

SPORT ROUND-UP



New GB star
Bradley Lynch.
Picture: Steve
Harlow

Teenage swim star makes waves on his British debut

SWIMMING

BOLDMERE Swimming Club star Bradley Lynch braved sharks and jellyfish to represent Great Britain at the European Open Water Swimming Cup in Israel recently.

It was Lynch's international open water debut after impressing selectors in the indoor pool with his displays at the Olympic trials.

And he admitted the experience of the 10k event – where he finished a creditable 14th out of 28 competitors – had been a memorable one.

The 16-year-old said: "I found it really enjoyable but it was a lot different to pool swimming.

"It was the first 10k I've ever done – the furthest I'd swum before was 1,500m (1.5k) so it was a big step up but you just had to keep going.

"Some of the other competitors, like the guy who won it, had been to the Olympics before so it was a good standard.

"I think I did well, consid-

ering we were on the lookout for sharks too!

"I thought there would be nets in the water but there weren't so we were open to any attacks.

"Fortunately, there were no sharks but there were some jellyfish and we got stung by a few of them."

Lynch's efforts drew praise from British Swimming Open Water and Development coach Mark Perry, who said: "Bradley gave a solid performance in his first international open water event and was a credit to his club and coaches."

The Bishop Vesey pupil – who said his school had been really supportive of his swimming – will again represent GB in another European event in Turkey this summer, this time over 5k.

And while this summer's Olympics in London will come too soon for the teenager, he has an eye on future Games.

He added: "If I keep working the way I am doing, then going to 2016 (in Rio) would be an aim."

Gutsy Tyler shows his bottle on comeback

KICKBOXING

By **MATT PANTER**
Sports reporter

ERDINGTON fighter Tyler Shakespeare made a successful return to kickboxing on Sunday, a year after giving up the sport.

Shakespeare had decided to switch codes and take up professional boxing.

But he has since decided his heart was with his first sport and returned to kickboxing with a victory over Blackburn's Martin Sweeney at the Ramada Hotel in Walmley.

Shakespeare took the first four rounds but was caught with a straight right counter in the fifth which broke his nose badly.

Sweeney then piled on the pressure throughout the remainder of the fight sensing a stoppage.

But he had not taken into consideration Shakespeare's resilience which carried him over the line.

Shakespeare said: "Kickboxing has many goals left for me and I have a passion for the sport so I aim to realise some of those goals.

"This fight was definitely my hardest to date.

"Sweeney didn't seem to know the meaning of pain. I hit him with everything even landing front kicks to his face, but he just walked on for more.

"I knew I was in excellent shape for this fight and my training had been harder and better than ever before.

"My conditioning coach Wayne Jarvis had put a lot into me and I needed to draw on every bit of that training to get through the last two rounds.

"But all said it was a six round fight and having won the first four it was a job done.

"He knew he had to stop me to win it after that and gave it his best.

"But I have always been confident of my ability to take a shot and now I know for sure that I can.



He added: "It was a great fight to watch apparently, so I am glad I gave the crowd a good performance."

Erdington's Jake Richards also featured on the card against Sunderland's Dean Petty and came out on top in a high tempo fight.

Tori Willets took the Ladies 60kg British title overcoming Shannon Canovan also from Sunderland.

John Wilmott student Hollie Fay also took the cadet version of the under-60kg title against Chesly Conlin of Cleveland.

Ryan Coley was stopped in the second round of his bout against Pro World Champion Simon Akufo.



FOOTBALL: Erdington and Sutton Schools under-12s finished off a very successful first season by beating Walsall 3-0 in the final of the English Schools Divisional Trophy.

Beaten only once this season, they also achieved runners up spot in the West Midlands League and won the Warwickshire Cup. In the final English Schools Trophy,

Erdington dominated the game and Declan Whiting opened the scoring. Ethan Cabellero added a second midway through the first half and Aiden Boyle hit a third.



FOOTBALL: Sportsco under-15s proved they were up for the cup as they secured the Lichfield and District Cup with a victory over Berkswich. After a goalless first half,

Sportsco fell a goal behind against the run of play. Sportsco then showed tremendous fighting spirit and levelled through Elliott Clark with 15 minutes to go.

With extra time looming, Sportsco forced a corner and with five minutes to go defender Will Raworth out jumped the Berkswich defence to power a fantastic headed winning goal.



MARTIAL ARTS: More than 100 students, old and young, took part in the largest grading yet for Sutton Schools of Tae Kwon-Do recently. Top of the class were Kieran Kelly, Sebastian Smith, Jacob Smith, Elysia Norton-Clarke and Samraaj Dosanjh, who all achieved black belt status. Instructor Richard Nutt said:

"It's brilliant to see students getting recognition for their efforts with parents and children grading together. Watch out for our demo at the Sutton Coldfield Community Games on Saturday, July 14. Pictured (l-r) are (front) Norton-Clarke, Sebastian Smith and back: Dosanjh, Kelly and Jacob Smith.

Sign up for sporting fun with Royal twist

CHILDREN looking for something to do over the Whitsun half term can take part in Active Camps with a Royal Twist during the school break.

In commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, organisers Aspire Sports are offering customers a 60 per cent discount.

Children taking part in the camps at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School will have their own Diamond Jubilee theme day with traditional games and activities, a red and white fancy dress day and their very own street party.

The camps provide a variety of activities for children aged 4-13 including football, ultimate frisbee, electric quad bikes, street dance and Rock-it-Ball with the Whitsun courses also featuring Olympic themed events such as fencing, rowing and archery.

For more details, visit www.activecamps.co.uk.

Cook leads the way as 2As strike gold

JUDO

MEMBERS of 2A's Judokwai claimed a host of medals at the High Wycombe Masters recently.

Paul Cook won gold in the under-90kg category while John Payton won the under-81kg competition.

Steve Ashford secured the gold in the under-73kg competition while Rob Cox and Mark Twist also claimed golds.

Russell Knight and Jonathan Evans won bronze medals while there was a silver for Terry Garbett.

INSHORT

SUTTON SEARCH: Sutton Town Juniors under-15s are looking for players for next season. Call Des Shannon on 07850 873414 for details.

RANGERS APPEAL: Four Oaks under-14s are looking for experienced strikers to strengthen their squad. Anyone interested, currently in year eight, is asked to contact Peter James on 0121 351 3200.

WANDERERS WANTED: Whitehouse Wanderers under-14s require players for the new season 2012-2013. Call Jim on 07801 439270 for details.

OPEN DAY: Boldmere Falcons Junior FC are holding an open day tomorrow (May 26). The club, in Sheffield Road, are looking for girls from Year 4-9 and boys from Year 2-6. The open day starts at 10.30am and lasts until 1.30pm. Call Nick Lowe on 07585 775598 for details.

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?: Boldmere Tennis Club is hosting a 12 hour Tennis Marathon tomorrow (May 26). This will involve all members at the tennis club raising as much money as possible for the Cancer Support Centre. The event will include continuous play, competitions, refreshments and a cake sale. The event will run from 8.30am-8.30pm and all are welcome.