

# Champ James looks international class

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## BOXING

By Ian Johnson

IS THERE any end to the Hall Green ABC production line which developed the fabulous Frankie Gavin? Seemingly not.

Seventeen-year-old James Melvin doesn't claim to be in the same class as Gavin but he is the latest champion to be produced by ace club coach Tom Chaney.

Melvin, brother of another highly thought of boxer, 13-year-old Jack, is the new CYP Senior champion at 67k after a "brilliant" performance against champion and highly experienced Josh Kennedy in Catterick.

And the next step for the talented youngster, according to Chaney, is to earn international recognition.

Chaney said: "This was a wonderful controlled performance from James. He was the youngest in the competition and boxed superbly against an England international, making him look very ordinary indeed."

"James won the first round 2-0, after the second it was 3-1, then the third 7-3 and the fourth took the count to a very impressive 11-4."

"Kennedy has had almost 60 fights, many of them internationals, and has lost just ten."

"Naturally he was a heavy favourite to win but James boxed with high-quality consistency."

"A lot of the credit must go to my club right-hand man Steve McHale, who



Controlled: Senior star James Melvin. Picture: Mark Jones

has been responsible for bringing Melvin to the boil.

"The result was that the lad was well disciplined, well prepared and produced an outstanding result."

"I hope now that England manager Mick Gannon and GB supremo Robert McCracken will be looking at him because he deserves to be working at international level."

"He can be seen on his next outing which will be for the Midland Counties against a Welsh international team on April 10 in Hereford."

Chaney also has high hopes of Dave Tully becoming a champion but his turn comes later this month.