SPORT

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News briefly

Tigers avenge Trophy defeat

KINGSBURY LONDON TIGERS gained revenge after their recent FA Trophy defeat to Biggleswade United by beating them 1-0 away in the South Midlands Premier on Saturday. The decisive goal came in the 26th minute when Renars Zarchenko set up Edso Cata for a first time finish. Zarchenko also had an effort disallowed for offside. Kingsbury London Tigers return home to take on Hatfield Town on Saturday.

Soccer 7's league receives award

HARROW SOCCER 7's COMBINA-TION has become the first FA Charter Standard league in the area. The combination was rewarded after more than 70 per cent of the teams achieved the FA Charter Standard award. The honour is recognition of the ability of a league to provide a high quality, safe and enjoyable football experience.

Finn agrees new Middlesex deal

FAST BOWLER Steve Finn has signed a lengthy contract extension with Middlesex CCC. Bowler Tim Murtagh has also agreed to extend his stay with the County Championship Division Two side. The pair will be joined by Tom Smith after the Sussex spinner was confirmed as the club's new signing.

News immediately:

Stones set for 'massive' FA Cup tie

by **SIMON MAIL** smail@london.newsquest.co.uk

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett says his players must seize their opportunity as they attempt to reach the first round of the FA Cup for the first time in 22 years.

The Stones travel to the lowest ranked side left in the competition, South Midlands Premier side Aylesbury, on Saturday and boss Bartlett admits it is one of the most important games during his 15 years in charge.

He said: "It's a massive opportunity but this game is only important if we win it. If we lose it will be massively disappointing.

"Seizing the opportunity is very important and the players' attitude and mindset will be paramount on the afternoon if we are to get the result.

"In terms of the round, it is one of the most important games but we will treat it no differently to any other game. We're not taking anything for granted. They're a good side with a lot of experience and there is no doubt they will also feel they have a wonderful opportunity to reach the first round."

The winners of the tie will take home £12,500 and for the Stones, who have been hit by the financial crisis, the potential income could make all the difference.

Bartlett, who saw his side held 0-0 at AFC Hornchurch in the Ryman Premier on Tuesday night, said: "The run in the FA Cup and FA Trophy has been a massive shot in the arm for the club because in extremely difficult times we are still struggling. That £12,000 could really sort this season out.

"I would love us to do it but this is about the whole club. Whether you are a supporter or you are a cleaner, this club has gone through so many bad times. Things are going in the right direction and I want everybody to feel part of it.

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"This is a wonderful opportunity for both clubs to have a bit of prestige and play against a league club. One team is going to be very disappointed and I sincerely hope it is not us."



Optimistic: Wealdstone boss Gordon Bartlett hopes to be clapping his side off after an FA Cup win over Aylesbury this weekend.

Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

Boro book derby date in Trophy

HARROW BOROUGH landed a mouthwatering derby clash against Wealdstone in the FA Trophy after beating Soham Town Rangers in Tuesday night's replay.

Boro will take on Gordon Bartlett's team in the second qualifying round a week on Saturday at Earlsmead, after thrashing Soham 5-1.

David Howell, Boro's manager, said: "It's a great draw for the club especially with the financial situation. They are having their FA Cup run so they can't be greedy. Hopefully they can do well in that and we can have a run to Wembley in the FA Trophy."

Boro were pegged back after conceding a late goal in the 2-2 draw at Soham in the first game on Saturday which saw goalkeeper Keita Karamoko sent off for a challenge on Michael Simpson.

But Howell's side were far too strong in the replay and Rocky Baptiste opened the scoring with a dipping effort in the 14th minute. The visitors equalised but Boro regained the lead just before half-time when Baptiste slid the ball home.

Dewayne Clarke came on in the second half and the substitute did not take long to get on the scoresheet as he netted a low drive.

Clarke turned provider when he set up Danny Leech for his first of the season and Jonathan Constant completed the win with an excellent 20yard strike.

Boro will have a free weekend, with scheduled opponents Sutton still in the FA Cup, before they begin preparations on Monday for the derby.









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