

DARTS

GDA MIXED TREBLES



Winners (left to right): Alan Kimberley / Jo Bonner / George Federico

The Mixed Trebles took place at the usual venue, College Cosmos, for an exciting evening of darts. Most games on the night were won comfortably with 2-0 wins. That was up to the final which was a closer contested affair. George Federico's recent compelling form certainly helped coupled with his talented understudy and work partner Alan Kimberley. Not forgetting an in-form Jo Bonner which made them top favourites for the title. The final was contested between Dyson Parody / Jadrian Pecino / Annamarie Pecino against hot favourites Alan Kimberley / George Federico / Jo Bonner. The first to 2 games took the title and they went 1 - 1 each. Having to play a decider (the closest contested match of the whole evening). They played the decider but in the end it was Kimberley / Federico & Bonner who persisted enough to make it 2 - 1 in their favour and the winners of this year's GDA's Mixed Trebles event.

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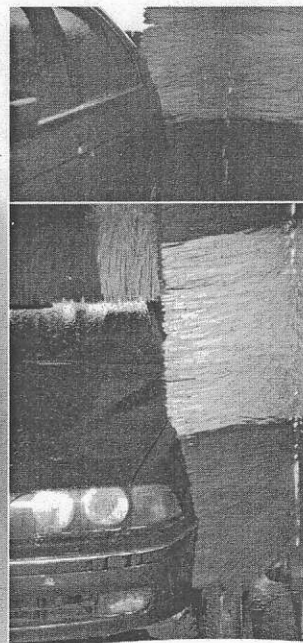
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UK FOOTBALL

ROSICKY HOPEFUL OVER HENRY

Tomas Rosicky has backed Thierry Henry to return from injury and have a "great season" with Arsenal - but admits the thought of their talisman captain leaving the Emirates Stadium is "not good". The Gunners have once again had to deal with continued speculation their most influential player is set to leave, with both Barcelona and AC Milan said to be leading the chasing pack. Henry continues to insist he remains "for the moment" very much an Arsenal player - and even moved to dismiss a report

originating in France that a deal had already been done to take him to the Nou Camp by declaring "my name is not up on the departures board". However, there is no doubt Henry's future now does not look as certain as it did just over a year ago when he looked to have pledged the remainder of his career to the Gunners in a new, lucrative deal. A series of niggling injuries robbed Arsenal of their key man for large spells of the last campaign, as fatigue finally got the better of

Henry following a gruelling year with club and country in 2006. Although the Gunners proved they can win without their talisman, there is no doubt a fit Henry would once again inspire Arsene Wenger's side for the battle to force themselves back into contention for honours. Czech winger Rosicky - who arrived last summer in a £7million deal from Borussia Dortmund - knows full well the influence Henry has at Emirates Stadium. "He is captain and the most outstanding personality, it would

not be good," Rosicky said when questioned on the reports surrounding the Arsenal captain's future by the Czech newspaper Sport. "Thierry was not playing for a long time due to injury and now he will come back. "He rested and will have a great season. "The same may be said about (Robin) van Persie. They both know how to score goals and I think they might be stars of the entire season." The future of manager Wenger -

who has just a year left to run on his contract - has also been called into question. The French coach, 57, however, has reiterated he has no intention of walking away from the club just yet in the wake of the shock departure of former vice-chairman and close friend David Dein. "The manager told us when we were leaving that he has a contract for another year and that he will fulfil it and will continue in the next season," said Rosicky, 26. "This is all and I hope that it will remain the same."

MAGPIES CAN'T BUY INSTANT SUCCESS - ALLARDYCE

Newcastle boss Sam Allardyce has warned the club's fans he could not buy instant success with £100million. Allardyce became the sixth manager in less than 11 years at St James' Park when he took on the challenge of succeeding

Glenn Roeder in May. He arrived knowing many of his most recent predecessors had departed in short order having failed to end a wait for silverware which now extends to 38 years, and 52 since a domestic trophy last arrived on

Tyneside. However, while acutely aware of the price of failure at St James', and the demands which will come if Mike Ashley completes his £134.4million takeover, he insists he will need time to build his vision for the future.

Allardyce said: "Everyone wants instant success, but that is a recipe for disaster. "In fact, the club has been a disaster in terms of success in the last 10 seasons, and if you want that, you aren't going to get that from me.

"There is too much to do to have instant success here, even if we spent £100m. "We have to put in completely new ideas and a complete new structure behind the scenes and then you have to sell this to the players, which takes time."

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