

in BRIEF

Hildreth is proud in defeat

**BASKETBALL:**

Daniel Hildreth, left, has put a brave face on Worthing Thunder's 90-78 defeat at Team Northumbria.

Thunder were missing four starters but Josh

Brown stepped up with 21 points while fellow youngsters Joe Carter and Max Richardson hit 12 apiece.

Head coach Hildreth said: "I'm proud of the team. I couldn't ask for more effort from them against a very well-drilled Northumbria side who had the best of us over 40 minutes."

Skipper Bud Johnson and ultra-competitive Lithuanian forward Tomas Seidukis were among the key players missing.

American power forward Rory Spencer should be back next week after Thunder finally secured his visa.

Finch for England

CRICKET: Sussex all-rounder Harry Finch has been named in a 17-man England under-19 squad for a tri-nations series in the UAE against Pakistan and UAE. England will play each side three times ahead of a final on December 22 as they step up their preparations for the World Cup in February.

Ralph in final

GOLF: Hannah Ralph (Cowdray Park) booked her place in the final of the Ladies European Tour Q School after finishing second in pre-qualifying in Morocco.

Ralph carded a six over par 79 in her final round at Royal Dar Es Salam to finish on 14 over overall, six behind winner Leigh Whittaker. She now goes through to the final in Marrakech in two weeks where she will battle it out for a place on the LET. Stacey Rodger (West Hove) finished in 37th place.

Davis is beaten

SNOOKER: Mark Davis lost the last two frames as he lost 6-5 to Scott Donaldson in the second round of the UK Championship in York. Davis, from St Leonards, had earlier fired in breaks of 56, 96, 69 and 62 to move into a 5-4 lead.

Owls boss axed

FOOTBALL: Sheffield Wednesday last night sacked manager Dave Jones, with the Owls second from bottom of the Championship table.

Jol sacked



FOOTBALL: Martin Jol, left, has been sacked by Fulham, with head coach Rene Meulenstein taking responsibility of the first team.

Jol, 57, had been in charge at Craven Cottage since June 2011 and his dismissal comes on the back of five straight Premier League defeats.

Yesterday, Premier League: Tottenham 2, Man Utd 2; Hull 3, Liverpool 1; Chelsea 3, Southampton 1; Man City 3, Swansea 0.

Championship: Wigan 1, Derby 3.



Jolyon Palmer and Will Palmer, above, have their sights on Formula One
Below: At Brands Hatch recently

by HOWARD GRIGGS
Motorsport reporter
howard.griggs@theargus.co.uk

JOLYON PALMER has set his targets on racing in Formula One in 2015.

And it is not unthinkable that by the end of the decade he could be joined there by younger brother Will.

Both are a little way off, certainly Will who is only 16 and has just broken into Formula Four, but it is a goal they both have a chance of achieving.

The Palmer brothers, from Southwater in Sussex, have both pushed their dream closer to reality this season, although in Jolyon's case not as close as he would have liked.

The 22-year-old wants to get to the

highest level of the sport as soon as he can but a frustrating first half of the season in GP2 – a feeder series to Formula One – meant he finished seventh in the overall standings.

Palmer, though, will be encouraged by an excellent second half to the season with the Carlin team which included victories in Hungary and Singapore as he focuses on winning the series next year before making the ultimate step up.

Will, meanwhile, finished third in the Ginetta Junior Championship this season, claiming ten podium places including a maiden victory at Rockingham.

He followed that with a step up to Formula Four at the end of the season and a first single seater victory in the Winter Championship at Brands Hatch last weekend.

The boys both benefit from the advice, knowledge and contacts of their father, Jonathan, who raced in Formula One from 1983-89, including stints with Williams and Tyrrell.

Jonathan's standing in the sport is an added bonus but the brothers know they have to do it themselves and both feel they are on course following their 2013 exploits.



And maybe that dream of emulating the Schumacher brothers, Michael and Ralf, of both racing in Formula One, is not as far off as it appears.

Here the brothers reflect on their 2013 season, their highlights, their goals and each other.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE 2013 SEASON?

Jolyon: I'm pretty happy in the end. The second half of the season was really good. The Singapore weekend was perfect and I think it was really positive on the whole.

Will: It has been really good. The pace was always there or thereabouts and there was no track where I wasn't on it. I then carried it through to the Radical race I did where I took two seconds and then Formula Four.

WHAT WAS YOUR HIGHLIGHT?

Jolyon: Singapore. In practice I was comfortably the quickest, I then took that into qualifying and started the race from pole. I had a shocking start and fell down to fifth, then was up to third by the end of the first lap, up to second after a few laps and then hunted down my teammate. I bridged with a 13-second gap in ten laps and then passed him for the win. It made it extra sweet the way I won.

Will: Winning at Rockingham and then my first win in Formula Four. Rockingham was pretty special because I had been pretty close to a win so many times.

ARE YOU PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS YOU ARE MAKING?

Jolyon: In the second half of

the year I have definitely got a lot more out of qualifying which is where I struggled in the first half of the year. Overall, I'm very happy with how I have driven, the team has come on a long way in the second half of the year and now I'm feeling confident for next year.

Will: I'm definitely happy with the speed I have shown. In the main season, a few incidents have stopped me from getting second in the championship. That is where my focus lies to improve on but certainly the pace has been very encouraging.

WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE?

Jolyon: I'm very close but unfortunately this year too many things didn't quite come into place to be looking at Formula One for next year. The aim for me is to come back, try to win GP2 next year and give myself a good platform to go into F1 in 2015. Looking at some people who may be in F1 next year and people who have come from GP2 in the past to go to F1, at the moment I'm good enough to be there but it would be better for me to wait another year.

To be seventh in the championship is not as high as we wanted, the performances have been better than sev-

enth deserved but you need financial backing, the right opportunities at the right time and I need to have the results next year.

If I get another load of bad luck or something happens next year, excuses don't work at this level.

Will: Short term I'm hoping to do Formula Four next year and fight to be near the front of the championship, if I could get in the top three it would be really good. Long term Formula One would be the goal.

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR BROTHER?

Jolyon on Will: He was reasonably quick last year but very inconsistent. This year he has been very quick but still a little inconsistent in Ginettas. He had the pace, not to be winning the championship but definitely to finish second and has shown a lot of progress.

Will on Jolyon: It is really good to have him around for coaching because he has been through it all with single seaters which helps when he is giving me tips on how to drive it a bit quicker. Also his race craft has been pretty good in GP2 this year. That is probably one of his strong points and that is where I maybe need a bit more work.