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# Saints extend their run of success as Capital City come to the party

## Stones star signs up at Stevenage

► **Conference football**

► **Schools' football**

St Gregory's continued their domination of the Brent 5-a-side Cup by adding the Year 8 and Year 9 honours to their earlier Year 7 success.

The Donnington Road school came out on top in the Year 8 tournament, entering two teams and carving up the league stage in tandem with Claremont – each side headed one of the groups, with the other in second place.

Both schools opted for a double header in the semi-finals and, although Keiano Josephs put Claremont ahead in the first game, Michael Adjei and player of the tournament Reece Weekes scored to earn St Gregory's a 2-1 win.

In the second semi-final, an outstanding display from goalkeeper Immanuel Williams helped St Gregory's to a 4-2 victory and a place in the final against their classmates.

Kai Burrows fired the B team into the lead with a superb strike from distance, but Weekes set up Adjei, who sidestepped his marker for the equaliser, and Keano Mason netted the decisive goal for the A side.

In the Year 9 tournament, Rakeeb Banbury grabbed a hat-trick and Mason Armstrong added a fourth goal as St Gregory's defeated Capital City Academy 4-1 in their semi-final, despite a consolation strike from Mickel Platt.

Some good performances from goalkeeper David Ferreira helped Newman Catholic College to win their league and then overcome Preston Manor after a penalty shootout in the other semi-final.

Maxwell Farias had opened the scoring for Newman before Abdul



■ Capital City Academy's Year 10 side display the trophy after defeating Ark Academy 3-2 in the final

Jalloh levelled for Manor and, after extra time ended scoreless, Newman triumphed 3-1 on penalties.

The final was a hard-fought affair and finished 1-1, with Justin Vidad scoring for Newman and Armstrong replying for St Gregory's – but a second goal from Armstrong in extra time clinched another trophy for his school.

Ark Academy's Brandon Ramsey scored in every match of the Year 10 tournament, but ended up without a winner's medal as his side were

edged out 3-2 in the final by Capital City Academy.

Capital City came through a close semi-final against JFS, recovering from a slow start to win 1-0 with an individual goal from player of the tournament Tyrone Tomlin, who beat two men and slotted home.

**Outstanding**

Ark Academy's Brandon Ramsey netted the only goal to see off Capital City's B team, who had won their group courtesy of some outstanding

performances by Ranny Di-Mampong and Alex Thomas.

Ramsey opened the scoring again in the final, but Kingsley Eshun's scuffed effort was deflected in to make it 1-1 late on – and, in extra time, Luke Galvin beat two players and finished neatly to put Capital City ahead.

Eshun used his pace and power to fire home his second of the game and make it 3-1 and, although Gabriel Nurse pulled a goal back for Ark, Capital City clung on to seal the cup.

Wealdstone boss Gordon Bartlett paid tribute to midfielder Tom Pett after he left the club to join League Two side Stevenage.

The 22-year-old attracted interest from a number of Football League clubs throughout Stones' title-winning season, but it was Stevenage who won the race for his signature.

"We are delighted for Tom and although we are naturally sorry to see him go, he thoroughly deserves this great opportunity," said Bartlett.

"Tom joins the growing list of young talented Wealdstone players who have developed and moved on to either Conference Premier or Football League clubs in recent seasons, which speaks volumes for our club and enhances our reputation of nurturing young talent.

"Tom leaves with our very best wishes for the future and a big thank you for his outstanding attitude and the superb example he has set during his time at the club."

Pett, who joined the Stones from Potters Bar Town in January 2012, was capped at England C level last season and also named in the Ryman Premier 2013/14 team of the year.

Wealdstone begin their pre-season programme at Leverstock Green a week on Saturday, with the Conference South season due to start on August 9.



■ Left to right: Harry Connelly, Vlada Agabekyan, Steve Newland (trainer), Mohammed Abid, Nathan Brown, Danny Barrett. Pic: Dieter Perry

# Hooks are unlucky to miss out on the top prize

► **Boxing**

by Charlie Eccleshare

Hooks ABC finished second in the team competition at the Haringey Box Cup, with Danny Barrett winning the trophy for best elite junior.

The Park Royal club won two gold medals and three silvers to take second place behind Gateshead-based Birtley in the prestigious Alexandra Palace tournament.

Hooks trainer Steve Newland said: "We won a lot of admirers and the guys have done me proud. To come second overall is a massive achievement, and in the end I'm disappointed we didn't win it."

Newland's frustration stemmed from a defeat for Mohammed Abid in his elite senior Under-60kg final against Perry Holland (Dagenham), where the judges controversially ruled in the east Londoner's favour despite a strong showing from Abid.

Newland was proud of Abid's effort in getting a silver medal – especially after winning tough bouts on Friday and Saturday – but felt his fighter's display against Holland had merited a gold.

"I was stunned by the decision," he added. "Mohammed was completely dominant, and was on the attack from the start. But these things happen unfortunately."

**Star**

The star of the show for Hooks was undoubtedly 16-year-old Barrett, who won all three of his fights to secure gold in the elite youth Under-64kg category and win the trophy for the best elite junior.

The youngster faced boxers up to two years older than himself and Newland said: "Danny has really come of age. Seeing him get the best elite trophy makes up for not winning the overall competition."

"He boxed magnificently and

showed real class to land some telling punches."

Barrett delighted the crowd as he won his final on Sunday with some devastating combinations, defeating Louis Isaacs (Lion ABC) on a split decision.

Hooks' other gold medallist was Vlada Agabekyan, who was fighting in the senior novice female class C category and put aside early nerves to defeat Natalie Foston from Mickey's gym in the final.

Newland said: "Vlada was so determined and she sent her opponent all over the place. I'm really proud of how she's developing as a boxer."

There were also silver medals for Harry Connelly (elite youth Under-56kg) and Nathan Brown (elite youth Under-49kg).

Connelly used up much of his energy in beating old foe Mason Smith (Finchley) in the semi-final, which left him a little short as he lost the final on a unanimous decision to GB international Connor Jones.

Brown seemed out of sorts as his final with Stephen Mckenna from Ireland's Old School club was stopped in the second round, with the Hooks fighter looking unsteady.

Xavier Lake, fighting in the senior novice Class C category, was unable to gain a medal but can take a lot of heart from a valiant display in his quarter-final loss to Raymon Perez (Sands End) on a split decision.

► **Cycling**

Stuart Birnie covered 295.75 miles in the Newbury Road Club 12-hour event to finish second and break Willesden CC's distance record for the race.

Willesden's Jane Moore also es-

tablished a club record as she covered over 310 miles on a difficult course at the RTTC National 24-hour event in East Sussex.

Marcus Jackson Baker also competed, covering 375 miles on his first attempt at 12 hours of riding.

Meanwhile, Ed Packard recorded another personal best in the ECCA 100, finishing in four hours 19 minutes 33 seconds. Gill Reynolds was also in action as she recorded a time of 25:07 in the East Anglian CC 10.

Elsewhere, the club enjoyed a

successful day at Hillingdon, with Darryl Lusardi (third place), Tony Lusardi (13th), Connor Woodford (14th) and Ryan Finestone (26th) all riding well.

Jayne Paine finished ninth in the national women's omnium at Welwyn.