

Dorset Echo - Weymouth

# VOLLEYBALL

Teams from 12 countries and Olympic referee sing the




**WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS:** Hedda Meijer, left, and Debbie Spokes celebrate winning the women's final and Joe Mildred and Aaron Stolberg toast victory after an epic match which had the crowd watching on the edge of their seats.

## VOLLEY GREAT SHOW

By **PAUL BAKER**

**WEYMOUTH'S** Beach Volleyball Classic came to an epic conclusion with one of the best men's final in the tournament's 22-year history.

Pre-event favourites Jody Gooding and Greg Weaver lost 15-13, 14-16, 16-12 to Joe Mildred and Aaron Stolberg in a match which had a home

included a very tight match on centre court, against Danny Wool and Steven Scoble, which they lost narrowly 15-13, 15-11.

The Hordley Classic was another spectacular success for Weymouth with teams from 12 countries taking part, all of whom left singing the praises of the Dorset venue.

And another person impressed with what he saw was international referee Jeff Birchall, who this week heads for the Olympic Games in Athens.




praises of Weymouth after successful beach tournament




**ON THE BALL:** Local youngsters took over the tournament.

**DETERMINED:** Greg Weaver on the attack in the men's final and, below, Jo Mildred, right, and Jody Gooding battle it out.

## ON THE BEACH






**TAKE THAT:** Fast-moving action between Claire Kelly and Hedda Meijer in the women's final.

**ROARING SUPPORT:** Spectators engrossed in the action on Weymouth beach. Above, Kerry O'Leary, James and Vanda Scholey bid to block her shot.

**AIMING HIGH:** Shannon Campbell.

**SCOOPING IT UP:** Hedda Meijer.

Pictures: **FINNBARR WEBSTER AND NIGEL WHITE**