

SPORT

INSIDE OBSERVER SPORT THIS WEEK

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Place with athletics elite beckons at Cwmbran

Old Gayts' date with destiny

By **Tony Bush**

OLD Gaytonians Athletic Club keep an appointment with destiny on Saturday when they travel to the Welsh National Stadium at Cwmbran for the final round of the GRE British League Division Two campaign.

A place amongst the elite of British athletics is beckoning the Harrow club and a good result on Saturday would enable them to achieve a fifth consecutive promotion and join the likes of Harrogate and Birchfield in Division One.

Gayts' amazing run of promotions began in 1985 when they rose out of the Southern League into Division Five of the British League. Since then they have achieved promotion in successive years to reach Division Two.

League leaders Thames Valley are already assured of going up to Division One but Gayts are in second place with twelve and a half league points, two and a half clear of third placed Edinburgh, and after impressive performances in the three previous meetings

are favourites to clinch the second promotion spot. A boost for Gayts is that they look set to field their best team of the summer at Cwmbran. Olympic sprinter Sam Nchinda is returning to top form and tackles the 200 metres for the first time this year as well as running the

100 metres. Nigel Flint returns at 800 metres after recording a fast 1:53.7 in Finland recently. There is a question mark over the fitness of steeplechaser Mark Cursons who has a throat infection but top junior Alan Wray stands by to make only his second British League appearance.

Borough boosted by Welsh wizards

Viking Sports 0 Harrow Borough 4
THE introduction of ex-Swansea duo Martyn James and Ray Pennock provided the impetus for Boro' to finally see off the challenge of plucky Viking Sports on Saturday.

Viking performed well for an hour and had forward keeper Tom McAllister into two good saves in a goalless first half. However, Boro' took the lead after 60 minutes when Jimmy Bolton's cross was headed home by Martin Gurney and things really started to happen when James and Pennock joined the action to make dream starts with their new club.

James got Boro's second in the 70th minute with a fine shot from outside the area and then Pennock headed home a Carl Zachau cross for the third. Pennock was again on hand after both Bolton and Zachau hit the post, the ex-Welsh youth international firing home the rebound to complete a good afternoon's work for Boro'.

Harrow Boro': McAllister, Dicker, Goodchild (Waddock), Bateman, Gleeson (Rogers), Payne, Priddle (James), Cassidy (Scott), Gurney (Pennock), Zachau, Bolton.

Sean Priddle, Francis Cassidy 2, Carl Zachau and Martin Gurney scored for Boro' on Sunday when they defeated CAV 5-3 in a friendly.

Swimmers bid for National honours



A LONG hard season reaches its climax for Harrow and Wealdstone Swimming Club members this week as they bid for honours in the Esso National Age Group Championships at Crystal Palace.

Thousands of age group swimmers throughout the country have trained hard to obtain the necessary qualifying times and Harrow has nine individual qualifiers and 8 relay teams in the championships.

Harrow's individual qualifiers are: Morgan Whorwood (12 years 100m breast), Katy Bennett (12 years 100m back, 100m

fly, 100 f/s, 200m IM); Hazel Alder (15 years 100m and 200m breast); Claire Russ (16 years 200m back); Duncan Belcourt (16 years 1500m f/s, 200m IM, 200m back, 400m IM); Darren Shearsby (16 years 100m and 200m breast); Ahmed El-Hennawy (16 years 200m fly); Sarah Collins (18 years 400m and 800m f/s, 400m IM); Julie Riegall (18 years 100m and 200m back, 200m and 400m IM, 100m fly, 200m f/s, 100m f/s).

Included in the relay teams are: Corrie Williams, Susan Josephs, Louise Lock,

Suzanne Brett, Vicky Sullivan, Jamie Riegall, Duncan Belcourt, Mashioski Ohashi, Darren Shearsby, Tara Williams, Miranda May, Claire russ, Nanette Whorwood, Hazel Alder, Meredith Bass, Karen Gilder, Julie Riegall, Sarah Collins.

● Pictured above, eight of Harrow's individual qualifiers. Front row (left to right): Nanette Whorwood, Morgan Whorwood, Katy Bennett. Back row: Helen Williamson, Jamie Riegall, Duncan Belcourt, Darren Shearsby, Julie Riegall.

Lions roar back from four down

Wembley 5 Yeading 5
IN A bizarre match at Brunel University on Saturday, Lions found themselves 4-0 down after 20 minutes yet still came back to force a draw.

Richardson and Ford put Yeading two up after only eight minutes and the agony was piled on when Matthews fired home number three. When Welsh got a fourth after 23 minutes the game looked beyond salvation.

With the Wembley defence all at sea and reserve keeper Derek Clark looking decidedly uncomfortable, Yeading swept forward looking for a cricket score but the Lions refused to lie down and Stuart Palfrey reduced the deficit after 26 minutes.

Welsh replied with a fifth goal for Yeading but then came the revival with three rapid goals from Dereck Brown, Bobby Hutchinson and Steve Graham to make it 5-4 at half time.

And in a largely uninspiring second half Palfrey saved Lions' blushes with an equaliser on the hour.

● A late goal from Sylvester Williams saw Wembley salvage a 1-1 draw in their friendly against Spartan League club Brook House on Tuesday evening.

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Stones make a six goal start

Windsor 3 Wealdstone 6
WEALDSTONE made a six goal start to the new season in this friendly at Stag Meadow on Tuesday night.

Stones were three goals up within 10 minutes through Terry Rowe, Tony Kelly and Tony Lynch, and Kelly made it 4-0 in the 18th minute.

Windsor reduced the arrears late in the first half and added a second midway through the second period.

But Peter Mason and Paul Wilkins stretched Stones' advantage before the home side got their third near the end with a goal that looked suspiciously offside.

New boys Steve Tapley, Tony Kelly and Sean Norman all made impressive debuts for Stones.



● Tony Kelly - scored twice in his Stones debut.

Dave is boss

DAVE Anderson has been appointed as the new Harrow Borough FC reserve team manager to replace Steve Hawkins. Anderson, who was recommended for the job by Hawkins, formerly managed Sunday League side greenford Park Wanderers.

Gridiron date

THE gridiron game comes to Wembley Stadium again on Sunday when the Cleveland Browns take on the Philadelphia Eagles in American Bowl '89.

Sean signs

HARROW Boro' have signed former Exeter and Brentford midfielder Sean Priddle from Vauxhall League rivals St Albans City.

Boro' go into the Lion's den

HARROW Borough have an attractive friendly on Tuesday evening when the full Millwall first team comes to Earlsmead.

Millwall's had to cancel a recent proposed trip to Sweden and the Borough game will now form part of their pre-Football League season build up.

Borough warm up for the Millwall match with a friendly at Waterloo on Saturday which Andy Waddock is likely to miss with a hamstring injury. Manager Keith Chamberlin is hopeful that both Eamon O'Connor, who has a groin injury, and Andy Goodchild, who has a back problem, will be fit.

Wealdstone are in action at Lower Mead tonight (Thursday) when they take on last season's Vauxhall League champions Redbridge Forest (formerly Leytonstone-Ilford) are the visitors.

Stones are at home again on Saturday when Hertford Town are the visitors and on Tuesday they have a tough game at Wycombe Wanderers.

Skipper Paul Janaway returns from holiday for Wembley's visit to Viking Sports on Saturday and on Tuesday keeper Jeff Fanner is back for the tough home clash with Conference club Enfield.

Shamus Finnerty has a knee injury and is doubtful for Edgware's friendly at home to a Charlton XI on Saturday. On Tuesday Edgware are away to Rayners Lane who tonight (Thursday) have a home match with Welwyn Garden City.

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