

Youngster celebrates after winning golf championship

NINE-year-old James Bailey of Barton under Needwood is celebrating after winning the Calloway Junior Golf Tour UK Qualifier at Wildwood Golf and Country Club in Surrey.

The win means James, and caddy — dad Phil — are off to the Calloway World Junior Tournament in San Diego this July to face the best in the world and represent the UK.

James rose to the challenge of the scratch 36 hole competition that was played out over Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17. At the end of Day 1 he was tied in first place at the top of the leaderboard only to go on and win outright on Day 2, finishing on an equivalent of 18 under par — a remarkable achievement.

James has played golf since he was four years old and has a Handicap of 21.6. He plays at Branston Golf and Country Club where he is their youngest member.

The youngster is sponsored by Birmingham business, Minos Systems UK. Minos also sponsors two young golf professionals at Branston Golf and Country Club, Will Harvey and Matt Oliver, both of whom help James to train and have even caddied for him at some of the events he has played at.

A pupil at Thomas Russell primary school in Barton under Needwood, James is delighted with his win and is looking forward to travelling abroad to play with the best junior golfers in the world. Strangely, James' sisters,



Paige and Abigail, have suddenly developed an interest in golf with the prospect of being 'California Girls' in the summer. Mum Angela is also very proud.

University meeting

A MEETING is being held in Longton for the University of the Third Age — a group which encourages older people to learn whilst having fun.

The Stone branch of the group is holding a meeting on June 23 at the Crown Hotel in Longton, for people eager to learn more about the University — an international organisation whose aims are the education and stimulation of retired members of the community.

Sandra Robson, who together with three friends set up the Stone branch of the University, which now has over 700 members, said people meet to listen to speakers on a variety of subjects — from English Literature to handicrafts.

Anyone who would like more information about the meeting in Longton, can contact Sandra Robson on 01785 812730 or Sue and Bob Jones on 01785 817743.

Royal visit

HIS ROYAL Highness, The Earl of Wessex, KG GCVO, has visited Keele to get an overview of the University and see a range of teaching and research activities designed to change social attitudes towards older people.

Accompanied by the Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, The Earl was welcomed to Keele by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nick Foskett, who introduced him to the Pro-Chancellor, Mr Ian Dudson.

Matt is named top chef

THE EXECUTIVE chef of the Moat House in Acton Trussell has won a coveted award at the British Culinary Federation Louis Cipolla awards.

Matt Davies, who works for the Lewis Partnership which owns the Moat House, The Bear Grill, The Swan in Stafford, The Greengate Deli and the newly acquired Dog and Doublet in Sandon, was named Chef of

the Year at the glittering awards dinner dance ceremony in Birmingham.

The award is awarded to a chef who has shown the greatest contribution to the profession within the British Culinary Federation. Matt said: "I am very humble and proud to be recognized for this special award, as this also shows my dedication to the Lewis Partnership and passion to the industry."