## **SPORT** Much more online at www.harrowtimes.co.uk **Stones denied win by 'ghost goal'**

Wealdstone boss Gordon Bartlett was relieved his eyesight had not failed him after spotting Eastbourne Borough's equaliser enter the goal via the side netting in Saturday's 1-1 draw.

The Stones were left to feel hard done by after Richard Pacquette's 90th-minute header appeared to creep into the bottom corner of Jonathan North's goal via the side netting, rather than going between the posts.

Bartlett's side had been on-course for three points after Matt Ball's 11thminute strike in Sussex.

Reflecting on the contentious equaliser against the Sports, Bartlett said: "We probably should have won that as well, with the goal going in through the side netting.

"So it was a frustrating one because we thought we had conceded but to know that it did not even go in either made it even more frustrating.

made it even more frustrating. "From my own point of view, I thought it went wide on Saturday, but from 50 yards away I just put it down to being an old git and my eyesight had gone.

"I suppose one positive at least is my eyesight is all right," chuckled Bartlett.

A slow-motion video of the incident has been posted on the club's YouTube channel and appears to show the ball going wide of North's right-hand post before ending up in the bottom corner of the goal.

the bottom corner of the goal. The former Watford gloveman said: "It was a funny one because at the time I did not know how it had gone in because I thought I had my angles covered. It was was strange that noone really appealed.

"From that angle [in the video] I think it's quite hard for people on the



Matt Ball and Jefferson Louis embrace after the former's goal at Eastbourne.

far side of the goal to tell. After the game, Luke O'Nien and Wes Parker said they were not sure if it had gone in and Jefferson Louis came in and said it 100 per cent did not go in. "The reaction from their players

"The reaction from their players and fans is quite telling," he added. Wealdstone were beaten 2-1 by Conference South rivals Hayes & Yeading United in the Middlesex Senior Cup on Tuesday night. Leading 1-0 via Jefferson Louis, the Stones ought to have doubled up when Nathan Mavila's shot was tipped onto the bar and fell at the feet of the experienced Louis, who somehow contrived to plant the rebound wide from a matter of yards.

"That was the turning point, it ended up changing the game; Jeff and Picture: STEVE FOSTER/WEALDSTONE FC

five minutes later, Shaun Lucien not picking up their scorer and there is the game," rued Bartlett.

Goals from Rhys Murrell-Williams and Elliott Benyon sent Hayes through.

through. Wealdstone have signed former Reading midfielder Scott Davies this week. He could debut against Hayes in the league on Saturday.

## New boss Baker cooks up win

Thursday 29.01.15

Harrow Borough have appointed Steve Baker as their new boss and he watched a first win in three as Boro beat North Greenford United 3-0 in the Middlesex Senior Cup.

the Middlesex Senior Cup. The former Chipstead boss was announced as Dave Anderson's successor on Sunday, following Boro's third consecutive Isthmian Premier Division defeat, 2-1 at Grays Athletic.

Anderson, who resigned his position a fortnight ago, oversaw Tuesday's cup final – his final act of a three-and-a-half-year reign. The Harrow board received 30

The Harrow board received 30 applications for the post and interviewed seven prospective managers between Wednesday and Friday before settling on former Chipstead boss Baker.

Chairman Peter Rogers enthused: "He came over very well in the interview which edged it over the others. His vision for the future, knowledge of the game and contacts within the game were what set him apart.

"He is a good coach and we had some very high-quality applicants but we just felt he gave us a bit more."

He added: "You never know how long things will take in this process. As it happens, we had a discussion on Friday and thankfully when we offered the job to Steve he accepted." And goals from David Taylor,

And goals from David Taylor, Marc Charles-Smith, David Fallah and an own-goal ensured Baker got off to the ideal start.

Baker, a former player at Hendon, Egham Town and Chertsey Town before embarking on a coaching career, has previously enjoyed management stints at Egham Town and Walton & Hersham.

Boro host Wingate on Saturday.

