

King's Otters on wrong end of double and Torexe trounced

TAUNTON Blackbrook completed the double over Kings Otters in Exeter and District Volleyball Association Division 3 following their 5-0 thrashing of the Otters earlier on in the season.

Blackbrook set out their stall from the off, fielding their strongest team for the first set as the match started at a ferocious pace.

After a superb start, a few unforced errors crept into the Otters game and Blackbrook maintained their momentum to take the first set 25-17.

Blackbrook made a pair of changes for the second set which weakened their attack, but the Otters' fightback was not enough to level matters, Blackbrook holding on to win the second set 25-23.

The comeback proper finally reared its head in the third set when Blackbrook — who had not lost a set in their previous five matches — made one substitution too many, allowing their opposition to triumph 25-14.

Otters needed to win the fourth set to have any chance of causing an upset, but Blackbrook took it 25-18, before Kings claimed a consolation final set to make the final score 3-2 result to Taunton.

Player of the match was Ian Sidwell for his all-round contribution in both defence and attack.

ADDS Evolution dominated over a below-par Torexe Storms side and ran out 5-0 winners. Storms had no answer to Evolution's defensive cover and had little in the way of attacking firepower to put them under pressure. The first set became the model for the rest of the match with Evolution's co-ordinated team play untroubled by Storms' disciplined three-touch game plan.

After losing the first set 11-25 Storms staged a much-improved second set revival but faltered at the end, allowing ADDS to take the last 7 points and the set.

After that Storms failed to make any impression and Evolution won the remaining sets 25-9, 25-13 and 15-7. Jamie Halse was player of the match for ADDS.

In Division 1, Exeter University are starting to get their play together and put in a creditable performance against a highly-fancied Exeter College side.

Uni surprised the College by taking the first set, but themselves edged the second 25-22 to level the match.

Strong play from player of the match Dave Hollie helped College take the third set, but Uni fought back hard in the fourth through Renato Granzotr and Vassilis Dimitrakis.

It was neck-and-neck all the way and with time running out College pulled back to narrowly win by another 25-23 scoreline.

The students then faced top team Torexe Breezers, but again surprised their opponents by starting confidently and taking the opening set 27-25 for their efforts.

Good link up play between Pecka Mehtala, Vadim and Richard Waite gave the students the advantage and their blocking skills enabled them to thwart the strong outside attack from Hakkan Bergsson.

The University kept fighting through the second set and kept with the pace at 20-20.

But Breezers showed their mettle and forced four errors to take the set.

Although strong play from An-

thony Towl and Nick Maye gave them the start they wanted in the next set, the students again fought back and led the way for much of the set.

If the University could not hold their nerve for that set — they eventually went down 25-22 — they bounced back again in the final set to take it 15-10, giving them valuable points despite going down 2-3 on the night.

Breezers are now well clear of the chasers but have to keep an eye out for College and Priory who can draw closer with their games in hand.

In the Ladies' Division, Kings Ladies took a 5-0 victory over College Ladies to move up to second spot, opening up a gap over the rest. Anne Davies was player of the match for Kings.

Torexe South West Ladies travelled to Poole last Sunday, for the return match against Wessex and emerged 3-0 winners.

Torexe made an excellent start against the host team, with strong serving from Elke Nachtigall and tactical hitting from Claire Babage to take them into a one-set lead.

Wessex rallied well in the second set, leading for most of the way but after initially struggling with the first ball pass, Torexe dug deep and managed to turn things around with some good team play in the last few points of the set.

Wessex, having fought hard with no reward in the second set, seemed to lose heart and Torexe emerged clear winners.

In their second match against Mavericks from Malmesbury, Torexe again made a brilliant start with Marie Carr and Nikki Batho taking the serving honours,

They putting pressure on Mavericks, stopped them from using their National League power-hitter effectively, and took Torexe into an early 2-0 lead.

In the third set Mavericks threatened a comeback, as Torexe lost concentration due to rotation problems.

Torexe re-grouped well and closed out the third set, courtesy of some fine blocking from Nicky Fleming, to move up up to third place in the league.

TABLES

EXETER AND DISTRICT VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION MEN'S DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Torexe Breezers ...	8	8	0	877	685	39
Priory	7	5	2	537	508	29
WorfordBetablockers	8	4	4	796	788	27
Exeter College 'A' ..	5	4	1	530	443	23
FP Wanderers	9	3	6	766	842	20
Exeter University ..	9	1	8	853	992	11
Kilton Freaks*	6	1	5	449	550	6

MEN'S DIVISION 2

Torexe Tomatoes ..	10	6	4	1046	811	38
FP Vikings	9	7	2	914	692	35
Denbury Eagles	6	6	0	683	421	32
Birdmen	7	6	1	770	437	32
Space Hoppers	7	1	6	628	716	13
Worford Panthers ..	9	2	7	400	998	12
ChurstonThundersods	8	0	8	534	900	6

MEN'S DIVISION 3

Taunton*	8	8	0	881	610	41
Torexe Hurricanes	11	6	5	1126	982	40
FP Jacks	9	6	3	984	759	39
ADDS Evolution	10	7	3	926	746	38
Kings Otters*	9	3	6	678	850	17
Torexe Storms*	10	3	7	796	1065	15
FP Cool Runnings*	9	0	9	641	1020	3

LADIES/JUNIORS

Torexe Thunder	6	6	0	675	439	32
Kings U15's	6	4	2	593	468	21
Exeter UniLadies*	6	3	3	510	574	17
FP WanderWomen	6	2	4	559	603	15
FP Queens	6	2	4	479	538	15
Exeter Coll Ladies	6	1	5	372	566	7

*Points deducted