

# SPECIAL NIGHT FOR



**Matt Kirby from Downend School**  
...was rock solid and composed at the back in the first half, winning everything that came his way, and led the attack well after being switched up front in the second period in an Under-12 match against Hanham Athletic.

**THE cream of local junior football gathered at the Fry Club on Monday night for the Evening Post Junior Star Match winners' awards night.**

**by James McNamara**  
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Young players from the Hanham Minor and Avon Youth leagues packed in to the Keynsham venue, along with their families, where their achievements were recognised.

Each week, the *Evening Post* picks an outstanding performer from the chosen Star Match and the 30 deserving winners collected their end-of-season reward from special guest and Bristol City midfielder Cole Skuse.

"It is always a special night to be given an award and be recognised for your achievements," said Skuse, who played for Yate United, Almondsbury and St Nicholas before signing for Bristol City at the age of 11.

"I was never lucky enough to pick up one of these awards. It is

a special moment for the boys and girls and a proud one for their parents.

"It is great that local football gives the kids a chance to get out on the parks and enjoy themselves on a Sunday, and it is good to see the local paper providing extensive grassroots coverage.

"A lot of lads come through the ranks at both City and Rovers, so the organisers and teams in the Hanham Minor and Avon Youth leagues are both doing a great job to help the local professional clubs."

The champions from each age section of a burgeoning girls' league, from Under-10s to Under-16s, picked up their titles, while Olveston United lifted the Under-18 Fair Play Award.

Rob Perkins, *Evening Post* sports editor, said: "This was a great event in which the *Evening Post* was proud to showcase the

achievements of some fine footballers – both girls and boys.

"It goes to show that Bristol certainly has got talent and that junior football in our community is in fine form. Congratulations to all those who picked up awards and a big thank you to Cole Skuse, a product himself of junior football in Bristol, for handing out the trophies."

● **To view and purchase pictures from the Junior Star Man awards night log on to our website**  
[www.thisisphotosales.co.uk](http://www.thisisphotosales.co.uk)  
or contact us by email [photosales@bepp.co.uk](mailto:photosales@bepp.co.uk) or call us on 0117 934 3091.  
● **Bristol Girls League pictures – see page 37**

### Star Man pictures

All Junior Star Match winners are pictured with Cole Skuse and *Evening Post* sports editor Rob Perkins. All pictures were taken by Jon Kent

## Stars of the future collect their awards



Zoe Gunter, Year 8 student from Downend

**In the pink:** Brislington Girls Under-13s, pictured with Bristol City midfielder Cole Skuse and *Evening Post* sports editor Rob Perkins, were just one of the trophy winners at our Junior Star Match awards night held at the Fry Club on Monday night. See pages 37, 38 and 39 for a report and pictures