

## Stones hit rock bottom

Gordon Bartlett admits none of his team are playing to their ability and insists Wealdstone need to turn their form around quickly after dropping to the foot of the Conference South table.

Bartlett's side are the only team in the division yet to win this season, following their promotion, and the Wealdstone boss accepts it is a major test of their character.

Bartlett said: "As each game goes past your worries increase. I was very confident going into the last two games that we could win them but we haven't and that's bound to cause concern."

"We need to turn it around and very quickly. Everybody at the club is frustrated and we're all desperate to get our first win under our belt."

He added: "As a group we have under-achieved. We are making changes every week and nobody has played to their potential or ability yet."

"This is going to be a real test of the mental strength of the players, management and fans."

"Confidence around the place has dipped whereas a month ago we were all really excited about the new season. I knew it would be difficult but the quality has been higher than I anticipated."

"Nobody can hide from the criticism because we have not done well enough."

The Stones were beaten 2-1 at Hayes & Yeading United on Saturday despite a goal from Scott McGleish and followed this up by losing by the same scoreline at home to Bath City on Tuesday.

Their midweek opponents went into the game below Wealdstone in the table but it was a night to forget for the Stones.

McGleish was sent off for a second booking after a challenge on Dan Fell and the side could only manage a late consolation through substitute Michael Malcolm.

Bartlett said: "I have had every confidence



Wealdstone dropped to the foot of the table after their latest defeat at home to Bath City. Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

in the squad but we are falling short in many departments, both individually and collectively."

"I've never experienced being bottom of the league during all my time as a manager and it's not something I want to any longer."

"When things are not going right then all the little problems develop into massive ones. When you are winning then they are all

insignificant. What we have to do is rectify it ourselves."

Wealdstone will look to get off the mark this weekend when they travel to Concord Rangers.

The Stones boss said: "You find out about people when things are going wrong because life is a piece of cake when it's going well like last season."

## Reds sunk by rivals

Harrow Borough slumped to a 3-1 Ryman Premier Division defeat at ten man Wingate & Finchley on Tuesday night.

The hosts went ahead in the 19th minute through Nico Muir but Boro were handed a penalty when keeper Warren Carter was sent off for bringing down Marc Charles-Smith.

Steve Butterworth converted the penalty for the equaliser but rivals Wingate regained the lead through former Reds player Rob Laney.

Scott Shulton sealed to win for the home side when he raced on to score from a long ball.

Dave Anderson's team also suffered a 4-1 defeat to Grays Athletic on Saturday at Earlsmead.

The visitors went ahead on the stroke with Joao Carlos cutting across the box from right to left and curling a left-foot shot past Charlie Horlock.

But Boro equalised at the start of the second half when Ola Williams' cross was headed home by Spencer Bellotti.

But goals in the last 22 minutes from Frederick Lapado (2) and Christopher Bryan scuppered their hopes of getting a result.

The Reds travel to Southern League Central side AFC Hayes in the first qualifying round of the FA Cup this weekend.

## Tamil Sports snatch title

Middlesex Tamil Sports and Social Club Seconds won the Middlesex Division One Championship after an 82-run win over Alexandra Park helped them pip Harrow St Mary's to the title on the final day of the season.

The team got off to a fine start with Sumudu Jayatilaka on form with the bat. The side were on 70 for five before David Devadoss helped them reach 130 for six.

Zubair Amin came on and scored 92 which helped the team declare on 251 for seven from 44 overs.

Naveed Ali took three quick wickets for Middlesex Tamil and the side had Alexandra Park in trouble on 150 for six. Ali claimed yet another five-wicket haul as he ended up with 51 wickets for the season.

This helped finish off their opponents for just 169 and promotion was secured after Harrow St Mary's slipped up against Birkbeck College.

It means Middlesex Tamil will have three teams eligible to play in the Middlesex County Cricket League next season.

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