

SPORT ROUND-UP

Wilson leads the charge as Boldmere dominate in pool

Swimming

By **STEVE HARLOW**
Swimming correspondent

WEEK one of the Warwickshire Championships saw three Boldmere swimmers crowned as county champions.

Steve Wilson claimed the 200m backstroke crown, Alice Dearing retained her 1,500m freestyle title and Joey Stanger won the 50m freestyle for the fourth year running.

Jordan Youngman, meanwhile, became the junior champion in the 100m fly as Boldmere, in total, notched up 34 championship, age group and relay medals.

That included 14 gold medals, 12 silver and eight bronze, with 115 personal bests and four new long course club records.

In winning the 1,500m freestyle, Dearing smashed her own junior county record by 37 seconds with a new time of 17.07.39mins which not only broke her own junior and senior Warwickshire records but also the junior and senior West Midlands records.

Even more impressively, her 800m split time of 9.04.29mins broke the junior Warwickshire record – a mark which has stood for more than 10 years – by 5.5secs.

Stanger topped the podium for the fourth year in a row to collect the Gale Cup in the 50m freestyle final with Youngman claiming bronze, as well as the gold age group medal for the 15/18yr category.

There were further age group medals in this event for Ben Smith and Toby Chiles, who claimed gold



Boldmere's medal-laden squad from the county championships.

Picture: Steve Harlow

and silver respectively in the 9/10yr age group while Ben Stanford took gold in the 13/14yr section.

Kate Davies set a new personal best time in the 400m individual to take bronze in the 11/14yr age group, while Katie Richardson and Morgan Harlow won silver and bronze respectively in the 15yr+ category.

In the 200m breaststroke, Davies broke a 13-year-old club record with a national qualifying time of 2.48.87mins to take gold in the 13/14 age group while Alex Dolan set the same time to win silver in the 15 Yr + category.

Both finished joint second in the overall championship standing and Emily Gordon took bronze behind Dolan.

Youngman lowered his 100m fly personal best by seven seconds in 1.01.31mins to win the junior title while Adam Hall

took championship silver in the final.

In the 12/14 age group, Matt Price and Ben Stanford claimed silver and bronze respectively, while in the girls' 100m fly, Rachel Wilson earned herself a silver (13/14) and a place in the final, where she finished fourth.

In the 200m backstroke, Steve Wilson and Adam Hall made it a Boldmere 1-2 with the former just edging home in the final five metres in a personal best and club record time of 2.17.39mins.

In the 9/10yr age group, Toby Chiles swapped paces with Ben Smith to take gold, the same medal colour as Archie Langston (11/12yr) while Stanford picked up another silver.

In the girls' 50m backstroke sprint, Megan Holder finished second fastest in the 11/12yr age group to win silver while 10-year-old Alex

Bartley took bronze in the girls' (9/10yr) 200m freestyle.

In the relays, the boys' 9/10yr foursome of Smith, Chiles, James Goodwin and anchorman Acer Woolley sliced three seconds off the club record to take gold in the 4x50m medley.

The girls' 9/10yr 4x50m freestyle quartet of Alex Bartley, Abbey Turnbull, Erin Davies and Holly Bloor won the silver.

Two more silver medals went to the girls' 10yr+ 4x100m freestyle team of Alex Dolan, Katie Richardson, Morgan Harlow and Gina Luckett and the 11-16yr 4x50m medley team of Charlotte Smith, Dolan, Rachel Wilson and Luckett.

Finally, another superb gold medal was claimed by the boys' 10yr+ 4x100m freestyle foursome of Youngman, Hall, Wilson and Stanger.



JUDO: Members of 2As Judokwai represented their schools this weekend at the British Schools Judo Championships held at ICE Sheffield.

Pictured from left to right are Samuel Morris (Plantsbrook School) who won gold in the boys' year 8/9 under-46kg event, Lucy Gray (Fairfax) who won gold in the girls' year 12/13 under-70kg event and Laurie Evans (Denstone College) who won bronze in the girls under-44 kg girls' year 6 and 7. Toni Malone (not pictured) won bronze in the girls under-32kg years 6 and 7 event.

Bishop Vesey pupils produce a sporting masterclass

School Sport

BISHOP Vesey Grammar School has enjoyed a highly successful week in various sporting arenas.

On Wednesday, the school held its swimming gala at Wyndley Sports Centre, with some great wins and new records set.

Among the triumphant

pupils were Leighton Palmer-Whyte (Year 7 breaststroke), Matthew Price (Year 8 backstroke and Year 8 individual medley) and Harry Bailey (Year 10 backstroke) plus the Year 7 Gold House freestyle relay.

In hockey, the under-15s A and B teams beat Queen Mary's Walsall, with Sam Davis scoring five goals and

Tom Harris bagging a brace.

This success was then followed by a 4-1 win over Warwick School with Javaughan Campbell scoring two.

The under-14s kept this momentum going with a win over QMS Walsall, while the under-13s got to the semi-finals of the War-

wickshire county tournament, losing 2-1 to eventual winners Warwick School.

Finally, the under-13 rugby team won the Greater Birmingham tournament on Thursday, defeating KES Aston 14-5 in the final, while both the under-12 and under-13s sevens teams were runners up at the Warwick 7s.

Luke searches for sponsorship

Athletics

LUKE Lennon-Ford is looking for local companies to help boost his Olympic dreams.

The Birchfield Harriers 400m runner, a Great Britain International, is looking for sponsorship as he prepares to challenge for a place at this year's World Championships.

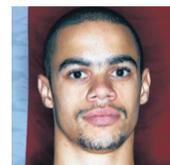
The Erdington-born athlete said: "At the moment, I am looking for a place to live and it's hard and so expensive.

"Financial worries can affect your performance and so, at the moment, I am looking for sponsorship.

"Knowing that everything is okay financially is a massive weight off your shoulders when you are looking to compete.

"Any support from local companies and individuals would be fantastic and greatly appreciated.

"Every little helps to be honest. I can help promote companies, if anyone can offer me support."



Athlete Luke Lennon-Ford is looking for support from local firms

Lennon-Ford is coached by former Olympic gold medallist Linford Christie and Lennon-Ford said: "Linford is an inspiration.

"He's just a great motivator and to be working with someone who has achieved what he has is fantastic.

"He's passing on his incredible experience and I have to take that on board.

"The relationship between an athlete and his coach is so important.

"If you don't believe in him, it won't work. We believe in each other and that's great."

Any local companies who can help provide sponsorship of any kind can email Luke at lennonford@gmail.com

Westgate secures spot at national champs

Triathlon

SUTTON sporting all-rounder Jess Westgate claimed a fine fourth place in the under-17s age group at the West Midlands Triathlon Championships in Solihull.

The 15-year-old started with the shooting competition and scored 74 out of 100 for 856 points.



Sutton's Jess Westgate was in solid form in the first triathlon event of the year

That left her third going into the 200m swim, producing a time of 2.45mins for 816 points.

That left her fourth going into the combined event of the shoot and run.

Westgate performed well and, after a gutsy run to the finish line, she completed the course in 13.35mins to stay in 4th place overall.

She has now qualified for the National Triathlon Championships next month.

Davies is at the top of the table with treble

Table Tennis

SUTTON Coldfield Table Tennis Club had mixed fortunes this week.

The A team drew 5-5 with Bournville, Trevor Davies in good form, winning his three singles.

George Webb won one singles match and they both combined to win the doubles.

The B team gained a 10-0 win over Smith's Wood. Howard Knight, Purdip Shoker and John Ludford were all undefeated.

The C team went down 7-3 to Streetly. Andy Calloway won two singles and Clive Stretton claimed the other win.

The D team lost 7-3 to Ivy Leaf A. Colin Cleverly and Mike Cooper won one singles each, and then joined up to win their doubles.

Sutton's E team won only their third game of the season with a 7-3 success over Streetly.

Boni Amin won all three of his singles, with Nurradin Abukar and Asim Shabir winning two singles each.

The F team did not have a game while the G team drew 5-5 with Ivy Leaf B. Belle Halliwell won all three of her singles.

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