

SPORT

Gayts off to good start

OLD GAYTONIANS Athletics Club made a good start to their 1991-92 Chiltern League campaign by placing in the top three in all four races at Watford on Saturday.

Gayts are the defending champions and their boys (under 15) team made their intentions clear with a splendid 23 points victory over second place Windsor.

Stuart McCluskey finished an excellent fifth and, with Luke Hunt 7th and Graham Bush 8th, Gayts were never in danger. Nick Heller, Jon Diffe and Stuart Barnes also placed in the top 20.

The youths (under 17) lost first spot by just one point after their top runner, Steve Jones, was taken ill while disputing the lead.

Wembley's Ameet Rao made a welcome return to competition and he finished a good 8th.

There was solid support from Nathan Bance, Jeremy Lamb and Gordon Tyler, returning to racing after a six month absence.

The colts team was weakened by the absence of three of the top runners through injury but they still performed well to take third spot.

Adam Blades impressed in fifth spot while Graeme Sansom, Owen Brown and Adam Webb also ran well.

The senior squad also took third place headed by a fine run from Pinner's Nigel Flint, who finished third.

Ian Harkness returned to racing after a six months absence with injury and surprised everyone by finishing a splendid 6th in the 185 strong field.

Mike Lepps was 17th and Mike Green 27th.

Stones: Two more set to leave

By Dave Edwards

TWO more Wealdstone players are on the transfer list. Manager Brian Hall has made Peter Bartlett and Mark Harrison available this week.

Bartlett has been unable to gain a regular first team place this season, while Harrison only came off the list a month ago. He had agreed new terms, but now has asked to leave once more.

Stones are also waiting to find out the fate of recent loan signing Derek Payne. After an excellent mid week debut, Payne was stopped from appearing for Wealdstone on Saturday by a last minute recall by his club, fourth division Barnet.

Payne was signed by Stones boss Brian Hall on loan last week and was due to take his place in the line-up for the clash against Atherstone United, but injury hit Barnet were forced to recall players early on Saturday for their game against York City.

Former Hayes Town man Payne made his mark in Barnet's 2-0 victory being named man of the match.

But Wealdstone are still not sure whether they can hope to see the midfielder in their line-up for this Saturday's game against Worcester City.

Meanwhile Wealdstone have released Warren Lay, who has been on trial with the club since the start of the season, and two players have gone on the transfer list.

Kingsbury will be without Tuesday night's hero Gerry Mulhern, who begins a three game ban for his sending-off against Rayners Lane, when they face on Saturday.

And Wembley's Bobby Hutchison also begins a three match ban and misses the home FA Trophy tie with Harlow Town. If there is a replay, it will be on Monday.

Meanwhile at Rayners Lane injury problems are likely to affect selection for Saturday's game at home to Carterton Town and Wednesday's Middlesex Senior Cup away clash with Hanwell Town.

Both Tony Verni and Danny Haighland are almost definitely out but there are also worries about Jason Bradley, Roland Matthews and Ian Woodward.

Gerry's a hero

Cove 2 Kingsbury Town 3

A SECOND half fightback and a Gerry Mulhern master-blast saw Kingsbury steal the points at Cove on Tuesday after looking all

but buried at half time. A lacklustre first half performance saw high flyers Cove put two goals into the Kingsbury net before the break and squander several other good chances.

But as the second half started it was a different story with Kingsbury vigorously attacking, which was rewarded after only five minutes of the half with a penalty.

Keith Williams pulled one back from the spot after a shove on Mulhern. But the best goal came next with Mulhern breaking out from his own half and taking on the defenders before smashing the ball into the roof of the net from 16 yards out. Sub Chris McLeod grabbed the winner.



Harrow Rugby Club turn back the clock: See page 106 for report.

Picture by Sophie Powell

Lions denied by the bounce

Abingdon Town 1 Wembley 0

AN EVIL bounce denied Wembley a point in a tough away clash with Abingdon on Tuesday.

A first half goal was all that separated the two teams as Wembley took the game to the home side.

A 31st minute clearance by Paul Bhatia hit Peter Rhodes-Brown on the knee, the ball falling favourably for an Abingdon player with just the keeper to beat.

Even a diving Jeff Fanner was unable to keep the ball out of the back of the net.

Wembley plugged away but they failed to create any real clear cut chances and although Lawrence, Graham and Charles came close their final touch deserted them.

Five minutes from time the home side mounted their only major attack of the half but Paul Bradbury, in a good goal-scoring position in front of goal, headed over the bar.

Wembley: Fanner, Flaherty, Turlunch, O'Brien, Shields, Graham, Bhatia, Charles (Bennett 68), Clark (Smith 77), Lawrence, Guller.

Allen back

METROS' Graham Allen returned to cross country after an absence of almost two years with a splendid run at Kingsbury.

In the first round of the Chiltern League he moved steadily up the field to claim tenth place with a late surge which helped Metros to seventh place out of 17 teams.

Steve Hartley, out for sixth months through injury, gained 26th place, Gary Hynes ran well for 40th place, while Steve McIntosh, a star performer last year, could only manage 42nd.

The ladies race brought a disappointing turnout for Metros, placed tenth out of 13th teams with good runs from Sonya Grist (32), Sylvia Suffield (36), Sharon Talbot (49) and Barbara Reading (50).

Metros girls fared better taking tenth, eleventh and twelfth place to come third out of 11 teams.

In the annual Horsenden Hill cross country relay race Metros slipped after last year's best ever performance to 21st out of 36 teams.

Boro's nightmare

Harrow Borough 0 Grays Athletic 2

HARROW Borough crashed to lowly Grays at Earlsmead on Tuesday but really only had themselves to blame.

After only 60 seconds the visitors went ahead, a harmless looking John Deadman shot from 25 yards going straight through keeper Steve Crompton's legs.

Steve Conroy had an excellent chance to level the scores on 17 min-

utes, clear with just keeper Barrie Delf to beat his shot lacked real power and the keeper's fingertips deflected things long enough for defender Barry Fox to clear off the line.

Borough went in at half time two down, Mark Barnard's backpass was intercepted by Tommy Williams who rounded the keeper and stuck the ball away.

In the second half Borough again had their chances, Conroy again met

the keeper in a one-on-one situation, his shot lobbed over Delf and wide of the post.

Halfway through the half Grays put the shutters down and Borough found it difficult to break down the defence.

Mark Pye was replaced late on by loan Barry Rake but he had little time to make an impact and Grays were able to see the half out.

Harrow Borough: Crompton, Johnstone, Barnard, Payne, Shea, Henry, O'Shea, Pye, Conroy, Ripley, Cooper.

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