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by SIMON MAIL

News briefly

Harrow set for Junior Vase final

HARROW RFC host the final of the National Junior Vase (London Division) on Saturday when they take on London Exiles. The winners will go on to face the champions of the South West Division next month in the national semi-finals. The club are encouraging as many people as possible to come to Grove Field for the game with the England v Ireland Six Nations match also being shown in the clubhouse afterwards.

Harrow Borough sunk by Margate

HARROW BOROUGH suffered a 1-0 defeat at Margate in the Ryman Premier on Tuesday night. The Reds did manage a vital 3-1 home win over East Thurrock United on Saturday which boosted their survival hopes. A brace from Danny Leech and an own goal from keeper Richard Wray fired the hosts to the win. Boro host Metropolitan Police on Saturday.

Wealdstone Trophy semi-final all ticket

WEALDSTONE'S FA Trophy semi-final with Newport County on Saturday is all ticket. All sales for the match at Grosvenor Vale will end on Friday at 10pm. Tickets are on sále tonight [Thursday] at the clubhouse and online.

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'We still believe that we can win'

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett believes his side can pull off their "greatest" comeback and book a trip to Wembley in the FA Trophy final.

The Stones were beaten 3-1 at Newport County in Saturday's first leg but they will return to Grosvenor Vale this weekend as they bid to produce a huge upset against the Conference side.

Bartlett said: "We still believe that we can do it. We were massive underdogs before the first game and to be 3-1 down makes it even harder but the belief is still

"It's a massive game at the weekend and to turn it around would be the greatest moment in my career and also for the

"It would be the biggest upset and most historic day in the club's history if we can turn it around.

"When they won it previously they were one of the top clubs in the country [in the competition] and we are nowhere near that standard now.

"We were massive underdogs to win in the fourth round let alone now that we're two down in the last-four. The odds are stacked against us but if we did it that would be beyond our wildest dreams and an incredible achievement."

Wealdstone found themselves 2-0 down midway through the first half but Richard Jolly pulled one back in the second half. A third Newport goal put them firmly in the driving seat at the halfway

But Bartlett's side can take heart from their recent shock wins over Cambridge United and Dartford in the competition this season as they look to repeat their 1985 feat of winning the FA Trophy at Wembley.

The manager has called on the home supporters to fill the ground this weekend, with 700 Newport fans making the journey, and help the players in their quest to reach Wembley.

Bartlett added: "We want as many people as possible to turn up at the weekend and everyone can make a difference.

"The players want to play at Wembley and we won't give up our dream without a fight. We will give it our all. I believe, the players believe and the fans do too so it is possible.

"The team showed real character in the

second half and I thought we played well so we have to take that into Saturday."

Bartlett insists his side can afford to be patient and do not have to score an early

goal to turn the tie around.

He said: "We can be patient and the most important thing is that we score first. It doesn't matter whether we score in the first minute or the 80th minute. If we can get that goal then there will be some squeaky bums from Newport.

The Stones warmed up for the semi-final with a comfortable 3-0 league win over bottom side Horsham. Another brace from Jolly and a Wes Parker goal kept them in touch with the Ryman Premier play-off pack.





Richard Jolly kept the Stones' Wembley hopes alive with a goal at Newport Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC



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