

Tanner rallies to take second in karting final

MOTORSPORT

ERDINGTON 250cc national kart racer Adam Tanner claimed second place at the first round of the ABKC Super 4 British Championship at Fulbeck circuit, Lincolnshire. Tanner came 11th in the first heat after a collision with another kart at the first corner and did not finish

(DNF) the second heat.

However, a second place finish in the third heat placed him 11th on the grid for the 15-lap final.

After a strong start, the 20-year-old Staffordshire University motor sport technology student charged his way to third place by the end of the race.

A disqualification of the second-placed driver elevated

Adam to the silver position, earning him an extra two championship points which may be become invaluable at the end of the six rounds.

He said: "It was a decent result at the end of the day, but the DNF in the second heat cost me quite a few grid places for the final, which makes it difficult to stay in touch with the leaders as it is difficult to overtake at this circuit."



Adam Tanner overtakes a rival at Fulbeck.



Jordan Ivory-Birtles.

Dad appealing for sponsors to send son on Japan trip

MARTIAL ARTS

JUDO prodigy Jordan Ivory-Birtles is hoping for a helping hand after being offered the chance to train in Japan.

The 15-year-old, who trains with the 2As Judokwai Club in Sutton, has the chance to join the England squad in the Far East, but requires sponsorship to make the trip.

His father Paul said: "Jordan has been selected to travel to Japan for three weeks in December with the England squad, but this is a self-funding trip costing £1,800.

"It will be an experience of a lifetime as this is where the sport originated and it is still a country that produces some of the best judo players."

Ivory-Birtles has had a busy year so far, representing England and Great Britain in various competitions in Germany, Russia, Belgium and the Netherlands.

And at the end of this month the teenager, from Aldridge, will represent England in the under-60kg weight category in Poland in an EJU competition.

Ivory-Birtles trains four times a week at his club, plus with Erdington Judo Club and at Wolverhampton University's Walsall campus with the Midland Area Excel talent squad.

Any companies or individuals interested in sponsoring or funding Jordan can call dad Paul on 07814 272349 or e-mail p.birtles@hotmail.co.uk



Matt Hyde represented the county at the Kingerlee Trophy Inter-County event. Below, Price, Steve Wilson, Gina Luckett, Givenchy Sneekes, Jordan Youngman and Joel Cunningham of Boldmere Swimming Club swam for the county in the tTrophy. Pictures by Steve Harlow.

Magnificent seven impress for county in trophy competition

SWIMMING

By **STEVE HARLOW**
Sports reporter

SEVEN Boldmere swimmers smashed club records and personal bests while representing Warwickshire in a team of 24 at the Kingerlee Trophy Inter-County event in Milton Keynes.

Competing against three other counties – Oxon and North Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire and Bedfordshire – were Joel Cunningham, Matt Price, Gina Luckett, Givenchy Sneekes, Steven Wilson, Matt Hyde and Jordan Youngman.

Boldmere's head junior coach Jayne Luckett also represented Warwickshire as team coach on the day.



The first success was led by Cunningham and Price in the 10-year 200m freestyle relay, swimming strong first and second legs respectively as Warwickshire recorded their first win of the day.

Cunningham also swam just outside his personal best (PB) in the 50m backstroke, while Price swam an impressive 50m butterfly to claim first place in a PB and a new club record time of 34.36secs.

Luckett claimed points for Warwickshire in the aged 12 200m freestyle and medley relays, plus the 100m breaststroke.

In the aged 12 boys' freestyle and medley relays, Wilson swam two storming last legs to ensure first in both events.

He then capped his day's performance with a win in the individual 100m freestyle, smashing his PB by more than two seconds in 1.03.39mins.

Sneekes raced in the 13-year 200m freestyle and medley relays and claimed third in the 100m freestyle.

Hyde and Youngman helped Warwickshire claim convincing wins in the boys' 13-year freestyle and medley relays.

Hyde registered two PBs in the first leg of the freestyle and backstroke respectively, while Youngman put in powerful swims in the free and butterfly legs.

Both swimmers finished second in their individual races, Youngman in the 100m fly just outside his PB, and Hyde smashed his PB in the 100m backstroke by more than five seconds.

Warwickshire finished third overall against tough opposition with Leicester claiming the trophy for the second year running.

INSHORT

GOLF: The Belfry is offering golf club captains, secretaries and managers the chance to play the famous Brabazon Course at a special reduced rate this summer to help raise money for Colin Montgomerie's nominated charity.

On July 21, officials from any registered golf club in the UK can follow in the footsteps of Monty and a host of other golfing greats by play The Brabazon for just £200 per fourball.

All proceeds will then be donated to the Elizabeth Montgomerie Foundation, which was established by Colin in memory of his mother, who died of lung cancer.

"We are proud to offer our support to such a worthy cause and help raise awareness of the excellent work that the Elizabeth Montgomerie Foundation does," said Gary Silcock, The Belfry's director of golf.

"We cannot think of a better charity to support, especially given Monty's links to the resort."

The 2010 European Ryder Cup captain has enjoyed great success at The Belfry, having played in the 1993 and 2002 matches and won an impressive eight points from a possible 10. In the 2002 contest, he claimed 4½ points and was never behind in his five matches on The Brabazon as Europe triumphed 15½-12½.

Club officials can take advantage of the special offer by calling The Belfry's reservations team on 0300 500 0405. Proof of status is required.

NETBALL: Teams are being invited to sign up for an outdoor league in Erdington.

Stockland Green Community Leisure in Slade Road will be the venue for the new competition. Leagues are professionally organised with qualified umpires, and league tables are put online. Match balls and bibs are provided and there are trophies for league and cup winners and runners-up. Players must be aged 16 and over and further details are available by calling 01132 012215.

GOLF: Sutton golfer Cameron Clark will play at the Glenmuir PGA Professional Championship after coming through the Midland Region Qualifier at Little Aston Golf Club last week. The Moor Hall pro finished tied fourth at the Sutton Coldfield course after shooting a level par round of 72. He was two shots behind joint winners Nick Soto of Northants and George Ryall of Bristol's Players Club. Clark comfortably qualified for the final – the top 20 all made it through – which will be played over 72 holes at The Oxfordshire, from August 10-13.

Win tickets to see stars in tournament action

TENNIS

OBSERVER Sport has teamed up with life insurance and pensions company AEGON, lead partner of British tennis, to offer three lucky winners a pair of tickets to the AEGON Classic, which runs from June 7 to 13 in Birmingham.

The exceptional grass courts are preened and ready for action as some of the world's best players descend on the Edgbaston Priory Club to compete in one of the landmark events

in the British summer calendar.

Former Wimbledon champion and world number one Maria Sharapova will be returning as the star of the show, but home hopes will be high with in-form Elena Baltacha leading a British charge which also includes Anne Keothavong and Katie O'Brien.

A host of international players will make up the draw which promises to be one of the most exciting tournaments to date.

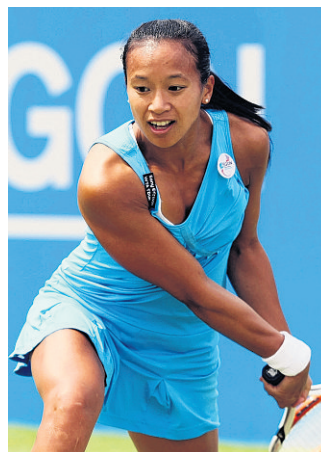
In the UK, AEGON offers

pensions, life insurance, asset management and financial advice to corporate and individual customers.

The firm is offering you and a friend the chance to win tickets to watch two days of action – Wednesday, June 9 and Thursday, June 10.

For your chance to win, answer the following question: **Which former world number one will be playing at the AEGON Classic?**

Email your answer – with your name, address, postcode and daytime telephone number – to sports.editorial@cintamworth.co.uk by noon on Tuesday, June 1.



Anne Keothavong will be in action at Edgbaston.

Grand master passes on top tips

STREETLY tennis ace Christopher Wheat traded shots with a former Grand Slam winner during a recent trip to the United States. The 10-year-old travelled to Sarasota, Florida, where he as a guest at the Springbok Tennis Academy. There he trained with Johan Kriek, winner of the Australian Open in 1981 and 1982, who offered advice and tips. Wheat said: "Everyone was so friendly and helpful and being coached by a champion player like Johan was amazing." In an exciting few days, Wheat, now coached by Neil Goldsby,



Chris Wheat with former Grand Slam winner Johan Kriek.

also played and trained with some of the most talented, up-and-coming young tennis players in the United States.