

5-PAGE ROUND-UP OF GRASS ROOTS SPORTS



At your service: Colebridge Aces' Edward Lynn.

Colebridge Aces become kings

TABLE TENNIS
By Bob Brown

COLEBRIDGE Aces won the Birmingham Summer League Division One title by just a point from long-time leaders Smiths Wood A.

Edward Lynn added to his growing reputation by leading the Shirley-based side and winning 32 of his 36 singles sets.

Youngster Amann Ubhi picked up an amazing 32/42 after being given his chance to rocket up the divisions, while there were other significant displays from Tom Hearn and Navinder Mattharu.

Alan Caffrey, of Smiths Wood, was the top individual with 35/42.

Kingsbury A were comfortable Division Two champions, thanks to the highly-rated quartet of Danny Sullivan,

Matt Satchwell, Jason Hadley and James Rudge.

Sullivan, Satchwell and Hadley have all been snapped up by 2009/10 Premier Division newcomers Smithereens to lead their bid to stay in the top flight.

Jack Styring, of Smiths Wood B, with 25/36, was top of the individual list.

Dan Ranford, of Quinborne, lost just one set during the campaign in Division Three as

his side tasted success and mention must be made of 71-year-old Bernard Oliver, of Colebridge Chiefs.

Bernard gained 36 wins out of 42 with his ferocious attacking style as his side finished second.

Mark Cohen, Alton Burnett and Tony Shim, of Lodge Road, were the leading lights in Division Three with their side gaining 44 points to the 36 of runners-up Colebridge Eagles.

MEDALS HAUL: Sutton Coldfield teenager is a golden wonder in the UK Games

Holly's on the crest of a wave

SWIMMING
By Lisa Smith

A BIRMINGHAM teenager made a real splash at one of the country's top events by scooping three medals.

Holly Lynch, who swims for City of Birmingham and is also a member of the Sutton Coldfield-based Boldmere Swimming Club, won two golds and a bronze in the UK Games, which were held at the Wales National Pool in Swansea.

Sixteen-year-old Holly, together with Dan Rickwood from Bromsgrove and Richard Spoor from Rubery, both 16, competed for Central England in the event which

attracted top swimmers from across the United Kingdom.

In her first event Holly, who was also competing at the games for the first time, not only won gold in the women's 100metre backstroke but set a new UK Games record with her time of 1:05.63.

The Sutton Coldfield girl also swam in the 200metre backstroke, where she took bronze after finishing third, before topping off the weekend with her second gold for her role in the first leg of the 4x100 medley relay.

Holly, who swam the first backstroke leg of the competition to set the team on their way to victory, said: "I wasn't expecting to win the gold at all: it was a complete shock! "It was really enjoyable

competing at the games with the country's top swimmers and it was an absolutely amazing experience.

"Last season wasn't my best so to come here and break the record has been really good."

Coach Adam Ruckwood was delighted with Holly and her team-mates.

He said: "Their success meant Central England topped the overall medals table for the second year running. We were delighted with all the swimmers who took part."

Steve Harlow, of Boldmere Swimming Club, added: "Holly did us proud - we are thrilled with her success at what was her first major competition."



In the fast lane: Holly Lynch proudly shows off her three medals.

Picture: Steve Harlow