

Junior sport

Elation: Monmouth students have Midas touch at big championships

Gwent's golden boys



GOLDEN TOUCH: The winning Wales eight celebrate with cox Harry Davies and coach Robin Fletcher while (inset) Marcus Clover and Ed Whitehead revel in their success

Rowing

THE battle for gold hasn't just been taking place in Beijing this summer and Wales enjoyed great success in the Home International Rowing Championships at Cardiff Bay.

Wales' best young rowers went to battle with their counterparts from England, Ireland, Scotland and the junior men's eight sealed victory for the first time in the 42-year history of the championships.

Five of the crew, Harry Davies (cox), Huw Richards, Rodrigo Pearse, Callum Kinloch and Robert Tod are from Monmouth School.

Louis Paterson is from Monmouth Comprehensive School, Ed Whitehead from Shrewsbury and Ben Myers from Kings Grammar School.

The crew, as well as coach Robin Fletcher, were absolutely elated with the result.

Five of the crew, Davies, Richards, Myers, Paterson and Tod had won gold the previous week in a coxed four at the British Rowing championships held at Nottingham.

Gold was also won for Wales by Marcus Clover of Marlow and Ed Whitehead in the junior men's double.

The medals were a reward for the hard work and dedications shown by the young rowers.

They typically train five days a week throughout the year in all weather.

The championships will be held in England next year.

Maindee students snap up medals galore

Martial Arts

STUDENTS from the Martial Arts and Fitness Centre, Maindee, Newport, competed in The London Open Championships held in Surrey.

Fifty-two Taekwon-do Schools from all over the country took part in the Tournament with the MAFC School coming third place overall.

Altogether over 60 competitors and spectators attended the tournament and students came away with 29 medals.

Students were taken to the tournament by team coaches and instructors Leanne Gassor, a fourth degree black belt, and Aaron Gassor, a first degree black belt.

Miss Gassor said: "I am



TERRIFIC DISPLAY: Students from the Martial Arts and Fitness Centre in Maindee claimed an impressive medal haul

very pleased and proud of all the MAFC students that took part in the tournament and would like to congratulate them for their performances on the day.

"I am really looking forward to taking the students to the many up and coming competitions we have planned this year.

"Myself and all the MAFC

staff would also like to say a special thank you to our sponsors, Croydon Coaches, and to the students, parents and families who continually support us."

If you would like information on classes held at The Martial Arts and Fitness Centre you can ring 01633 222260 or go to their website www.mafcmartialarts.com

Baker is boosted by call-up

Cricket

THE bad weather has been putting a dampener on plenty of cricket but there has been plenty to celebrate at Blackwood.

Tom Baker has been selected to play for the West of England Under-14s and is poised to play in the three games against the other regions as he is the only wicket-keeper selected.

Club spokesman Lyn Hall said: "We are absolutely delighted at Tom's selection as he is the first player from our club to be selected at this level.

"It is further recognition of our successful youth policy and all those connected with the coaching set-up should be congratulated."

The games will be played at the National Performance Centre in Loughborough.

Send your junior sport stories and pictures by email to

**sportsdesk@
southwalesargus.co.uk**

**Please send them before
Wednesday and keep them
under 300 words**