

Sport

Cool Coleman

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Merton Park-based Paul Coleman has been crowned men's national indoor singles champion for 2005/06.

Coleman won the championship the hard way, beating world indoor singles champion Mervyn King in the final at the end of five gruelling rounds in Melton Mowbray.

The Surrey bowler qualified for the blue riband event of the indoor calendar by winning Surrey-based Area 27.

At the main event in Leicestershire, Coleman defeated Beckenham-based Tom Doig 21-12 and Devon's Stuart Evans 21-10 in the first two rounds.

Coleman's toughest match came in round three against East Dorset IBC's Peter Ward, in which the Surrey man edged through 21-20.

After a convincing 21-6 win over Lincolnshire's Graham Smith in the semi-final, Coleman took the title with a superb 21-17 victory over King.

Smeltz Butler i

AFC Wimbledon striker Shane Smeltz will miss the final two games of the league season, even if he wins an appeal against a straight red card picked up in Saturday's 2-1 defeat at Billericay Town.

The Kiwi centre-forward was one of two Dons players sent-off for violent conduct as tempers flared in the closing stages.

Dwayne Plummer raised his hands and will be suspended for three games, starting with the trip to Hendon on April 22.

Manager Dave Anderson will check video evidence before deciding whether to appeal Smeltz's red card, but revealed his striker had been called up to play for his country and would miss the climax of the league season, anyway.

"We knew Shane was going to play for New Zealand in Chile, so we were prepared," he said.

"All being well, he will be back for the play-offs or the cup final.