SPORT

Taylor made for Gayts

OLD Gaytonians AC have signed Brian Taylor, the second international decathlete to become a member of the club in the space of a week.

Taylor is currently in spectacular form, having reached the qualifying standard in both the 60m sprint and the 60m hurdles for the World Indoor Championships due to be held in Toronto in March. He has already made his debut for the club at Haringey on Saturday where he competed in the first of a three match league organised by Woodford Green.

As a junior Taylor was tipped to become the man to emulate Daley Thompson but a series of five stress fractures to his left leg have meant he has missed two years of competition with the injuries requiring him to learn to take off from his other foot in the long and high jump.

Still only 22 years of age, his recent times of 6.79 for the 60m and 7.87 for the 60m hurdles were set at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham earlier this month and have earned him selection for the UK for the 60m hurdles in next week's televised Pearl Assurance Games in Glasgow.

Along with Rafer Joseph and recent signing Eric Hollingsworth, Taylor makes up a trio of decathletes ranked in the UK top six that will be available to the Harrow club in this year's British League matches and makes them favourites for one of the two promotion spots to Division One. Taylor's particular strengths in sprints, sprint hurdles and pole vault (where he has a mark of 5.00m to his name) will complement the rest of Gayts' powerful squad that is well recognised for its strength in depth.

Borough date

QUEENS Park Rangers are to play a Football Combination fixture against Bristol City at Harrow Borough's Earlsmead ground next Thursday, February 4, kick off 7.30pm.

Cup draw just right for Wasps

By Alan Bodenham

WASPS skipper Dean Ryan is optimistic about the Sudbury club's chances of reaching the semi-final of the Pilkington Cup for the first time since 1988 after the quarter final draw gave them a trip to West Hartlepool on February 27.

"We must have a great chance of going through" said Ryan. "We have already beaten them this season on their home ground and although they may have learned a few things since then, we are a difficult side to beat at the moment."

Ryan was relieved to have avoided the other big guns still left in the competition, Northampton, Leicester and Harlequins. He said: "We will be sure of getting a very big crowd against any of those sides, which is bound to mean a big payout for the club."

Courage League leaders Wasps have played West Hartlepool, who are currently struggling in third from bottom place in the Division One table, twice before in the cup, with mixed fortunes. In 1983 they were beaten 13-20 at West Hartlepool and two seasons ago they won 7-3.

Great chance to make semis says Ryan

Wasps have twice reached the Twickenham final of the competition, in 1986 and 1987, losing to Bath on both occasions.

Wasps' England fly half Rob Andrew will have completed his qualification period since returning from France and will be eligible for the cup clash. He continues his preparation by playing for the Vandals away to London Irish Wild Geese this Saturday. He will be qualified for Courage League matches from February 13 when coincidentally Wasps are away to London Irish.

On Saturday Wasps entertain Rosslyn Park in a club fixture at Sudbury, kick off 3pm, and have picked a very strong side. Most of the first team regulars will be playing.

Win England v San Marino tickets

WHEN San Marino play England at Wembley Stadium on Wednesday February 17 they may not be too confident of denting England's World Cup progress, but will be determined to prove that their 10-0 defeat in Norway in September was a freak result.

Though San Marino hope to state their case and impress, they come face to face with an England side fresh from their excellent performance against Turkey at Wembley in November. A 4-0 win gained England two useful points and with two more on offer on February 17, San Marino keeper Benedettini could be the busiest player on view as England look to emulate Norway's achievement.

Observer readers can be there to see the action, courtesy of Wembley Stadium Ltd who have donated three pairs of tickets for the game as prizes in a simple competition.

Just answer the easy question below, complete the form and send it to: Wembley Competition, Observer Sport, 326 Station Road, Harrow, Middx HA1 2DR to arrive no later than the closing date, which is first post on Friday February 5 1993.

ENGLAND V SAN MARINO COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

By what score did San Marino lose their World Cup game against Norway in September ?

a) 6-0..... b) 8-0..... c) 10-0.....

(Tick correct answer)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Telephone no.....

Complete form and send it to: Wembley competition, Observer Sport, 326 Station Road, Harrow, Middx HA1 2DR, to arrive no later than the closing date, first post on Friday February 5. Usual MCP competition rules apply.

Stones seeking a 'double' to halt league leaders

WEALDSTONE'S Beazer Homes League promotion aspirations will be tested to the full on Saturday when they visit league leaders Gravesend.

Having beaten their Kent rivals 3-0 at Vicarage Road earlier in the season, Stones will be looking for a 'double' to halt Gravesend's relentless progress towards the title. They are currently 13 points clear at the top of the table.

Good news for Stones is that they should have prolific scorer Sean Pearson fit following a knee injury.

Defender Jim Watson is having talks with Midlands League club Lincoln United and could be set for a move.

With the games against Barking and Hayes postponed, Charlie Flaherty is still waiting to serve his two match suspension and will miss Wembley's match at Abingdon on Saturday and the new cup date at Hayes next Thursday.

Harrow Borough look for vital league points at Marlow on Saturday and will again be without Martin St Hilaire who is in the middle of a three match suspension. The injured Jason Shaw and Micky Engwell will also be missing.

Edgware travel to Chertsey on Saturday at the start of a difficult spell which seems them play three of the top four teams. Colin Chance is fit after a bout of flu and Vince Deritis will be in contention for a place after recovering from a hamstring injury.

Kingsbury Town have no injury problems for their home match with East Thurrock.

Rayners Lane have another difficult away game against mid table Fairford Town. With five straight wins behind them go into the fixture with confidence sky high.

Soccer fixtures

Saturday January 30

Diadora League Premier Division: Marlow v Harrow Borough.

Diadora League Division One: Abingdon v Wembley.

Diadora League Division Two: Chertsey Town v Edgware Town.

Diadora League Division Three: Kingsbury Town v East Thurrock (Silver Jubilee Park 3pm).

Beazer Homes League Southern Division: Gravesend v Wealdstone.

Hellenic League: Fairford Town v Rayners Lane.

Tuesday February 2

Isthmian League Associate Members Cup: Edgware Town v Hertford (White Lion ground, 7.30pm - provisional, check with club); Tilbury v Kingsbury Town.

LATEST LEAGUE TABLES

DIADORA LEAGUE

Premier Division

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Chesham Utd.	24	18	5	1	69	22	59
St Albans City	24	17	4	3	62	30	55
Enfield	25	13	8	6	50	29	48
Carshalton Ath.	27	14	6	7	62	39	48
Hayes	23	10	6	7	42	31	36
Sutton Utd.	21	9	8	4	30	25	35
Dulwich Hamlet	23	8	6	7	31	27	32
Aylesbury Utd.	23	10	2	11	46	54	32
Hendon	22	7	10	5	30	24	31
Stevenage Boro.	22	8	5	9	39	35	29
Yeading	24	7	5	11	32	40	26
Yiewsley	23	7	7	9	35	33	28
Grays Ath.	23	5	4	6	23	26	23
Staines T.	26	7	7	12	43	54	28
Kingstonian	23	7	6	10	30	32	27
Bishop's Stortford T.	20	5	7	7	24	25	25
Harlow	22	7	4	11	37	49	25
Marlow Boro.	23	6	10	7	38	49	25
Wealdstone T.	23	7	2	14	27	51	23
Wokingham T.	24	5	7	12	26	39	22
Windsor & E.	23	6	3	14	28	50	21
Bognor Regis	22	2	5	15	25	55	11

Division One

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Hitchin	24	10	4	4	44	17	69
Welwyn	21	13	2	4	44	22	41
Dorking	19	12	5	2	39	20	41
Walton & Hersh.	23	10	6	7	40	34	36
Fleet	24	10	5	9	42	39	35
Banstead	23	10	2	9	44	35	32
Sittingbourne	23	9	5	9	32	32	32
Tooting & Mitch.	24	10	7	7	34	32	37
Berkhm Wood.	23	7	9	6	31	32	30
Leatherh.	23	7	8	8	35	34	29
Uxbridge	21	8	10	3	34	19	28
Haringey Bor.	21	8	4	9	29	35	28
Wembley	23	7	6	10	45	44	27
Maidenhead	24	5	11	8	30	36	26
Uxbridge	23	6	7	10	34	41	25
Cove	23	6	7	10	34	41	25
Croydon	25	5	7	13	34	46	22
Abingdon Town	15	6	5	3	24	22	24
Chalfont St P.	24	4	10	10	27	46	22
Leyton	19	4	7	8	22	28	19
Aveley	20	4	3	13	19	45	15
Basing	23	4	3	16	24	59	15

Division Two

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Met Police	23	14	3	6	51	23	45
Ruislip Manor	19	14	3	2	42	17	45
Hemel Hemp.	23	12	7	4	58	28	43
Chertsey Town	23	12	1	9	54	34	40
Sutton Walton	23	12	4	7	35	24	40
Egham Town	24	12	4	8	46	45	40
Newbury Town	26	10	9	7	37	28	39
Worthing	21	11	6	4	49	33	39
Andover Town	23	11	4	8	39	22	37
Edgware Town	23	10	6	7	54	41	36
Harrow	22	9	7	6	42	35	34
Berkhamsted	24	8	6	10	34	40	30
Tilbury	22	8	6	9	35	51	29
Leatherhead	23	7	6	10	37	37	27
Witham	23	7	6	10	33	38	27
Ware	24	7	5	12	42	48	26
Rainham Town	24	6	6	12	34	44	24
Banstead Ath.	19	6	4	9	29	19	22
Hungerford	20	6	4	10	29	65	22
Barton Rovers	18	4	5	9	14	27	17
Bedford Utd.	21	4	5	12	20	38	17
Southall	21	0	2	19	10	65	2

Division Three

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Aldershot Town	24	12	4	8	61	25	39
Collier Row	20	13	6	1	39	16	45
Thame Utd.	22	13	5	4	54	30	44
Flackwell Hth.	20	13	4	3	62	20	43
Northwood	24	12	7	5	40	40	43
Leighton Town	24	12	6	6	52	30	42
East Thurrock	25	11	4	10	45	36	37
Hertford Town	23	10	5	8	47	47	35
Cove	22	9	6	7	39	28	33
Horsham	22	9	4	9	47	36	31
Royston Town	22	8	6	8	39	29	30
Hoddesdon	24	8	6	10	37	37	30
Epsom & Ewell	22	8	7	8	30	35	25
Kingsbury Town	18	6	6	7	27	27	24
Tring Town	21	6	5	10	30	38	23
Camberley T.	20	5	6	12	28	46	21
Clapton	22	5	4	13	29	47	19
Petersfield Utd.	25	3	5	17	25	69	17
Feltham & Hounsl.	23	3	2	17	25	62	11
Bracknell Town	22	1	6	15	23	73	9

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE

Southern Division

	p	w	d	l	f	a	pts
Gravesend	27	19	2	6	70	38	59
Sittingbourne	22	13	7	2	39	20	46
Bashley	24	14	3	7	39	35	45
Bromley	23	13	3	7	51	38	42
Erith & Bel.	21	13	3	5	46	34	42
Sudbury Town	25	11	7	7	38	34	40
Hastings	21	12	3	6	41	24	39
Poole Town	23	11	5	7	41	30	38
Salisbury	22	11	5	6	38	28	38
Witney	19	11	4	4	31	18	37
Margate	23	11	4	11	45	38	37
Ashford Town	20	10	3	7	42	35	33
Buckingham	20	9	5	6	34	28	32
Fareham T.	25	8	6	11	43	43	30
Burnham	21	7	4	10	29	45	25
Newport IOW	22	4	10	8	22	34	22
Andover	27	6	4	17	31	62	22
Fisher Ath.	24	6	4	14	25	57	22
Canterbury	23	4	6	13	27	53	18
Saltdean	25	4	5	16	33	58	17
Dunstable	25	3	7	15	25	59	16
Bury Town	24	3	3	18	27	73	12

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ELMS SPORTS INJURY CLINIC

Advertisement feature

Taking the strain out of sports injuries

A NEW sports injury clinic recently opened in Church Road, Stanmore. A chartered physiotherapist and a qualified sports massage therapist and acupuncturist work at the clinic, Elms Sports Injury Clinic.

The two experienced practitioners will give advice and help with any sporting injuries.

The nature of many sporting activities leads us to put our bodies through numerous stresses and strains which our bodies are not fully equipped to deal with. As a result injuries occur.

Physiotherapy is the treatment of these injuries through a variety of physical and natural methods.

Before starting any treatment the physiotherapist, Jane Cohen, will give patients a comprehensive examination. This not only tells her how the injury was sustained but also offers information on how the injury may be avoided in the future.

The treatment involves a range of methods including massage, manipulation, ice, heat and ultrasound.

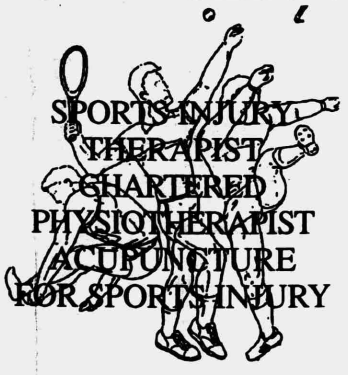
The sports injury massage therapist at Elms Sports Clinic is Michael Keisner, president of the London School of Massage and Acupressure. He is also a qualified acupuncturist.

Sports massage uses many different techniques which are aimed at removing pain from an area of injury, improving mobilisation of the affected joint and improving circulation to the area and bringing dynamic power back to the affected area.

Heat treatment, passive stretch, massage, compression and acupressure are some of the techniques used by Michael. Acupuncture is used if the patient needs further help.

For further information about Elms Sports Injury Clinic, at 30 Church Road, Stanmore, telephone 081 420 7536.

ELMS SPORTS INJURY CLINIC



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