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FOOTBALL: Hopefuls head to lowly Scunthorpe



Wealdstone celebrate their win at Torquay United. Image: Jon Taffel

Wealdstone will want more after mixed week

WEALDSTONE head to lowly Scunthorpe on Saturday sitting just five points outside the National League play-off places after mixed results this week.

Stuart Maynard's men made the long trip down to Devon to take on Torquay United at the weekend and ensured a happy journey back to London after a last-gasp 2-1 victory.

Dom Hutchinson returned for Stones in place of Sonny Lo-Everson and the hosts were reduced to 10 men after just seven minutes when Tom Lapslie was sent off for a tackle on Max Kretschmar.

The Gulls sat back to soak up pressure but Stones took the lead four minutes before the break when Hutchinson sped down the left and forced

Mark Halstead to push his shot into the path of Kretschmar to score.

It was all square once again within a minute of the second half starting, though, as Sam Howes rushed out of his goal to try and clear, only to see Kieron Evans fire into the unguarded net.

Maynard sent Tarrelle Whittaker, Olufela Olomola and Lo-Everson on in quick succession and the substitutions changed the momentum of the match.

But Stones had to wait until the first of six minutes of stoppage time to regain the lead as Olomola found in-form Micah Obiero to slot through the legs of Halstead.

Torquay went close to levelling when Ali Omar saw a header cleared

off the line, before Stones could celebrate three welcome points.

They were brought back down to earth by fourth-placed Chesterfield in a 4-0 defeat at Grosvenor Vale on Tuesday.

The visitors took the lead on 34 minutes when Liam Mandeville was brought down in the box and Paul McCallum fired home from the penalty spot.

And it was 2-0 in the fourth minute of injury time as Madeville bundled home from Ryan Colclough's cross.

That left Wealdstone with a mountain to climb in the second half and they conceded again before the hour when Sam Habbergham diverted another Colclough cross into his own net.

Colclough completed the scoring 13

minutes from time with a superb chip over Howes after racing through from halfway.

Scunthorpe were left seven points from safety after a 3-1 defeat at Solihull Moors on Tuesday.

Cmaeron Wilson saw an early effort turned onto the post by Ryan Boot, while Aaron Chapman saved from Mark Beck at the other end.

Josh Kelly charged down Chapman's attempted clearance on 15 minutes, though, and saw the ball bounce off him and into the net.

Will Smith headed home from Jacob Butterfield's cross to get the Iron back on level terms before half-time, but Joe Sbarra put Moors back in front with only three minutes left and Kelly struck again in stoppage time.

Borough book cup final spot

HARROW Borough reached a third Middlesex Senior Cup final under Steve Baker with a last-gasp 2-1 win at Enfield Town in midweek.

Two half-time substitutions changed Borough from a limp, disjointed, first-half showing to a side that stormed forward, dominating the second period and claiming a stoppage-time winner.

With Southern League Premier survival outranking cup glory, George Moore started on the bench, with Shaun Preddie not involved at all, as centre-back Hamilton Bunga and newly-signed Aldershot Town loanee, Australian Ben De Lacy-Turner, made debuts.

Harrow survived an early scare when Lyle Della-Verde's shot was blocked and Jacob Knightbridge tipped over a cross-shot, before Marcus Campbell sent Lacy-Turner through to test Nathan McDonald.

Town went ahead on 25 minutes as Knightbridge diverted a low shot into the path of the incoming Khale Da Costa to score.

And Joe Payne glanced a header just wide from a Della-Verde corner, while Mo Camara forced a full length save from Knightbridge, who made a brave save at the feet of Marcus Wyllie.

A late blocked effort by Anointed Chukwu was Harrow's only real threat in the rest of the half, before Baker replaced Campbell and Keegan Bloom with Moore and Samuel Adenola.

Sonny Hart flicked Moore's free-kick across goal and, although Knightbridge saved from Della-Verde, Harrow took control.

Chukwu forced an error from McDonald to set up Adenola, who was closed down before he could shoot.

But on 64 minutes, Chukwu closed down McDonald as he tried to see the ball out of play, winning it and teeing up De Lacy-Turner to fire home.

Borough's confidence grew and Chukwu's shot on the turn came off the crossbar, with De Lacy-Turner steering the rebound wide.

McDonald parried a Moore drive, with James Richmond getting to the ball before Kai Omoko Brosnan, and De Lacy-Turner's surge up the left led to Adenola firing wide, before Moore and Bunga had shots blocked from a corner.

Then in the 90th minute, Moore burst forward and, as he lined up to shoot just outside the box, Della-Verde brought him down.

Quaine Bartley's free-kick cannoned off Della-Verde, diverting 90 degrees past a flat-footed McDonald to nestle in the net for the winner.

Hayes & Yeading United face Brentford B in the other semi-final on March 28, as Harrow return to their league survival battle.

Sitting in the relegation zone on goal difference, they visit Plymouth Parkway on Saturday, in the first of nine massively important games.