

## SPORT ROUND-UP

## BOXING ROUND-UP



Chris Truman with boxing legend Roy Jones Junior.

## Truman is ready to draw inspiration from Jones Jr

CHRIS Truman believes meeting boxing legend Roy Jones Junior has inspired him ahead of his British Masters Title showdown with Stephen Jennings.

The Erdington light-welterweight met the four-weight world champion at The Hawthorns last Saturday evening.

The 'Fighter of the Decade' for the 1990s - as voted by the Boxing Writers Association of America - appeared at West Bromwich Albion's home stadium for a sporting dinner.

Truman, who takes on Jennings at the Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham on Saturday, June 29, went along as a guest of promoter Marcus Anderson.

And the 28-year-old has drawn inspiration from speaking to Jones, the only boxer in history to start his career as a light middleweight and go on to win a heavyweight title.

"It was a real honour to meet him," Truman told www.uko-boxing.com. "He's a boxing legend and he had so many stories to tell. He's an inspiration."

"I shook his hand and had a good chat with him about my own career and he told me to

keep working hard and putting in the hours in the gym and I'll get my rewards.

"You look at him, in such good shape for a 44-year-old, and it makes you realise that if you live the life, you can achieve things. Meeting Roy was amazing and he's inspired me ahead of the Jennings fight.

"It will be a tough test but, after listening to Roy talk about being a four-weight champion, it makes you realise that anything is possible."

As well as Truman versus Jennings, It's-A-Bout-Boxing's 'Salvation: Rise of the Trumanator' also features Coventry super featherweight Troy 'Terrifying' James.

Burton welterweight Tom Shaw, Welsh light-middleweight prospect, Warren Sinden, Northampton light-weight Jamie Spence plus Michael Mooney and Ainsley Seivwright complete the card.

Tickets are priced £25 general, £50 ringside and £75 VIP ringside.

They are available by calling 0845 467 3930 or 07888 870650.



Four Oaks boxer Joe Stevenson is just one bout away from being crowned a National Junior ABA champion after a stunning semi-final victory last weekend. Stevenson outclassed George Parrish from Beartown ABC in Cheshire on his way to an impressive third round stoppage at Great Barr Leisure Centre last Sunday. Stevenson's dominance led to a standing count for Parrish

and after another flurry of body and head shots, the referee had no choice but to step in. Bishop Vesey Grammar School pupil Stevenson heads to Mansfield for the national final in the under-71kg category, where he will face Yahia Chelli from London club Dale Youth. Fellow Sutton boxer Ryan Hatton was a shock loser, on a split decision to Pallister Park's Jahmal Weaver in his semi-final.

## Ingle sets the standard as she shines in steeplechase

### Athletics

TEENAGE distance runner Katie Ingle produced a fine run for Great Britain at the Loughborough International last weekend.

It was the 18-year-old's first track outing of the year and she finished fourth in the 3000m steeplechase.

Ingle was up against strong senior opposition who produced a blistering sub 10 minute pace from the gun.

Hoping to impress the selectors for the European Championships in Rieti in July, the Royal Sutton AC star tracked the leading group of three.

By half way the field was well spread out and Ingle crossed the line in fourth behind winner Kerry Harty.

She was the first junior athlete and her time of 10.27mins was well inside the European Junior Standard.

At the same meeting, Gaby Kinney guested in the 800m and recorded a season's best of 2.12mins.

Laura Whittle also competed at this event and finished

second in the 3000m behind world silver medallist Lisa Dobriskey in a fast time of 9.06mins.

Royal Sutton's senior athletics team kicked off the season on Saturday with a Midlands League match at Leamington.

Despite having a greatly depleted team there were some fantastic individual performances.

Nicholas Pryce won the 100m and 200m in style, while there were also victories for Kevin Brown in the discus, Nick Corker in the 2000m steeplechase and the men's 4x400m team.

Many other athletes competed superbly competing in multiple events to win points for the team.

There were personal bests for Luke Flemming (200m, 400m and long jump), Stuart McCaw (400m and high jump), Kane Howitt (triple jump), Paul Davey (800m), Vikram Balachandrar (1500m), Russell Simpson (2000m steeplechase) and Janice Pryce (javelin).

The next fixture takes place at Abingdon on June 9.



Katie Ingle was in form for Great Britain.

Picture: Marc Kirsten

# Boldmere are cooking on gas with host of Midlands medals

### Swimming

By STEVE HARLOW

Swimming correspondent

AN 11-strong Boldmere Swimming Club contingent brought back eight medals - four gold, two silver and two bronze - from the British Gas Midlands Youth Championships at Corby's East Midlands International Pool.

Boldmere's star swimmer of the weekend was 16-year-old Luke Davies, who topped the podium three times to be crowned 15/16 age group Midlands Champion in all three breaststroke distances.

The last time such an amazing feat was achieved at the championships in the same age group was back in 1996 by Adam Whitehead, who went on to become Commonwealth and European Champion as well as a Sydney 2000 Olympian.

Davies qualified as the fastest qualifier for each event final with the first title win in the 50m sprint coming on the Saturday evening in a time of 31.96secs.

An hour later he stepped onto the blocks in the 200m breaststroke final where, after setting a personal best of 2.28.84mins in the heat, he touched first by a second in a time of 2.28.88mins.

His hat-trick gold came on the Sunday evening with another PB of 1.08.69mins in the 100m event which followed a superb 400IM heat where, competing in this event for the first time long course, he achieved a national qualifying time.

In the final later on, Davies

narrowly missed out on a medal in fourth spot but he claimed his fourth medal of the championships in the 200IM, taking the bronze.

Also crowned as 15/16 Midlands Champion was Steve Wilson who, after qualifying second fastest for the 200m Freestyle final, led the race from start to finish.

He further improved the personal best he had set in the heat by another 0.8secs in a time of 2.00.47mins, just eight-hundredths ahead of second place in a nail-biting finish.

In the 100m freestyle the day before, Wilson took bronze in a time of 55.56secs and also made the final of the 50m freestyle where he placed fifth.

The final two medals came from Joey Stanger who, in the 200 and 400m freestyle claimed two silvers in the 19+ age group, setting PBs in both with 1.57.01mins in the 200m final and 4.11.13mins in the 400m heat.

Breastroker Emily Gor-

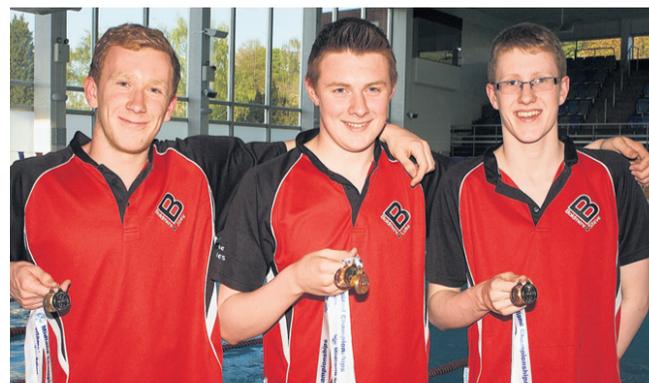
don made all three finals of the 50, 100 and 200m events, placing fourth, seventh and sixth respectively.

Alex Dolan and Morgan Harlow, in their first youth championships, also made the final of their 15/16 200m breaststroke and 200m butterfly events. Both also set long course PBs in the 200IM and 100m fly respectively.

Josh Holsey finished seventh in the 15/16 50m fly final, setting his second sprint PB of the day with 28.12secs.

Holsey set two further PBs in the 100m freestyle and 100m fly while 18-year-old Phil Hewitt set a new age group club record with his 50m Fly swim in the heats, stopping the clock at 27.21secs.

Competing in three events, Gina Luckett sliced one-and-a-half seconds off her 200IM time while also competing in the championships were Charlotte Smith in the 200m backstroke and Katie Richardson in the 400m freestyle.



Joey Stanger, Luke Davies and Steve Wilson of Boldmere Swimming Club celebrate with their Midlands Youth Championship medals.

Pictures by Steve Harlow.

### INSHORT

**TENNIS:** Little Aston Tennis Club secured three wins this week. The men's first team of Simon Higgins, Sanjay Muly, Rob King and Steve King won away at Knowle and Dorridge 3-1.

The mixed team of Higgins, Leanne Rowe, Sanjay Muly and Kathy Young beat David Lloyd 4-0.

The ladies team of Leanne Rowe, Paula Page, Lynn Kirby and Sarah Murcott defeated Sutton 4-0.

**BADMINTON:** Tahir Mahmood has been crowned Wyndley Badminton League Player Of The Year. Richard Sharp and Adrian Bates shared the Woody Fair Play Trophy.

In the Ladies doubles final, Katy McWhinnie and Deb Whittaker beat Lisa Martin and Sarah Stables 31-21. Katy McWhinnie and Kevin Dodd won 31-16 against Ann Boyle and Brian Arnold in the Mixed Plate Final.

Maggi Crotty and Paul Whitehouse beat Mahmood and Jane Lee 31-28 in the Mixed Trophy Final.

Phil Townson and Ray Woodford picked up the Men's Plate by defeating Gerry Leighton and Phil Nobbs 21-17, 21-18.

The Men's Trophy Final was a real classic with the league top two players Mahmood and Paul McCracken taking the top honours by beating multi-European tournament winners Abraham Nar and David Masih 31-28.