

SPORT ROUND-UP

First feel ready for return to big league

Hockey

SUTTON Coldfield Ladies First XI return to the top flight of hockey for the first time in four years tomorrow.

Sutton face Bowdon Hightown Ladies at Wyndley, pushback 12pm.

Sutton go into the new season in confident mood.

The 2010-11 season saw Sutton knock out three Premiership sides (Clifton, Poynton and Cannock) on their way to the cup semi-finals and they also had a convincing win over local rivals Olton, in the play-offs.

While the first team had a weekend of preparations for their Premiership debut, the rest of the ladies club were enjoying success in their pre-season friendlies.

The seconds eased to a 5-1 win over Coventry and North Warwickshire thanks to goals from Isobel Smith (3), Karen Bird and player of the match Alice Bradley.

the thirds beat Cannock 5-2 with goals from Tracey Hart (3), Angie Evans and Vicki Graham.

Sutton fourths won 6-0 against Cannock thanks to a hat-trick from Eli Burns.

Emma Newman bagged two goals and Naomi Cottam added the sixth.

Finally, the sixths beat Cannock 4-2 with goals from Paula Maxwell, Lisa Abbot (2) and Carol Eustace.

For details of how to get involved in Sutton Hockey Club, email comms@sutton-coldfieldhc.co.uk or turn up for a training session.

The ladies train on Tuesdays from 7-8pm while the men train from 7pm-8.30pm.

Junior enrolment is this Sunday (September 18) from 9am-10.30am.



Yuka Walker (right) triumphed over Dave Overton in the Paul Whitehouse Plate.

Walker and Simon prove a knockout

Badminton

THE quarter-finals of the Wyndley Badminton League's annual knockout trophies took place on Sunday.

In the Paul Whitehouse Plate, Yuka Walker beat Dave Overton 21-15, 21-9 and Lance Simon defeated Sam Read 19-21, 21-15, 21-13.

The John York Trophy saw Phil Townson beat Tim Bayliss 21-9, 21-15, Andrew Dyke defeat Hong Xiao 21-10, 21-10, Gerry Leighton overcome Paul Whitehouse 21-16, 19-21, 21-17 and Adrian Bates beat Hannah Chantler 16-21, 21-17, 21-17.



TENNIS: Four Oaks Tennis Club junior Nathan Ensor won the Esperta Warwick U 18 boys singles title last weekend. The 17-year-old claimed a 7-6, 6-1 victory against Alexander Gurzer from Ashby Tennis Club. Nathan, who took up tennis only two years ago, works with Four Oaks head coach Arnie Benidor (left).



TENNIS: Penns Lane Tennis Club's Oliver Nolan has been celebrating an ace three weeks in the sport. Nolan won the Edgbaston Archery LTA tournament before reaching the semi-final of a prestigious Edgbaston Priory event. He went onto win the Warwickshire county title and received the fair play award in the process. "We are so proud of Oliver for what he has achieved over the past three weeks," said Penns Lane Head coach Paul Bayliss. "He deserves all his success. His workrate will ensure that he fulfils his potential and dreams. It is no surprise that Oliver won the fair play award too as he is so fair and competes and trains so hard but is always smiling. We are so proud of him and his attitude is something that we try to install in all of our players." Anyone interested in getting involved in tennis can email paulbayliss100@hotmail.co.uk or call 07769 664988.

Matt bags record as brilliant Boldmere save best for last

Swimming

By STEVE HARLOW
Swimming correspondent

BOLDMERE Swimming Club's A team retained their Nuneaton & District Division One Junior Swimming League with some fine displays in the 'Showdown' meeting between the top six teams.

Going into the final, Boldmere were placed second but equal on points behind arch rivals Leicester Penguins followed by Nuneaton and Bedworth, Northampton 'A', Halesowen and Lutterworth.

At the halfway point of the night, Boldmere had edged into a 6-point lead which they increased to 11 at the 42-event marker but with four events remaining Leicester had whittled this to just 1 point.

But with one individual event and three relays remaining Boldmere turned the screw with three firsts and a third to seal victory by seven points.

The final was littered with some fantastic performances that produced 16 first places, 30 personal bests and eight individual club records, two of which were Championship Final records.

Beth Grant set the first in the 12/u 50m breaststroke in 36.12secs, breaking the previous record by 0.76secs.

The second came from Matt Price in the 11/u 50m backstroke in 33.09secs, which broke the longest record standing - 15-years - by a massive 1.47secs. Price also won the 11/u 50m freestyle in a new club record of 28.82secs.



Boldmere Swimming Club's stars celebrate another Nuneaton League triumph.

Picture: Steve Harlow

The 9-year-old girls team of Harriet Gordon, Stephanie Deathridge, Francessca Goode and Alex Bartley stole the show by winning both their relays, medley and freestyle.

Goode won the individual butterfly too, while there were additional victories for Stella O'Hehir (10/u 50m freestyle) and Kate Davies (11/u 50m breaststroke and fly).

Nine of the wins on the night came in relays with the 12/u quartet of Laura Richardson, Rachel Wilson, Grant and Eden Harlow also doing the double.

The boys' 12/u freestyle foursome of Price, Joel Cunningham, Ben Campbell

and Ben Stanford claimed a victory, while the boys 11/u



Matt Price receives a special award from Nuneaton Swimming League chairman Rachel Butler to mark his record-breaking 50m backstroke swim.

team of Tom Bloor, Kai Alexander, Cunningham and Price dominated their relays.

Others with stand-out relay legs were nine-year-olds Jamiroquai Sneekes, Jack Bateman and Leo Karski with a super-slick change-over in the 10/u freestyle that earned a valuable position ahead of Leicester Penguins.

Teleb Givans and Leighton Palmer-Whyte produced two solid legs in the eight-leg boys relay team that won by two seconds.

Boldmere have now earned themselves a place in the Southern ARENA Junior Inter-League Area Final in Stechford on October 3.



TENNIS: Boldmere Tennis Club crowned several champions at its annual Open Tournament Finals last weekend. In the men's singles, Will Thorley (below) triumphed for the third year running, defeating Tim Brown 6-4, 7-6 (10-8). In the ladies' singles Sam Hampson (above) retained her title by thumping Del Johnston 6-0, 6-0. Thorley and Brown teamed up to claim the men's doubles titles, beating Barry Hucks and Sam Braniff 6-4, 6-4, while Chris Kimberley and Lesley Martin beat Johnston and Fran Lumley 6-2, 6-2 to lift the women's doubles crown. In the mixed doubles, Kimberley picked up her second title of the weekend and Thorley his third as they beat Bridget Coleman and Hucks 6-2, 6-2. The Boldmere Veterans trophy was won by Johnston and Floyd Brown as they overcame Shirley Adams and Ian Rossiter 3-6, 6-4, 6-4. For more details on the Jockey Road club, call 0121 308 3150 or 0121 603 7930.

