

**SWIMMING:** Top three finishes and personal bests galore at Derbyshire gala for Boldmere Swimming Club stars

# Wyres and Cave star for Boldmere

The second round of Division One of the Leicester League saw Boldmere Swimming Club's A team take a full coach up to Ilkeston in Derbyshire.

There they competed against Enderby A, Long Eaton, Loughborough A and Lutterworth in the four age groups.

Boldmere were second after 34 of the 48 events but faded in the last quarter to finish only 13 points adrift of third-placed Enderby A on 170, with Long Eaton second behind Lutterworth.

The night saw some excellent performances with Boldmere securing 14 individual and seven relay top three finishes and 19 personal bests.

Mia Scott laid claim to the first individual win in the open 100m freestyle, while Matt Hyde stopped the clock first in the 13-and-under 50m backstroke.

Bradley Lynch eased to first in the 50m freestyle and came second in the 50m butterfly, both in personal bests.

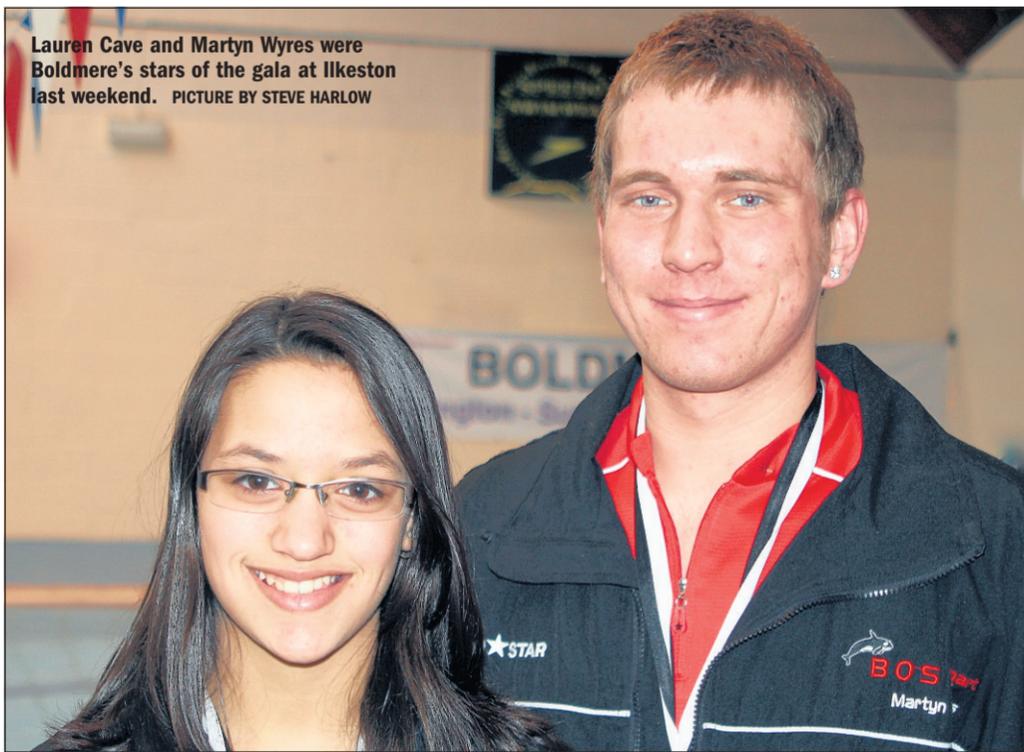
Hyde and Lynch joined Luke Davies and Steven Wilson to win the freestyle and medley relays, Wilson storming home on the last leg of the latter.

Davies lowered his personal best in the 50m breaststroke.

Emma Moreton fought hard for second in the open 100m breaststroke while Daniel Lynch Davies (11-and-under 50m backstroke and freestyle) and Margaret Gately (11-and-under 50m fly and freestyle) both secured two second places and two personal bests each.

Lauren Cave also finished second in the 13-and-under 50m freestyle and bagged the female 'Gala Star' of the night award.

There were third spots for Eden Harlow (11-and-under 50m breaststroke), Luke Robinson



Lauren Cave and Martyn Wyres were Boldmere's stars of the gala at Ilkeston last weekend. PICTURE BY STEVE HARLOW

(15-and-under) 100m backstroke and Jo Luckett (open 100m fly), who shaved half a second off her personal best.

Martyn Wyres' third place in the open 100m breaststroke, a personal best in the freestyle relay first leg and his massive contribution in the final relay earned him the male 'Gala Star' of the night award.

Laura Richardson, Lucy Dixon, Luke Robinson, Stephanie Cave, Ben White (2) and Emily Gordon all lowered their personal bests, the latter shaving six seconds off her mark.

Danielle Smith also achieved a personal best in the freestyle

relay first leg, while Charlotte Weston and Claire Gately performed well.

In the relays, the 11-and-under girls' quartet of Harlow, Richardson, Margaret Gately and Rachel Wilson started the night with second in the freestyle.

The boys' 11-and-under freestyle team of twins Daniel and James Lynch Davies, Ben Stanford and White came third.

The girls' open quartet of Ellie West, Scott, Luckett and Moreton swam strongly to finish third in both relays while Peter Shipway, Hyde, Lynch and Davies also secured a third in the 15-and-under medley.

The girls relay 'Gala Stars' award went to the 13-and-under team of Dixon, Gordon and sisters Lauren and Stephanie Cave.

Luke Robinson, still only 13, swam up in the open age group medley relay with Wyres, Chris Littler and Peter Edwards in the final event, where they earned the male relay 'Gala Stars' award.

In last place after the first 50m back leg, Wyres took over on breast to start the comeback, handing over to Littler on fly who pulled back five metres for Edwards to take over in fourth spot, which he maintained.

## Sutton athletes enjoy West Midlands success

Royal Sutton Coldfield AC's young athletes represented their schools in the West Midlands Schools Cross Country Championships, hoping for selection to pull on a West Midlands vest at a forthcoming Inter-Counties event.

Alfie McBrien led the under-12 boys' race from start to finish to complete an emphatic victory, whilst Tom Wheeler finished in second place by quite a large margin.

Ben Robinson and Jack Whittaker finished in 14th and 25th place.



Above: Some of the Sutton youngsters who starred at the West Midlands Schools Cross Country Championships including Bishop Vesey pupils William Sheffield, Peter Davie and Alfie McBrien. (SI)

The under-12 girls' race saw Elizabeth Ward in third and Molly Rees in fourth place ensure selection for the county team as Georgia Dodds ran well to take 16th.

A strong run from Sam Watkins in the under-14 boys' event secured seventh place with Theo Larcombe finishing in 11th and Ben Topley in 12th.

The three athletes ensured selection for the county team but David Carty just missed out on selection in 17th with Luke Fleming finishing in 29th.

Megan McBrien emulated her brothers success in the under 14 girls event to run away from the field to take victory.

Gabby Kinney came home in fourth place and a strong run from Rachel Smith secured sixth, followed closely by Nicole Parsons in seventh.

Ellie Goodall in 12th and Naomi O'Brien in 16th provided excellent support along with Lydia Serrigiew in 23rd.

In the under-16 boys' event, Kieran Smith finished in sixth place giving him the opportunity to represent the county while Nick Mercer competed strongly to take 21st place.

Lucy Farnell continued her return from injury by crossing the line in second place in the under-16 girls' race.

Jemma Westgate in tenth, Emily Cosgrove in 12th, Amy Goodall in 13th and Lucy Jennings in 14th all ran very well to gain selection for the county.

The under-19 race saw Larna Partridge finish third and Monique Powell in fifth.

## Plough pair and Fox duo will meet in doubles final

This week the League Individuals Doubles, the Richard Winslow pairs, sponsored by Central Container Services, were played in the Four Oaks and District Darts League.

The event takes place at two venues with the winner from each venue playing on finals night.

The first semi-final at Aston Social was an all Sutton Sports affair with R Hawker (125) and M Wild playing D Wallace and M Kane, with the latter winning 2-1.

In the second semi-final, D Walton (180) and N Harley (112b, 125) of Anvil Nomads lost 2-1 to N Hawkins and N Robbins of Plough and Harrow Arrows.

The final saw Hawkins (180, 2 x 100) and Robbins (115b, 160b) beat Wallace (125, 135, 140, 180) and Kane (120b, 4 x

### Darts news

100, 3 x 140) 2-0.

Walton, Hawkins and Wallace all recorded 180s at the venue.

At the Red Lion, meanwhile, the first semi-final saw K Shepherd and M Harris of The Fox beat J Dunn and A Stainfield of the Sportsman's Rest 2-1.

The other semi-final between D Vickers and T Vickers of Hill Social and D Bond and S Andrews of Red Lion Flights was won 2-0 by the latter pairing.

In the venue final, Shepherd and Harris beat Bond and Andrews 2-0.

Two 180s were recorded on the night by P Allen (Anvil Nomads) and M Sheppard (Cross Keys PPA).

## Clean sheet caps a great display from Sutton men

### Bodykraft Midlands Division One

Bridgnorth ..... 0  
Sutton Coldfield Men's First XI 3

Sutton Coldfield men's first visit to Bridgnorth ended with three points and three goals although they had to thank the home team for spending the morning to clear the snow from the pitch.

Goalkeeper Jonathan Phipps celebrated his first clean sheet for the first team since January 2007 as Sutton approached the game with grit and determination.

Bridgnorth struggled to cope with Sutton's four rotating forwards who troubled the back line all match.

The opening goal came from Chris Charles, as the ball

### Hockey news

broke kindly for him in the area allowing him to smash home with precision in to the bottom left corner.

Going into the second half, Sutton were quick to apply early pressure.

Matt Taylor stepped up from the second team for the game and contributed to the second goal, combining with Terry Lavery, who scored from five yards out.

The third goal was scored by Tom Nicholls, who fired the ball into the net past the goalkeeper's head.

Nicholls filled in well for the injured Neil Gosling who was substituted during the game due to injury.

Sutton next face Rugby who sit near the top of the league.

## Beeches' Droitwich delight

It was a night of wins, debuts and personal bests for Perry Beeches and Sutton Swim Squad in the B gala at Droitwich on Saturday.

Debutants Lucy Brown and Kelly Merrit had great starts with the former earning a strong second place and the latter a credible third in her first gala.

For the boys, there were excellent wins for Joshlee Bong, Jovan Owusu-Nepal, Cameron Smith, William Martin and Matt Cooney as well as the under-nines freestyle relay team.

Among the girls, star of the show Joshmyn Bong won three races, with Lucy

### Swimming extra

Downes, Ashleigh Stackhouse and Bethan Haywood all chipping in with wins too.

The under-11s and under-12s also contributed to a fine night with victories in their medley relays.

The coaches were delighted with personal bests from Lucy Downes, Matt Cooney, Jemma Ward, Harry Cusack, Ashleigh Stackhouse, Connor Ward, William Martin, Calum Dandy, Joshmyn Bong, Joshwee Bong, Orin Mulvey, Daniel Breese, Elizabeth Lewis-Carthy and Jovan Owusu-Nepal.

## Bomber is meeting guest

Tony 'Bomber' Brown and Tom Ross of Capital Gold will be the special guests at the next meeting of the Sutton Coldfield branch of the West Bromwich Albion Supporters Club next Thursday (February 19).

The meeting will take place in the Conservatory Room of

the Plough and Harrow pub in Slade Road, Mere Green, beginning at 8pm.

Bar facilities and refreshments will be available with members old and new welcome.

For more details, email fraser.allen@rubberastic.com.