

Darts

WITH only one game left to play in the Leighton Buzzard Ladies Dart League, it's all to play for between the top two teams in the A Division.

The Legends and The Buzzard Birds are level on points and everything rests on the final game.

The teams met last week and although The Buzzard Birds took a 4-0 lead, The Legends fought back to share the points.

In the B Division, the title has gone to new team Charlies Angels but second place has yet to be decided between Legionares and Claypipe Devils.

The KO Cup Final will be between The Legends and The Midnight Ladies to be played on April 15 alongside the Captain's and Vice Captain's Cup.

The league competitions take place at the Brooklands Club starting with the league pairs on Wednesday March 11.

The league will also be running a summer season. Forms will be handed out at the competitions.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD LADIES DART LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
A Division							
Legends	11	8	1	2	59	28	28
Buzzard Birds	11	8	2	1	56	32	28
Mother Funkies	12	5	1	6	46	50	18
Stragglers	11	6	2	5	41	46	17
Midnight Ladies	11	0	0	11	20	68	3
B Division							
Charlies Angels	11	9	1	1	56	32	30
Legionares	12	5	4	3	50	46	25
Claypipe Devils	11	4	4	3	47	41	22
Dollies	11	3	2	6	41	47	17
Phish-heads	11	1	1	9	30	58	9

Netball

Leighton Buzzard Vipers 46 Christchurch 46

IT'S been a few weeks since Vipers' last regional game but with just four fixtures left and sitting in the second half of the table, they were keen to get all the points in their home fixture against Ipswich's Christchurch.

Vipers started well and entered the first interval with a seven goal lead in the bank, but had to make some positional changes after Keely Glenister left the court with an injury. Unfortunately, these changes resulted in an unsettled second quarter, and their opponents led 25-26 at the half time break.

Further changes at half time and a more disciplined third quarter saw Vipers regain the lead. The combination was changed one final time for the last quarter, but the Vipers squad lacked depth, and were unable to hold onto their lead. The game finished 46-46, and although Vipers were disappointed with their performance they were relieved to gain some points from the fixture. Sally King was named player of the match.

LB Comets v MK Dynamos

Comets played Dynamos in the Divisional Cup where points are awarded for each quarter.

Comets struggled in the first two quarters with Dynamos making a strong start, easily winning both sessions.

The third quarter saw Comets take an early lead, but Dynamos made a comeback, winning the period by two goals.

The final quarter went goal for goal with Comets leading – however, in the last few minutes of the game, Dynamos managed to score in quick succession, finally ending with Dynamos winning by one goal.

Comets were disappointed but felt they had played well against a higher positioned team.

PoM was shared by Barbara Walshaw and Caryn Frupp.

Skills on show in tag rugby festival

FIFTEEN teams from local lower schools met at Leighton Buzzard Rugby Club for a ripping session of afternoon rugby on Thursday.

A total of 150 children gathered to take part in the annual Key Stage 2 Lower Schools Tag Rugby Festival.

As well as playing group competitive games, the Year 3 and 4 children benefited from some additional skills coaching provided by sports leaders between matches.

Leighton Buzzard Rugby Club mini coaches Jonathan Mulcahy, Maurice Campbell and Rod Williams were impressed by the standard of play and enthusiasm of the children who took part. The match official for the final was Charlie Holmes, a current Buzzards U15 winger and qualified RFU referee.



TAG RUGBY festival winners Leedon School.

Southcott Lower, Leedon Lower and Swallowfield Lower each won their respective groups and went through to the

semi-finals.

They were joined by Greenleas who were best runners-up in the group stages. Swallow-

field and Leedon went on to the final, and Leedon won overall after putting in their best performance of the afternoon with precise tagging, quick pace and good ball skills.

The team from the school in Highfield Road, Leighton, won 4-0.

Both finalists have now been invited to attend the County Tag Festival at Luton RFC on March 24 to represent Leighton-Linslade SSP.

Glynis Lawrence from Leighton-Linslade SCo said: "The whole event went very well and all the feedback from schools has been very positive. Thanks to LBRC for hosting the event and for supplying referees and refreshments, and to the Young Leaders and Sports Leaders who helped the referees and coached the young players.

"The event was organised by Dean Bennett, Competition Manager, in conjunction with the School Sports Partnership."

Nick Johnson, one of the tournament organisers and coach at Buzzards, said: "Children may join Leighton Buzzard RFC Minis and Juniors at any point in the season and the club is always delighted to receive new members."

Schools who took part were Heathwood Lower, Hockliffe Lower, Greenleas X, Greenleas Y, Linslade, Clipstone X, Clipstone Y, Leighton, Southcott X, Southcott Y from Linslade, Pulford, Leighton, Leedon from Leighton, St Leonards from Heath and Reach, Linslade Lower, Doverly Down in Heath Road, Leighton, Beaudesert in Leighton and Swallowfield Lower from Woburn Sands.



ACTION from the schools' tag rugby festival at Leighton Buzzard Rugby Club. Picture: Colin Bridges.

Athletics

LEIGHTON Buzzard Athletic Club runners met with boggy ankle deep mud on a waterlogged course at Parliament Hill in London when they took part in the English National Cross Country Championships.

First man home for Leighton was Joby Hobbs who completed the 12km course in 54.01.

He was joined by Charlie Thompson, Nick Clay, Mike Bryant, Tom May and Martin Snowden who helped the team to 97th out of the 112 that finished.

Fred Watt had a good run while Ben Corfield had to pull up to avoid injury prior to a midweek athletics meet with his university.



HARRY LANDER, Fred Watt, Joby Hobbs and Mike Bryant

Harry Lander competed for the first time in the U13 age group that he moves up to next season, finishing in a

good time of 15.42.

This put him 321st of the 356 runners in that age category.

Hockey



LEIGHTON Buzzard Men's 1st XI celebrate after scoring in Saturday's 2-2 draw against OMT at Vandyeke School. Picture: David Langfield.

Making his Mark

ATHLETE Mark Kleanthous' triathlon web site was voted third favourite of its kind in the UK at the national 220 Triathlon magazine awards at Sandown Park.

Mark, 48, a member of Leighton Buzzard Athletics Club, has been competing since the very first triathlon held in Reading in 1983.

A total of 423 triathlons later he is still going strong having competed in 14 countries and he has probably done more triathlons than anyone else in the UK.

He has crossed the finish line in more than 1,000 races including 71 marathons, all sub three hours, plus hundreds of other swim, cycle and run events.

Due to popular demand for questions being asked, Mark has developed a Swim Bike Run sports nutrition web site with over 400 pages updated regularly since 1999.

If you need advice on swim bike run, triathlon, training, racing, nutrition, mistakes to avoid, question and answers section, time saving tips, there are more than 400 pages of useful information.

It's all free including signing up for a monthly newsletter on the best ways to train. Log onto www.ironmate.co.uk

There are more than 300 triathlons held in the UK each year for various local races for sprint to Olympic to middle distance held at Emberton Park, Olney. Log onto www.big-cow.com

Youth teams looking for sponsors

MINI and Junior Buzzards are busy collecting money for new kits and this year's tours.

Buzzards U10s are going to Burnham-on-Sea in May to take part in a rugby tournament, but their main sponsor pulled out this week and they desperately need a replacement.

Any businesses who could step in at the last minute can contact Caz Eaton on 07941860024.

Buzzards U15s are travelling to Chester in May to play in a weekend tournament. They need a second kit featuring two company logos and any companies wanting to sponsor them at £300 or £200 will get its company name displayed on the shirts for at least two years.

Anyone wanting to sponsor should contact Wynne Evans on jwynne_evans@tiscali.co.uk

Buzzards U17 are looking to tour in this country now as plans to tour France look doubtful.

However, they are also looking for new shirts, plus training kit.

As Colts next season they will play every Saturday. They already have players in East Midlands representative squads and many hope to go on further to Midlands level and beyond.

Coach Rod Keating said: "We are keen to do a Black and Pink away kit special which will be very striking."

Companies wanting to sponsor the U17 should email Rod Keating at Rod.Keating@pacepetroleum.com

All teams will continue to feature in the LBO's youth rugby section.



BUZZARDS go over for a try during Saturday's friendly against Loughborough Students at Wright's Meadow. Picture: David Langfield.

LEIGHTON Buzzard 1st XV met Loughborough Students in a friendly at Wright's Meadow before this Saturday's return to league action.

They travel to second from

bottom Matlock, who Buzzards beat 20-8 when the teams met at Wright's Meadow in September.

Another match at the ground last Saturday saw Buzzard

Inferno lose 36-22 to The A Team. Scorers were Byron Bedford 3, Gary Dennis and Ian Smerden for The A Team and John Latimer 2, Phil Dyer and Jon Ilic for Inferno.