Stand-in keeper stars in win

Sean Cronin were left relieved – according to boss Gordon Bartlett – after stand-in goalkeeper Luke Chambers arrived in time to start Sat-urday's 3-1 win at St Albans City

And Chambers played a starring role as the Stones moved up to 11th place in the Conference South.

The former Dunstable stopper was already filling in for regular number one Jonathan North, although Bartlett was aware the former Watford stopper would be unavailable a month in advance, leading to the short-term addition of the former Southend United professional.

However the 21-year-old is based in Lincoln and was held up in traffic on the motorway, leading Bartlett to ponder his emergency third choice between the sticks.

"Unfortunately he got stuck in traffic on the way down but he arrived at about 20 past two," Bartlett

explained.
"There were sighs of relief from Scott McGleish and Sean Cronin because they were the ones I was going to call upon otherwise."

As it was, Chambers went on to impress for the Stones and Bartlett explained he had been chasing the former Welsh youth cap previously.

"We knew Jonathan was going to be unavailable about a month ago. Luke was under contract at Dunstable but was no longer playing there.

"It took a little while to get that contract cancelled but once he did, we got in touch.

"We did not want to take him on loan because if you take a loan player at this level you have to pay them for



lefferson Louis scored two and made the other as Wealdstone won at St Albans City.

"He played against us for Concord Rangers in the play-offs two years

ago.⁵
Bartlett added: "We have agreed since Saturday that if Jonathan is unavailable again in the future then Luke would play.

"He enjoyed himself and said it was nice to be back in that environment

A brace from veteran striker Jefferson Louis set the Stones on their way to victory, with the former Hendon and Margate hitman setting up Matt Ball's decisive third strike to round off

an excellent display.

Bartlett said: "Jeff has certainly had his critics since he arrived but I think those who made those comments are maybe eating a little bit of humble pie now.

Picture: Steve Foster/Wealdstone FC

"He is getting there and I think it is important people realise his game. Just because he is a big, strong guy, it does not mean he is great in the air. We are also learning his qualities," added Bartlett.

The Stones host Hampton & Richmond Borough at Grosvenor Vale on Saturday and half-price entry is available to anyone who provides proof of an HA4 address.

Harrow batter Wingate to boost survival chances

Harrow Borough boss Steve Baker believes the next four or five fixtures will define their season after picking up four points in a week.

Saturday's 1-1 draw at Tonbridge Angels was followed up in fine style on Tuesday evening with a crushing 5-1 victory over Isthmian Premier Division play-off hopefuls Wingate & Finchley at Earlsmead.

Next up for Harrow are stern tests against leaders Maidstone United and play-off chasing Leiston but on the horizon are clashes with direct relegation rivals VCD Athletic and AFC Hornchurch

"After the next four or five games we will probably know where we will be next season," admitted Baker. "We have got a couple of tough

ones which people won't be expecting us to get much out of but a lot of people would have said that before Tuesday night."

Boro fell behind to a David Knight strike after just three minutes but were in front by the tenth minute thanks to efforts from Ben Long and Lewis Dri-

Marc Charles-Smith extended the lead before Wingate's Mark Goodman was dismissed. David Taylor and Ryan Hope completed the scoring.

"We picked up a good point on Saturday so we were quite confident going into the game but originally we did not have it down as one we would be looking to take points from," confirmed Baker.

"The attitude the lads displayed and the way we scored our goals was excellent. But we have still got a mountain to climb," he added.

Harrow sit 22nd with ten to play.









The Harrow Times is published by Newsquest (London) Ltd, Observer House, Caxton Court, Caxton Way, Watford, Herts, WD18 8R), part of the Newsquest Media Group Ltd, Loudwater Mill, Station Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP10 9TY, a Gannett company. Printed by Newsquest Oxfordshire, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EJ