



YOUTH FOOTBALL: Erdington, Salfley and Sutton schools teams have enjoyed a successful season at various age levels. Both the under-13s and under-14s sides were

crowned Warwickshire champions. The under-12s reached the semi-finals of the West Midlands Trophy, while the under-15s went one step further, but lost in the final to

Cannock in a dramatic penalty shoot-out. Pictured, above, are the Erdington, Salfley and Sutton Schools under-15s. Right, the under-13s Warwickshire champions.



Delight for Davison with home victories

MOTORSPORT

By HELEN DRAYCOTT
Sports reporter

CHRIS Davison made it six wins out of six on his return to Mallory Park in the Westfield Sportscar series.

Davison, from Sutton, was back in action at his home circuit with his Ring-tours.co.uk team last Sunday, following a four-year break.

And his sparkling season continued thanks to his strong pace and consistent lap times which saw him sail through qualifying.

Davison said: "It was the first time for me to drive this car at Mallory."

"The qualifying session was important to familiarise myself ahead of the two afternoon races.

"I struggled with my tyres and had some initial braking problems, but to qualify in third place on the grid was respectable."

A second row place on the grid for race one saw Davison line up behind championship rival Nick Flowers on pole and Chris Gould in second.

Davison soon sneaked second spot, but a blip down the back straight on the first lap which saw the Sutton driver go wide on the grass saw him slip back to sixth.

But consistent lap times saw him creep up the order, eventually taking the lead and with it the race, earning him pole position in race two.

And the race ace took the top podium spot again with a lead of more than 10 seconds in a thrilling race which saw Gould force Flowers off the track and out of the race.

Davison said: "It was close racing and one of the best weekends for me so far this season."

"I didn't know the circuit that well and how the car would perform, but I am pleased with its pace."

"To win in six straight races this year is a brilliant result for the team."

Whittingham bags quartet of golds as club shines at gala

SWIMMING

BOLDMERE Swimming Club stars produced a string of impressive performances at the ASA Midland Age Group Championships.

In the aged 10 group, first to shine was Matt Price who won a bronze medal in the 100m fly, with a new personal best and club record of 1.22.98mins.

The girls' 200m breaststroke turned out to be a humdinger of a race involving Kate Davies and Eden Harlow.

Both sliced massive chunks off their personal bests in the heats to qualify first and second fastest for the final, with Harlow just getting the edge by just 0.08 seconds.

In the final, Harlow took control of the race from the start, leading by one-and-a-half seconds at the halfway mark with Davies in third spot.

Harlow was beaten by a touch for the gold - 0.14secs off first - with Davies taking bronze.

Joel Cunningham produced a fantastic performance in 400m freestyle.

Seeded as the eighth-fastest 10 year old, some 20 seconds behind the fastest, he rose to the occasion winning a silver medal.

For the second year running, Beth Grant reached the final of the aged-11 200m breaststroke, finishing eighth, but setting a personal best.

Ben Stanford improved his best times in both the aged-10 100m freestyle and 200m backstroke as did Steve Wilson in the aged-12 200m freestyle and Matt Hyde in the aged-13 100m backstroke.

Penny Whittingham once again excelled by adding four more Midland titles to her name taking in the aged-12 group.



Joel Cunningham in action over the weekend. Inset, Edén Harlow was just edged out of the gold medal position. Pictures by Steve Harlow

She won gold in the 400m individual medley, 200m freestyle, 200m fly and 800m freestyle.

Training partner Alice Dearing also made the final of the aged-13 200m fly, finishing sixth and setting a new best time of 2.31.36mins.

Competing in the colours of City of Birmingham, four more Boldmere Club swimmers made their presence felt at the last weekend by winning a collection of five medals between them.

Bradley Lynch used his freestyle to good effect by picking

up two silver medals in the 200m and 800m.

Jake Dixon (12), Josh Winnicott (14) and Emma Smith (13) all went home wearing the colour of bronze around their necks.

Qualifying fifth fastest for the final in the 200m freestyle, 12-year-old Charlie Payne went one better in the final by finishing fourth.

Personal bests set included Katie Richardson in the aged-12 200m freestyle and 400m individual medley and Charlie Hackett in the boys equivalent events.

Givenchy Sneekes also claimed a personal best in the aged-13 400 individual medley.

There was an extra award to five swimmers in the form of the British Age Group Categories awards.

Only given out to the top eight swimmers in each age group and based on the accumulated total of points gained from the swimmers' best 100m, 200m, freestyle and medley times, Whittingham finished second, Dixon fourth, Smith fifth, Price seventh and Harlow eighth in their respective age groups.

INSHORT

TENNIS: Four Oaks Tennis Club junior Tom Crothers has enjoyed double success in recent weeks. Crothers, who is coached by Arnie Benidor, won the Derbyshire Dollamore Junior Open in Chesterfield two weeks ago.

And the under-14s star followed up the victory with another title, winning the Littleton Tennis Club Junior Open in Evesham.



Tom Crothers.

BOWLS: Sutton Park beat Sutton British Legion in the East Birmingham league by 28 shots last week, thanks to incisive bowling by Colin Porter (21-7), Alan Middleton (21-11), Dai Roberts (21-12) and Ron Handsaker (21-14).

John Challice was in fine form for the Legion. Park also clipped the Ravens' wings, with Tony Green (21-5), Chris Sheehan (21-5), Colin Porter (21-7) and Carl Green (21-9) in commanding form.



Amar Sandhu.

CRICKET: Young Sutton cricket star Amar Sandhu is set to shine on the Edgbaston stage after being picked to play for Warwickshire County Cricket Club's aged 13-16 squad. The 13-year-old batsman has been handed a Bears jersey after being spotted by selectors while representing North Birmingham District.

The Arthur Terry School pupil - who also plays for Four Oaks Saints - has been playing cricket since he was aged four and credits his uncle Tosh and Saints coach Danny Longhorn in helping him succeed to this level.

The avid India supporter, who is a batsman, has even met his idol, Sachin Tendulkar, when he travelled to India to watch them take on rivals Pakistan.

The batting legend signed Amar's bat.

TENNIS: Sutton Coldfield Tennis Club's under-10s boys served up success last weekend when they clinched the AEGON Classic title. The pairing of Luke Williams and Angus Osborne beat Blossomfield Tennis Club, Rugby Lawn Tennis Club and Leamington to win the title. The boys are part of the Sutton Coldfield LTA performance programme. Anyone interested in finding out more about junior tennis should call Chris Cook on 0121 355 0917.

FOOTBALL LADIES: Sutton United girls are holding an open day on Sunday from 2-4pm. The event takes place at their home ground in Rectory Park, Hollyfield Road. Girls aged eight to 16 are invited to attend. For details, call Tony Harris on 07739 089257.

FOOTBALL: Colron under-12s are looking for a goalkeeper. Anyone interested should call John Brain on 0121 353 2230.

Got a sports story? Then call the sports team on 01827 848495. You can also email the desk on sports.editorial@cintamworth.co.uk