

YOUNG TITAN REACHES NATIONAL SWIMMING FINALS

At the 2009 British Gas National Age Group Championships which were held at the Ponds Forge International Pool in Sheffield between 22nd & 26th July James Wilson, age 11, of Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club was a finalist in both the 100m and 200m freestyle events.

Competing against the best young swimmers in the UK, as well as some from overseas, James came 6th in the 100m freestyle in a new personal best and Titan age group club record time of 1:04.10. He then bettered this in the 200m freestyle finishing 5th in a time of 2:17.53.

Also swimming at the National Championships was fellow Titan Alfie Pardoe, age 11, who despite suffering from a hernia, swum his way to a personal best and age group club record time of 1:16.74 in the 100m backstroke.

Alfie and James were two of only four Shropshire swimmers to qualify for this years National Age Group Championships – the other two swimmers being Daniel Jones from Oswestry Otters and Christina Jones from Northgate Swimming Club.

Titan head coach Jon Pardoe commented “I’m exceedingly proud of both James and Alfie. In the 200m freestyle James showed real courage to take the swim out fast - leading at the 50m mark. It was one of the most exciting swims I’ve seen all year.

Whilst not reaching the finals of his events Alfie showed incredible determination to swim a personal best despite his injury.”

Further details about joining the Ellesmere College Titans can be found on their website www.ellesmerecollegetitans.co.uk or by telephoning Jon Pardoe on 07903 641668. Further details on scholarships and places at Ellesmere College can be obtained from the College Admissions Secretary on 01691 622321 or by email at admissions.secretary@ellesmere.com.

Photos: James Wilson & Alfie Pardoe at British Gas National Age Group Championships.

Notes to Editor

The Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club was established in 2008, as a meeting of minds, between Ellesmere College – a school with a great sporting heritage and the parents of some of the top young swimmers in Shropshire, united in their desire to create an ambitious, positive and competitive swimming club.

The result: A centre of swimming excellence in the heart of the North Shropshire countryside.

To maintain this standard the Club adopts and implements a selective membership policy, to ensure that all swimmers share the same goal of achieving swimming success at the highest level. The emphasis is on quality not quantity of swimmers, with the Club limiting its total swimming membership to 24 - ranging from children as young as 8 upwards.

In such an environment a great deal of one to one coaching can be given to individual swimmers, and productive use can be made of underwater video analysis and specialist training equipment

Ellesmere College was founded in 1884 and is part of the Woodard Group – the largest grouping of public schools in the UK. Over the years it has been responsible for producing some of the British sporting greats including ex-England Rugby captain Bill Beaumont. It is hoped that it will produce the next generation of British swimming greats.

Issued on behalf of Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club (The Titans). For further details please contact Jon Pardoe on 07903 641668 or email jonpardoe@hotmail.co.uk. Further details on scholarships and places at Ellesmere College can be obtained from the College Admissions Secretary on 01691 622321 or by email at admissions.secretary@ellesmere.com

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