



Table Tennis News

No. 168

OCTOBER 1987

80p



LEEDS MASTERS –

Won with JAQUES TABLES

and

DOUBLE FISH

TABLE TENNIS BALLS



Jaques

Charing Cross was a milestone . . .

THIS magazine has in the past been a vehicle for huge quantities of criticism and also some personal abuse. In a democratic country it is right and proper that people should be allowed to air their views, even if their suggestions are radical in the extreme.

The 1987 ETTA annual general meeting was a milestone in several ways. Those present saw the new administration fending off attacks from members of the previous team. It was not a pretty sight. I am sure that everyone there and those not present would like to see an end to the personal insults both in writing and verbally.

Hopefully, that was the final barrage of abuse in London at the AGM. I intend to make a contribution here in this magazine towards more mature conduct by asking all writers of letters and articles to be more constructive — not to refrain from criticism but to steer clear of personal abuse.

As this is the official magazine of the ETTA, attention will also be given when time permits to allowing fast same edition replies from some of those at the very top. They are the main targets and they are the people who have to make tough decisions. The late Tom Blunn consistently complained that early replies to critics in the magazine did not seem possible.

THE decision of the National Council to declare redundant David Fairholm and Peter Simpson has proved to be an essential move. Most coaches maintain it was a backward step but only time will tell.

The number of coaching courses previously organised round the country will be drastically reduced. It has been pointed out that the Squash Rackets Association has only one national coach but we all know that hundreds of squash clubs and multi-sporting complexes have their own professional coaches. It would not be difficult to find out the approximate number of professional squash coaches in England and it would be interesting to find out how other national table tennis associations manage to finance their coaching systems. Those of us who travel abroad to table tennis events might also return with some interesting facts on coaching schemes abroad.

MY second appeal addressed to TTN correspondents is for word discipline. It is not easy for journalists and even more difficult for others to put their thoughts into two or three hundred words rather than rambling on into one thousand.

It is difficult to hold a reader's interest after the 300 words mark has been reached.

Pictures are a vital ingredient. Any story of length needs some illustration, so please submit photographs of players, presentations or even yourself as the author of a story.

Finally, I do not believe in the acceptance of anonymous letters. All names of contributors will appear although addresses are not essential for publication.

Here's hope the 1987-1988 season will be successful with plenty of controversy cutting out the personal insults.

JOHN WOODFORD



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Editor:
JOHN WOODFORD

Advertisements:
JIM BECKLEY
Sports PR, PO Box 8,
Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle,
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THE FIRST event of the new season the Leeds Masters at Wembley brought together at the winners rostrum (left to right) Jean-Michel Saive (Belgium) who finished third, outright winner Andrzej Grubba (Poland) and the Leeds President Mr Arnold Ziff. Photo: BOB MARTIN.





SIDE COURTSIDE

Compiled by

JOHN WOODFORD

Lisa Lomas

LISA Bellinger that was, is now Mrs Lisa Lomas — no relation to David Lomas, English Schools TTA Press Officer!

Lisa married Dunstable printer Andrew Lomas in June and now the bride and groom are happily married living at 25 Linbridge Way, Wigmore Park, Luton. Andy is a keen sportsman, especially a soccer player and is the new goalkeeper for Barnet FC.

ANY CHANGES?

Asking Lisa the inevitable question — will there be any changes in her table tennis career? The answer was 'it makes me even more determined to do well especially with last season not being so good for me. I have a good training partner (Andrew) who takes me out running and we are near enough equal at other racquet sports — tennis, badminton, so we have good competition' she said.

WPC Joy Dean?

Joy Grundy, now married to Jim Dean has left her native Blackpool to train to be a WPC at a police Training College in Ashford, Kent!

Knowing how difficult it is even locally, for police personnel to fulfil commitments in sport, it remains to be seen how Joy, arguably our best woman player at the end of last season, can successfully maintain her place near the top of the English women's rankings. We certainly wish her well in a task that now seems more difficult.

ON THE MOVE

ICHIRO Ogimura, the Japanese president of the ITTF has been travelling the world since his sensational poll victory in New Delhi last February. He has visited over 30 countries including England in recent months. In 1954 he became world champion at Wembley and subsequently won 12 world titles, eight Asian crowns and 12 Japanese titles. It may console many that the top man of the ITTF was a world class player.

In the Spanish Sunshine



Linda and John McDonnell.

JOHN and Linda McDonnell send greetings from sunny Spain to their many friends in the sport. I visited them and stayed two days at their villa at Benissa (not far from Calpe) on the Costa Blanca in September.

They are now permanent residents in Spain and live not far away from Mike and Claudienne Lawless's hacienda at Moraira. Also with holiday homes in the area — Desmond Douglas and Don and Jill Hammersley.

John McDonnell was formerly Public Relations Manager for Norwich Union Insurance and

was mainly responsible for the ten years of sponsorship for the ETTA from the group.

It is significant that shortly after John retired, Norwich Union called it a day, adding weight to my theory that quite often a sponsorship can be carried by the enthusiasm of one person, but when that person steps down it is usually time for a change.

The message from John McDonnell is clear, it is that the sport should get behind chairman John Prean, forget the past and go forward.

Not Dismissed

An Industrial Tribunal has ruled that the former ETTA Director of Coaching David Fairholm was not dismissed earlier this year, when his role was changed to National Coach. Since then, circumstances having changed again he has accepted redundancy along with former England captain Peter Simpson, as the ETTA save £40,000 by slimming down their force of national coaches to three.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

IN messages to the ETTA the following two clubs have expressed an interest in arranging exchange visits with English clubs. If you are interested please write direct to:

Mr R. L. Gardien
La Tour, St Jean D'Arvey
73230 St Alban Leysse
France

Mr D. Aubert
Jussecourt-Minecourt
51250 Lermaize-Les-Bains
France

A TRIO OF EUROPEANS ROCK CHINA

WORLD No 4 Teng Yi is the new holder of the World Cup. The event was run for the eighth time in Bahrain when Teng Yi overpowered the world champion Jiang Jialiang in the final round.

But Europe had three quarter-finalists, Jan Ove Waldner, Andrezej Grubba and Leszek Kucharski confirming that these three are indeed the top Europeans who have chances of stopping the Chinese. Grubba went under in the semis but only at 21-19 in the fifth to Jiang, whilst Waldner reached the last eight going down to the winner at 21-16 in the fifth game.

Another result to savour is that Kucharski probably had a match point before losing to the winner in the semi-finals.

RESULTS:
Quarter-finals: Jiang Jialiang (China) b Yoshhihito (Japan) 11, 17, 16. Andrezej Grubba (Poland) b Claudio Kano (Brazil) -13, 15, -16, 19, 14. Leszek Kucharski (Poland) b Lo Chuen-tung (Hong Kong) 15, 17, -10, 19.

Semi-finals: Jiang b Grubba — 18, 17, 12, 14, 19. Teng b Kucharski -15, 13, -20, 14, 22.
Final: Teng b Jiang 18, 15, -14, 14.

OLYMPIC JOB FOR CAROLINE

DYNAMIC Caroline Searle, 29, formerly on the ETTA PR committee and more recently PRO for the Badminton Association of England based at Milton Keynes has beaten 50 other applicants to clinch the post as the first full-time Press Officer of the British Olympic Association.

Generally regarded by sports journalists involved in the racquet games as the best Press Officer in England, her new job is a major step in the improvement of our relationships between the BOA and the media.

Caroline, wife of Bob Oldfield, short-time editor of *Table Tennis News*, won an honours degree in European studies at Bath University. She has edited the Badminton magazine and has handled the media facilities at many international events.

Caroline and Bob are still based at Hurstpierpoint in Sussex and with the Olympic involvement imminent table tennis people could be seeing more of her.

EURO-ASIA CLASH HERE

A MOST generous gesture by the Cleveland County Council of £50,000 sponsorship has enabled the Euro-Asia individual titles to be fought for at the Thornaby Stadium, Ormesby, Cleveland, on 16-17 January.

As the new European No 3 Desmond Douglas is given another chance to have a crack at the top Chinese and Asian players just a few days before everyone is off to Brighton for the Leeds English Open, the premier event of the entire season.

The top nine men and the top six women will compete for the honours, a truly elite event that will give the north-east yet another opportunity to see if it can pull in the crowds like the English Nationals at Crawley earlier this year.

Douglas will of course, be the only English player on view, but he will have enormous support and the advantage of playing on home tables could be all he needs to upset a few mighty applectarts.

The £500,000 Sponsorship

THE LEEDS PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY

SPONSORSHIP OF TABLE TENNIS



THE sheer scope of the Leeds' sponsorship programme for Table Tennis and the speed and professionalism with which it was accomplished has astonished many experienced sponsorship watchers. Attracted by the clean, untarnished image of the sport and seeing it free from many of the problems besetting others the Leeds responded rapidly to the proposal by their consultants, Alan Pascoe Associates, to make a bid for almost total domination of the English Table Tennis scene. The Leeds have made a commitment to raise the profile of the whole game and this in turn will attract new players and bring about the revival which all true enthusiasts have been seeking for some time. At the launch of the programme at the Tower Hotel in London, Ted Germaine, a General Manager with the Leeds said 'We are particularly pleased that our first major sports sponsorship embraces all levels of table tennis. We are keen to assist the grass roots of the sport and aid development amongst youngsters but at the same time recognise there is a need for support and encouragement at the very top level. With this sponsorship package we believe we can achieve this'. Welcome Leeds! We look forward to working with you in the coming years to achieve your objectives and ours.

Ted Wallbuton Chief Executive, ETTA



Fred Perry with Desmond Douglas. Fred claimed that he put down this bat after winning the world title and never took it up again but in a really generous gesture he has donated the actual World Championship winning bat to the ETTA for their archives.

Magnificent!

THE summer was dominated by the magnificent news that the Leeds Permanent Building Society had chosen Table Tennis as the sport to sponsor and support. We are grateful to them for their confidence and tremendously heartened by this.

The decision will strengthen and invigorate the sport. It will enable us to stage our events and to do so better than ever before and to turn them into real showpieces. More important, in the Leeds we have gained a partner who will put far more into the sport than the financial sums, which themselves are a record, but will match our own expertise and enthusiasm. Also by our side will be Alan Pascoe Associates, one of the world's top companies in sports management.

The sum over three years will be £500,000 a measure of confidence in English table tennis and its potential.

Table tennis can be one of the great participation and spectator sports of the 1990's. A tremendous opportunity is before us. Let us grasp it with both hands. With our large and enthusiastic membership, with friends like the Leeds, we cannot fail.

It is the most wonderful and electrifying news.

JOHN PREAN

MEET YOUR MANAGER!

Wherever you live and play you won't be far from a branch of the Leeds Permanent. Your local manager will be a valuable source of business advice and is just the man to invite to present the prizes at that special final. We will circulate a branch list to you in October — so why not arrange to meet your manager and involve him in the local table tennis scene.

THE LEEDS MAJOR EVENT CALENDAR . . .

EVENT	VENUE	DATE
THE LEEDS MASTERS	Wembley Conference Centre	18/19 September
THE LEEDS JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	Hinckley Leisure Centre, Leicester	12/13 December
THE LEEDS ENGLISH OPEN	Brighton Conference Centre	20-23 January
THE LEEDS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	Crawley Leisure Centre	27/28 February
THE LEEDS JUNIOR ENGLISH OPEN	Mountbatten Sports Centre, Portsmouth	7/8 May
THE LEEDS INTERNATIONALS (part of the European League)		
England v Austria	Newmarket Sports Centre	21 October
England v Denmark	Meadowside Leisure Centre, Burton on Trent	25 or 26 January
England v Netherlands		2 March
THE LEEDS NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS	Mansfield Leisure Centre	15 May
THE LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE	Various	Played fortnightly throughout the season. Held monthly for 7 months
THE LEEDS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS	Various	Major weekends Junior — 31 Oct/1 Nov Senior — 21 Nov/22 Nov Senior — 5/6 March Junior — 9/10 April

Russians and Rumanians have the young aces . . .

by GEORGE R. YATES

RUSSIA and her Iron Curtain satellites Hungary, Yugoslavia, Rumania and Czechoslovakia scooped 40 medals in sun-drenched Athens from 18 to 26 July, although the Peace and Friendship Stadium was a haven of cool air in the mega-heatwave.

This was in contrast to the celebrations in Louvain-la-Neuve twelve months previously when Yorkshire Michael O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield carried the gold medals in the cadet boys' team event. Not a single medal came England's way.

In the team events only England's boys enhanced their status by three positions, from 11 to 8, whilst the girls dropped four places, from 4 to 8. Sadly the cadet boys, from their exalted first position plummeted down to No. 13 and the cadet girls from No. 7 to No. 13 — unlucky for some you might say.

Represented by Matthew Syed, Bradley Billington, Michael O'Driscoll and Sean Gibson, the latter a late replacement for Chris Oldfield, the boys team began promisingly enough by disposing of Portugal 5-1 with O'Driscoll dropping the one.

A bang

But they were brought to earth with a bang when seen off by France 5-1 with Syed alone successful in beating Olivier Marmurek. The introduction of Gibson in the matches against Finland and Scotland brought two successive 5-0 victories which placed us second to France at the end of the first stage matches.

In the second stage matches the Soviet Union despatched us 5-1, O'Driscoll beating Aleksei Murzov, but then we obtained a similar result against Hungary with Gibson losing to Karoly Nemeth. It was, therefore, 5 to 8 positions as the next target in which Belgium provided the opposition.

Shielding Syed from Jean-Michel Saive, the Berkshire lad's likely opponent in the boys' singles, surely cost England the match as we went down 5-4 Billington winning two, O'Driscoll and Gibson one each, the latter losing to the younger Philippe Saive in the ninth set.

Rumania provided the final opposition beating us 5-3 in the battle for seventh and eighth positions the feature of the match being Syed's opening win against Daniel Cioca who, as a late and unseeded entrant, was subsequently to win the coveted boys' singles title by inflicting a second successive final defeat for Jean-Michel Saive who lost to Thomas

von Scheele of Sweden in Belgium.

What then of our girls' team represented by Andrea Holt and Claire Potts? Again, like the boys, they began with a win 3-0 against Scotland only to fall at the second attempt when beaten by Federal Germany Andrea accounting for Nicole Struse. Again it was 3-0 in England's favour in the last of the first stage matches against Finland and a similar result was obtained in the first of the second stage matches against Sweden.

But the run was halted by Rumania who won 3-1 but not before Miss Holt had beaten the top-seeded Otilia Badescu (18 and 16). Two further defeats at the hands of the Soviet Union and the Netherlands, both by 3-0 margins, brought us down to the eighthinishing place.

Both England's cadet teams found themselves in waters hitherto shallower and sunk fast when the lads, Neil Bevan and Michael Auchterlonie, lost five matches in succession. But Bevan kept his head above water claiming all of England's singles successes with Auchterlonie struggling to keep afloat.

They saved themselves from drowning however by beating Bulgaria (3-0) and Belgium (3-2) with Auchterlonie coming into his own at last being undefeated in singles in both matches, Bevan losing to Marc Closset, the diminutive Belgian.

Defeats

Joanne Roberts and Helen Potts formed our cadet girls' team and they too suffered three successive defeats before picking themselves up to defeat, in turn, Turkey, Bulgaria and Sweden. In the penultimate match we went down 3-1 to Austria but rallied in the final encounter to beat Poland 3-1. Both Bevan and Miss Roberts chalked up eight singles wins as did Syed and O'Driscoll with Billington, Gibson and Miss Holt also finishing with a credit balance, O'Driscoll's result being equal.

Saive halts Syed

A little Turkish delight came Gibson's way in the first round of the boy's singles, his three compatriots being in receipt of byes. But it was curtains in Rd 2 for a tensed-up Billington who went out to Sweden's Patrick Torsell.

Syed, O'Driscoll and Gibson sailed through the second round in straight games then came a rebuff for O'Driscoll in his meeting with Gerard Bakker of Holland. Gibson, despite a valiant first game, was subsequently ousted 21, 11 by Samvell Vardanian of the Soviet Union leaving Syed to carry England's colours into the quarters.

But no joy for the Berkshire lad as he slid -19, -9 to the top-seeded Saive whose own despair came in that dramatic final encounter with the Rumanian dark horse Daniel Cioca.

There was no joy either for England's top lass Andrea Holt in her second round singles meeting with Rumania's Kinga Lohr nor, indeed, for Claire Potts, when beaten by Alessia Arisi in Rd 1. However the Cheshire girl did reach the final of the consolation singles losing to Katalina Vitcheva of Bulgaria.



Matthew Syed

In the cadet singles only Bevan and Miss Roberts made it to the second round and no further the former losing to Slobodan Grujic of Yugoslavia and the latter to Hungary's Vivien Ello.

One can quickly discount the doubles in all categories except the junior girls' in which Miss Holt was partnered by Emily Noor of Holland and Miss Potts by Pavla Rampova of Czechoslovakia.

The Anglo/Dutch pairing succeeded in reaching the quarters and where only beaten 17 in the third by Fazlic and Polona Frelih of Yugoslavia whilst the Anglo/Czech combine lost to the same pair in the previous round.

30th EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS ROLL OF HONOUR

BOYS TEAM
SOVIET UNION

GIRLS TEAM
RUMANIA

CADET BOYS TEAM
SOVIET UNION

CADET GIRLS TEAM
RUMANIA

BOYS SINGLES
DANIEL CIOCA
(Rumania)

GIRLS SINGLES
IRINA PALINA
(Soviet Union)

BOYS DOUBLES
ALEKSEI MURZOV and
SAMVEL VARDANIAN
(Soviet Union)

GIRLS DOUBLES
OTILIA BADESCU and
KINGA LOHR
(Rumania)

MIXED DOUBLES
OLIVIER MARMUREK and EMMANUELLE COUBAT
(France)

CADET BOYS SINGLES
SLOBODAN GRUJIC
(Yugoslavia)

CADET GIRLS SINGLES
GABRIELLA WIRTH
(Hungary)

CADET BOYS DOUBLES
TOMAS JANASEK and
MARTIN OLEJNIK
(Czechoslovakia)

CADET GIRLS DOUBLES
VIVIEN ELLO and
GABRIELLA WIRTH
(Hungary)

CADET MIXED DOUBLES
TORBEN WOSIK and SANDRA NIENHAUS
(Federal Republic of Germany)

Dunlop Schools International Championships

ENGLISH MONOPOLY STILL ON

ENGLISH players didn't have things all their own way when the honours were determined at the conclusion of the Dunlop Schools International Championships which took place at the Scottish National Training Centre — 'Inverclyde', Largs, Ayrshire, on 19-21 June.

Although England's monopoly on the team events continued — unbeaten for thirteen consecutive years since the event began in 1975 — Scotland's talented No 1 Junior, Sarah Hurry, won her second international title (Intermediate Girls), and Andrew Dennison (Ireland) also gained his second success (Senior Boys) returning to the scene of his first triumph in the Intermediate Boys category two years ago.

For those readers unaware of the size and scope of these annual Championships let me tell you that this season's event involved 130 players from England, Iceland, the Isle of Man, Ireland, Jersey and Scotland. Only England, Ireland and Scotland fielded full teams in the six

events ranging from Under-14 to Under-19. England's squad of 30 consisted of players from 16 of the ESTTA's county associations. One unusual feature this year was the selection of three players from one school. Alan Cole and sister Tracey, plus Scott Greenbrook, are pupils at Ifield Community College, Ifield, Crawley, West Sussex.

The format of teams of four players (two singles each player, plus two doubles, making ten best-of-three sets in each 'rubber') playing each other in team events was continued. Unfortunately the schedule meant a stiff programme of four matches on Saturday for the Intermediate Boys and the Cadet Girls. This

resulted in the England Cadet Girls match against Scotland on Saturday evening being prematurely curtailed with England leading 6-1, by mutual agreement, because the players were very tired. It almost certainly resulted in defeat for 13-year-old Neil Bevan in the final Intermediate Boys match against Scotland, at the hands of the Scottish Junior No 1, Euan Walker. But these were minor hiccups that did nothing to detract from an enjoyable and successful weekend.

Keeness

It has to be said that England — for one reason or another — were able only to field a below-strength team compared to the squads that have represented the ESTTA in previous years. But this added to the keeness of the competition in the Individual events and there is no implication that the players selected didn't acquit themselves well.

To return to the Team events which began the weekend's programme. The England Girls teams won quite convincingly. The Intermediate team's only defeats were at the hands of Sarah Hurry but England No 2, Jane Wright (Devon) took a game off Sarah.

Tough Battles

The Senior Girls romped to 10-0 maximum wins over Ireland, Scotland and Iceland without dropping a single game and the Cadet Girls encountered little trouble in joining the tally of England wins.

But the Boys had to pull the stops out in tough battles with the Irish. The Cadets played Ireland in their first match. Ireland's strong line-up consisted of the players placed 1 to 4 in their final 1986/87 Under-14 ranking list — James Mullen and Jim Langan (both Leinster) and Daryll Strong and Wallace Mahaffey (both Ulster). Even though England's 1 and 2, Andrew Eden (Lancs) and Michael Auchterlonie (Wilts) lost in straight games to Mullen, England's only other loss was the 'top' doubles, with maximum wins coming from Brian Mileham (Kent County) and Alan Cole (West Sussex).



by DAVID LOMAS



Andrew Dennison



Allison Evans

The Senior Boys had a close encounter — also against the Irish, winning 6-4 with the doubles proving decisive. John Bult (Humberside) fought hard to register a good win over Anthony Redmond but his defeat by senior-ranked No 2, Andrew Dennison, was repeated in the Individual final on Sunday.

Helen Lower (West Midlands) was in good form, adding the Senior Girls title to her success in the Intermediate category last year at Salford. Sarah Hurry proved too strong for Nicola McGrath (Lancs) in the Intermediate Girls final but England wins came from Neil Bevan (Cornwall) (Int Boys) and a first-time crown for Caroline Buckley (Bedfordshire) (Cadet Girls).

Awards were presented by Brian Christie, Chairman of the Scottish Table Tennis Association. Hard-working organiser was 'wee' Jimmy Johnston.

RESULTS

Team Events — Overall Team Positions (for the Team Trophy)

1. England
2. Ireland
3. Scotland
4. Iceland
5. Jersey
6. Isle of Man

Senior Boys

1. England
 2. Ireland
 3. Scotland
 4. Iceland
- ICE 0 IRE 10; ENG 10 SCO 0; ENG 9 ICE 1; IRE 10 SEC 0; IRE 4 ENG 6; SCO 6 ICE 4.

England: Ian Bird (Northants), John Bult (Hu), Veerendra Chauhan (WM), David Morris (Sp), Andrew Trott (Bds), NPC: Dennis Worrell (Li).

Senior Girls

1. England
 2. Ireland
 3. Scotland
 4. Iceland
- ENG 10 ICE 0; SCO 3 IRE 7; SCO 0 ENG 10; ICE 0 IRE 10; ICE 4 SCO 6; IRE 0 ENG 10.

England: Melonie Carey (So), Kristina Cox (Bd), Alison Evans (Hu), Helen Lower (WM), Helen Perrott (Av). NPC: Gail McCulloch (Sy).

Intermediate Boys

1. England
 2. Ireland
 3. Scotland
 4. Jersey
 5. Iceland
- IRE 10 JER 0; ICE 0 SCO 10; ENG 10 ICE 0; IRE 5 SCO 5; ICE 2 IRE 8; JER 0 ENG 10; JER 1 SCO 9; ENG 7 IRE 3; ICE 5 JER 5; SCO 3 ENG 7.

England: Neil Bevan (Co), Scott Greenbrook (WSx), Andrew Houghton (Kent Cty), Adrian Thorp (WM), Mark Ward (SYrks). NPC: Paul Birch (Bd).

Intermediate Girls

1. England
2. Ireland
3. Scotland

IRE 7 SCO 3; SCO 2 ENG 8; ENG 10 IRE 0.

England: Andrea Ambrose (Sk), Alison Ledwith (WM), Nicola McGrath (La), Sarah Pengelly (Dv), Jane Wright (Dv). NPC: Christann Durnall (WM).

Cadet Boys

1. England
 2. Ireland
 3. Scotland
 4. Iceland
 5. Isle of Man
- IoM 0 SCO 10; IRE 3 ENG 7; ICE 0 IRE 10; IoM 0 ENG 10; IRE 7 IoM 3; SCO 10 ICE 0; SCO 1 ENG 9; ICE 0 IoM 1; IRE 6 SCO 4; ENG 10 ICE 0.

England: Michael Auchterlonie (Wi), Alan Cole (WSx), Andrew Eden (La), Brian Mileham (Kent Cty), Gavin Yates (Ox). NPC: Geoff Gardiner (La).

Cadet Girls

1. England
 2. Ireland
 3. Scotland
 4. Iceland
 5. Isle of Man
- IRE 10 IoM 0; ICE 0 SCO 10; ENG 10 ICE 0; IRE 6 SCO 4; ICE 0 IRE 10; IoM 0 ENG 10; IoM 0 SCO 10; ENG 9 IRE 1; ICE 7 IoM 3; SCO 1 ENG 6 (unfinished).

England: Caroline Buckley (Bd), Tracey Cole (WSx), Samantha Marling (Hu), Maria Thornley (La), Helen Wright (Dv). NPC: Grete Willacy (WM).

Senior Boys

1. Andrew Dennison (IRE)
2. John Bult (ENG)
3. David Morris (ENG) and Anthony Redmond (IRE).

Senior Girls

1. Helen Lower (ENG)
2. Helen Perrott (ENG)
3. Melonie Carey (ENG) and Linda Hood (SCO).

Intermediate Boys

1. Neil Bevan (ENG)
2. Mark Ward (ENG)
3. Gary Neilson (IRE) and Adrian Thorp (ENG)

Intermediate Girls

1. Sarah Hurry (SCO)
2. Nicola McGrath (ENG)
3. Andrea Ambrose (ENG) and Jane Wright (ENG).

Cadet Boys

1. Andrew Eden (ENG)
2. James Mullen (IRE)
3. Michael Auchterlonie (ENG) and Alan Cole (ENG).

Cadet Girls

1. Caroline Buckley (ENG)
2. Jennifer Hook (SCO)
3. Samantha Marling (ENG) and Maria Thornley (ENG).



Intermediate Girls; Individual event. (l to r) Andrea Ambrose (Eng s.f.), Sarah Hurry (Scotland) (winner), Brian Christie (Chairman, Scottish TTA), Nicola McGrath (Eng) (2nd), Jane Wright (Eng) s.f.).

TED FACES BIGGEST EVER CHALLENGE

by JOHN WOODFORD

HAVING spent several hours with the new chief executive in the past few months, I can still scarcely believe that the ETTA has been fortunate enough to attract a man of such quality to head the professional team at Hastings.

Reports from the Squash Rackets Association have said that the sport of squash is now certainly bigger and much more successful nationally because of the efforts of one man in particular — Ted Wallbutton.

ETTA Chairman John Preat before the vacancy was announced was only lukewarm on the idea, but after meeting the successful candidate, the chairman's view changed to 'the most significant in the history of English table tennis'.

News of his standing at the SRA had reached me months before his new appointment. I was therefore prepared for the situation where he would stand head and shoulders above any rival candidates.

In *Squash World* in the June edition, Larry Halpin's Focus column reported that it was probably that the ETTA looked no further for a chief executive after seeing the application from Mr Wallbutton.

Professional marketing strategy is the Wallbutton penchant. This is the sort of man, cool, calm, confident and stylish who has the ability to mould a team who can keep sponsors happy with their investment. Make no

mistake when an organisation like the Leeds Permanent Building Society invest half a million, any outdated nonsense is no longer possible.

Professionals

The SRA income in six years has moved from £100,000 in 1981 to £700,000 in 1987. Those figures speak for themselves, but it also shows which way our rivals sports are going and how we have to compete to stay in the limelight. American Express, Blue Stratos, ICI and Intercity are just four sponsors in squash.

Apart from the equipment trade, table tennis has most, almost all of its eggs in the Leeds basket, so never has it been more important to deal professionally with the society than now. We have the man to do it at Hastings and in London we have Alan Pascoe Associates, the PR agency who led the ETTA to their new sponsors.

The Pascoe organisation are also extremely professional as we saw when the Leeds sponsorship was launched in London in July.

Ted Wallbutton knew when he signed on the dotted line for his new job that the ETTA was to be polite, in a turbulent state,

although I can say for sure that he did not realise quite how fierce was the 'war' mainly between the new administration and those critics from past offices of power.

However, in July, these were some of his feelings:

'After one whole month in table tennis the thing that has impressed me most is the enthusiasm which I find at all levels in the sport. In my view the two vital elements in making things happen are enthusiasm and commitment and we seem to have unending supplies of both.

Our Chairman and his new team of Deputy Chairman, Treasurer and Vice-Chairman certainly have the necessary energy and skills for fast progress and there is no shortage of good ideas coming across my desk and over the phone on a daily basis. The structure now seems ideal for a period of fast movement and — have no doubts — a period of fast and direct action is absolutely vital.

As a "newcomer" I can say without bias that table tennis has not progressed in the 1980s with the same momentum as the other sports with which we compete. And other sports are competing



Ted Wallbutton

with us for players and resources. We have lost ground in prestige, quality of events, media coverage, sponsorship, player reward and participation — to mention but a few areas.

Looking forward I can confidently predict more TV coverage, increased sponsorship, better support for players at all levels and the start of a revitalisation of the sport at grass roots level. And looking forward is the only way to move quickly. The more you look over your shoulder the more you stumble. So it's eyes front and quick march to catch up with the leaders as fast as possible,' he concluded.

Whatever challenges he faced in squash rackets there can be few bigger challenges ahead than setting table tennis on a harmonious and successful road, in fact the challenge to Ted Wallbutton seems to be one of the biggest ever in the history of English racket sports. To beat this challenge he is going to need immense support.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE — SEASON 1987/88

SUPER DIVISION

DIVISION ONE

Week Ending Saturday

23 Sept	F.R. Germany France Bulgaria Hungary	v.	Poland Yugoslavia Czechoslovakia Sweden	26 Sept	Denmark Turkey Italy Belgium	v.	Netherlands ENGLAND Austria Finland	10 Oct
14 Oct	Hungary Yugoslavia Czechoslovakia Sweden	v.	Poland Bulgaria France F.R. Germany	17 Oct	Finland ENGLAND Italy Netherlands	v.	Denmark Austria Turkey Belgium	14 Oct
**18 Nov	Poland F.R. Germany Czechoslovakia Sweden	v.	France Yugoslavia Hungary Bulgaria	21 Nov	Denmark Italy Finland Austria	v.	Turkey ENGLAND Netherlands Belgium	2 Dec
16 Dec	Poland Hungary Czechoslovakia France	v.	Bulgaria Yugoslavia F.R. Germany Sweden	19 Dec	Finland Turkey Netherlands Denmark	v.	ENGLAND Austria Italy Belgium	8 or 9 Dec
6 Jan	Sweden Yugoslavia Bulgaria France	v.	Poland Czechoslovakia Hungary F.R. Germany	9 Jan	Turkey Netherlands Italy ENGLAND	v.	Finland Austria Belgium Denmark	25 Jan
24 Feb	Poland Yugoslavia Hungary Bulgaria	v.	Czechoslovakia Sweden France F.R. Germany	27 Feb	Austria Belgium Turkey Finland	v.	Denmark ENGLAND Netherlands Italy	24 Feb
***2 or 6 March	Poland Czechoslovakia Bulgaria F.R. Germany	v.	Yugoslavia Sweden France Hungary	5 Mar	ENGLAND Belgium Austria Denmark	v.	Netherlands Turkey Finland Italy	2 Mar

Prean Team Dodge the Bullets

by JOHN WOODFORD

SATURDAY, 11 July, the day of the 1987 Annual General Meeting of the English Table Tennis Association was an occasion that is best forgotten. Not far from the Charing Cross Hotel, the muddy waters of Old Father Thames were moving along as remorselessly as ever, whilst at the meeting table tennis administrators, the new and the old, fought out the Battle of Charing Cross.

It is happily, all murky water under the bridge now and I do not think that the Mailbox column of this magazine would be enhanced in any way, to further tedious references to what is now past history.

However, the five-hour meeting highlighted the biggest upheaval ever seen in table tennis, possibly in any racquet sport in England. Most of the time was taken up by a massive debate on the Management Committee's report for the year, a jumbo-sized dispute on the amount of the ETTA's deficit for the year and an attack on the chairman John Prean regarding some alleged

correspondence that (allegedly) condemned some members of the England squad. That attack was led by Peter Charters, the former chairman of selectors although it was sparked off by a story run by 'Inside Track' in the *Sunday Times* last March.

Stunned

The 130 members present listened somewhat stunned as the former treasurer Aubrey Drapkin clashed with the new treasurer Peter Hillier mainly over whether the balance in the red was £15,000 or £49,000 according to the financial interpretation put on some hire tables and premium

bonds 'owned' by the 100 club.

That particular point was in the end won by the new treasurer and the new Management Committee and subsequently endorsed by the following meeting of the National Council.

Unanimous

To cut a huge story short, and possibly to prevent the total demise of the ETTA, the Management Report was finally adopted without anyone voting against.

At times the atmosphere was so charged with tension that Rules Committee leaders Tony Wickens and Keith Watts were constantly giving advice to those on the top table and to those on the floor, largely to prevent people getting themselves into deep and legal waters from which they might have had great difficulty rescuing themselves.

The man with the most difficult task was the chairman, ETTA

president Maurice Goldstein. To chair such a meeting at his stage of life was enough to cultivate a cardiac arrest to a man much younger. But brave Maurice, fought hard to maintain control as the most volatile elements sniped incessantly at the new men in control.

Survival

Perhaps fortunately, for the sake of English table tennis, the new men on the top table, chairman John Prean and new deputy chairman Alan Ransome managed to dodge the crossfire and lived to fight another day.

Journalists rarely attend ETTA AGM's because usually, they are quite bland affairs. This was the first one I have attended for several years. I hope that in the future they will return to more sedate affairs, because sports cannot often survive such batterings.

Where have all the flowers gone?

by Dr KEITH SOOTHILL

To raise the standard of a sport and to widen the base, one needs to maintain as many outstanding players as one can within the sport. One needs to know where they come from and where they go. This exploratory study sets out quite simply to consider systematically whether top cadets also become top juniors. For this purpose I have used the last ranking lists published in each season in the *Table Tennis News*.

How many reach the top ten?

Taking ten consecutive seasons, there are, in theory at least, 100 places in the top ten of each category available. In reality, considerably fewer players occupy a top ten place in a decade. There is a remarkable similarity in the proportion of players who occupy the top ten positions during the decade — except for junior girls.

Table 1: Number of players occupying a top ten position in the decade (1976-1986)

Category	No. ranked in top ten (1976-86)	Theoretical number (1976-86)
Cadet girls	69	100
Cadet boys	69	100
Junior girls	51	100
Junior boys	65	100

Interestingly, however, a higher proportion of top ten cadet girls compared with cadet boys graduated to the top ten junior ranks. The crucial point is that the shortfall among the numbers of top junior girls is not

the result of a disproportionate number of girls leaving the competitive level after cadets. In fact, the opposite is the case — *twice as many top boys as girls* totally opt out of the national competitive table tennis scene at the age of around 14. *This is quite clearly a major difference between the sexes in terms of continued participation in top level table tennis play.*

Major difference

However, there is now another major gender difference which begins to emerge at this time. *Twice as many boys as girls* manage to achieve a top ten junior ranking although they had not appeared at this high level as cadets. *So the second major difference between the sexes is in terms of recruitment to the sport after the age of 14.* Hence, it would seem that the problem for table tennis is not that girls are lost to the sport after reaching a high standard at a young age, but

that fewer talented girls enter the sport after the age of 14.

So to sum up the lessons from this analysis of the rankings:

There are several lessons which will either confirm what we already know or give further food for thought.

★ **During their time as cadets there seems little difference between boys and girls.** There are similar proportions emerging in the top ranks for both sexes which suggests that at this stage there is a similar kind and amount of table tennis talent around.

Contrast

★ **Interestingly, girls who achieve top ten ranking as cadets are more likely than boys to remain in the sport at the top level of junior play.** *This is in marked contrast to the general view that girls are much more likely to lose interest in sport around this age.* Table tennis does not seem to have the problem which may be experienced by some other sports of losing their top female players at around this age. If there is a problem, it is that a higher proportion of boys move out of top

An analysis of table tennis rankings of junior and cadet level for one complete decade (1977-86) by Dr Keith Soothill.

level play at the end of their time as cadets — whether they continue to play at local league level, move into other sports or even give up sport entirely is something we cannot answer with this set of data.

★ **Many more boys than girls move into the sport after the age of 14 and reach top junior level.** The failure of an influx of new recruits means that the junior girls' game becomes a stage army of a few successful girls who play each other from the quarter finals onwards for close on a decade. It is perhaps not surprising that their performance may level off without the added incentive of fresh talent emerging.

★ ★ ★

This article is a summary version of the analysis. Anyone wishing a copy of the full article should contact the author direct.

★ ★ ★

Author: Dr. Keith Soothill is Senior Lecturer at the University of Lancaster and teaches a course on *Sport in British Society*. His home address is Conder House, Conder Green, Lancaster LA2 0BG.

A hard summer but a fabulous sponsorship

IT has been a long, hard summer, dominated, as so much of my term of office has been, by the search for new income, savings and greater efficiency. The marvellous news about the fabulous sponsorship from the LEEDS is related on page 3. We have won a new friend and firm ally. We can do great things together. We can feel hopeful about the future despite the undoubted difficulties of the present.

Financial Problems

A capacity audience at our AGM heard the new Treasurer, Peter Hillier, explain the full situation. It could hardly be grimmer. Since my election in late November I have issued warning after warning of very hard times ahead. In my first speech to the National Council in January I forecast substantial losses. When I saw the Accounts for the first time in April, even I was surprised by what I found. It was infinitely worse than I expected. Our assets had disappeared. Cash Flow had deteriorated by no less than £35,000 from one year to the next. The nettle of the huge cost of our office repairs had been insufficiently grasped. Neglected for years, infested with dry rot, further large costs have yet to be met.

It is to the credit of the new Treasurer that in the end few were left who did not understand the gravity of the situation and the mess the new team has inherited.

Putting the disaster right

Having said that, I have not the slightest interest in digging up the past, only in putting right the disaster. A minority thought that everything could go on as before if we made the books 'look better' perhaps taking credit for future income or pretending that our offices were not falling to pieces and that we had no obligations in the matter. Some of the critics turned on me, including a number who had sat in high office until recently and, in Mr Attlee's words 'a period of silence from them would not have come amiss'.

33 votes to 4

The matter was decided by the Sport's National Council by 33 votes to 4. It was a recognition that the sport had to live within its means. My visits to members leagues did not indicate that anyone wanted to pay more — quite the reverse. How else was this money to be found? Affiliation Fees went up in 1982 and 1984 and there is a small inflationary increase every year on top of this. However, that is their decision having examined their own consciences. Personal pleasantries do not bother me and, to quote Mr Healey, it was rather like

being 'savaged by dead sheep'. I feel less happy when attentions are turned on others who should not be dragged into manufactured controversies. One chap was distributing endless leaflets in one of which I read about Donald Parker '... he has proved largely ineffectual as Director of Coaching' which I found the most colossal cheek. First, because Don is a man of great ability and potential, second because he had then been in office for three months, one of which he had spent on holiday and third because the author is not fit to lace his boots. My new management team was described as 'lightweight' two months before able to take office. I hope the author felt he was not giving them too long to prove themselves.

Rid me of this turbulent bore

A journalist friend described another of the critics as 'the biggest bore in table tennis as well as Telecom's best customer'. Hours had been spent on the 'phone in order to rubbish me or ruin my son's career. Another journalist, recalling Henry and Thomas a'Becket, produced the priceless line 'Will no one rid me of this turbulent bore?' I had no part in the past which is responsible for the mess we are in. My concern is the future. That is why I have resisted the temptation to discuss the past. That is the only way forward. There will be another election in a few months. The members will make their decision then. If they decide they want to go back to the past, I shall accept their decision with rather more dignity than some of my critics are showing now.

Redundancies

Despite numerous savings, much additional income, all Budgets indicated that more had to be done if outgoings were to match income. The Budgets were drawn up with great care and much heartsearching. Office staff had already been reduced and therefore redundancies had to be on the coaching side. Two posts were involved and the men were Peter Simpson and Dave Fairholm, whom I thank for their work for the Association. Nobody wanted this, but equally no one came up with proposals how

similar sums could be saved. Again, it was suggested that this was Preat-solo and again this was quite untrue.

The priority today is to provide better services to members. Increased Fees are not on the agenda, though this is not a decision of mine, but of the leagues and counties. My view is that fees must not go up.

England - China

It is a long time since thousands have watched table tennis, since we had capacity audiences and sell-outs night after night of what proved a wonderful tour. We had the most dramatic endings with all but one of the eight matches going to the last set, often the last point before the result was known. It was quite unbelievably exciting. We saw wonderful table tennis and the performance of our teams gave us real hopes for

the future. The victory in Gillingham was a night to remember, made possible by that incredible Alan Cooke tour de force after being 14-4 and 18-12 down in the third. We now have great hopes in the European Championships in Paris next Spring.

A united Sport

Half a dozen people, noisy and outrageous enough, can give the impression of a sport in disunion, being torn apart. That is not what is happening. Despite our financial problems we are getting to grips with things. We are building for the future. I do not wish to live through quite such a horrendous summer again and I regret the time I am having to spend fire-fighting to get the financial base right. Despite these diversions the sport is moving forward and is seen that way by others. The resignations that have taken place have been few. In each case there were plenty of volunteers eager and willing to step in to do the jobs that needed to be done. Like me, they see it as a great challenge to make this sport of ours great again.

JOHN

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WORLD INDIVIDUAL CLASSIFICATION LISTS — June 30th 1987

The International Table Tennis Federation

53 London Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 6AY England. Telephone: 0424 430971. Cables: Intabten Hastings. Telex: 95277 ITTF

MEN

1. JIANG, Jialiang	CHN	82. CHAN KONG WAH	HKG	30. KOVTUN, Elena	URS
2. WALDNER, Jan-Ove	SWE	83. STEFANOV, Stefan	BUL	31. BADESCU, Otilia	ROM
3. CHEN LONGCAN	CHN	84. BAER, Gottfried	AUT	32. BATINIC, Branka	YUG
4. TENG YI	CHN	85. FLOREA, Vasile	ROM	33. OLAH, Zsuzsa	HUN
5. CHEN XINHUA	CHN	86. HARCZI, Zsolt	HUN	34. KLOPPENBURG, Mirjam	HOL
6. GRUBBA, Andrezj	POL	87. REBEL, Jürgen	FRG	35. KASALOVA, Renata	TCH
7. WANG HAO	CHN	88. VONGIU VENG	HKG	36. CHANG HSI-YU	TPE
8. PERSSON, Jörgen	SWE	89. YALDIZ, Gurhan	TUR	37. ISHIDA, Kyomi	JPN
9. HUIJUN	CHN	90. JAVUREK, Jiri	TCH	38. PERKUCIN, Gordana	YUG
10. LINDH, Erik	SWE	91. STADNICHENKO, Aleksandr	URS	39. SAFAROVA, Alena	TCH
11. KUCHARSKI, Leszek	POL	92. JOKINEN, Jarmo	FIN	40. THIRIET, Brigitte	FRA
12. DOUGLAS, Desmond	ENG	93. FEJER, Andras	ROM	41. FAZLIC, Jasna	YUG
13. APPELGREN, Mikael	SWE	94. ANDREW, Skylet	ENG	42. KIM GYONG SUN	PRK
14. KIM KI TAEK	KOR	95. CABRERA, Thierry	BEL	43. ALBOIU, Marie	ROM
15. MIYAZAKI, Yashihito	JPN	96. MOMMESSIN, Didier	FRA	44. BAEK SOON AE	KOR
16. LO CHUEN TSUNG	HKG	97. FRACZYK, Stanislaw	AUT	45. TIAN JING	CHN
17. KIM WAN	KOR	98. PODNOSSOV, Igor	URS	46. WIKTORSSON, Barbro	SWE
18. CHU JONG CHOL	PRK	99. SEEMILLER, Danny	USA	47. HAN HYE SONG	PRK
19. MAZUNOV, Andrei	URS	100. BRODA, Vladislav	TCH	48. DAVIAUD, Nadine	FRA
20. KIM SONG HUI	PRK	101. JOHANSEN, Tom	NOR	49. SHIN DEUK HWA	KOR
21. CARLSSON, Ulf	SWE	102. VON SCHEELE, Thomas	SWE	50. GREFFBERG, Sonja	FIN
22. YOO NAM KYU	KOR	103. ADEYEMO, Fatai	NGR	51. ELIASSON, Pia	SWE
23. WEI QINGGUANG	CHN	104. PARK CHANG IK	KOR	52. LEE SUN	KOR
24. KLAMPAR, Tibor	HUN	105. NANNONI, Lorenzo	ITA	53. HU XIAOXIN	CHN
25. KALINIC, Zoran	YUG	106. HONG SUN IL	PRK	54. SZATKO-NOWAK, Jolanta	POL
26. FAN CHANG MAO	CHN	107. HARKAMP, Jan	DEN	55. KOCOVA, Miluse	TCH
27. WU WEN-CHIA	TPE	108. WATANABE, Takehiro	JPN	56. GORDON, Alison	ENG
28. PANSKY, Jindrich	TCH	109. HOYAMA, Hugo	BRA	57. ZACHARIAN, Anita	URS
29. SAITO, Kiyoshi	JPN	110. HABERL, Gary	AUS	58. NOLTEN, Katja	FRG
30. LIGUN SANG	PRK	111. SUPIT, Sinyo	INA	59. ANTONIAN, Narine	URS
31. KRISTON, Zsolt	HUN	112. MILLER, Thierry	SUI	60. OJSTERSEK, Vesna	YUG
32. HE ZHIWEN	CHN	113. MUN NI CHOL	PRK	61. BOGAERTS, Karine	BEL
33. YANG JIANHUA	CHN	114. FETZNER, Steffen	FRG	62. LIN LI-ZU	TPE
34. BÖHM, Georg	FRG	115. PARIETTI, Bruno	FRA	63. ZHU JUAN	CHN
35. CHEN ZHIBIN	CHN	116. HAUTH, Lars	DEN	64. HONG SOON HWA	KOR
36. SECRETIN, Jacques	FRA	117. BOURONNAIS, Alain	CAN	65. NAGY, Krisztina	HUN
37. AHN JAEHYUNG	KOR	118. NG, Gideon Joe	CAN	66. WANG XIAOMING	FRA
38. LUPULESKU, Ilije	YUG	119. O'NEILL, Sean	USA	67. BUSHAN IN SOOK	USA
39. PREAN, Carl	ENG	120. STOJANOV, Ivan	BUL	68. WENZEL, Susanne	LUX
40. CHEN PINGXI	CHN	121. PYYKKÖ, Mika	FIN	69. TIMOFFEVA, Raisa	URS
41. KANO, Claudio	BRA	122. BISI, Giovanni	ITA	70. LEE KYE SUN	KOR
42. XU ZENGCAI	CHN	123. FALLBY, Johan	SWE	71. KITSUKAWA, Miki	JPN
43. MA WENGE	CHN	124. KHAN, Arif	PAK	72. CHANG YONG OK	PRK
44. RENVERSE, Patrick	FRA	125. KREISZ, Tibor	HUN	73. SVENSSON, Marie	SWE
45. ONO, Seiji	JPN	126. HANNAH, David	SCO	74. FREIBERG, Margit	FRG
46. HONG CHOL	PRK	127. SLEVIN, Colum	IRL	75. KAHN, Szilvia	HUN
47. COOKE, Alan	ENG	128. SAIF, Farjid	PAK	76. KIM YOUNG MI	KOR
48. WOSIK, Ralf	FRG	129. GHORPADE, Sujay	IND	77. DOMONKOS, Marian	CAN
49. PRIMORAC, Zoltan	YUG	130. SINGH, Manmeet	IND	78. FAZEKAS, Györgyi	HUN
50. BENGTSSON, Ulf	SWE			79. SHIMONAGA, Tomoko	JPN
51. LOUKOV, Mariano	BUL			80. YUE KAM KAI	HKG
52. BIROCHEAU, Patrick	FRA			81. GRUNDY, Joy	ENG
53. SUN JIANWEI	CHN			82. TAN AH TEE	SIN
54. MATSSHITA, Koji	JPN			83. HYON HAE HWA	PRK
55. BOGGAN, Eric	USA			84. BUSNARDO, Alessandra	ITA
56. GATIEN, Jean-Philippe	FRA			85. ABRGALL, Beatrice	FRA
57. ROSSKOPF, Jörg	FRG			86. LIM YONG HWA	PRK
58. MUSA, Atanda	NGR			87. CHUANG SUN HWA	PRK
59. ROSENBERG, Boris	URS			88. PRUSSENE, Iolanta	URS
60. GOTOH, Hideo	JPN			89. KIM YONG HUI	PRK
61. CECAVA, Miroslav	TCH			90. BARUA, Monalisa	IND
62. DVORAK, Vladimir	URS			91. YU SUN BOK	PRK
63. CHIH CHIN-LONG	TPE			92. HONG CHA OK	KOR
64. CHIH CHIN-SHUI	TPE			93. LIPPENS, Barbara	ESP
65. GRMAN, Milan	TCH			94. ELLIOT, Fiona	ENG
66. SAIVE, Jean-Michel	BEL			95. LIM SIK	PRK
67. KIM TAEK SOO	KOR			96. BÖHNING, Ilka	FRG
68. VAN SPANJE, Henk	HOL			97. DAVIDKOVA, Daniela	TCH
69. PARK JI HYUN	KOR			98. KEEN, Gerdie	HOL
70. DANIELSSON, Tommy	AUS			99. JAVOROVSKAJA, Inga	URS
71. SCHEWCHENKO, Valeri	URS			100. POLK, Charlotte	DEN
72. CHEN YINGHUA	CHN			101. WILTSCHE, Barbara	AUT
73. HUANG HUEH-CHEIH	TPE			102. MALMBERG, Eva	FIN
74. PALMI, Dietmar	AUT			103. SZYMANELIS, Jadwiga	POL
75. HALDAN, Paul	HOL			104. TEPPER, Kerri	AUS
76. CONSTANTINI, Massimo	ITA			105. MAJEKODUNMI, Olawunmi	NGR
77. NUKAZUKA, Juzo	JPN			106. SHEHABUBAKAR, Rossy	INA
78. SHIBUTANI, Hiroshi	JPN			107. DEKEIN, Icole	FRG
79. MEHTA, Kamlesh	IND			108. YOSHIDA, Shizuko	JPN
80. PINTEA, Horatio	CAN			109. ZAMPINI, Giorgia	ITA
81. DRYSZEL, Stefan	POL				

WOMEN

1. HE ZHILI	CHN
2. YANG YOUNG JA	KOR
3. DAILILI	CHN
4. JIAO ZHIMIN	CHN
5. CHEN JING	CHN
6. GENG LIJUAN	CHN
7. GUAN JIANHUA	CHN
8. LIBUN HUI	PRK
9. BATORFI, Csilla	HUN
10. HRACHOVA, Marie	TCH
11. BULATOVA, Fliura	URS
12. LI HUIFEN	CHN
13. TONG LING	CHN
14. VRIESEKOOOP, Bettine	HOL
15. HYUNG JUNG HWA	KOR
16. GUERGUELTCHEVA, Daniela	BUL
17. URBAN, Edit	HUN
18. CHO JONG HUI	PRK
19. PANG CHUN DOK	PRK
20. NEMES, Olga	FRG
21. HOSHINO, Mika	JPN
22. CHEN ZIHE	CHN
23. MOK KA SHA	HKG
24. HE QIANGGONG	CHN
25. UCHIYAMA, Kyoko	JPN
26. FEN JUNG	CHN
27. HUI SO HUNG	HKG
28. POPOVA, Valentina	URS
29. BELLINGER, Lisa	ENG

TOP ENGLISH RANKINGS — as at 1st August, 1987

MEN

1. Desmond Douglas (Birmingham)
2. Alan Cooke (Chesterfield)
3. Carl Prean (Ryde)
4. Skylet Andrew (London E15)
5. Nicky Mason (Bexhill)
6. John Souter (Neasden)
7. Jimmy Stokes (Reading)
8. Steve Mills (Sheffield)
9. Graham Sandley (Potters Bar)
10. Philip Bradbury (Aylesbury)
11. Chris Rogers (Leicester)
12. Bradley Billington (Chesterfield)
13. Nigel Eckersley (Warrington)
14. Kevin Satchell (Frome)
15. Steven Scowcroft (Bolton)
16. Max Crimmins (Wimbledon)
17. Adrian Dixon (Wolverhampton)
18. Matthew Syed (Reading)
19. Glen Baker (Guildford)
20. Colin Wilson (Cuffley)
21. Paul Whiting (Plymouth)
22. Adrian Moore (Bexhill)
23. John Hilton (Manchester)
24. Tony Taylor (Manchester)
25. Steven Dorking (Hornchurch)
26. Paul Giles (Plymouth)
27. David Gannon (Leicester)
28. Edwin Smith (Gosforth)
29. Sean Gibson (Chorley)
30. Michael Hammond (Surbiton)
31. Andy Creed (Bristol)
32. Barry Johnson (Birmingham)
33. Carl Morgan (Birmingham)
34. Philip Gunn (Birmingham)
35. David Wells (Milton Keynes)
36. Andrew Wellman (Reading)
37. Percy Collino (London SW5)
38. Michael O'Driscoll (Mirfield)
39. Desmond Charley (London E13)
40. Brian Johns (Northwich)
41. Phil Smith (Sussex)
42. Tony Clayton (Poole)
43. Stuart Palmer (Lakenheath)
44. David Dodd (London SE7)
45. John Burleton (London SE15)
46. Darren Griffin (Gloucester)
47. Ritchie Venner (Crawley)
48. Joe Kennedy (London SE15)
49. John Taylor (Golders Green)
50. Denis Neale (Redcar)
33. Julie Dimmock (Dunstable)
34. Rachel Knight (Twickenham)
35. Angela Mitchell (Edmonton)
36. Linda Clemett (Raynes Park)
37. Lesley Popkiewicz (Purley)
38. Connie Moran (Grimsby)
39. Diane St Ledger (Birmingham)
40. Melonie Carey (Puriton)
41. Lisa Haydon (Brentwood)
42. Louise Davies (Bridgenorth)
43. Claire Plumridge (High Wycombe)
44. Susan Radley (Lincoln)
45. Julie Lawrence (Bexhill)
46. Sheila King (St Leonards)
47. Debbie Simmonds (Virginia Water)
48. Julie Revill (Oadby)
49. Michelle Cohen (Bristol)
50. Melody Hill (Bradford)
51. Helen Potts (Chester)
52. Sally Shutt (Bradford)
53. Claire Mouzon (Ashington)
54. Susan Butler (Plymouth)
55. Susan Harness (Ilford)
56. Jackie Billington (Chesterfield)
57. Sally Weston (Horsham)
58. Michelle Hams (Morden)
59. Theresa Butler (Plymouth)
60. Janet Deakin (Warrington)
61. Sandra Peakman (Birmingham)
62. Leanne Harman (Bournemouth)
63. Amanda Mytton (Evesham)
64. Esme Stevenson (Bude)
65. Nicola McGrath (Preston)
66. Susan Culbertson (Birmingham)
67. Josette Ryalls (Sheffield)
68. J Fisher
69. Janet Hunt (Worcester)
70. Amanda Goodwin (New Moston)
71. Dawn Campbell (Dunstable)
72. Joanne Pettit (Newmarket)
73. Jane Cohen (Reading)
74. Claire Hunter (Swindon)
75. Cheryl Skevington (Womborne)

42. Paul Smith Bridgwater
43. Rajinder Singh (Birmingham)
44. Howard Whewell (Rossendale)
45. James Nicholson (Stockton)
46. Simon Holmes (Sheffield)
47. Sean Gaylard (Plymouth)
48. Robert Scott-Birchall (Allestree)
49. Paul Carter (Coulsdon)
50. Richard Jones (Morden)

JUNIOR GIRLS

1. Andrea Holt (Ramsbottom)
2. Kerry Hall (Chesterfield)
3. Claire Potts (Chester)
4. Debbie Toole (Normanton)
5. Julie Norman (Newbury)
6. Nicola McGrath (Preston)
7. Joanna Roberts (Leeds)
8. Jane Wright (Plymouth)
9. Karen Perkins (Ipswich)
10. Caroline Buckley (Luton)
11. Andrea Ambrose (Ipswich)
12. Kate Gower (Ingatstone)
13. Helen Wright (Plymouth)
14. Julie Forster (Loughborough)
15. Sarah Pengelly (Faignton)
16. Ellen Meddings (Harrogate)
17. Linda Radford (Upminster)
18. Helen Potts (Chester)
19. Alison Gower (Ingatstone)
20. Tina Sadler (Yeovil)
21. Julie Brion (Aylesbury)
22. Katherine Goodall (Leeds)
23. Anne Pashley (Guisborough)
24. Rebecca Fisher (Tottenham)
25. Susan Lawton (Ormesby)
26. Helen Stevens (Grantham)
27. Emma Hurling (Berkhamstead)
28. Caroline Seaholme (Watford)
29. Tracy Scott-Pawson (Bournemouth)
30. Barbara Smallwood (Formby)
31. Tracy Cole (Crawley)
32. Caroline Perkins (Wellingborough)
33. Natalie Riley (Stoke-on-Trent)
34. Joanne Keighley (Shipley)
35. Elizabeth Connell (Leeds)
36. Julie Haslop (St Neots)
37. Penny Corden (Derby)
38. Nicola Meddings (Birmingham)
39. Maria Williams (London N3)
40. Elizabeth Bryant (Leicester)
41. Sharon Norman (Birkenhead)
42. Karen Richardson (Oldham)
43. Nicola Jones (Worcester)
44. Martina Hicks (Brentwood)
45. Alison Ledwitch (Birmingham)
46. Sarah Creasey (Market Drayton)
47. Deborah Applin (Bournemouth)
48. Sarah Williams (Hillingdon)
49. Lisa Jackson (Southgate)
50. Victoria Fletcher (Oldham)
51. Claire Oldman (Beckingham)
52. Alison Taylor (Elmham)
53. Hannah Webber (Guildford)
54. Sarah Kettle (Alveston)
55. Hayley Sims (Grantham)
56. Cheryl Bateman (Walton on Hill)
57. Elizabeth Creasey (Market Drayton)
58. Sandy Lynes (Wembley)
59. Jane McLean (Evesham)
60. Ella Siggs (Impington)
61. Emese Kottasz (Middlesex)
62. Nicola Crackmell (Reading)
63. Tracey Marriot (Kettering)
64. Joanne Webber (Bridgewater)
65. Kelly Bennett (Hainhault)
66. Sally Johnson (Lincoln)
67. Nicola Coleman (Maidstone)
68. Lisa Rice (Horndean)
69. Claire Brazier (Bridgewater)
70. Lian Wilson (Guestling)
71. Rachel Plummer (St Ives)
72. Rachel Skinner (Crouch End)
73. Tracy Slater (St Neots)
74. Samantha Marling (Hull)
75. Rachel Hodson (Dereham)

JUNIOR BOYS

1. Bradley Billington (Chesterfield)
2. Michael O'Driscoll (Mirfield)
3. Matthew Syed (Reading)
4. Chris Oldfield (Sheffield)
5. Adrian Thorpe (Wolverhampton)
6. Damien Holland (Billericay)
7. Jonathan Taylor (Manchester)
8. Thomas Cutler (Neasden)
9. Matthew Pernet (Esher)
10. Mark Ward (Sheffield)
11. Neil Pickard (Reepham)
12. Neil Bevan (Bude)
13. Leigh Jeffries (Birmingham)
14. Michael Aucterlonie (Salisbury)
15. David Morris (Pontesbury)
16. Andrew Houghton (Tonbridge)
17. Alan Cole (Crawley)
18. Phillip Szekeres (Enfield)
19. Gary Knights (Burton-on-Trent)
20. Darryl Sneyd (Oldham)
21. Mark Stephenson (Halifax)
22. Wayne Renton (Oldham)
23. Stephen Baggaley (Milton Keynes)
24. Andrew Eden (Preston)
25. Peter Bowler (Dunstable)
26. Stuart Miller (Stockton)
27. Grant Solder (Barking)
28. Christopher White (Ippelpen)
29. Jeremy Krzystyniak (Croydon)
30. Mark Beaumont (L. Buzzard)
31. Scott Greenbrook (Crawley)
32. Stephen Hanks (Burton-on-Trent)
33. Ian Black (St Albans)
34. Ian Bird (Rushden)
35. James MacIver (Barnsley)
36. Neil Simms (Pontefract)
37. Graeme Connelly (Camberley)
38. Andrew Bevan (Bude)
39. Michael Parker (Stockport)
40. Robert Till (Walsall)
41. Anthony Lansdown (Margate)

★ ★ ★

WOMEN

1. Lisa Lomas (Dunstable)
2. Joy Grundy (Preston)
3. Alison Gordon (Reading)
4. Fiona Elliot (Wolverhampton)
5. Mandy Sainsbury (Newbury)
6. Jill Harris (Walsall)
7. Joanne Shaw (Normanton)
8. Andrea Holt (Ramsbottom)
9. Jean Parker (Preston)
10. Karen Smith (Leicester)
11. Juliet Houghton (Tonbridge)
12. Carol Giles (Plymouth)
13. Jackie Bellinger (Dunstable)
14. Susan Collier (Maidenhead)
15. Suzanne Airey (Grantham)
16. Claire Potts (Chester)
17. Teresa Moore (Bexhill)
18. Helen Bardwell (Ware)
19. Kerry Hall (Chesterfield)
20. Elaine Short (Plymouth)
21. Jane Barella (Surbiton)
22. Debbie Toole (Normanton)
23. Sandra Roden (Dudley)
24. Claire Maisey (Swindon)
25. Helen Perrott (Bristol)
26. Debbie Soothill (Carnforth)
27. Elaine Sayer (London E12)
28. Kim Mudge (London E13)
29. Helen Lower (Wolverhampton)
30. Karen Burrows (Castleford)
31. Cheryl Buttery (Lincoln)
32. Gillian Blanch (Acton)

Leeds British League & North Wales

League Receives Leeds Boost

by JIM BECKLEY

IT'S all change in the Leeds British League, in more ways than one! As the name indicates the entire programme has a new sponsor with the Leeds Permanent Building Society taking over lock, stock and barrel.

The emphasis will be very much on the publicity angle and to that end a meeting between Leeds British League officials, management and the sponsors was held at Milton Keynes to make sure everything, as far as possible, goes smoothly.

The future

A full report of that meeting will appear elsewhere but it included words from the sponsors on how to promote the league; a look at the future of the new set-up from deputy chairman Alan Ransome; an insight on administration by Les Wooding and how loop-holes are to be tightened up which in the past have allowed matches to be called off too easily, hence losing the interest of the media.

As far as team news is concerned the big pre-season talking point was the move from GKN

Steelstock to Bathwick Tyres of Desmond Douglas. Fears that Douglas might end up on the European circuit again following the withdrawal of the Wolverhampton club had been expressed, but it was not to be.

Bathwick Tyres team manager Paul Hewitt was delighted: 'It's marvellous news for the club. It's a huge boost for the team which I believe will give us a great chance of doing better than last season.'

Bonus

Because of the loss of GKN Steelstock, Chan Construction, runners-up in Division One last season, receive an unexpected bonus in the form of promotion to the Premier Division.

Two other interesting moves involve former European champion John Hilton who lines up for the first time with Rotherham and who will play alongside two other Mancunians Tony Taylor



and Stephen Scowcroft and Ormesby have signed Scotland's No. 1, Dave Hannah.

New teams this season include Birmingham Athletic Institute, Chelmsford OC's, Trinity Newcastle-under-Lyme, Ryegate and Redhill TTC, Rejects 2nd and Cheltenham & Saracens SC.

Publicity

The growth of the Leeds British League will ensure that Leeds receive the greatest amount of publicity. In the first year £20,000 will be invested, the Leeds will provide print materials and the league sponsorship will be the biggest single part of the entire deal — apart from the English Open.

LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE RESULTS

Premier Division

Dunlop Express 1, Grove 8
Kingfisher Reading 1, Bathwick Tyres 7
Rotherham 5, Ormesby 3

Division 1

Ashford 8, West Warwickshire 0
Byker Newcastle 1, TSP Larkhall 7
Horsham Dolphins 4, Dagenham FC 5
St. Neots 3, Bradford Investments 5

Division 2 (North)

City of Leeds 5, EAE WAVENEY 3
Ruston Lincoln 4, Grove 4
Wolverhampton 4, Ormesby 4
Wellingborough 2, March TTC 6

Division 2 (South)

C & L RUISLIP 7, KINGFISHER Reading 1
Dolej Carpets 4, Fellings Cranleigh 4

Division 3 (East)

AHW Pioneer 6, Fellows Cranleigh 2
Birmingham Athletic 2, Britania Ipswich 6
Dagenham FC 1, Chelmsford 7

Division 3 (North)

Chan Construction 6, Leicester 2
Kingsborough Financial 5, Byker Newcastle 3
Oldham 7, Ormesby 1
Trinity, Newcastle-u-Lyme 8, Vickers SC 0

Division 3 (South)

Ashford 7, Rejects 1
Countrymen Tunbridge Wells 5, TSP Larkhall 3
Reigate LTC 2, Alpha Warriors 6
Thorn Ellenborough 0, Deptford Rams 8

Division 3 (West)

Butterfly Cardiff 6, Jolliffe Poole 2
Duchy Windows Launceston 3, Cheltenham Saracens 5
Generation Fareham 5, Bathwick Tyres 2
IMI Leominster 3, Dunlop Express 5

Rejects Slammed by Mike Loveder

STOCKWELL-based Rejects II made their debut in the Leeds British League. Playing away to this year's Division III South favourites Ashford II, the result was an astonishing 7-1 defeat for Rejects II. This ended the Rejects Club unbeaten record which stretches back to the 1985/86 season.

Ashford II were taking no chances and turned out at maximum strength, led by England international Alison Gordon. On the day she proved that her game was too powerful and consistent for both the Rejects II team captain Trevor Campbell and for Clive Carthy who she convincingly beat 21-14, 21-10 and 21-17, 21-6 respectively.

England No. 5, Mandy Sainsbury, was seen struggling to find her form in her first set played against Trevor Campbell. Nevertheless her vast experience of playing at a high level seemed to pull her through, though by the narrowest of margins, 23-21, 21-19. This was the first time in three consecutive seasons that Trevor Campbell lost both his sets in a British League Match.

Playing at No. 3 for Ashford II was the Kent No. 1, Juliet Houghton. In her first set she encountered Thornton Heath's

Simon Philipsz who turned in an electrifying performance. The Kent player won the first game of the set at 21-12. However the tables were turned as Simon Philipsz showed great skill and determination to take the set with the next two games 21-13, 21-16.

Former Welsh international Dave Welsham further dented Rejects chances of obtaining any League points when he beat Thornton Heath's Steve Carpenter 21-14, 21-14. However Steve showed some improvement in his game when he took on Mandy Sainsbury.

This set seemed quite finely balanced but eventually the England No. 5 pulled through 21-17 in the deciding game. Juliet Houghton regained her composure during her set against Clive Carthy who by this time seemed to be lacking his usual confidence. A very positive approach by the Kent player resulted in another Rejects loss by the scores of 12-21, 18-21.

Scores

A. Gordon b C. Carthy 21-17, 21-6; b T. Campbell 21-14, 21-10. M. Sainsbury b T. Campbell 23-21, 21-19; b S. Carpenter 16-21, 21-10, 21-17. J. Houghton 1 to S. Philipsz 21-12, 13-21, 16-21; b C. Carthy 21-12, 21-18. D. Welshman b S. Carpenter 21-14, 21-14; b S. Philipsz 21-16, 17-21, 21-12.

NORTH WALES

Charlie Bayliss

East Flintshire League:

More teams will be competing in the East Flintshire Table Tennis League this season than there has been for a number of years.

The season starts on Monday 14 September when 24 teams from 9 clubs will launch their campaign in the league's 3 divisions.

News from the North Wales Coast is very hard to come by, I should be grateful if League/Press Secretaries from the coastal leagues would send their news to me for inclusion in my press reports.

One bit of news that I have heard is that the Rhyl and St Asaph Leagues will be united into a new league which is to be called 'The Rhuuddlan Borough League'.

Wrexham League:

The Wrexham League also can report a slight increase in its numbers for the 1987/88 season with 31 teams from 15 clubs, this increase is most welcome after recent losses of clubs due to local industries which have closed down.

League Season 1986/87. Winners of the Divisions.

Division 1. McAlpine Quarries/A, R/up Caergwrle. BB/A. Division 2. Wrexham Old Boys/A, R/up McAlpine Quarries/B. Division 3. Caergwrle BB/B, R/up Wrexham Social Club for the Disabled.

Coaching:

Wrexham will be continuing its coaching for youngsters during the coming season with new players who wish to learn the sport the main target in its growth programme. We are most grateful to our two coaches Mr Justin Evans and Mr Simon Williams and all those players who have given their free time to devote to this cause.

International Disabled Invitation Table Tennis Games were held at Cartrefle Training College on 27-31 August when combined with Athletics at the Queensway Sports Complex players from Norway, Sweden, Iceland and Holland and Leichtenstein besides from the Home Countries took part in various types of competitions, Wrexham League official and players assisted with the organisation and umpiring on the two days in which it was held.

Permission Essential When Playing Abroad

MEMBERS are reminded that under the provisions of ETTA Rule 32.1 the permission of the ETTA must be obtained before playing with or against any persons who are not affiliated either to the ETTA or another national association affiliated to the ITTF. This is particularly relevant where South Africa is involved because in that country there are two table tennis organisations, one which is affiliated to the ITTF and one which is not.

It is therefore important that members who intend to play table tennis abroad should check the affiliation situation of the foreign organisation under whose auspices they will be appearing, before taking part. As members of the ITTF the ETTA must comply with ITTF Rule 2.2.2 which follows similar lines to our Rule 32.1. These two rules read as follows:

ITTF rule 2.2.2

"A player affiliated to an Association shall not take part in any competition, exhibition or coaching

2.2.2.1 in the territory of another Association, unless the body under whose auspices the activity takes place is affiliated to and in good standing with the Association of the visited territory, except with the prior permission of that Association;

2.2.2.2 in a territory not having an Association or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, unless the Council has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership;

2.2.2.3 Organised by an unaffiliated body, unless permission for the event has been given by the Executive Committee, except as provided in 2.2.6.

2.2.3 The Association controlling the territory in which a player is resident shall be responsible for ensuring that he complies with the requirements of 2.2.2.

2.2.4 A player resident in a territory which has no governing organisation or whose governing organisation is not affiliated to the ITTF shall not take part in any competition, exhibition, or coaching in the territory of an Association, except with the permission of the Executive Committee, unless the Council has previously given permission for the governing organisation to be included temporarily in the appropriate Continental Federation pending an application for membership."

ETTA Rule 32.1

"No affiliated player or club may take part in competition with any player or club, or in exhibition at any club, or under any auspices, not registered or affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association or other national association affiliated to the International Table Tennis Federation without the permission of the County Secretary concerned or of the National Council, except as provided by specific concession to an organisation in Good Standing."

In England the position is often covered by an organisation being

in Good Standing i.e. holiday camps, competitions run by national institutions etc. but if ETTA members play within a league which is not affiliated they are not only in breach of Rule 32.1 but are serving to assist that league to exist without contributing to the establishment of the governing body which does so much to promote and keep the sport alive.

Discipline

All allegations regarding breaches of Rules are referred to the ETTA Disciplinary Committee which has the power to impose certain penalties under Rules 33.11.1 to 33.11.5 as follows:

- 33.11.1 That he be suspended either indefinitely or for a stated period; suspension may be limited to a specified area of jurisdiction or geographical or other defined area.
- 33.11.2 That he be fined.
- 33.11.3 That he be censured.
- 33.11.4 That he give an undertaking in such terms as the committee may decide.
- 33.11.5 That he be dealt with in such other manner as the Disciplinary Committee may think fit."

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Picture Parade



ENGLAND junior girls captain Jackie Bellinger will play a prominent part this season organising the junior girls whilst Lisa Lomas (right) who has had some trouble holding her No. 1 spot in England, has just held on to her No. 10 place on the European ranking list, which should mean that she will be playing in the European Top-12 next February in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, along with Desmond Douglas who will be defending his title.



STEPHEN MOORE, well-known Sussex player married Cathy Parke of Bexhill. Cathy is a District Nurse, Stephen is on course to becoming an accountant.



ENGLAND No. 1 Lisa Bellinger became England No. 1 Lisa Lomas in June when she married Andy Lomas a footballer and printer, also from Dunstable, Beds.

ALL OUR SURREY YESTERDAYS . . . 1956!



★

SURREY won the premier division of the county championships just 31 years ago. Left to right, the late Tony Miller, Harry Venner, Jean Head, Jill Rook, Peggy Piper, Ron Crayden (captain), Miss B. Isaacs and Ken Craigie.

★

A MEDAL RICHLY DESERVED

by John Woodford

WHEN Desmond Douglas was born in Jamaica on 20 July, 1955, little did his parents think that 32 years later in 1987, he would have achieved world fame at the sport of table tennis!

This year has been one to remember for Des. It started in January in Switzerland when Des put the skids under the best known names in Europe to win the Top Twelve title. He played some tremendous table tennis in New Delhi despite the hazards of the place.

Basle victory

In July he was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, the third player in recent times in the game, the others being Johnny Leach and Jill Hammersley-Parker. That award clearly came after his victory in Basle and was a direct result of that triumph.

In mid-August it was announced that Bathwick Tyres had also put the skids under foreign clubs who were trying to lure Des back to the continent by signing him for the Leeds British League after the demise of Steelstock, Wolverhampton.

Almost at the same time, the ETTU finally came out with a heavily delayed European ranking list update, putting our man from Birmingham up to No 3 behind Jan-Ove Waldner and Andrzej Grubba.

That No 3 ranking puts Des in the Europe team to play Asia at Thornaby Pavilion, Middlesbrough on 16-17 January and affords yet another chance for him to upset the top Chinese and other prominent Asians just at a time when they are beginning to fear the top European men.

Fully appreciated


Having watched him in action from Tokyo to Moscow, from Delhi to Birmingham YMCA where his talent was first discovered, he is the true professional. Whatever his financial rewards, he richly deserves his success and that I am sure is the feeling of everyone in the sport and many abroad where his style of 'magic' is fully appreciated just as it is here in Britain.



Desmond Douglas MBE

Photo: Mike Loveder

The Great Ball of China



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Grubba /s the Master!

John Woodford at Wembley

EUROPE has just one player, Andrzej Grubba whose class is so obvious and in general terms performs so consistent that no-one could deny that he is worthy of the title of 'Master of Europe'. This was the title originally placed on this event at the luxurious Wembley Conference Centre, although when the Leeds Permanent Building Society came in with their support, it changed to Leeds Masters.

Having praised him it may seem inconsistent to record his start to the tournament on Friday evening with Grubba beaten 17, 19 by young Paul Haldan, a young Dutchman who like Jean Michel Saive seems destined for the front-rank in Europe sooner rather than later.

In the groups of course, one defeat is not the end of the road. Two defeats means curtains and so it was for the favourite Jan-Ove Waldner beaten 15, 18 by Stanislaw Fraczyk and -12, 15, 19 by Saive. Most people would have bet all the tea in China (and India) that Waldner would not lose two in a row to players ranked so far below him in Europe. A probable reason for Waldner's amazing losses was a particularly strenuous training camp fortnight in Sweden just prior to his Wembley visit.

So, the tournament started with two amazing shocks, as Douglas and Cooke came through groups and quarter-finals to reach the last four. Desmond, not happy with the blue tables, was a shade below his best but his sheer speed and counter-hitting eventually got him out of trouble.

Douglas trailed 9-17 against Fraczyk in the quarters (first game), but a superhuman burst of 'Des magic' brought him back from the edge of the cliff at 19-19 and then a 23-21 win, following by losing only 14 points in the second game.

STRANGE

Alan Cooke had a strange tournament. He started losing 16 in the third to Stojanov (Bulgaria) at which point things looked black for the England No. 2. from Derbyshire as he was then to face Jorgen Persson, a daunting task indeed.

However, from then on, 'Cookey' got things nearer to boiling point. After Persson had stopped Stojanov 15, 14, the battle loomed between Persson and Cooke in an unusual situation where each of the three players might finish with one win, two going through.

The cynics in the somewhat sparse Friday night audience — there were some 800 people present on Saturday night mercifully — worked it out that Persson could lose two-straight and go through as second man to play Haldan. Half-way through the



Andrzej Grubba of Poland the winner.



Alan Cooke the England No. 2.

Pictures: Sylvio Dokov

game that seemed to be the plan in the Swede's mind although he would never admit it of course. Persson however, just managed to scrape the second having lost the first, which immediately put both Swedish National League men through and it was goodbye to Stojanov.

Well-pleased

Cooke therefore jacked up his winnings to £500 by reaching the semi-finals where he lost to Grubba, 11, -19, 12, so he (Cooke) must have been well-pleased with his efforts in the end when Grubba had a nasty start.

The most improved player at Wembley was in my view Jean-Michel Saive, the 17-year-old Belgian who has to be on the short-list of young men to become a future European champion. He is so young, so strong, gaining experience all the while and capable of beating the best even now. He reached the semis by stopping Denmark's Jan Harkamp, and then only lost 18, 19 to Des Douglas, who also tips Saive as a top man for the future.

Summing up, Douglas was well pleased to finish second winning £1,000 for five games of table tennis, Andrzej Grubba, the ever-popular Pole was clearly delighted to win £3,000 from the

DES SAID . . .

Talking to Richard Eaton and myself after the tournament Desmond Douglas commented, 'I did not have a hard draw and I feel I am not playing badly for the start of the season. It is not easy to play on these blue tables, the bounce is sometimes unpredictable, possible due to the blue paint. It is too early in the season for a tough tournament, but everyone in Europe is playing well.' Asked about Grubba's win he said, 'He managed to slow me down with a clever pace variation'.

£6,500 prize pool, Alan Cooke went home happy, hoping that the people who compile the European rankings will notice his win over Persson and we saw some really exciting play and some shocks and some delightful young men of the future, headed by Jean-Michel Saive.

PROFESSIONAL

I understand that the television came over well. Alan Pascoe Associates the public relations firm working for the sponsors the Leeds Permanent Building Society did a really professional job with presentation, media arrangements and hospitality, although (would-you-believe) the battery of telephones used by the media at Wembley do not allow the direct dialling (0800 Freefone) service now favoured by most newspapers! Correspondents had either to wait minutes to get the telephone operator or pour in coinage.

If all the big events this season under the Leeds (now complete) umbrella are as well organised, all should be well pleased. The Saturday crowd needed another 300 to fill the close-in empty seats, but many sports at London venues have identical troubles.

RESULTS

Group 1: Fraczyk b Waldner 15, 18; Saive b Fraczyk -12, 15, 19; Saive b Waldner 20, 14.

Group 2: Haldan b Grubba 17, 19; Haldan b Hannah 19, 19; Grubba b Hannah 18, 15.

Group 3: Douglas b Blikken 9, 20; Harkamp b Blikken 21, 16; Douglas b Harkamp 9, 14.

Group 4: Persson b Stojanov 15, 14; Stojanov b Cooke -16, 11, 16; Cooke b Persson 17, -20, 17.

Quarter-finals: J. Saive (Belgium) b J. Harkamp (Denmark) -19, 25, 13; D. Douglas (England) b S. Fraczyk (Austria) 21, 14; A. Grubba (Poland) b J. Persson (Sweden) 13, 15; A. Cooke (England) b P. Haldan (Holland) 19, -17, 20.

Semi-finals: Douglas b Saive 18, 19; Grubba b Cooke 11, -19, 12.

Final: Grubba b Douglas 18, 18.

New sponsor for coaching video

Eagle Star boost coaching — with two superb new videos

THE Eagle Star Insurance Group have been collaborating with the ETTA for over six months to produce what will be the most professional and technically correct videos ever made for the table tennis coaching.

John Heaton, a Divisional Director of the Insurance giant, has been a supporter of the game for many years and is the husband of the well known Midlands coach, Jennie Heaton. He made the most generous offer to allow the specialist video production unit at Eagle Star Cheltenham to help with all aspects of the scheme and they, through their expert knowledge of the market, brought in a Stourbridge Company — Optical Images to carry out the actual production and bring in many special effects such as slow motion and computer graphics.

Ideally presented

The total package is divided into two 35 minute tapes. The first concentrates on 'Learning to play the game'. It outlines the equipment needed, shows safe erection techniques for the table, demonstrates the basic strokes — with plenty of demonstrative slow motion — and then goes on to illustrate a series of practices, some simple, some complex, which gives plenty of interest at the end of a tape which is ideally presented for school children and

other newcomers to the sport.

The second tape is entitled 'Advanced stroke play' — which perfectly sums up the content. Service, return of service, top spin, back spin are all covered in detail and cannot fail to impress players of even the highest standard. The whole video is climaxed with some exciting play sequences from the China tour matches which show table tennis at its very best.

From Hastings

The two new videos are obtainable from the ETTA at Hastings for a price of £16.95 each, including postage, packing and VAT with a special offer price of £29.95 for the pair. VHS and BETA systems are available. They are a must for every player of whatever ability.

Sincere thanks are due to all concerned with the filming and production of these superb films. Particularly to Mike Murley and Andy Messam of Eagle Star's Training Department. They've been converted to enthusiasts just by watching the action!

These effects have lifted an expertly scripted and filmed product to professional heights

which would have been far beyond the resources of an impoverished governing body. The whole package was rounded off with the extra assistance of Alan Hydes of Dunlop who provided the equipment necessary and will be assisting in the marketing effort to be placed behind the sales of the finished products.

The ETTA coaching staff of Don Parker and David Fairholm ensured that the script and filming of the sequences were as perfect as humanly possible and recruited a vast array of top players to feature in the films. Well known faces on the tapes include Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Lisa Lomas, Fiona Elliot and a host of talented juniors who will look strangely youthful when the videos are shown in years to come! The slow motion sections of the films demonstrate just what makes some of our top players so great. The sequences of Des in action alone are worth the total cost of the videos — poetry in motion would describe his footwork — and any player trying to improve his skill levels would find plenty of interest here.

JOHN PREAN — AN ANALYSIS

by

Alf Peppard of
Gloucestershire

BACK in the summer I had pleasure of recording a radio interview with ETTA Chairman — John Prean, John and I have met before on TT business, I came away from the interview with the following feelings, John for some is by no means a soothing Chairman, with many serving under him, perhaps he drives all too occasionally a hard bargain — but he is astringent and challenging and has a formidable will all of his own to get things done, but his way.

★

New Messiah?

As far as TT is concerned I do not think that John is by any means a new Messiah in our sport, rather someone who possesses considerable charisma and is desperately trying to breathe new life into our sport, we must all remember, that slightly less than a year ago, we the members voted John in with an overwhelmingly majority, changes almost invariably take time to bear fruition but one factor is crystal clear — if it were not for the many hundreds of volunteer unpaid workers in our game table tennis would grind to a sudden halt.

Meanwhile John and his Committee battle on, cuts here and there are inevitable within the auspices of the ETTA finance, there is very little cash available, and yet us the members have not been asked as yet for an increase in our affiliation fees.

★

Mighty job?

John Prean has one mighty big job ahead of him, he cannot solve the Association's problems all on his own, matters can only be gradually put right if we all get behind him, and each chip in with a little help.

★

Thanks

I personally through these columns would like to thank him and another very well known person in our sport namely — Don Parker for radio interviews given me by both this past summer.



All smiles at the launch of the Eagle Star coaching videos. Pictured at William Kent House, Piccadilly, Eagle Star's London office, left to right, Ted Wallbutton (Chief Executive ETTA), Donald Parker the England captain, John Prean chairman ETTA, Leslie Agius Eagle Star Executive Director and on the right John Heaton, who in addition to being vice-chairman Development ETTA is also a director of the Eagle Star Group.

England Under-11 Championships

More players next time but a start has been made

by MIKE WATTS

WHEN the new Chairman took office at the end of last year, one of the first things that he did was to ask the English Championships Committee to organise an Under-11 National Championships. In a letter to Doreen Stannard, Chairman of that Committee, John Preat outlined the purpose of the event: 1. to create interest in this age group, i.e. to 'catch them young'; 2. to identify future National team prospects. In line with these sentiments, Jackie Bellinger, a member of the Junior Selection squad, had already intimated that she was hoping to start an Under-12 squad with the same ideals.

So the Championships were 'born'. They actually took place on 5 July at the Bletchley Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes, with the local Borough Council providing part sponsorship by providing the venue. However, despite circulation of some 500 entry forms, the entry was poor. In the end 23 boys and 12 girls competed, although it is known that more will enter in the second year.

In the boy's event, competitors were grouped in fours, thereby guaranteeing each player three singles. From these groups the six winners emerged to fight out the final placings. In the two quarter finals played David Her-

bert (Devon) and Steven Meddings (Warwicks) advanced com-



Darren Blake (Croydon) was the winner of the boys singles. He is with England supremo Don Parker. Nicola Deaton (Derbyshire), daughter of table tennis coach and sporting promotions entrepreneur Colin Deaton.

fortably to the semi-finals with two straight wins. In the semis Herbert found Darren Blake (Surrey) far too strong, losing easily but Meddings came through a tough encounter with one of the pre-Championship favourites, David Heath (Devon) 18-21, 21-15, 21-12. The final proved that we shall be hearing further from young Blake who became the first holder of the Under-11 title with a 21-10, 21-15 win over a game Steven Meddings.



In the Girl's event, four group winners emerged to contest two semi-finals. Here Claudine Wilson (Sussex) gained a narrow verdict over Michelle Martin (Staffs), whilst the favourite Nicola Deaton (Derby) powered her way past Lynsey-Marie Heyward (Devon). The final was won by Nicola Deaton two straight.

Presentations were made by Donald Parker (Director of Coaching and National Team Trainer) and Mrs Doreen Stannard (Chairman English Championships Committee). Later Donald took all contestants through a two-hour coaching session which was enjoyed by all.

Certainly a good day and an event which undoubtedly is here to stay. Hopefully next year the entry will improve. This year was probably too late and certainly too warm.

RESULTS

Boys Singles

Quarter Finals: D. Herbert (Devon) b J. O'Leary (Middx) 12, 17. S. Meddings (Warwicks) b P. Neal (Yorks) 11, 16.

Semi-Finals: D. Blake (Surrey) b D. Herbert (Devon) 7, 8. S. Meddings (Warwicks) b D. Heath (Devon) -18, 15, 12.

Final: D. Blake b S. Meddings 10, 15.

Girls Singles

Semi-Finals: C. Wilson (Sussex) b M. Martin (Staffs) 19, 20. N. Deaton (Derby) b L. M. Heyward (Devon) 7, 6.

Final: N. Deaton b C. Wilson 10, 14.

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The new path ahead

by England captain DONALD PARKER

After the considerable changes within the coaching world in recent months it is vital to assess the situation and plan constructively for the future.

I do not think anyone is happy about the reduction in the professional coaching staff and strong opinions have been expressed both internally within ETTA committees and publicly. What has happened is now behind us and I hope everyone is prepared to continue to work together for the good of the game. Anyone feeling de-motivated is of course quite at liberty to do so. However, they should be prepared to move aside or indeed be moved aside and allow new coaches to take over their responsibilities. I, like everyone else have my own opinion about what has happened and hopefully like the vast majority of people will of course continue to do the best I possibly can for English Table Tennis.

With the changes, it is of course vital that all the country's leading coaches play an important role. The professional staff will

only be able to do so much and thereafter will be dependent upon help. Most of the Diploma Coaches about the country are already overworked however, should you be so qualified and be in a position to give more time then I would be delighted to hear from you.

The National Coaching Committee must now lay down new policies. The Regional Coaching Panels will be responsible to see to the implementation of these policies in their particular regions. I will take time to get it right but I feel that if everyone is prepared to pull together it is possible to run a very effective coaching scheme.

Already several people have expressed to me constructive ideas with regards the future of the coaching scheme. I am only too delighted to hear ideas for anyone and I can assure you they will be given the serious attention they deserve.

National team event to be extended

A NUMBER of nominations were made at the VETTS Annual General Meeting in June for Vice-Presidents of the Society now entering its fourth year of existence. Already acceptances have been received from Brian Kennedy, Johnny Leach, Stan Lenton, Alan Ransome, Diane Scholer, Ken Stanley and George Yates.

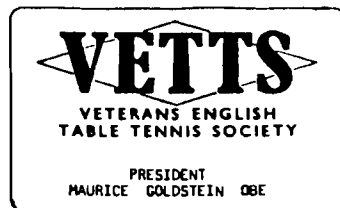
An increase

The National Team Competition so successful last season has now been extended to include a Ladies event. 81 Leagues entered last season and this is expected to increase. Sylvia Coombes takes over as Competitions Secretary. It has now been agreed that the final stages of the competition will take place over two days this coming season in incorporating the Annual General Meeting and a Dinner Dance. The proposed programme would be to have the four semi-finals on Saturday morning, the AGM on the Saturday afternoon and a dinner dance on the Saturday evening with the finals of both events on the Sunday morning.

German Challenge

A challenge match has been set up between VETTS and the Federal German VETTS Team Champions TTC 31 Heiligenhaus on a home and away system. The matches are scheduled to take place in December 1987 in Germany and May 1988 in England. More details later.

Details are now available for the 4th World VETTS Championships that take place in Zagreb



Yugoslavia from 6/11 June 1988. VETTS are arranging a tour with three options:

1. 8 days in Zagreb flying from London Heathrow.
2. 14 days flying from various airports around the UK with 7 days in Zagreb and 7 days on the Adriatic coast.
3. 11 days tour travelling to Zagreb by coach.

Further details on costs can be obtained from the Hon General Secretary Mike Watts. Details and venues of VETTS tournaments for the coming season are: 10/11 October, Eastern Masters, Grimsby. 21/22 November, Southern Masters, St. Albans. 30/31 January, Midlands Masters, Hinckley. 9/10 April, Northern Masters, Manchester. 21/22 May, National Masters, Bracknell.

MIKE WATTS

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE LEAGUE BOOM TIME

by George Yates

OVERWHELMING was the response to form a veterans division of the Lancs and Cheshire League with expectations exceeded to the extent of having to form not one but three divisions!

Eighteen leagues submitted entries accounting for 22 teams with Lancaster and Morecambe, Liverpool and Wirral all with a double representation.

Allocation of teams into divisions was done by draw which resulted:

Division 'A'
Ellesmere Port, Farnworth, Halton, Lancaster & Morecambe 'A', Oldham, Preston and Warrington (7).

Division 'B'
Barrow, Blackpool, Bolton, Liverpool 'A', Mid-Lancs, Trafford and Wirral (7).

Division 'C'
Burnley, Crewe, Lancaster & Morecambe, Liverpool, Macclesfield, Rochdale, Stockport and Wirral 'A' (8).

Elsewhere, in the 7 men's divisions, 51 teams will operate — one less than last season — with Burnley 'B' and Lancaster and Morecambe out and Mid-Lancs 'A' the newcomers.

Surprisingly Stockport have withdrawn their junior team but new entrants in Barrow 'A', Blackburn, Burnley 'B', Hyde 'A' and Oldham 'C' have swelled the numbers to 32 teams in 4 divisions.

Lytham have withdrawn their women's team but newly entered Manchester Banks and Nelson means two divisions of eight teams.

From the handbooks so far received both Bolton and Bury are down on teams with the former reducing from 7 to 6 divisions, on a 14-team basis, and the latter from 10 to 9, on a 12-team basis. Bolton have 37 clubs in membership — two more than last season — yet the number of teams is down from 93 to 83.

BURTON LEAGUE VISIT GERMANY

BURTON League's annual visit to Lingen in West Germany was again a resounding success. Staying with German families bring friendships closer and is far more enjoyable. Tours around the countryside by horse-drawn buses, trips to Bad Bentheim Castle and a Dutch market, skittles in a German pub, good food and an initial welcome made us feel we were going to our second home, with the Olympia Laxten TT Club.

The big table tennis tournament attracted 750 competitors including some big names, such as Josef Dvoracek, and was played on 23 tables over three days.

Martin Kinsella played well to take 3rd place in the A Class and likewise Terry Bull, who took 4th in the B Class. In the Lingen v Burton friendly match the visitors were not at their best and Lingen just scraped home winning 9-1, although they had to enlist the help of Terry Gadsby who won two for the Germans. The Five-a-side football match was also keenly fought but again luck shone on Lingen Lingener's who won 8-2.

The party was accompanied by the Burton Mayor Councillor Pat Hill and her husband Trevor and their presence was much appreciated. We must now prepare for the German visit to Burton which will be just as enjoyable.

County notes 1

BERKSHIRE

Bob Adams

TWO Berkshire towns have reported high level encounters around the country since the last edition of *TT News*. Newbury League, having reached the semi-final of the National Rose Bowl competition, fought a close battle against Plymouth with Julie Norman opening the match with a win — only to see Plymouth take the next two. Mandy Sainsbury came back with an unbeaten hat trick to bring the score level at 4-4. In the decider Janet Parker raised hopes of a Newbury victory with an opening 21-15 win, but it was Sue Butler of Plymouth who, after squeezing to 21-19 in the second, went on to a 21-16 final set thus taking the Devon team through to the National final after a fine display of team spirit and sporting behaviour.

Reading travelled to Coventry to contest the semi-final, and as they hoped it would be, the final also, of the Veterans National Team Championships of England. Reading's team of Wally Allanson, Bob Holiday and Syd Montgomery seemed as though they might go the same way as the young ladies of Newbury when they too reached a 4-4 situation with Bob Holiday trailing 11-3 in the third. However those who know Bob will recognise the determined jaw and the play that goes with it, so his climb back to 19 all was followed by two tremendous winners to leave the earlier doubters nodding with 'I knew he'd do it' expressions of satisfaction. The final contested between the top 2 of the 81 teams who entered saw Reading up against Stockport who, in their alternative role as the Cheshire Veterans team, are also the County Premier Champions. Sadly for Reading, Stockport's hot favourite status proved to be justified and they romped home to a 5-1 victory, but not without No 1 Wally Allanson giving them a bit of a fright with his victory over Brian Keene, an ex-Scotland international. Altogether a superb performance by the Reading team in this the inaugural year of the competition.

CORNWALL

Peter Hancock

IN THE absence of regular correspondent Jeremy Williams, who is sunning himself in Cyprus you will have to put up with my ramblings I'm afraid. The Cornish season started early with the brand new BUDE/DEWHURST JUNIOR 2 STAR taking place over the August Bank Holiday

weekend. Playing details have been reported elsewhere by Tournament Organiser Bob Bevan, who deserves the highest praise in getting this event off the ground. Main sponsors J. H. Dewhurst Ltd., the Master Butchers, were so delighted with what they saw that sponsorship for next year was confirmed on the spot.

I don't think it was just the standard of play that impressed everybody. The distance travelled by the competitors certainly opened a few eyes — top players from Birmingham, Norwich, Chesterfield, Barnet, Bristol, Plymouth and Exeter, plus the strong local contingent made for great interest and entertainment.

The setting was very impressive — BUDEHAVEN SPORTS HALL may not be the biggest around, but there can't be many better settings for a 2 Star. But what really impressed sponsors, spectators, coaches and players alike was the organisation that provided staged finals completed on both days by 6.00p.m.! Thanks here to referee Pat Archdale and her right hand man Brian Lamerton who had things running like clockwork all weekend. The Junior Boys final on the Sunday, the final match of the weekend was watched by over 70 people: even those with long journeys were prepared to stay and watch knowing they could still be home on the same day.

Moral somewhere

There must be a moral here somewhere — perhaps all finals should be completed by, say 7.00p.m. Cornish table tennis guru Tom Honey has championed this idea for years even if it meant restricting entries — something to think about certainly.

Committee Changes

It's all change on the Cornish admin front; Sylvia Stevenson has retired after a three year stint as County Secretary, to be replaced by Truro's Roger Jacobs, who while getting more involved in administration still has a few propositions to put on the table — ask John Bassett. A new Treasurer too; Eddie Curnow is replaced by another Truro stalwart Barbara Rapsey.

After many years service Dennis Williams has left the County scene — temporarily we hope. The new Coaching Officer, John Menzel has lots of ideas and enthusiasm to match. Two new County Selectors join Roger Bunt and yours truly — John Menzel and Bob Bevan. It seems certain that the monthly Committee meetings will be longer! Seriously though, the new Executive Committee looks strong and pretty progressive.

DERBYSHIRE

Malcolm Allsop

THE 1986/87 season finished with the Derbyshire Closed Championships being held at the Greasley Community Centre. The event was keenly contested despite a poor entry with the Committee still searching for the magic formula required to bring support back to the event which used to be so popular.

Alan Cooke gave a demonstration of the skill which had been used so successfully against the Chinese only a few weeks before, and the destination of the trophy never appeared in doubt.

Brilliant, sometimes impossible, winners flowed off Alan's bat throughout the day leaving Martin Kinsella shaking his head in disbelief in the Final contest.

Martin gained consolation in the Men's Doubles when he partnered Alan to success, and then teamed up with Kerry Hall to deny Cookie a hat-trick of titles in the mixed doubles where Nichola Deaton again demonstrated her potential.

MEN'S SINGLES: Semis: Alan Cooke b Maurice Billington 12, 13; Martin Kinsella b Eric Hall 13, 13. Final: Cooke b Kinsella 15, 9.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Kerry Hall b Julie Forster 10, 15.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Kinsella/Cooke b Billington/Hall 11, 20.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Group winners — K. Hall/Pat Thorley.

MIXED DOUBLES: Kinsella/Hall b Cooke/Nichola Deaton 14, 11.

UNDER-17 BOYS: Robert Scott-Bitchell b Stephen Hanks 23, 20.

UNDER-14 BOYS: N. Haymen b Michael Davies — 20, 16, 10.

UNDER-17 GIRLS: Hall b Forster 14, 16.

UNDER-14 GIRLS: Deaton b Jessica Pope 10, 15.

VETERAN SINGLES: M. Billington b E. Hall 19, 17.

In the County Challenge Cup Derby's Mechanics 4th (Dave O'Donnell, Mark Chajeci and Bob Herbstritt) defeated Burton's Robert Sutton Blue (Simon Hall, Pat Hall and Richard Baxter) by 377-303.

In the Derbyshire Inter-Town League, Matlock once again took the major honours by retaining the Division one and Veterans Divisions.

DIVISION ONE:	P	W	D	L	SETS	Pts
Matlock 1st	6	5	1	0	47-13	11
Eastwood 1st	6	2	1	3	25-35	5
Derby 1st	6	1	2	3	27-33	4
Burton 1st	6	2	0	4	21-39	4

DIVISION TWO:	P	W	D	L	SETS	Pts
Burton 2nd	4	3	0	1	24-16	6
Matlock 2nd	4	2	1	1	25-15	5
Chesterfield	4	2	1	1	20-20	5
Derby 2nd	4	2	0	2	24-16	4
Buxton	4	0	0	4	7-33	0

VETERANS DIVISION:	P	W	D	L	SETS	Pts
Matlock	5	5	0	0	40-10	10
Burton	5	4	0	1	37-13	8
Derby	5	2	1	2	30-20	5
Eastwood	5	2	1	2	23-27	5
Chesterfield	5	1	0	4	14-36	2
Buxton	5	0	0	5	6-44	0

The Annual General Meeting

of the Derbyshire TTA was disappointed to hear that Danny Blair, our President and long-service Treasurer, had suffered a heart attack. I understand he is making a good recovery and I know I speak for all Derbyshire when I say we are all looking for him to have many long years of good health in the future.

Ron Pacey takes over as Junior 2nd team captain, and we all hope that his enthusiasm will inspire the players to challenge for a place in the Premier Division with the Junior 1st team, and eventually the senior team.

CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

WHITEHAVEN will stage a county championship game for the first time for nearly 20 years when Warwickshire play a Division Three (North) game at the Sports Centre on Saturday 10 October.

The game will mark Cumbria's return to senior inter-county competition after a successful 1986-7 season by their junior team.

During the season, the county unearthed two rising junior stars in John Backhouse (Vickers Sports Club, Barrow) and Steve Temple (Carlisle Sports Centre).

The county find that promising youngsters prefer to enjoy the Grand Prix tournaments, from which county players are barred. Run in conjunction, the Advanced Training Centres, under Roger Stewart at The Sands Centre, Carlisle, and Eddie O'Hara at Park View School, Barrow, are proving popular.

The Carlisle venture, sponsored by the North Regional Sports Council and controlled by the ETTA and national team coach Don Parker, of Preston, is limited to 20 players per session.

Sports Centre teams won both first and second division titles in the Carlisle League, where Salvation Army played well to collect division three.

Royal Oak were division one runners-up. Joining Sports Centre Straits in division one next term will be Infirmary A. Replacing them will be Cavendish and Telesport A.

Relegated from division two were Norgass and Chapelcross B. Up in their places with Army are Ferguson B.

Vickers Sports Club continue to dominate the Barrow League scene with a team from the club again winning the first division.

TMCA Aquarians won the Whitehaven League with Whitehaven News runners-up. Telecom won the second division from Beckermet B.

The possibility of one division in the league was under consideration at the time of writing. Thirteen teams were split into two divisions last season.

County notes 2

ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

THE new season of 1987/8 sees various administrative changes in our County. One of them is that I have been handed back the job of writing this column. I shall endeavour to present every piece of news which reaches me, so, like my colleagues from the other counties, I implore League Press Officers, coaches, team captains, and other people with interesting information to pass it on to me.

On the Management Committee Laurie Darnell of Brentwood has taken over as Chairman from Peter Roden and we all wish him well in this important role. Clive Oakman is our new National Councillor and will be able to be present at all those exciting meetings which seem to be presided over these days by John Preat. Perhaps our most significant new appointment is that of David Miller, the well known and popular referee, as our Tournament Organiser. He is already bringing his expertise to bear not only on our domestic events but also upon what we proudly regard as England's leading Senior and Junior Opens.

We start this season with our Senior first team back where it belongs, in the Premier Division of the County Championships. The loss of Ian Horsham, Kenny Jackson and Skylet Andrew a few years back caused our side to slide from title contenders to the relegation slot and then into Division 2. There, in 1985/6, we reached the embarrassing nadir of being defeated 10-0 by Middlesex II. Last season saw the emergence of the brilliant Steve Dorking — one of my favourite juniors — as a star of the future, greatly improved form by the athletic Desmond Charlery, and solid stuff from veteran (!) David Newman. Then we had our wonderful fighting girls, Kim Mudge and Elaine Sayer, who made this a real competitive team. One appearance by Skylet did us no harm either, when a Middlesex II line-up including Graham Sandley, Colin Wilson, Mark Mitchell and sister Angela could not prevent Essex from wiping out the memory of that whitewash. As a result the team remained unbeaten throughout the season and we have high hopes that our Premier Division Challenge will be strengthened by Kenny Jackson returning, and Skylet being seen more often.

On the junior front I was greatly heartened by the way in which our young team battled to preserve their Premier Division status. In the first weekend not too much luck went our way, as seen in the 6-4 defeats by Staffs and Lancs. Against Kent,

however, cadet Grant Solder had a heart-stopping win over Brian Mileham — 18, 15, 22, and we won 6-4. Returning to St. Neots our side overcame the handicap of our banker bet Damian Holland being a little out of sorts, and not only beat Glamorgan as expected, but also defeated Notts, with outstanding performances from Jason Clark, Jason Tendler, Tanya Holland, and Kate Gower.

Our junior second team made me very proud and they were in contention for the championship title almost to the wire, our hopes foundering at the hands of the powerful Devon side, but it really is asking a lot of 12 and 13 year olds to expect them to play top-class table tennis after six hours crammed into a car on the motorway. Nevertheless they gained a great win over Sussex in their final match to secure the runners-up position. All the players deserve medals but I must single out Martin Cole for his consistent play and team-spirit at all times. It was also lovely to see Linda Radford and Delia Holland in tandem against Sussex, combined ages 23 years!!

DORSET

Martin Hughes

THE new Dorset county rankings have been issued as follows:

SENIOR MEN: 1. Tony Clayton, 2. Hakan Sigrell, 3. John Robinson, 4. Jason Creasey, 5. Terry Glennon, 6. Martin Hughes, 7. Martin Abbott, 8. Steve Davies, 9. Mike Toole, 10. Howard Davies.

VETERAN MEN: 1. Mike Toole, 2. Howard Davies, 3. Trevor Smith, 4. Dennis Joyce, 5. Cyril Bush, 6. Eric Buckley, 7. Dave Woodcock, 8. Harold Feltham, 9. Brian Wickham, 10. Brian Bickell.

SENIOR WOMEN: 1. Cheryl Skevington, 2. Leanne Harman, 3. Joyce Coop, 4. Tracey Scott-Pawson, 5. Joanne Le-Neve-Foster, 6. Debbie Applin, 7. Samantha Scott-Pawson, 8. Jean Smith, 9. Sarah Thomas, 10. Dot Robins.

VETERAN WOMEN: 1. Joyce Coop, 2. Jean Smith, 3. Dot Robins, 4. Pat Baldwin, 5. Chris Reid.

THE LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE Jolliffe Poole will be competing in the Leeds British League, and will be hoping to perform well in the Third Division West where they finished as runners-up last season.

The squad will remain the same as last season with Tony Clayton leading the way, and they will again be sponsored by Peter Jolliffe (Bookmaker) Ltd, with assistance from the Poole & District Table Tennis Association.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Pepperd

Table Tennis could best be described as being at a 'Watershed', or should I say 'The Crossroads?', whatever the poetic description of the current situation, the hard cruel facts emerged that very few seemed able to muster the necessary enthusiasm in Gloucestershire to support the Chinese Exhibition in early May, and as a result the event was called off by the Leisure Centre Authorities who pleaded that not enough tickets were sold in advance to justify its running.

However did the organisers get it wrong? was it a mistake to run it on a Bank Holiday afternoon? and could it be that seats should only have been secured by advanced booking and not left the option of selling at the door say an hour or so prior to the exhibition.

Post-mortems have been carried out upon the exhibitions failure to attract the media and I have no doubt that several theories have also been well advanced, one thing however, is very clear — I am rather of the opinion that it will be quite a while until we in Gloucester get the opportunity of such a splendid chance again — to actually see the World Champions in action, *and on our doorstep.*

Elected Officers for the forthcoming season are as follows: President — Mr L. C. T. Davis; Chairman — Mr M. J. Reeves; Vice Chairman — Mr J. Smith; Gen Sec/Nat Councillor — Mr L. J. Smith; Treasurer — Mr N. Symonds; Umpires Sec — Mr F. Jones; Mins Sec — Mrs J. Dean; Coaching Officer — Mr B. R. Merrett; Publicity Officer & Team Sec — Mr A. F. Pepperd.

Bereavements

It is with considerable sadness that I report the following bereavements: Frank Dickerson who played for the Strollers Club in Gloucester passed away in mid-summer, Frank was confined to a wheelchair towards the end of his illness and will be well remembered by older members of the Gloucester TTA.

We were all stunned to learn of the sudden death of Peter Saunders of Lydney in late June, Peter was only 41 years old, although not upon either the County or City Committees, and indeed neither was he a player — but Peter did invaluable work umpiring and conveying County teams to their respective destinations, he will be sadly missed by many, and we extend heart-felt sympathy to his Widow Sheila and sons Craig and Dale.

HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood

HIGHLIGHTS of the summer in leafy Hertfordshire was two Junior Tournaments, which were won by Essex's rising star young Grant Solder.

In the first of the Stan Teasdale Invitation Tournaments, which was sponsored by Wheels of Barnet, and was held at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre on 13 and 14 June, Grant Solder beat Peter Bowler of Dunstable, in the final.

This all action attacking battle would have graced a senior final, had the audience on its feet, with both contestants giving their all.

The second tournament, which was also held at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre, took place on 25 and 26 July, was sponsored by The Barnet Table Tennis Centre and Doug Tomsett.

This fun event was an even bigger success than the previous Wheels Tournament, with 32 boys and girls competing, as well as parents and other adults.

Once again that boy Grant Solder was unstoppable, as he took the Junior Singles Trophy, defeating Hertfordshire's Stuart Grassick in the final.

Grant Solder also won the Mixed Doubles event, when in partnership with Alison Gower of Ingatestone, they overcame the challenge of the Hertfordshire pairing of Terry Boucher of Barnet and Emma Hurling from Hemel Hempstead, -20, 9, 17, in the final.

Junior No. 1 Ranking Positions:

BOYS: 1. Ian Black, Terry Boucher, Maurice Greenberg, 4. Kevin Harber, 5. Richard Grethe.

GIRLS:
BOYS UNDER 17: Ian Black (Hemel Hempstead). **BOYS UNDER 14:** Duncan Taylor (Barnet). **BOYS UNDER 12:** Oliver Saunders (Monken Hadley). **GIRLS UNDER 17:** Maria Williams (Barnet). **GIRLS UNDER 14 and UNDER 12:** Talya Greenberg (Barnet).

On Saturday 12 September, at Hemel Hempstead School, the Table Tennis Tournament of the Hertfordshire Games took place, where hosts Dacorum were the No. 2 seeds, with Glen Wilkes, Rob Liquorish and Emma Hurling of the Hemel Hempstead League, representing Dacorum. Whilst No. 1 seeds North Herts, were fielding their strongest player Mick Harper of Biggleswade.

On Sunday 6 September, at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre, the Junior County Trials took place, with as expected Ian Black of Hemel Hempstead being ranked No. 1, whilst Barnet's Maria Williams was ranked No. 1 girl.

County notes 3

LINCOLNSHIRE

Kath Fisher

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Lincolnshire Association a pairs tournament was held, again at Clees Sports Hall, with nine ladies and 14 mens teams taking part from the various leagues in the county. Play was on a group basis with two teams going through from each group. The matches consisted of four singles, best of one game only up to 21 points, 2pts for a win, 1pt for a draw.

In the Mens Group A, Lincoln A (S. Worrell, J. Brewster) won all their six games 4-0 and were joined in the semi-finals by Scunthorpe (N. Parkin, A. Thompson) who just pipped Grimsby D (P. Taylor, A. Longbottom).

In Group B, Louth A (Shearer, B. Allison) came out on top and were joined by Grantham A (C. Bryan, C. May) who were extremely fortunate to finish ahead of Lincoln C (M. Thornley, A. Burwell) to whom they had lost 3-1. The latter two teams finished level both on points and sets and so the individual points difference from all the games had to be calculated with Grantham on +49 and Lincoln +47.

In the semis, Lincoln A beat Grantham 3-0, Louth A beat Scunthorpe 3-0. The final saw Brewster/Worrell win 3-1 with Matt winning the only game against Stuart for Louth.

A link with the early years of the Association was provided by Basil Bennett from Australia who kindly donated the trophy for the Mens event — the Leslie Bennett trophy — in memory of his brother who was a founder member of the Association.

The trophy for the Ladies event was kindly donated by Kath Fisher and it was Lincoln who came out on top in this too.

In Group X Grimsby A (C. Moran, L. Thompson) won all their games 4-0 and were joined by Lincoln B (M. Scott, P. Fowler). In Group Y Lincoln A (S. Radley, S. Johnson) and Grantham A (J. Mole, H. Stephens) were the qualifiers. In the semis Grimsby A just beat Grantham having to play in doubles to win 3-2, whilst Lincoln bt Lincoln B 3-0. Lincoln A won the Final 3-0 which included a good 22-0 win for Sally Johnson over Connie Moran.

All-in-all the tournament and marvellous buffet afterwards were enjoyed by all those who took part and looks set to become a permanent fixture on the Lincolnshire calendar.

Inter-Town Final results

Boston were the most successful team winning two of the four competitions including a first win for their veterans.

INTER TOWN FINAL TABLES

HAIGH CUP (Men)	
Grantham	7 6 1 0 52 18 13
Lincoln 1	7 6 0 1 50 20 12
Boston	6 2 2 2 36 24 6
Gainsbro	7 3 0 4 33 37 6
Lincoln 2	7 3 0 4 29 41 6
Stamford	7 2 1 4 28 42 5
Louth	6 2 0 4 20 40 4
Grimsby	7 1 0 6 22 48 2

LEICESTERSHIRE

Terry Bown

WITH the start of the local season still more than a week away, table tennis snippets are at a premium and in fact are even more scarce than victories by the local league soccer club. It would seem appropriate then to catch up on last season's curtain closer, namely the Philip Reid Memorial Trophy. There were 72 entrants for this handicap competition which took place at four venues (Belgrave Liberals WMC, Bevans Holdings, and County Hall with the finals at Knighton Park TTC) over the course of one week. In essence eight 'mini' competitions were held during the week with two winners from each contesting the final matches at Knighton Park on the following Sunday. There were many close fought and exciting matches, particularly the first round match between Oadby URC's Paul South and Steve Smith which seemed to go on forever before Paul triumphed 17 in the third. The tussle between County Hall's Nigel Gray and Electricity's Nev Chandler saw Nigel grow with confidence to take the match 16 in the third.

The contest which saw the eventual runner-up, David Gilmore of County Hall take on University's John O'Connor saw the latter bowing out at 17 in the third. Paul South made it to the semi-final after yet another three ender, this time 14 in the third against Brian Leeson of County Hall. The other semi-finalists were Great Glen's Darren Bramhall, Dave Dewsbury of Leicester Gas and of course David Gilmore. Darren overcame Paul 12, 17, whilst David beat Dave 14,16. In the final Darren came back from 13-19 down in the first game to win 21-19. David never recovered from this set-back so we salute the second Champion of the Philip Reid Memorial Trophy, Darren Bramhall. Well done Darren.

RESULTS:

1st Rd. Paul South bt Steve Smith (+5) 15, -18, 17; Brian Leeson (+3) bt Tony Smith 16, 17; Darren Bramhall bt Bill Newbold (+4) 12, 22; Kamlesh Lad (+5) bt Brian Philpotts 12,11. Dave Dewsbury bt Bob Smith (+6) 17, 16; John Lickiss (+8) bt Andy Wright 20, 11; Nigel Gray bt Nev Chandler

(+2) 16, -15, 16; David Gilmore (+5) bt John O'Connor -16, 19, 17. 2nd Rd. P. South (+6) bt B. Leeson -16, 6, 14; D. Bramhall bt K. Lad (+4) 16, 18; D. Dewsbury = bt J. Lickiss (+6) 19, 24; D. Gilmore = bt Nigel Gray = 12, 17. SEMI-FINAL: D. Bramhall (+1) bt P. South 12, 17; D. Gilmore (+3) bt D. Dewsbury 14, 16. FINAL: D. Bramhall = bt D. Gilmore = 19. 11.

KENT

Hazel Etherington

WELCOME to a new season and we hopefully look forward to a bright and successful one.

Congratulations go to Joey Kennedy on pipping David Dodd for the number one spot on the ranking list and also to Juliet Houghton as number one ahead of Leslie Popkiewicz.

The first open tournament of the season has been played and note Andy Cunningham's achievement at reaching the final of the mixed class two singles in which he was beaten by Tony Stark and also to Mark Green on reaching the semi final at the o21 singles.

Kent this season has received an encouraging increase in the number of junior players in our county league competition. Perhaps this is due to the China v England exhibition match held at the Black Lion Sports Centre, Gillingham, which helped to generate a new wave of interest throughout the country.

MIDDLESEX

Iris Moss

AS USUAL, the copy dates for *Table Tennis News* are at variance with the County Calendar, and with the Selection Subcommittee holding its first meeting on 15 September, I have to get the copy in by the 12th. So I will have to leave the Ranking Lists until the November edition.

With the withdrawal of the major part of the Stiga sponsorship 'deal', the county had grave doubts about the Middlesex 3 Star Open Championships, particularly as everyone we applied to in the short time available turned us down. Nevertheless, we have decided to go ahead, although we have had to halve the Prize Fund to the 1985 level and increase the entry fees. We hope however that our regular entries will still come in and perhaps this year we won't have to disappoint anyone. Entry forms will be available from me (Iris Moss, 7 Hillside Court, Holders Hill Road, London NW4 1EL) in due course, but will be sent automatically to anyone who entered — or

tried to enter and was refused — last year. So if you did not enter last year and want to enter this year, drop me a line and I will see that you get a form.

I am very pleased to report that the Middlesex Schools Table Tennis Association has been reformed, thanks to some sterling work from Les and Maureen Williams (Sara and Mark's parents for those of you who know the youngsters). One of the difficulties they are experiencing is the apathy of teachers in some of the schools, and in this respect some Middlesex mums and dads might be able to help. If your children go to a school in the Outer London Boroughs within the Middlesex area (the ILEA Schools are dealt with separately) and table tennis is not on the curriculum, please try and do something about it. A question to the Sports Master or Mistress, or an enquiry raised at a PTA meeting, might easily start something in the school, and who knows it might result in another Middlesex player being ranked for England in due course. Our future depends on children becoming interested in table tennis from an early age and there is very little we can do about it unless parents and schools do their part. If you manage to raise interest at any school, please get in touch with Les Williams at 58 Peel Way, Hillingdon, Middlesex UB8 3RN, who will be pleased to do anything he can to help encourage this interest.

Dates have been fixed for both the Middlesex Senior and Middlesex Junior Closed Championships. Hopefully they will take place at Brent Junior Table Tennis Club, Aylestone School, Aylestone Avenue, London NW6 on 19 and 20 March 1988 (Senior) and 9 and 10 April (Junior), so please make a note of the dates and ENTER this season. The Committee do not want to have to cancel our Senior Championships yet again but feel that the entries should be sufficient to cover the cost of the venue at the least. So see what YOU can do to encourage your club mates to enter. The printing of our handbook is going ahead and supplies should be available about the middle of October. They are sent in bulk to the League Secretaries, so if your club wants a copy and does not get one, nag him/her and contact me if you do not get any joy there.

NORFOLK

Ray Hogg

THE A.G.M. season has ended with the Norfolk committee much as before which is beneficial to any county with ambition. First and foremost closed cham-

continued on next page

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pionship dates are December 5th and 6th, and arrangements are well in hand already and entry forms will be available by now. Excuses that you did not know these championships were on will not be accepted this season. Generally leagues report a stop in the decline in membership and judging by the amount of building both domestic and industrial going on in Norwich we could be in for a boom in a few seasons. Note to Jim Defty in Kings Lynn — get your railway electructed and the same could happen to you. Congratulations to Wendy Durrant for producing Sarah who together with Doug Bennetts twins could form a Broomfield Trophy team in ten years time. A new personality to the county is James Patterson ex Herts who will surely be in contention for the top spot in the rankings of the juniors but I hope he gets his bats tied up as the state they were in at a junior ranking tournament recently makes me wonder whether they would be acceptable in county matches. Our top junior and senior Neil Pickard is opting for senior play this season apart from tournaments of which he is entering many in his last year as a junior. He is now sponsored by Donic kit and for general expenses by M-Tec computer services who he hopes to repay by results and he started well by taking the Bude title.

NORTHANTS

Dennis Millman

THE new season heralds a new chairman, and following the resignation of previous incumbent Peter Trott, a newcomer to the county scene in Mick Morris has taken over at the helm. If he is as successful in his new post as he has been at organising Wellingborough League Tournaments and master-minding their increasingly more popular and successful dinner dances, then the county is in good hands.

A more reluctant debutant is Gwil Evans in the onerous post of Senior County Match Secretary, but no doubt the quiet efficiency and considerable enthusiasm which has persuaded him to spend most of the summer researching a computer based ranking system will also make him successful in his new situation.

Meanwhile the official ranking committee of Ken Marchant, Dave Marsh and yours truly, have come up with the following variation on a theme:

MEN: 1. Graeme McKim, 2. Mark Randle, 3. Keith Nicoll, 4. Andy Edmonds, 5. Andy Trott, 6. Phil Snelling, 7. Chris Handshaw, 8.

Keith Jones, 9. Rafe Miller, 10. Ian Bird, 11. Dave Marsh, 12. Steve West, 13. David Gallo, 14. Steve Kendall, 15. John Sanders. LADIES: 1. Mandy Brown, 2. Mgt Maltby, 3. Kristina Cox, 4. Caroline Perkins, 5. Joyce Porter, 6. Ann Lenton, 7. Jane Johnston, 8. Maxine Shears, 9. Sue Whitehall.

JUNIOR BOYS: 1. Ian Bird, 2. Kieron Dabbs, 3. David Evans, 4. Neil Atkinson, 5. Andrew Lingley, 6. Colin Campbell, 7. Ian Campbell, 8. Julian Marshall, 9. Mark Brimley.

JUNIOR GIRLS: 1. Caroline Perkins, 2. Tracey Marriott, 3. Ruth McLaren, 4. Julia Piercey.

Hopefully, regular appearances by our top players, together with the advent of Mark Randle from Warwickshire, will make the efforts of all the hard working officials more than worthwhile, as a successful season ensues.

Looking back through the dismal outlook of a typical English summer to the conclusions of last season, few highlights spring to mind. Well Connected, superbly organised by Chris Handshaw, again took the Northampton, Wellingborough and Kettering League titles, adding the Northampton Points Cup and the Kettering Borough Trophy for good measure. Oundle Youth Club, under the guidance of new Junior Match Secretary Dick Hickman, and Westfield, motivated by County Coach Dave Marsh, both took steps in the right direction, while Wellingborough held on securely to both the County League title and the St. Neots Winter League.

However the final event of the 1986/87 season leaves the clearest impression, with the ninth Tina Coleman Memorial Trophy being won by leading county player Mandy Brown, who in partnership with Margaret Cummings, accounted for Marjorie Chambers and Jane Bayes in the final.

OXFORDSHIRE

Matthew O'Flynn

The Oxfordshire Top Ten Tournament was held at the Morris Motors Club in Oxford. Norman Swift was in fine form remaining undefeated throughout the day. He was extended to close finishes by rivals Arthur Chilvers and Karl Bushell.

There were mixed fortunes for the two young prospects who were invited. Recent County Singles Finalist and top Oxfordshire under 21 player Steve Joyner again beat Arthur Chilvers but was surprising beaten by the county junior number one Paul Poulter.

There was a similarly convincing performance in the Ladies

event. Cathy Singleton also went through the day unbeaten. Her closest challenger was her sister who finished runner up.

Mens: winner — Norman Swift, runner up — Karl Bushell. Ladies: winner — Cathy Singleton, runner up — Mary Thompson.

Shocks

Unseeded Peter Jones shocked all the visiting seeds to snatch two titles in the Oxford City One Star Open tournament.

Despite the presence of high quality players from the surrounding counties, Jones led the Oxfordshire domination in the men's events to take both singles and doubles crowns.

The mens singles proved to be the outstanding event of the day which saw Oxford men shine through.

The number one seed Wally Allanson went out in his group in the first round to D. Wise who in turn exited to the unseeded Oxford player Clive Morris.

In superb form Clive Morris disposed of club mate Neil Abbott in an earlier round to go on to meet Jones, who was also unseeded in the semi-finals.

Jones had showed his tremendous form of late knocking out the number four seed Jas Singh in the quarter finals from Wiltshire.

Hampshire player Clive Payne took both the number two and three seeds by surprise beating Karl Bushell in the quarter-finals and Arthur Chilvers in the semi-finals both in straight sets to earn himself a place in the final.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Pauline Long

THE winners and runners-up in the Northumberland League at the end of the last winter league season were as follows: Premier Division: Byker CC 'A', R/up North Shields YMCA 'A'. Division 1: Blydon YC 'A', R/up Ouston CC 'A'. Division 2a: Northumbria Centre, R/up BMT 'A'. Division 2b: Blydon YC 'B', R/up Ashington TMCA 'A'. Division 3a: Lemington CC 'B', R/up Dunston Hill Hospital. Division 3b: Post Office, R/up Berger 'A'. Division 4: Duston 'C', R/up Ouston CC 'D'. Handicap KO Cup: Blyth Town BC R/up Byker CC.

The final Tyneside Summer League tables are not yet available. However, there was a good turn-out at the annual tournament on 2 August considering the time of year, although Eddie Smith and Peter Whiteman were the only senior ranked men present. A major surprise was the comfortable win by Caron Guthrie over Clare Mouzon — only the second defeat for Clare in six years.

Results:

Men's Singles: Eddie Smith b Michael Thomas 12, -12, 17. Women's Singles: Caron Guthrie b Clare Mouzon 13, 13. Junior Singles: Stephen Penman b Michael Roughley 20, 20. Men's Doubles: Smith/Whiteman b Ian Armstrong/John Crawford 18, 8. Women's Doubles: Guthrie/Christine Burke b Shirley Gelder/Linda Spensley 12, -13, 17. Premier Singles: Smith b Thomas - 19, 16, 19. Division 1 Singles: Mark Christie b Charlie Robertson 13, 21. Division 2 Singles: David Robson b Burke 8, 16. Division 3 Singles: Rob Lawson b Ronnie Bell 18, 14. Division 4 Singles: Neil Lucas b Pat Thomas 19, -17, 13. Division 5 Singles: Jason Hayward b Mark Hudson 11, 16.

SHROPSHIRE

Ian Marshall

THIRD place was to be the lot of Grove Table Tennis Club in the First European Table Tennis Cup for teams held in Luxembourg over the weekend of 22/23 August behind La Vilette Charleroi of Belgium and winners Steinhagen of West Germany.

The tournament, organised by the most hospitable of clubs D. T. Strassen under the auspices of the Luxembourg Table Tennis Federation, was held to celebrate thirty years since the signing of the Treaty of Rome, during which time the original six members of the Common Market had risen to twelve. Each member nation was represented by a leading club side with matches played under the rules of the European League. A qualifying event was held on the first day with teams divided into four groups of three with the last placed team eliminated and the eight qualifiers contesting the quarter finals on the Sunday morning.

It was to be a tough start for Grove's teenage side of Jimmy Stokes, Bradley Billington and Claire Potts losing 5-2 to Belgium's La Vilette Charleroi led by Andreas Poopinka, a Hungarian now resident in Belgium and apparently the cousin of Tibor Klampar. Poopinka with the same doleful look as his illustrious relation and a similar vicious topspin was too strong in the singles matches and dominated the doubles with poor Billington somewhat unwell. Market Drayton's victories came from Claire Potts in the ladies singles and Jimmy Stokes over Marc Lambot.

Whitewash

A difficult start but a 7-0 whitewash of Spain's La General de Granada took Grove to the quarter finals on Sunday morning.

The opponents in the quarter finals were Lorraine of France and with Billington much stronger, Stokes remorseless and Potts using short pimples to good effect a 6-1 success was posted with the mixed doubles the only match to go astray.

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The semi-finals and a daunting task as Grove faced Bundesliga side Steinhagen led by Chinese star Lu Qi Wei with German favourite Wilfried Lieck in support and on the distaff side a further Chinese superstar in Yang Yan Qun to complete a highly professional line up under the watchful eye of coach and former Swedish international Ulf Daniellson. Predictably it was victory for the Germans but not before both Billington and Stokes had fallen to Lieck by the closest of margins in the singles and the mixed doubles had been lost by an inspired Stokes-Potts duo by the narrowest of third set tussles against the Asian duo.

It was to be Steinhagen who emerged as champions beating La Vilette Charleroi in the final but not before the human loop Poopinka had won a thriller against Lu Qi Wei with excellent serves and heavy topspins the clinching factor. Meanwhile local side Strassen faced Grove for the third place play off, a tired but fighting effort by Bradley Billington to beat Camille Putz gave the Market Drayton side the start they needed and ensuing wins for Stokes over Vic Langehegermann, success in both men's and mixed doubles gave Grove an unassailable lead.

SURREY

Frank Hams

IT seems like a long while ago. It was 9 May. It was very hot. It seemed like the longest day of the year. It was the **Surrey Closed Tournament**. It was at the Elmbridge Leisure Centre. It was a day of shocks. Frank Hams (F.H.) reached 4 finals, completing 24 sets 2 of which were expedited.

The day began with players studying the groups, noting that the winner and r/u went to different parts of the main draw. They calculated who they would play. Next year the draw shouldn't be seen until the groups are completed. The organiser didn't realise that some players would deliberately lose a set in order to manipulate the draw! The tactics backfired. The tactics backfired. With Dave Hannah and Nicky Mason absent Glen Baker found most of the other favourites in his half. He beat Martin Shuttle, Simon Philips, and Michael Hammond in the s.f. Mike had earlier beaten Dave Harding. In the other half Rue Bole seemed the favourite but he was soon beaten by Matthew Pernet. F.H. beat Tony Fitzgerald, Gordon Chapman, Stephen Carpenter and Ken Matthew in the sf. In the final he lost -12, -14.

In the **Ladies singles** the top 2 seeds reached the final. Linda Clement beat Debbie Simmonds

in a very close 3rd game. (Sorry about the lack of detail in this event but the writer had little time to watch events.)

In the Veterans F.H. beat Ron Langheim in the sf and Gordon Chapman beat Brian Simmonds 19 in the 3rd. F.H. beat Gordon 9, 19.

M.D. G. Baker/D. Harding b. T. Fitzgerald/F.H. (Surprisingly this was David's first closed tournament final.)

L.D. Michele Hams/D. Simmonds b Susan Adamson/L. Clement.

MX L. Clement/R. Bole b D. Simmonds/M. Hammond.

R.S. M. Pernet conceded F.H.

There were complaints about the running of the tournament. Referee, Mike Strode, had his problems with one player doing so well in all the events (F.H. and Michell conceded in the MX at sf stage). This caused some bottlenecks. Another was to persuade losing players to umpire subsequent games quickly! The hot, humid conditions didn't help. However, no such problems next day when the Junior events were held.

Junior Girls: Lisa Pritchett b Hannah Webber. Junior Boys: Matthew Pernet b Graeme Connolly. Cadet Boys: Paul Carter b Jason Blake. Cadet Girls: Karen Ashley b Miranda Markham.

SUSSEX

John Woodford

THE SEARCH for new talent in Sussex is continuing but only with limited success. In the men's field the player to emerge with distinction from last season was budding sports journalist Paul Elphick from Haywards Heath.

This young man from mid-Sussex pulled off a series of shocks that included taking the Brighton mens singles crown, the Hollington Open and reaching the all-Sussex final losing to the new champion Ritchie Venner.

In Crawley, we have a bunch of youngsters headed by Scott Greenbrook who did well in the English Schools team event and at Horsham we have a young player in Tony Murrell who is beginning to look like a champion of the future.

There is certain to be a huge shake-up in the Sussex veterans area. England No. 5 Robin Stace was it was thought, set to take over the administration of the Sussex vets but as he was only prepared to take on part of the job, the Sussex AGM voted in Peter Wales, a representative from the South-West Sussex League, as vets secretary.

Valid

Peter Wales like his wife Patricia, calls a spade a spade and will

no doubt swiftly get to grips with the organisation of the three teams and the relevant problems. How deeply he gets into the selection situation will be of much interest to everyone in Sussex.

The Wales's were frequent speakers at the annual meeting and many of their points were extremely valid. Pat Wales is the organiser of the new Sussex Towns veterans tournament at Southwick on 25 October, although the date shows a clash with the Yorkshire 3-star, an event which could claim some of the top players.

On the administration front, the only major change is that Bert Fretwell (Brighton) has taken over as President of the Sussex TTA in succession to the retiring Keith Watts, whose workload on the ETTA Rules Committee may have doubled since John Preat took office!

Keith was however, elected as the first Life Member of the Sussex TTA. Life goes on for Sussex senior first team in the Leeds country championships. They were relegated from the premier division but most of the Moores plus Phil Smith and champion Ritchie Venner available, promotion is again a possibility.

WORCESTERSHIRE

Dave Roden

THE Dudley League's A.G.M. marked the retirement from office of their long standing secretary Vera Royal. Vera has served continuously since 1953. A keen follower of Worcs County Cricket Club, Vera continues to serve as treasurer of the County Association, while playing for Bromley in the Dudley League.

The County League, reformed last year, saw Kidderminster emerge as champions, closely followed by Worcester, Bromsgrove and Evesham. This year, Alex Westwood is County League Secretary and is hoping for an increased entry, so come on Dudley and Malvern, get those entries in!

In the finals of the County Team Knock-out Cups, the Open Competition resulted in Four Pools (Evesham) beating Baggeridge (Dudley) 5-3, and in the Handicap Competition, Worcester's P.O. Sports (+90) beat Ledbury Lions (+20) by 37 points.

The Worcester City League will be increased to 5 divisions for the coming season, with 53 teams entered, an increase of 6 teams from last years 47.

Dudley will be operating with 4 divisions and an expected 46 teams, the same as last season, while Evesham, with 24 teams, will be running 2 divisions, as against 3 divisions and 27 teams last year.

YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

WITH THE 1986/7 Yorkshire League season not completed until well after the copy date for the last issue of *TTN*, I am indebted to Competition Secretary Richard Scruton for the following details.

Highlights were Harrogate's second Mens' championship in four years; Sheffield Ladies holding off the challenge of Bradford, winners ten times in the previous twelve years; and Wakefield's second successive Veteran title.

Led by unbeaten Mick Emmerston, with excellent support from Richard Whiteley (20-1) and Nicky Davies (18-3), Harrogate took the Mens' Premier Division title with the superb record of 66 sets won out of 70.

The three Harrogate men apart, only Glenn Roberts (Doncaster) and Keith Bell (Harrogate 2), of the 44 players who represented the seven Premier Division teams, played in all seven matches.

Sheffield Ladies' 5-5 draw against Bradford, in which Janet Deaking and Josette Ryalls each won two singles plus the doubles, enabled the South Yorkshire girls to edge out their opponents by the narrow margin of two sets. Janet's 22-2 record gave her the individual merit award.

In the Veteran First Division just two points separated the five leading teams. Rotherham, front runners for much of the campaign, were overtaken by Wakefield, whilst Sheffield made a late challenge, but could not match Wakefield's superior sets average. Hull's Mick Farnhill was the most successful player with 20 wins in 24 outings.

Sheffield's strength in depth showed as their two Junior teams occupied top positions in the Junior Premier Division, while Selby's squad of Under 14 youngsters were convincing winners of the Cadet Division for the second time in three years.

Northallerton won three divisions in their most successful season ever, and this year their Mens' first team will play in Division 1 for the first time. Barry Pearson from the North Yorkshire town won all his 27 matches in Veteran Division 2.

MEN, Premier Division: Winners Harrogate; Runners-up Bradford; Merit Award Mick Emmerston (Harrogate).

Division 1: Huddersfield; Barnsley; Richard Shirt (Barnsley).

Division 2: Northallerton; Rotherham; Stuart Milnes (Dewsbury).

Division 3: Northallerton 2; Selby; Mick Wilcockson (Selby).

Division 4: Castleford/Pontefract 2; Dewsbury 2; P. Kirby (Castleford/Pontefract).

DUNLOP SPONSOR NEW COACHING POSTER



Alan Hydes and Jill Parker, Don Parker working with the camera. (Photo by Yorkshire Weekly Newspaper Group).



Alan Hydes, the former England international now an executive with Dunlop-Slazenger pictured with England junior Debbie Toole, the English Cadet Champion Joanne Roberts, players Stephen Sharpe and Andrew Ball and the Dunlop-Slazenger UK Sales Manager Mr George Johnson on the right.

Former British and Commonwealth Champion, Alan Hydes with Jill and Don Parker at work making a new coaching poster to be distributed to schools, youth clubs and sports centres throughout the country. The project which was requested by ETTA Chairman, Mr John Preat, will be sponsored by the Dunlop/Slazenger international sports company and is expected to cost £7,000.

The poster is part of the ETTA's campaign to encourage more people, particularly the younger generation to take up table tennis.

EDITING: THE PRINCIPLES

NOT everyone is aware of the fundamental facts of editing. Readers will sometimes wonder why certain items are included in this magazine and more often why things are omitted.

Omissions are usually due to shortage of space, late receipt of copy and illegible (handwritten) material.

However, an editor has to gather more material than he needs for two reasons (a) so that there is a choice and (b) as an insurance against last minute vacant spaces, due to a variety of reasons.

As an example, there are two large articles in this edition that probably would not have been published later in the season through space pressure, but before a campaign starts it is necessary to ensure that large areas of space can be filled and then it is not fair on a printer to discard large quantities of typesetting.

J.W.

EUROPE CLUB CUP RESULTS

Final results in the European Club Cup of Champions were:

Men — TTC Zugbrücke Grenzau (FRG) 5 ATSV Saabrücken (FRG) 3; Josef Böhm It Rebel -19, 19; Grubba b Engel 11, 13; George Böhm It Waldner -14, 21, -17; Grubba b Rebel 12, 10; Josef Böhm It Waldner -19, -11; George Böhm b Engel 14, 10; Grubba b Waldner 19, 19; George Böhm b Rebel 15, 19.

Women — Dextro Avanti (HOL) 5 Spartak BS Vlasim (TCH) 3; Ellen Bakker b Davidkova 14, 18; Vriesekoop b Masarikova 9, 18; Kloppenburg It Kocova -20, 19, -20; Vriesekoop b Davidkova -21, -11; Bakker It Kocova -14, -6; Kloppenburg b Masarikova 13, -20, 17; Vriesekoop b Kocova 19, 13; Kloppenburg b Davidkova 12, 19.

VALUE FOR MONEY AT TOURNAMENTS

by REA BALMFORD

A NUMBER of years ago, talking to a then leading national official heavily involved in the junior side of our game, I made the point that the Ranking List reflects not necessarily the ability of the player, but the ability of his/her parents to allow that player to compete in tournaments.

This is a facet of the sport which has often worried me, particularly when I have seen talented youngsters lost to the game because they have no chance of making their way up the ladder past players of lesser ability, but with much greater financial support.

This subject came up in a talk recently with top Hull coach Pete Garvey, and he drew my attention to another wastage of players — the number of promising youngsters who look elsewhere in sport after entering one or two tournaments hoping to get a foot on the ladder.

Disillusioned

These young players often go out disillusioned after spending a whole day at an event and playing one (or, if groups are being played, two) single games in mid-morning, waiting until late afternoon for a doubles game, losing all three by a convincing margin, and coming to the conclusion, 'This is not for me. I'll settle for an hour plus of concentrated football/hockey/rugby/netball and have the rest of the day to myself.'

Discouraged

Thus prospective players are discouraged from entering tournaments.

From here we moved on to an interesting discussion which, I feel, is worth recording in the hope of provoking wider interest and, if possible, co-ordinated action.

Self: As a coach, are you a believer in tournament play for juniors and cadets?

Pete: Very much so, but the situation at present is very unattractive and unsatisfactory.

Self: In what way?

Costs

Pete: Tournaments are not value for money. Costs include entry fee, travelling and, possibly, overnight accommodation, and players, particularly newcomers will possibly get only one game in each of two events.

Self: But group play will give at least two singles games.

Pete: Groups are nearly always three, with the main drawback being withdrawals which reduce the group to two. The placing of seeds in groups, too, effectively reduces a beginner's games to one. Why not bigger groups to make the effort worthwhile?

Self: How then, do you cover expenses — hire of hall, prizes, umpires, etc?

Pete: Graded Junior tournaments, on a nationally organised basis, with computer-controlled promotion and relegation between grades, and each player playing a large number of games.

Self: But this would not solve the problem of financing the events.

Value

Pete: It could be if a higher entry fee was charged (say £6 compared with average of £4-plus at the traditional tournament). With the event played on one day, starting at 10.00am and finishing about 7.00pm and with no overnight stay necessary and plenty of games, everybody would get value for money.

Self: But this cannot be done — a one-day tournament with each player playing a minimum of nine games.

Pete: Not in the traditional tournament pattern but, looking at a new format, it can be done comfortably. Look at this possible set-up:

(i) To be played on 15 tables at a venue in the Midlands.

(ii) (Say) top 50 boys and top 40 girls to be invited. This would give nine groups of ten (45 games in each group, with each player playing nine games).

(iii) With a 10.00am start, time of finish would be before 7.00pm. Thus no overnight stay needed before the event, and all players would be able to arrive home well before midnight.

Straightforward

The draft schedule (enclosed) is very straightforward.

Self: What about the time allowed for the winners to play off?

Pete: No play offs. Prizes could be awarded to winner and runner-up of each group, but the real prize would be promotion to the next highest group for the next tournament. I should have made the point that Group 1 would comprise rankings 1-10, Group 2 11-20, etc.

Self: But this covers only the top players in the Ranking Lists. How do new players get in?

Pete: Regional tournaments played on the same day to accommodate the lesser lights but also, as far as possible, graded with the same pattern of promotion and relegation. Possibly a tournament fee could be charged to all players at the beginning of the season to enter a 'Tournament League' and cover all computer administration. Arrangements would, of course, need to be made for those youngsters who became 'hooked' on tournaments during the season.

Nine games?

Self: Finally, how would the players feel about playing nine singles games?

Pete: At the moment, those who need the play do not get enough, and the winners probably get too much. Under this scheme all players, not only those in the top ranking positions, would get plenty of table tennis and all would improve rapidly — value for money.

Self: Thanks, Pete, for some interesting and well thought out ideas. Let's hope that something can get off the ground.

Schedule of Tables and Times

TIMES

	10-11	11-12	12-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7
T1	1	4	7	1	4	7	1	4	7
T2	1	4	7	1	4	7	1	4	7
T3	1	4	7	1	4	7	1	4	7
T4	1	4	7	1	4	7	1	4	7
T5	1	4	7	1	4	7	1	4	7
T6	2	5	8	2	5	8	2	5	8
T7	2	5	8	2	5	8	2	5	8
T8	2	5	8	2	5	8	2	5	8
T9	2	5	8	2	5	8	2	5	8
T10	2	5	8	2	5	8	2	5	8
T11	3	6	9	3	6	9	3	6	9
T12	3	6	9	3	6	9	3	6	9
T13	3	6	9	3	6	9	3	6	9
T14	3	6	9	3	6	9	3	6	9
T15	3	6	9	3	6	9	3	6	9

Hypnotism and sport

Dr David Ryde explains how hypnosis can help athletes over crises in their careers.

Unhappily the showbiz image of a sophisticated hypnotist implanting ideas into people's minds and controlling their 'will' persists. In reality subject and operator co-operate towards an ethical and desired goal.

By a quick selection procedure the stage hypnotist can, from a large audience, obtain a small but exclusive number of willing subjects who may enter a deep state. The great majority of an audience remain unaffected. The 'mass demonstration' is a vulnerability test.

The clinical hypnotherapist does not have this luxury of selection. Fortunately, many subjects become relaxed during the session though aware of its conduct. The relaxation is related to the appropriate problem, and though the problem will not disappear the anxiety over it may well diminish.

Debatable

That hypnosis is used in sport is certain, but its value is debatable. Several recent requests made to medical reference libraries revealed a paucity of significant literature. Yet occasionally the national press has reported, apparently uncritically, on its use in various sports.

Is there danger in attempting to reduce pain perception in boxing or soccer or is it possible to hypnotise competitors to win?

The nature of hypnosis

Put simply the hypnotic state is part of the broad spectrum of consciousness, a state into and out of which the patient can slip spontaneously.

The subject may be unconcerned or, rarely, oblivious to many non-relevant stimuli, while there is a focusing of thought and effort to a particular goal.

Though its benefits are uncertain and often modest, the author in 25 years of its practise has yet to witness one harmful incident from hypnosis, which is more than can be said of some drugs. At worst nothing happens, at best a grateful patient. Even so it is suggested that professional people only practise hypnotherapy. Immature, inadequate or psychoneurotic subjects will remain so, hence such therapy is rarely considered in these patients. The author has witnessed symptom recurrence but never symptom substitution in sports medicine. Of significance to sports medicine are the hypnotic phenomena of muscular and mental relaxation and analgesia.

The late Sir Adolph Abrahams, physician and half-miler, recalled that a glass of sweetened coloured water given with appropriate suggestions helped brother Harold, subsequently an Olympic sprint gold-medallist, to end a sequence of poor races and this was personally confirmed to the writer. Though satisfying effects from hypnosis before competition have been witnessed such effects have also been obtained with a pep talk.

Experimental considerations

From several controlled trials, Roush (1951) stated that the hand tensiometer showed increased strength to a highly significant level in the hypnotic and post-hypnotic states, and suggestions of weakness and pain greatly reduced strength in post-hypnotic suggestion.

The author suggests the hypnosis can improve the strength in untrained athletes but not in fit ones.

In my view athletes who unconsciously perhaps, hypnotise themselves by means of dedication, train to the standards of a particular contest and approximate physiological and psychological limits. Hypnotising fit athletes then might not add to what training has achieved. The unfit might improve by the removal of inhibitions, but there is a theoretical danger of injury, since the body is not trained to withstand the extra strains.

Johnson (1960), in a discussion on hypnosis in sport, states that 'perhaps its more interesting use is for investigating certain aspects of personality dynamics'.

In a further paper (1970) he emphasises that hypnotic or post-hypnotic suggestions designed to reduce physical performance are much more likely to be effective.

Johnson also discusses possible uses of hypnotherapy in certain neuromuscular and psychological problems which may affect performance. Research subjects were apparently deep trance and results cannot be related to the response in light subjects.

Case histories

A female aged 37 lost a shoe running for a train, her bare heel

taking the full impact of her weight on the angle of a stone step, and she still limped eight days later. Following a rapid but deep induction, the pain and limp disappeared, at once the patient was able to bounce up and down on her heel.

The severe pain and restriction of movement in chronic musculoskeletal disease such as osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and Reiter's syndrome have been dramatically relieved, but the symptoms rapidly recur because hypnotherapy does not alter pathology.

These benefits of hypnosis may be related to the reported benefits obtained from various alternative therapies. But, in chronic conditions, particularly backache, where symptoms have persisted for several years despite prolonged hospital treatment, and which have responded promptly and permanently to hypnosis, it might be that the pathological lesion is a persistent muscle spasm, and this has yielded to relaxation.

Sprained ankle

A male aged 17 sprained an ankle playing football for the junior section of a first division club. A week later he still limped, both knee and ankle being held rigid. Following discussion and light hypnosis there was considerable relaxation and this, incidentally, had diagnostic value, for it enabled the foot to be easily examined.

There remained a slight limp but full knee mobility. Training was quickly resumed for he was no longer worried about his career and the minor injury itself had healed.

Problems relating to domestic situations, friendships, school, auditions, exams, work, sexual anxieties, 'nerves' in sport and drug taking among many others may all have a bearing on competition and training. Counselling and sometimes relaxation have helped many such competitors to regain form rapidly.

So has the wheel turned full circle, leading back to the coach and the pep talk? Not quite, for though the pep talk effect may be operative yet, some of the performers seen are sent by their coaches, sometimes top coaches, and only after their own prolonged therapeutic efforts.



Dr. David Ryde

Dr DAVID RYDE is a GP in south London and is chairman of the ITTF Medical Committee. One of his specialities in the profession is hypnotism in relation to sports people. He travelled to New Delhi at the last World Championships and like all those who travelled will not rush to the sub-continent again. This story is re-printed by kind permission of *Pulse of Medicine*.

A final case illustrates further hypnotic potential.

A table tennis player limped from a whitlow on her right hallux. With the national championships one hour hence she was determined to play, even if on one foot!

Pain went promptly with light hypnosis. She was narrowly beaten in the final itself. The abscess burst two days later.

Induction

The induction is attempted when the significance of the complaint and desired outcome are clear to both patient and therapist. This may be considered as counselling followed by relaxation. The whole procedure takes perhaps 40 minutes. Patients are not challenged and suggestions of symptom removal rarely made, patients knowing quite well why they are being hypnotised.

If after a few minutes nothing has happened, patients are asked to close their eyes to assist them to relax. No attempt is made to control the depth of trance though the great majority of patients will be light subjects.

Criteria for the selection of subjects:

● Accurate diagnosis and psychological assessment is essential.

● Symptoms should be severe.

● Conventional treatment be neither effective or available.

Whether hypnosis is ethical in sport is a common question. But any type of *treatment* is ethical if it helps and is safe.

The division between suggestion and light hypnosis is uncertain but if a pep talk is ethical to an athlete so is hypnosis.

THE JOHN PREAN TEAM

ALAN RANSOME

**Deputy Chairman
Vice-Chairman,
Promotion Marketing/Administration**

Alan Ransome is a well known personality in table tennis circles in the United Kingdom and around the world. Since taking up the sport at the age of 11, Alan has achieved success as a player, coach, captain, organiser of several major events, TV commentator, manager of the famous Ormesby Club, official on various committees for over 20 years and is the Managing Director of his own sports equipment companies and summer school. With such a wealth of experience, Alan is an acknowledged expert in the sport and yet he still approaches each new venture with optimistic enthusiasm.

PETER HILLIER

Treasurer

The new man holding the Association's financial rudder and now doing his bit towards steering us all away from the rocks of bankruptcy is Peter Hillier, from Maidenhead in Berkshire. He has lived in Maidenhead since 1982, having been born in Slough and lived there for the first 39 years of his life.

He qualified as an accountant (ACMA) in 1974 and has extensive experience of all aspects of accountancy, particularly the development of computer-based control and reporting procedures.

Peter has been treasurer of the Slough TT League for many years as well as looking after the purse strings of Cippenham TTC — one of the most progressive clubs in the area. He also plays in Division One of the Slough League.

He qualified as an International Umpire some years ago but admits to not having been seen officiating at any tournaments since then outside Bucks and Berks; however he refereed all Cippenham's British League matches during their five seasons of participation and is one of the regular umpires at Kingfisher Reading matches, having once or twice umpired all eight matches and 'twiddled' as well!

His dream for the future is that the ETTA will become an efficient organisation, which ideally, would mean remaining financially secure and at the same time producing teams that win the Swaythling and Corbillon cups ten times in the next twenty years!

Peter is a qualified accountant with extensive experience, having always worked in industry. He describes himself as a mediocre player in Division One of the Slough League. He is very involved in table tennis administration locally, having looked after the finances of the League as well as his own club, Cippenham, for many years. He is also an international umpire, although umpiring duties are generally restricted to British League matches, usually Kingfisher Reading. He is 44 years old and previously married and lives in Maidenhead.

JIM BECKLEY

**Vice-Chairman
Public Relations**

Jim Beckley has played table tennis for many years in both the Manchester and Stockport Leagues, to a reasonable standard (first division in both) but gave up playing competitively some time ago, unlike some of his colleagues in this area who have gone on to better things with the VETTS! He has a regular column in the *Manchester Evening News* and in a professional capacity having worked for the *News Chronicle* and *Manchester Evening News*, he then moved into public relations before branching out into his own business, Sports PR.

CHRIS WRIGHT

**Vice-Chairman,
Competitions**

National Referee and International Umpire, Chris Wright has refereed two English Closed tournaments and two International Juniors and the Kent Junior 2 Star. He founded the Tunbridge Wells 2 Star as well as refereeing it.

He is single, except for table tennis! 33 years of age and an accountant by trade, he lives in the depths of the beautiful Sussex countryside at Crowborough.



The new men at the top table. Mike Watts managed to get an unusual shot of the ETTA AGM top table at the Charing Cross Hotel. Left to right, Peter Hillier the treasurer, Alan Ransome deputy chairman, John Prean chairman, Maurice Goldstein the president and Albert Shipley general secretary.



Peter Hillier, Honorary Treasurer

STUART SNEYD

**Vice-Chairman,
Selection/Coaching**

A Health and Safety Executive with Courtaulds, Stuart first became involved with the organisational side of table tennis in 1978 when he joined the Oldham League Committee as Tournaments Secretary. Impetus gathered momentum, firstly on the coaching front, followed by interest in other areas, leading to qualifications as a County Diploma Coach, a National Umpire and a National Referee. During this period he began involvement with County affairs as a member of the Lancashire County Executive Committee and subsequently nominated by Lancashire as their representative on the North West RCC and was appointed Chairman in 1984. Currently he is responsible for the Oldham League coaching scheme which involves around 50 youngsters and operates with a turnover of approximately £2,000 per annum. In general terms responsibilities for the publication of the current North West Development Programme. This led directly to a Sports Council grant of £32,000 over two years to cover the appointment of a Development Officer for Greater Manchester and to the establishment of the original network of Sports Council assisted Advanced Training Centres.

The new ETTA Administration 2

MALCOLM ALLSOP

Vice-Chairman Administration

Now into his fourth season as National Councillor for Derbyshire, Malcolm Allsop is the Derbyshire Press Officer, Press Officer Derby League and Chairman of the Eastwood League. He started playing in the Derby League in 1961 and became league secretary in 1962. He qualified as a county umpire in 1964 and has umpired at open events ever since including the 1977 Commonwealth Championships. He has always believed in the coaching of youngsters and he gained his coaching diploma in 1967. But having been playing since 1953. Malcolm has also played soccer at semi-pro level, lawn tennis up to county junior and Junior Wimbledon standard and played cricket, but he still regards table tennis as his No. 1. sport. He believes that table tennis requires everyone at all levels, to pull together to ensure greater recognition for our sport.

JOHN HEATON

Vice-Chairman Development

Has resided in Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire for the last 30 years and is married to the former Jenny Cornock, a former junior international. Jenny is currently in the chair at the West Midlands Regional Coaching Committee. John Heaton, aged 56, is a professional insurance executive. In the insurance business since 1949, he is now Director of Eagle Star Insurance Group, UK Division. He is interested in all sport and has played many of them. Chairman until last year of the Sutton Coldfield Sports Council, his sports administration experience covers a vast field including 20 years as secretary of a local sports club which now comprises a Southern League soccer side, an indoor rifle range, eight table tennis teams, judo and a sub-aqua section. His is vice-president of the Birmingham TTA. His ambition is to see the end of squabbling in table tennis and to succeed in his new role of vice-chairman Development.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

by John Barber

The Midland League Closed Championships were held at Lilleshall Sports Centre on 6 September. The finals resulted as follows:

Men's Singles: Phill Gunn b Barry Johnson 21-14, 21-12. Intermediate Singles: B. Hanks b M. Harvey 17-21, 21-19, 21-12. Women's Singles: Helen Lower b S. Culbertson 21-10, 21-12. Men's Doubles: B. Johnson/P. Gunn b J. Sweeny/S. Cull 21-19, 21-18. Women's Doubles: H. Lower/A. Lloyd b N. Meddings/S. Culbertson 21-14, 21-18. Mixed Doubles: H. Lower/P. Gunn b A. Lloyd/B. Johnson 21-23, 21-12, 21-12. Veterans' Singles: M. Wood b L. Pratt 21-16, 21-17. Boy's Singles (U17): S. Hanks b P. Balfe 21-11, 21-15. Boy's Singles (U14): S. Meddings b S. Taylor 18-21, 21-13, 21-14. Girl's Singles (U17): A. Ledwitch b N. Meddings 21-19, 21-14. Girl's Singles (U14): N. Meddings b A. Ledwitch 21-16, 21-18. Boy's Doubles: L. Powell/R. Moore b S. Taylor/M. Leake 21-15, 21-10. Girl's Doubles: A. & R. Ledwitch b N. Meddings/K. Lansbury 21-10, 21-12.

Thus Helen Lower and Phil Gunn were the most successful players with three wins each, followed by A. Ledwitch with two. A. Ledwitch and N. Meddings beat each other in the Girl's events.

At the AGM the Officers were re-elected: D. Pritchard (Chairman), M. Goldstein (Secretary/Treasurer), J. Barber (Press). Aylesbury were admitted to the Veterans Section. As the League's bounds were ever widening, future applicants will probably be confined to within a radius of 50 miles from Birmingham. Next year's AGM will decide.

For the 1987/88 season there will be 13 divisions: Men's — 4, Junior's — 4, Veteran's — 3, Women's — 1, Intermediate's — 1.

Mens Div 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Notts A	6	5	1	0	44	16	11
Derby	6	4	1	1	40	20	9
Gloucester A	6	3	1	2	34	26	7
Coventry A	6	3	0	3	28	32	6
B'ham A	6	1	3	2	30	30	5
Wolves	6	1	2	3	23	37	4
Chesterfield	6	0	0	6	11	49	0

Div 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	5	4	1	0	37	13	9
Notts B	5	4	0	1	34	16	8
Nuneaton	5	3	1	1	34	16	7
Dudley	5	2	1	2	21	29	5
Loughbro	5	1	0	4	17	33	2
Stafford	5	0	1	4	14	36	1

Div 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glos B	5	5	0	0	40	10	10
Notts C	5	4	0	1	30	20	8
Lincoln	5	2	0	3	25	25	4
Leicester	5	2	0	3	24	26	4
Leamington A	5	1	1	3	21	29	3
Cheltenham	5	0	1	4	10	40	1

Div 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Banbury A	6	5	0	1	49	11	10
Pontesbury	6	5	0	1	44	16	10
Banbury B	6	3	2	1	30	30	8
Coventry B	6	2	1	3	26	34	5
Leamington B	6	2	0	4	23	37	4
Stroud	6	2	0	4	23	37	4
Leamington C	6	0	1	5	15	45	1

Juniors Div 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Notts A	6	5	0	1	44	16	10
Wolves	6	4	0	2	38	22	8
B'ham A	6	4	0	2	37	23	8
Derby	6	4	0	2	33	27	8
Notts B	6	3	0	3	31	29	6
Coventry A	6	1	0	5	20	40	2
B'ham B	6	0	0	6	7	53	0

Div 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stroud	5	3	2	0	36	14	8
Leicester	5	4	0	1	31	19	8
Eastwood	5	3	1	1	34	16	7
Dudley	5	2	1	2	24	26	5
Walsall	5	1	0	4	17	33	2
Coventry B	5	0	0	5	8	42	0

Div 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
L. Spa A	6	5	1	0	55	5	11
Worcester	6	5	0	1	42	18	10
W. Br'mwich	6	4	0	2	35	25	8
Oxford	6	2	1	3	26	34	5
Pontesbury	6	2	1	3	23	37	5
Nuneaton A	6	1	1	4	24	36	3
Rugby	6	0	0	6	5	55	0

Div 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Banbury	6	5	1	0	53	7	11
L. Spa B	6	5	0	1	47	13	10
B'ham C	6	4	0	2	31	29	8
Coventry C	6	3	0	3	31	29	6
Glos	6	3	0	3	27	33	6
Bromsgrove	6	1	0	5	13	47	2
Nuneaton B	6	0	0	6	8	52	0

NORTH WALES COUNTY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

by C. T. Bayliss

The Annual General Meeting of the above Association was held at the Prestatyn Cricket Club on 27th May. The following were elected for the coming season: President, Mr Philip Overson; Chairman, Mr Alan Harris (Wrexham); Vice-Chairman, Mr John Bowen (East Flintshire); Treasurer, Mrs Barbara Williams (Rhyl); Secretary, Mrs Christine Watkins (Wrexham); County Team Secretary, Mr Justin Evans (Wrexham); Cup Competition Secretary: Mr Bill Rushden; Inter League Secretaries, Mrs B. Williams and Mrs Prue Oakes; Press Secretary, Mr Charles Bayliss; Auditors, Mr L. Elias & Mr J. W. Evans.

At this meeting it was decided that Clwyd would enter two teams in the English Counties Competition for the coming season, one Veteran and one Junior team.

Wrexham & District Table Tennis League

The Annual General Meeting of the above League was held on Monday 8 June at the Wrexham/Victoria Youth Centre when the following were elected for the 1987/88 season.

President, Mr Don Griffiths; Honorary Vice Life Vice-President, Mr C. T. Bayliss; Vice-Presidents, Mr Godfrey Parry, Mr Cliff Evans, Mr Neville Rogers, Mr Wyn Davies, Mr Richard Broad, Mr J. A. Jones, Mr D. Priestly; Chairman, Mr Keith Mouldsdale; Vice-Chairman, Mr John Loynes; League Secretary, Mrs Cris Watkins; Treasurer, Mr J. W. Evans; Match Secretary, Mr Gwylim Jones; Inter League (North Wales), Mr Arthur Jones; Welsh League Secretary, Mr Simon Williams; Tournament Secretary, Mr Charlie Bayliss; Coaching, Mr Justin Evans and Mr Simon Williams; Social Secretary, Mr Mike

Hughes; Umpire Secretary, Mr Malcolm Buckle; Promotional & Magazine, Mr C. T. Bayliss; North Wales Selection Committee, Mr S. V. Williams; Auditor, Mr P. Davies.

Pontesbury TTA Team Tournament 1987

Under 12 Event

Wrexham League once again entered the above event sending the following players, unfortunately due to a few problems Wrexham travelled to Pontesbury a player short but thanks to the Grove (Market Drayton) who stepped in to loan one of their reserve players we did manage to turn out a full team.

The team of Natasha William (No 1), Susan Lees (No 2) and Tracy Garrett (No 3) from the Groves and Danny Harris (No 4) really played well as a team supporting and encouraging each other.

Natasha played extremely well at number one winning eight of her ten singles, Susan showed she is capable of becoming a very good player winning six of her ten games. Tracy won four games and Danny although he did not win any of his games showed great determination for one so young and never gave up trying.

Final Team Placings

1. Dagenham; 2. Pontesbury; 3. Grove; 4. Selby; 5. Wrexham; 6. Gloucester; 7. Milton Keynes; 8. Coventry.

Wrexham results: Wrexham 3 v Groves 5; Wrexham 3 v Selby 5; Wrexham 5 v Milton Keynes 3; Wrexham 5 v Coventry 3; Wrexham 4 v Gloucester 4 (Wrexham won after playing Doubles 5-4). Final position for Wrexham 5th.

Players: Natasha Williams (P)10 (W)8 (L)2; Susan Lees (P)10 (W)6 (L)4; Danny Harris (P)10 (W)0 (L)10.

Scot wins at Whitchurch

SUN LIFE BRISTOL 2-STAR OPEN

DAVID HANNAH ENCORE

by PETER SANDFORD

SCOTTISH No 1 David Hannah gave a repeat performance of the Stiga Grand Prix Finals when in the final round of the mens singles he made shorter work of beating Nicky Mason (Surrey), whilst Alison Gordon won the womens singles without a lot of difficulty against Mandy Sainsbury at the last hurdle. The tournament was held at the Whitchurch Sports Centre.

Our Referee Tim Harris said on the Friday night as we were setting up, 'Do you realise we now have the biggest one-day Junior 2 star.' My thoughts as organiser were: 'Will we break even? Will the food be OK for the umpires and officials? Will the electrics stand the lighting circuit? Will people turn up on Cup Final day?' and most importantly 'Will our sponsors approve?'

18 Tables

The answers to my questions now! I have had time to reflect, are all — Yes. Even the players seemed happy with the conditions and the running of the tournament. Play was on 18 tables, each with individual lighting supplied by South East Table Tennis, and the wiring by Clive and Pete didn't fuse the power supply. The stayed seating in Whitchurch Sports Centre was ideal for competitors and spectators, and Ian Thom, the Sun Life

representative enjoyed the the umpires and helpers, I can Senior Finals. My thanks to all now relax until next year.

(Results)

Results — Juniors

Under 12 Boys	David Baker-Andrew Nicholls	21, 21
Under 12 Girls	Nicola Maddings-Sara Williams	14, -18, 8
Cadet Boys	Andrew Eden-Michael Auchterlonie	17, -17, 17
Cadet Girls	Caroline Buckley-Katherine Goodall	16, -12, 15
Junior Boys	John Holland-Sean Gibson	-13, 10, 16
Junior Girls	Helen Lower-Nicola McGrath	14, -19, 15
Junior Boys Doubles	John Holland/Robert Fearn- Andrew Eden/Brian Mileham	16, 14
Junior Girls Doubles	Helen Lower-Nicola McGrath/ Helen Stephens-Sarah Pengelly	19, 15

Results — Seniors

Mens Singles	David Hannah-Nicky Mason	16, 14
Womens Singles	Alison Gordon-Mandy Sainsbury	14, 12
Mens Doubles	Glenn Baker-Max Grimmins/ Colin Wilson-John Souter	-16, 16, 17
Womens Doubles	Alison Gordon-Mandy Sainsbury/ Jill Harris-Helen Lower	15, 12
Veterans Singles	Frank Hams-Gordon Chapman	-18, 16, 21



David Hannah

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!



What a poor Christmas it would be if your nearest and dearest didn't have the added Yuletide joy of receiving a special ETTA humorous table tennis card through the letter box. The cards come in packs of 8 (complete with envelopes) with four designs in each pack. At a price of £1.50 per pack including postage and packing they make an economic and memorable way of wishing all your friends Happy Christmas. Send your cheque or postal order to ETTA at Hastings straight away and make sure you post early for Christmas.

STRENGTH IN THE JUNIOR GAME IN YORKSHIRE

by REA BALMFORD

YORKSHIRE have a long tradition of discovering and encouraging fine young players from within the ranks of their own League and, although the power base tends to move around the different areas of England's largest county, the lads and lasses from the Broad Acres have long been a force on the Junior scene.

Who will forget the days on Teesside, before this part of traditional Yorkshire became independent Cleveland in the 70s, when, in a small hut at the 'bottom of the garden' present day E.T.T.A. Deputy Chairman Alan Ransome brought through the likes of Denis Neale, Nicky Jarvis, Jimmy Walker, Carole Knight and others.

Proud

Today it is the traditional Yorkshire heartland of the old West Riding which is the dominant region, and the White Rose county is proud to look back on a five-year run in which the Junior Premier trophy has been based within its bounds except for twelve months after the 84/5 season when it was removed for a temporary sojourn in Kent.

The personnel differs from year to year, the youngsters are coached in a number of different centres in the County, but the coordinator and motivator, Bevan

Walker from the Dewsbury League, who does a thoroughly professional job, remains the same, and the pride in wearing the navy blue shirt with the White Rose burns as fiercely as ever.

Steamroller

The latest success in the season which has just passed into the history books saw Yorkshire steamroller their way to the title with the loss of only five games. Debbie Toole came through her seven games without tasting defeat, Ellen Meddings, included as a specialist doubles player was also unbeaten, Michael O'Driscoll, Andy Bell and Joanna Roberts each lost once with Chris Oldfield the 'villain of the piece' — he was defeated twice.

Whether Bevan noted the comment by the late Phil Read in TTN (4/82) after Yorkshire had finished second behind Surrey —

'Yorkshire look doomed to be the proverbial bridesmaids, they were runners-up last year' — we do not know, but we do know that in 82-3 Steve Sharpe, David Rook, Jeff Thatcher, Melanie Seaton, Rachel Brook and Joanne Shaw came through undefeated to take the title after winning six matches and drawing with second placed Middlesex.

Twelve months later only David and Joanne remained but, Clive Guest, Martin Firth and Alison Evans moving in, Yorkshire went one better as they lifted the trophy with a 100% record.

84/5 was a rebuilding and assessment year, in which a large squad of eight players was used, and the Tykes dropped to second place behind Kent although they did have the satisfaction of beating the champions 6-4.

But that season saw the first appearance of young pretenders O'Driscoll and Oldfield, who have dominated the County scene since that time and, with the construction job well done, a thrilling second JP weekend in 85/6 saw Yorkshire pip Staffs, with whom they had shared the points in the first session of matches, by just a single set after the sides had both finished unbeaten on 13 points.

O'Driscoll and Oldfield had been joined by Matthew Connell, Alison Evans and Ruth Bray were still there, Debbie Toole took over from the injured Alison for the three final matches, and the steady change, inevitable in a junior team as players reach the age limit, went as smoothly as the transitions in the famous Liverpool boot room in the world of soccer.

So to the present, with the White Rose still in full bloom and ample talent waiting in the wings to continue the tradition as the present incumbents, many of them already established at senior level, move on to an adult stage.

The queue

But next season only Ball comes off age with Mark Ward, a Schools' International and well established on the tournament circuit, at the head of the queue, while looking to the future cadets Mark Stephenson, Craig Smith, Peter France, Karl Horsfield, Samantha Marling and Katherine Goodall will be fighting the present 'fringe' juniors for a place in the pecking order and, stretching into the distance is a group of youngsters, not yet in their teens, headed by Andrew Nicholls and Sally Marling, both already settled in the National Cadet Ranking Lists.

Ken Muhr takes a look at New Zealand

by the MILTON KEYNES COACH

IN March I went on holiday to New Zealand. My mother is a New Zealander and I have many relatives there. For two years I have lived and went to school in Eastbourne, Wellington Harbour, but I have not been back for twenty-five years. This was not primarily a table tennis holiday.

However, for several days I stayed with Peter and Sally Hirst who now live in Lower Hutt, Wellington Harbour. Peter, formerly an ETTA National Coach, is New Zealand Director of Coaching.

I first met Peter back in about 1971, when as a 'brash Northerner' new to South as National Coach, he ran a Cambridgeshire Senior Squad County Coaching session. I was a squad member and the training nearly killed me! Movement to music and, I remember, with by back to the YMCA floor, walking up the wall to Zorba the Greek! After the music it was 'loop the loop'. I had never been worked so hard. Round the corner in the pub afterwards with the other suffering Cambs players, I vowed that I would write a letter of complaint to the ETTA. Fortunately, I did not!

Arguments

Since then I have had countless arguments over coaching matters with Peter but now admit — I hope Hirsty does not read this! — that he was nearly always right. His bark, and bluntness, were very much worse than his bite and he was willing to take as good as he gave. He trained me as a coach and I am still strongly influenced by him.

Under-rated

Peter, I believe, was very much underrated as a coach in England but contributed a great deal to the coaching scheme. An expert on technique, he backs up his statements with clear and impeccably argued logic and reasoning. As a trainer of coaches he is unsurpassed. Therefore, while in New Zealand I went round with Peter to some coaching sessions. There are few well trained, experienced, modern coaches (particularly outside of the main cities) and no coaching award system, so much of Peter's efforts have been directed at training would-be coaches. In doing this he appears to have concentrated on short sessions that go back to a very basic level. These sessions seem to have gone down well.

In Auckland, on my last day, Geoff Rau took me to a 20 table club where Peter was in action running a basic skills session attended by people of all ages, sex and standards. Table tennis in New Zealand appears to be run in far more of the large purpose-built, six, 10 or 20 table venues. They are ahead of England in this.

I thought the overall standard of play for the size of the population, about 3.1 million, was quite high. But the sparsity of people presents problems. Outside of the big cities players often have to travel many miles, particularly in the South Island, to get reasonable opposition or practice. Otherwise they are isolated and cannot improve. Large areas are backward, blackspots for table tennis. Some of the best move up to Auckland where the top players congregate.

A long way

The National players are short on foreign opposition. Even Australia, the country they play most, is a long way away.

The fact that at a structural level, the New Zealand coaching system is not very well developed, creates dilemmas for Peter. If he concentrates on building up the structure by training coaches, running numerous basics sessions, doing exhibitions, etc, then he neglects the top players. But if he concentrates on training the cream, then the localities might complain that he is not giving them their money's worth. And he is the only full-time national coach covering both islands which have a combined area the size of Great Britain. Much of his time is spent travelling (often by air). Clearly he can't be everywhere at once, yet developing areas require much support. So, while many people are appreciative and grateful for his efforts, others complain. And, whereas most people are receptive to being taught the modern game, some are resistant to change. Not so different to England!

Peter is also involved in public relations, negotiating sponsorship, selecting and captaining teams, etc. Possibly too much is

expected of one man. But generally he is very well received. Table tennis-wise, it is an exciting place to be.

Peter loves New Zealand, but Sally is a little homesick. However, a former Cambridgeshire county player, she has taken up the game again and is one of their top lady players! She is also playing a lot of badminton and tennis, and is having quite a good time. All their kids speak with Kiwi accents. When I contacted them, Catherine told her mother that there was a man with a funny accent on the 'phone! Peter and Sally must soon make the tough decision whether to sell their house in Haslingfield, Cambs.

Impressed

He has also done numerous exhibitions all over the country to promote table tennis but has been rather disappointed that local associations have not picked up on the resultant increased interest.

I watched Peter train several types of groups from coaches, beginners and more advanced players, and was impressed how, in relative isolation from the mainstream of table tennis, he has continued to keep his mind alert to experiment with new ideas. I was interested in one of his ways of teaching novices a forehand power-drive/smash (all fingers on the back of the bat — the ball to be dropped close to the net and thumped away — and gradually one finger at a time to be withdrawn) and a backhand top spin (at first with two fingers on the back of the bat and then withdrawing one).

Peter has been trying to set up a regional network in New Zealand. He has recruited top coaches like Geoff Rau (Auckland, with whom he bounces around some of his ideas), and Pat Low (Lower Hutt, who encourages youngsters to listen to the sound of the opponent's bat striking the ball) to run them. However, it is early days and some regions are far more advanced in this than others.

The top young players are taught the same two wing, peak bounce, power game that is played throughout Europe. Though their technique is quite good, I thought those that I saw lacked real fight, determination and killer instinct. The problem, I suppose, is that they have few rivals to sharpen their competitiveness.

They probably meet and play the same few people over and over again.

These youngsters were also a little weak on service and return but this too is probably due to lack of top competition. The weakness was particularly noticeable in the New Zealand Under-14s Boys Champion who, in technique, looked as good as our top cadets, but lacked in experience.

Without Peter, I went to a couple of novices' coaching sessions in Lower Hutt and was struck by the large numbers and enthusiasm of youngsters wanting to play. The Kiwis don't appear to have the same recruiting problems we have (although in overall numbers, table tennis in New Zealand has declined and there are many rival sports). The coaches too were keen and had a nice manner with the kids. NZTTA General Secretary, Merv Allerdyce, was one of them.

Postgraduate

I also met Sarah Sandley with boyfriend Malcolm Temperley. She is doing a post graduate degree at Wellington University. And Warren (I forget his surname) sends his regards to Connie Warren and other Putney friends of over 20 years ago!

I would like to say more about New Zealand, a beautiful, uncrowded country, with good weather, and friendly, relaxed, informal people, but rather remote, slow and lacking Britain's history, eccentricities and pubs. You can still be comfortably poor in New Zealand. I could live there!

Sadness

But there is a sadness in visiting New Zealand. You meet so many fine people who in all probability you will never see again. New Zealand is such a long way away. Yet it is true that New Zealanders are more like the British than any other people. They could fit effortlessly in our society, we, the less class conscious of us, in theirs. I found myself wishing that I could introduce them to people here, and vice versa. An impossible thought, because of the distance. And kids here and kids there are so much alike. They will identify with whatever country they happen to be brought up in. They, and we, will probably never meet, have no chance of ever meeting, those who could be very close friends. And because of the similarities of the countries and because some people have friends and relatives in both, it is easy to see how people can feel perpetually torn between where to live. Such is life!

KEN MUHR

Twinning Leads to French trip

I AM writing to tell you of an opportunity which came our way through our towns twinning association, an opportunity which after reading this others may take up. Last year I was approached by our towns twinning associations officer who asked me if I could send some of our town's players over to our twin town of Ergue-Gaberic in Brittany. I approached several players parents about sending their children over to Brittany. Not all were keen as the season had started and with tournaments and school it was hard to find a weekend when players were free to go and then there had to be someone to go with them. Time lapsed as did enthusiasm until the summer recess when I was approached by the twinning officer again, this time I said automatically I would send four players and immediately suggested he should book four tickets on the Plymouth-Roscoff ferry.

My two sons Neil and Andrew Bevan, Johnathan Maggs and Steven Barrett were the four players to go. I suggested to Mr Dobson not to arrange much more than perhaps an inter town match, as I would rather this be a holiday break than a gruelling weekend. He agreed and said he would explain this to his contact in Ergue-Gaberic.

The date came round on 14 August and the boys set off at 5.45am. The weather was beautiful and a calm sea ensured a pleasant voyage. They arrived in Roscoff at around 2.30pm and were enthusiastically greeted by officers of the Ergue-Gaberic twinning committee. They were taken at great speed to Ergue and given refreshments. The boys were each shown the houses they would be staying in and introduced to their hosts. They were then taken down to the local club for a practise, whilst they were there they were informed that they would be taking part in a senior tournament to be held that night 20 miles away. They had been entered without their knowledge.

The tournament was due to start at 10pm, which it did, what surprised our lads was there were 200 entries, all senior players. Our lads were not seeded, but were luckily in opposite ends of the draw. Both Jonathan and Steven were out in the second round of the class 2 event having both finished runner-up in their groups in the main event. Meanwhile Andrew and Neil had progressed through the tourna-

ment until at 4.30am they finally met each other having reached the final. Andrew winning a gruelling but entertaining final.

The presentation consisted of Andrew being presented with a cup and the shaking of a 1,000 congratulatory hands he was then taken to a room of which the door was thrown open and the word 'Voila!' shouted. He was then presented with the most unusual prizes he is ever likely to receive, consisting of 1 Deck Chair, 2 bottles of wine, 2 cans of fish soup, 1 set of wine glasses, 1 set of lemonade glasses with jug, 1 set of tumblers, 1 can of rabbit paté, 1 bar of chocolate, 1 woolly hat, 2 cigarette lighters, 1 packet of crayons and a colouring book. Neil as runner-up, had to be content with a digital watch, a small can of fish soup, 1 can of rabbit paté, and a jumper.

At 5 o'clock in the morning they both headed back to their hosts house fully laden and very tired.

When they awoke in the morning all the players were treated to a luxurious breakfast Brittany style. They were taken on a sight-seeing tour of local landmarks and places of interest one of which was the local market with its live produce, shrimps, prawns and various types of fish. Also visited was the beautiful Quimper cathedral. The four boys were then taken to the local sports hall for an impromptu inter town match billed as Bude v. Ergue-Gaberic. Bude winning by 11 games to 6, Andrew winning 5 out of 5, Neil 4-4. Jonathan 1-3 and Steven 1-3.

The final day (Sunday) saw another superb breakfast and a morning sight-seeing tour followed by a superb meal at the local restaurant a first time for Neil here (frog's legs), Andrew (duck), Steven (duck) and Johny (steak). After which our boys were taken to the Roscoff ferry for the journey home.

I feel all the players learnt a lot from this form of exchange and would like to go back again. The hospitality that was extended to our players was to say the least generous and sincere. We hope to return the compliment soon.

R. BEVAN
26 Woodfield Road
Bude
Cornwall

Editor's Note: *Many towns in England are 'twinned' with others on the continent but not many are able to lay on this sort of hospitality we presume. The all-night tournament sounds fascinating. A well-organised table tennis organisation in the French town was the key to the success of the trip. The French table tennis people are well-organised at all levels — that has been my experience in France.*

Thanks from Edna Blunn

I WOULD like to thank all people concerned who contributed to my new dining suite, in memory of Tom. I have settled in my new flat and you are most welcome to call, if you are ever in the area. I have many happy memories during my years connected with TT and I think about them often.

May TT in England go from strength to strength. Best wishes to you all.

EDNA BLUNN
92 Peasholm Drive, Scarborough

Umpires and service laws

I AM writing to you to complain about the inconsistency of the umpiring at the Yorkshire Junior Select. My son, Graeme (aged 12) is now into his third tournament season and has been, over the past three years, umpired by several umpires ranging from County to International standard. Not once has he been warned or faulted for failing to comply with the service or equipment laws until the Yorkshire Junior Select.

Graeme played his first match at 10.00am on the Saturday in the Cadet's singles. During this match his opponent, on service, threw the ball into the air and failed to make contact. It was only when Graeme reminded the umpire of the service law that the point was awarded to him. The same umpire later in the day was guilty, in another match, of the same mistake, however, on the latter occasion a let was played.

Graeme progressed through to the final of the Under-12 Boys without being faulted or warned for failing to comply with the service laws. Before playing in the final he and his partner played a 2nd round doubles match and on presenting his bat to the umpire for inspection was told that he would have to trim the rubber on one side of his bat because of a slight overhang. It was pointed out to the umpire that the bat had been passed by several umpires during the day. At this stage the Tournament Referee was called and said that the rubber was 'marginal' but backed the umpire and insisted that the offending rubber was trimmed.

During the first end of the doubles match Graeme was warned and faulted five times for failing to have the ball precisely in the palm of the hand (very difficult for a small hand). No advantage whatsoever was gained and the ball on each occasion was clearly thrown up and struck on the way down. Yet

during the day I had seen the most blatant examples of foul serving by several 'top' players who were serving straight out of the hand with no throw up but these players were not faulted.

Graeme later played his final of the Under-12 Boys in full view of the majority of the umpires and not once was he warned or faulted for his service.

On the Sunday of the Tournament, Graeme played his first game in the group of the Junior Boys Singles. In the first end he was serving in a position that faced the umpire. No warning or fault was given in this end, however in the second end using the same 'high throw' service he was warned once and faulted six times because the umpire said that he could not see the ball. How can a service be legal at one end of the table and illegal at the other? Despite a request for an assistant umpire Graeme was told to get on with the game and that he could not have his request granted.

Whilst I appreciate that the service laws are complex it is about time that certain umpires applied the law of common sense.

Finally as a coach, player and parent, I am not particularly looking forward to next season with the advent of the 6 inch throw up law on services. Whilst I agree totally with this law and the reason behind it, I envisage a small minority of umpires calling fault because the ball only went up 5¾ inches.

BOB SANDERSON
26 Walsingham, Biddick Village
Washington, Tyne & Wear NE38

Those girls

I REFER to the letter from 'A VIGILANT READER', Burnley (name and address supplied) in the April edition of *Table Tennis News* concerning the contradictory Northumberland and Welsh reports (February issue) about the absence of the Northumberland junior girls in their match away to Clwyd.

The information I received at our monthly committee meeting was that because it was known the day before the match that no girls would be available to play, we were able to let Clwyd know the position in advance. As I was not actually at the match myself, I cannot confirm who was or was not present, but on reflection can only assume that Clwyd must have asked their girls to ensure they appeared at the match in order that the two singles and one doubles could be properly claimed.

PAULINE LONG
NITA Publicity Secretary
97 Park Avenue, Gosforth,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 2LD.

Wurzburg crowd a view from Brussels . . .

ALTHOUGH now residing in Belgium, I am still interested in all ETTA matters. The points that I wish to make concern table tennis in general.

The problem highlighted in your report of the European League match between Federal Germany and England was the degree of control sometimes exercised over a match by the home spectators. I note that Alan Cooke was prevented from serving whilst the unison clapping continued. It is clearly not acceptable that the spectators control the conditions for the continuation of play. I suggest that when the players are ready to resume play the umpire should raise his hand. If the noise does not stop immediately he should seek the assistance of the appointed Referee, who, with the aid of the official in charge of the public address system, must demand that the umpire's signal be respected. If this was adopted by the officials at the outset, I feel that most ardent supporters would realise that fair play requires that this code be implemented.

'Loose' return

Your May/June edition includes a report (Surrey notes) concerning a Veterans' Match between Denis Neale and Gordon Chapman, when the latter, seeing a ball from a neighbouring court entering the playing area, put up a 'loose' return which was hit for a winner. The point was accorded to Neale, and despite protests the umpire did not change his decision. This was considered as bad sportsmanship by Neale — what ridiculous nonsense! This took place in an Open International Championships. Surely at this level the game must be taken seriously. The Laws clearly state that it is the Umpire who decides the result of each rally. It is he who decides whether the intrusion of another ball in the playing area constitutes a distraction that warrants the replaying of the rally. The players are there to concentrate on winning the match, and until play is stopped by the umpire should continue in this role. I am sure that the VETTS organisation would wish that their members give a good example to younger players. This must surely include maximum effort and respect for the umpire at all times — not to *anticipate* or to *provoke* his decisions.

I give wholehearted support to the sentiments expressed by Mr Peter Wales concerning foul services and the role of the umpire. He underlines the points that I made in this respect.

D. N. TYLER
International Umpire,
Vice-President ETTA,
Sussex TTA, Hastings TTA
Rue de la Gare, 16
1040 Bruxelles, Belgium

National Disabled thanks

THE British Sports Association for the Disabled held their National Table Tennis Championships at Moorways Sports Centre, Derby in August.

The Championships were a wonderful success and drew praise from the Mayor of Derby, the Director of Leisure Services for Derby City Council, the Sports Centre management and the B.S.A.D. for the efficient running and appearance of the event.

Successful

As Referee for the Tournament, I would like to thank all the umpires who came along on the day, during the busy holiday period, and gave their time to help make the event so successful.

No praise can be too high for the 'blue-coat' brigade who carry out their duties in a dedicated manner — often without thanks, but without whom our Sport would be the poorer.
MALCOLM ALLSOP
12 Abbey Hill Road,
Allestree,
Derby DE3 2PS.

An Appreciation from Norfolk

MAY I say what a fine National Council Meeting we had last Saturday — the venue was excellent and the feeling I got was one of solidarity behind the management team. All of the new boys performed admirably none more so than Ted Wallbutton who I am sure will be a great acquisition to the Association. It was pleasant to be part of a meeting which for a change was minus the nastiness and vindictiveness of meetings over the past few months.

ALAN PICKARD
National Councillor,
Norfolk

Redundancies Unnecessary?

IT IS very well that chairman John Prean professes to encourage criticism and the right to say

it, because I am most critical of the dismissal of David Fairholm and Peter Simpson, and the way it was handled.

Who is Stuart Sneyd kidding when he says that the National Coaching Scheme is now leaner and 'fitter'? The loss of two experienced National Coaches will have very damaging long term consequences. Without back-up, monitoring and co-ordination by a team of national coaches, any proposed *national* network of volunteer coaches cannot work.

Despite claims of financial necessity, these redundancies were unnecessary. After taking into account grant aid, (negotiated from the Sports Council on the basis of the New Approach document), and recoveries, income and sponsorship brought in by the National Coaches, they cost the E.T.T.A. little. Other ways could and should have been found to reduce expenditure, or preferably increase income following the E.T.T.A.'s £15,544 *revenue* loss last year.

The decision to make redundancies should have been postponed to give National Councilors chance to discuss the implications with their constituent counties and leagues, and to receive their mandate before voting. Despite the contrary impression given to them, if they didn't decide immediately the E.T.T.A. was not going to fold. Forcing bankruptcy was not in the National Westminster Bank's interest.

The Chairman should have taken the *lead* in asking the leagues to pay more as for years the Sports Council has said they should. The leagues were unlikely to push through fee increases on their own volition. Instead, he preferred to sacrifice two employees rather than risk the slight displeasure of members.

I have been limited to around 300 words. Readers can write to me for my fuller views.

KEN MUHR
23 York Road, Stony Stratford,
Milton Keynes MK11 1BJ.

Chairman's reply:

The loss revealed by the new Treasurer was not £15,000 as stated by Ken, but £49,000, some attributable to previous years. Cash flow had deteriorated by £35,000 from one season to the next.

In short, the position I found on my election as chairman was far worse than even I had expected. I thought it wrong to ask members for more money yet again and saw the alternative in reducing costs and increasing income, i.e. good management. The National Council approved the proposed steps, including two redundancies, by 33 votes to 4. They deserve members' grati-

tude for not shirking hard decisions.

European League viewpoint

SO here we go again with a new season, extra sponsorship and the annual euphoric hopes of a big upsurge for the game in membership, television coverage and performances at international level.

But why do England face another term of mediocrity in Division One of the European League following the 6-1 thrashing by West Germany in the final match of last season?

The setback was a repeat of the 4-3 reverse against Bulgaria in the previous season and the humiliating defeat by the Netherlands in March 1985 in which England surrendered their Super Division status.

Relegation

But surely the relegation stems from the 4-3 loss in Yugoslavia earlier in 1985 when England played without Desmond Douglas — our only world-ranked player at that time and the man who almost led us to the Super Division title in 1981.

There is no record of Desmond being injured at the time and there could hardly have been a clash of top official events because it was a scheduled European League fixture.

So where was Douglas, who would certainly have brought victory against a modest Yugoslavian team, on the night of January 12 1985 when the England side began their disastrous slide into European obscurity?

JOHN HATFIELD
Mousehole Forge, Malin Bridge,
Sheffield S6 5FF.

Worcester Spots a winner

CONGRATULATIONS to John Prean and team on the magnificent sponsorship deal with Leeds Permanent Building Society.

A big effort will now be needed to justify their confidence. A few days after the announcement I called on our local Leeds manager, to see how the County Association and Leagues could help. He had apparently already enquired about a local contact. The benefits will obviously be widespread and we will all need to look at ways of repaying the Leeds Society to make the sponsorship a success.

DOUG MOSS
Worcester County TTA

Yorkshire Junior Select tournament

BRADLEY AND ANDREA TRIUMPH

TOP seeds Bradley Billington and Andrea Holt took the Junior titles at the Nalgo Yorkshire Junior Select Open played at the North Bridge Leisure Centre, Halifax.

Billington dropped his only game in his semi-final clash with Chris Oldfield before getting the verdict over Michael O'Driscoll in a final which, despite the Yorkshire boy with the easy, almost languid style, pulling back a long lead in the second, the winner was always the more consistent.

Andrea was also taken the distance in the semi by Helen Lower, who had taken out the higher seeded Debbie Toole, but her final opponent Claire Potts, there at the expense of Kerry Hall, found considerable difficulty in controlling her attacking game against the Lancastrian's defence.

Andrea remorselessly picked out her winners to get home comfortably and went on to add the JGD title with Melonie Carey, the pair coming past the Canadians Serina Mah-Caroline Sylvester (semi) and Toole-Ellen Meddings (final).

In the JBD, however, Billington and his partner Sean Gibson lost their way, crashing out at the semi-final stage to the Cadet two-some of Andrew Eden-Alan Cole, who had left such an impression on the previous day's play.

The youngsters, winners over Michael Auchterlonie-Steven Hanks, followed the path taken by another pair of unseeded cadets — Mark Stevenson-Neil Bevan — who had removed the seeded Robert Fearn-John Holland and then Wayne Renton-David Thomas, themselves winners over Jonathan Taylor-Mark Ward (seeded 3), on their path to the semi.

Both pairs reached the end of the road, however, as second seeds O'Driscoll-Oldfield swept through semi and final in straight sets to claim the title.

But Cole, in particular, would make the long journey south feeling that his visit had been worthwhile, for the previous day he had come through from a minor place (8) to shut the door on Bevan (2) and Michael Auchterlonie to line up against Eden (4) at the final hurdle.

Auchterlonie took the place which should have gone to Brian Mileham (3), but he went out to Keiron Dabbs in Round 2 and it was the relatively unknown Northants boy who provided Auchterlonie's stepping stone to the last four.

Mileham, meanwhile, immediately informed referee Richard Scruton that he was leaving for home and, with partner Eden left high and dry in a CBD draw unbalanced without the top seeds, it can hardly be said that Mileham fulfilled the contract which he had signed on his entry form.

The referee, of course, is powerless, so it is over to (i) the ETTA, who introduced the rul-

ing, and (ii) the Yorkshire Tournaments Committee, who must, surely, have the right to consider refusing a future entry from the player.

Lining up against Cole in the final was Eden, who also had an excellent tournament and came past Leigh Jeffries, the top seed, in straight sets to take his final place.

An intriguing match hinged on two vital points, one in each game, Eden showing frustration as he missed an easy 'kill' at 17-all in the first, and then Cole taking the vital point at 20-all in the second following a brilliant rally by both players.

Shocks

The Girls' event, too, had its shocks with Linda Radford removing Helen Potts (seeded 2) in the groups and Sarah Pengelly (6) coming through against Ellen Meddings (3) to throw the bottom half of the draw into disarray.

Samantha Marling (5) saw and seized her chance, booking a final place as she passed Linda and Sarah before overturning top seed Joanna Roberts at the last fence.

Samantha added the doubles title with 10 year old sister Sally, Stephenson-Bevan tuned up for their Junior doubles run by claiming CBD honours against fellow third seeds Peter Bowler-Howard Whewell after dismissing Jeffries-Gary Knights (seeded 2) in the semi, the U12Bs went the way of Barry Forster, who beat Graeme Sanderson in an all Northumberland final, and Kate Goodall overcame Nicola Meddings in the U12Gs.



Bradley Billington — picture Brian Webster, Dundee.

RESULTS

Junior Events— Semi Finals

Boys Singles
Bradley Billington (Dy) b Chris Oldfield (Y) -17, 13, 12; Michael O'Driscoll (Y) b Sean Gibson (La) 18, 19.
Final: Billington b O'Driscoll 17, 16.

Boys Doubles, Semi Finals
O'Driscoll-Oldfield b Neil Bevan (Co)-Mark Stephenson (Y) 17, 10; Alan Cole (Sx)-Andrew Eden (La) b Billington-Gibson 13, 12.
Final: O'Driscoll-Oldfield b Cole-Eden 12, 12.

Girls Singles, Semi Finals:
Andrea Holt (La) b Helen Lower (St) -18, 11, 14; Claire Potts (Ch) b Kerry Hall (Dv) -13, 15, 19.
Final: Holt b Potts 9, 13.

Girls Doubles, Semi Finals:
Holt-Melonie Carey (So) b Serina Mah-Caroline Sylvester (Cam) 16, 15; Ellen Meddings (Y)-Debbie Toole (Y) b Lower-Nicola McGrath (La) 18, 18.
Final: Holt-Carey b Meddings-Toole 8, -16, 14.

Cadet Events
Boys Singles, Semi Finals:
Cole b Michael Auchterlonie (Wi) 20, -12, 16; Eden b Leigh Jeffries (Wa) 17, 19.
Final: Cole b Eden 18, 20.

Boys Doubles, Semi Finals:
Bevan-Stephenson b Jeffries-Gary Knights 18, 18; Peter Bowler (Bd)-Howard Whewell (La) b Stephen Coverdale (Nd)-Barry Forster (Nd) 20, 21.
Final: Bevan-Stephenson b Bowler-Whewell 20, 18.

Girls Singles, Semi Finals:
Samantha Marling (Y) b Sarah Pengelly (Dv) 18, -11, 19; Joanna Roberts (Y) b Katherine Goodall (Y) 19, -9, 14.
Final: Marlingo Roberts 22, 14.

Cadet Girls Doubles, Semi Finals:
Marling-Sally Marling (Y) b E. Meddings-Helen Potts (Ch) 9, -14, 11; Goodall-Roberts b Tracey Cole (Sx)-Linda Roberts (E) 8, 20.
Final: Marling-Marling b Goodall-Roberts -10, 19, 16.

Under 12 Events
Boys Singles, Semi Finals:
Barry Forster (Nd) b Martin Dawson (Y) 8, 8; Graeme Sanderson (Nd) b Alex Perry (Dv) 18, 14.
Final: Forster b Sanderson 14, 16.

Girls Singles, Semi Finals:
Goodall b Radford 16, 20; Nicola Meddings (Wa) b Maria Bubb (IOM) 8, 8.
Final: Goodall b Meddings -18, 22, 14.

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ENTHUSIASM AND A FOUNDATION

*Writing a foreword in the Association's newly-published Official handbook, ESTTA chairman, John Arnold says 'Schools give many players a firm foundation and enthusiasm for table tennis, but upon leaving school this talent is lost. Many school players do not become league players. Why is this?'

The ESTTA has considered the 'bridging the gap' problem before and with the senior body — the English Table Tennis Association — experiencing an alarming drop in membership, this is sure to be an item of top priority in the 1987/88 season.

*Details of how to affiliate to the ESTTA can be obtained from the ESTTA General Secretary, Mr L. C. Henry, 'Engleberg', Badger Lane, Woolley Moor, Derby DE5 6FG (sae please).

*The new edition of the ESTTA Official Handbook is now available — also from Mr Henry — at a cost of 60p. It has been increased to 60 pages.

*The ESTTA have signed an extension to their existing sponsorship agreement with Dunlop Slazenger International to take them up to 1990.

Major dates for 1987/88 are:

Saturday, 19 March 1988 — Dunlop National School Team Championships — National Finals, Lea Green, Matlock, Derbs.

Saturday, 30 April 1988 — Dunlop English Schools Individual Championships, Mansfield Leisure Centre.

Obituaries and Ireland's Eye

BENNY CASOFSKY

MANCHESTER has lost one of its great sporting personalities — Benny Casofsky, a pre-war and post-war England international and Swaythling Cup player. He passed away after a short illness.

Benny's table tennis career started at the famous Grove House Club and was still playing actively in the Manchester and District League until a few years ago.

His achievements locally and nationally were well known although he will be remembered best as one of the first English players to beat world champion Richard Bergmann in the late thirties. An elegant attacking player he represented Manchester, Lancashire and England many times. He played with Johnny Leach, Ernie Buble, George Goodman and Eric Filby at the first world championships after the second world war in Paris in 1947. His enthusiasm and personality was instrumental in helping many local players. In an administrative capacity he was actively associated with the Manchester and District League for many years.

At his untimely death aged only 67 he had the distinction of being its President.

He is survived by his wife Rita and two sons, Sandy and Howard.

JEFF INGBER

MARJORIE EAST

When Marjorie East moved to Bournemouth some twenty years ago it was not to the quiet retirement that many thought.

Horticulture, Lifeboat and Guide Dog Associations all have much to thank Marjorie for but it is surely table tennis that gained most from her time and vast administrative experience and ability. Well known in Hertfordshire, Watford and London Business House circles in her younger days Marjorie lost no time in joining up with the Bournemouth Association and was instrumental in starting the junior coaching scheme from which developed many nationally ranked junior players — other offices in Bournemouth followed and then in 1974 the treasurership of Hampshire who from the first moment always knew exactly how they stood and where they were going financially as month by month Marjorie's detailed statements pinpointed every penny.

At the Hampshire A.G.M. in June of this year Marjorie joined a very small select band of those awarded county life membership, an honour and privilege which unfortunately she was to enjoy for all too short a period. The number of Town and County table tennis personalities present at the funeral service held at Bournemouth Crematorium bear testimony to the esteem and affection held for a very fine lady.

BRIAN LAMERTON

Ireland's Eye



by **FRANCIS KENNEDY**

Sean Spelman gave timely notice to the Irish selectors that he is going to be in contention for a place on the Irish team for the 1988 European Championships in Paris when he recorded a glorious double at the opening tournament of the season, taking the Mens Singles and the U-21 Singles titles at the **Commercial Open** in Galway.

16-year-old Spelman, currently Ireland's No. 1 Junior and No. 7 Senior, was very sharp after the summer break, beating former senior international **Aidan Walsh** (Dublin) in the final of the Mens Singles having defeated Irish No. 9 **Terry Dolan** (Corrib, Galway) in the semi-final. Spelman won both games 2-0. Spelman had tough opposition also in the U-21 Mens Singles. Irish No. 2 Junior **James Mullan** (Dublin) was his semi-final opponent, and he came through a cracking three setter against Irish No. 9 **Anthony Redmond** in the U-21 final.

Spelman's Claddagh clubmate, **Caroline Anderson** (Irish No. 4) kept all the major titles in Galway when she defeated Dublin's **Grainne Redmond** (Irish No. 5)

in the Ladies Singles final.

Results:

Mens Singles: Sean Spelman (Claddagh, Galway) beat Aidan Walsh (Cameron Park, Dublin). Ladies Singles: Caroline Anderson (Claddagh) beat Grainne Redmond (Cameron Park).

U-21 Mens Singles: Sean Spelman beat Anthony Redmond (Cameron Park).

Grade B Singles: Brendan Wynne (Commercial, Galway) beat Les Hunt (Corrib, Galway).

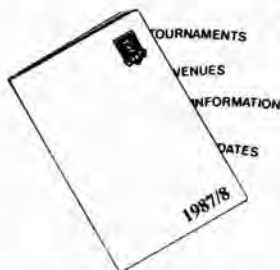
Novelty Doubles: Terry Dolan (Corrib, Galway)/Robert Gavin (Claddagh, Galway) beat Martin Keady (Commercial)/Anthony Redmond.

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GREEK ORGANISATION EXCELLENT — at EURO-YOUTH TOURNAMENT by GEORGE YATES

All praise must go to the Hellenic TTA spearheaded by their President, Christos Christodoulatos, for the faultless running of the championships. Backed by Manolis Kolibadis, the General Secretary and George Seliniotakis, the President of the Technical Committee, under the Directorship of Kondos Panagiotis.

Never have Europe's teenagers been better housed nor played in such a stadium with hotel, transport and stadium all air-conditioned. Albeit the temperature in Athens constantly passed the 100°F mark this had no bearing on the actual play and it certainly had no ill effects on the Russians! But one's sympathies must lie with the Norwegians whose turn it next is to host these championships in Bergen. Follow that, as they say!

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1	A	N	D	R	E	W		5	D	O	U	B	L	E	
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8	H	A	P	P	I	N	E	S	S			O		S	
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WINNERS OF CROSSWORD No 6

April issue

Winner (Stiga Blade): Geoff Gardiner, 36 Froom Street, Chorley, Lancs PR6 0AN.

Runners-Up (Mini-Bats): Gordon Sanders, 8 Langton Close, Gomersal, Cleckheaton, West Heaton, West Yorkshire BO19 4AS; M. J. Loveder, 16 Merton Hall Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3PP; Geoff Scruton, 10 Kingsley Road, Harrogate, N. Yorkshire HG1 4RB.

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	Y		Y				D		D		E		S					

WINNERS OF CROSSWORD No 7

May/June issue

Winner (3 dozen Balls): David Seaholme, 12 Upper Hitch, Carpenders Park, Watford WD1 5AW.

Runners-Up (Mini-Bats): David Barr, Chamberhouse Farm, Thatcham, Nr Newbury, Berks RG13 4NY; W. J. Woodford, 102 Corsletts Avenue, Broadbridge Heath, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 3NZ; Mrs B. Blanch, 7 Canada Road, Acton, London W3 0NP.

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Name.....

Address.....

Entries should be sent to Mr Eric Hall, 38, Littlemoor Crescent, Newbold, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 8QJ.

Closing Date: 12 NOVEMBER. Answers published: DECEMBER 1987.

CLUES

ACROSS

- Untidy collection of 25's (6)
- When TT performers get down to work, but not schoolchildren (8)
- & 10. One of the trustier guards of the three-day game (6,8)
- Shortened flute plays another tune (4)
- Titled Old Boy may return to win Wimbledon (5)
- Leading Junior who doesn't shine? (4)
- Top-twenty player could be sailor's Uncle! (5,7)
- A girl Don soon will call by another name (6,6)
- Dutch-made clotted cheese (4)
- I'd come back to a railway journal (5)
- I'd break into Foreign Office to find Man's best friend (4)
- Max association with 20 Minis and Sandhurst (8)
- Only one off record! (6)
- Leading light in a night of stars? (8)
- Douglas takes drugs and turns tyrant (6)

DOWN

- Lacking rota, and lacking energy (8)
- Real examination by lie-detector? (4,4)
- The true Ireland? (4)
- Ready? Ruin all to find ex-player hero (6,6)
- Ham can be found in Surrey or Kent (4)
- Resident in Diana's temple in Delhi (6)
- Chooses Les etc to serve in office (6)
- Penn's portion? All chops it would seem at his club! (2,10)
- Direction of shot demonstrated by Wang Lee? (5)
- Fruit that is taken away from Miss Carey (5)
- Mathematician making sense (6, 2)
- Not idle to a point? on the contrary! (8)
- Writer got PC involved with Neil (6)
- Ray of hope for sufferers born between June and July? (6)
- Starring role for Damian? (4)
- We hear through it what's in Hastings (4)

Coming events

CALENDAR OF WORLD EVENTS 1987-88 from the ITTF

Oct 22-Oct 25	Polish Open Championships
Oct 26-	European Disabled TT Champs (ISMGF/ISOD)
Nov 11-Nov 15	Sovetskaja Kultura Tournament
Nov 12-Nov 15	Hungarian Open Championships
Nov 19-Nov 22	Olympic Qualifying Tournament (Singles)
Nov 15-Nov 27	USSR Open Championships
Nov 28-Dec 6	World University Table Tennis Championships
Dec 1-	Pondus Cup Int Invitation Tournament
Dec 3-Dec 6	Swedish Open Championships
Dec 7-Dec 12	Uganda Open Championships
Dec 11-Dec 13	Finlandia Open Championships
Dec 19-Dec 20	Olympic Qualifying Tournament (Doubles)
1988	
Jan 12-Jan 17	3rd European/Asia Tournament Team Events — 12th Rome, 14th Germany FR Individual Events 16th/17th Basle
Jan 20-Jan 23	Leeds English Open Championships
Jan 28-Jan 30	Irish Open Championships
Feb 1-Feb 11	6th Iran International Tournament
Feb 4-Feb 7	Federal Germany Open Championships
Feb 12-Feb 14	European Top 12
Mar 1-Mar 3	8th Israel Open Championships
Mar 19-Mar 27	16th European Championships
April 9-	Bermuda Open Championships
April 10-April 11	4th European Junior Top 12
May 20-May 22	Czech Junior Open Championships
June 6-June 11	4th Veterans World Championships
June 17-June 19	Hungarian Junior Open Championships
July 30-Aug 7	31st European Youth Championships
Sept 23-Oct 1	TABLE TENNIS AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES
Oct 28-Oct 30	Italian Open Championships
Nov 17-Nov 20	Yugoslav Open Championships
Nov 25-Nov 27	Dutch Open Championships
Dec 1-Dec 4	French Open Championships
Dec	4th Oceania Championships

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NEW TABLE TENNIS FACILITIES AT OXTED . . .

THE Limpsfield Lawn Tennis Club at Detillens Lane, Limpsfield, Oxted in Surrey are extending their facilities for Squash, Badminton, Table Tennis. It is anticipated that three table tennis tables will be available from now on, two nights weekly. The chairman of the new table tennis section will be Brian Spicer, former vice-chairman PR for the ETTA. Tel: Oxted 715566.

EVENTS COMING UP . . .

14 Oct	England v Austria, Newmarket
16-18 Oct	Leeds-Stiga English Top 12, Farnborough (Hants) LC
24-25 Oct	Yorkshire & Humber 3-star
7-8 Nov	Midland Counties 3-star
8 Nov	Hastings Tigers 1-star
14-15 Nov	South of England 2-star
4-5 Dec	Middlesex 3-star
19 Dec	English Nationals Qualifying

ITTF ANNOUNCEMENT

THE 1988 OLYMPIC QUALIFICATION LIST

The following players are eligible for participation in the Olympic Games on the basis of their positions on the attached World Classification List:

Men		
JIANG JIALING		CHN
WALDNER, Jan-Ove		SWE
CHEN LONGCAN		CHN
GRUBBA, Andrzej		POL
PERSSON, Jorgen		SWE
KUCHARSKI, Leszek		POL
DOUGLAS, Desmond		ENG
KIM KI TAEK		KOR
MIYAZAKI, Yashihito		JPN
LO CHUEN TSUNG		HKG
KIM WAN		KOR
CHU JONG CHOL		PRK
MAZUNOV, Andrei		URS
KIM SONG HUI		PRK
KLAMPAR, Tibor		HUN
KALINIC, Zoran		YUG

Women		
HE ZHILI		CHN
YANG YOUNG JA		KOR
LI BUN HUI		PRK
BATORFI, Csilla		HUN
HRACHOVA, Marie		TCH
BULATOVA, Flaura		URS
VRIESEKOOOP, Bettine		HOL
GUERGUELTCHEVA, Daniela		BUL

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JIM BECKLEY

Vice-chairman of the ETTA Public Relations Committee is in charge of the advertising for this magazine. He is interested in hearing from anyone who has information that could lead to new advertisers. Jim is professional media man and offers advice on advertising and publicity for large or small businesses. His address is: JIM BECKLEY, c/o Sports PR, PO Box 8, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 7RG. Tel: 061-439 6001, business and home number.

THE LINCOLN LOTTERY RIDES AGAIN

Last year the ETTA Lincoln Lottery raised over £5,000 for grass roots table tennis. This year the 10p tickets are made up into books of five and should make it very easy to wrench 50p from willing victims (sorry contributors).

The first prize is £500 with a second of £250 third of £100 and fourth of £50. In addition every ticket holder drawing a horse with receive £10 — even if it doesn't run on the day.

Ring Roy Stevens at Hastings to find out how you can raise valuable funds for your league with absolutely no risk of personal financial disaster.