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Taming the wild water

SCHOOLGIRL Louise Hilton is riding the crest of a wave with a victory at the British Open Junior Canoeing Championships.

Louise, a pupil at Whitmore High School, won the under-18 section-C at the event in Llangollen, north Wales, last weekend. The 16-year-old's success comes after just four years in the sport.

Her mother, Sheila, who also doubles as her coach, said: "We were very pleased because at first we didn't think she was going to make it."

"She was in bed with tonsillitis for the whole week preceding the event. Before a big competition like this, most of the competitors would have trained all week but she could not train at all beforehand. It was touch and go whether she would be able to enter at all."

The slalom competition was for youngsters from all over the country. Louise's section was for recently-upgraded competitors who are on their way to the top.

Louise took up the sport when she first came to the school and joined its canoe club. She adds her name to a list of the Whitmore Canoe Club members who are making waves in the sport at all levels: Katherine Osborne was the winner of a recent competition in Winchester for those promoted from division four; her elder brother Michael also did well to come third in a competition for new division three member; Reiner Gordon, the club's other coach, was recently promoted to division four; and Kevin Hilton also managed a third in a contest for new division two members.

"We have also won quite a lot of team prizes, and are doing well for a club which only has about 26 members," said Mrs Hilton.

The club trains on Tuesday nights on the Grand Union Canal at Harefield, and in the winter on Monday nights at Rickmansworth public pool. Anyone interested in joining should ring Mrs Hilton on 01-427 1510.



Bowlers strike rich pickings

by
Toby Porter

HARROW ten-pin bowlers beat the Americans at their own game by sweeping the Corporate Olympics in California last week.

But the team only just beat potential disaster, leaving California four days before the earthquake which killed 63 drivers on the very bridge they had been using twice a day during their stay.

The team's luck was in as they took the team championship and the men's doubles. They all play at the Harrow Superbowl, in North Harrow, and three members are former Great Britain team players.

Brian Williams, Ann Finch, Mike Bergquist and Jill Owen won the mixed four-person team event at the business Olymp-

pics in Concord, California, for Barclays Bank, for whom they all work in various parts of the country. Williams and Bergquist won the mens doubles.

"We were ecstatic," said Mr Bergquist, the team captain. "We did everything we could possibly have dreamed of. To beat the Americans at their own game was fantastic. We hope to be able to defend our title in Hawaii next year."

Despite an early start, the team led from the first round with a solid 2292. On the second day they were again asked to go early and so had to wait hours until they knew whether their 4483 total was

enough. They did not find out they had won for sure until the Chevron Corporation, the last squad, had fallen just 20 pins short. Third placed Shaklee Corporation were third, another 158 points behind.

Bergquist was runner up in the mens doubles last year. He and Williams also led from the first round with a relatively low score of 1103. With their nearest opponents, Pacific Bell, ten points behind and in the next lane, they knew they had to fight hard. Their 245 and 224 scores were enough to give them an impressive 70-pin margin over their neighbours.

Bergquist and Williams also made valiant stabs at the individual championships, but fell 30 pins and 82 pins off the medals respectively.

HOCKEY

Campaign set on a high note

HARROW 2 Richings Park 0 HARROW men started their league campaign in scintillating form and showed local rivals Richings Park some fast one-touch hockey.

Their pressure told after a series of moves down the right when a cross from Smith found Allman in position to convert it with ease.

Allman's second goal came after a magnificent solo run, but the game soon began to deteriorate as both teams tried to speed up the play.

Strange umpiring decisions put Harrow under some pressure later on in the game, and things got worse when Pell was dismissed. But his team held on and notched their second significant league victory.

Harrow: Thornton, Nairi, Bates, Ramsden, Smith, Smith, Pell, Chapman, Zheer, Allman, Patel. Sub: Douglas.

HARROW 0 Havering 0 HARROW Ladies struggled to find their form against a battling Havering side who missed their chances just as much as the hosts.

An unsettled Harrow defence allowed Havering to break through and only a strong tackle from Gordon saved the day.

Harrow returned the pressure minutes later forcing a penalty corner from a foul by the Havering defence. Gustad sent the ball whistling inches past the post.

Harrow maintained the pressure in the first half but the only real scoring opportunity went begging as Jayne failed to capitalise on an excellent cross from the right wing just before half time.

Harrow: Hilton, Gordon, Witham, Larkin, Smith, Gustad, Barford, Windel, Jayne, Wilson.

SOCCER

Lions lose out to luck

Hitchin Town 1 Wembley 0 A FREAK goal four minutes from time was enough to knock Wembley out of the FA Trophy last Saturday.

Hitchin scored when a ball from Paul Janaway cannoned off the chest of the home side's Steve Conroy to fly into the net.

Lions play away this Saturday against Metropolitan Police, who last season did the double over them in Vauxhall League.

Next Tuesday opposition comes from the Cypriot League of England in a friendly at Vale Farm — kick-off at 7.30pm.

A charity match on Sunday November 5 will raise cash for the St Luke's Hospice appeal and opponents the Television Entertainers XI could feature actors Daniel Day-Lewis and Adam Woodyatt and boxer Terry Marsh. Tickets are £2, 50p, kick-off is at 4.30pm.

JUNIOR SOCCER

Rivals head for replay

LOCAL RIVALS Belstone and Rayners Lane could not be separated even after extra time in their Middlesex Premier Cup first round match.

Home team Belstone dominated the early stages and scored first through Forbes. Both keepers performed well to clear several efforts off the line in a keenly-fought contest.

Rayners Lane equalized with fifteen minutes to go, forcing extra time. Belstone had good news from the match, though, with the return of Niel Barnard. After 20 months out of the game with a shattered ankle he played the last 20 minutes of the match. The replay will take place at Raynes Lane next Sunday at 10.30am.

PINNER Albion reserves fought back from 2-0 down at half time to draw 2-2 with Wealdstone Social in Harrow and Wembley League Division One, thanks to goals from Martin Keenan.

Albion also made up their early deficit to beat Harrow St Mary's 3-1 in the senior league Cup. Paul Woonoon scored twice and Paul Simpson hit a penalty, while Mark Stevens and Andrew Esmond excelled in defence.

And in a top of the table Premier Division clash Albion held Village Inn to a 4-4 draw with goals from Paul Woonoon (2) Ian Simkins and Paul Simpson.

Weald Academicals defeated FC Bromyard 5-0 on Sunday to leap-frog over them at the top of the Marathon League Division Six.

POOL

Pocketing success

THE NUFFIELD Arms notched up their second 10-0 whitewash in five weeks in the Observer Pool League, winning their fifth game in succession.

Last Thursday's win against Harrow Council Staff Club leaves them on maximum points and two points clear at the top of the Second Division.

However they cannot shake off the LNER club who, with only four games played, are also on maximum points and this week beat the Alexandra Club 7-3.

In the chasing pack St Josephs and the Harrow Super Bowl pushed to the fore and in the First Division the Windermere hold on to their lead.

Honeypot-A pulled up into joint second place and league champions Harrow Borough put together their first win of the season by beating Honeypot-B.

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