the equaliser, making it 17 league games since Borough last kept a clean sheet.