

# SPORT

Read the latest sports news at  
harrowtimes.co.uk/sport

## SARRIES run in 11 tries against Newcastle



Jamie George with the Guinness Men's Six Nations trophy ahead of the tournament

Image: PA

# George feels Saracens can still make play-offs

JAMIE George insists Saracens have got enough quality in depth to reach the 2025/26 Gallagher PREM end of season play-offs following their outstanding 73-14 victory over Newcastle Red Bulls last Saturday at StoneX Stadium, Hendon.

The announcement of director of rugby Mark McCall stepping down at the end of the season after a 15-year spell hardly affected action on the pitch as the hosts ran in 11 tries against rock bottom side Newcastle Red Bulls.

That 73-14 result helped secure the biggest margin of victory in Gallagher PREM so far this season.

And despite the North East visitors firing first through an Oscar Usher touchline conversion after four minutes, 19-year-old winger sensation Noah Caluori ran in four tries while the rest

By ZIAD CHAUDRY  
londoncommunity@newsquest.co.uk

came from James Hadfield (2), Rotimi Segun, Andy Onyeama-Christie, Eroni Mawi, Nick Tompkins plus a penalty try, while Owen Farrell, who took the captaincy role for the absent Maro Itoje, kicked eight conversions.

After 10 rounds and with the league now going into a seven-week break due to 2026 Guinness Six Nations tournament, the top four of 2025/26 Gallagher PREM sees Northampton Saints leading the way with 42 points, followed by defending champions Bath Rugby (41 points), Bristol Bears (37 points) and Leicester Tigers (36 points).

Meanwhile Exeter Chiefs are a point

behind the East Midlanders while Saracens currently occupy sixth with 32 points.

And when the PREM resumes on the evening of March 20 for Round 11 fixtures, Saracens travel to The Rec where they will face Bath Rugby.

In a so far topsy-turvy season, the Hendon-based outfit has won five of their 10 games and also reached the last 16 of Investec European Champions Cup, despite losing heavily to Glasgow Warriors 28-3 last fortnight.

But George, who is in the 36-man England Six Nations squad alongside fellow Sarries Maro Itoje, Theo Dan, Ben Earl and Elliot Daly, believes Saracens can get into the top four before the start of the play-offs in mid June.

"Of course we can," he said. "We're

mathematically still very much in the running.

"We believe that we've got a very good squad now. Hopefully the boys will make the most of it in the next couple of months while the rest of the players are away on Six Nations duties, then we can make a very good run for it towards the business end of the season."

Other Saracens players selected for Six Nations duties for their country are Marco Riccioni (Italy), Rhys Carrie (Wales) and Fergus Burke (Scotland).

The Guinness Six Nations starts on February 5 when defending champions France host Ireland.

England, who are managed by former Saracens lock Steve Borthwick, entertain Wales at Twickenham's Allianz Stadium on February 7.

## Waller signs on loan

FOOTBALL



Ethan Laird in action against Sutton United's Charlie Waller

DEFENDER Charlie Waller has signed for Wealdstone on loan until the end of the season from League Two side Milton Keynes Dons.

The Dons' academy product has already featured 11 times for their first-team.

A significant loan spell in last year's National League at Sutton United saw him really make his mark, featuring over 20 times for the Surrey club.

And it would prove to be the catalyst for involvement back at his parent club; Waller played eight times for MK Dons during the second half of season 2024/25.

Previous loan spells have seen the 20-year-old effectively work his way up the non-league pyramid, with short but successful spells taking in the likes of AFC Rushden & Diamonds, Billericay Town and Banbury United.

The most recent experience on a growing CV saw four appearances at fellow National League side Rochdale during December for Waller.

And if the name's just a little bit familiar, then don't search online for his only league goal to date...it was the sole strike as The U's defeated Stones 1-0 back near the start of the 2024/25 campaign.

■ Wealdstone's away Enterprise National League match against Gateshead on Saturday was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

Following persistent rainfall over the past week the match referee assessed the playing surface at the Gateshead International Stadium that morning and deemed it unfit to play with further adverse weather conditions expected prior to kick-off.