

Porter leads the Wembley run romp SEE PAGE 97

SPORT

Gayts duo show clean pair of heels SEE PAGE 99

Alexander misses costly for Monarchs

TWO misses by kicker Phil Alexander proved crucial on Saturday as the London Monarchs' season came to an unhappy conclusion with a 19-16 defeat at the Frankfurt Galaxy.

Frankfurt kicker Robbie Keen rubbed salt into the wound soon after by scoring with a 38 yard field goal to win the match for the Galaxy.

tend Frankfurt's lead in the third quarter, but Monarchs levelled when Tony Sargent caught a 16 yard touchdown pass and Alexander added the extra point.

Battle on to get ready for new season after fire destroys stand

Blaze leaves Lions in race against time



A fireman tackles the blazing Vale Farm stand.

WEMBLEY FC are battling against time to get their ground ready for the new Diadora League season following a fire which burnt down the main stand at Vale Farm on Tuesday.

The blaze was spotted by a Vale Farm groundsman working nearby. He alerted the fire brigade but they were unable to save the 35 year old 240 seater wooden stand which was gutted by the blaze.

However, they were able to restrict other damage to just the roof of the nearby dressing room complex. Several windows in the clubhouse were also blown out by the fierce heat but otherwise that building was untouched and remains in full use.

How the fire started is still unknown. Both fire and police chiefs are carrying out investigations. Arson had not yet been ruled out.

With club chairman Brian Gumm holidaying in Barbados, vice-chairman Eric Stringer has been supervising the cleaning up operation at the ground.

"It's all been a bit of a shock," he said "but I think it shouldn't take too long to get a new stand put up and hopefully we'll be ready for the start of the season."

The club had planned to extend the old stand as one of the measures which would have upgraded the ground to the necessary standards required should they gain promotion.

By John Comfort

tion to the League's Premier Division. Those requirements will now be incorporated when a new stand is erected.

If they are fail to get a new stand up before the new season commences in August, Wembley may be forced to play some of their home matches away from Vale Farm.

Said Diadora League chairman Alan Turvey: "Obviously we would give every help to the club but we would expect, as there is sufficient time, that they would get a new stand put up. We expect clubs to conform to certain facility requirements to enable people to sit and watch games."

He said that the league did have a similar case several years ago at Camberley. After their stand was burnt down they played home matches on other grounds until a new one was erected.

Neighbours Harrow Borough could come to Wembley's aid if they were faced with a similar situation. Their Earlsmead ground would be readily available following their decision to drop their reserve team.

Borough were hoping to reach an agreement with Fulham to play their Football Combination matches at Earlsmead, but as yet they have heard nothing from the Football League club.

Who will take Kirit's Britannic crown?

NORTH London Poly CC 'run machine' Kirit Chhaniara (pictured right) dominated the Observer's Britannic Assurance Player of the Month awards last season.



He won the first two monthly awards in 1991 and also won the Player of the Year award.

Who will take the title this season? The answer to that question will start to be unravelled next week when we name the first of our monthly awards winners for 1992 as we again link up with the County Championship sponsors, Britannic Assurance, to recognise the achievements of local cricketers throughout the summer.

The recipient will be selected from performances recorded in the Observer, together with nominations made by readers, and the winner will be the player considered to have made the most notable series of achievements during the relevant month.

Monthly award winners will receive a trophy, tickets for himself and his family to see a Britannic County Cricket Championship match of his choice, plus a Britannic Assurance sponsorship item of either a leisure jacket, a rugby shirt or golf umbrella.

The Player of the Year will be selected from the monthly award winners at the end of the season.

Britannic Assurance Player of the Month logo featuring a silhouette of a cricketer batting.

Parkside are pipped in hot league contest

PARKSIDE AC, in their first season in Division One of the Southern League, narrowly missed out on a win in a strongly contested round at Bedford on Saturday.

They finished with 163 points, just four behind winners Shaftesbury, but only one ahead of the host club who finished in third place.

Seniors: 100m A C Sheeh 13.5, 13.4 M Christie 13.5; 200m A 5 E Cave 27.7, B 4 J Fuller 27.8; 400m A 4 A Wysh 63.5, B 1 G Coyne 61.1; 800m A 2 A Wysh 2.14.2, B 1 S Doherty 2.14.2; 1500m 4.32.1, B 1 V Miller 4.45.4; 3000m A 4 N Keene 11.05.1, B 3 G Brown 11.51.0; 100m hurd A 1 E Cave 16.1, B 1 L Lewis 15.4; 200m hurd A 1 J Fuller 38.3, B 2 T Beston 39.8; 4 x 100 2 Parkside 51.6; 4 x 400 2 Parkside 4.3.4; High Jump A 3 E Cave 1.90, B 2 L Lewis 1.80; Long Jump A 3 L Lewis 6.0; 4 x 100 2 Gayts (Phelan, W Dunford 11.61, B 2 A Mitchell 9.39); Discus A 3 W Dunford 33.29, B 2 A Mitchell 30.62; Javelin A 5 L Lewis 25.50, B 3 K Doherty 22.14; Javelin: 100m A 2 M Turner 3.5, B 4 L Brooks 14.8; 200m A 1 M Turner 26.9, B 3 T Edwards 30.8; 800m A 3 K Doherty 2.35.9, B 3 L Doherty 2.38.5; 1500m A 3

L Beston 5.32.0, B 3 L Brooks 6.18.5; 75m hurd A 2 T Edwards 12.7, B 2 S Johnson 15.2; 4 x 100 3 Parkside 57.2; High Jump A 2 J James 1.25, B 4 L Doherty 1.20; Long Jump A 3 M Turner 4.38, B 3 S Johnson 3.81; shot A 3 A Bush 7.11, B 1 C Hamilton 6.48; discus A 2 J Hamilton 21.52, B 1 C Hamilton 17.58; javelin A 5 A Bush 10.32, B 1 Hamilton n/a.

Parkside athletes were in good form at the Middlesex County Championships.

Alison Wyeth ran a good race in the 800m to take the County title in 2.9.2. Sharon Dixon finished in 5th place then went on to win the 1500m title in 4.29.6, with Geraldine Coyne taking the bronze in 4.35.5.

Alison Outram ran a brave race to take silver in the intermediate 1500m in a personal best of 4.47.9 with Caroline Brown in 6th place in 5.21.2.

Katheryn Dullay ran well to take silver in the girls 1500m in 5.09.6. Twin sister Louise was 5th in 5.16.3 with Larissa Beston 6th in 5.22.5.

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National best for Gayts youngsters

OLD Gaytonians AC's young athletes produced their biggest winning margin for years in taking the second round of the Woolworths National Young Athletes League at Bannister on Sunday, writes Tony Bush.

They defeat nearest rivals Brighton by 74 points with Bedford and Guildford trailing.

Gayts and Blackheath are now the only unbeaten teams in the League and the Harrow club have a great chance of reaching their 10th consecutive National Final at Birmingham in September.

The highlight of the youths (under-17) performances was a winning double in the long jump and triple jump from Pinner's Ben Hodson. His long jump distance of 6.01m was a new personal best.

Pinner's Sean Jeremiah recorded the English Schools qualifying time of 11.9 to win the B string sprint hurdles by a margin of more than 20 metres. Ben Gritz also qualified for the English Schools by winning the A event in 12.1.

Gavin Sanderson was also in sparkling form, winning the 200m in a fast 24.2, his second English School qualifying time of the week.

Sudbury's Brian Luckie was an impressive winner of the 400m while Kevin Vickers and Robert Ward dominated the 800m.

Gadi Elmlech set a new personal best of 2.60m to win the pole vault while Kevin Vickers completed a double by taking the long jump.

800m. There were fast sprint times from Joseph Kenny, David Gridley and Jeremy Rich.

Gayts finished the afternoon with huge victories in the boys and youths 4 x 400m relays.

Gayts placings Youths (under-17): 100m A 3 Shateek Banks 11.7, B 1 Richard Gwilt 12.1; 200m A 3 Shateek Banks 23.8 pb, B 2 Steven Crook 24.1; 400m A 2 Robert Hayes 54.3 pb, B 1 Chinedu Nwoko 55.2; 800m A 1 David Williams 2.02.4 pb, B 1 Mohammed Davis 2.03.5 pb; 1500m A 3 Andy Noble 4.22.7 pb, B 1 Jeremy Colles 4.27.9 pb; 3000m A 2 Shateek Banks 9.41.8 pb, B 1 Nick Heiler 9.49.8 pb; 100m hurd A 2 Chris Beekmeyer 15.6 pb, B 1 Carl Newman 17.5; 400m hurd A 2 Chinedu Nwoko 63.9 pb, B 1 Justin Bamford 65.0 pb; 1500m stc A 1 Justin Bamford 4.45.9 pb, B 2 Graham Bush 5.15.2 pb; 4 x 100 2 Gayts (Phelan, Crook, Shateek, Banks) 47.7; 4 x 400 1 Gayts (Hayes 55.5, Noble 54.7, Davis 53.8, Williams 53.1) 3.36.0; High Jump A 1 Ashley Beal 1.70, B 1 Fraser Young 1.65; pole vault A 3 Andrew Michael 2.55, B 1 Steven Harry Chinedu Nwoko 2.02; triple jump A 1 Ben Hodson 13.03, B 1 Carl Newman 12.06 pb; shot A 4 James McCall 10.68, B 3 Danny Glendon 9.25; discus A 4 Shateek Banks 32.02, B 1 Sadiq Nadezi 31.62; javelin A 4 Stuart Bailey

40.12, B 3 Sadiq Nadezi 24.96; hammer A 3 Sadiq Nadezi 40.00, B 3 Mark Clark 33.66.

Boys (under-15): 100m A 2 Peter Campbell 12.5, B 1 Ben Munn 12.2; 200m A 1 Gavin Sanderson 24.2 pb, B 2 Mark Brom 25.6; 400m A 1 Brian Luckie 1.5 pb, B 1 Terry Masters 58.5 pb; 800m A 1 Kevin Vickers 2.15.7, B 1 Robert Ward 2.16.4; 1500m A 3 Rod Colles 4.38.9 pb, B 2 Tru Beston 4.50.2; 3000m A 1 Luke Hunt 9.35.8 pb, B 1 Jon Dilly 10.12.9; 80m hurd A 1 Ben Gritz 12.1 pb, B 1 Sean Jeremiah 11.9 pb; 4 x 100 1 Gayts (Campbell, Munn, Sanderson, Jeremiah) 48.4; 4 x 400 1 Gayts (Luckie 58.0, Ward 58.2, Masters 60.8, Vickers 58.5) 3.55.5; High Jump A 2 Richard Powell 1.55 pb, B 1 Luke Hunt 1.50 pb; pole vault A 1.95; long jump A 1 Kevin Vickers 5.14, B 1 Anthony Threlknap 4.37; shot A 2 Peter Campbell 10.71, B 2 Richard Powell 7.02; discus A 3 Peter Campbell 24.60, B 1 Gadi Elmlech 18.80; javelin A 2 Richard Powell 24.94, B 1 Alan Hobbs 23.96; hammer A 3 Mark Hazel 31.28 pb, B 1 Sean Jeremiah 28.82.

Colts (under-13): 100m A 2 Joseph Kenny 13.4, B 1 David Gridley 13.9 pb; 200m A 2 Jeremy Rich 28.0 pb, B 2 David Gridley 28.3 pb; 800m A 2 Adam Webb 2.23.9 pb, B 1 Alan Thompson 2.28.8 pb; 1500m A 2 Lloyd McDermid 5.04.9 pb, B 2 Sean Hunt 5.27.2; 4 x 100 2 Gayts (Sturman, Rich, Gridley, Kenny) 55.8; Team result: 1 Old Gayts 245; 2 Brighton 171; 3 Bedford 170; 4 Guildford 121.