

## Maxted back in command

OLD Gaytonians Rugby Club, who finished their 1985/86 season winning the Middlesex Agar Cup for the sixth year out of seven, are actively preparing for the new season.

Doug Maxted continues as Club Captain and Bob Williams assumes the office of Coach.

Bob, who was Club Captain from 1974 to 1982, during a period when O. Gayts success made them the most successful Club (Junior) in Middlesex and arguably in London and the South East — plus the leading Old Boys Club in the London area — brings considerable experience and dedication to a Club he has served since leaving school.

Training commenced early in July and continues Tuesday and Thursday at their Sudbury Hill ground, where extensive improvements to the ground drainage during the summer promises better playing conditions for the future.

Five senior and two junior teams will be fielded most weeks.

The fixture list, to which Reading RFC, the Berkshire Cup holders, have been added, includes many of the top clubs from Middlesex, Herts, Berks, Bucks, Oxfordshire and Hampshire, and is probably the strongest in the Club's history.

The first game is on September 13 at Thurrock, the best club in East London and one of the best in Essex.

Management is now under the Chairmanship of John Rigby, succeeding Jack Herman who, as Chairman for twenty years has given outstanding service to the Old Gaytonians in many capacities, has now retired.

The combination of enlightened management, good leadership, excellent coaching and liaison with both Gayton High and Gunnersbury Schools promises the opportunity for Old Gaytonians to maintain its place in Junior Club rugby for the foreseeable future.

## Pinner back in training

WITH the new rugby season fast approaching, Pinner and Grammarians — under the new captaincy of Alistair Francis — have embarked on their annual pre-season 'fight the flab and get fit quick' training sessions.

The club is inviting potential new members of all standards to join them at Shaftesbury Playing Fields, Grimsdyke Road, Hatch End every Tuesday night at 7 pm for a fitness and coaching session.

In addition to the Tuesday night sessions, the club will also be training on Thursday evenings from 8 pm to 9 pm at the Harrow Leisure Centre commencing on August 21 at no cost to the playing members.

The club has a full fixture list for four teams commencing with a trial match against Kodak on Saturday, September 6 before the first full fixture of the season against St Nicholas Old Boys a week later.

Pinner and Grammarians are also involved in a 15-a-side tournament at Hayes RFC on Saturday, September 29, the first round of the Middlesex Cup on Saturday, October 19, and the local round of the Middlesex Sevens at the end of the season.

On the social side, the entertainment committee has organised discos, dinner and dances, the annual outing to Twickenham for the Middlesex Sevens finals, and an Easter tour to Amsterdam.

## Carianne is unstoppable

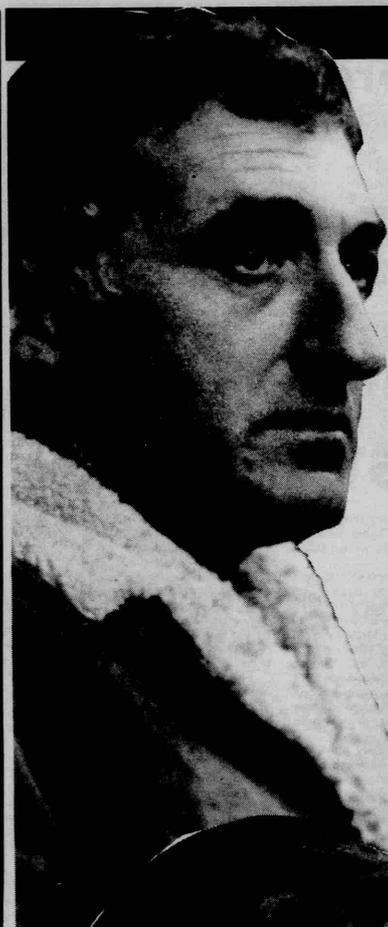
CARIANNE McIntosh continued her unbeaten sequence in the Southern and UK leagues by winning the 800 metres in the Southern League meeting at Southampton.

Facing opposition from Essex, Southampton, Chelmsford and Radley, she led the field in a quiet first lap of 73 seconds before running a second lap of 71 seconds to win in 2.24.0 without anyone close enough to challenge her.

## Perfect Penn

IN Division One of the Ladies July Stableford at Stanmore Golf Club, the winner was H Penn from J Thomas.

In Division Two, E Heck and S Dina were joint winners while R Coleman won Division Three with M Piggott the runner-up. The winner of the Grandmother's Cup was E Heck from H Penn.



# Observer Sport focuses

# SOCCER

## Wealdstone promise a whole new ball game

WEALDSTONE supporters can expect a whole new ball game when the Stones kick off their GM Vauxhall Conference season against Stafford at Lower Mead on Saturday.

Manager Brian Hall has had to scrap the stereotyped Wealdstone system and promises his fans: "You'll see a lot more football down here this season."

He said: "Wealdstone supporters have been brought up on stereotyped football and for one reason — Alan Cordice. We had to play that way because of the players we had and it proved very successful.

**BRIAN HALL** (left) — "You will not find our football as predictable".  
**TERRY DYSON** (below) — "We are aiming to have a really good season".

"It appears that we have now lost Alan Cordice and that means I will have to make my players more permeable. People might now find our football a bit more enjoyable and not as predictable as it was before.

"We proved that our system was right but it is time for a change. We will mix our game up a bit more and maybe the fans will enjoy it more.

"But although our football will not be as predictable, our results also may not be quite as predictable."

Wealdstone face a tough opening to the season, with trips to Maidstone and Scarborough following their clash with Stafford.

"We have got quite a difficult start but it is vitally important that we make a good start," said Hall.

He is pleased with his new signings — Doug McClure, Steve Rutter and Andy Wallace — but he says his summer shopping is not yet over.

He does plan to bring a few more faces to Lower Mead, but says there is no way he can compete with big spenders Enfield, Barnet, Maidstone and Telford, who have splashed out huge sums in their bids to enter the Football League.

"They have spent a load of money and we have spent none," says Hall. "It will now be a test of our organisational ability, our coaching and our ability to motivate players, against their money."

"I am looking forward to the challenge. And so are the players."

He added: "I have been pleased with our pre-season form. The players have shown an awful lot of enthusiasm and I think last year's league position hurt them as much as it hurt me.

"The players now realise how much hard work they have to do to get back to enjoying the sort of success they had two seasons ago.

"Competition is going to be extremely fierce this season. All players are egotists and badly want success."

Hall believes in bringing players with the right sort of character to Lower Mead. "We test the character of our players and they come up trumps.

"Any of our players could go to other clubs for better money, but I do not think they would want to.

"I have a loyal bunch of guys here and you do not get that overnight.

"We never get any blow-ups here — although we do have the occasional 'clear the air' meeting — and I do not have to wield the big stick that much.

"The players demand certain standards from each oth-

er and no-one wants to let anyone else down. If one of them is not doing it the other 10 soon let him know.

"It is all about self-discipline really and my players proved they had that when they reported back for training in good shape. They had obviously been working hard during the break and that sums my players up.

"It has taken time for us to knit that together."

## A big test for Dyson

KINGSBURY start their first season in the Vauxhall-Opel Division One with a trip to Basildon, who escaped relegation by just a point last season.

But Town manager Terry Dyson will not make the trip to Essex in an over-confident mood. "Last season's form counts for nothing," he said. "I haven't seen Basildon play and will be taking nothing for granted."

Dyson, who built his side from scratch when he arrived at Silver Jubilee Park a year ago, has added just two players to his squad so far.

He has signed defender Joe Harley, from Leyton Wingate, and former Wembley centre back Paul Shields.

"Shields has added a bit of extra height in the defence which we lacked last season," said Dyson.

"I am hoping we will be a bit more solid now. He also has a lot more ability on the ground than a lot of people think, including himself.

"We were very good at the back last year and did not concede too many goals. But we looked a bit uncomfortable against the long, high balls hit up to big forwards."

Dyson added that other signings may be made, but only if the right people become available. First, though, he plans to give last season's side the chance to prove themselves in a higher division.

"The players who got us up last year deserve a chance to play in Division One," he said. "But there will be competition for places and if the right people become available of course I will go for them.

"But I will not know if I will need anybody until the season gets underway. You can never tell until then."

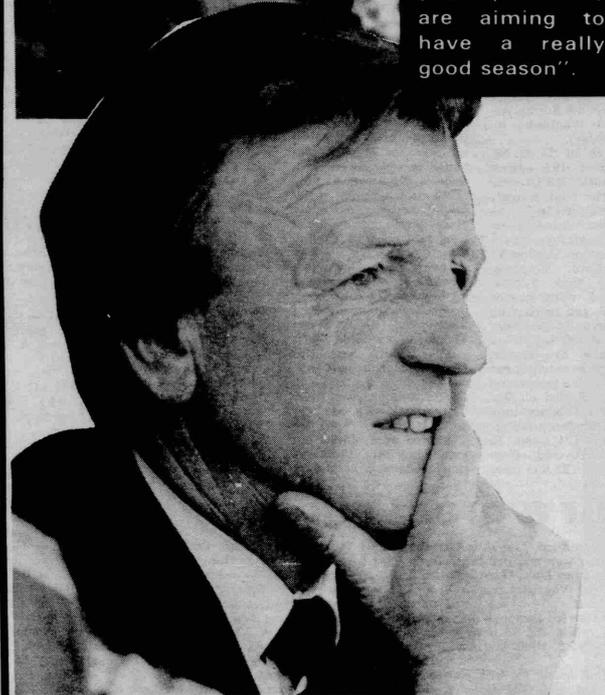
Dyson will not make rash predictions of more league glory for Kingsbury, saying only that Town will hold their own at least.

"I am hoping that we will do very well in the league, naturally," he said. "The players seem very keen, they have worked hard and they have played very well in our matches so far.

"But I am not going to say that we will win it. I am not going to worry about the opposition. I will be more concerned with the way we are playing.

"If we can play to our ability we will cause people problems and will have the opportunities to win."

Dyson and several of his



## Opening fixtures

Saturday, August 16

GM Vauxhall Conference: Wealdstone v Stafford Rangers (Lower Mead, 3).  
 Vauxhall-Opel League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Kingstonian (Earlsmead, 3). Division One: Epsom and Ewell v Wembley; Basildon United v Kingsbury Town.  
 London Spartan League: Brimsdown Rovers v Edgware.  
 Halls Brewery Hellenic League: Premier Division: Moreton Town v Rayners Lane.

Tuesday, August 19

Vauxhall-Opel League Premier Division: Hayes v Harrow Borough. Division One: Wembley v Staines Town; Kingsbury v Uxbridge.

Wednesday, August 20

GM Vauxhall Conference: Maidstone United v Wealdstone.  
 London Spartan League: Edgware v Hanwell (White Lion Ground, 7.30).  
 Halls Brewery Hellenic League Premier Division: Hounslow Town v Rayners Lane.

Harrow Borough's new signing Bobby Dell — a £1,750 buy from Wycombe Wanderers and the costliest player to arrive in the local football scene.