

SPORT ROUND-UP

Plan comes together for the A team as Boldmere impress

Swimming

BOLDMERE Swimming Club's A team produced an awesome performance in the opening round of the Nuneaton and District Junior League at Wyndley.

They triumphed with an incredible 269 points, a whopping 67 ahead of City of Hereford with Stourbridge A in third on 192 points. Chase came fourth followed by Leicester Sharks then Northampton B.

The A team gained an amazing 48 out of 51 top three places with 32 wins - including 16 relay victories - plus 27 personal bests and two club records for Matt Price in the 12/u 50m backstroke and 12/u backstroke first leg of the medley relay.

In their debut junior league gala the 9-year-olds made an impressive start with Jamie Dark taking second in the 25m breaststroke.

Boys' gala star Acer Woolley won the 25m butterfly and Ben Smith claimed two wins in the 25m freestyle and backstroke.

Mollie Goldstone came first in the 25m breaststroke, Abbey Turnbull took third in the 25m butterfly and second in the 25m freestyle, with Holly Bloor just behind in third in the latter.

In the 10-year age group, Lilly Wood won the 50m freestyle and breaststroke, while Alexandra Bartley was second in the 50m butterfly.

James Goodwin was third in both 50m butterfly and freestyle, Toby Chiles came third in the 50m breaststroke and Jack Bateman second in the 50m backstroke.

The 11-year-olds did well with Megan Holder coming third in the 50m backstroke,



Boldmere Swimming Club gala stars Acer Wooley, Hannah Turnbull, Jaydon Reid, Stella O'Hehir and William Copper.

Picture: Steve Harlow

girls' gala star Stella-Anne O'Hehir winning the 50m butterfly and coming third in the 50m freestyle, while Aristeia Knight was second in the 50m breaststroke.

Leo Karski, Taleb Givans and Leighton Palmer-Whyte all came first in their respective races with Roan Griffiths second in the 50m butterfly.

In the 12-year section, Kate Davies came first in the 50m butterfly, as did Lauren Wall in the 50m freestyle. Tom Bloor won the 50m butterfly and came second in the 50m breaststroke.

Elsewhere, there were some good displays from the B squad at Pingles Leisure Centre in Nuneaton, including several podium finishes in the 12-year group.

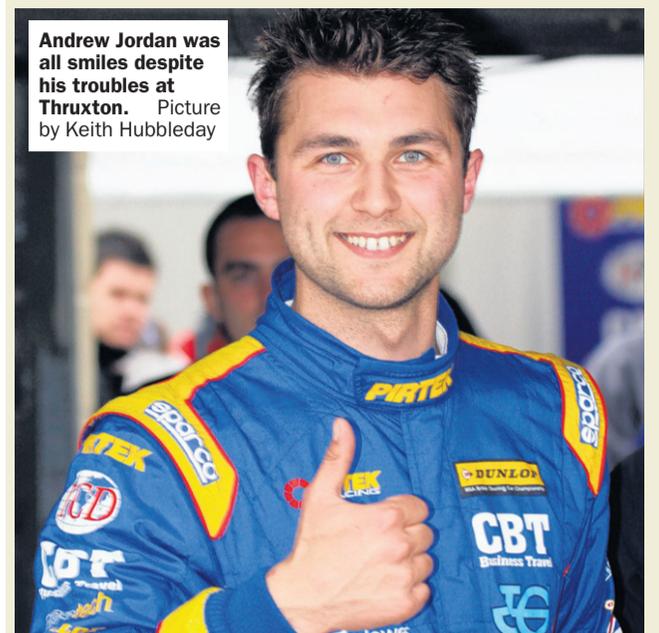
Chloe Weideman was third in the girls' backstroke with Joel Cunningham second in the boys' race. Ryan Andrews

finished second in the butterfly and third in the freestyle.

Jack Dobson claimed two third places in the boys' 11-year-old backstroke and butterfly, then teamed up with Cunningham, Sam Morris and Andrews to claim a superb first place in the 12-year-old boys' freestyle relay and second in the individual medley.

Rebecca Ilott finished third in the 10-year girls' butterfly, with William Cooper and Hannah Turnbull named Stars of the Gala for their contributions in individual and relay races.

In Division Three, Boldmere's C team turned in a great round one performance, recording 38 personal bests, five wins and 13 second places to finish third, only 11 gala points behind Kingsbury Aquarius B, with Warley Wasps taking first place.



Andrew Jordan was all smiles despite his troubles at Thruxton. Picture by Keith Hubbleday

Jordan drags things back from the brink of disaster

Motorsport

ANDREW Jordan endured a nightmare first corner crash in wet and wild conditions at Thruxton to slip behind the pace in the British Touring Car Championship title picture.

Having qualified in pole position at the Hampshire circuit, Jordan looked well-placed to improve on his overall fourth spot in the BTCC standings.

However, a crash at the very first corner put paid to those hopes as Jordan's Honda Civic came off worst after a tangle with championship leader Jason Plato's MG.

Jordan span across the track and finished in the barriers to end his race only seconds after it had begun.

A disappointed Jordan said: "I'd not got my car out of first gear very well which allowed Jason to pull up

alongside me.

"I was on a tighter line but wasn't going to give my lead up that easy and it just got away from me. We had quite a lot of damage to repair for race two."

The crash meant Jordan lined up at the back of the grid for that second race but he produced a superb drive in the tricky conditions to fight his way up to 10th spot by the chequered flag.

And he continued to drag his back weekend back from the brink of disaster in race three, with an accomplished fifth-place finish.

Despite the points he picked up in those final two races, Jordan has dropped to sixth in the overall standings on 94 points, 35 behind leader Plato.

He will be hoping to claw some of that deficit back when the BTCC rolls into Oulton Park in Cheshire on the weekend of June 10.

Future king of the waves meets Olympian

Sailing

SUTTON Coldfield junior sailing stars Dan Venables met a sailing great when top coach and former Olympic silver medallist Joe Glanfield took time out of his busy training schedule to visit Bishop Vesey Grammar School.

Venables, a year eight student at the school, is the current junior sailing World Topper champion and took full advantage of his meeting with Glanfield after he dropped into the Lichfield

Road school. Glanfield shared his stories of how he went from sailing enthusiast to silver medallist as well as his current role as Olympic coach to women's 470 pair and Team Volvo sailors Hannah Mills and Saskia Clark, who will represent Great Britain at this year's Games.

Headteacher David Iddon said: "It was an absolutely incredible day and our students haven't stopped talking about Joe, his achievements and his goal for gold; he was truly inspirational."

"In particular, Dan came

away with an absolute belief that he too could one day represent Great Britain on the world stage.

"As a school, we pride ourselves on developing our students' motivation, focus and ambition but Joe has enhanced our ethos to the point where I believe they will strive even harder to achieve goals they may have thought were otherwise out of their reach."

Glanfield made his Olympic debut at Sydney in 2000, having just turned 21, where he won bronze with teammate Nick Rogers in the 470 Olympic senior class and followed that up with silver at Athens in 2004 and again in Beijing in 2008, where the pair narrowly missed out on gold.

He now combines coaching with education and business working with the Youth Sport Trust.

He added: "I was given such a warm welcome by the young people at the school and it was a wonderful opportunity for me to fly the flag for British sailing."

"I hope I have given them the inspiration to aim even higher in whatever they do."



Former Olympic silver medallist Joe Glanfield with Bishop Vesey's own sailing ace Dan Venables. (PB14181-9270SP)



JUDO: Two members of 2A's Judokwai bagged medals at a Thomas Deakon Judo Club competition in Peterborough last week.

Samuel Perry took silver in his first competition in the boys' under-42kg weight category while Laurie Evans struck gold in the girls' under-40kg weight category.

2A's Judokwai meet every Monday and Thursday at John Willmott School from 6.45pm-8.15pm. They also train at Wyndley Leisure Centre on Tuesday evenings from 5.15pm and Saturday mornings. All age groups and all levels of experience from novice upwards are welcome.

INSHORT

BADMINTON: Tahir Mahmood was crowned Division One champion for April in the Wyndley Badminton League after an unbeaten month. Other league winners were John Brant (Div 2), James Clark (Div 3), Steve Shakespeare (Div 4), Gary Flanagan (Div 5), Ben Fox (Div 6), Atul Garg (Div 7) and Alistair Moore (Div 8). Paul Whitehouse, Clark, Phil Townson, Shakespeare, Jonathan Smith, Mark Nixon, Garg and Fox also won all of their April session games. In early May action, Whitehouse has hit top form in Division One by beating Gerry Leighton 2-0 and becoming the first player to defeat Mahmood with another 2-0 success.

TENNIS: Sutton United Tennis Club is holding an open day next Sunday (May 13). The event takes place from 1.30pm-2.30pm at the club in Tamworth Road (near Railway Bridge). Coaches will be on hand to help on court. Discounts will be available for membership and coaching. For more information, call Paul Robinson on 07976 375461 or email pjr.tennis@btinternet.com