

SPORT ROUND-UP

Vaughan has eyes on the UFC prize

MARTIAL-ARTS

ERDINGTON fighter Vaughan Lee has his sights firmly set on earning a Ultimate Fighting Championship bantamweight title in the next year or two.

Lee picked up his first UFC victory with a stunning submission stoppage over Japanese ace Norifumi Yamamoto at UFC 144 in Japan last month.

And he knows if he can string two or three more victories together, a shot at the title – currently held by American Dominic Cruz – could be a possibility.

Lee said: "I've watched a replay of the fight every day, ten times a day! And every time I watch it, it feels fresh."

"He unloaded on me early on but I covered up really well and rocked him a couple of times."

"He took me down, sort of in survival mode, but his head was a bit hazy I think and I got the submission. It was amazing, a dream come true."

"It was the biggest win of my whole career and it's what I've been working for all these years."

"I'm having a break now because the 12-week training camp was really hard but whoever they want me to fight next, I don't mind."

"Maybe I need to string three, four, five wins together to get a title shot – I've seen people have four wins and then fight for the belt, so we'll see."

"I might get a chance in the next year or two but it depends how my performances go from here."

"I'd like to thank my coach Joe 'Silk' Cummins and all the boys and management at the UFC Training Centre in Erdington for all their help."

INSHORT

BADMINTON: The winners of the recent Wyndley Badminton League titles were: Division 1 – Chris Dyte, Division 2 – Tahir Mahmood, Division 3 – Rob Dyte, Division 4 – Nabil Zabe, Division 5 – John Cox, Division 6 – Pete Green and Division 7 – Gary Flanagan.

Chris Dyte, Mahmood, Rob Dyte, Zabe, Cox, Mike Norman and Flanagan won all their January session matches.

In other results, Paul Whitehouse defeated Tony Cupitt 2-0 in Division One before losing out by the same score to Kevin Dodd.

Ray Woodford clinched promotion to Division One by beating Josh Downer 2-1. Downer had previously beaten Adrian Bates 2-0.

Mark Bennett beat Adrian Hoyte 2-0 in Division Three, with Mike Norman beating Clare Godfrey 2-0 to clinch runners-up spot in Division Six.

CHESS: Sutton Coldfield Chess Club has won the Birmingham League Barrington Trophy, having beaten Kynoch in the final. Meanwhile, in the Cannock League, they have reached the final of the Chase Trophy where they will face rivals West Bromwich. Sutton Coldfield Chess Club meet on Monday nights at the Jaguar Sports and Social Club, Chester Road, opposite Castle Vale Shopping Centre. Visit www.suttonchess.org.uk for more details.

Six swimmers take gold as Boldmere make a splash at the championships

SWIMMING

By STEVE HARLOW
Swimming correspondent

WEEK one of the Warwickshire Championships got off to a storming start with six Boldmere swimmers being crowned county champions on the day.

Kristie Hackett (400m IM and 100m fly), Emma Smith (200m freestyle), Alice Dearing (1,500m freestyle), Joey Stanger (50m freestyle) and Emily Gordon (200m breaststroke) all proved to be the cream of the county.

In total, Boldmere notched up an impressive haul of 55 championship, age group and relay medals – 22 gold, 17 silver and 16 bronze – with 132 personal bests and four new club records.

In the 400m IM, 16-year-old Hackett's time of 5.07.24mins was a nine-second personal best and new club record.

Second in the same age group was Katie Richardson with Emily Gordon taking the bronze.

Dearing won the 10/14 age group gold with her time placing her second overall in the championship, with Katie Richardson collecting the bronze.

After winning the 15+ age group gold with her heat time in the 100m fly, Hackett went on to secure her second county title in the final with a winning time of 1.06.56mins.

Jenny Fowler took bronze in the same age group as did Rachel Wilson in the 13/14 age



Some of Boldmere's Warwickshire Championship medal winners.

Picture by Steve Harlow

group. In the 1,500m freestyle, Dearing smashed her own junior county record by 20 seconds with a new time of 17.44.32.

Dearing took silver in the 13/14 age group while Aristeia Knight and Kate Davies both won bronze in the 9/10 and 11/12 age groups respectively.

Smith also won the 15+ age group in the 50m backstroke and silver in the championship final with Chloe Wiedeman winning her first county individual medal with

a third place in the 11/12 age group.

Four more gold medals were added to the tally by the girls in the 200m breaststroke by Knight (9/10), Alex Dolan (13/14) and Gordon (15+) who, with the overall fastest time, was crowned county champion with Dolan taking bronze.

Kate Davies came third in the 11/12 age group setting a new club record.

The boys had great success in the 50m freestyle with Joey Stanger and Phil Hewitt who

won gold and silver respectively with only 0.14secs separating them.

Gold medals were gained in all the other age groups by Taleb Givans (9/10), Ben Stanford (11/12) and Jake Dixon (13/14) with Matt Price (11/12) and Steven Wilson (13/14) picking up bronze.

In the 200m backstroke, Jack Dobson (9/10) picked up his first county medal with a bronze while Boldmere dominated the 11/12 age group when Ben Stanford, Joel

Cunningham and Matt Price finished 1-2-3 to take a clean sweep of the medals.

There were two further silvers for Wilson (13/14) and Adam Hall (15+) with the latter's new club record time also earning him the championship bronze.

Ryan Andrews smashed his 100m Fly pb by an impressive 14 seconds to take the gold in the 10/11 category while Jake Dixon (12/14) finished second to take silver, as did Phil Hewitt in the overall championship final.

In the boys' 100m breaststroke, Leighton Palmer-Whyte earned silver ahead of Taleb Givans with a bronze in the 10/11 category. Jake Dixon (12/14) added a bronze to his collection while Like Davies won the 15+ silver and then bronze in the Championship final.

In the 9/10 relays, both the boys medley foursome of Ben Smith, Palmer-Whyte, Jack Dobson and Givans, plus the girls' 4x50m freestyle quartet of Alex Bartley, Hannah Turnbull, Knight and Lily Wood took silver.

A third silver went to the girls 10yr + 4x100m Freestyle team of Jenny Fowler, Dolan, Hackett and Smith breaking the club record by half a second.

In the 11-16 4x50m Medley, Gordon and Gina Lockett joined Smith and Hackett to slice 2.5secs off the club record to top the podium with gold.

The final gold medal went to the boys 10yr+ 4x100m freestyle four of Hall, Dixon, Hewitt and Stanger.



Mark Bridges, Dave Long, Russell Simpson and Colin McAuley in Stafford.

ATHLETICS: ROYAL Sutton Coldfield Athletics Club had victories at the Stafford 20-mile and the Fradley 10k road races last weekend.

At the Stafford 20-mile road race there was a team victory for Dave Long (11th), Mark Bridges (12th), Russell Simpson (14th), Colin McAuley (17th) and Paul Jenkins (112th). All of the runners were using the race as part of their

preparations for the London Marathon in April. At the Fradley 10k Nick Corker (right) was the first runner home in a field of more than 900 in a time of 32.37mins. Tony Hinchley was 22nd and Clive Sayers was first in his age category. Other Royal Sutton runners competing were Paul Rickards, who improved his personal best by two minutes, and Bunny Kyd.



Westgate wins international

ATHLETICS

SUTTON modern pentathlon Jemma Westgate continued her fine start to the year at the weekend by winning the first international competition of the new season.

Westgate triumphed at the British Youth A Under-19 International held at the National Pentathlon Centre at Hartpury which featured competitors from as far afield as Portugal, Hungary, Germany and Spain.

The competition began in the swimming pool and a solid 200m swim of 2.24mins gave Westgate 1,068points for 19th position at that point.

The time she spent on fencing practice during the winter paid off handsomely in the next event as she won 22 out of her 25 fights.

That smashed her fencing international points score, setting a new personal best of 1,144 points which propelled her to the top of the leader board going into the combined shoot and run event.

Due to her fencing exploits, Westgate had a 17-second handicap lead over her closest rival and took advantage to seal gold and her first international title.

She knocked the five shooting targets down in 34 seconds to open up a 25-second lead and a fast first 1km run main-



Jemma Westgate added to her medal and trophy collection last weekend.

tained that lead going into the second shoot.

There she shot down five targets in just 26 seconds, which consolidated her lead going into the final shoot, where she knocked down the last five targets in an extremely fast 22 seconds.

Westgate is set to continue her winter training over the next few weeks before an in-depth training week at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin next month.