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Sunday, 13 January, 2013

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SWIMMING: Club finishes seventh

6.33pm - 10th December 2012

EPPING Forest District Swimming Club came seventh in the final round of the National Arena Swimming League at Harlow Leisurezone.
Winning their races and achieving maximum points were Lee Baker (200 intermediate medley and 100m backstroke), Amelia Peddle (100m backstroke) and Lisa Waite (100m fly and 100m freestyle).
Improving their personal best times were Jake Rawlings, Jack Giltane, Amy Woloski, Payaam Kapur, Connie Knights, Michael Sharp and Hannah Gillespie.

SWIMMING: Epping Forest achieves top ten finish

11.57am - 27th November 2012

EPPING Forest District Swimming Club finished tenth at the Essex County Winter Long Course Competition at Basildon 50m pool.
Chloe-Annabelle Ward, 16, took silver in the 400m free (4mins 47.32secs) and also won two bronze medals, in the 200m freestyle and 800m freestyle with an eight-second personal best (9mins 49.13secs).
Chloe-Annabelle came ninth in the 50m freestyle and sixth in 100m freestyle in the 16+ age group.
Amelia Peddle, 12, won two silver medals, in the 50m and 100m backstroke and came third in the 200m backstroke with a time of 2mins 36.65secs.
She also came fifth in 100m freestyle, sixth in 50m freestyle, eighth in 200, intermediate medley and ninth in 400m freestyle in the 12-13 age group.
Hayden Thomas, 17, won a silver in the gruelling 200m breaststroke (2mins 39.54secs) and came third in the 50m and 100m breaststroke.
He also achieved ninth in 200m freestyle, 15th in the 50m freestyle and 20th in the 100m freestyle in the 16+ age group.
Lisa Waite, 15, posted 28.89secs in the 50m freestyle which earned her a bronze medal. Lisa also came fifth in the 50m fly (32.03secs) and seventh in the 100m free and 100m fly in the 14/15 age group.
Also swimming was:
Lee Baker (fifth, 50m backstroke; eighth, 100m back; sixth, 50m free; fifth 100m free; tenth, 200m free).
Ellen Gillespie (sixth, 100m breaststroke).
Evangeline Foster (eighth, 100m free; 15th, 50m free).
Bentley Cunnington (11th, 100m fly; 17th, 50m free).
Connie Knights (22nd, 50m free).
Fraser Barclay (15th, 50m free - with a personal best time of 28.05secs).

SWIMMING: Epping Forest third in gala

7.55am - 19th November 2012

EPPING Forest District Swimming Club came third in the East London Mini League Jubilee Gala held at Becontree Heath Leisure Centre on Saturday.
They beat the fourth placed team by one point.
First places and maximum points were achieved by Maddie Kavanagh and Niamh Kavanagh (50m breaststroke), Max Rawlings (25m breaststroke), Anya Shah (25m fly) and Kieran Wakefield (25m freestyle).
The relays teams recorded three wins.
The team's trophy will be placed in the club's cabinet at its home Pool, Loughton leisure Centre.
Anybody interested in joining the club can ring Suzanne Peddle on 01992 815103 or visit www.efdsc.org for more information.

NETBALL: West Hatch into plate competition

8.50am - 16th November 2012

THE Under-19 netball team at West Hatch High School, Chigwell, are into the Plate competition of the Essex Cup.
The girls are through after losing to Barking Abbey by two goals, however confidence is high after the team overcame local rivals Davenant Foundation School in a closely-fought friendly.
Players of the match were Phoebe Phillips and Caroline Huxley.

SWIMMING: Epping Forest celebrate success

8.23am - 12th November 2012

MEMBERS of Epping Forest District Swimming Club finished fourth when they took part in Round Two of the National Arena Swimming League in Iltham.
The club was up against seven other clubs. Lisa Waite won the 100m butterfly and 100m free while Amelia Peddle was first in the 100m free and George Whalley in the 50m free with a personal best time of 30.81secs.
The girls relay team of Lisa Waite, Amelia Peddle, Emma Waite, Katie Whiffen, Hannah Gillespie and Chloe Ward also won their race achieving maximum points for the club.
Second places went to Lee Baker (200m individual medley), Zach Foster (50m

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backstroke), George Whalley (50m butterfly), Bentley Cunnington (100m butterfly), Amelia Peddle (100m backstroke), the girls free relays team of Lisa Waite, Dora Zhou, Evangeline Foster and Hannah Gillespie and the boys team of George Whalley, Zach Foster, Joseph Ahern and Michael Sharp in both the freestyle and medley relays.
The club will now be competing in the final round on December 8.

PETANQUE: Epping victorious in challenge

4.24pm - 20th October 2012

EPPING won the annual Epping Ongar Challenge, a new petanque competition involving the two teams.

Epping Horizons Petanque Club fields a side of two teams to play against two Ongar teams, the matches played as a round robin event of singles, doubles and triples.

The first leg in June saw Epping establish a 7-5 lead to be carried forward to the final leg in Ongar.

The Ongar piste has recently been extended to meet the requirements of the competition, and initially the Epping players struggled to find their form.

Ongar won three of the first four matches to draw level 8-8 on accumulated scores, and it looked as if home advantage would overwhelm the visitors. However the Epping ladies doubles team drew level at 12-12 and pulled through to a 'sudden death' 13-12 victory.

This put great heart in the Epping players whose experience showed as they stormed away to win all the remaining games.

The Robert Weston Memorial Trophy was presented by Joyce Weston to Epping captain Peter Lumb.

New players are always welcome.

Visit www.ehpetanque.co.uk or ring Peter Lumb on 01992 571744 to arrange a taster session.

HOCKEY: Bancroft's Under-16s in regional final

4.22pm - 20th October 2012

BANCROFT'S girls U16 hockey team were runners-up in the Essex Tournament.

A draw and five wins saw the girls end level with Coopers' Coburn but goal difference favoured the Upminster school.

Both teams now represent Essex in the east regional round on November 20.

After a goalless draw against Coopers, the Woodford Green girls beat Chigwell 6-0, Brentwood 4-0 and New Hall, Chelmsford 3-0.

The girls conceded just one goal throughout the tournament, in a 2-1 win against Felsted.

Coach Danni Haynes said: "This is one of the strongest school teams I have seen. Several of the girls are making their way up the England Hockey ladder.

"There were some superb individual performances and I would say Monika Johal was the player of the tournament. However all the Bancroft's girls played well, really supporting each other as a team and digging in when necessary.

"They were absolutely shattered by the end. This was a day of high intensity hockey."

FOOTBALL: Chigwell School hosts regional tournament

3.53pm - 9th October 2012

TOTTENHAM Hotspur goalkeeper Brad Friedel presented the trophies and medals when Chigwell School hosted the Essex & Herts regional round of the Independent Schools FA U11 national tournament.

More than 125 schools from across the country have entered the new competition which features 12 regional rounds before the finals are played at the new St George's Park national football centre at Burton-upon-Trent in Staffordshire on April 17.

Teams competing in the Chigwell tournament, held on Friday, October 5, were from schools across the region.

The final saw St Edmund's Prep from Ware take on Forest School, Snaresbrook, for the regional title although both teams had already secured a place in the national finals.

Morgan Davies and Phoenix Healy gave St Edmund's a two goal lead but Forest, who had been behind in their semi-final and had won two penalty shoot-outs, scored twice in a minute in the closing stages through Sam Miller and Joseph Chard to force extra-time.

Yet another penalty shoot-out loomed until, in the second period, a goal from Oliver Knipe sealed victory for St Edmund's.

PETANQUE: Club holds autumn doubles competition

7.35am - 8th October 2012

THE Epping Horizons Petanque Club held its Autumn Doubles competition at Stonards Hill with 12 competitors, making up six teams, taking part.

Played in league format, each team played five matches.

The final result was extremely close with Joyce Weston and Joan Guest scoring four wins with a points advantage of ten against George Durno and Derek Engleback who scored four wins with a points advantage of nine.

New members are always welcome.

For a free taster session, ring Peter Lumb on 01992 571744.

TENNIS: Epping club welcomes new head coach

3.04pm - 13th September 2012

EPPING Tennis Club has welcomed David Watson, an LTA level 4 coach, as their new head coach.

His appointment follows the departure of Matt Smith who during his time at Epping won the prestigious AEGON LTA Coach of the Year award which helped him to a great move to become community coaching manager at Bath University.

David Watson has coached at several clubs across Essex and will be taking over a wide ranging coaching programme at Epping where more than 120 juniors and minis are developing their skills.

In addition, he will be supporting the wider development of the club, working with adult players, both new to the sport or returning to tennis, as well as those with more experience.

Epping Tennis Club chairman Mark Hallewell said: "Through David's skills and experience we are looking forward to seeing the further development of the club for the benefit of our members.

"David will help to accelerate, motivate, promote and improve all our juniors and seniors, and if that leads to more people wanting to join Epping as a member, and even to be the new Andy Murray, then that will be great."

Mark also congratulated David on his win last week at the Essex Men's Closed Tournament held at Thorpe Bay, where David beat Harry Randle in a tight two-hour, three-set final 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.

David said "I played some of my best tennis against a worthy opponent. From winning this County Tournament I hope to inspire the younger generation at Epping Tennis Club to fulfil

their potential as one day being tennis stars of the future."

Anyone interested in joining Epping Tennis Club or being part of the coaching programme which targets a variety of age groups starting at Mini Tots and going right through all levels of abilities can ring David Watson on 07775 890306.

For more about Epping Tennis Club, visit www.eppingtennisclub.co.uk

FOOTBALL: School in national six-a-side competition

1.01pm - 11th September 2012

CHIGWELL School's 1st X1 footballers reached the plate competition when they took part in the Independent Schools FA National Sixes tournament at King's School, Chester, on Sunday.

Chigwell overcame Oswestry 2-0 in their first match before losing to the bigger schools of Bradfield College, Cheadle Hulme and Repton however a 1-0 win against Wolverhampton Grammar School, with a goal from Flynn Prevost, saw Chigwell qualify for the plate competition when Chigwell lost 2-1 to Albyn's School from south London.

Chigwell will visit Wolverhampton Grammar School in the 1st round of the national ISFA cup on Wednesday, September 26.

Creag Lawrence, the school's Head of Football, said: "The pupils really enjoyed their trip up to Chester and certainly learnt how to adapt to the six a-side game..

"They worked extremely hard throughout the day considering they had played a game the day before and were unlucky not to get through to the semi-finals."

SCHOOLS: Chigwell hosts football and netball event

8.03am - 11th September 2012

TEAMS from local primary schools took part in the annual Under-11 football festival and netball tournament hosted by Chigwell School.

Eighteen teams took part in the netball tournament which, with lowered nets, saw many more goals scored, with players building confidence with each match.

Teams were placed in three groups to ensure each match was enjoyable and provided close competition.

The tournament was won by Bancroft's School after some very closely fought matches.

The football festival, run in conjunction with the Independent Schools FA, attracted 24 teams from local schools.

Teams were placed in groups of eight and played a round robin format. Although there was no eventual winner all matches were competitive and there was an impressive high standard of play.

The Friends of Chigwell School provided a barbecue throughout Saturday's competitions.

Schools taking part in the netball tournament were Chigwell, Bancroft's, Forest, St Edmund's, Brentwood, Theydon Bois, Fairlop, Snarresbrook, St Aubyn's, Woodford Green Prep, Ursuline and Avon House.

Schools taking part in the football festival were Chigwell, Highgate, Ursuline, St Aubyn's, Forest, St Edmund's, Woodford Green, Brentwood, Hereward, Theydon Bois, Loyola, Daiglen, Snarresbrook, Avon House and Fairlop.

PETANQUE: Town council seals victory

12.59pm - 8th August 2012

EPPING Horizons Petanque Club held their Summer Singles competition at Stonards Hill, Epping.

The contestants played seven matches each in a round robin event enjoying ideal weather conditions.

After five rounds there was a break for tea and refreshments when the teams from Epping Town Council and Epping Forest District Council joined in the afternoon's entertainment.

The club competition was won by Chris Thompson who scored six wins and one draw.

Babs Doncaster was a close runner-up with five wins and one draw.

The annual match between the councils, now in its 22nd year, saw the town council team, captained by mayor Jon Whitehouse seal victory to close the gap to ten wins for the town council against 12 for the district council.

The trophy was presented by district council chairman Brian Rolfe.

New players are always welcome.

For more details, and to arrange a free taster session, ring Peter Lumb on 01992 571744.

ATHLETICS: West Hatch students celebrate

10.48am - 14th July 2012

STUDENTS at West Hatch High School returned with a bumper haul of medals and trophies after competing in the District Athletics Championships at Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

The school won the Year 7, Year 9 and Year 10 competition and was second in the Year 8 competition.

The school's Head of PE, Jon Redding, said: "We went along with no great expectations because we have not been able to do as much athletics in lessons and training at Ashtons (Woodford Green) as we normally do in the summer term. However we went with full teams in each age group to give us at least a chance!

"As the day went on we had more and more winners and if we didn't win, we came second or third."

He added: "The day finished with us winning six out of eight relays. "The day could not have been more successful and credit is due to the PE staff who have worked as hard as they can this summer, in trying conditions, to get the pupils up to scratch in all events, and also the pupils for the time and effort they have spent on their training and for putting on a masterclass for all the other schools. It was a great way to end the year."

Among the West Hatch highlights were Ellie Wilkinson and Brooke Davey (Year 7) coming first and second in the girls 200m final, Zenya Button winning the Year 7 girls 100m, Caiman Williamson (Year 9) winning the Year 10 girls 100m, Harry Wagstaff winning the boys 100m, Sam Barker winning the Year 8 boys 200m, Cameron Lytle winning the Year 8 boys 800m by a huge margin, Ross Stewart winning the Year 9 boys 100m recording a time of under 12 seconds for the first time, and Junior Milla winning the Year 10 boys 400m in his first race at the distance.

The school also won the Year 7 boys relay, Year 8 girls and boys relay, Year 9 girls and boys relay, Year 10 girls relay and was second in the Year 10 boys relay.

KARATE: Gold again for Luke

6.37pm - 9th July 2012

A LOUGHTON schoolboy has struck gold yet again winning the Shikon Open International.

Luke, Richardson, a pupil at Debden Park High School, Loughton, has now won gold at the Shikon Open International, the British International Karate Open, the Karate Sport England National Championships, the Karate England National Open and with the

Amateur Martial Association.
Over the last two years, Luke has won 12 medals and trophies at various competitions, eight of them gold medals.
Luke is a member of the Shikon club in North Weald and is a member of the Karate England squad.
He will be attending the WUKF World U21 Championships in Novi Sad, Serbia, in October.
His mentor is the current cadet World and European champion Charlie Collins.

Luke Richardson receives his gold medal at the recent Shikon Open International [click here](#)

CRICKET: Bancroft's retain Under-13s Cup

9.48am - 9th July 2012

BANCROFT'S School's Year 8 team retained the Under-13 Essex Cricket Cup beating Southend Boys High School in the final.
Bancroft's made an excellent start with opening bowlers Haaris Sohoje and Tom Oliver capturing five wickets for 24 runs in the first six overs.
Captain Angad Nijjar then introduced himself and spinning partner Jonny Bluff to press home the advantage and further wickets tumbled as the opposition were dismissed for just 34.
The Southend opening bowlers were hostile and accurate and created more than a little havoc when they reduced Bancroft's to 6 for 2.
Nevertheless opener Will Hopkins ably assisted by Murali 'The Wall' Satchithananda steadied the ship and saw off the full ten overs of the two Southend strike bowlers by which point Bancroft's were well on course to seal an eight-wicket victory.

Bancroft's School Under-13s retained the Essex Cup [click here](#)

PARALYMPICS: Brother and sister prepare for Games

8.54am - 28th June 2012

A BROTHER and sister will be focusing on London 2012 having been selected to compete for Great Britain in the Paralympic Games.
Swimmers James and Emma Hollis, from Theydon Bois, each has received sports bursary funding from Epping Forest District Council.
Councillor Liz Webster said: "The Olympics is all about the younger generations and I am particularly proud that our council has played a small part in the development of James and Emma.
"They are outstandingly gifted individuals but could not have been selected to represent Great Britain without tremendous amounts of hard work and dedication. They have proved to be fantastic ambassadors for Epping Forest District and I can't wait to follow their progress at London 2012."
The Theydon Bois pair both received sports bursaries of £1,500, plus smaller additional awards from the council.

FOOTBALL: School hosts under-nines festival

4.30pm - 25th June 2012

AN under-9s football festival featuring 120 pupils from local primary schools was hosted by Chigwell School.
The event was run in conjunction with the English Schools Football Association and Tesco.
The pupils were coached by the Essex FA skills coaches and then played both four-a-side and five-a-side matches.
The matches were overseen by a group of pupils from Eastbury Comprehensive School in Barking who were extremely impressive in their coaching of the pupils throughout the day.
The festival was organised by Mike Spinks from the English Schools FA and Creag Lawrence, Head of Football at Chigwell School.
Mr Lawrence said: "The event was a great opportunity to bring together schools from the local community and encourage as many boys and girls as possible to have a fun experience of the game in a safe environment.
"For some of the pupils this was their first experience of structured football and hopefully this will inspire them to play more regularly."

PETANQUE: Epping win challenge match

10.59am - 23rd June 2012

FOLLOWING two successful visits last year by Ongar petanque players to Epping Horizons Petanque Club it was decided to establish the relationship on a regular basis.
The towns now compete in the Epping Ongar Challenge with the winners receiving the Robert Weston Memorial Trophy which has been donated by Joyce Weston in memory of her late husband, a founder member of Epping Horizons Petanque Club who was captain for many years.
The first leg of this year's competition, held at Stonards Hill, Epping, was won by Epping seven games to five. The teams played four triples, four doubles and four singles matches.
The second leg will be played in October.
After the match refreshments were enjoyed at the Garnon Bushes pub, Coopersale.

PARALYMPICS: London 2012 experience for winner

12.52pm - 24th May 2012

PARALYMPIAN Anne Wafula Strike was among the first athletes to experience the Olympic Stadium in Stratford.
Anne, who won the ladies wheelchair race at this year's St Clare Hospice 10k event, came second in the wheelchair 100m and fifth in the 400m.
Anne said: "I was delighted with my performance in the 100m because it was a very tight race and it was also on my birthday.
"It was a fantastic experience to compete in the new Olympic Stadium and I hope I can do equally well, if not better, in the Paralympic Games if I am selected."
Following her success at the Olympic Stadium, Anne, from Harlow, achieved a personal best time of 31.1 secs when she competed in the 200m event at the BWRA Championships at Stoke Mandeville.

FOOTBALL: Cup success for Year 8 team

7.44am - 24th May 2012

WEST Hatch High School's Year 8 football team ended the season by lifting the District

Cup with a 2-0 victory over Debden Park High School, Loughton. The team easily progressed through the group stages with some impressive wins - 11-0 against Debden Park High School, 12-3 against Forest School and 3-0 against Roding Valley High School.

Coach Robert Tester said: "Lots of boys played themselves into the limelight with man of the match performances in these games from Antoine Milla, Ben Pradier, Sean Calder." As group winners, West Hatch qualified for a semi-final clash against Passmores School in Harlow.

Due to injuries and illness West Hatch was forced to play with only ten players but despite that the side fought hard with sterling performances from the High Road school's back four Harry Green, Jed West, George Parish and Ryan Lloyd.

Mr Tester said: "As the game went on West Hatch began to dominate and eventually won the game convincingly 3-0."

"Captain Tommy Ripsher worked extremely hard along with Cameron Lyttle and Cameron Ovel to fill in the gaps showing real class on the ball at times."

The final was played at Debden Park High School which West Hatch had comprehensively beaten earlier in the tournament.

Mr Tester said: "Our boys were full of confidence as a result of the previous meeting and started the game slowly."

"Debden showed a solid defence and energy in midfield but West Hatch become more dominant as Eren Muti and Mathew Teh got into the game more."

Tommy Ripsher's penalty five minutes before half time was saved but the miss spurred him on and his determination was apparent and other players began to step up their performances as George Regan's pace and Charlie O Toole's strength and decision-making became the difference as the game stretched in the second half. Tommy Ripsher scored the first goal and Antoine Milla netted the second before great saves from Scott Burdett kept the score at 2-0.

Mr Tester said: "Credit has to be given to the Debden team who really improved since the previous fixture but the West Hatch team showed superior skill and were deserving winners."

"Man of the match went to Cameron Lytle for a dominating performance in midfield. "Congratulations to the team for some success at the end of a hard year."

BASKETBALL: Triple success for school teams

3.52pm - 11th May 2012

EACH of West Hatch High School's basketball teams - Year 7, Year 9 and Year 11 - have celebrated success by each lifting the District Cup. It is the first time in the school's history that the school has won all three cups in the same season.

Each of the teams beat St Mark's School, Harlow, in the final. The school's head of PE, Jon Redding, said: "We have had a great season, we have lots of boys playing basketball and we are keen for even more boys to play again next year and carry on the tradition of basketball success at West Hatch."

Mr Redding said the "pick of the bunch" out of all the three trophy successes was the Year 9 team who had the toughest game and had lost to St Mark's in the group stages and in the final were ten points down at the start of the fourth quarter before going on to win in overtime.

The Year 11 team, made up of predominantly Year 10 boys, won their final easily thanks to the Yeboah brothers, Kwame (who has been selected for England and is joining Barking Abbey Basketball Academy next year) and Akwasi, a Year 10 pupil. Both have been selected to play for England this year.

Mr Redding added: "We also entered a Year 10 team in the English Schools competition and the boys only recently got knocked at the quarter final stage losing to Billericay by six points after winning three games on the road in Watford, Derbyshire and Northamptonshire."

"The best win was against Queens from Watford 85-83 with victory coming in the last seconds of the game. This equalled the best performance by a West Hatch team in this competition."

FOOTBALL: Roding Valley wins Year 10 District Cup

7.57am - 10th May 2012

RODING Valley High School's Year 10 football team have been celebrating after clinching the West Essex Cup in a penalty shoot-out.

They beat local rivals Debden Park High School after the match finished 1-1 after normal and also extra time.

The Alderton Hill school won 2-1 on penalties with goalkeeper Joe Morris slotting home the winning kick.

Head teacher Paul Banks said: "Both sides played extremely well and the match was very competitive with both teams playing in a sporting manner with all players being a credit to their schools."

GOLF: Club captain raises over £8,000 for charity

8.04am - 2nd May 2012

THE club captain at Woolston Manor Golf Club, Keith Parker, has raised over £8,000 for charity during his captain's term.

With the help of members and friends, Mr Parker, whose spell as captain ends on May 12, raised the money for his chosen charity JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation).

To help raise the money Mr Parker completed a sky dive, ran the London Marathon and held a charity auction.

The new club captain is Michael Stapleton.6.

FOOTBALL: National honours for Chigwell School players

8.57am - 26th April 2012

A NUMBER of Chigwell School pupils have recently represented the Independent Schools FA at the Bradfield College development camp.

Louis King, Dylan Bregman, Jake David, Ryan Farrant, Julian Dackombe, Tommy Redhead, Nikhil Mohindra, Chris Everitt and Alec Osborn took part in the Under-11 and Under-12 camp.

Chigwell School PE teacher Creag Lawrence, the school's Head of Football, said: "The students participated on the course with other boys from all over the country and played small-sided games against Wycombe Wanderers."

Jevan Rana played for the national Under-14 side and scored against Aldershot Town but was unable to play in the second match against Wycombe Wanderers due to injury.

Tim Lovett represented the full national Under-15 side against Leyton Orient and Wycombe Wanderers and will play again against Manchester United and other academy sides at Manchester United's Carrington training ground on Saturday, May 26.

CRICKET: Victory for Loughton over Matching Green

7.17pm - 16th April 2012

LOUGHTON 1st XI beat Matching Green by 17 runs in a pre-season friendly. After Loughton won the toss they lost Adam Vinson to his fifth ball and Dan Gymer not much later, with the pair scoring one and six respectively. Max Parry and Luke Williams looked to be in promising touch but some superb fielding from Matching Green saw their innings short lived. Husnain Kazmi took charge of the innings ensuring Loughton had a total to defend. Ahmed Zaman and Kazmi adding the majority of Loughton's runs with some big hitting late on. Syed Ali Shah then hit a blistering 36 from just 15 balls before Loughton ended on 188. Loughton's opening attack of Michael Bridges and Alex Sweeting made a breakthrough in the fourth over and Sweeting struck again in his next over forcing the batsman to edge a delivery to Luke Williams at slip. Two overs later and Sweeting had his third scalp as Loughton had restricted Matching Green to fewer than 20 runs in the first eight overs. The middle of the Matching Green innings saw their batsmen take fewer risks and chip away at the score. Later on a couple of wickets from Kazmi and Connor Sorrell saw Matching Green five down and seemingly down and out but a well battled partnership fought against some very tight bowling left Matching Green needing 27 from the last over.

CRICKET: Comfortable pre-season win for Loughton

3.42pm - 16th April 2012

LOUGHTON overcame Chadwell Heath in a pre-season friendly winning by 104 runs. Loughton, fielding a team consisting of mainly 1st XI players, won the toss and decided to bat. Fasal hit five 4s and one 6 before retiring 'out' for 50 off 51 balls. Ali Zaidi contributed 35 off 37 balls. The Gymer brothers, Michael and Shaun looked to push the score on but were out caught and LBW respectively. Naveed Fareed hit 54 off 46 balls with six fours and three sixes before retiring 'out'. His dismissal sparked a mini collapse with Loughton finished on 211-8 off 37 of their allotted 40 overs. Shaun Gymer and Husnain Kazami took the new ball for Loughton restricting Chadwell Heath to 18-1 off the first eight overs. Salim Akbar was the first change bowler and was more than a handful with his pace and swing as he took 3-19 off five overs. Loughton showed good energy in the field and 'Jonty' Hafeez ran out their best batsman with a lightning direct hit from mid wicket. Adam Jackson finished things off with 4-15 from 4.4 overs including two wickets in successive deliveries, a feat he also achieved a week earlier. With the pressure on he bowled a wide but the next ball bowled the Chadwell Heath captain as Loughton secured a comfortable victory.

GOLF: Theydon Bois player eyes Pro tour place

6.55pm - 5th April 2012

THEYDON Bois Golf Club player Nick Gates has come a step nearer to becoming a golf professional after finishing in seventh place in the qualifying competition for the PGA EuroPro Tour. Nick, competing at Stoke by Nayland, shot a level par 72 in the first round on Tuesday and a three under par round of 69 yesterday. The top 64 qualified for the final stage to be played next week at Frilford Heath, Oxfordshire. Nick is the only amateur in the top 27 players. A spokesman for Theydon Bois Golf Club said: "All the members and staff at the club wish Nick well next week and if he qualifies for the tour Theydon Bois Golf Club has pledged £250 towards his expenses in the first match of the Tour."

TENNIS: Epping head coach wins national award

8.58am - 3rd April 2012

THE head coach at Epping Tennis Club has been awarded the title AEGON Coach of the Year in the British Tennis Awards. Matt Smith, 25, completed the Senior Club Coach qualification last May. He won the AEGON Coach of the Month Award last July and has also been nominated by the LTA for a SportCoachUK award. His award citation states that Matt has transformed the coaching programme at Epping where only a short while ago the club was at risk of losing Clubmark status however since Matt's launch of Cardio Tennis for non-member adults, and Timed Tennis for juniors, the club is back on track and fast becoming the talk of the area. After attending a regional workshop on developing a quality programme, Matt recognised that Cardio would not only be a good fit for existing members but it was also a tool that could be used to attract a wider audience. Non tennis players, people looking to return to the game after a long break and those that lacked confidence in a traditional group coaching or social session would see Cardio as a non-traditional, fitness based, fun activity that could act as a stepping stone into the game and of course the club. Players develop through Matt's coaching programme 'Train to Play' and are now participating in many external events. From a club that had few or no competing junior players a year ago to now becoming a healthy competitive club.

RUGBY: West Hatch wins Year 9 Essex Cup

10.02am - 30th March 2012

WEST Hatch High School's Year 9 rugby team have lifted the Essex Rugby Cup. The boys beat the Gilberd School, Colchester, 20-12 in the final which was played at Chelmsford Rugby Club. West Hatch lead 15-0 at half-time, thanks to three tries (scored by Frankie Gibson, Ross Stewart and Matthew Lumb) but the Colchester school clawed their way back to narrow the margin to 15-12. Matthew Lumb's try just a couple of minutes from full time ensured there was to be no last minute disaster for the Chigwell school team which secured the trophy by a margin of eight points. Team coach Ray Flowers said: "The boys were ecstatic - three years of hard work has finally paid off." The West Hatch High School team was Robert Drummond, Ahmet Mehmet, Oscar Potter, Jordan McCann, Max Lyons, Jed West, Joe Ball, Morgan Brown (captain), Matthew Wallace (vice-captain), George Turner, Ross Stewart, Matthew Lumb, Frankie Gibson, Chad Harris, Freddie Bright. Subs: Tyler Fullerton, Alex Deane, Abbas Moman, Stefanos Ladoukakis and Rhys Maslen.

NETBALL: Coopersale Hall School crowned champions

2.57pm - 29th March 2012

COOPERSALE Hall School girls have been crowned winners at the annual netball rally hosted by St Andrew's Primary School in North Weald.

Twelve local schools were involved in the competition.

Coopersale Hall's netball coach Sue Lane said: "Our girls played beautifully as a team and the shooting from long range was outstanding - scoring 38 goals in total.

"The final was particularly exciting as we were playing the hosts, and the scores were level after normal time.

"The teams played on and Coopersale Hall were next to score, confirming their place as champions."

Coopersale Hall School's victorious netball team [click here](#)

PETANQUE: Club holds winter challenge

2.29pm - 28th March 2012

TWELVE players took part in the singles competition at Epping Horizons Petanque Club's winter challenge at the Stonards Hill terrain, Epping.

The players initially played five rounds in their respective leagues of six. In League 'A' Marie Wills and Derek Engleback hotly contested a position in the final each scoring three wins and a draw.

Derek had the better points difference so went through to the final where he played the winner of League 'B' Peter Lumb.

In the final, Peter established a good lead but then Derek staged a strong comeback to close to within two points.

Derek then pointed very accurately giving Peter a tough decision whether to point or shoot. He opted to point and just squeezed out Derek's boules to clinch victory.

All but one of the contestants won two or more of their league games, and the ladies did even better averaging three wins each.

The club has a few places for new members and beginners are particularly welcome.

Contact Peter Lumb on 01992 571744 for a free 'taster' session.

For more information, visit www.ehpetanque.co.uk

FOOTBALL: Theydon Bois wins district cup

12.50pm - 28th March 2012

FOOTBALLERS at Theydon Bois Primary School have been celebrating after clinching the Epping Forest Schools Sports Association cup.

They took the honours in a nail-biting final which saw them overcome Staples Road School, Loughton, in extra time.

Coming back from 2-0 down, Theydon Bois had levelled at the end of full-time to take the match into extra-time, with William Coakley netting the winner to spark jubilant scenes of celebration.

To reach the final, Theydon Bois had beaten Buckhurst Hill Community Primary School, Chigwell Primary, St John Fisher School, Loughton.

FOOTBALL: West Hatch student in Scotland U16 squad

7.57am - 28th March 2012

A WEST Hatch High School student has been selected by the Scottish Football Association for the Scotland Under-16 squad to play two matches against Italy Under-16s.

Midfielder George Byers, who is on the books of Championship club Watford, is among the 19-strong party which will play two international challenge matches in Milan next month.

The party will gather in Glasgow before flying to Italy for a five-day trip.

Deputy head teacher Dan Leonard said: "The school is always very proud of students who achieve international colours.

"We are very pleased for George and hope he goes on to fulfil his potential in the future."

NETBALL: Chigwell School squad celebrate success

1.58pm - 27th March 2012

CHIGWELL School's 1st netball squad beat two national squad teams when they took part in a tournament at New Hall School, Chelmsford.

The tournament was hosted to give two Ireland U19 squads the opportunity to play English schools.

The Chigwell girls excelled throughout the day finishing third in the tournament, beating both Irish squads along the way.

Sam Dick, Chigwell School's Head of Netball, said: "The Chigwell team consisted of many younger players and raised their game in order to compete at the highest level.

Congratulations go to all the players who represented Chigwell at the weekend."

The Chigwell team members were: Annalise Armitage, Lauren Drabwell, Chantal Purser, Natalie Roberts (captain), Francesca Cummins, Katie Maxwell, Sophie Halls and Jessica David.

FOOTBALL: Business sponsors school's kit

10.10am - 27th March 2012

LOCAL business Michael Stevens Estates in Loughton has generously supported Roding Valley High School by sponsoring the new school football kit.

Headteacher Paul Banks said: "I am delighted that one of our local businesses has decided to support their local secondary school by sponsoring our football kit.

"I would like to thank everyone at Michael Stevens Estates, and in particular Mike Reynolds, for their generosity in supporting the school.

"The kit is fantastic and the teams are already wearing their new kit with pride."

Mike Reynolds, from Michael Stevens Estates in Loughton, and Roding Valley High School headteacher Paul Banks with the new football kit [click here](#)

CRICKET: High Beach seeking new players

6.14pm - 25th March 2012

HIGH Beach Cricket Club is looking for additional players for the 2012 season.

The club plays in the Herts and Essex Cricket League Division 4 and is always looking for players of a reasonable standard.

The club prides itself in being able to cater for players of all ages and is working towards getting promoted to Division 3 of the HECL for 2013.

There is a comprehensive Sunday fixture list which includes home and away 'A' and 'B'

team fixtures, these games are of a more relaxed nature but are still very competitive and serious. They retain their friendly atmosphere and are a good place to try new members. The club has a well-stocked licensed bar selling both alcoholic and soft drinks, and runs various social functions during the season, the highlight of which is the awards and presentation evening in October.

For more information, visit <http://highbeach.play-cricket.com/home/home.asp>

CRICKET: Club starting girls' teams

4.16pm - 22nd March 2012

LOUGHTON Cricket Club is starting girls' cricket teams in the under-11 and under-13 age groups (Years 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8).

Training will be on Tuesdays (6pm-8pm) at Loughton Cricket Club starting on April 17.

Girls should wear comfortable sportswear with a white shirt/top if possible.

All equipment will be supplied at this stage.

The cost is £10 for the first four sessions.

Places are limited so registration is essential.

To register a place, email cliff.greenhill@btinternet.com stating the child's name, date of birth and school year or ring 020 8502 2064 and give the information.

FOOTBALL: Students meet World Cup final referee

8.01am - 21st March 2012

TWELVE Fourth Form students and two sixth formers at Chigwell School met World Cup Final referee Howard Webb.

The students were attending the Independent Schools FA Under-18 Cup Final between Hampton and Millfield at Stadium MK, the home of League 1 side Milton Keynes Dons.

The Fourth Formers were selected as ball boys for the match and met Howard Webb before kick-off.

The older students, Sage Kugathasan and Marcus Levitt, were given tasks in the Directors Lounge looking after the many dignitaries who included FA chairman David Bernstein, former Premier League referee and ISFA chairman David Elleray, and MK Dons owner Pete Winkleman.

The boys remarked on the excellent atmosphere created by over 2,000 people who attended the match which Hampton won 2-1.

BASKETBALL: Student selected for England U16 squad

7.15am - 21st March 2012

WEST Hatch High School student Kwame Yeboah has been selected for the England U16 basketball squad - and now hopes to be playing in the European Championships in July.

Kwame, 16, impressed in Essex, eastern region and England trials - where he was chosen from 30 players for the 16-strong squad.

Kwame, who lives in Chigwell, and was a member of the school's Year 11 team which won the Essex Schools Basketball Cup last year, said: "Luckily I got picked. I feel great. It's a big challenge to play with the best of the best."

Kwame, who has played for Essex County and the East Region, will be leaving the Chigwell school to start at Barking Abbey sporting academy where the England squad training takes place."

He hopes to represent his country in the European Championships being held in Lithuania in July.

While he is currently focused on his basketball, Kwame does not intend to give up his music.

He is a talented musician who plays the piano (Grade 6) and also the drums, bass, electric guitar and organ.

He has performed at numerous school concerts and events, including the West Hatch High School Sports Ball in London in January and last summer's end-of-term Westival concert at school.

Kwame said: "I'm hoping to do both, music and basketball, and try and become a concert pianist and a professional basketball player - I'm not sure if it has been done before!"

NETBALL: Bronze again for Bancroft's U19s

9.12am - 20th March 2012

BANCROFT'S School's U19 girls have won the bronze medal at the finals of the E-Teach national netball tournament for the second successive year.

In the group stage Bancroft's played eight matches, winning six - against Greenhead College, Loreto Grammar School, English Martyrs, Oundle, Seevic and the Wrekin - and losing just two, both by a single goal, to Aylesbury High School (12-13) and King Edward's (10-11).

In the semi final lost 7-13 to King's Worcester and then in the third place play-off they overcame Aylesbury High School 16-14.

Bancroft's coach Pam Telford said: "They played superbly in the play-off. It was their match of the day. I am still not sure where they got their energy from!"

"It was a fantastic all round performance from the squad with every member playing her part.

"We have faced injuries this term, but thankfully had both Kiki Solanke and Becki Mead back to strengthen the team."

Squad members were Kris Sim (captain), Sophie Luck (vice captain), Harriet Welton, Anna Hubbard, Harriet Chambers, Becki Mead, Izzy Heard, Kiki Solanke, Becky Coomber and Christie Chapman.

The U19s had earlier in the season reached the quarter finals of the Independent Schools Cup.

Meanwhile the U12 team were crowned Redbridge champions being undefeated in the Redbridge Sports Centre tournament.

The Bancroft's Prep girls reached the national finals of the IAPS tournament.

FOOTBALL: Chigwell School under-11s reach semi-final

1.00pm - 19th March 2012

CHIGWELL School's under-11 football team reached the semi-finals of the Independent Schools FA London U11 Cup.

The boys finished second in their group - in the matches held at John Lyon School in Harrow on Sunday (March 18).

The team won four matches - beating Edge Grove, St Aubyn's, Durham Bow and Eaton Square School - and lost only one of their group matches, to the eventual winners, Dulwich College.

Creag Lawrence, head of football and PE teacher, said: "It was a close affair in the semi-final but unfortunately the boys were beaten 1-0 by a well-drilled Belmont school team.

"The team drew many plaudits from coaches and spectators for their passing game which is always entertaining to watch.

"The boys worked incredibly hard all day and should be proud of their achievement."
Team members were Alex Barnes, Dylan Bregman, Ryan Farrant, Tommy Redhead, Julian Dackombe, Joe Williams, Nikhil Mohindra, Louis King and Jake David.

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

10.44am - 18th March 2012

WANSTEAD 'A' beat Hainault and Clayhall 'B', Chingford 'A' overcame Harold Wood and Loughton 'A' lost to Fives in the latest round of division one matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board's indoor league.

For scores and match reports [click here](#)
For the scores and youth match reports [click here](#)
For the latest league tables [click here](#)

BASKETBALL: West Hatch Year 10s reach last 32

8.09am - 13th March 2012

WEST Hatch High School's Year 10 basketball team are through to the last 32 of the National Schools competition after a thrilling victory over Queens School, Watford. The boys secured an 85-83 win thanks to a basket from Akwasi Yeboah in the last second of the match which was played at Queens School.

Jon Redding, the school's Head of PE, said: "It was an amazing game and means that we are through to the last 32 of the national competition and now have to play a school from Derby away in the next round next week.

"My congratulations to all the team for their contributions which have earned further success for the boys and recognition for West Hatch."

The team members were: Akwasi Yeboah, Oliver Black, Michael Rugeley, Junior Milla, Kareem Ogodo, Bradley Copper, William Mansfield, Aaron Coffey, Rahim Touami & Nathan Bramwell.

ATHLETICS: Accountants run half-marathon

3.15pm - 13th March 2012

ACCOUNTANTS at Loughton-based chartered accountants Haslers swapped sums for spikes by sponsoring a half-marathon.

Haslers sponsored the Roding Valley Half Marathon (Sunday, February 26) - and have done so for several years.

Six staff members took part while others gave out goody bags containing a drink and a Mars bar to the 1,000-plus runners as they crossed the finishing line.

Taking part were tax consultancy partner Jon O'Shea (2hrs 0mins 19sec), Lee Ervin (1hr 46mins 43secs), Peter Cross (1hr 47mins 42secs), Emma Robinson (1hr 58mins 48secs), Gill McKeever (1hr 58mins 23secs) and Sam Langsford (1hr 53mins 10secs).

Jon said: "We were delighted to once again have the honour of sponsoring such a long-standing and local event.

"The Roding Valley Half Marathon draws in competitors from far and wide and is a real fixture in the sporting calendar of the local area.

"It was great to see so many people enjoying the marathon, including six members of our team who acquitted themselves really well.

"I know they enjoyed themselves, even if some couldn't walk the next day!"

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

2.37pm - 13th March 2012

HAINAULT and Clayhall beat Clayhall 'A' while Fives 'A' beat Harold Wood and Wanstead 'A' overcame Chingford 'A' in the latest division one matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board indoor league.

For the full results [click here](#)
For the youth results [click here](#)

BASKETBALL: West Hatch Year 9 team champions again

11.13am - 11th March 2012

THE Year 9 basketball team at West Hatch High School, Chigwell, has retained the District Cup for a fourth successive year.

The boys won the final, held at Passmores School, Harlow, with a 60-47 victory over St Mark's School, Harlow.

West Hatch had already lost to St Mark's in the group stage and so went into the final as underdogs.

With the High Road school trailing by six points at half-time assistant coaches Jack Lumb and Sammi Simela told the boys they could still win - and by the end of the third quarter the boys were leading 48-44.

They went on to seal victory with a 13-point margin.

Coach Ray Flowers said: "With strong mental courage and a man of the match performance from captain Tito Falase West Hatch dominated the fourth quarter and in the end crushed St Mark's.

"This was a special result from a hard-working and committed bunch of lads who thoroughly deserved to win."

Team members: Tito Falase (c), Stefanos Ladoukakis, Rana Bagga, Nathan Bramwell, Deandre Daley, Ryan Lees, Chad Harris, Joe Cloake, Jordan McCann and Zahid Petkar.

HOCKEY: Chigwell School U11s are Essex champions

4.55pm - 10th March 2012

CHIGWELL School's U11 boys' hockey team are Essex champions having beaten Felsted Prep in a thrilling final at Redbridge Sports Centre.

Chigwell had already played Felsted in the group stages and lost 3-0 which meant Chigwell went into the semi-finals as group runners-up.

The last four encounter was against the other group winners, Edwards House. Chigwell took an early two-goal lead and despite the opposition scoring late on managed to hang on.

The final was always going to be tough with Felsted starting as clear favourites. Chigwell changed strategy for this game and restricted the opposition to only a few early scoring opportunities.

Chigwell's speed in attack from defence created a number of chances with one of them being converted at the back post from a hit across goal.

Felsted pushed forward and were frustrated by some strong collective defending which included multiple saves by the Chigwell goalkeeper.

Eventually the defence was breached and Felsted scored an equaliser.

Both teams had further shots on target but the game finished 1-1 with penalty flicks needed to decide the winners.
Chigwell scored the first flick with the other five being saved by the goalkeepers.
Chigwell now play other county cup winners in a regional competition at Bedford Hockey Club on March 15.

The victorious Chigwell School U11 team [click here](#)

HOCKEY: Chigwell School U18s reach regional final

4.53pm - 10th March 2012

CHIGWELL School's under-18s hockey team are through to the regional finals of the National Schools Hockey Tournament.
Following qualification in the county rounds, the team travelled to Bedford Hockey Club to compete in the regional rounds.
Drawn against some of the leading hockey schools in the region, Chigwell started with back-to-back wins over Stamford (2-0) and Woodbridge School (2-1).
The boys then faced a well organised and clinical Bedford School team eventually losing 2-1 leaving Chigwell having to rely on other results to progress.
Bedford then lost to Woodbridge meaning Chigwell's fate was in their own hands.
Chigwell knew they had to overcome an ever-improving Norwich team to snatch first place and qualification to the regional finals.
Chigwell took a 2-0 half-time lead following two well-rehearsed short corners however Norwich drew a goal back to set up a tense final ten minutes.
Chigwell battled to keep Norwich out, resulting in some whole-hearted and committed defending but despite Norwich's best efforts the Chigwell boys proved strong enough to see the game out.
Will Tomsett, Head of Boys Hockey at Chigwell School, said, "This has been a culmination of a season's hard work and determination from the boys.
"The squad should be extremely proud of their performances".
Chigwell will now play the top three teams in the East of England at the University of East Anglia on March 13 to compete for a place at the National Finals.

The Chigwell School U18 hockey team [click here](#)

FOOTBALL: Roding Valley reach final

2.26am - 8th March 2012

THE Year 7 football team at Roding Valley High School are through to the final of the Essex Cup after beating St Bonaventure's School 2-1 in the semi-final.
The Loughton school reached the final thanks to a fine all-round performance by the side.
A goal from Jack Stone gave Roding Valley the lead but after St Bonaventure's School equalised, a goal from Dru Yearwood ten minutes from time proved to be the winner.
In the last few minutes, Roding Valley had goalkeeper Joe Busby to thank for pulling off the save of the match to ensure his side's progress into the final.
PE teacher Phil Fitch said: "The boys have been a great credit to the school and we are all incredibly proud of them. "They are also a credit to their families and I would like to thank them for their support this season.
"Also a special mention for their club coaches who have taught them good habits. Well done to all."
The school is now waiting to find out who they will play in the cup final.
Team players: Bailey Toye Smith (7X), Jack Beddall (7X), Jack Stone (7X), Jake Smith (7X), Ellis Simmonds (7T), Daniel Prime (7T), Conor Tyrrell (7T), Curtis Jones (7T), Harry Oliver (7T), Joe Busby (7U), Lewis Crowe (7V), Cally Morley (7V), Dru Yearwood (7S), Jack Kibblewhite (7W) and Finley Spencer-Fenton.

RUGBY: West Hatch reach county final

8.10am - 8th March 2012

THE West Hatch High School Year 9 rugby team last night beat Mayflower 15-10 to reach the Essex Cup Final.
Congratulations go to the players who have been involved this season - O.Potter, A.Memhet, T.Fullerton, R.Drummond, M.Lyons, J.West (Year 8), J.McCann, J.Ball, M.Brown, C.Harris, J.Harman, A.Moman, M.Wallace, G.Turner, M.Lumb, F.Gibson, S.Ladoukakis, R.Stewart, A.Deane, R.Maslen and F.Bright.
The date for the final is yet to be confirmed but it will be before Easter.

NETBALL: Bancroft's prep team reaches national final

2.44pm - 5th March 2012

YEAR 6 netballers at Bancroft's Prep School have reached the national finals of the IAPS (Independent Association of Prep Schools) netball tournament.
The East of England tournament involved 29 other preparatory schools. The Bancroft's girls won all of their nine matches.
There were four sections, the girls won all six matches in their section, including victories against Forest, Felsted and Perse.
As section winners they went on to play winners of the other three sections to decide first to fourth places.
After beating Elm Green and South Lee they faced Brentwood in a nail-biting climax and sealed a 2-1 victory which meant Bancroft's finished as eastern champions and now look forward to the national finals at Roedean School on Saturday (March 10).
Team - Busola Femi-Gureje (captain), Caroline Hubbard, Katy Harris, Emily Platt, Zahida Ali, Dora Zhou, Ines Ouali, Sarina Ramasamy, Eloise Caswell, Avani Bhoarla.
The prep girls join with Bancroft's U19 team in reaching a national finals this season.
The U19s play in the finals of the National Netball Tournament in Basildon on March 17.s

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

9.15am - 28th February 2012

Hainault & Clayhall 'A' beat South Woodford by two runs in the latest round of matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board indoor league.
In the other division one match Asian AK Stars lost to Asian by six wickets.

For the adult results [click here](#)
For the youth results [click here](#)

CRICKET: Essex sign Aussie Test bowler

7.50am - 28th February 2012

ESSEX have signed Australian bowler Peter Siddle for the 2012 Friends Life t20

campaign, subject to clearance from Cricket Australia. Siddle, 27, becomes Essex's second overseas signing of the season after Alviro Petersen signed for the opening months of the LV= CC & CB40 campaigns. Head coach Paul Grayson said: "We are delighted to have signed Australia's premier bowler in Test cricket. "Australia are looking keep him fresh for their schedule and for Peter, this will be a chance for him to enhance his one-day skills. "With Tim Southee not coming back, it leaves us light in our bowling line-up so it will be good to bring him alongside Graham Napier. "We are all very excited to be bringing in a world-class bowler for our FL t20 campaign."

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

11.34am - 19th February 2012

FIVES 'A' top the table in the first division of the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board's indoor league after they beat Chingford 'A'. Wanstead 'A' will go top by a point if they win their game in hand. Asian have two games in hand and wins would leave them third just behind Fives 'A'. For the full results [click here](#)

PREMIER LEAGUE: Curbishley linked to Molineux job

2.57pm - 13th February 2012

FORMER West Ham United manager Alan Curbishley, who lives in Abridge, is among the favourites to take over as manager of Premier League strugglers Wolverhampton Wanderers. Curbishley, who has also managed Charlton Athletic, has been out of football management since he left Upton Park in September 2008. Since then he has worked as a television pundit. Curbishley, who was a special guest at the West Hatch High School Sports Ball in London in January - his children attended the High Road school - is being linked with the vacant position along with former Liverpool manager Rafa Benitez and former Sunderland manager Steve Bruce and others after Mick McCarthy was sacked following the side's 5-1 home defeat to West Bromwich Albion yesterday (Sunday). Curbishley is reported to have told Sky Sports News: "If I get the phone call then obviously I would talk to them."

ESSEX CRICKET: South African opening batsman signs for Essex

8.54am - 12th February 2012

SOUTH African opening batsman Alviro Petersen has said he is "delighted" to have signed for Essex for the start of the 2012 season. Writing on Twitter (@AlviroPetersen), the 31-year-old said he had signed a short-term contract from the start of the season until mid-June. Essex have yet to announce the signing and it remains unclear whether the club will sign another overseas player for the second half of the season. Scott Styris, who played for Essex in the 2011 Twenty20 campaign will not be rejoining the Essex Eagles having signed for Sussex for this season's 20-over competition. Petersen has played ten Test matches and 17 one-day internationals for South Africa and is only the third South African to have hit a century on his Test debut. Petersen played for Glamorgan last season and was the county's top scorer in all competitions. He replaced former Middlesex all-rounder as the county's captain and scored his first double hundred in first class cricket when he hit 210 against Surrey at The Oval. He was named Glamorgan's player of the year. Writing on Twitter, Petersen said he had wanted to return to Glamorgan for the forthcoming season. He wrote: "They played a massive part in my success at international level. Great fans, good people! I thank all involved! I enjoyed my time with Glamorgan, and yes, would have wanted it to continue but Glammy can only sign one overseas (player). "We proposed something, but Glammy rejected such. "My agent gave Glamorgan a proposal which they didn't accept. "Would have loved to join Glam!"

TABLE TENNIS: Students celebrate tournament success

11.14am - 6th February 2012

STUDENTS at West Hatch High School, Chigwell, have been celebrating after reaching the latter stages of a county table tennis tournament. Eleven pupils at the High Road school represented West Hatch at under-16 and under-19 level in the Essex County Individual Championships which were held at BATTs Table Tennis Club in Harlow. All of the students were playing against players one or two years older. In the under-16s category James Beswick (Year 9), Nathan Bramwell (Year 9) and Vishal Dubb (Year 10) progressed through their league group and into the knockout stages, with Vishal Dubb reaching the quarter-finals. In the under-19s category Year 11 pupils Billy Sabine and Bobby Eavy progressed through the group stages all the way to the semi-finals where they came up against opponents who are county/nationally ranked. PE teacher Casca Hoy said: "Students have have worked hard in training, dedicating time and effort to improve their table tennis skills over the past two years. "They all deserve praise for the way they conducted themselves on the day." The squads were:
Under-16s: James Beswick (Year 9), Nathan Bramwell (Year 9), Harry Osbourne (Year 9), Vishal Dubb (Year 10), Joe Holmes (Year 9) and Mohit Dole (Year 9).
Under-19s: Kyle Chan (Year 12), Billy Sabine (Year 11), Bobby Eavy (Year 11), Liam Ball (Year 10) and Edward Yamah (Year 10).

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

8.36am - 6th February 2012

IN the latest round of division one matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board indoor league Hainault & Clayhall B beat Loughton by 23 runs while Fives A lost to Asian by one wicket.

For the main results, [click here](#)
For the youth results, [click here](#)

RUGBY: Year 8 West Hatch boys reach county finals

10.16am - 1st February 2012

THE Year 8 rugby team at West Hatch High School, Chigwell, have qualified for the Essex finals after winning the District Emerging Schools Rugby Competition. The boys - Tari Branson, Zack Cannon (captain), Ben Lipson, Alfie Udall, Taylor Wilkins, Delford Perkins, Jed West, James Wallace, Billy Harris, Sean Moore, Antoine Milla, Joe Heller, Filip Goralczyk, Cyrus Bryan, Kamron Grant - were unbeaten throughout the competition which was held at Upper Clapton Rugby Football Club, Thornwood Common, winning five and drawing one of their games. Thanks to their achievement the boys, who scored 15 tries in their six matches, have qualified for the Essex finals to be held in March. Luke Taylor Under-13s head coach, said: "All the team were ecstatic with the victory. "The boys did fantastically well and did not concede a single point throughout the competition, showing real fight after their disappointment in the District Cup. "They are a credit to the school and we are now all looking forward to continuing the success in the county finals." Stewards School, Harlow, was second (two victories and ten tries) with Roding Valley High School third (two victories and six tries), Davenant Foundation School fourth (two victories and five tries), St Mark's School, Harlow, fifth (two victories and four tries), Passmores Academy, Harlow, sixth (one victory) and St Nicholas School, Old Harlow, seventh (no victories).

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

7.55am - 31st January 2012

IN the latest round of division one matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board indoor league Hainault and Clayhall beat Fives and South Woodford lost to Network AK Stars.

For the adult results [click here](#)
For the youth results [click here](#)

NETBALL: Bancroft's U19s reach national finals

1.34pm - 30th January 2012

GIRLS at Bancroft's School, Woodford Green, played in the regional finals of the National Schools' Netball Tournament held at Redbridge Sports Centre. Although both teams played well, the under-14s and under-16s failed to qualify for the National Finals, finishing sixth and fifth respectively. The under-19s won their first three games, against St Helen's (9-7), Benenden (17-15) and Coloma Girls (10-7), before losing 12-11 to Lady Eleanor Holles. The girls then beat King's 14-5. The final match of the day saw Bancroft's face their old adversary Barking Abbey. Thanks to a surprise Guildford victory over Lady Eleanor Holles, Bancroft's knew that progress to the National Finals was still within their grasp. At this stage the Woodford girls needed just one point to qualify as silver medallists. Bancroft's lost to Barking Abbey, the 13-8 score gave them the much needed point. The National Finals are in Basildon on March 17 with Bancroft's joining Barking Abbey as the best schools' U19 netball teams in London and the South East. Both teams hope to repeat last year's success when Barking Abbey were National Champions and Bancroft's took the bronze medals.

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

8.48am - 24th January 2012

HAINAULT and Clayhall beat Ilford and Buckhurst Hill overcame Harold Wood in the latest round of matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board Indoor League. In the other first division match Chingford A beat Network AK Stars by default when Network AK Stars failed to have five players by start time. For the full results [click here](#)
For the youth results, [click here](#)

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

8.40am - 16th January 2012

FIVES won the top-of-the-table clash with Wanstead in the latest round of matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board Indoor League. Despite three run outs, Wanstead got a working total but Fives, with their experienced line-up, got home in the last over in a thrilling finish. In the other top division match South Woodford beat Ilford. For the full results, [click here](#)
For youth results, [click here](#)

INDOOR CRICKET: Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board

8.22am - 8th January 2012

FIVES B lost to Asian in the latest round of matches in the Metropolitan Essex District Cricket Board Indoor League. Fives B managed only 90 for 5 (12 overs) with Braithwaite making an unbeaten 46. Their total was reached by Asian who made 93 for 2 with Amad 26 (retired) and Tanvir 25 (retired) to secure a four-wicket victory. For the full results, [click here](#)
For the youth results, [click here](#)

CRICKET: Epping colts' section prepare for new season

7.19am - 5th January 2012

THE Epping Cricket Club colts' section is again thriving after a difficult few years. The club has traditionally been very strong at youth level in west Essex and beyond, but by 2004 was no longer fielding sides. However the colts' section has been re-born, expanding from a dozen youngsters in 2008 to well over 60 boys and girls in 2011, running teams at under-9 and under-11 level and training colts at older levels. The 2012 season is one full of promise. An under-13 side will play competitive cricket matches for the first time since 2000 alongside the other younger age groups (U11, U10, U9). Epping will have seven qualified youth coaches operating under head coach Jacob Ellis (himself a product of the Epping youth system) and colts' manager Kevin Preston. The teams had a very encouraging 2011 with the colts playing Sunday matches throughout the season. The under-11s played both terrier and normal cricket, winning the Under 11 West Essex

(South) Division.

There have also been outstanding individual successes and many examples of Epping youngsters playing representative cricket at higher levels.

Laura Ellis has been awarded a Jack Petchey award by the West Essex District Cricket Board for Outstanding Achievement. This was due to her being selected to play for the Essex Under-17 Girls team for their county championship games this summer, as well as playing in the England Schools Cricket Association U17 Girls Festival at King's College, Taunton, in August where the team were runners-up to Wales.

Miread Ladbrook also played for the Essex Under-13 Girls teams last season.

In addition, six boys - James Webber, Max Fletcher, Leo Dolan, Jesse Chorley, Stanley Eaton and Freddie Knight - played for West Essex at under-11 and under-9 level.

Ahead of the 2012 season, training for colts of all ages (from 5-15) will be held once a week from March 1, on Thursday evenings indoors at St John's School, Epping.

From late April training will take place outdoors on Friday evenings at Epping Cricket Club, Lower Bury Lane.

Epping also boasts a summer cricket camp run by coach Jacob Ellis and is Clubmark accredited, the only national cross sports quality accreditation scheme for clubs with junior sections.

The club has active parents who help out on match days and a great social atmosphere.

Epping Cricket Club colts' section goes from strength to strength and it is hoped that many of the youngsters will go on to represent the club at adult level.

At present the majority of 1st XI adult players started their Epping careers in the colts section.

For more information or to join Epping Cricket Club in 2012, ring colts manager Kevin Preston on 07753 119241.

For information on adult cricket email Matthew Barrett - matthewbarrett86@gmail.com

Epping Cricket Club's under-11s [click here](#)



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