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FOOTBALL: Ebbsfleet trip after postponement



Wealdstone's Max Kretschmar prepares to take a penalty at Maidenhead. Image: Jon Taffel

Wealdstone look to make a positive start

WEALDSTONE will be looking to get 2024 off to a positive start when they visit Ebbsfleet United this weekend.

Stuart Maynard's men saw their New Year's Day clash with Maidenhead United postponed due to a waterlogged pitch at Grosvenor Vale.

And it proved frustrating following their 2-0 win over the Magpies at York Road on Boxing Day which extended their unbeaten run to five matches in all competitions.

In-form Sean Adarkwa put them ahead with a fine curling finish on 11 minutes, before Max Kretschmar converted from the penalty spot soon after following a foul on captain Jack Cook.

And that proved enough for the points, with Kretschmar telling the club website: "Not to sound cliché, it

was a game of two halves. We knew Maidenhead were going to come and full press us.

"I thought we played really well in the first half an hour, then we showed a different side to our game second half.

"We've lacked that the two years I've been here, grinding out halves and performances, and I thought we showed a bit of character.

"It got a bit messy but it's a clean sheet at the end of the day and a really positive performance."

Adarkwa had netted a hat-trick in the 4-4 draw with Hartlepool, with Charlie Barker returning to the side after injury in place of Mason Barrett.

And Adarkwa netted his eighth goal of the season with a perfectly placed effort into the top corner:

Kretschmar then kept his cool from 12 yards to find the net for the second game in a row, adding: "It was disappointing in our last game, we probably should've won that game, but we've got to take a point and three today.

"Sometime told me a long time ago, when do you ever get a free shot from 12 yards, with just you and the goalie.

"I'll always step up and take it. It was a bit different because the goalkeeper, Craig Ross, is a very good friend.

"We were having a bit of banter before the game, leading up to this game about where I was going to go, but thankfully it went in and my record is still standing pretty good."

Stones will look to maintain their good form against an Ebbsfleet side beaten twice by Bromley over the fes-

tive period.

And Kretschmar is feeling positive, adding: "Sean Adarkwa is in red-hot form at the minute, really causing problems in behind and holding it up, so we've kind of got a double threat up front.

"I'm trying to play as close to him as possible and Micah [Obiero] and I think we're just working as a unit, know our jobs and roles within the formation and we're on a little bit of a roll at the minute."

*Wealdstone's Tarryn Allarakhia heads to Ivory Coast this month as part of Tanzania's 25-man squad for the African Cup of Nations.

Tanzania face Morocco (January 17), then face Zambia (Jan 21) and DR Congo (Jan 24).

Special offers at Harrow



HARROW Borough have announced special offers for their derby against Hanwell Town on Saturday (3pm). Adult admission will be £10, while a family ticket for two adults and two under-12s will be just £18. Meanwhile, adults who are Premier League and EFL season ticket holders can get entry for £6.

The offer is in addition to the club's regular concessions, including £6 entry for NHS and emergency service staff, serving armed forces, students, registered disabled and carers, available on the gate by cash or card.

They will also be supporting two local charities and tickets can be purchased in advance via the club's ticketing website <https://harrowboroughfc.ktckts.com>. James Clouting, Harrow's Community Outreach Lead, said: "We were already looking forward to two local derbies over the festive period, but even more so with the discounts we are able to offer. "There is something for everyone and as well as families, we are also hoping to attract supporters from London Premier League and EFL clubs who are either playing away or have no fixture on the days of our games."

*Harrow suffered a 3-1 home defeat against neighbours Hendon in their Southern League Premier South derby on Boxing Day.

Excellence Muhemba gave them the lead on 34 minutes, in front of an Earlsmead crowd of 360, but hero turned to villain as he was sent off before the interval. Niko Muir got the Greens back on level terms on the stroke of half-time, with Kai Brosnan putting them ahead midway through the second half.

Hamza Semakula sealed the points for the visitors with their third goal two minutes from time.

Harrow travelled to table-topping Chesham United on Monday, but found themselves behind after just six minutes as Callum Adebisi headed past Tyler Tobin.

Alex Lafleur doubled the advantage on 19 minutes, but Harrow held out until just past the hour when Ogo Obi struck. Obi ran through to make it 4-0 and complete a miserable start to 2024.