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## FOOTBALL: New boss Taylor hails latest signing



New Wealdstone signing Enzio Boldewijn (right) applauds the Sutton United fans after a League Two match

Image: PA

# Stones delighted to add Dutch star Enzio

WEALDSTONE announced the signing of an exciting Dutch forward this week.

Enzio Boldewijn, 31, arrives at Grosvenor Vale having started his career with Utrecht before spells at Crawley, Notts County, Sutton United and Eastleigh.

He has played 277 league games and netted 40 times - and cost Notts County a six-figure fee.

Boldewijn has signed a one-year deal with an option to extend and follows defender Deon Woodman in joining the National League club.

New boss Matt Taylor told the club website: "I'm extremely pleased that we've managed to secure the signature of Enzio for Wealdstone.

"I would like to thank the supporters and the board for their help in bringing

Enzio to the football club.

"I know our fans will love watching him play, he's a player that has a huge appetite to score goals and we fought off tough competition to get him."

Wealdstone have also confirmed that forward Tarryn Allarakhia has left after rejecting what the club described as 'a very competitive new deal'.

The tricky winger, who made 64 league starts over the course of two seasons for the Stones, has joined fellow National League side Rochdale.

The 26-year-old's form was such that he was called up to the Tanzania national team, which included a debut against Mohammed Salah's Egypt before heading to the African Cup of Nations back in January.

As a product of League One side

Leyton Orient's academy, Allarakhia went on to make himself a stalwart in a Stones side which narrowly avoided relegation from the fifth tier of English football last season, scoring 11 times for the Harrow-based side.

"We wish Tarryn good luck in the next phase of his career. He became an international player with us and he was a valued member of the team," said chairman Rory Fitzgerald.

Despite the Tanzanian's departure, recently appointed manager Taylor continues to shake up his squad in preparation for the 2024/25 National League campaign, with fixtures set to be announced on July 10.

It has been a quiet week for north London neighbours Barnet, who finished second last season before bowing

out of the play offs to Solihull Moors.

But they have announced pre-season friendlies against fierce rivals MK Dons and AFC Wimbledon.

Dean Brennan's men will play League Two MK Dons at Dunstable Town's Creasey Parkon Saturday July 13 as preparations for the new season intensify.

And the Bees will welcome AFC Wimbledon to The Hive on August 3 (3pm) before the National League curtain raiser.

Barnet have offered fans the chance to watch the European Championships at The Hive with special offers for food and drink.

England begin their bid against Serbia on Sunday (8pm), before also facing Denmark (June 20, 5pm) and Slovenia (June 25, 8pm) in their group.

## Middlesex slump to Blast loss

RILEY Meredith led the rout as Somerset bowled Middlesex out for 78 at Lord's - their lowest ever score in the history of Vitality Blast cricket.

The 27-year-old Tasmanian with six white-ball caps for his country took 4-12, while Craig Overton (2-21), Josh Davey (2-13) and the competition's leading wicket-taker Ben Green (2-17) took two apiece in the nine-wicket romp.

Middlesex only got within 80 runs of their previous worst score - 80 against Kent at Lord's three years ago - thanks to as defiant 10th-wicket stand of 28 between Tom Helm and Noah Cornwell, who top scored with 15 apiece.

Tom Banton (49 not out) and Tom Kohler-Cadmore (30 not out) were both given lives as Somerset sealed a third win of the campaign and Middlesex remain bottom of the South Group.

As well as Meredith and Overton bowled up top, Middlesex contributed to this debacle by batting with reckless abandon.

Pinch-hitter Martin Andersson crashed two fours through the covers in the opening over after Middlesex were put in, but once he skied Meredith to mid-on in the next, the rot set in.

Stephen Eskinazi fell to a cross-batted slog, Meredith had Holden taken at mid-on to an even worse heave and Overton cranked up the pressure with a maiden to Ryan Higgins, who failed to lay bat on ball.

Joe Cracknell, back for the sick Leus Du Plooy, edged Meredith's best ball to wicketkeeper Banton and Davies also perished by the time the opening bowlers took their leave with the hosts in tatters at 34-6.

The competition's leading wicket-taker Ben Green didn't enter the fray until the score was 50-7 but made an instant impression dismissing Luke Hollman and Blake Cullen with his first two balls.

Cornwell saved the hat-trick before celebrating his England U19 call-up by clubbing Somerset skipper Lewis Gregory into the grandstand but that was about the only cause for cheer for the beleaguered hosts.

Will Smeed fell for one, caught on the fence off Helm, and had Davies clung on to an inside edge from Kohler-Cadmore in the next over bowled by Cullen.

Middlesex might have made a fist of it. Their misery was compounded when Cornwell was forced off mid-over with a hand injury after trying to take a return catch off Banton.

Head coach Richard Johnson said of Middlesex's 10th home defeat in a row in the competition: "You can't dress that one up.

"Assessment? a very unusual wicket. We've probably not played on one like that ever here. It bounced a little bit and seemed a little.

"This one hurts as its at our home ground in front of a good crowd on TV."