

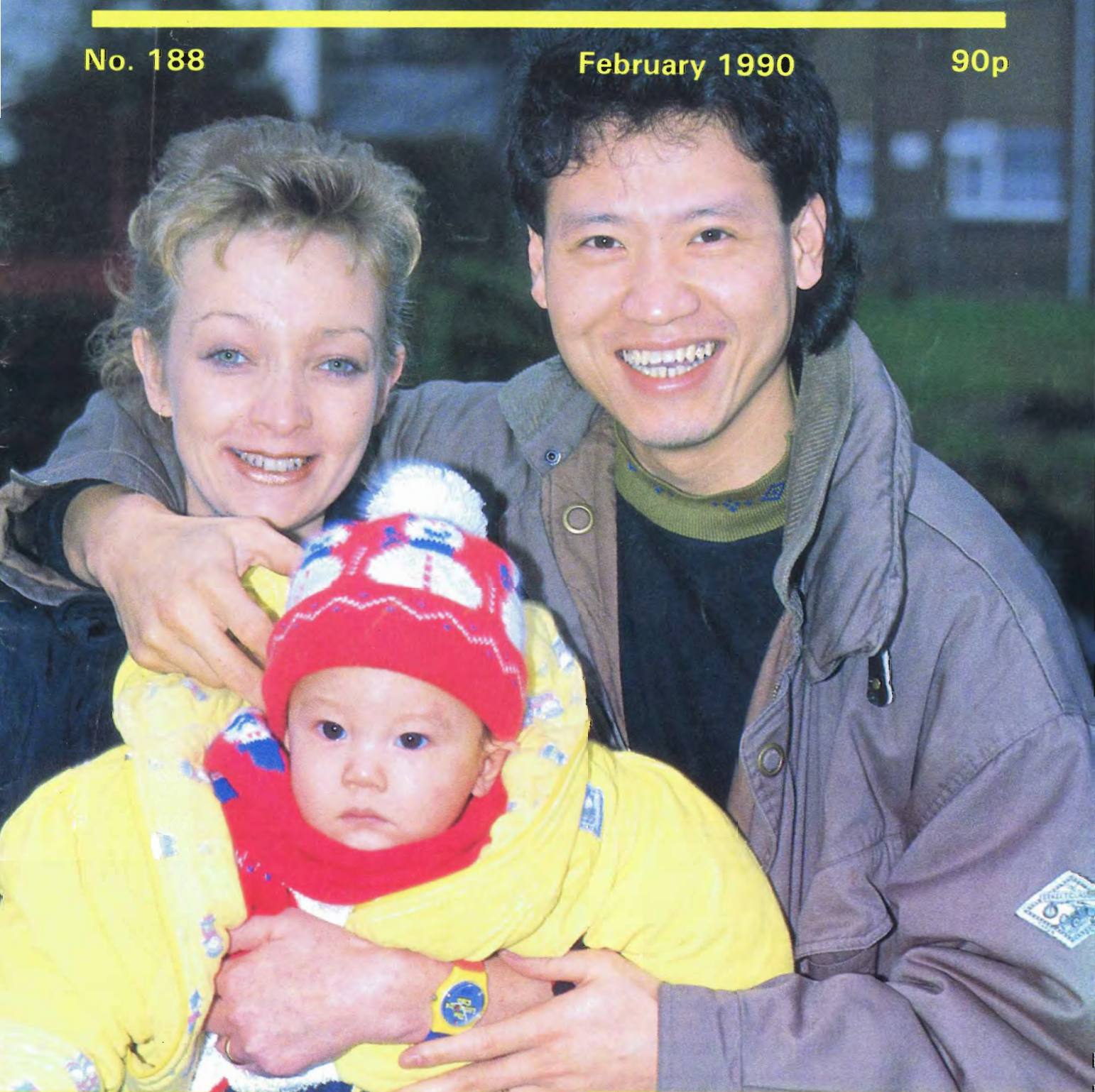


# *Table Tennis News*

No. 188

February 1990

90p



**Family favourites —  
like Jaques tables**

**John  
Jaques**

## Bowled Over at The Open

MUCH HAS been written and reported over the last few weeks in promoting the 1990 Leeds English Open. When one has been bombarded with literature from Head Office, as I and surely most of the subscribers to this magazine have, the event quite often fails to live up to all the hype that has preceded it. Not so this Open — it was a great success. The innovative scheduling which left the Team events to the Sunday, after the individual events, was certainly an experiment that worked and the overall programme allowed journalists to meet the much-needed copy deadlines, giving us national coverage on a scale much larger than table tennis is usually afforded. To improve the playing conditions a 19mm chipboard floor covered the floor of Bowlers beneath the Leeds floors, as was the case in the World Championships in Dortmund and it was even suggested to the BBC Grandstand producer that it could be wise to record the semi finals of the mens singles as often the semis provide better table tennis than the actual final — this suggestion was taken up, thankfully so after Chen's unfortunate injury, so the cameras were able to record the drama as it unfolded.

### Congratulations Manchester

To sum up — an event that surpassed in quality of entrant and organisational excellence perhaps all that had preceded it — the standard has been set, it must be maintained, surely a fitting climax to our three-year liaison with our sponsors Leeds Permanent Building Society. Before finishing I would like to thank on behalf of the Association the Manchester Olympic Bid Committee for their help in making this Open the huge success that it turned out to be. On arrival at the venue my heart went out to the car park stewards who went about their job on the sort of wet Saturday morning that Manchester seems to have exclusive rights to in such a cheerful manner. We as an Association sincerely hope that Manchester is successful in its bid to stage the 1996 Olympics.

ALAN PICKARD



The official magazine of the English Table Tennis Association. Published eight times a year.

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ALAN PICKARD

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★ **COVER  
PICTURE**

The Cover picture shows Chen Xinhua, his wife Jeanette and their seven month old son Tamar outside their Huddersfield home shortly after his crowd-pleasing success in the English Open at Manchester. Chen — by his two year English residence — will be available for selection for England in May of this year under ITTF rules. (Photo by Action Plus Photographic)

★

# A Wonderful Start to the Year

The LEEDS English Open (Jan 4 — 7) gave us the most fantastic start to 1990. My warmest thanks to all who made this possible. It was a privilege to be a small part of such a great sporting occasion. The main arenas looked marvellous. Gates were substantially up on two years ago and THEN they were well up on two years earlier. National newspaper space was unrecognisably greater. BBC Grandstand gave us well over an hour, another record. One remembers the days when we were squeezed into 10 minute spells between horse racing. Editor John Philips expressed special words of praise for the attractive play in the Ladies Final. And all that happened despite Chen Xinhua's injury which robbed us of the Men's Final!

### A wealth of super table tennis...

The Schedule was quite revolutionary. I cannot recall any OPEN Tournament at which so much of the best could be seen. Whilst others clung to easy-to-administer, pre-historic "convenience" schedules, WE made history. No longer were all 8 matches of, say, the last 16 played at the same time, so that the fans could see only one and perhaps bits of another. We staggered the schedules, so that they could see more, far more of the great players of the world. We cannot believe that the world will not follow us in time. The interest of the spectators must be put before administrative comfort.

### Team Event Experiment another total success

For four marvellous days we moved the sport forward. We gave our supporters four days of the most outstanding play. I regard the experiment of playing the TEAM Event on the last day as a total success.

Top Class Table Tennis had never been played at Bowlers (Old Trafford) before. Yet we were able to put on a superb show.

The Manchester Olympic Bid Committee deserve the highest praise. They shared our vision. They proved that

### Manchester CAN stage the 1996 Olympic Games

Indeed Manchester deserves that honour. I think Table Tennis contributed to that aim. It was, sadly, the last major international event of the LEEDS/E.T.T.A. partnership. It provided the best-ever exposure for a sponsor of our sport. We hope the occasion amply repaid the LEEDS for their remarkable support.

### The State of the Game...

remains healthy and is getting better all the time. The drop of over 3% in Local League Affiliations remains a disappointment, but almost every other activity is showing increases in popularity, some quite startling! County Championships are engaging over one thousand players. This is only part of a remarkable revival in week-end play, since increases in British League, Veterans, Tournaments, and particularly for Juniors can be recorded.

John Blackband, the Chairman of the English Schools TTA, tells me that their Under 11 scene is a real growth area. Our own National Under 11 Championships have attracted larger entries every year.

Journalists tell me that they are getting far more space, because so much more is going on.

Retailers and Distributors report increased sales.

The financial situation of the Association has never been stronger.

Soon we hope to announce a Development Scheme, which will help our members make the sport grow at the grass roots and grow faster.

We have left behind an era of low public image and morale and financial crisis. An exciting future is ours for the asking.

### An addiction...

I see, to be frank, only one danger and that is in our minority addiction to shooting ourselves in the foot, particularly in press statements which have no remote relationship with honesty or trust. These present me with no personal problems, but they are no good at all for the sport, for our image and reputation with media, sponsors and the wider public. A leading player's ill-

considered remark will be reported over and over again if it is good copy or is perceived as such. The sport suffers, no one else. If any of you see rubbish in the press, don't be shy to let both journalists and those quoted know what you think.

### No question of resignation...

As I told you previously, I shall stand again for re-election. If successful, I shall serve for another year. I did remind journalists recently that I am up for re-election every year and it is then that my members express their view of my stewardship. This is in no way affected by ill-considered and untrue remarks attributed to a leading player. My door is always open and I spend many hours dealing with members' problems. No request



has been left unanswered. No one has been ignored. I would hope therefore that, before anyone rushes into print, they might ascertain the truth or otherwise of what they are saying. Our members know what is true and what is not. Sponsors do not know the sport and therefore they may give a wide berth to a sport in which a few are so addicted to adverse publicity.

Table Tennis is now very much in the public eye. Three years ago it was almost forgotten. We all have increased responsibilities to our great sport. It remains bigger than any of us.

## Love Match



ON TUESDAY, 12 December, 1989, CHEN XINHUA married JEANETTE WOOD at St Bartholomew's Church, Marsden. A traditional English reception followed at the Briarcourt Hotel, near Huddersfield. The wedding was attended by Jeanette's family and Xinhua's friends, including Desmond Douglas, Don and Jill Parker, Alan and Jose Ransome, Colin and Sandra Deaton, Andrea, Wilton and Maureen Holt. The happy couple were provided with a table tennis bat Guard of Honour as they walked down the aisle after their marriage and later presented with a souvenir blade signed by all the guests as they posed for photographs. On behalf of all members, Table Tennis News extends congratulations and best wishes for the future to Xinhua and his bride.

## English Schools Table Tennis Association

by DAVID LOMAS

ONLY ONE of the eight holders of Dunlop National School Team titles fell by the wayside when the county qualifying competitions were completed in the Autumn Term.

Ifield Community College, Crawley, ended a sequence of 15 consecutive seasons in which they have had a team in the Area Finals when a raw Boys' Under-16 quartet lost 7-1 to newcomers Oathall School, Haywards Heath in the West Sussex play-off. Ifield's Boys' Under-19 crown is up for grabs, having been winners for the past two seasons and prefixed in 1987 by their first national title when a side including Scott Greenbrook and Alan Cole lifted the Boys' Under-16 "Leech/Carrington Trophy".

Ifield's mentor, genial science master Andy Meads — no mean player himself — when asked if it was a case of rebuilding a new squad told me: "Just a mere hiccup on the production line".

But in Cumbria it's a case of "business as usual". Parkview School, Barrow-in-Furness have four teams through to the Area Finals at Chorley, spearheaded by the rapidly-improving Kevin Hodgson in the Boys' Under-16 event. Neighbours Yarlside Primary School are also seeking national glory and yet another Barrow team, Barrow Sixth Form College, have teams in both Under-19 categories.

Kesteven & Grantham Girls' will be hoping to retain their Under-19 title but they could well come unstuck if they encounter Thomas Peacocke School, Rye (East Sussex) in the national 3-way Finals which are due to take place at Lea Green, Matlock, on Saturday, March 17th. The Thomas Peacocke girls finished in third place last year in the Under-16 event but step up to the Under 19's with the same line-up that uniquely includes the three Wilson sisters — Lian, Natasha and Claudine in their quartet; they will be keen to fare better this time.

Ian Marshall, teacher i/c at The Grove School, Market Drayton, says it will take a good team to oust his Girls' Under-16 team who successfully defended their crown last year. With established juniors such as Elizabeth Creasey, Claire Marshall, Sarah Creasey and Tracey Garratt making up the Shropshire team I can but agree.

Peniel Academy, Brentwood, won their first national schools honour last year. They have

SEVEN teams through from the Essex County competition, gaining representation in the Under-11 events for the first time. With only 72 pupils on the roll this is a considerable achievement and already teams in the South-East are bracing themselves for determined challenges from Peniel.

Cumnor House School, Croydon, have sped to five national titles in the last four years. They have seen off opposition in the Surrey Metropolitan stage but their Boys' Under-13 team will probably find themselves "stumped" by a school cricket tour to Australia which — if Cumnor qualify — will rob them of three players. Only England Cadet No 4, Darren Blake, has opted to stay at home.



Geoff Gardiner

Competition Secretary Geoff Gardiner was chasing last-minute entries when I spoke to him shortly before Christmas, but he hopes that entries will be up on last year's total — even if only marginally so.

The twelve Area Finals were due to take place on January 20th and 21st. Winners go forward to one of three Regional Finals which are scheduled for Sunday, February 18th, as follows:

**North Region**  
Pontefract (The King's High School)

**Midlands & West Region**  
Stroud (Stratford Park Leisure Centre)

**South & East Region**  
Croydon (Monks Hill Sports Centre)



David Lomas

The ESTTA are entering 2 teams in the inaugural British Under-11 Schools Championships which are being staged at Dumfries Table Tennis Club on April 6/7/8. Teams of Boys and Girls (4 per team) are also being sent by hosts, Scotland, Ireland and the Isle of Man. ESTTA Treasurer, Bob Wood is Team manager and Martin Holland, Cumbrian stalwart is Boys' Team Captain.

Nomination of events to be entered in the Dunlop English Schools Individual Championships (Mansfield, Saturday April 28th) are required by March 1st. Organiser is Paul Birch (23 Kestrel Road, Bedford MK41 7HR. Tel: 0234 41988)



### THE NEW ETTA TIE

The new, redesigned ETTA members' tie is now available. It is attractively woven with the Association emblem in gold on a navy background enhanced with a fine blue stripe.

*"The designer has done an excellent job. I shall be delighted to wear this tie on all occasions, not merely those connected with table tennis. Excellent quality and very attractive," John Prean, ETTA Chairman.*

This stylish tie is available at £4.95 including p&p.

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER TO READERS OF TABLE TENNIS NEWS:**

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## European League

### Czechmate by GEORGE R. YATES

IN beating Poland 4-3 in Jastrzebie on December 12 Czechoslovakia went to the head of the Super Division being the only team to boast three points in a quite intriguing run-in for the championship.

Singles successes for Petr Javurek and Petr Korbel over Leszek Kucharski and for Renata Kasalova over Agnieszka Gieraga, plus the mixed doubles won by Korbel/Kasalova against Jaroslav Kolodziejczyk/Gieraga, did the trick. Andrzej Grubba winning both his singles and, in partnership with Kucharski, winning the men's doubles. Scores:-

A. Grubba b P. Korbel 9, 17; b Javurek -11, 13, 15  
L. Kucharski l Javurek -8, -15;  
l Korbel 16, -11, -20  
A. Gieraga l R. Kasalova -14, -16  
Grubba/Kucharski b Korbel/  
Javurek 9, -16, 10  
J. Kolodziejczyk/Gieraga l Korbel/  
Kasalova -19, 19, -13

On the same night in Belgrade against Yugoslavia, Sweden recovered from a 3-2 deficit to win 4-3 with Peter Karlsson winning both his singles and Thomas von Scheele beating Zoran Primorac in the final set and the Swedish pair winning the men's doubles. Scores:-  
l. Lupulescu b T. von Scheele -15, 15, 18; l P. Karlsson -16, -8  
Z. Primorac l Karlsson -21, 12, -11; l von Scheele -8, -14  
J. Fazlic b A. Svensson 14, 19  
Lupulescu/Primorac l Karlsson/  
von Scheele -12, -21  
Lupulescu/Fazlic b von Scheele/  
Svensson 18, -9, 11

In a closely fought encounter in Gottingen, Federal Germany recovered from a 0-2 deficit, when Danny Heister beat Steffen Fetzner and Paul Haldan beat Jorg Roskopf, to triumph 4-3 against the Netherlands whose only other victory was obtained by Haldan who beat Fetzner. Scores:-  
S. Fetzner l D. Heister 18, -16, -11; l P. Haldan -18, 18, -17  
J. Roskopf l Haldan -17, 11, -10;  
b Heister 13, 13  
O. Nemes b M. Kloppenburg 18, 16  
Fetzner/Roskopf b Haldan/  
Heister 14, 14  
Roskopf/N. Struse b G. Bakker/  
Kloppenburg -14, 18, 14

England's 5-2 defeat inflicted by France at Norwich places a question of survival against them with matches to come away to Yugoslavia and at home to Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic of Germany.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Czechoslovakia	4	3	1	15	13	3
France	4	2	2	16	12	2
F.R.Germany	4	2	2	16	12	2
Sweden	4	2	2	15	13	2
Netherlands	4	2	2	14	14	2
Poland	4	2	2	12	16	2
Yugoslavia	4	2	2	11	17	2
England	4	1	3	13	15	1

In Division 1 Belgium had to pull out all the stops to preserve their unbeaten record when recording a 4-3 victory over Italy in Parma on Dec 16.

3-2 was the score in favour of Italy but wins for Jean-Michel Saive over Massimo Costantini in the penultimate set and for Thierry Cabrera in the final one against Lorenzo Nannoni saved the day. Other December results were:- Austria 6 Finland 1 and Denmark 0 Hungary 7.

The match between Turkey and Bulgaria remains unplayed as the Bulgarians refuse, for political reasons, to journey to Bursa where the match was due to be played. Should no settlement be reached that a score of 4-0 in favour of Turkey will prevail as per rule although Finland, languishing at the foot of the table, are calling for expulsion.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	4	4	0	23	5	4
Austria	4	3	1	21	7	3
Hungary	4	3	1	21	7	3
Bulgaria	3	3	0	15	6	3
Italy	4	1	3	14	14	1
Turkey	3	1	2	5	16	1
Denmark	4	0	4	4	24	0
Finland	4	0	4	2	26	0

Current table in Division 2 reads:-

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	5	4	1	21	14	4
Spain	3	3	0	20	1	3
Switzerland	3	3	0	15	6	3
Luxembourg	6	3	3	23	19	3
Ireland	6	3	3	21	21	3
Scotland	5	2	3	19	16	2
Wales	5	2	3	9	26	2
*Greece	7	0	7	12	37	0

\*Demotees

### Stiga World Masters Nov 1989 Paris

#### Final Placings:

1	Jan-Ove Waldner	SWE	1	375	Jorgen Persson	SWE
2	Erik Lindh	SWE	2	370	Ilije Lupulesku	YUG
3	Andrzej Grubba	POL	3	325	Carl Prean	ENG
4	Ma Wenge	CHN	4	270	Pete Korbel	TCH
5-8	Chen Zhibin	CHN	5	250	Jean-Michel Saive	BEL
	Jean-Philippe Gatién	FRA	6	225	Andrzej Grubba	POL
	Tomas Janci	TCH	7	200	Zsolt Harczi	HUN
	Jean-Michel Saive	BEL			Dmitrij Mazunov	URS
9-13	Peter Karlsson	SWE	10	195	Zoran Primorac	YUG
	Li Gun Sang	PRK	11	180	Jiri Javurek	TCH
	Ilije Lupulesku	YUG			Mikael Appelgren	SWE
	Zoran Primorac	YUG			Jean-Philippe Gatién	FRA
	Xie Chaojie	CHN	13	150	Alan Cooke	ENG
			18	105	Desmond Douglas	ENG

### Stiga World Grand Prix 1989 - 90

After the Hungarian Open, the leading points scorers are:

1	375	Jorgen Persson	SWE
2	370	Ilije Lupulesku	YUG
3	325	Carl Prean	ENG
4	270	Pete Korbel	TCH
5	250	Jean-Michel Saive	BEL
6	225	Andrzej Grubba	POL
7	200	Zsolt Harczi	HUN
		Dmitrij Mazunov	URS
		Zoran Primorac	YUG
		Jiri Javurek	TCH
		Mikael Appelgren	SWE
		Jean-Philippe Gatién	FRA
		Alan Cooke	ENG
		Desmond Douglas	ENG

re-printed from ITTF Bulletin

## News from Hungary

THE HUNGARIAN Association has appointed a new Management Committee. Dr. György Lakatos (71) is hon. President, Dr. István Harcsar (46) is President.

Dr. Lakatos is a former President of the ETTU and Vice-President of the ITTF. Dr. Harcsar has played for Hungary 29 times and is a company director.

Vice-Presidents include former world champions István Jonyer and Ferenc Sido. Other members include Beatrix Kisházi, Zoltan Berczik, Dr. Laszlo Ormai and Josef Juhos. Another member is Deputy Minister of Commerce Dr. Ferenc Spilak.

Tibor Horvath remains General Secretary, a post he has occupied for 20 years. He is a member of the Standing Orders Committee of the ITTF.

It is a highly talented body which will put Hungarian Table Tennis back on the map and perhaps recapture the great days of 1979 and the thirties, when Victor Barna was king.

## Jackie Bellinger

ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL & NATIONAL  
TABLE TENNIS COACH

Coaching — Summer Schools — Exhibitions

### 1990/91 CREST U/12 SQUAD ASSESSMENT CAMPS

#### DETAILS

Date: May 11, 12, 13 ) Arrive Friday 8.00pm  
May 18, 19, 20 ) Depart Sunday 3.00pm

Accom: Crest Hotel, Luton

Venue: Luton Regional Sports Centre, Stopsley, Luton

Cost: £30 inclusive of accom., all meals & transport

Players for the 1990/91 Crest U/12 Squad will be selected from these 2 camps. The Squad will consist of approx. 14 players and will have 5/6 weekend camps during the season.

If you would like to attend the assessment camps please send for a booking form or tel:

Jackie Bellinger  
123 Rochford Drive  
Luton LU2 8SU  
Tel: 0582 450956

# The Lentec National Ranking Lists

Effective from 29/12/89 up to and including Middlesex 3 Star

## MEN'S

1. Alan Cooke (Chesterfield)	2257
2. Desmond Douglas (Walsall)	1757
3. Nicky Mason (Bexhill)	1275
4. Skylet Andrew (Stratford)	1237
5. Matthew Syed (Reading)	1163
6. Bradley Billington (Chesterfield)	1128
7. Michael O'Driscoll (Mirfield)	875
8. Christopher Oldfield (Sheffield)	800
9. Steven Dorking (Hornchurch)	748
10. Sean Gibson (Chorley)	718
11. John Souter (Neasden)	673
12. Glenn Baker (Guildford)	661
13. Jonathan Taylor (Denton)	651
14. Kevin Satchell (Melksham)	640
15. Paul Whiting (Plymouth)	639
16. Christopher Rogers (Leicester)	593
17. Graham Sandley (Potters Bar)	580
18. John Holland (Nottingham)	575
19. Ritchie Venner (Crawley)	574
20. Adrian Moore (Bexhill)	567
21. Tony Taylor (Manchester)	566
22. John Hilton (Manchester)	558
23. Nigel Eckersley (Wilmslow)	550
24. Edward Smith (Gosforth)	532
25. Tony Stark (New Barnet)	514
26. John Kitchener (Ipswich)	501
27. Ian Robertson (North Shields)	501
28. John Burleton (Milton Keynes)	498
29. Adrian Dixon (Reading)	485
30. Phillip Gunn (Birmingham)	484
31. Jimmy Stokes (Reading)	482
32. Richard Darnell (Brentwood)	477
33. Michael Hammond (Tolworth)	475
34. Andrew Cunningham (Beck'm)	471
35. Paul Giles (Plymouth)	463
36. David Newman (Maldon)	463
37. Dipak Topiwala (Edmonton)	462
38. David Gannon (Leicester)	461
39. Stuart Palmer (Brandon)	456
40. Michael Stead (Bradford)	452
41. Stephen Slater (Stoke)	444
42. Stephen Moore (Bexhill)	434
43. Stuart Richards (Plymouth)	433
44. Andrew Dodd (Stamford Hill)	431
45. Andrew Eden (Ormskirk)	428
46. Phillip Bradbury (Aylesbury)	426
47. Stephen Scrowcroft (Manch'r)	421
48. Desmond Charlery (Basildon)	418
49. Max Crimmins (Reading)	414
50. Craig Bakewell (Stoke)	407

## WOMEN'S

1. Alison Gordon (Reading)	1310
2. Lisa Lomas (Dunstable)	1207
3. Fiona Elliot (Wolverhampton)	1148
4. Andrea Holt (Ramsbottom)	975
5. Jill Harris (Walsall)	527
6. Julie Billington (Chesterfield)	508
7. Carol Giles (Plymouth)	399
8. Juliet Houghton (Tonbridge)	386
9. Helen Lower (Wolverhampton)	376
10. Joanne Shaw (Normanton)	359
11. Joy Dean (Preston)	347
12. Deborah Toole (Normanton)	347
13. Susan Collier (Maidenhead)	301
14. Teresa Moore (Bexhill)	277
15. Lesley Radford (Upminster)	272
16. Jane Barella (Surbiton)	265
17. Josie Bongers (Stoke on Trent)	253
18. Claire Mouzon (Ashington)	250
19. Helen Bardwell (Ware)	249
20. Sandra Roden (Dudley)	247
21. Melonie Carey (Puriton)	235
22. Cheryl Buttery (Lincoln)	232
23. Michel Cohen (Bristol)	230
24. Katherine Goodall (Leeds)	230
25. Sally Weston (Horsham)	220

Effective from 14/1/90 up to and including English Junior National Championships

## JUNIOR BOYS

1. Andrew Eden (Ormskirk)	1193
2. Neil Bevan (Bude)	1185
3. Grant Solder (Barking)	1076
4. Leigh Jeffries (Sutton Coldfield)	802
5. Peter Bowler (Dunstable)	775
6. Colin Bowler (Dunstable)	735
7. Brian Mileham (Margate)	715
8. Mark Stephenson (Halifax)	706
9. Gary Knights (Burton on Trent)	696
10. Jason Bamford (Aldercar)	626
11. Alan Cole (Crawley)	580
12. Martin Adams (Ascot)	554
13. Howard Whewell (Rossendale)	551
14. Darren Howarth (Droylsden)	524
15. Ian Black (St. Albans)	512
16. Matthew Greenwood (Amer'm)	501
17. Barry Forster (Whickham)	487
18. Keiron Dabbs (Daventry)	452
19. Paul Carter (Couslens)	451
20. Edward Hatley (Frimley)	417
21. Gareth Jones (Selby)	406
22. Alexander Perry (Crediton)	400
23. Nicholas Bradfield (Maidenhead)	364
24. Ian Johnson (Nailsea)	364
25. Duncan Taylor (Golders Green)	359

## JUNIOR GIRLS

1. Ellen Meddings (Harrogate)	1002
2. Sally Marling (Hull)	899
3. Joanna Roberts (Leeds)	777
4. Alison Gower (Ingatstone)	755
5. Katherine Goodall (Leeds)	721
6. Linda Radford (Upminster)	694
7. Maria Thornley (Chorley)	653
8. Sara Williams (Hillingdon)	549
9. Caroline Buckley (Renhold)	463
10. Lesley Hollingworth (S'bourne)	431
11. Helen Wright (Plymouth)	429
12. Sarah Pengelly (Paignton)	421
13. Nicola Deaton (Chesterfield)	408
14. Nicola Meddings (Birmingham)	404
15. Dawn Barnett (Banbury)	357
16. Lisa Crick (Maidenhead)	353
17. Elizabeth Creasey (M. Drayton)	342
18. Nicola Cracknell (Reading)	340
19. Clare Pengelly (Paignton)	310
20. Claire Marshall (M. Drayton)	301
21. Sarah Creasey (M. Drayton)	289
22. Nadine Barthee (Brentwood)	272
23. Samantha Marling (Hull)	259
24. Esme Kottasz (Victoria)	255
25. Michelle Martin (Burton on Trent)	241

## CADET BOYS

1. Edward Hatley (Frimley)	850
2. Alexander Perry (Crediton)	833
3. Kevin Hodgson (Barrow in Furness)	732
4. Darren Blake (South Croydon)	653
5. Christopher Sladden (Southend)	468
6. Adrian Vincent (Plymouth)	459
7. Jonathon May (Plymouth)	419
8. Andrew Nicholls (Selby)	378
9. Philip Neal (Hull)	334
10. Marcus Horth (Camberley)	309
11. Darren Lindley (Huddersfield)	277
12. David Heath (Ipplepen)	271
13. Ryan Saville (S. Hanningfield)	264
14. Stephen Meddings (S. Coldfield)	249
15. Jeremy Hazelhurst (Harrogate)	238
16. Richard Hyacinth (Harlesden)	228
17. Paul Hudson (Wanstead)	220
18. Ian Ferguson (Birmingham)	217
19. Jack Boulton (Chesterfield)	212
20. Andrew Wilkinson (N. Shields)	207

21. Ben Johnson (Reading)	206
22. James Mason (Newport Pagnell)	197
23. Gareth Davies (Bristol)	178
24. David Purdy (Dronfield)	170
25. Ian Eaton (Northwich)	162

## CADET GIRLS

1. Nicola Deaton (Chesterfield)	1123
2. Sally Marling (Hull)	998
3. Claire Pengelly (Paignton)	793
4. Michelle Martin (Burton on Trent)	524
5. Caroline Watt (Barrow in Furness)	425
6. Jennifer Coleman (Brentwood)	281
7. Talya Greenberg (New Barnet)	235
8. Tracy Garratt (Market Drayton)	193
9. Tamar Connolly (Blackpool)	183
10. Sally Russell (Barton Seagrave)	174
11. Catherine Sibald (Chigwell)	147
12. Lindsey Heyward (N. Abbott)	118
13. Diane Chan (Weybridge)	109
14. Sarah Smith (Worksop)	107
15. Sarah Brabazon (Wolv.)	100
16. Nicola Massingham (Grantham)	93
17. Hayley Beaumont (L. Buzzard)	92
18. Anna Cahill (Connor Downs)	90
19. Gemma Schwartz (Reading)	90
20. Nicola Duke (Sevenoaks)	79

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## VETERAN MEN

1. Malcolm Corking (Stockton on Tees)	813
2. Henry Buist (Orpington)	723
3. John Hilton (Manchester)	703
4. Matthew Shearer (Grimsbly)	681
5. Andrew Meads (Ifield)	579
6. Peter Radford (Upminster)	547
7. Ralph Gunnion (Solihull)	547
8. Derek Holman (Tooting)	500
9. Keith Horton (Burgess Hill)	487
10. Clive Morris (Taynham)	463
11. Stuart Gibbs (Basildon)	461
12. Brian Allison (Louth)	443
13. John Holland (Billericay)	431
14. Derek Wood (Colchester)	426
15. Connie Warren (Croydon)	389
16. Cleve Judson (Wakefield)	389
17. Derek Schofield (Stockport)	381
18. Brian Kean (Manchester)	378
19. John Taylor (Golders Green)	351
20. Gordon Chapman (Worcester Park)	340

## VETERAN WOMEN

1. Doreen Schofield (Stockport)	733
2. Patricia Bassano (Huddersfield)	489
3. Margaret Dignum (Maidstone)	426
4. Gillian Knightly (Flackwell Heath)	422
5. Joyce Coop (Bournmouth)	392
6. Carol Judson (Wakefield)	361
7. Janet Hunt (Worcester)	347
8. Constance Moran (Grimsbly)	302
9. Mary Sawyer (Hendon)	286
10. Christine Basden (Burghfield Common)	280
11. Joan Beadle (Ashford)	274
12. Eileen Shaler (Hinckley)	225
13. Pamela Butcher (Meopham)	203
14. Marion Garlinge (Sittingbourne)	195
15. Mabel Neary (Liverpool)	191
16. Linda Reid (Pershore)	190
17. Key Waters (Slough)	190
18. Shirley Carroll (Great Baddon)	190
19. Susan Felstead (Letchworth)	188
20. Sylvia Tyler (London N12)	185
21. Ann Lloyd (Birmingham)	181
22. Mary Stafford (Maidenhead)	181
23. Kath Fisher (Louth)	168
24. Pauline Steel (Worthing)	165
25. Pamela Spooner (Maidenhead)	161

Whilst every care is taken that the data inserted into the computer are accurate, the occasional error is inevitable as we are all human. The ETTA accepts no responsibility of any kind for such errors and their consequences. Any mistake discovered will be rectified in a subsequent list. Any queries from the ranking list should be directed to D C Gray, ETTA, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings TN34 1HF and be accompanied by a deposit of five pounds which will be returned to the applicant if investigation of the data validates the need for such a query.

# A Chinese Puzzle to be Unravelled

by RICHARD EATON

*(The following is based on an article that appeared in The Times on December 12th, 1989 and is reproduced by kind permission)*

**CHEN XINHUA, perhaps the greatest defensive table tennis player of all time, an acrobatic extrovert who once won the World Cup and who was twice a member of world title-winning sides, has quit China for good and in December in Huddersfield married a local girl, Jeanette Wood.**

They met at a party in Manchester in 1988 when, according to both of them, it was "love at first sight." But this most startling of romances, could lead to a sporting controversy because Chen may find it more difficult to gain selection for an England team than to win a wife and raise a family here.

The cultural hurdles have been difficult enough. Xinhua spoke hardly any English when he met Jeanette; now he manages with pidgin, resourcefully supplemented by a lexicon of gestures.

Next season Chen will have satisfied the ITTF two-year residential rule. And though he is 29 and practises little, he is arguably still too good for any one in this country. But at the moment some players and officials, too, seem sceptical of his suitability or value for England.

In a match for his Ormesby club this season, Chen beat in quick succession both Alan Cooke, the national champion, and Desmond Douglas, Britain's best player of modern times. "He did them both,

then called me over and showed me how," said Matthew Syed, another England international who is probably Chen's biggest supporter here.

"He keeps a book on all the players. He's fantastic. He knows so much about everything — tactics, preparation, technique and life. I love him"

Chen certainly has more than a hint of charisma. Throughout an interview lasting an hour and a half, he was rarely without a smile. Beneath the halting progress of his words one senses an engine room of personality. He does not dwell on his homesickness or his alienation, though for a year after coming here he lost nearly all motivation for table tennis.

Chen acknowledges that his wife and their child have given him sufficient happiness and confidence to consider trying to restart an international career that he thought was over as far back as 1983, when the ITTF changed the rules regarding the rubber surface of the bat, making it harder for defensive

players to survive.

However, Xu Shaofa, coach to the Chinese team, pulled a master stroke of selection. He told Chen there and then he would play in the 1985 world final, asked him to practise to this end alone, and told him to play outside of China only occasionally. Chen's rare style was kept as a secret weapon. He duly won both his matches in the final and China retained the title.

That was the same year in which Chen formulated his plan to come to England. "I like everything here," he says, perhaps not intending to be bland. His standard of living, even from the relatively modest sums he gets from coaching, from exhibitions and from playing in the British League, is far better than it was back in Fukien, the coastal province opposite Taiwan.

Such financial incentives may help Chen to preserve the exhilarating style in which he chops and floats balls back from the most amazing distances, occasionally from outside the barriers, and always with the most marvellous

pitter-patter of footwork and speed of hand and wrist. He performs a remarkable exhibition trick in which he blows the ball up and gets it to perch above his nose.

It is this strong sense of humour that may have helped him shrug off the disappointment of being ordered to throw his world semi-final two years ago in New Delhi against Jiang Jialiang. Chen can now reveal another of the game's great mysteries — how the Chinese organize their match fixing, for which they have long been noted.

"It is decided before the tournament who is the No.1 and he is the one who must win," Chen said. The man who has been giving the orders is apparently Xu Shaofa.

Chen's value to England as a coach could be considerable, and he is puzzled about not being used in this capacity more often. He is also keen to play for England now his motivation is returning. But to avoid disappointment he may need further to improve his English and convince the doubters that his cultural integration will become complete.

The dilemma has been seen elsewhere — between 180 and 300 Chinese players are now estimated to be coaching or playing in foreign clubs, according to the Beijing magazine, *China Sports*. Three of them, Geng Lijuan in Canada, Wang Xiaoming in France, and Ding Yi in Austria, are playing for their adopted countries.

Chen reckons he could be a force for England until after he is 35 and that he will be here for the rest of his life. But though love may stand the test of time, ambition could have a rougher ride.



*Chen Xinhua — best defender in the World? (Photo: courtesy John F.A. Wood)*

## Alan and Alison share £900

by JOHN WOODFORD at Clacton

ENGLAND's top-rated pair Alan Cooke and Alison Gordon were both clearly delighted to be able to confirm their number one rankings by winning the Stiga-sponsored tournament with a generous prize fund of £3,000. Both survived without being defeated all day, although Alison was a matchpoint down against Joanne Shaw early on.

Group 1 in the men's event was dominated by Cooke. Both his opponents who might have given him lots of trouble got into trouble themselves — Sky provided the media with their early edition stories as he badly gashed his thumb as he was losing 11-16 in the third game to Matthew Syed.

"I must be the unluckiest player around" said the Essex player as he got in the ambulance bound for Clacton Hospital where he received six stitches. That was the end of the day for Skylet and it was also "curtains" for Syed who reached the semi-finals but was forced to retire with severe pains in the right leg and shoulder. At the time it was thought to be cramp, but now the Reading defender is having a thorough medical checkover to get to the bottom of the problem.

### Poor Start

Michael O'Driscoll, my choice in the Daily Telegraph as hopefully, the young man to watch in 1990, had a bad start at Clacton. He was defeated 8, 16 by Syed and 13, 15 by Skylet Andrew. Later the young star from Mirfield managed to scrape through against John Souter -13, 22, 20 and went one better in his last match to beat Sean Gibson.

Meanwhile in Group 2, Desmond Douglas lost the middle game to Glenn Baker, but tightened his grip by allowing the Surrey man only six points in the decider. In the same group Bradley Billington started off like an express train stopping Chris Oldfield 19, 11 and Baker 13, 12. But then Billington lost to Nicky Mason. But the England No.3 had earlier fallen to Oldfield, a result that effectively put Billington into the semi-finals and saw Mason finish the day in seventh place. Steve Dorking is the man always likely to cause an upset. On this occasion he took the first game from Desmond, and landed 19 points in the third game. In the last round Douglas again dropped the middle game to Mason and came through at 17 in the third. So, Douglas and Billington went through from Group 2, but Douglas received a walk-over against Syed, whilst Cooke reached the final after a spectacular win over Billington 21, 17.

Cooke was gaining confidence all day. Revenge was on his mind to try and reverse a heavy defeat by Desmond ten days previously at Brentwood. The conditions at the two Essex venues were certainly different. At Brentwood, the much smaller playing area and the 300

fans created a heated atmosphere, especially in terms of temperature. Cooke was not happy in the heat, but he was happier in the cooler conditions at Clacton. It was an exciting final with the Derbyshire man only just managing to contain some devastating blocking and backhand counter-hitting from Douglas. Cooke had some difficulty maintaining the pressure against the wily Walsall professional, but finally triumphed 18, 20 to win the £500 first prize.

### Slimline Alison

Having shed 10 pounds in weight after an attack of 'flu Alison Gordon came down to remote Clacton determined to win some money and she reached her goal.

Julie Billington might have been the giant-killer in Group 1 of the women's tournament, but she also lost her first two games to Ali Gordon and Jill Harris. Andrea Holt's career continues to flourish. On the way to the semis she brought down Shaw, Debbie Toole, Harris (12, 12) only losing to Julie Billington 20, 17.

The surprise in the group was three defeats for gallant Jill Harris who although newly promoted to England No.5 finished at Clacton at No.10 with only Debbie Toole and reserve Sally Marling under her.

### Absent

In Group 2, Fiona Elliot, the holder of the title was absent with liver trouble, so Lisa Lomas made hay whilst the sun shone with five wins in a row against Bardwell, Houghton, Giles, Lower and Marling. The question then arose — who would go through to the semis with Lisa? The answer came from Kent, where Juliet Houghton must have made further progress up the England ratings when she defeated Marling, Bardwell, Giles and Helen Lower -20, 19, 17.

Into the women's semi-finals where Andrea Holt found few problems in stopping Juliet Houghton, but Lisa Lomas found that her defensive web was not quite strong enough to cope with the fighting Ali at her best. Miss Gordon asked for an hour's rest before the final but was given only 45 minutes... Lisa took the first game 19, but she too seemed to run out of steam and the national champion pleased her bank manager by winning 13, 15 and the women's top prize of £400.

### The Venue

Clacton is a pleasant venue, the only real problem is that it is right at the end of the line, so far from everywhere; it is what I call the Clive Oakman Benefit Venue, so close to home for the Essex stalwart that it is all a doddle compared with the thousands of miles that Clive has to transport his equipment nearly every week-end of the season.

### Cooke Speaks Out

At the traditional informal press conference Alan Cooke said he was pleased to be back in the "winner's enclosure" but he also made it plain that he, like a number of the players were unhappy with the decision of the ETTA Management Committee to allow Carl Preat to opt out of the national ranking list. "I would like to know the reasons for the decision" said the national and Commonwealth champion.

### Thanks

Acknowledgements at Clacton went to the sponsors Stiga for providing the prize money and the equipment and for sponsorship from the Tendring District Council.

### Group Details...

#### MEN: Group 1:

Cooke b Gibson 17, 13  
Andrew b Souter 19, -19, 14  
Syed b O'Driscoll 8, 16

Andrew b O'Driscoll 13, 15  
Syed b Gibson 19, 14  
Cooke b Souter 9, 6

Gibson b Souter 14, 14  
Cooke b O'Driscoll 11, 10  
Syed b Andrew 11, -12,  
16-11 (Andrew retired)

Cooke b Syed -19, 14, 16  
O'Driscoll b Souter -13, 22, 20  
O'Driscoll b Gibson 21, 17  
Souter b Syed 14, 17

#### MEN: Group 2:

Douglas b Baker 8, -18, 6  
Mason b Dorking 19, 14  
Billington b Oldfield 19, 11

Oldfield b Mason 14, 20  
Billington b Baker 13, 12  
Douglas b Dorking -19, 4, 19

Dorking b Baker -21, 15, 13  
Douglas b Oldfield 16, 15  
Mason b Billington 20, -19, 14

Douglas b Billington 14, 20  
Oldfield b Dorking 13, 17  
Mason b Baker 9, 11

Oldfield b Baker 21, 15  
Douglas b Mason 11, -19, 17  
Billington b Dorking 17, 9

#### WOMEN: Group 1:

Gordon b Billington 9, 10  
Holt b Shaw 15, 13  
Harris b Toole 14, 19

Holt b Toole 15, 15  
Harris b Billington -19, 14, 16  
Gordon b Shaw 11, -15, 21

Billington b Shaw 17, -11, 16  
Gordon b Toole 12, 17  
Holt b Harris 12, 12

Gordon b Harris 18, 17  
Shaw b Toole 7, 17  
Billington b Holt 20, 17

Billington b Toole 13, -17, 13  
Holt b Gordon -15, 15, 22  
Shaw b Harris 12, -13, 15

#### WOMEN: Group 2:

Lomas b Bardwell 14, 2  
Houghton b Marling 12, 16  
Lower b Giles 19, 18

Giles b Marling 18, 12  
Lower b Bardwell 14, 10  
Lomas b Houghton 18, 4

Houghton b Bardwell 11, 16  
Lomas b Giles 7, 8  
Lower b Marling 15, 11

Lomas b Lower 18, 13  
Houghton b Giles  
9, -18, 9

Bardwell b Marling 11, 10

Bardwell b Giles  
-17, 16, 18

Lomas b Marling 8, 10  
Houghton b Lower -20, 19, 17

### THE FINAL PLACINGS

#### Men

1. Alan Cooke
2. Desmond Douglas
3. Bradley Billington
4. Matthew Syed
5. Chris Oldfield
6. Sean Gibson
7. Nicky Mason
8. Michael O'Driscoll
9. John Souter
10. Steve Dorking
11. Glenn Baker

#### Women

1. Alison Gordon
2. Andrea Holt
3. Lisa Lomas
4. Juliet Houghton
5. Helen Lower
6. Julie Billington
7. Joanne Shaw
8. Helen Bardwell
9. Carol Giles
10. Jill Harris
11. Debbie Toole
12. Sally Marling

### FINAL SCORES

#### Women:

*Semi-finals:* Holt b Houghton 13, 17; Gordon b Lomas -13, 19, 16  
*Final:* Gordon b Holt -19, 13, 15

#### Men:

*Semi-finals:* Cooke b Billington 21, 17; Douglas w.o. Syed (retired hurt)  
*Final:* Cooke b Douglas 18, 20



## Regional News

by JOSE RANSOME

WHILST THE Regional Women's Training Seminar planned for the beginning of the season was postponed because we did not feel that we were yet getting to sufficient regional organisers, activity has continued in most regions, and particularly at the local league/club level if not on a regional basis. It will now be held on March 17th at Burton, Staffs. Anyone wishing to attend please contact myself on 0642 322223.

In several regions table tennis was included in the Sports Council's "What's on for Women" day on September 27th. Mike Lewis of the **South West Region** particularly used this as promotion for the Women's International which would follow in Cirencester on 5th October. The South West have also held an information day for the Women's Institutes and this will be regularly followed up during the season.

Ian Marshall reports from the **West Midlands** that their Regional Girls Club League attracted 10 teams to Market Drayton in the first half of the season. The Women's event, won by Worcester, attracted only three teams. An attempt will be made to encourage more Regional activity from the Birmingham area in the next few months. Liz Wilson and Jenny Heaton are the women's reps in the West Midlands region.

No co-ordinated regional women's activity so far this season in the **South East Region**, however, Jane Barella hopes to get a couple of events going before the end of the season and particularly will try to recruit some local league women's representatives to help with the organisation.

Terry Gadsby advises that the Ladies Club in Burton has been in operation for over twelve months now. They have entered a team in the local league and held their first annual dinner. The club meets at the Meadowside Leisure Centre on Friday nights. Terry has also been running a table tennis appreciation course for leisure workers at the Technical College and hopes this will swell interest on the leisure side for women in the **East Midlands Region**. Jackie Billington will be the women's representative for this region which is good news on the coaching side.

In the **Northern Region** we have already held a Women's Action Day in Sunderland. The Northern Region Women & Girls League attracted 21 teams for the first rounds held at Mill House Leisure Centre in Hartlepool on 26th November, whilst Seaburn Leisure Centre was the venue for a women's coaches day on 10th December. This proved to be extremely interesting for the eighteen coaches/-leading regional players who attended as Jill Parker gave her presentation on the Technical and Tactical Differences between men and women players as well as working with the women on their own techniques. Ian Elvin from the National Coaching Foundation in Newcastle also gave them plenty of food for thought with his present-

ation on the support available from the N.C.F.

A further session of the Regional League is planned for March, plus two Regional training days for top players with the German coach, Regina Stevens who is currently lecturing at Newcastle Polytechnic. Several sessions for young and beginner players throughout the Region should help to firm up the development which was started last season. Caron Guthrie is the Regional Women's representative, but we are also fortunate in having many enthusiastic women coaches and organisers in the area.

Doreen Schofield is enthusiastic about future developments in the **North West Region** and is, of course, a top VETS player herself. A member of her local Sports Council, Doreen conducts a junior beginners course in Stockport on Sunday mornings plus an advanced session on Tuesday evenings. Lancashire and Cheshire are also fortunate still to be running their strong Women's Inter-League competition with two divisions.

In the **Southern Region**, Vera Hutchinson is the Regional Women's representative. Their regional league now has five teams, including O.L.A.P. and Kingfisher of Reading, Cippenham, Aldershot and the Isle of Wight. With the top ladies team from last season having moved into the men's league, this is a creditable increase of three teams.

Mike Hanley, the Regional Chairman for **Yorkshire and Humberside** has promised to get moving on regional women's development there, but meanwhile the Yorkshire Women's inter-league is still functioning well. These inter-leagues are great for established league players... playing opportunities for new women and girls coming into the sport is what the regional programme is about.



## JAPAN TOUR

WHILE THE Chinese men's team played matches against England following the Leeds English Open, the Japanese Mitsui Bank women's team played two matches against English club sides, Grove of Market Drayton and World of Sport at Chesterfield. This provided valuable competition for the English women players and we would be interested to hear from any other women's teams who may be planning trips to the U.K. in future as similar matches would be welcomed by several of our women's teams.

Re: "Footnote" Page 7 November issue:

"It's great that someone recalls a Women's International vs Czechoslovakia in 1962! Enough said!!!"

## More on Women's International

by JOSE RANSOME

Chairman, Women's Committee

WHILST THE England vs West Germany Women's International Tour was generally well covered in the November issue of **Table Tennis News**, I would like to fill in a little more of the background of the first match in Wolverhampton.

My first approach was to Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council. John Richards, the famous ex Wolverhampton and England football centre-forward and now with the Leisure Services Department, responded immediately with the offer of a free venue at the beautiful Wulfrun Hall at the Civic Centre. This was quickly followed up by sponsorship from Colin Deaton of Colin Deaton's International World of Sport and the voluntary support of the Staffordshire and Wolverhampton officials, and we were on our way to a most successful venture.

Ann Durnall organised an intensive promotion campaign in the schools in the area which included in-school table tennis awareness events, a poster competition (which produced a fantastic selection of colourful pictures, with free tickets to the match being won by: Claire Anderson and Kerrie Bannister of Woodfield Junior School, and Marc Wiggan and Claire Morton of Whitehall Junior School in Walsall) as well as a great group of school supporters at the match itself from the Woodfield Junior School.

Arthur Thomas, the Chairman of Staffordshire County TTA, did a great job in organising an exhibition by the England girls in the Mander Centre the day before the match which created a lot of interest amongst lunch time shoppers as well as a large coloured photograph of the girls in the Express & Star with the caption "How to SELL your sport to the shoppers!" Arthur who has now retired from business but who spent a fair amount of time working in Germany, also sold

tickets to the local Anglo-German Association and was on hand as a guide to Wolverhampton and interpreter during the visit.

Ruth Elliot, Fiona's mother, organised an impressive table of raffle prizes including a fabulous Kettler Go-Kart, and Tarmac assisted with a donation towards expenses. The Mount Hotel in Wolverhampton provided the teams with excellent accommodation and meals at a fraction of their usual cost.

And last, but by no means least, the warm welcome and hospitality extended to the two teams and officials by the Mayor of Wolverhampton, Councillor Richard Reynolds, a table tennis player for many years himself, was much appreciated at the match, and the Mayor's Reception which concluded a most successful evening.

And finally, my personal thanks are extended to all the great people in Wolverhampton, Brentwood and Cirencester who helped to stage and promote the matches, to Jenny Hughes for her untiring assistance as Events Manager, and to the players themselves who performed at such a high level and confirmed that there is indeed a bright future for women in the sport.

Note: A Women's International Tour vs Sweden is now being planned for the beginning of next season. Anyone interested in sponsoring or staging a match is invited to contact the E.T.T.A. Events Manager, Jenny Hughes, at the office in Hastings.



Linda Farrow

THE FIRST major coaching session of the new table tennis club in Central London, Linda Farrow, took place on the 26th November 1989. The course was taken by Alison Gordon, the England Ladies number one. All the participants were Juniors of County standard. The day was very successful and fully subscribed; all the sixteen places were taken. Coaching took place from 10am to 4pm and each player received a written assessment of their game for future reference.

Sessions by top coaches are planned for once a month as well as evening sessions three times a week.

# Women in Table Tennis 2

## Women in the News

CONGRATULATIONS to Alison Gordon who won the Stiga Top 12 event in Clacton on 30th December. Her match against Lisa Lomas was a repeat of the classic in Portsmouth last year, except that the result was reversed.

Bouquets also to the four England team girls who performed so well in Manchester at the Leeds English Open. Lisa Lomas will have gained useful European points for her tremendous victory in the team event against Marie Hrachova. Andrea Holt and Lisa had a great doubles win against the Czech pair, whilst Andrea was so close to victory for England in her match against Renata Kasalova. Alison scored an excellent win over the Korean Kim Youn Soon, whilst Fiona Elliot gained a large photograph in the Telegraph for her incredible display against the Russian Valentina Popova, having the lead at 20-17 in the 5th. A little more confidence and you could have won, Fiona!

Karen Tonge was named as one of five Cheshire "Women of the Year" finalists out of the 100 nominees who attended a special luncheon at Chester Town Hall in early October. A leader at the Castlefields Youth Centre in Runcorn, Karen was nominated for her voluntary work as an International Umpire and referee as well as coaching chairman for the North West. Well done, Karen!

Whilst not exactly in the same category, Mike Lewis of Bristol who is the Organiser of the Women's British League, has been appointed by the Conference of South West Sports Organisations as their representative on the S.W. committee of the National Coaching Foundation.



Alison Gordon - England No.1 and winner of the Stiga Top 12 at Clacton

## Northern Region

### Women's & Girls League

by AUBREY DRAPKIN, Organiser & Referee

THE FIRST session of the Northern Region Women's & Girls League was held at Mill House Leisure Centre in Hartlepool on Sunday, 26th November. Twenty one teams took part covering all of the Region and ranging in standard from little more than beginners to county ranked players.

The League was split into four divisions and the team to come out on top of the first division was the North Shields side of Regina Stevens and Caron Guthrie. Both girls were unbeaten throughout the day.

Jarrow finished narrowly ahead of Hartlepool Peoples Centre in the second Division, with North

Shields C top of the third, and Slatyford winners of the fourth division.

The league has been sponsored by the Middlesbrough based company of Newboulds, famous for their pies and meat products.

The second round of the competition will be held in the north of the Region on Sunday, 4th March.

*Regina Stevens - North Shields.*



## The Leeds Women's British League

MAY 11/12 at Bletchley Leisure Centre and June 9/10 at a new sports centre in the Stourbridge area are the dates and venues now established for this season's Leeds Women's British League. Entry forms have been circulated and most of the 30 available team places taken. At least one more team can be accommodated now and anyone interested should contact Mike Lewis on 0272 730788.

Another great competition for the girls is anticipated this year, including colourful musical Opening Ceremonies, Saturday evening social get-together, awards for Woman and Team of the week-ends as well as £1,275 prize fund to be split between the Premier, First, Second and two Third divisions. A Handbook providing general information, regulations, schedule of play etc will be issued in April and

all teams are asked to start gearing up on their local press and publicity campaign.

• • •

Anyone with contacts for possible future sponsorship for this event is asked to contact Jose Ransome, "Conifers", Church Lane, Ormesby, Middlesbrough, Cleveland. Tel: 0642-322223 as soon as possible.

*Sarah Thorpe - Hartlepool (Photos: courtesy Frank Reid)*



# Eden & Meddings strike Gold at Hinckley

by ANDREW GATHERER (Secretary — Tamworth & District T.T.L.)

AN AIR of eager anticipation and excitement filled Hinckley Leisure Centre when the Leeds Junior National Table Tennis Championships took place there for the seventh time — and for the second time in three years. The Championships attracted players from as far as the Isle of Wight and boasted the largest entry for eight years.

Held over two days, the Cadet events on the Saturday and Juniors on the Sunday, the enthusiastic youngsters produced table tennis at its best.

## Cadets

Devon's Alex Perry, number one seeded cadet and a player of great potential, was unlucky not to reach the final stages, going out in the last

back to level at 10-10 and went on to win 21-15 in the first then, with his strength and confidence high, took the second 21-12.

In the Cadet girls event there were no surprises with the top two seeds reaching the final but a shock

off a challenge at 17-13 to win without conceding another point.

Turning point of a neck and neck decider came at 13-13 when Nicholls' serve yielded four points which set him and his partner up for a 21-17 victory.

In the last four she met Sally Marling who knocked out top seed Kate Goodall, the Yorkshire lass showing why she had won the cadets' title last year with a 23-21, 21-16 victory but not without being



English Junior National Champions Ellen Meddings and Andrew Eden.

eight 21-19, 19-21, 15-21 to Kevin Hodgson.

Edward Hatley from Surrey lived up to his second seeding, beating the number five Johnathan May of Devon 21-11, 21-12 with strong attacking play in their semi final.

## Close Affair

In the other semi, Hodgson met fourth seed Darren Blake from Surrey in what proved to be a close affair. Hodgson taking the first 21-17 but Blake in magnificent form winning the second 21-8 to take it to a decider.

Blake always held the upper hand in the third but his opponent never gave in and narrowed it to 11-12 before the Home Counties lad took command to take it 21-16.

In the final, Blake made all the early running going 7-1 up and looked invincible but Hatley came

was in store for the number one seed and fourth European ranked Nicola Deaton from Derbyshire who lost 14-21, 16-21 to talented Sally Marling from Yorkshire.

## Double Success

Sally then had another success when she and her partner took the doubles by beating second seeds Massingham and Smith although they had a scare in the second when it was level at 16-16 but got the edge to take it 21-17.

In the boys' doubles, it was an eagerly anticipated clash between top seeds Perry and Blake against Hatley and Nicholls and lived up to expectations.

In the first game, the second seeds pulled away from 8-8 to win 21-14 but the number one pair went into overdrive in the next holding

## Juniors

The second day started with the junior doubles, top seeds Meddings and Gower winning the girls' 21-17, 21-18 although they had to come back from 3-8 down to Roberts and Buckley in the second.

## Upset

There was an upset in the boys' doubles when top seeds Solder and Jeffries lost 17-21, 8-21 to the number two pair Eden and Mileham but Solder had consolation in the mixed doubles when he and his partner lived up to their number one seeding, edging out Eden and Thornley 22-20, 21-17.

Lesley Hollingsworth was the only unseeded player to reach the semi finals of the girls' singles, beating number three Maria Thornley 14-21, 21-7, 21-19.

pegged back on a number of occasions and having to come from behind in the first.

In the other semi final, number four seed Ellen Meddings beat number two Joanna Roberts 21-18, 21-14.

This set up an intriguing encounter between Sally, going for her second singles' title on consecutive days, and Ellen who had shown great form throughout.

## Unsettled

Ellen did not let Sally get into her rhythm and went 15-10 ahead but at 12-18 down the cadet champion pulled it back to 16-18 but a top spin forehand followed by an excellent smash restored the advantage and the number four seed won 21-17.

# the Leeds English Junior Nat. Champs. — 2

Continued from page 12

The second set started where the first left off but Sally pulled it back to 5-5 then 14-14 when Meddings went for broke and gained a deserved 21-18 success.

In the Junior boys semi finals, second seed Andrew Eden beat number four Leigh Jeffries 21-9, 21-17 and third seed Neil Bevan repeated his Cleveland success of

two weeks previous by eliminating top seed Grant Solder.

Bevan took the first 21-15, Solder the second 21-13 but in the decider the former's speed and accuracy proved too much to handle and although Solder got within a couple of points, Bevan took it 21-16.

Eden went 10-5 ahead but his opponent battled back and went 15-11 up before the see saw swung the other way and Eden came back at the crucial time levelling it at 16-16 then taking it 21-17.

In the second he was always in command and became a jubilant winner at 21-15.



## Eden Delight

With Bevan looking nothing like the player who had beaten Solder,



Above: Cadet Girls Singles Winner, Sally Marling.

Below: Cadet Boys Singles Winner, Edward Hatley.



Above: Junior Girls Doubles Winners, E. Meddings/A. Gower.  
Below: Junior Boys Doubles Winners, A. Eden/B. Mileham.



Above: Cadet Girls Doubles Winners, Caroline Watt/Sally Marling.

Below: Cadet Boys Doubles Winners, E. Hatley/A. Nicholls. (All photos: courtesy of Michael Dawe)



Photographs published (as above) are available from the ETTA office at a price of £2.75 each including VAT and postage and packing.



# British League

Promoted by the English Table Tennis Association



## The London Derby

by MIKE LOVEDER

PROBABLY the most unpredictable match in the Premier during December was that between Dulwich Rams and the Middlesex Four - Ellenborough. Glenn Baker opened for the Rams against Graham Sandley with a convincing 15 & 14 victory. Carl Morgan got the better of Nigel Tyler with a 21-12 third game win. Colin Wilson pulled one back by slowing down his game against Des Charlery, and Tony Stark levelled the match by beating Eddie Smith in straight games. Nigel Tyler also experienced some considerable difficulty in judging the effect of the pimples of Glenn Baker's backhand and was consequently defeated -10, -17 for the Surrey player to gain the Man of the Match nomination. Graham Sandley was next at the table and beat Des Charlery at 12 in the third to square the match at 3-3. The penultimate game between Carl Morgan and Tony Stark see-sawed dramatically - in their third game Tony Stark trailed 4-10 and recovered to 13-14 only to see the 'super-cool' Carl Morgan pull away to win 21-17. The finish could not have been closer between Eddie Smith and Colin Wilson. Ellenborough looked poised to take a point as Colin Wilson's consistency saw him go 19-16 ahead in their third game. However Eddie Smith sprang to life with a few severe hits to win the match and the game at 22-20. His Christmas bonus was Colin Wilson serving off at 20-21. One odd feature of this match was that the players were calling the majority of let points. However this was forgotten at the post-match refreshments which were some of the best I have seen. Everyone tucked in to a roast turkey dinner and remembered that Christmas was on the horizon!

Elsewhere in the Premier Ormesby beat Kettler 6-2 again. This time John Hilton beat the England No 8 Michael O'Driscoll; and Craig Bakewell beat John Broe who had come at the last minute with flu. Grove beat Butterfly Cardiff 8-0 and Bath beat Armada 7-1 with Gary Lambert, ranked 100, beating Chris Rogers ranked at 13.

Grove II remain three points clear at the top of Division 1 North with a whitewash of City of Leeds. West Warwickshire and St. Neots, both on eleven points, battle it out for promotion. The former recorded a 6-2 win over Bayer Bradford while St Neots suffered a 3-5 home defeat to Well Connected Menswear who are chasing just one point behind. Ruston Marconi Lincoln achieved their first win of the season, crushing Chan Construction 7-1.

Ashford return to the top of Division 1 South with a 5-3 win over Team Peniel. Max Crimmins bagged a duck, but this was offset by two wins each from Kenny Jackson and Dave Barr. Joey Kennedy beat Lisa Lomas. Chelms-

ford are level with them on points but four games behind following their 5-3 win over Rejects who introduced Herts Veteran John Taylor. Mike O'Leary won two, including the scalp of Tommy Cutler. Horsham Dolphins move up to fourth place having completely reversed their 2-6 first-half defeat to Colley Toyota. Ritchie Venner beat Steve Ward in this match. TSP Larkhall chalked up their first point of the season with a draw against Britannia.

In Division 2 Midland Burslem put together a surprise 6-2 win over Grove III to go top. Cheltenham could be out of the hunt following their draw with Bathwick Tyres II. Birmingham took a point from Leicester to move 5 points clear of the bottom spot. VPM Mazda recorded their third win of the season with a 6-2 victory against White Hart Launceston.

Ormesby II retained top spot in Division 2 North with a useful whitewash of Oldham which puts them out of reach, for the time being, of second-placed Norwich Foxwood. Vymura slipped up

sharing the points with Cambridge while Chan Construction II stay at the bottom with their 3-5 loss to Liverpool.

TSP Larkhall II, at the bottom of Division 2 South, took a point from the top team, Concord Flash who were without their No. 1 on the day. Fellows Cranleigh just missed out on taking over the top spot with a draw against Jolliffe Poole who are sixth. Rejects II move up to third place with a surprise 6-2 win over Ellenborough II. Clive Carthy beat Dipak Topiwala in this match. Equally surprising was a 7-1 win for Victory Sports Tonbridge against Horsham Dolphins.

<b>3 South</b>		
Rejects	5 3	Marley
Dulwich	8 0	Lambeth
Gunners'y	8 0	Harlesden
Fareham	3 5	Pillinger
<b>3 West</b>		
Thorns	2 6	Reading
Grove IV	3 5	Leckie
Bude	0 8	Colley
Bath III	2 6	Comets

### LEAGUE TABLES AS AT 18 DECEMBER 1989

Premier	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Grove I	8	8	0	58	6	16
Ormesby I	8	7	0	47	17	14
Bath I	8	6	0	52	12	12
Dulwich Rams	8	5	0	33	31	10
Kettler	8	2	1	23	41	5
Ellenbro'	8	2	0	28	36	4
Cardiff	8	1	1	10	54	3
Armada 400	8	0	0	5	59	0

1 South	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Ashford	8	6	0	39	25	12
Chelmsford	8	5	2	35	29	12
Team Peniel	8	5	1	36	28	11
Horsham Dol	8	4	1	33	31	9
Rejects I	8	3	1	31	33	7
Britannia	8	2	3	31	33	7
Colley Toy	8	2	1	28	36	5
Larkhall I	8	0	1	23	41	1
1 North	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Grove II	8	6	2	49	15	14
W Warwick	8	5	1	38	26	11
St Neots	8	5	1	36	28	11
Well Conn'd	8	5	0	35	29	10
Chan Const	8	3	0	27	37	6
City Leeds	8	3	0	24	40	6
B Bradford	8	2	0	23	41	4
RM Lincoln	8	1	0	24	40	2

2 Midland	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Burslem	8	6	1	37	27	13
Grove III	8	6	0	45	19	12
Cheltenham	8	4	2	33	31	10
Leicester	8	2	4	34	30	8
Bath II	8	3	2	34	30	8
VPM Mazda	8	3	2	31	33	8
Birmingham	8	2	1	25	39	5
Launceston	8	0	0	17	47	0

2 North	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Ormesby II	7	5	2	43	13	12
Norwich	6	5	0	34	14	10
Vymura	7	4	2	38	18	10
Liverpool	7	4	1	37	19	9
Cambridge	7	2	1	22	34	5
Oldham	7	1	0	9	47	2
Chan II	7	0	0	9	47	0

2 South	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Concord Flash	8	5	2	39	25	12
F Cranleigh	8	4	3	38	26	11
Rejects II	8	5	0	33	31	10
VS Tonbridge	8	4	1	38	26	9
Ellenbro II	8	3	2	31	33	8
J Poole	8	2	3	29	35	7
Horsham II	8	1	3	28	36	5
Larkhall II	8	0	2	20	44	2

### RESULTS

Premier:			
Dulwich	5 3	Ellenbro'	
Ormesby	6 2	Kettler	
Cardiff	0 8	Grove	
Bath	7 1	Armada	

1 South			
Rejects	3 5	Chelmsford	
Britannia	4 4	Larkhall	
Horsham	6 2	Colley	
Peniel	3 5	Ashford	

1 North			
St Neots	3 5	WellConn	
Warwicks	6 2	Bradford	
Leeds	0 8	Grove II	
Chan	1 7	Lincoln	

2 North			
Liverpool	5 3	Chan II	
Ormesby	8 0	Oldham	
Cambridge	4 4	Vymura	

2 Midland			
Birmingham	4 4	Leicester	
Grove III	2 6	Burslem	
Launceston	2 6	Mazda	
Bath II	4 4	Cheltenham	

2 South			
Rejects	6 2	Ellenbro'	
Concord	4 4	Larkhall	
Horsham	1 7	Tonbridge	
Poole	4 4	Cranleigh	

3 East			
Peterbro'	6 2	Peniel	
Brentwood	6 2	Lincoln	
M Keynes	3 5	Britannia	
Westfield	4 4	Cranleigh	

3 North			
Blaydon	2 6	Huddersfield	
Ormesby	6 2	Telford	
Bri-Bar	5 3	Durham	
Vymura	3 5	Humberside	



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# The Leeds County Championships 1

## Mid-Season Round-up

by DOUG MOSS



With — in most cases — three rounds of the County Championships completed I take the opportunity to review the season so far as it affects the Senior and Junior Divisions and the Veterans Divisions 1A — 3.

**SENR 1A** — Yorkshire have taken the lead with 5 points. The team meets fellow demotees, Suffolk, at end of Jan. Suffolk dropped 2 points to Warwickshire in their last match. Warwicks had Carl Morgan as No.1 and his inclusion very much strengthens the team and will have a big influence on results. But Yorks have already played and beaten Warwickshire.

**SENR 1B** — Sussex are the leaders but Avon are close rivals with the same number of points — there is just a sets advantage for Sussex. Interesting that these 2 teams have met and made a draw. The Essex and Middlesex 2nd teams could have a vital influence in this Division and Sussex have to meet both teams.

**SENR 2A** — Cheshire and Yorks 2nds are clear leaders and have dropped only 2 and 3 events respectively. The teams do not meet until the last Round at end of March and this should decide the issue. Cheshire have Brian Johns and Wayne Percival at Nos. 1 and 2 and the ladies are Janet Deakin and Julie Hope, who are unbeaten. Yorks "regulars" are Nicky Davies and Tim Dyson, with Helen Shields and Cathy Johnson, who are also unbeaten.

**SENR 2B** — Glos lead with 7 points from 4 matches. They look strong contenders with players Darren Griffin, Dave Harvey and Graham Slack. But Somerset, relegated from 1B, have won both their matches and with Lee Sadler and Melonie Carey in their team could well be on their way back. Glos and Somerset meet in the last match of the season.

**SENR 2C** — Few matches played in this Division but demotees Herts have played 3 and won 4 points. Norfolk, the other demotees, have had one convincing 9-1 win. But Bedfordshire have already beaten Herts and, with the Bowler brothers, could well improve on their last season's runners-up position.

**SENR 2D** — Sussex 2nds lead with 5 points from 3 matches. They look well served in the ladies events with Sally Weston and Carol Hewett, who won the "Woodfield" ladies singles title. Essex 3rd team is obviously strong all-round but they have already met Sussex 2nd and the result was a draw.

**SENR 3A** — Staffs and Durham share the lead in this Division and are obviously the 2 strongest teams. Durham are newcomers and Staffs have rejoined the championships and are both no doubt looking to

play at a higher level — and they certainly look capable! The teams meet at end of January.

**SENR 3B** — Bucks have a great start with 3 wins and dropped only 3 events. With players of the calibre of John Burleton and Graeme McKim they look well set for return to Division 2.

**JUNR PREM** — Up-to-date report given last month.

**JUNR 1A** — Durham, Essex 2nd and Yorks 2nd each have 4 points but Durham lead having dropped only 1 event! Durham travel to meet Yorks 2nd at end of Jan and the result should be a good indicator as to the Division champions. Whatever the outcome, with Essex and Yorkshire already represented in the Premier Div (and likely to stay!) Durham could well contemplate Premier Div. status.

**JUNR 1B** — Herts lead with 3 convincing wins. But just one point behind are Middlesex and Surrey, who have met and made a draw! One of these 3 teams should finish as champions. In the boys events Surrey look best qualified with Paul Carter, Edward Hatley and Jason and Darren Blake. But Sara Williams and Esme Kottasz could well tip the scales for Middlesex and see them back in Premier Div.

**JUNR 2A** — Just 1 event separates Cheshire 1st and Warwickshire 2nd at the top of the Table. I expect Ches. 1st team would be encouraged by the fact that Warwicks had some difficulty in defeating the Ches. 2nd team — the score 6-4 and 2 of the Warwicks wins were at 19 in third game! The 2 teams do not meet until March.

**JUNR 2B** — Glos looked well in command but there was an upset in the last Round when they visited Barnet and were beaten 6-4 by Herts 2nd. Duncan Taylor (He) was the architect with wins over Raymond Powell and Jeremy Hyatt and taking the doubles partnered by Robert Barrasso. This brings Worcestershire back into the picture and they share the lead with Glos.

**JUNR 2C** — Devon 2nd head the Table with 4 wins but Glamorgan are also unbeaten after 3 matches. Glamorgan were runners-up last season and this could be their turn for promotion. However Somerset, demoted from Div 1 last season, will certainly have an influence and they have to meet both Devon and Glamorgan.

**JUNR 2D** — Suffolk have performed well, winning their 4 matches, and have already beaten Middlesex 2nds, their closest rivals. Essex junior teams will always give

a good account but in this Division the 3rd team has already dropped 3 points. It says much for Essex junior activities that the Essex 3rd team has already given an outing to 14 players!

**VETS 1A** — Lincs head the Table with 3 wins — a good start towards a bid to regain Premier Div. status. Lincs have Matt Sheader and Brian Allison who are unbeaten. Worcestershire have done well and are nearest rivals, also having had 3 wins. In the Division Pat Brooks (Ch) and Janet Hunt (Wo) have won all their singles matches.

**VETS 1B** — Middlesex, the other team relegated from Premier Div, seem to be romping away with this Division. The team has won their 3 matches and dropped only 4 events. Middx have Mary Sawyer unbeaten in singles and the team has excelled in doubles, with Bill Brookman much involved.

**VETS 2A** — Yorks 3rd team, runners-up last season, are well in the lead — 3 wins and dropped only 6 events. But Lancs 2nds have played just 1 match and had a convincing win over N'berland. Yorks have Ken Burgess and Barry Pearson who have won all their doubles events and each lost just 1 singles. The Yorks/Lancs match is the last of the season.

**VETS 2B** — Essex 3rds have started well with 2 convincing wins and it is difficult to see any team capable of beating them. John Leith has a clean sheet in singles and doubles. Now there are 3 Veterans Divisions demotion is a factor to be faced by Div. 2 teams. Bedfordshire

have not yet gained a point but could take encouragement from the fact they have faced the 2 top teams.

**VETS 2C** — Both Bucks 2nd and Middlesex 2nds are unbeaten. Middlesex got a vital 5-4 win over Northants. With the Middx first team doing so well in Div 1 their 2nd team could well be reclaiming their place in Div 1.

**VETS 2D** — Dorset, demoted from Div 1, is the only team to have won both its matches. The Dorset team has Joyce Coop, who is a very good player — unbeaten in Div 1 last season and likely to repeat the performance this season. Mike Toole is also unbeaten and Dorset look well set to return to Div 1.

**VETS 3A** — The Berks 3rd and Herts 3rd teams are unbeaten. Berks have dropped only 3 events over their 3 matches and have won all the mens singles and doubles events. With Gill White and Sally Bax the Herts team is probably better served in the ladies events. It will be a very interesting match when these teams meet in March.

**VETS 3B** — Hants 2nds and Sussex 4ths both have 2 wins under their belts. A comparison shows that both teams have played Wilts 3rd team and both won 5-4. The teams meet in February and the result could be vital. But Dorset 2nds is also a team to be reckoned with and their results will certainly have an influence on the outcome of the Division.

### THE LEEDS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Tables as at 31st December 1989

SENIORS	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Division 1A</b>							
Yorkshire	3	2	1	0	20	10	5
Warwickshire	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Northumberland	3	2	0	1	16	13	4
Suffolk	3	2	0	1	15	15	4
Lancashire 2nd	3	1	1	1	18	12	3
Worcestershire	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Cambridgeshire	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Lincolnshire	3	0	0	3	9	21	0
<b>Division 1B</b>							
Sussex	4	3	1	0	32	8	7
Avon	4	3	1	0	25	15	7
Essex 2nd	4	2	1	1	24	16	5
Middlesex 2nd	4	2	0	2	20	20	4
Kent	4	2	0	2	20	20	4
Devonshire 2nd	4	2	0	2	18	22	4
Hampshire	4	0	1	3	12	28	1
Cornwall	4	0	0	4	9	31	0
<b>Division 2A</b>							
Cheshire	2	2	0	0	18	2	4
Yorkshire 2nd	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Nottinghamshire	3	1	0	2	15	15	2
Warwickshire 2nd	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Leicestershire 2nd	2	1	0	1	6	14	2
Cumbria	3	0	0	3	6	24	0

# The Leeds County Championships 2

Continued from page 15

## SENIORS

Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Division 2B</b>							
Gloucestershire	4	3	1	0	26	14	7
Somerset	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Wiltshire	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Dorset	3	1	1	1	17	11	3
Avon 2nd	5	1	0	4	17	33	2
Worcestershire 2nd	3	0	0	3	10	20	0
<b>Division 2C</b>							
Hertfordshire	3	2	0	1	21	9	4
Norfolk	1	1	0	0	9	1	2
Bedfordshire	1	1	0	0	7	3	2
Cambridgeshire 2nd	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Suffolk 2nd	1	0	0	1	3	7	0
Huntingdonshire	2	0	0	2	1	19	0
<b>Division 2D</b>							
Sussex 2nd	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Berkshire 2nd	2	2	0	0	11	8	4
Essex 3rd	3	1	1	1	19	10	3
Kent 2nd	3	0	2	1	12	18	2
Oxfordshire	3	1	0	2	10	20	2
Northamptonshire	2	0	1	1	9	11	1
Surrey 2nd	2	0	1	1	9	11	1
<b>Division 3A</b>							
Staffordshire	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Durham	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Cheshire 2nd	2	1	0	1	11	9	2
Bedfordshire 2nd	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Northamptonshire 2	3	0	0	3	7	23	0
Clwyd	1	0	0	1	0	10	0
<b>Division 3B</b>							
Buckinghamshire	3	3	0	0	27	3	6
Hertfordshire 2nd	4	3	0	1	24	16	6
Hampshire 2nd	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Glamorgan	1	1	0	0	10	0	2
Devonshire 3rd	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Dorset 2nd	4	1	0	3	10	30	2
Cornwall 2nd	4	0	0	4	6	34	0

## JUNIORS

Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Essex	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	24	6	6
Lancashire	3	3	0	0	22	8	6
Devonshire	3	1	1	1	17	13	3
Kent	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Bedfordshire	3	0	1	2	13	17	1
Derbyshire	3	0	0	3	5	25	0
Warwickshire	3	0	0	3	2	28	0
<b>Division 1A</b>							
Durham	2	2	0	0	19	1	4
Yorkshire 2nd	2	2	0	0	16	4	4
Essex 2nd	2	2	0	0	13	7	4
Northumberland	2	1	0	1	13	7	2
Lincolnshire	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Lancashire 2nd	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Northamptonshire	3	0	0	3	7	23	0
Nottinghamshire	2	0	0	2	0	20	0

Not including Li v Nd and Y2 v Ng.

## Division 1B

Hertfordshire	3	3	0	0	23	7	6
Middlesex	3	2	1	0	22	8	5
Surrey	3	2	1	0	18	12	5
Berkshire	3	1	1	1	15	15	3
Oxfordshire	3	0	2	1	14	16	2
Sussex	3	0	1	2	12	18	1
Cornwall	3	0	1	2	8	22	1
Avon	3	0	1	2	8	22	1
<b>Division 2A</b>							
Cheshire	3	3	0	0	22	8	6
Warwickshire 2nd	3	3	0	0	21	9	6
Clwyd	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Lancashire 3rd	3	2	0	1	15	15	4
Cheshire 2nd	3	1	0	2	17	13	2
Leicestershire	3	1	0	2	8	22	2
Derbyshire 2nd	3	0	0	3	12	18	0
Clwyd 2nd	3	0	0	3	7	23	0



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# The Leeds County Championships — 3

## JUNIORS

Division 2B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gloucestershire	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Buckinghamshire	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Worcestershire	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Hertfordshire 2nd	2	2	0	0	12	8	2
Berkshire 2nd	3	1	0	2	11	19	2
Wiltshire	2	0	0	2	5	15	0
Northamptonshire 2	2	0	0	2	2	18	0

Not including He2 v Gs

Division 2C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Devonshire 2nd	4	4	0	0	33	7	8
Glamorgan	4	4	0	0	32	8	8
Somerset	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Gwent	5	2	1	2	28	22	5
Devonshire 3rd	4	1	1	2	21	19	3
Cornwall 2nd	4	1	0	3	10	30	2
Hampshire	3	0	1	2	8	22	1
Dorset	2	0	0	2	6	14	0
Hampshire 2nd	3	0	0	3	3	27	0

Division 2D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Suffolk	4	4	0	0	28	12	8
Middlesex 2nd	4	3	0	1	24	16	6
Essex 3rd	4	2	1	1	25	15	5
Kent 2nd	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Norfolk	3	1	1	1	18	12	3
Surrey 2nd	3	1	0	2	17	13	2
Suffolk 2nd	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Norfolk 2nd	3	1	0	2	9	21	2
Sussex 2nd	4	0	0	4	10	30	0
Surrey 3rd	3	0	0	3	5	25	0

## Veterans Premier Division First Weekend

by ROGER MOSS — Referee

DURING the Weekend of 2nd and 3rd December 1989 at the Vymura International Table Tennis Club, Hyde, Cheshire eight counties competed in this two day event, the teams containing a good mixture of established players and "new" veterans gave 100% commitment in every match and also to the dinner in the evening. I could just give you the bare details, results and averages, but then one could only imagine the personalities and the atmosphere of the weekend. However to try and report fully would take pages and a few label actions, so to whet your appetite, so to speak, a small number of snapshots will I am sure enable you to visualise the scene. It would be remiss of me not to mention the fact that perhaps a number of players are carrying a little more weight, than when they were in their prime, and perhaps the "odd" ball which they assure me they would have reached 10, 20, 30, 40 years ago, went a-begging.

The vocal commitment and support by the Surrey team was definitely noted by all concerned, the suggestion that Derek Holman played his games in the car park was not taken up this time but it's worth considering for the future. Connie Warren encourages himself vocally and in so doing taught us all a number of new words. The Essex team spearheaded by Stuart Gibbs, who does not know the meaning of the word defend, rounded off their weekend with an excellent win over the previously unbeaten Yorkshire. Stuart himself having two fine wins over Dennis Neale and Malcolm Corking, these together with Lesley Radford maintaining her 100% record in the ladies and mixed doubles and an inspired win by Stan "The Bat" Battrick over Cleve Judson meant a satisfactory conclusion to their matches. Two counties Cheshire and Kent emerged unbeaten and both owe a great deal to their lady player, Doreen Schofield for Cheshire and

Margaret Dignum for Kent, both unbeaten in the singles and Doreen unbeaten in the mixed doubles, with Margaret only dropping one match.

One could go on and on but perhaps a final few items to conclude, Derek Schofield assuring everybody he was retiring, until he won, then perhaps he would play a little longer. Paul Beck advising us all he was better at doubles, still at least he had some success in that area although if the young lady who came to the dinner with him had supported him from the court side he would have had at least 5 points advantage. Finally the sight of Keith Horton that powerful hitter from Sussex going to expedite !!! (Sorry Keith I had to get that one in).

In conclusion I think everybody will agree a most enjoyable and competitive weekend, well organised with the umpires doing a superb job.

Well done everybody.

## County Veterans Teams

<b>Buckinghamshire</b> Alec Watson Paul Shirley Frank Earis	<b>Cheshire</b> Roger Hampson Derek Schofield Brian Kean Paul Collins	<b>Essex</b> Stuart Gibbs Fred Lockwood Derek Wood	<b>Hertfordshire</b> John Taylor David Seaholme Stuart Seaholme
Key Waters	Doreen Schofield	Lesley Radford	Susan Falstead
<b>Kent</b> Henry Buist Clive Morris	<b>Surrey</b> Derek Holman Connie Warren	<b>Sussex</b> Keith Horton Robin Stace	<b>Yorkshire</b> Dennis Neale Malcolm
Paul Beck	Frank Hams	Andy Meads	Corking Cleve Judson Tony Hunt
Margaret Dignum	Barbara Wynne	Pauline Steel	Pat Bassano

## CURRENT VETS TABLES

Premier	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Cheshire	3	3	0	19	8	6
Kent	3	3	0	19	8	6
Yorkshire	3	2	1	19	8	4
Sussex	3	2	1	16	11	4
Essex	3	2	1	15	12	4
Hertfordshire	3	0	3	8	19	0
Surrey	3	0	3	7	20	0
Buckinghamshire	3	0	3	5	22	0
<b>Division 1A</b>						
Lincolnshire	3	3	0	21	6	6
Worcestershire	3	3	0	18	9	6
Cheshire 2nd	3	2	1	17	10	4
Lancashire	3	2	1	15	12	4
Norfolk	3	2	1	14	13	4
Essex 2nd	3	0	3	9	18	0
Yorkshire 2nd	3	0	3	7	20	0
Warwickshire	3	0	3	7	20	0
<b>Division 1B</b>						
Middlesex	3	3	0	23	4	6
Berkshire	3	2	1	16	11	4
Wiltshire	3	2	1	14	13	4
Kent 2nd	3	2	1	13	14	4
Gloucestershire	3	1	2	12	15	2
Surrey 2nd	3	1	2	11	16	2
Sussex 2nd	3	1	2	9	18	2
Oxfordshire	3	0	3	10	17	0
<b>Division 2A</b>						
Yorkshire 3rd	3	3	0	21	6	6
Lancashire 2nd	1	1	0	6	3	2
Northumberland	2	1	1	9	9	2
Cheshire 3rd	2	1	1	7	11	2
Lincolnshire 2nd	1	0	1	3	6	0
Clwyd	3	0	3	8	19	0
<b>Division 2B</b>						
Essex 3rd	2	2	0	12	6	4
Huntingdonshire	3	2	1	12	15	4
Leicestershire	2	1	1	10	8	2
Nottinghamshire	2	1	1	9	9	2
Norfolk 2nd	3	1	2	13	14	2
Bedfordshire	2	0	2	7	11	0
<b>Division 2C</b>						
Buckinghamshire 2nd	2	2	0	16	2	4
Middlesex 2nd	2	2	0	13	5	4
Northamptonshire	3	2	1	18	9	4
Surrey 3rd	2	1	1	10	8	2
Wiltshire 2nd	2	0	2	4	14	0
Herefordshire	3	0	3	2	25	0
<b>Division 2D</b>						
Dorset	2	2	0	11	7	4
Sussex 3rd	2	1	1	10	8	2
Berkshire 2nd	2	1	1	9	9	2
Hampshire	2	1	1	9	9	2
Hertfordshire 2nd	2	1	1	9	9	2
Somerset	2	0	2	6	12	0
<b>Division 3A</b>						
Berkshire 3rd	3	3	0	24	3	6
Hertfordshire 3rd	2	2	0	12	6	4
Northamptonshire 2	2	1	1	7	11	2
Huntingdonshire 2	1	0	1	3	6	0
Hertfordshire 4th	2	0	2	5	13	0
Bedfordshire 2nd	2	0	2	3	15	0
<b>Division 3B</b>						
Sussex 4th	2	2	0	12	6	4
Hampshire 2nd	2	2	0	10	8	4
Dorset 2nd	2	1	1	10	8	2
Berkshire 4th	3	1	2	12	15	2
Wiltshire 3rd	3	0	3	10	17	0



# Semi Final drama at Bowlers

by JOHN WOODFORD



**THE dramatic semi-final meeting between Chen Xinhua and the German champion Jorg Rosskopf was for some journalists the most memorable battle since John Hilton won the European Crown at Berne in 1980.**

At the start, it seemed as though Rosskopf, one of the most improved players in Europe had little chance. He lost to 10 in the first game, frequently netting the fierce backspin returns. In the second Chen seemed to be heading for a 2 - 0 lead and a place in the final, when catastrophe struck. At 16 - 11 ahead he went to pick up a ball and was suddenly in severe pain at the base of his back, the sort of sharp, stabbing pain that most people have experienced.

How he managed to take the second game almost immobilised is a mystery. The drama heightened as before the next game commenced attempts were made to strap on an ice-pack as the umpire and the referee became agitated that time-rules should not be broken. Picking up the ball became extremely painful as Rosskopf seeing his chance of victory looming, patiently piled on his brilliant top-spin attack to take the next two games 16, 16, to level the score at two games all.

By that time Chen had donned a weightlifting belt some six inches wide, made of leather that looked far too cumbersome to be effective. The tension increased — "pure theatre" said Alan Ransome later, as the fifth game showdown arrived.

How could Chen hope to survive? Steadily, Rosskopf piled on the top-spin pressure to lead 15 - 10 and 17 - 14. Chen's brave efforts seemed destined to end in defeat, but he was still smiling through the pain.

Incredibly the Chinese player fought back, chopping and hitting winners to reach 20 - 20. By that time, some of the crowd were on their feet urging Chen to victory, which still seemed unlikely. But, it happened like a fairy tale, Chen won the last points to come through 23 - 21 as Rosskopf pushed the last return, laced with deadly backspin into the net.

Bowlers erupted — most of the 1,500 crowd stood in sheer admiration of the bravery of a man who wants to play for England. He won the hearts of English table tennis fans, who now want him in an England shirt, because he is immensely talented and possesses the best personality since the days of Chester Barnes!

Sadly, Chen was unable to appear in the final and Yu Shentong received a walk-over, leaving the question that can never be answered — would Chen have beaten Yu?

## The Cause of Chen's Pains...

THERE can be little doubt that his re-appearance on the world-class

scene after a gap of three years was the bottom of the problem. Since he left China to live in England the best match-practice he has had has been in the Leeds British League, useful exercise but not the best preparation to meet China's best men and players of Rosskopf's calibre.

The night before the now famous Rosskopf semi-final, Chen got little sleep. His wife Jeanette had a restless night with seven-months-old

Tamar, resulting in Chen spending most of the night on the sofa getting about two hours sleep and waking up with a stiff back!

What could have happened is that the family should have stayed in hotel accommodation that was on offer near the venue, so that Chen could have been certain of a night's rest.

• FOOTNOTE: Jeanette and Chen have named their son, not after the River Tamar but after the TVR Tamar, the famous sports car originally manufactured in Blackpool until 1979. The car with a 3-litre Ford power unit is said to be fast and thirsty — apparently, young Tamar arrived rather quickly when he was born!



Leeds English Open Champion 1990 - Yu Shentong (China) proudly holding the magnificent trophy. (Photo: John F. A. Wood)

## England Women Shine at Bowlers

ALISON GORDON played splendidly throughout the tournament. She was at her best on the second day when she reached the quarter-finals of the womens singles bringing down the South Korean Kim Youn Soon at 18 in the fifth game. Alison went on to trouble Marie Hrachova, but went down in the fourth at 15, whilst Hrachova reached the final by the same 15 in the fourth against Paris-based Xiao Ming Wang.

In the women's singles final Mika Hoshino (Japan) proved beyond doubt that she really is a world top-ten player, lashing Hrachova 12, 15, 19 in a superbly entertaining match captured live for BBC Grandstand and later repeated on the same programme — such was the quality.

Earlier, Fiona Elliot was highly delighted with her performance taking the former European champion Valentina Popova to 22 in the fifth, after beating Korean Lee Jung Ae in Round 2.

Lisa Lomas's defences were causing some havoc in the women's events but she failed to reach the

quarters losing to Moon Jung Im.

Andrea Holt seemed to be heading for a good run in the singles when she beat Kerri Tepper. Miss Tepper defeated Lisa Lomas in the Cleveland team event, so that was no mean performance by the young lady from Ramsbottom, but the pride of Lancashire then lost 9, 16, 13 to Irina Palina from the USSR, a disappointing defeat for Andrea but she is still making progress and holds the England No.4 ranking virtually unchallenged and is always looking for a way forward up the list.

## The International Team Competition

IN DAYS gone by the Asian teams would have swept through the rest of the opposition like a typhoon in the South China Sea. Happily, those days seem to be over. China had to fight for their lives to win the men's final 3 - 2 against West Germany and South Korea were fully stretched to beat France 3 - 2 in the women's final.

Was the move to play the team event at the end a success? The answer is probably in the affirmative. There were certainly large crowds present on the Sunday, but nowhere near as large as on the previous day. Overall the gate receipts for the whole tournament were about 40 per cent up on the Brighton Centre in January 1988.

Jorg Roszkopf, now firmly entrenched as the West German No. 1 will not forget Manchester. He followed his unforgettable defeat by Chen Xinhua by almost winning the men's team event singlehanded over-powering the two top Chinese players Chen Longcan and Yu Shentong in the final, but Steffen Fetzner, although improving, was not quite up to the task of winning singles matches against the top Chinese neither did the world mens doubles champions Roszkopf and Fetzner prove strong enough to beat Longcan and Shentong.

France reached the final of the women's team event with a 3-1 victory over England (Alison Gordon beat Coubat) and two wins by Wang Xiaoming, who also landed two fine wins over South Korea in the final, but Coubat (like Fetzner) was not in the business of overcoming Asian opposition.

### Explosive Cabrera

Returning to the men's event — Belgium, without Jean-Michel Saive were brought down 3 - 0 by England 1, as Thierry Cabrera again displayed his explosive temperament. Sitting six rows back two English four-letter words were audible but not apparently to the

umpire, although his behaviour was reported to the referee.

England men came through their quarter-final tie with a tidy 3 - 1 win over Japan with Carl Prean dismissing both Saito and Koh. Bear in mind that this tournament was played in Corbillon Cup format — maximum of five games with three players, Alan Cooke played only in the doubles. Des Douglas lost 19 in the third game to Saito. In the semi-final England came under the full blast of Chinese power — Longcan beat Cooke, Shentong stopped Prean -16, 16, 17 with Chen and Wei stopping Cooke and Douglas in the doubles, 18, 18.

### Best Ever?

England's interest in the women's team event was terminated when after a walk-over against Austria, our girls made Czechoslovakia battle hard before the ladies from Prague went through 3 - 2.

Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt chalked up possibly their best ever women's doubles win 7, -11, 17 over the highly rated Kasalova and Hrachova. Lisa followed by beating the evergreen Hrachova 11, 21 but Andrea although playing impressively could not get into the final giant-killing act losing the decider to Kasalova.

So the team event ended the highly successful four-day event at Bowlers, still plenty of excitement, although the drama of the previous day in the men's singles semi-finals was still fresh in peoples minds, it was as they say on stage, a difficult act to follow.



Above: England's Lisa Lomas in action against Moon Jing Im of South Korea.

Below: Desmond and Alan helped young rising stars Chris Oldfield and Michael O'Driscoll to a £1000 performance award from the Leeds by losing to them in the quarter finals of the Mens Doubles. (Photos: John F. A. Wood)



# Picture Parade — 1



*Wei Qingguang/Chen Longcan (Olympic Doubles Champs 1988), Leeds English Open Doubles Champs 1990 (Photo courtesy Manchester Evening News)*



*Roskopf/Fetzner – World Doubles Champs 1989; Leeds English Open Doubles R/U 1990 (Photo: J. Holland)*



*Above: Lee Jung Ae/Kim Youn Sook (Korea) – Ladies Doubles Champions.*

*Below: Mika Hoshino (Japan) beat Marie Hrachova (Czechoslovakia) in a Women's Singles Final of the highest quality. BBC Grandstand TV showed it in full, live and then repeated the best rallies just before the football results – high praise indeed. (Photos: John F.A. Wood)*



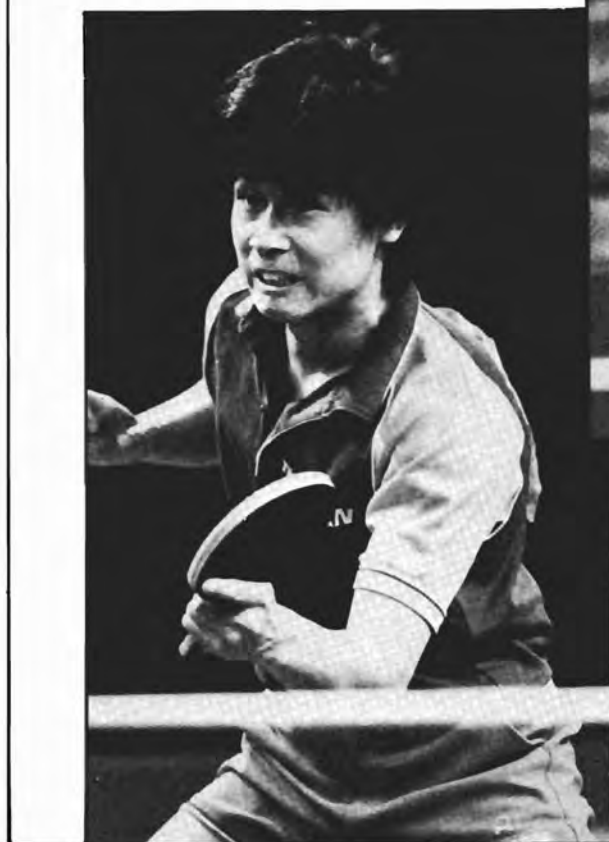
*Above: Wang Xiao Ming/Jean-Philippe Gatien (France) – Mixed Doubles Champions. Below: Yu Shentong (China) – left everyone open-mouthed on his way to the Leeds Open Men's Title (Photos: John F.A. Wood)*



## Picture Parade — 2



Left: Top - Intense concentration shown by Wei Quingguang (China) (Photo: Chris Tofalos). Above - Chen Xinhua played superbly throughout (Photo: John Wood). Below - Shiryo Koh (Japan), Cooke's conqueror, was Chinese, now Japanese with Japanese name. Right: Top - Alison Gordon powers home a forehand watched by mixed doubles partner Skylet Andrew (Photo: John Wood). Centre - Moon Jung Im - a hair-raising return (Photo: John Wood). Bottom - Eric Lindh - Eye "off" the ball. (Photo: Chris Tofalos)

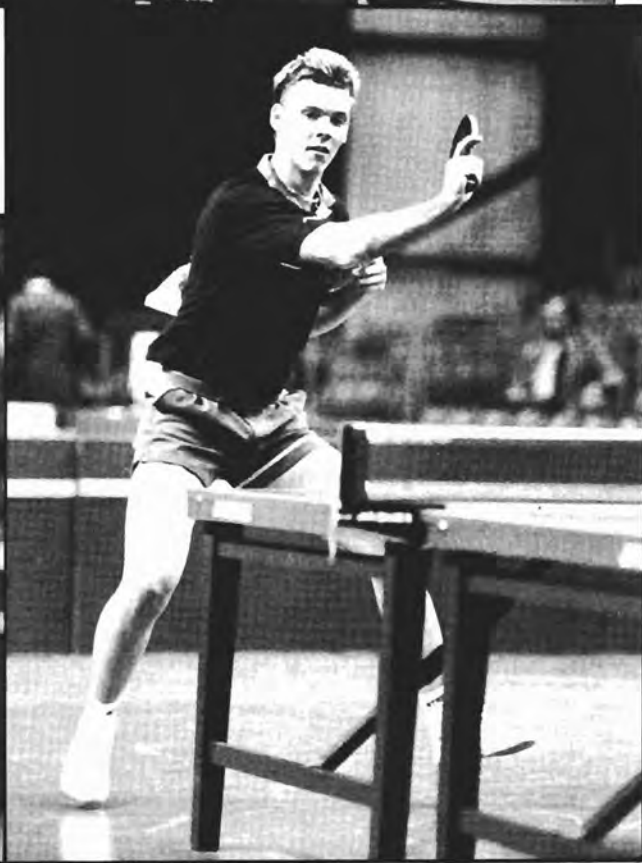


## Picture Parade — 3



*Left: Top - Carl Prean's defeat of Chinese No.1 Chen Longcan earned him a Qtr final singles berth versus Jorg Rosskopf - and a £1000 performance bonus from the Leeds; England No.1, Alan Cooke crashed out in the first round to Japanese/Chinese Shiryo Koh; Sean Gibson qualified for the main event but was defeated by Japan's Kohji Matsushita.*

*Right: Top - Mika Hoshino (JPN) won an all hitting Women's final from Marie Hrachova (TCH); Not all the Swedes attracted large audiences - Marie Svensson losing to Canada's Barbara Chen... while compatriot Peter Karlsson lost in the 3rd round to Andrei Mazunov (USSR). (Photos: John Wood).*



# Off Duty at Bowlers

Top row: *Scoop* – John Woodford & Richard Eaton created new records for Table Tennis coverage in National Press; *A Family Affair* – Tournament Umpires Diane & John Jermyn & son Richard (due to play in the qualifying rounds).  
 2nd row: *The Invisible Man* – Yes, World Champion Jan-Ove Waldner was at the Open. He is seen here with Joe Kennedy the Champ from Kent. J-O lost in the second round of the Men's Singles to... Nicholas (This is How I Did It!) Chatelain (France), who also beat him in the Team Event.  
 3rd row: Alison & Fiona won the Women's Doubles Lunch Championship. Some consolation for Ali's Qtr final defeat by Hrachova; *Always the Bridesmaid* – Marie Hrachova (rt) was runner-up in the Women's Singles and in the Doubles with Renata Kasalova who came 2nd in the Mixed Doubles. Lucky they are still friends; Swedish Ladies Team – Svensson and Pettersson.  
 Bottom row: *Spot the Celebrities* – The Swaythling Club International met at Bowlers and became only slightly out of focus; South Korean team at dinner in the Manchester Hilton. (Photos: John F.A. Wood)



# Ripples in a Pond

by RICHARD EATON

THE RIPPLES from Chen Xinhua's magnificent performances in reaching the final of the English Open will certainly continue for months. They may be seen and felt a lot longer than that if it all leads to his being selected for England after he becomes available in May.

This is more than possible. A substantial shift of opinion came about at Manchester just within two or three days. Several leading figures in English table tennis expressed different points of view after Chen had played his heroic, televised match against Jorg Rosskopf in the semi-finals. No person, not even one fluent in English, could have made his case for inclusion much more eloquently than this.

Among those who admitted to a significant shift of attitude was Johnny Leach, the popular President of the English Table Tennis Association. "If it came to a vote now I would have to be in favour of Chen," he said. "But I wasn't really in favour before," added Leach, a man who has been twice a world champion, has travelled dozens of countries, who played alongside two successful immigrants in England teams, and who is unlikely to be prejudiced.

Leach had shared doubts with a number of others. Was the ITTF two-year domicile rule really right? Was Chen going to fit in? Would people accept him? Would they like him? The answer, on the evidence of the reaction of hundreds of spectators who stood to acclaim him as he left the court, seems to be that they will love him.

The earlier doubts about Chen also surrounded his motivation. For a year and a half since his semi-retirement three years ago, table tennis had carried a muted appeal. By his own admission Chen had not trained or practised hard. But that may be behind him.

Nobody who fought through a back injury, to lose a long lead, save a match point, and then win the way Chen did, is lacking motivation. Bending, stretching, jogging, grimacing and gesticulating for help, Chen could easily have quit. From 16-11 in the second game onwards he was in difficulty and discomfort.

It was a pity that the television coverage, which was in some respects good, failed to capture much of this drama. Ice-packs, belts, towels and massages were all tried at the courtside between games, and Chen must have come close to being disqualified, judging from the gestures of officials during the delays. It was a great story. More to the point now is that it is wonderful to see the rebirth of desire, perhaps the rebirth of a world class player.

What was also instructive was Chen's match the day before against Kiyoshi Saito. This fascinating contrast in styles nearly ended with the left-handed pengrip player from Japan wearing Chen down. The Huddersfield man was

two games up, and then struggling at 16-16 in the fourth. His brain and his great skill with spin serves got him out of trouble. But his physical fitness didn't. This is something that may need some rebuilding.

Chen's survival actually gave Carl Prean an excellent chance of winning the tournament. He had beaten Chen on their previous two meetings. But the Germany-based Englishman narrowly failed to get past the German number one, Rosskopf, in the quarter-finals, losing 21-9, 12-21, 21-16, 18-21, 13-21.

From early in the fourth game there was a pattern developing that Prean could not change. Rosskopf was getting powerful forehands in early and Prean was going back. Prean tried to play backhands down the line to keep out of difficulty but could not do so quite accurately enough.

No denigration intended, Prean had produced one of the finest performances of his career earlier in the day when he beat Chen Longcan, China's top player, a former World Cup winner, and the number three seed, by 21-11, 21-12, 20-22, 21-12.

The pengrip player's backhand side could not handle Prean's backhand hit with the pimples out, and when Longcan tried to take chances and jump in with the forehand he often missed. Prean made sure that he felt obliged to keep taking the chances and that his error ratio remained abnormally high. It was the first time that the Isle of Wight player had reached the quarter-finals of the English Open.

There were other bright moments for England. Desmond Douglas bravely saved three match points in a row against Calin Creanga, a teen-aged Rumanian living in Greece, and then fell to Chen Xinhua. But the legendary lefthander showed that he looks good for the foreseeable future, even at 34.

The women showed signs of good form too. Alison Gordon fought very hard, both while beating South Korea's Kim Youn Soon to reach the quarter-finals and whilst losing in four games to Marie Hrachova, the former European number one. Lisa Lomas actually beat Hrachova — a tremendous result — in the team event. And Fiona Elliot was within one point of beating Valentina Popova, the former European champion.

But spare a thought for poor Nicky Mason, another who had match points to win. The England number 3 also led by two games against Patrick Chila of France before losing 22-20 in the final game. Chila went on to bring down the seeded Steffen Fetzner. And Mason is one of those likely to be

## The Sponsor's View of the Leeds English Open

From the Leeds's point of view, the Leeds English Open proved to be an overwhelming success. In terms of media coverage, it was without doubt our best event since the inception of the sponsorship. The spectacle of brilliant play attracted very healthy press interest both nationally and locally from which the Society benefited to great advantage ... not to mention the excellent BBC television coverage which allowed us better exposure than we could have hoped for.

WENDY CUNNINGHAM  
Public Relations Manager  
Leeds Permanent Building Society

## Prean wins £1,000 ...

CARL PREAN landed the £1,000 special prize for the best performance by an English player — his string of victories included the Chinese No.1 and world No.8 Chen Longcan.

The second £1,000, presented by the departing sponsors Leeds Permanent Building Society was shared between teenagers Chris Oldfield and Michael O'Driscoll for their incredible doubles run when they reached the semi-finals by stopping Desmond Douglas and Alan Cooke and even took a game from the world champions Jorg Rosskopf and Stefan Fetzner.

most pressurised by the advent of Chen Xinhua.

The biggest disappointment? The two dismal defeats for the world champion Jan-Ove Waldner, who hardly looked interested.

The biggest success? Chen Xinhua perhaps, but from a broader perspective and without wanting to sound clichéd, it was the tournament itself.

Despite one or two minor hiccups the Leeds English Open was a success according to most major criteria. The TV, the spectators, the publicity, and the takings were all excellent. Table tennis moved forwards.

## INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

### MENS SINGLES

**Quarter Finals**  
Chen Xinhua bt Saito 11, 8, -22, 16  
Rosskopf bt Prean -9, 12, -16, 18, 13  
Yu Shentong bt A. Mazunov  
18, -19, 20, 14  
Lindh bt Wei Qing Guang  
15, -16, 20, 18

**Semi Finals**  
Chen Xinhua bt Rosskopf  
11, 15, -16, -16, 21  
Yu Shentong bt Lindh 11, 15, 15

**Final**  
Yu Shentong bt Chen Xinhua  
w/o (injured)

**Semi Finals**  
Hoshino bt Popova  
-16, 14, -19, 10, 8  
Hrachova bt Xiao Ming Wang  
19, 19, -8, 15

**Final**  
Hoshino bt Hrachova 12, 15, 19

### LADIES' SINGLES

**Quarter Finals**  
Koshino bt Moon Jung Im  
9, 17, -16, 13  
Popova bt Lee Soo Mi 16, 16, -16, 15  
Xiao Ming Wang bt Chen 13, 14, 10  
Hrachova bt Gordon 14, -15, 12, 15

### MEN'S DOUBLES

**Semi Finals**  
Rosskopf/Fetzner bt O'Driscoll/Oldfield -15, 13, 12  
Chen/Wei bt Waldner/Lindh  
13, 19

**Final**  
Chen/Wei bt Rosskopf/Fetzner  
-19, 15, 17

# the Leeds English Open — 4

## LADIES' DOUBLES

**Semi Finals**  
Hrachova/Kasalova bt  
Noh Mi Hwa/Kim Sun Sook  
-19, 15, 16  
Lee Jung Ae/Kim Youn Sook bt  
Popova/Melnik 14, 15

**Final**  
Lee Jung Ae/Kim Youn Sook bt  
Hrachova/Kasalova 16, -18, 19

## MIXED DOUBLES

**Semi Finals**  
Gatien/Xio Ming bt Mazunov/  
Melnik 18, 12  
Janci/Kasalova bt Andrew/  
Gordon 25, 13

**Final**  
Gatien/Xio Ming Wang bt  
Janci/Kasalova -17, 17, 13

## SEMI FINALS

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 3 FRANCE 0  
Fetzner bt Gatien 17 18  
Rosskopf bt Chila 12 20  
Fetzner/Rosskopf bt Gatien/Mommessin 2 24

CHINA 3 ENGLAND I 0  
Chen bt Cooke 14 19  
Yu bt Prean -17 16 17  
Chen/Wei bt Douglas/Cooke 18 18

## FINALS

CHINA 3 FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 2  
Chen bt Fetzner 12 12  
Yu lt Rosskopf 18 -13 -20  
Chen/Yu bt Fetzner/Rosskopf 9 -19 18  
Chen lt Rosskopf -21 19 -16  
Yu bt Fetzner 13 19



## FULL RESULTS

### MENS TEAM EVENT

#### ROUND 1

CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3 AUSTRALIA 0  
Janci bt Tepper 12 14  
Korbel bt Perry 6 12  
Janci/Korbel bt Moore/Makling 11 18

#### FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY w/o (AUSTRIA)

#### ROUND 2

CHINA w/o (YUGOSLAVIA)  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 3 DENMARK 0  
Rosskopf bt Hauth 18 18  
Fetzner bt Pedersen 9 14  
Rosskopf/Fetzner bt Hauth/Pedersen 12 12

#### JAPAN 3 SCOTLAND 0

Iwasaki bt Hannah 14 16  
Saito bt Broe 9 -16 15  
Koh/Sakurai bt Hannah/Broe -13 17 17

#### ENGLAND I 3 BELGIUM 0

Douglas bt Cabrera -18 18 18  
Cooke bt Saive 18 12  
Douglas/Cooke bt Cabrera/Saive 16 -20 19

#### IRELAND 3 NEW ZEALAND 1

Meneely lt Jackson -9 -19  
Slevin bt Shewan 9 12  
Meneely/Slevan bt Jackson/Shewan -18 14 17  
Slevan bt Jackson 20 19

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3 CANADA 0

Janci bt Trudel 9 6  
Korbel bt Bernier 16 11  
Janci/Korbel bt Trudel/Bernier 9 10

#### FRANCE 3 SWEDEN 0

Gatien bt Karlsson 17 16  
Chatelain bt Waldner 13 18  
Gatien/Mommessin bt Karlsson/Waldner -16 17 21

#### USSR 3 ENGLAND II 1

Vardanian bt Andrew 18 17  
Mazunov D bt Mason -17 18 17  
Vardanian/Mazunov D lt Andrew/Mason -21 -16  
Mazunov D bt Andrew 13 11

### QUARTER FINALS

#### FRANCE 3 IRELAND 0

Chatelain bt Meneely 17 14  
Chila bt Slevin 14 -19 18  
Chatelain/Eloi bt Slevin/Meneely 16 -17 19

#### FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 3 USSR 1

Rosskopf lt Mazunov A -13 -20  
Fetzner bt Mazunov D 20 10  
Rosskopf/Fetzner bt Mazunov D/Vardanian 12 15  
Fetzner bt Mazunov A 15 -13 16

#### ENGLAND I 3 JAPAN 1

Douglas lt Saito 17 -14 -19  
Prean bt Koh 16 12  
Douglas/Cooke bt Koh/Sakurai -17 16 16  
Prean bt Saito 16 14

#### CHINA 3 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1

Chen Longcan bt Korbel 7 9  
Yu Shentong lt Janci -10 22 18  
Wei/Chen bt Korbel/Janci 21 14  
Chen Longcan bt Janci -15 15 13

### WOMENS TEAM EVENT

#### ROUND 1

AUSTRALIA w/o (Yugoslavia) ENGLAND II w/o (Austria)  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA w/o (Denmark)

#### ENGLAND I 3 CANADA 1

Gordon bt Sylvestre 19 8  
Elliot lt Chen -13 -12  
Gordon/Elliot bt Sylvestre/Chen 20 11  
Gordon bt Chen 20 15

#### FRANCE 3 JAPAN 1

Wang bt Oonuma 16 16  
Emanuelle lt Sudo -19 17 -16  
Wang/Coubat bt Oonuma/Sakamoto 19 15  
Wang bt Sudo 18 9

#### BELGIUM 3 SCOTLAND 0

Bogaerts bt Smith 13 -9 18  
Charlier bt Hurry 19 19  
Bogaerts/Billen bt Smith/Hurry 18 18

#### KOREA 3 FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY 0

Lee Soo Mi bt Faltermair 13 13  
Moon Jung Im bt Schmude 15 7  
Moon/Kim bt Faltermair/Schmude 8 15

#### USSR 3 SWEDEN 2

Palina lt Svensson -15 -16  
Popova lt Pettersson -20 -16  
Palina/Timina bt Svensson/Pettersson 18 13  
Popova bt Svensson 9 -17 13  
Palina bt Pettersson 12 8

### QUARTER FINALS

#### FRANCE 3 ENGLAND 1

Wang bt Elliot 11 8  
Coubat lt Gordon -19 19 -12  
Wang/Coubat bt Elliot/Gordon 9 10  
Wang bt Gordon 22 10

#### KOREA R 3 AUSTRALIA 1

Lee lt Kwok 12 21  
Moon bt Tepper 13 10  
Moon/Kim bt Kwok/Tepper 7 -14 28  
Lee bt Tepper 11 10

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA 3 ENGLAND II 2

Kasalova bt Lomas 14 20  
Hrachova bt Holt 10 11  
Hrachova/Kasalova lt Lomas/Holt 7 -11 -17  
Hrachova lt Lomas -11 21 -18  
Kasalova bt Holt -16 11 13

#### USSR 3 BELGIUM 1

Palina bt Bogaerts 11 13  
Timina lt Billen -10 -19  
Palina/Timina bt Bogaerts/Billen 17 17  
Palina bt Billen 11 23

### SEMI FINALS

#### KOREA R 3 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 1

Lee bt Kasalova 12 -19 16  
Moon bt Hrachova 13 -17 10  
Kim/Moon lt Hrachova/Kasalova -18 -20  
Moon bt Kasalova 19 11

#### FRANCE 3 USSR 1

Coubat lt Palina 20 -15 -9  
Wang bt Popova 19 14  
Coubat/Wang bt Melnik 13 -18 17  
Wang bt Palina -18 11 7

### FINALS

#### KOREA 3 FRANCE 2

Kim bt Wang 20 14  
Moon bt Coubat 13 9  
Kim/Lee lt Wang/Coubat -16 -15  
Moon lt Wang -19 -15  
Kim bt Coubat 19 20



## 1989 Scandinavian Open Championships

THE 1989 SOC took place in Jonkoping and were organised by the KFUM (YMCA) Table Tennis Club. Jonkoping is situated in the centre of Sweden on the lake Vattern and is Sweden's ninth largest municipality, with a population of 110,000. Fortunately, Jonkoping also has its own airport and we were therefore able to fly direct, some of the team from Manchester via Copenhagen and the remainder from London via Copenhagen. The Manchester contingency consisted of Alan Cooke, Andrea Holt and myself, while the London group consisted of Nicky Mason, Alison Gordon, Skylet Andrew, Carl Prean, Lisa Lomas and Matthew Syed.

The arrangements in Jonkoping were excellent — a very good hotel situated 200 metres from the hall; excellent conditions in the Tipshall. It was interesting that they laid a special wooden floor and used our 'Leeds' blue for enhancing television presentation. However, in my opinion the major disappointment was the schedule in that they attempted far too much on the first day, three rounds of the team event and two of singles. Not only did this mean that 80% of the players present had no more singles matches after the first day, it meant an early start and late finish and matches running late. Of our five men, four played over one hour later than scheduled (Nicky Mason three hours!), while our women were still playing at 22.30, having risen at 6.30 for 09.00 team matches.

After excellent results in Hungary and good performances in Austria and Detroit, the team were unable to maintain the momentum. The women started with a good win against Sweden II but unfortunately found the North Korean team too strong. The men despatched the Finnish team quite comfortably but could not produce their best form against Germany, losing 3-1. Alan Cooke won the one match, beating the highly ranked Georg Bohm, producing some of his best form this season. Carl Prean, who has had a quite magnificent start to the season, semi-final of Austrian, final of Hungarian and six out of eight in the European League campaign (although two of these wins were against, according to Mr Greenberg, second rate Swedes, Eric Lindh — No.7 in the World and Peter Karlsson, the then leader of the Stiga World Grand Prix!), could not produce his best form. In fact, if anything he looked slightly jaded, losing two straight to both Rosskopf and Bohm.

For the men the draw was most unkind, producing some very tough first round encounters. Alan Cooke drew the Japanese defensive player Hiroshi Shibutani and lost 3-1, while Matthew Syed drew the second Japanese defensive player Kohji Matsushita and played extremely well, losing a closely contested match in the fifth game. Playing virtually straight after the Germany match, Carl was unable to regain

his composure, losing 3-1 to the young Czech player Vimy. Nicky Mason played reasonably well against Thomas von Scheele, only to lose three games by the narrow margin of 21-19. Skylet Andrew beat one of the young Australian players to find himself against Eric Lindh. Skylet played extremely well and in fact had a match point with service in the fourth game, before losing 19 in the fifth.

In the women's singles Andrea Holt progressed to the second round with a win against Cristina Semenza of Italy and was joined by Lisa Lomas who had a very convincing win against Ilka Bohning of West Germany. Unfortunately Alison, who has so far not been able to reproduce last season's form (a fact that our 'Dutch' observer in Sheffield fails to take into account with his suggestions of English philanthropy), lost 3-1 to Germany's Katja Nolten. In the second round Andrea performed very well against the very strong North Korean Yu Sun Bok, despite losing 3-0. Lisa produced her best form so far of the season and in fact

led 2-0 against Europe's No.3, Csilla Batorfi. Unfortunately for Lisa, Batorfi clawed her way back into the game and ran out a comfortable winner in the deciding game.

Our fortunes did not change in the doubles with Andrea and Alison drawn against the World Champions, Qiao Hong and Deng Yaping in the first round. Nicky and Alan should have beaten the young Swedish pair, Torsell and Kadiri, while Skylet and Carl beat the scratch pairing of Marinkevitch (USSR) and Mandello. In the second round, Skylet and Carl played the World Championship silver medallists Kucharski and Kalinic, and led 19-17 in both games before losing two straight.

The undisputed star of the tournament was North Korea's defensive male player Li Gun Sang. In the team event he led North Korea to victory with a maximum two singles in the semi-final against Xu Chencai and Chen Zsibin, and in the final against Persson and Appelgren. He won the men's singles beating the Olympic



Champion Yoo Nam Kyu very convincingly in the final. The No.1 seed Waldner lost in the last 32 to Japan's Shibutani.

The women's team event was surprisingly won by Hong Kong who beat China in the semi-final and South Korea in the final. The Chinese women gained revenge in the singles, providing all four semi-finalists, with the eventual winner being the Olympic Champion Chen Jing.

The highlight of the farewell party was the much publicised performance of Skylet Andrew on stage. Skylet is now the undisputed No.1 impressionist on the Table Tennis scene.



### ENGLISH RESULTS

#### MEN'S TEAM

##### Round 1 v Finland

Mason b Kontala 12,10  
Prean b Valasti 15,13  
Mason/Cooke b Valasti/Konen  
-20,9,18

##### Round 2 v Germany

Prean l to Rosskopf -17,-18  
Cooke b Bohm -13,14,18  
Cooke/Mason l to Rosskopf/  
Fetzner -13,19,-7  
Prean l to Bohm -17,-10

#### WOMEN'S TEAM

##### Round 1 v Sweden II

Gordon b P Pettersson 14,14  
Holt b Erlman 20,21  
Gordon/Holt b Pettersson/  
Erlman 19,17

##### Round 2 v North Korea

Gordon l to Yu Sun Bok -13,-13  
Holt l to Li Bun Hui -17,-12  
Holt/Gordon l to Yu Sun/Li Bun  
-18,-10

#### Men's Singles

C Prean l Vimy (Cz) 1-3  
A Cooke l Shibutani (Jap) 1-3  
N Mason l Von Scheele (Sw) 0-3  
M Syed l Matsushita (Jap) 2-3  
S Andrew b Perry (Aust) 3-0  
l Lindh (Sw) 2-3

#### Women's Singles

A Holt b C Semenza (Italy) 3-0  
l Yu Sun Bok (NK) 0-3  
A Gordon l Nolten (FRG) 1-3  
L Lomas b Bohning (FRG) 3-0  
l Batorfi (Hun) 2-3

#### Men's Doubles

Cooke/Mason l Torsell/Kadiri 0-2  
Andrew/Prean b Marinkevitch/  
Mondello 2-0  
l Kalinic/Kucharski 0-2

#### Women's Doubles

Holt/Gordon l Hong/Yaping 0-2

#### FINALS

#### WOMEN'S TEAM

**Hong Kong beat Korea II 3-2**  
Chan Tan Lui v Hon Cha Ok  
12,-10,14  
Chai Po Wa v Hong Soon Hwa  
14,-10,-15  
Chan/Chai v Hong/Hong  
-20,17,-19  
Chai Po Wa v Hong Cha Ok  
-16,18,20  
Chan Tan Lui v Hong Soon Hwa  
-17,9,14

#### MEN'S TEAM

**North Korea beat Sweden 3-1**  
Kim Song Hui v M Appelgren 9,19  
Li Gun Sang v J Persson -18,16,12  
Kim/Cho Jung Choi v Persson/  
Lindh -17,18,-10  
Li Gun Sang v M Appelgren 17,12

#### Men's Singles

Li Gun Sang v Ma Wenge (China)  
10,12,7  
Yoo Nam Kyu (SK) v Xu Zengcai  
(China) -19,16,20,-18,16

#### Final

Li Gun Sang v Yoo Nam Kyu 15,14,  
-21,10

#### Women's singles (all Chinese)

Qiao Hong v Hu Xiaoxin 17,-14,7,  
-23,16  
Chen Jing v Deng Yaping  
14,-19,6,16

#### Final

Chen Jing v Qiao Hong 19,-16,12,  
19

#### Men's Doubles

Gatien(Fr)/Grubba(Pol) v  
Waldner/Appelgren(Sw) -14,14,13

#### Women's Doubles

Li Bun Hui/Yu Sun Bok (NK) v  
Qiao Hong/Deng Yaping (Ch)  
19,10

# Grass Roots Development

## The London Junior Table Tennis Scheme



by DICCON GRAY and  
ALAN HARWOOD (Tournament Referee)

FUNDED JOINTLY by the Sports Council and the London Boroughs Grant Scheme, the LJTTs strives to create a support structure for all young Londoners to have the opportunity to play and enjoy table tennis.

For the purpose of organisation, London is split into five areas with each area having two cycles consisting of:

- 1) A demonstration
- 2) A Coaching Day
- 3) A tournament

Players are graded according to age, playing experience and ability (advanced, intermediate and novice categories which leaves scope for total beginners).

Results from each area are then computerised on a ranking list, sent out to every participant and the local media. Winners in each age group and category go forward to the 'All London' final which in November was played at the Jubilee Sports Centre, Westminster.

### LJTTs ALL LONDON FINALS

Just under 100 children competed in Westminster on 26th November and each player had on average 5 games with group systems employed throughout. It was encouraging to note that over one third of competitors were novices (never having played in any league

or competition). However a major problem is finding suitable clubs for them to receive coaching so that they improve and eventually start to play in ETTA leagues and other competitions.

Despite lists of "Clubs in the London area able to accommodate new members" being distributed on the day, there must be scores of other clubs which could and should appear on this list. If your club is one of these, give Diccon Gray (National Development Officer) a ring at the ETTA on 0424 722525.

Winners from the All London Finals are listed below and were presented with trophies (supplied by the North London Advertiser Group) from the regional Sports Council Table Tennis Liaison Officers Alan Sillitoe and John Hadleigh.

Anyone wishing to know more about the London Junior Table Tennis Scheme should contact the scheme Chairman Malcolm Springthorpe on 01 801 8233.

	Under 12	Under 14	Under 17
<b>Advanced</b>			
<b>BOYS</b>	J Furner	J Skinner	P McNamara
<b>GIRLS</b>			K Ashley
<b>Intermediate</b>			
<b>BOYS</b>	A Jeyarajah	C Hall	R Adelgun
	S Evans	R Parmar	
<b>GIRLS</b>	A McNamara	C O'Leary	D Patel
<b>Novice</b>			
<b>BOYS</b>	A Goward	T Frow	G Sheen
<b>GIRLS</b>	D Stallard	R Turp	A Avakiance-Tabrili

## Wayne Forecast on the Isle of Dogs!!

by LAURIE LAKEN

TWELVE YEAR OLD Wayne Murray is the recipient of the Tees Sport Award for the 'most promising newcomer' to the George Green Table Tennis Club for 1989. He takes over the mantle from his club friend Darren Mockus who introduced him to the club in March.

Wayne has quickly exhibited qualities of natural ability at Table Tennis, and is the first player from the Isle of Dogs to achieve Ranking Status in Essex County under 12's where he was number ten. In the London Junior Ranking Scheme Regional Round he was top of his Intermediate Group for Under 12's. On his home patch he was ranked number four Cadet.

Wayne trains regularly and plays for the George Green 'B' team in the Silvertown and District League. This early experience in match situations has taught Wayne, that his rather intense approach tends to frustrate his ability to play the range of good strokes he exhibits in practice. The forecast however is good, because he has the added ability of being able to manage his own paperwork, and mobilise himself to be in the right place at the right time. So early in his career he has been seen at major Table Tennis tournaments, and my guess is, that should Wayne continue to manifest the qualities which earned him this award, we shall be seeing more of him enjoying this sport around the circuit.



Wayne serving



Darren passes on trophy to Wayne.

## Barclays Boost Young Players in Docklands

by LAURIE LAKEN

FOR the third year running BARCLAYS IN DOCKLANDS sponsored all the Junior events in the Isle of Dogs Ranking Tournament.

### Barclays in Docklands & Isle of Dogs Ranking Tournament Junior Events 1989

#### Under 11 yrs Boys

1. Tristan NEWMAN
2. Ricky BROWN
3. Steven MILLS
4. Bradley DURRANT
5. Billy HILL
6. Reece PROUDFOOT
7. Jimmy BARLOW
8. Mark LEFTWICH

#### Under 14 Boys

1. Ian HALL
2. Michael HALL
3. Darren MOCKUS
4. Wayne MURRAY
5. Lee HUTCHINS
6. Adam BROWN
7. Lee BROGAN

#### Under 17 yrs Boys

1. Nicky CARTER
2. Femi YUSOOF
3. Chun KWOK
4. Paul KNOX
5. Kevin RAE
6. Kofi MPIANI
7. Wayne PIKE
8. Lee HUTCHINS
9. Craig AVERY
10. Hassan ABDULAH

#### Under 11 yrs Girls

1. Sarah HOLMES

#### Under 14 yrs Girls

1. Louise BUTCHER
2. Sarah HOLMES

#### Under 17 yrs Girls

1. Stacey BROWN
2. Louise BUTCHER
3. Angela AREMU



Proudly holding their trophies the members of the George Green Table Tennis Club together with Barclays Personal Sector Manager Chris Day and coaches Laurie Laken and John Hall.

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## Massive Entry for Essex Junior Select

by ALAN SHEPHERD

DESPITE an even more massive entry than usual (376) the tournament ran smoothly, and the experiment of scheduling Junior day so that the Singles Finals were played in mid-afternoon was thought by most people to have been a great success. Maybe 300 spectators on the benches produced a terrific atmosphere and the players responded to it. The Junior Boys Final was contested sensationally by the 11th and 16th seeds Howard Whewell (Lancs) and Colin Bowler (Beds) resulting in a hard fought victory for Howard 16, -11, 19. It was another example of coach Lloyd Lewis's magic.

One of the earlier shocks had been the defeat of Grant Solder, the No.1 seed and holder, not quite over a bout of flu, by Alan Cole (Sussex), in a splendid run to the semi-final which had also taken out No.5 seed Brian Mileham (Kent). Another had been the arrival in the semi-final of the unseeded cadet Alex Perry, who started in Group 52, profited by the absence of James Oyekunle and climbed en route over Steven Meddings (Warwicks), Gavin Yates (Oxon), Gareth Jones (Yorks) and Neil Bevan (Cornwall) — the No.3 seed — all in straight sets. The last shock was reserved for Andrew Eden (Lancs) the No.2 seed, who was put out by Marc Priddle (Berks) also unseeded, and having started in Group 11.

The Junior Girls Final was more predictably fought out between Sally Marling (Yorks) seeded at No.3 and Sara Williams (Middx) seeded No.5. This was another tremendous match, which was won by Sara -19, 19, 16. She certainly did it the hard way, battling past Cathy Sibbald (Essex) 12, 17, Dawn Barnett (Oxon) 17, -12, 11, Alison Gower (Essex) 25, -20, 17 and Ellen Meddings (Yorks) -16, 17, 7. Sally had a tough Round 2 match with Nicola Cracknell (Berks), saw off the other Meddings (the Warwicks one), then had a great semi-final win over No.1 seed Joanna Roberts (Yorks) -18, 17, 16.

The Boys Doubles event was an amazing, but well deserved triumph for the No.5 seeded pair, Jason Bamford (Derbys) and Darren Howarth (Lancs). They survived all sorts of crises and match points in their semi-final against that tenacious pairing of Paul Carter (Surrey) and Alan Cole (Sussex), before winning 18, -17, 22. The other semi-final was equally exciting. Alex Perry (again!) was there, partnered by Spencer Thompson (Kent). They had reached there with close, but straight sets wins over Ian Black/Howard Whewell and Marc Greenwood/Martin Adams, while their opponents Andrew Eden/Brian Mileham arrived via a series of easy wins. However, it was the No.12 seeds (Perry/Thompson) which got through to the Final by -17, 20, 19, where at last they met

their match, with victory going to Jason and Darren by 14, -15, 7.

The Junior Girls Doubles again saw the top seeded pair depart without getting to their allotted position, although it was only after a long drawn out semi-final that Ellen Meddings and Alison Gower were beaten by Nicola Deaton and Sara Williams. No.2 seeds, Joanna Roberts/Caroline Buckley had their work cut out to beat Claire Marshall/Nicola Meddings by 19, -19, 17 and the two Marling sisters by 12, -16, 15, but won the Final comparatively comfortably (17, 17) against the No.3 seeded pair.

Cadet day was highlighted by an Alex Perry and Clare Pengelly bonanza for Devonshire, as they carried off three of the four major titles. Alex swept through the Cadet Boys without losing a game, his closest match being the semi-final against Darren Blake (Surrey) whom he beat 16, 19. Big match in the rounds was James Mason (Bucks) v Ben Johnson (Berks), won by James 18, -21, 22!! Richard Hyacinth (Middx) battled past Edward Hatley (Surrey) and Cris Sladden (Essex) to reach the Final, where Alex proved too strong for him.

Clare almost made it a four timer by reaching the Cadet Girls Final, but was there well-beaten by the precocious talents of Nicola Deaton (Derby) by scores of 7, 8. Nicola only conceded 83 points in her 4 matches!

There were some fierce battles in the Cadet Boys Doubles. In the absence of Kevin Hodgson (Cumbria) his place as partner for Cris Sladden was filled by Andrew Wilkinson (Northumberland). The revised pairing reached the semis untroubled, but then had to pull out all the stops to beat the No.2 seeds, Edward Hatley/Andrew Nicholls by 19, -10, 19. Darren Blake/Alex Perry had a reasonably comfortable run to the Final where they became one of the only two top seeds to win an event over the whole weekend, when they beat Cris and Andrew -16, 10, 15.

The third Devon victory came in the Cadet Girls Doubles, when Clare Pengelly/Lynsey Heyward beat Jenny Coleman and Hayley Beaumont by 12, -19, 17.

# Essex Junior Select — 2

The Under 12 event saw a new threat to the established "stars" emerge in the form of Stephen Lampkin (Surrey) whose long pimped rubber caused all sorts of trouble to the No.1 seed Steven Meddings (Warwicks) and his semi-final victory was only by -17, 13, 22. In the bottom half of the draw, Simon Jablon (Middx) marched through without loss of a game, but crashed -11, -8 to Steven in the Final.

Vicki Fox (Staffs) had a lot of hard work in getting to the Final. She came through against Alison Smith (Kent) by only -19, 8, 15, and had to fight against another Kent player Joanne Barham, before winning 25, 20. She then faced a surprise finalist in Joanna Bush-Harris (Sussex), who had put out County colleague and No.1 seed Sarah Stedman. The Final was won by Vicki 16, 14.

I would like to take this opportunity of giving public thanks to our Organiser, Barry Granger, who worked tremendously hard over the whole weekend. I must also say how grateful the Tournament Committee is to our sponsors, Barclays Bank, the Hilton National Hotels Group and Macartney & Dowie Financial Services Ltd. Peter Linnecar of the latter Company was kind enough to present some of the prizes and we were delighted to see him and representatives of the other sponsors at our Tournament.

N.B. A pair of "Donic" trainers was left at the Hall. Will the owner please contact me.

## RESULTS

### JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES

*Semi-Finals:* Colin Bowler (Bd) bt Alan Cole (Sx) 16, 17; Howard Whewell (La) bt Alex Perry (Dv) 16, 16.

*Final:* Whewell bt Bowler 16, -11, 19.

### JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES

*Semi-Finals:* Sally Marling (Y) bt Joanna Roberts (Y) -18, 17, 16; Sara Williams (Mx) bt Ellen Meddings (Y) -16, 17, 7.

*Final:* Williams bt Marling -19, 19, 16.

### JUNIOR BOYS DOUBLES

*Semi-Finals:* Jason Bamford (Dy) /Darren Howarth (La) bt Paul Carter (Sy)/Alan Cole (Sx) 18, -17, 22; Alex Perry (Dv)/Spencer Thompson (K) bt Andrew Eden (La)/Brian Mileham (K) -17, 20, 19.

*Final:* Bamford/Howarth bt Perry/Thompson 14, -15, 7.

### JUNIOR GIRLS DOUBLES

*Semi-Finals:* Nicola Deaton (Dy)/Sarah Williams (Mx) bt Ellen Meddings (Y)/Alison Gower (E) 15, -16, 16; Joanna Roberts (Y)/Caroline Buckley (Bd) bt Sally Marling/Samantha Marling (Y) 12, -16, 15.

*Final:* Roberts/Buckley bt Deaton/Meddings 17, 17.

### CADET BOYS DOUBLES

*Semi-Finals:* Darren Blake (Sy) /Alex Perry (Dv) bt Adrian Vincent/Jonathan May (Dv) -14, 24, 16; Andrew Wilkinson (Nd)/Cris Sladden (E) bt Edward Hatley (Sy)/Andrew Nicholls (Y) 19, -10, 19.

*Final:* Blake/Perry bt Wilkinson/Sladden -16, 10, 15.

### CADET GIRLS DOUBLES

*Semi-Finals:* Jenny Coleman (E)/Hayley Beaumont (Bd) bt Shelley Ruocco/Cathy Sibbald (E) 16, 22; Lynsey Heyward/Clare Pengelly (Dv) bt Michelle Fisher/Vicki Fox (St) 15, 17.

*Final:* Heyward/Pengelly bt Coleman/Beaumont 12, -19, 17.

### UNDER 12 BOYS SINGLES

*Semi-Finals:* Steven Meddings (Wa) bt Stephen Lampkin (Sy) -17, 13, 22; Paul Jablon (Mx) bt Tony Hudson (Y) 11, 6.

*Final:* Meddings bt Jablon 11, 8.

### UNDER 12 GIRLS SINGLES

*Semi-Finals:* Joanna Bush-Harris (Sx) bt Nicola Smith (Y) 16, -9, 14; Vicki Fox (St) bt Joanna Barham (K) 25, 20.

*Final:* Fox bt Bush-Harris 16, 14.

### Cadet Consolation Singles

*Final:* Marc Burman (Sy) bt Christopher Hazlehurst (Y).



Photos - Top to bottom:

Colin Bowler (Beds), Junior Boys Singles runner-up.  
Sally Marling (Yorks), Junior Girls Singles runner-up.  
Grant Solder (Essex), No.1 seed and holder, who went out to Alan Cole (Sussex)



Neil Bevan (Cornwall), surprise victim of Alex Perry (Devon)

## Irish Win Team Event in Tameside Junior Open

by CHRIS HOPE

THE Tameside Junior Open Table Tennis Championships sponsored by Brother International and Jarvis Sports, have been heralded as another major success. Three hundred competitors from all over the country, including Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man participated in fourteen different events.

On the evening before the Tournament began, a triangular event was played between teams from Ireland, Scotland and Tameside, with the Irish coming out overall winners, although Tameside girls managed an historic victory over the Irish.

In previous years, many of the top prizes have gone to local players; however, this year was an exception. The only local success was in the Junior Boys Doubles, which turned out to be the match of the Tournament. In a battle of wits and skill, Daren Howarth of Droylsden and Robin Faulkner, who trains at the Tameside Advanced Training Centre, beat the top seeds, Howard Whewell of Lancashire and Kieron Dabbs from Northampton, 21-9 in the third and deciding set.

In the Junior Girls section, last year's hero, Zoe Buchanan, who trains under the expert eye of

Tameside's A.T.C. Coach, Dave Kinder, was unlucky not to reach a final, going out in both the main events and Class 2 event in the semi-finals and along the way, almost upsetting top seed, Nicola Meddings, losing in the third and final set.

Another local hero was twelve year old Christopher Whitehead from Oldham, who performed heroics in the under 12 event, only just losing in the Final to Jamie Harris of Cumbria.

A special trophy for the outstanding local player of the Tournament was presented by Tameside Table Tennis Club Chairman, Dave Kinder, to Robin Faulkner from Oldham, who reached a final and two semi-finals in the Junior Events.

Tameside Tournament organiser, Chris Hope (Tameside Sports Development Officer), was delighted at the response to the

event, thanking the sponsors, Brother International and Nicky and Linda Jarvis of Jarvis Sports, and also thanking the local umpires, including referees, Roger Gordon and Karen Tongue, for ensuring the competition ran so smoothly. Ted Neighbour (Tameside's Chief Recreation Officer) and Neil Howard (Chairman of Leisure Services Committee), presented prizes to the Junior Boys and Junior Girls winners.

### RESULTS

#### Under-12 Boys' Singles

Jamie Harris (Cumbria) bt Christopher Whitehead (Lancs) 21-13, 21-18

#### Under-12 Girls' Singles

Deadre Lyng (Ireland) bt Joanna Bush-Harris (Sussex) 16-21, 21-17, 21-17

#### Cadet Girls' Doubles

C.Lowes/C.Watt bt T.Connelly/N.Williams 21-6, 23-25, 21-15

#### Cadet Boys' Doubles

D.Lindley/M.Smith bt R.Glass/B.McRandall 21-8, 7-21, 21-16

#### Cadet Boys' Class 2 Singles

Marcus Horth bt Mark Smith 21-14, 20-22, 21-10

#### Cadet Boys' Singles

David Heath (Devon) bt Ian Ferguson (Warwicks) 21-6, 11-21, 21-18

#### Cadet Girls' Singles

Natasha Williams (Wales) bt Michelle Martin (Stafford) 21-14, 21-18

#### Junior Boys' Singles

Mark Stephenson (Yorks) bt Kieron Dabbs (Northampton) 21-14, 21-9

#### Junior Boys' Class 2 Singles

Jason Leigh (Lancs) bt Steven Coverdale (Northumberland) 21-19, 18-21, 21-12

#### Junior Boys' Doubles

D.Howarth/R.Faulkner bt H.Whewell/K.Dabbs 21-19, 25-27, 21-19

#### Junior Girls' Singles

Nicola Meddings (Stafford) bt Lisa Crick (Berks) 21-16, 17-21, 21-7

#### Junior Girls' Doubles

T.Garrett/N.Meddings bt C.Bentley/D.Newman 21-15, 21-16

#### Junior Girls' Class 2 Singles

Debbie Newman (Yorks) bt Michelle Martin (Stafford) 21-15, 21-15

## Macartney & Dowie Classic

by NICK JARVIS

THE SECOND Macartney & Dowie Classic provided yet another feast of top class table tennis. Our English players showed just why they are World Class. Scintillating rallies and rapturous applause from the "enthusiastic" crowd made this an evening to remember.

Six of the top players in England were invited, the format being two groups of three with the top two players in each group going through to a semi-final knockout stage. Unfortunately one of the six, Matthew Syed, failed to arrive on time but luckily the reserve John Holland was at hand to take Syed's place.

So the scene was set. The superb hall at Peniel Academy was bulging with spectators sitting (for the moment) on 300 tiered seats (erected by the PTA in 90 minutes).

The group stages were played on two tables with Group A consisting of Alan Cooke, Nicky Mason and John Holland and Group B with Carl Prean, Desmond Douglas and Steve Dorking.

In Group A Cooke dominated beating first a nervous Holland 21-16, 21-13, then Mason 21-7, 21-18. Mason beat Holland to finish second in the group and so secured a semi-final place.

Group B proved to be more of a battle, Prean was an easy victor over Dorking as was Douglas. However the Prean-Douglas encounter provided some dazzling

play. Des trying to speed the game up, playing wide with Carl using his backhand cleverly and unleashing vicious forehand topspins whenever possible. Eventually Prean won 19-21, 21-18, 21-12. This placed Prean at the top of Group B with Douglas second.

After a twenty minute break and the playing area re-arranged to one table the semi-finals started.

The first semi-final was a one sided affair with an under par Cooke going down 21-17, 21-9, to Douglas, whose speed was most impressive. The second semi-final saw Prean making a good start against Mason, Carl hitting hard down Mason's backhand using his long pimples to great effect. Nicky could not handle this and went down 21-16. However, in the second Mason,

used lightning footwork to force his forehand into the game and took the second 21-19. Unfortunately for Mason he could not maintain this and with Prean's ever improving forehand, Mason lost the third game 21-18.

After a few minutes rest the final was under way. The second confrontation between Carl Prean and Des Douglas. Fittingly this was the best match of the evening, both players producing World class table tennis. The Peniel crowd, not known for their laid back approach, were going wild as both players made miraculous returns from normally unstoppable winners. The first game went to Carl by the narrowest of margins 21-19. The second was as close with play becoming more spectacular, Des playing out of his skin hammering the ball wide down the angles with Carl retrieving Swedish style. By this time the crowd were at fever pitch and looking forward to a third game as Des won the second game 21-19.

Prean started the third in brilliant form swinging forehand topspins at will. He quickly established a com-

manding lead and within a short time took the third and final game 21-10.

A remarkable performance by Carl and Des brought them a standing ovation from the thrilled spectators many of whom were juniors who could not believe the treat they had just witnessed. Carl deservedly took the title and the first prize of £500.

After the match, players, officials, press and invited guests were treated to a sumptuous buffet where ETTA chairman John Prean thanked the Peniel Academy, PTA and Macartney & Dowie Financial Services for yet another first class event.

I'm sure the players will join me in adding their thanks to everybody involved with the Macartney & Dowie Classic and look forward to the next.

#### Prize Fund

1st — £500

2nd — £350

Joint 3rd — £250 each

Joint 5th — £150 each

TOTAL £1650

### Hi Deal

Deal & District T.T.A. have let us know that they will re-join the E.T.T.A. next season. Welcome back!

IN this section would subscribers please keep their articles down to 300 words or less to allow all Counties an equal space per issue.

Please keep forwarding your pictures (black and white) of local personalities.

## DERBYSHIRE

Martin Kinsella

### Prospects for the 90s

ALAN COOKE, has just underlined his unassailable position as England's No. 1 with his superb performance in successfully defending his Stiga Top 12 title despatching all of his opponents including Des Douglas in a thrilling final in two straight games. This was a truly emphatic performance by Alan, even the defeated players in the audience thought that the final was a bit special.

In the next few years Alan will go from strength to strength reaching his peak between 1992 and 1997 with every prospect of a European title falling to the determined Derbyshire champion.

Bradley Billington will establish himself as a permanent fixture in the England team, and will be following closely in Cookie's footsteps into the very top reaches of the game.

The 90's will see the ever improving John Holland force his way into the England Top 12, this will be a just reward for John's dedication and enthusiasm for the game.

With Julie Billington having thrown off the injury and illness problems which have held back her progress, there is no doubt that Julie will feature as a prominent member of the England squad for many years to come.

Coming through we have Nicola Deaton currently ranked No. 4 in the European Cadet list. Who knows the heights Nicola will reach in the next 10 years. Indeed as Colin Deaton himself said to me, "marvellous player our Nicola, lad."

We also have two great prospects at the top of the junior boys list in Jason Bamford and Gary Knights, I believe that these fine young prospects will mature into very good senior players capable of doing a bit of damage in the tournaments.

Finally Martin Kinsella will win another Irish closed just "for the crack".

All the best to one and all in the 90's.

## ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

DECEMBER has been rather a quiet month for Essex players (in the absence of any information to the contrary from the Press Officers

of our 15 Leagues!) apart from the Essex Junior Select Tournament reported elsewhere in this issue. However, I did make the annual trip to Hinckley for the Leeds English Junior National Championships. Our big hope was to see Grant Solder frank his (then) No.1 status by winning the Junior Boys Singles. He was only prevented from doing so by a magnificent performance against him in the semi-final by Neil Bevan (Cornwall). This was disappointing if you were from Essex but great table tennis for the neutral or Cornishman !!

Notable wins for two of our girls, though, when Sarah Gardner and Nadine Barthee both overcame deficits of 12/18 in the decider and beat Hayley Beaumont and Samantha Marling respectively.

In the latest published Junior Computer Ranking Lists, Grant is down to No.2, and then we have Keith Buers, Cris Sladden, Matthew Reid and Gary Tendler at 41, 44, 52 and 56. In the girls list, Alison Gower and Linda Radford are at 3 and 5 while Nadine Barthee and Ruth Cleminson have progressed to 24 and 28. Sarah Gardner is now at 34 whereas previously she was unranked. In the Cadet Boys Ryan Savill has leapt dramatically to No.7, chasing Cris Sladden, who has dropped one place to No.4. Vincent Avery has climbed to No.25, just behind Paul Hudson at No.20. In the Cadet Girls Jenny Coleman has achieved her highest position yet, at No.6, our next best being Claire Rowlands and Cathie Sibbald at Nos 32 and 35.

Our Senior Second team has played two more matches and I am delighted to note that they have won both of them, one against Cornwall (9-1) and the other against rivals Middlesex II (6-4). As a result we have moved up to third in the League. John Dennison, Richard Darnell, Ian Attridge, Julie Askem and Kate Gower have played in all matches so far.

Our Senior Third team have also risen to third in their League after beating Berks II by 6-4 at Reading. Damian Holland and Jason Tendler were again on duty, joined this time by Rachel Reid and Nadine Barthee.

### Around the Leagues by Chris Jacob

I will start with Chelmsford, which has 9 Divisions. The 1st Division is now one of the strongest in depth in the County. At the time of writing it is being led by Maldon

"A" who have a strong squad with Dave Newman, Steve Detmar and Tony Penny amongst them. In second place are OC's "A", who have a German leading them, by the name of Horst Bannerman (who has beaten Des Charley in the league this season). Also on level points with OC's are ECC "B". Last season's champions ECC "A" are adrift in 4th place at the moment, but that could change if Richard Darnell and Des Charley can string some good results together. Two other teams, St John Payne and East Hanningfield are not far behind the leading teams making it quite an interesting fight for the honours. Just to the north of Chelmsford we have the Braintree League, which has 4 Divisions. Last season's champions, Colne "A" are leading at the moment but they are being pushed by Rayne "A", who have the additional help of having 3 other teams in the Division who could take useful points from Colne. South East of Chelmsford we have the Burnham League, which has 5 Divisions. The 1st Division is being fought out by last season's champions, Maldon "A", Fambridge "A" and Cold Norton "A" with Fambridge leading at the moment. Depending on how often Dave Newman and Bowles turn out or if Clive Oakman wants to win it again, will depend on whether Maldon will retain their title.

East of Chelmsford we have the Colchester League which has 5 Divisions. The 1st Division is a battle royal between Colchester Police and Paxmans with the Police leading at the moment by 6 points. The rest of the Division is very close, with the exception of the bottom team, there are only 10 points separating the team in 3rd place to the team 2nd from the bottom. With 3 teams to get relegated, it means no one is safe to avoid the drop.

North of Colchester we have the Clacton League, which has 5 Divisions. Clacton is a retirement area and this shows in the players. When Brian Theil started to collect names of players he considered good enough to represent the league in the Essex inter league he ended up with a list of 72 names. Great Holland "A" have a very strong squad of players and look set to retain their title, their only serious challengers are Leisure Centre "A", who have John Leith leading them. If John could play as well in normal League matches as he does when he plays for the Essex Veterans' team, he would be very dangerous, as he hasn't lost an Essex game for a number of years.

If there are any other leagues in Essex who would like a mention, could their press officers please contact me and I'll try and do a regular feature.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Peppard

A YOUNG 16 year old lady, (pushing 17) who is more than worthy of a few words this month is Gloucester's Lesley Dewick. Lesley is for her age a modern day table tennis conservationist, fully intent upon ploughing something back into our sport — unlike so many who only want to take. Lesley has been participating in an ETTA Assistant Coaching Award Scheme and I am reliably informed that she has passed her theoretical exams and now (at the time of writing), only has to pass out on 12 hours of practical study sessions. Paddy Jackson and George Novoth have been highly instrumental to Lesley with regards to most aspects of coaching and unquestionably their sound advice has been greatly beneficial to her.

Almost coinciding with this February issue will be the 11th Cotswold Junior Select, to be held at the Gloucester Leisure Centre on the 3rd and 4th February respectively.

Once again stalwart former County Chairman Jack Reeves has offered his services as Head Organiser, I have no doubt that Jack and his 1st Lieutenants — Les Smith, David Dean, plus the County's Management Committee will once again produce and run a very highly successful Tournament aiming for entries somewhere in the 340 — 350 region, and played on 16 tables.

Thanks are indeed also due to Tim Harris and Dave Nipper for giving up the weekend to referee this National event under the leadership of Senior Referee Les Smith.

After many years of editing and producing "Net & Edge" — Cheltenham's ex-Chairperson Mrs Gill Smith has finally called it a day. Yes, Gill's hurled her much maligned and battered old typewriter out of the window and with husband John joined the ever worthy blue coated brigade of umpiring.

I understand that Cheltenham's new, (this season) Chairman, Graham Slack will be taking over joint editorship of "Net & Edge" — assisted by Steve Cox (who is already Cheltenham's Coaching Secretary and Team and Players Registration Secretary), until a permanent Editor can be found.

It does seem somewhat ironic to me, that these two already heavily committed Officers of the Cheltenham Association, have to further bear the burden of this additional work when obviously — there are so many available with virtually, no specific commitments whatsoever, except perhaps that of playing.

## Gloucestershire continued

### Coaching

In Gloucester Old Market Printers City League — George Novoth takes over the top coaching Squad at Oxstalls, as and from January 1990.

At the time of writing it is rumoured that Lesley Dewick may take charge at Crypt School, otherwise this venue could well close down.

Paddy Jackson will carry on on Thursday nights and further explore the possibility of a coaching course upon another night and at another venue.

P. Tsakarisanos, has indicated his willingness to register as a student coach, and has been asked to contact Paddy Jackson.

Julie Hogarth has set up coaching courses at the Newent Y.C. from 6 - 8 on Monday evenings, she also takes sessions on Sunday mornings from 10 — 12 noon at the Newent Leisure Centre. Julie reports that she has some 35 — 40 pupils.

The City Coaching Committee are still desperate for more coaches to come forward and seek the League's help in advertising this fact.

Dates for summer term coaching: Monday 23rd April — Friday 20th July (Half term May 1st, June included) George Novoth stated that he will only be coaching one night a week.

And finally highlights from a recent Leeds British League match in which our sole Gloucestershire team "Cheltenham Saracens" played Bathwick Tyres (2nd), the latter won 5 — 3, Darren Griffin our new County singles champion lost his 100% singles record to Andy Creed 22 & 18, and Mark Owens beat Australian Eddie Kaser -17, 16, 14, a victory for Mark as I understand that Eddie is ranked at No.3 *down under*. What happened mate, missing out on your Castlemain 4XXXX?

## HAMPSHIRE

David Cosway

AFTER the flood of results last month, no County matches to report. Some information is filtering through to me, even if it is third hand. From the north of the county I hear that the Aldershot Division 1 champions RCTA, with Dave Burnham and Andy Thompson, are currently in second place. Leaders are Frimley 'A' whose team of Tony Duffield, Adrian Dixon, Edward Hatley and Martin Adams are well ahead at the half way stage. RAE 'B' team lead Division 2. The Charles Church Aldershot Super League started with the Wessex team of Graham Sandley, Edward Hatley and Martin Adams beating Elizabethan 11/1. Hatley, the

current England No.1 Cadet, included in his 3 wins a victory over County First Team player Ramish Bhalla. Clear leaders of the Portsmouth Division 1 are Amity Generation Aces. With two of the current Hampshire team, Graham Toole and Mark Wilding in their team, this is no surprise. These two won all their singles in their victories over the second and third teams Hambledon Swallows and Cowplain Blue. In the South East Hants First Division, Amity Generation lead but the Alex Hawks team of Mark Bleakley, Steve Bilmore and Andy Bugden are close on their heels. Fareham Blue, led by Andy Witcher, top the Premier Division of the Gosport and Fareham League, but they are closely followed by Amity Generation Comets for whom new County Womens Champion, Sarah Turner, has been impressive. In Southampton, Snobs 'B' lead their club's 'A' team at the top of the Premier Division and the expected challenge from the late starting Alpha 'A' team has failed to materialise. The Winchester First Division is, as expected, led by St.Cross 'A'.

After the second session of the Inter-Town Cadet League, both Basingstoke and Gosport and Fareham have full points from 3 matches. Basingstoke trio of Keith Macken, Stephen Chu and Andrew Lukilian have lost only one set between them and they lead. Gareth Scadden (Gosport and Fareham) and Jeremy Wilson (Andover) have individual 100% records. The Aldershot team of Edward Hatley, Stephen Crouch, Marcus Horth and Claire Woodham lead the Junior League with Hatley the leading individual player.

## HERTS

John Wood

THE new Junior Boys Singles Champion is Morris Greenberg, who beat the reigning champion and red hot favourite to retain his title Ian Black in the Final, at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre, last month.

Greenberg of Barnet, well deserved his victory over St Albans star Black, winning 14, -14, 19 in a close fought battle.

Barnet Cadet U-14 team were also in the news when they won the first ever U-14 team tournament to be held in Hertfordshire, beating all comers, at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre, last November.

The Barnet Cadet team of Phillip Margerrison, Stephen Taylor and Mark Seaborne, swept aside teams from Hemel Hempstead and Watford, winning all their matches 4-0, apart from the last match of the day, which they won 3-1 when they beat Hemel Hempstead 1.

Seaborne and Taylor finished with a 100%, whilst Margerrison lost just one game, when Hemel Hempstead's John Whitton beat him 6 and 5.

### Herts Junior Closed

Meanwhile, back to the Hertfordshire Junior Closed Tournament, where once again Barnet were taking the honours with Justin Skinner of Barnet beating Oliver Sanders also of Barnet 19, -12, 16, in the Boys U-14 Final.

Whilst John O'Leary of Barnet overcame the challenge of Tim Seaholme of Watford in the Boys U-12 final, 10 and 10.

Sarah Seaholme of Watford won the Girls U-17 title when she powered her way to victory against Barnet's Talya Greenberg, 17, -18, 16 in a scintillating final.

But Talya Greenberg bounced back to take the Girls U-14 trophy, when she beat Caren Harber of St Albans, 18 and 11, in the final.

The Boys Doubles title went to Ian Black of St.Albans and Morris Greenberg, when they comfortably beat Kevin Harber of St.Albans and George Sanders from Barnet, 7 and 17, in the final.

Whilst the Girls Doubles Crown was won by Talya Greenberg and Cara Bosley from Hertford, 12 and 12 against Sarah Seaholme and Caron Harber.

The Mixed Doubles final was won by Ian Black and Sarah Seaholme, when they over-powered Morris and Talya Greenberg, 14 and 14.

Craig Millward of Hitchin won the Boys Consolation Singles.

Meanwhile, one young Kings Langley girl, 10 year old Lesley Moorhead, has started on the long road to possible stardom, when she was invited to attend the Crest National U-12 training camp at the Luton Regional Sports Centre.

Lesley has so far been to 2 training weekends, 1 in November and 1 in January, where she was under the expert guidance of Jackie Bellinger.

If hopes are realised, Hertfordshire, with it's bottomless barrel of young talent, will produce a National Champion in the 1990's.

*The Hertfordshire Cadet Under 14 Champions: Pictured after winning the title are the jubilant Barnet team of Mark Seaborne, Stephen Taylor and Phillip Margerrison.*



# Counties 3

## HUNTS

David Deller

SEAT Peterborough, Huntingdonshire's second Leeds British League team to St. Neots, have this year had a change of divisions from 3 North to 3 East, and a change of fortunes.

At present they have a hundred per cent record with seven wins from seven and they go into the second half of the season five points clear of their nearest rivals Milton Keynes. Their change in fortunes is mainly due to the arrival of former Scottish International Keith Rodger and Lindsay Taylor and former No.5 Chinese lady Yi Zhang to the club. Things are looking good in the County's most northern club with team manager Julian Tee organising the first of the England v China Test Matches which was held on the 9th January in the City.

## LANCASHIRE

George R Yates

THE inaugural Triangular Championships involving players from Preston, Lytham and Blackpool were held at Ribby Hall, Wrea Green the same being instituted not only to stimulate competitive play but also to bond a relationship between the three leagues.

Dave Leeper of Lytham was the star performer winning both the men's singles title and, in partnership with Noel Clerkin, annexed the men's doubles. In the men's singles Dave disposed of Preston's Nigel Jobling 20 and 19 having previously beaten Preston inter-league players Tony Rigby and Steve Crook.

In the doubles Leeper and Clerkin proved too strong for Willie Berkley and Ian Holt (Preston) after the latter pair had disposed of the firm favourites Martin Ireland and Barry Crook (Blackpool) in the quarters.

The women's singles was won by Preston's Julie Clegg who has a habit of winning local tournaments, her final victim at Wrea Green being Jeanette Walsh of Blackpool. Probably the best final was that between Barry Crook and Tony Rigby in the veterans singles with the former winning in straight games.

Surprise of the tournament came in the junior singles when John Pilkington (Preston), just 14, beat the favourite Dave Marsland (Blackpool) 16 in the third. The tournament also boasted a Class 2 event for competitors not playing in the Blackpool and Preston Premier Divisions. This event proved very popular and was won by German importee Jurgen Froechl of Lytham. He beat Ian Lofthouse of Blackpool in a one-sided final. Ian had battled all afternoon to reach

the final but just ran out of steam.

The day was rounded off with a presentation dance at Ribby Hall with the prizes being presented by Rodan Fuller, the Yorkshire County Coach.

### Lancashire Closed Championships

The Preston League announce their hosting of the Lancashire Closed Championships, sponsored by S.S.S. Sports Group, at West View Leisure Centre, Ribblesdale, Preston on Saturday, April 7th, commencing at 9am. Events to be run are MS, WS, MD, WD, JBS, JGS and Vets Mixed Event. Entry forms can be had from the tournament organiser Tony Rigby of 146 Margaret Road, Penwortham, Preston, Lancs PR1 9RU, (phone: 0772-745855)

\*\*\*\*\*

In the Leeds National Team Championships for the Wilmott Cup, Bolton went down to a shock defeat when beaten 5-3 by Blackburn whose Graham Clarke trebled and Neil Gravener added the other two against two wins for Stephen Scowcroft and one for Nigel Hallows who beat Keith Jackson to leave David Carse without success.

### Lancs & Cheshire League

Stockport would appear to be running away with the men's first

division with four successive wins under their belts their latest success being against Blackburn by 7 sets to 3.

Andy Horsfield was the man of the match with a treble which took in Graham Clarke, Neil Gravener and Keith Jackson. Steve Horsfield added two with wins over Clarke and Jackson as did junior Darren Howarth who beat Jackson and Gravener. Leading positions:-

	P	Pts
Stockport	4	8
Blackburn	4	5
Bolton	4	4
Liverpool	3	4

Liverpool head the counterpart women's division and look set to retain their championship title despite being held to a 5-all draw by Warrington in their opening match. Since when, however, they have rattled off three successive wins, their most recent being 9-1 at home to Southport. Only the doubles escaped them in this encounter with Justine Thomas, Brenda Buoey and Paula French all on song in their singles with Barbara Smallwood, Sylvia Graham and Mabel Neary on the receiving end. Top of the table:-

	P	Pts
Liverpool	4	7
Warrington	4	5
Oldham	3	4
Macclesfield	3	3

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# Counties 4

## Lancashire continued

Junior Div I is currently headed by defending champions Oldham whose third successive win was accomplished against Crewe by a 10-nil margin with Chris Campbell, Matthew Coombe and Karen Richardson very much in control. Lead positions:-

	P	Pts
Oldham	3	6
Preston	4	6
Barrow	3	5
Bolton	4	4

In the Vets Div I no team can boast a 100% record with Warrington shedding their first point when held to a 5-all draw away to Oldham whose wins were obtained by George Jones (2), Norman Thewlis (2) and Bob Forrest (1) against a treble for Bob Bagot, one for Jack Evans and the doubles won by Evans and Bagot. Lead positions:-

	P	Pts
Stockport	4	7
Warrington	4	7
Preston	4	6
Bolton	4	4

## LEICESTERSHIRE

Tony Lillicrapp

WITH no County games played (or if they have I have not seen the score sheets) this month, the emphasis in this abbreviated report is very much on the local scene.

To my shame, especially as I also wear the 'cap' of Chairman of our Association, I was unable to make it to the recent Leeds Junior National Championships held at the Hinckley Leisure Centre. The event, however, ran for the seventh time in Hinckley, went I am told as smooth as silk thanks to the efforts and organisational skills of Messrs John Illiffe and Mike Holt. Where would Leicestershire Table Tennis be without the constant and seemingly tireless efforts of this truly dynamic duo?

Still on the Junior scene and still with Hinckley the trio of Matthew Hobday, Philip Pagett and Richard Hall lifted the Leicestershire Inter Towns crown for the Hinckley league for the first time in their history. Well done Matthew, Philip and Richard.

The first week in January 1990 sees the staging at various venues around the county of the preliminary rounds of the Phil Reid Memorial Trophy with the final to be played hopefully at Knighton Park TTC on Sunday 7th January.

This competition — a handicapped singles tournament, is once again being organised by another one of the County's dedicated administrators Terry Bowen and as the name implies is held to commemorate the passing of one of

the best liked characters Leicestershire table tennis ever knew. Without wishing to paddle in a sea of sentiment I count myself very fortunate to have known Phil not as a player — because by the time I got to know him he had retired as a player (and former County No.1) and was devoting ALL of his time to either writing about table tennis or local and national administration — but as an articulate and fiercely loyal friend. God bless you Phil wherever you are now.

Exclusive Kitchens, as expected, lead Div I of the Hinckley league but are being chased hard by hitherto unbeaten Market Bosworth 'A' who are just ten points behind with a game in hand.

Division two is a much tighter affair with four teams Ashby Parva 'C', Westfield 'B', Stoney Stanton 'B' and EMEB 'B' separated by just eleven points whereas Div 3 is much like Div I with two teams R.K.M. Photos and Market Bosworth 'D' leaving the rest in their wake.

## NORFOLK

Ray Hogg

WELCOME to John Pringle C.U. No. 1965 our most recently qualified umpire. I have no doubt that he will be an active one not like some who once qualified are never seen again. The main happening in the County recently was the annual championships which were outstanding in the fact that we had 27 under 11's enter. This is only the second year of that class and it was encouraging to see the talent of the future. In the main event — mens singles — once again Neil Pickard beat Phil Logsdon — everybody has their bogie player Neil must be Philip's. Other results are: L/S Gillian Hancock, V/S Mick Broughton, M/D Neil & David Pickard, L/D Gillian Hancock & Alison Taylor, X/D Richard Stevenson & Alison Taylor. Juniors: U/11 mixed Sam Gooderham, U/13 Boys Stuart Purling, U/13 Girls Sarah Goodale, U/15 Boys Shaun Parsley, U/15 Girls Melanie Chaplin, U/17 Boys Andrew Hawes, U/17 Girls Katharyn Longbottom, B/D Jon Cockburn & Mark Wilson, G/D Katharyn Longbottom & Rebecca Shubrook, Junior X/D Mark Wilson & Katharyn Longbottom.

In Norwich the race for the premier title is on — what with CEYMS being 'fined' 2 points by the disciplinary committee, and having signed Geoff Davies — Park Lane the only other contender signed both John Kitchener and Richard Tanner no doubt just for one or two matches. Should be interesting to watch developments. Veteran Ranking Men — Mick Broughton, Mick Musson, Stan

Honor, Tony Hipperson, Peter Cole, Les Rayment, Keith Hudson, David Juler, Richard Cummins, Ray Lee. Ladies — Joy Dixon, Maureen Wilson, Edna Fletcher, Ruth Hogg, Joan Rodwell. There will be some additions and deletions to these next season as other players 'come of age'.

## NORTHANTS

Dennis Millman

IT IS almost twelve years since the untimely and tragic death of Tina Coleman, but her name remains perpetuated by the Tina Coleman Memorial Trophy for Ladies Doubles which was recently staged for the eleventh time.

Few of the present day competitors can remember Tina who was Kettering League Secretary in the mid 1960's, in addition to winning 24 Kettering League titles and a further 16 at county level. However, Ann Lenton, her long time doubles partner and frequent finals opponent was again in a large field of 26.

Played on a handicap basis, with partners drawn, the final stages inevitably featured new faces, and this year was no exception, with Jackie Rowson and Jackie Nannery battling through a quality entry to emerge unbeaten from a demanding programme of 7 matches, after staging a dramatic revival to clinch the final against Clem Little and Clare Waples. Earlier the winning partnership had accounted for former county players Caroline Perkins and Joanne Abbott in the semi-final, after trailing midway through the decider but once again it was a day when the true spirit of table tennis was seen at its best.

In the local leagues, Well Connected, with all six of their talented squad occupying places in the top eight of the Pennine/NCTTA Computer Ranking List, carry all before them at Northampton, Kettering and Wellingborough, but it is former county star Keith Nicoll, languishing at No.20 who takes the individual honours for the final months of the 1980's, just as he had taken them at the start of the decade, when he monopolised both the Northants County and the Kettering League Closed Tournaments.

In successive matches, Nicholl, playing for his very first club Rothborough, and without the benefit of practice, produced two scintillating performances. First he destroyed his three Kettering Town A opponents in less than twenty-five minutes for the loss of fifty points, and then followed up with an unique hat-trick against Well Connected, with both recent County Closed finalists Andy Edmonds and Andy Trott, together with Richard Elliott, making up a distinguished trio of victims.

## OXFORD

Steve Joyner

IT HAS become rather a tradition at the end of a season to reflect on the previous year in the form of a review, therefore I have decided not to do one. Instead I thought it might be interesting to report on some of the achievements that occurred ten years ago in 1980.

The Ranking List 10 years ago bared little resemblance to that of today's. Top spin tornado Joe Pyle had secured the No.1 spot for two consecutive seasons. Banbury's king at the time, Dave Burns, had moved up to No.2 thanks mainly to some inspiring county performances. The biggest surprise was the rise from 43 to No.3 of vastly improving Ian Arnold. Despite all this experience there was plenty of young blood in the shape of Paul Woodward at 6 and Aubrey Hughes at 8. The only player to appear on the 1990 list as well is of course Alf Davies. The 1980 season also saw some positive moves from the county to involve other less fortunate counties such as Middlesex and Essex to benefit from the great base that Oxfordshire had built. Admired Coaching Officer, former male model Barry Osbourne, inspired a series of coaching seminars for the up and coming coaches of the country. Barry's influential and faultless technique earned him the widely respected opinion that it was he who provided the incentive and know-how for the successful coaches of the 90's such as Dave Fairholm, Don Parker and of course Arthur Chilvers.

One thing that has not changed over the last decade is the success of the county team, even in 1980 the team were in battle for the coveted bottom place in section 3D of the County Championships. There were nearly 600 entries for the 1980 County Tournament, a slight drop on previous seasons. However, the action was as good if not better. Pre-Tournament favourites were the in-form Barry Yates and Gilbert Roberts. However, none could keep their nerve and surprisingly both lost in the early stages. This left top seeds Jim Denbow, Mick Bradley, Harvey Harris and Stefan Travellon with an apparently easy path. This could have not been further from the truth as no seed reached the last 4 (the 1980 seeding committee are still in office today). Eventually the promising attacking style of Johnny Thomas met the laid back style of improving junior Carl Bushell. It was experience that told and Thomas took the title. The womens' was won by pretty junior Gladys Loft at the expense of under 21 star Ina Lamb. Clive Alcock took the juniors against team-mate Stan Hann, whilst spotty faced Eric Barlow beat the slim Len Pratt

# Counties 5

*Oxford continued.*

in the cadet final. Alf Davies took his 30 veterans title as expected. Yet again the event was well run thanks to the efforts of tournament referee Barry Yates (some things never change). Finally the committee were spot on in 1980 with their award for the most promising beginner going to Steve Joyner who has undoubtedly become one of the biggest thorns in the side of Oxfordshire table tennis in the last ten years.

## 1980 Ranking List

1. Joe Pyle
2. Dave Burns
3. Ian Arnold
4. Barry Yates
5. Barry Osbourne
6. Paul Woodword
7. Robin Aston
8. Aubrey Hughes
9. John Hemley
10. Roger Meley
11. Desmond Douglas
12. Alf Davies

I must admit that the record books that provided the basis for this report were somewhat unclear in places so if the odd factual errors occur I apologise.

## SURREY

Terry Vance

A BELATED Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year to all my Readers.

### Tournament Scene

Among the players from Surrey seen on the tournament circuit this season and not normally mentioned are Tony Fitzgerald; Jerome Jonah; Simon Phillipsz; Miranda Markham and her sister.

At the **Middlesex 3 Star** there was good support from the Surrey Vets Squad with the best result being Ron Langheim's win over John Tender. The best crowd and the most applause of the 2 days was for Mike Hammond's fighting display against the eventual winner Chen. Another name from the past Mark Oakley lost in the Quarters as did David Hannah.

At the **Essex 2 Star** Mark Burman won the Consolation Singles with Darren Blake partnering Alex Perry of Devon to win the U14 Doubles. Darren lost in the Semi of the U14 Singles and the same fate befell Stephen Lampkin in the U12's. The Umpire for the Girls' Singles Final was Terry Carpenter fresh from his triumphs at Hinckley and Pickets Lock who has had his nickname changed from June to Robin because there is already a Batman!!!

### County Meetings

It was a pleasure to see the Representative of the Leatherhead and the Wandsworth Leagues attending but where are the Reps from the 5 or 6 missing Leagues? I fully understand that the local Leagues also have their meetings to attend but could it not be possible

to attend one of the 4 County meetings during the year? If a County Rep has been appointed then he is not doing his job. I know that the Leagues receive a copy of the minutes but surely this is accepting things rather than helping in the decision making. The County Committee is not getting any younger so new blood is essential to maintain even a status quo.

## SUSSEX

John Woodford

THE two strongest women players in Sussex Janet Smith and Teresa Moore are currently not competing in the Rose Bowl although both are based in Brighton.

Janet and Teresa with Christine Wicks possibly at No.3 could form a Rose Bowl trio that could reach the semi-finals or even the final where the last-round barrier seems unassailable with a Staffordshire trio of Fiona Elliot, Jill Harris and Helen Lower, all in the England Top Ten.

Brighton declined to accept a suggestion from Miss Smith that they might pay modest professional fees, whilst Miss Moore, a teacher at Patcham High School, seems loathe to desert her home town of Hastings. With women's table tennis now looking for a boost after its initial impact last season it seems a pity that the best ladies in the county cannot combine their talents, at least in the Rose Bowl.

Roger Gillett (Bexhill) pioneer of mixed local and regional events did not have such a sparkling entry for his East Sussex championships — he was about ten short on the 1988 figure. Janet Smith was the winner after a titanic final round battle where she beat Paul Barry (Hastings) 18, 20.

Meanwhile, on the same day, the West Sussex championships flourished played as a mixed event, where Ritchie Venner triumphed for the third time in a row. The question now is will the unsponsored all-Sussex event on March 4 at Southwick Leisure Centre attract the required 72 players? I think it will — all players are guaranteed six games during the day. The all-Sussex event is also being played on the "all-in" basis, men against women in the early stages!

But the young man to watch out for in the new decade could be Crawley's Scott Greenbrook. At present he is the No.1 for Rejects in the Leeds British League, but his talents could be just as useful at Horsham Dolphins base at Broadbridge Heath.

## WILTSHIRE

Terry Bruce, in his first season as a veteran, won the Wiltshire Veterans' ranking tournament held

in Swindon. Bruce was undefeated and moves into top spot in the latest ranking list. Swindon's Brian Powell also hit good form and scored two wins against Bill Moulding, also in his first season as a veteran. Powell, who was also beaten by Bruce, takes second place.

Liz Eyers won the women's section of the tournament with Swindon's Sylvia Morse in second place. But Sylvia takes number one place because she has more ranking points.

Another Swindon league player, Gwen Hazell, who was unable to take part in the tournament, still has enough points to take second place.

The top placings are:

Men: 1 Terry Bruce 195 pts, 2 Brian Powell 182 pts, 3 Bill Moulding 177, 4 Mike Oxley 160, 5 Ernie Howell 158, 6 Alan Duke 158, 7 Alan Cooke 148, 8 Anthony Brown 110, 9 Basil Thompson 108, 10 John Nash 107.

Women: 1 Sylvia Morse 78, 2 Gwen Hazell 71, 3 Liz Eyres 53, 4 Margaret Willson 47, 5 Nan Boyd 24, 6 Stella Hembury 20, 7 (joint) Valerie Clack and Cushla McLennan 10.

\*\*\*\*\*

Wiltshire senior teams seemed to like the new-look format of the Leeds County Championships for they chalked up wins in two of their opening three matches. Eddie Roofe marked his return to the county scene in a big way by winning both his singles against Dorset.

Roofe earned Wiltshire both points when beating Martin Hughes in the final game. It will give Wiltshire table tennis a great lift to see the talented Roofe, who has been out of the county game for several seasons return in such fine form.

Wiltshire number one Kevin Satchell was unbeaten and laid the foundations to the 6-4 win against Dorset which gave Wiltshire a confidence-boosting start to the series of matches at Bath Sports Centre. Satchell was again Wiltshire's star against Gloucestershire and won both his singles convincingly. Brenda Lee was unbeaten in the match but with neither

Trevor Loyd nor Ray Powell, who came in for Roofe, winning a game, Wiltshire were pipped 4-6.

Ian Neate made his senior county debut in the final match, against Avon seconds, and got on the score-sheet by winning both his singles as Wiltshire went on to record their second 6-4 victory.

Only one player remains undefeated in Division One of the Swindon and District Table Tennis league. He is Andrew Metcalfe who already holds the Evening Advertiser Cup for the player finishing the season with the best average.

Tim Waller had his 100 per cent record shattered by Nat Richardson.

Ferndale A — Eddie Roofe, Jasvinder Singh and Glenn Freeman — are leading the race for the Division One championship and have yet to drop a point.

## YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

Congratulations must go to four of Yorkshire's 'young brigade', who received a timely Christmas present when the Lentec ranking lists were issued shortly before the holiday period. Michael O'Driscoll, Chris Oldfield and Debbie Toole, all in their first season of senior play, surged up their respective lists to move into the top ten, while 13 year old cadet Sally Marling took over at the top of the Junior Girls' chart.

By the time these notes appear, all four will have competed in the Senior Top Twelve at Clacton — Sally has been given a 'wild card' entry into the Ladies' section — where they will join the established Joanne Shaw, and the impact of all five Tykes will be noted with interest.

Lack of communication, particularly between the administration and the players, has long been a point of contention in T.T. but one man who has put himself out to do something about the problem is Yorkshire's County Championships Secretary Cleeve Judson.

Miranda Markham - Surrey.



# Counties 6

Yorkshire continued -

Dropping through my letter box recently was the first edition of the Y.T.T.A.'s News booklet, a 12 page publication assembled by Cleve and reproduced with the help of National Power, whose support we in Yorkshire are delighted to acknowledge.

Well known on the Vets circuit, Cleve has spent many hours collecting and editing material, and hopes to have done much to ease the communication problem with an invaluable compendium of information directed not only at those players prominent in County events, but at all the enthusiasts throughout the 21 affiliated Leagues.

A feature which is likely to have the greatest influence in stimulating player interest is the re-introduction of the once very popular, but now long-dead Yorkshire Grading

Scheme in a new and computerised format.

The Wakefield man has recruited York computer 'wizard' Doug Bartle, a stalwart of the Veteran II side, and the first lists have been issued in each of seven categories — Mens, Ladies, Veteran, Junior (Boys and Girls) and Cadet (Boys and Girls).

As with the National scheme points are awarded on a sliding scale based on (i) relative positions on the list and (ii) a 'weighting factor' for the event, but major difference is that not only can points be gained in victory, but they can also be lost in defeat.

It is appreciated that the initial lists do not reflect the true positions of the players in relation to each other, but a starting point had to be set and it is hoped that, come the end of the season, the names will be settling into a worthwhile order of merit.

Any player who wishes to receive a regular copy of the Newsbooklet can do so by writing to Cleve at 51 Leeds Road, Gawthorpe, Ossett, near Wakefield WF5 9QW, enclosing FOUR 6" x 9" stamped addressed envelopes.

The first round of the Yorkshire Club Championship competition has now been completed, and both Bradford and Sheffield retain a double interest with each city having two representatives in the last eight. Bradford Wanderers are still in the hunt to take a further tenure on the trophy after coming through a 5-4 nailbiter against Springpac (Huddersfield) thanks to three from former E and No.1 Denis Neale and two from Nick Davies.

The draw for the quarter finals keeps the big city clubs apart — Brook Motors (Huddersfield) v Hermits (Bradford); Clayton Heights Trimda (Bradford) v

Sturge (Selby); Harrogate Wanderers v Vulcan A (Sheffield); Appleton Wiske (Northallerton) v Wadley Bridge (Sheffield).

League news is again minimal, but in Northallerton Brockholme A, who can call on Steve Cooper, Mick Nisbet, John Crawford and Keith Bell are just ahead at the top of Division 1 and engaged in a tremendous battle with Appleton Wiske A, who line up an all-Tees-side trio of Malcolm Corking, Steve Brunskill and Ian Plummer.

Wold Lions, who have led the race in a very competitive Hull Premier Division since the early days, went down to a first defeat at the hands of reigning champions YPI Cossacks, and this gave the opportunity to Judeans A, who include former County man Mike Harrison in their squad, to take over the leadership at the halfway stage.

## South West Regional News

by ALF PEPPERD

NEWS FROM that lovely part of the U.K. from whence tin mines used to flourish and now richly regarded as part of the English Riviera and producer of early spuds, are you with me — Yes you have guessed it — beautiful Cornwall.

It's Bude's great night on February 13th when they stage "The Leeds International v Czechoslovakia", I understand that Bob Bevan and Peter Hancock are the mainstream organisers for this event and will unquestionably be well backed up by Mrs Pat Archdale and newly qualified County Umpire Fred Ingram. He and Dennis Williams plus Tony Carey (Somerset) will be involved in presentation.

I'm told that seating is available for 400 and it is hoped that not only will all be filled but that a great night's T.T. will be shared by one and all.

Following the success of Neil Bevan in the Cleveland Open, Neil is now officially ranked at No. 1 as a Junior, which is certainly the highest known ranking achieved by anyone in recent years in the South West Region.

Cornwall is staging the Western Counties Championships at the end of the season — date to be confirmed later, and venue — also to be confirmed, but probably at Launceston College.

News from Val Clack the South West Region & Southern Coaching Officer — the following were successful in passing on to higher status as Assistant Coaches, Sarah Devine (Swindon), Ron Chapman (Amesbury), Pat Baldwin (Ringwood), Jim Sampson (Swindon), John Archer (Bath), Matt Ruck (Bath), and finally Lesley Dewick (Gloucester).

Thanks to sponsorship from an anonymous source, the Swindon

League were able to launch a new competition comprising of two players per team versus each other — plus a doubles, response to this new venture was great from all sides and the organisers were able to form 3 Divisions ie: A Premier Division, a Junior Division and a Youth Club Division, all under the auspices of the Swindon League.

Just before Christmas, I had a very pleasant surprise — there was a knock on my door which my wife Gladys answered and someone asking to see me. I have to admit upon coming face to face that I could not place this visitor, you see we had not met for at least 34 years. The person in question was Bournemouth's Chairman David Woodcock. David of course started his table tennis career in the Gloucester League some 40 or so years ago and will be well remembered by many of us old un's.

Don't make it another 34 years Dave before you call again — because I most certainly will not be around.

And finally, I heard from Tom Honey, who for many decades did sterling work for Cornwall, Tom now is a resident of Girvan — North of the border, tells me that the nearest he is to organised table tennis is some 30 miles away. With my very limited knowledge of Scotland perhaps skis and snow shoes are the order of the day and night for getting around.

Come back Tom, all is forgiven for leaving the South West Region.

## Southern Region

by BRIAN LAMERTON

THE TWO top of the table clashes between Kingfisher and Cippenham ended all square with the result that Cippenham enter the new year as leaders of the Mens Premier division whilst Kingfisher lead the Ladies.

In the mens' match Steve Joel, home from University, was the architect of Cippenham's victory with three wins as his team raced into a 5 sets to love lead before Kingfisher fought back to give some respectability to the final score at 6-3.

The ladies' match stood at 2 sets all and with Chris Basden well down in the third game against unbeaten Jacquie Lovell it looked odds on a Cippenham double, but Chris fought back to take the game at 21-19 and the match 3-2.

Division 1 newcomers Merton (Bournemouth) whose young team appeared completely outclassed at the beginning of the season have now won 3 of the last 4 matches, all by the odd set in nine yet with 2 points only from each of these matches, coupled with two heavy

defeats as they still share bottom spot with Cippenham 'B'.

Mens' Premier	P	W	Pts
Cippenham 'A'	6	6	13
Kingfisher 'A'	5	4	11
Amity Generation 'A'	6	2	9
Purbrook	5	3	7
Pyestock	5	1	6
Isle of Wight	5	0	2

Mens' First Division	P	W	Pts
Kingfisher 'B'	6	5	14
Amity Generation 'B'	7	3	10
Burnham	5	2	8
Our Lady of Peace	5	3	7
Merton	5	3	6
Cippenham 'B'	6	1	6

Ladies' Division	P	W	Pts
Kingfisher	4	4	10
Cippenham	4	3	9
Our Lady of Peace	4	3	6
Aldershot	4	0	3
Isle of Wight	4	0	2

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# Finlandia Open

Bradley Billington - good win against Nannoni.

## Cheers Brad!

THERE WAS a strong oriental entry for the Finland Open, held in Helsinki from 1st to 3rd December.

In the men's team event, China showed that they are determined to put themselves back on top of World Table Tennis, as they swept aside a strong Korean team 3-0 in the final.

An out of form Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR) was overwhelmed by Chen Zhibin (CHN) who at one stage led 18-4 in the second set, after winning the first.

A young England team of Bradley Billington and Michael O'Driscoll were defeated 3-1 by Italy with only the demolition of Nannoni by Bradley to cheer about. The 21-8, 21-14 looked even better when Nannoni took the first set against Yoo Nam Kyu in the next round before going down. The other highlight of the men's team was the complete destruction of Matsushita (JPN) by Ma Wenge (CHN) 10-21, 3-21.

In the men's singles, O'Driscoll lost in the second round to Park Chang Ik (KOR) after playing very well to push his opponent to a fourth set. The withdrawal of Kim Taek Soo (KOR) gave Billington a second round win over Nasseir (EGY) despite being forced to a fifth set. In the third round Billington lost 3-1 to Miyazaki (JPN) after going very close to a 2-1 lead.

With no European in the last eight, Chen Zhibin (CHN) took the title, out of four Chinese semi-finalists.

### FINAL RESULTS:

#### Men's Team

China beat N Korea 3-0

#### Women's Team

China beat Hong Kong 3-2

#### Men's Singles

Chen Zhibin (CHN) beat Zhang Lei (CHN) 12, -20, 17, 16

#### Women's Singles

Qiao Hong (CHN) beat Hong Cha Ok (KOR) 10, 16, 13

#### Men's Doubles

Ma Wenge/Chen Zhibin (CHN) beat K Matsushita/H Shibutani (JPN) 19, 10

#### Women's Doubles

Chen Jing/Hu Xiaoxin (CHN) beat Chai Po Wa/Chan Tan Lui (HKG) 12, -15, 20

#### Mixed Doubles

Chen Zhibin/Chen Jing (CHN) beat Ma Wenge/Deng Yaping (CHN) 18, 17



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## Comfortable Cruise for Chen

by MIKE LOVEDER

LAST year's Middlesex 3-Star Open suffered from a clash with the French Open as leading players were competing abroad. In an effort to avoid a repeat of the experience this year's 33rd Middlesex Open was arranged for a week later in the season — only to clash with the Swedish Open, the Tameside Junior 2-star and the Norfolk County Closed!

Three of the seeds scratched from the Mens Singles including Nigel Tyler who was away in Switzerland finalising arrangements for his marriage, on 23 December, to Inga Schmitz. The absence of Michael O'Driscoll opened up the way for New Zealand's Peter Jackson who had come over from Belgium. However the name of the game had to be "No problems — only opportunities".

With over 300 entries there were some tough draws. Scotland's top 4 players all entered and the Welsh entry was spearheaded by their new No. 1 Steve Ward. He won his group with a 16 & 18 victory over Scotland's No. 4 Dave McLroy, and then had to play a qualifying round against Ian McLean who he beat -14, 19, 15 only to be beaten in the first round by Paul Whiting, the first player to competently handle his serves. In his group the Devon star had overcome opposition from Craig Bakewell, Adrian Moore and Phil Bradbury.

Another first round victim was John Souter, beaten by the improving Jonathan Taylor who went on to beat Nigel Eckersley and Mark Oakley before crashing out to Peter Jackson. Avon's Paul Lewis lost in his group to Dave Solman which allowed Steve Slater to qualify only to lose to Andrew Eden at deuce in the third and who subsequently took a game from Kevin Satchell before losing to him. John Broe went out in round 2 to Eddie Smith -16, -20, but he in turn lost -9, -6 to Chen Xinhua. Dipak Topiwala had a second round walk-over and then beat Glenn Baker 24 & 13. Bradley Billington survived a close 3rd round encounter with Chris Oldfield, scraping through 18, -22, 19 in a fast and furious game.

Matthew Syed flew in from Sweden to despatch Dave Hannah in the 3rd round 16 & 22. Prior to this the Berkshire defender had hit off veteran Matt Shearer 3 & 15. Talking of veterans I might mention that group 13 contained four of them! After about a couple of hours the group winner was quickly decided with Brian Allison beating Babs Adedayo 6 & 3.

What can one say about Chen Xinhua? Playing just two days before his wedding did not put him off. He drew the biggest crowds as in the whole of the Mens Singles

event he conceded an average of less than 11 points a game. (Incidentally it was his entry form that read Chen Sin Wa!)

The veterans singles title changed hands in the absence of holder John Hilton.

In the top half Peter Radford came through with a -22, 14, 14 win over Dave Harvey and then beat Andy Meads 15, -16, 13. In the bottom half Malcolm Corking hit through John Taylor 14 & 15 and then beat Keith Horton 22 & 15. In the previous round Keith had accounted for Henry Buist by scores of 6 & 9. Corking eventually beat Radford in the closest of the finals.

In the Women's Singles 15 year old Sara Williams put out Jane Barella in the first round and then went out to Helen Lower. Josie Bongers achieved a useful 10 & 17 victory over Helen Bardwell but then lost to No 2 seed Jill Harris -13, -22. Sue Collier had a tough time. She despatched Joanne Shaw 21, -15, 16 and then lost narrowly to Nigeria's Kuburat Owolabi -12, 20, -20. With Andrea Holt withdrawn for Sweden it was the unseeded Julie Billington who took advantage and she beat Helen Lower 7 & 19 for a place in the semi-finals. Scotland's No 2 Janet Smith came through 12 & 16 against Carol Giles only to fall to Jill Harris. The Women's Doubles left little to com-

ment on as the event went as seeded until the final.

With Chen Xinhua and Matthew Syed scratched from the Men's Doubles the event was left wide open. It was the unseeded John Souter and Colin Wilson who worked their way to the final. In the bottom half John Broe and Dave Hannah came through as expected but they did not meet the opponents they expected in the semi-final. Veterans Malcolm Corking and Stuart Gibbs came through the qualifying rounds and in the second round proper posed serious problems for Bradley Billington and Sean Gibson. The seeds survived the threat -19, 18, 22. However in the quarter-finals they did not survive at all against the Essex pairing of Des Charlery and Dave Newman. In fact they lost -13, 19, -6.

I cannot finish without acknowledging the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority, Butterfly UK Ltd, Ray Perrin Music Management, Maintenance Man and Ricketts Decorating. Without their input the tournament would not have been possible. Thanks too must of course go to Iris Moss, Len Pilditch, John Jermyn and the rest of the organising team — including, let's not forget, the small army of 20 umpires.

## RESULTS

### Men's Singles

#### Quarter Finals

Chen Xinhua (Cv) bt Dipak Topiwala (Mi) 11, 10; Bradley Billington (Dy) bt Steve Dorking (E) -17, 13, 16; Peter Jackson (NZ) bt Jonathan Taylor (Ch) 12, 12; Matthew Syed (Bk) bt Sean Gibson (La) 19, 15

#### Semi Finals

Chen bt Billington 14, 13; Jackson bt Syed 18, 16

#### Final:

Chen bt Jackson 18, 13

### Women's Singles

#### Semi Finals:

Julie Billington (Dy) bt Kuburat Owolabi (NGR) 18, -19, 20; Jill Harris (St) bt Janet Smith (SCO) 18, 16

#### Final

Billington bt Harris 18, -8, 13

### Veteran's Singles

#### Semi Finals

Peter Radford (E) bt Andy Meads (Sx) 15, -16, 13; Malcolm Corking (Y) bt Keith Horton (Sx) 22, 15

#### Final

Corking bt Radford -13, 20, 20

### Men's Doubles

#### Semi Finals

John Souter/Colin Wilson (Mi) bt David McLroy/Ian McLean (SCO) -13, 10, 14; John Broe/David Hannah (SCO) bt Des Charlery/David Newman (E) 17, 18

#### Final

Souter/Wilson bt Broe/Hannah 19, 13

### Women's Doubles

#### Semi Finals

Jill Harris (St)/Janet Smith (SCO) bt Rebecca Fisher (Mi)/Susan Collier (Bk) 8, 18; Juliet Houghton (K)/Joanne Shaw (Y) bt Julie Billington (Dy)/Debbie Toole (Y) 19, 14

#### Final

Houghton/Shaw bt Harris/Smith 19, 17



Joanne Shaw — beaten by Sue Collier (Photo: Mike Loveder)

# Personality Piece — Guergeltcheva

JOHN WOODFORD talks to the European No.1.

## DANIELA GUERGELTCHEVA

THIS delightful young lady from Sofia is the one name I have great trouble spelling and pronouncing. I usually mumble something like "Gurgle-chaver" but I am told that is a long way from correct! Getting the name right is a problem but once again she came out on top of the European ranking list issued on December 5 and it will be a surprise to many if she does not finish on top of the leader board in Hanover on January 21, at the European Top-12 tournament.

She is now 25, and her native town in Bulgaria is Momeilgrad. She started playing table tennis at the age of seven. The road to the top in Europe took 18 years.

"I fell in love with this dynamic sport when I was only seven when my first coach Hristo Hadzijski took me to a sports hall. After winning my first junior championship I was picked for the Bulgarian national team where I continued preparations to reach the top in Europe under coach Isak Koen who has been my coach since then.

My successes are the results of his work" she continued modestly, "I finished second in the cadet girl's singles in Italy in 1979. I have won the Bulgarian singles title nine times besides many European titles and Open tournaments.

European women are finely balanced at the top of the list but I regard Olga Nemes, Csilla Batorfi and Fliura Bulatova as my greatest rivals."

### Training Vital

Asking the usual question on the secret of success she said "I do not think there is any great secret in getting to the top. Enduring training is the most important. The goal is to acquire a diverse technical and tactical background, with a good physical condition, which is definitely necessary.

"My most important task with my coach is improving my service and receiving service. These two points are now receiving special attention from my coach, also I want to improve my backhand shots.

This may come as a surprise to my rivals but my favourite attack is the fast forehand spin."

Questioned on looking outside Europe she said "Asia is the continent that holds many secrets both in sport and in other areas of life. The power relations in the men's field seems to be better balanced now, however European women are still well in arrears.



Daniela Guergeltcheva is Bulgaria's best player. She helped her country move into the Super Division but as many nations have found to their cost, one star player is not enough.

### The Asians

It is difficult for us to take up the competition with the Asians in respect of speed, endurance and the strength of service. I think that their build makes them very suited for table tennis, but they do not seem to be scoring as many victories over European players as in the past.

If we want to tip the scales our way we should place greater emphasis on developing the finishing hits and counter-attacks."

She concluded "I have a very full season of competition, there are many strong rivals in the field. My most important goal is to hold onto my first place in Europe, for although the road leading to success is not easy, it is far more difficult to stay on top."

Daniela is 26 next July. It will be interesting to see if she can continue to hold back her younger rivals

● Footnote: This story was compiled with help from Bulgarian journalist Ivan Zlatarev.

### ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION Application for Entry Forms

Please tick the appropriate boxes for each entry form required. Please return form with stamped, addressed envelope (one for each entry form required) to:

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## Get the Picture

by MIKE LOVEDER

**BLACK & WHITE** action photographs of table tennis (without the use of flash) are particularly difficult and challenging given the level of light usually available at domestic events.

Being an enthusiast in both Table Tennis and photography, I am sometimes asked how to get good results! Whilst I am not exactly a leading expert on the subject a few comments may be helpful, particularly for those of you who wish to submit pictures for the Counties Columns, Leeds British League match programmes etc.

**What to use:** I think the majority of today's SLR cameras would be suitable for use. To date I have used an Olympus and a Nikon. It is important to try to fill the frame/viewfinder with the subject so the choice of lens is quite crucial. Normally a standard lens is out of the question. At the same time you must consider how much it is worth spending on a lens. Some good lenses can be bought second-hand from reputable dealers. At the economic end I would suggest a 135mm lens. My preference is a 180mm lens and, if you have the funds, a 200mm lens is useful! The aperture range of the lens is crucial. Normally you will need one that goes to F2.8, although I should point out that using this aperture will make focussing very difficult. What film? You will need the fastest film you can get hold of. The faster the film, the greater the grain, but we have to live with this problem. I strongly recommend

the Kodak TMAX p3200 and this can be pushed to even greater speeds.

You may have observed that the majority of table tennis photographs are of the player serving because this is when there is least movement. If you cannot get a fast shutter speed you are stuck with players serving unless you want a blurred picture! At the majority of venues I have visited, the lighting will provide for a 3200 film to be used at F2.8 with a shutter speed of 1/125 sec or 1/250 sec — this is too slow for a good action shot.

Therefore it becomes necessary to use the camera in Manual mode. A shutter speed of 1/500 sec is probably the most practical to aim for. To achieve this, compensation can be made when developing the film. If your meter reading is 1/125 and you use 1/500 the film will need to be push-processed by two stops. This means a 3200 film will need to be processed at a 12500 rating. If your meter reads 1/250 you have a choice. Firstly you can use a shutter speed of 1/1000 sec at F2.8 and push process to 12500. Secondly 1/500 at F4 and push process to 12500 to increase your chances of sharp focussing. See what you think of the accompanying picture of Sean Gibson



Sean Gibson



Manchester University student Lynn Bowen proved to be the North West's most successful player at the UAU Championships, held at the Armitage Centre, Manchester. She beat Karen Frank 21-18, 21-16, 21-7 to win the Plate competition. Here she receives her trophy from Mr E Field, the local Commercial Union manager.



Mike Stead of City of Leeds being presented with a cheque by Mark Waterhouse of Leeds City Square Branch.

## Letter to John Pream from John Philips — Editor of BBC Grandstand

Dear John,

Congratulations on living up to your advance notices for the English Open. You promised a top class event and but for a bit of back trouble we got it... and Carl kept something back for the family. Sorry he didn't make the final.

I thought the standard of play in the women's final was fantastic. On screen too it all looked very neat and tidy and I trust you believers would concur. All told a good show folks. What we need is something very similar in August!

Cheers,

JOHN PHILIPS  
Editor, Grandstand

## "SPOOF"

IN 1978, Terry Curran (Sheffield) produced a table tennis rubber which he called "SPOOF" and began playing with it in local leagues. Due to the rubber's control quality it enabled Terry to improve his game and turn him from an average local league player into one of the top players in the area.

In May 1987 Terry submitted the rubber to the I.T.T.F. for approval. Since then much correspondence has transpired in which the I.T.T.F. had constantly stated that the rubber was perfectly legal but they would not approve it and talked about a change in the rules. Even though the E.T.T.A. could see no reason why the rubber should not be approved, the I.T.T.F. persisted in refusing to do so. At the World Congress in 1989 the subject of a change to rule was raised, discussed and dropped.

As a result the I.T.T.F. equipment committee tackled the problem by altering the definition of "ordinary pimped rubber" ie Pimples out was changed from "to be at least 0.5mm long" to "at least 1mm long", and from "to be at least separated by 0.5mm" to "be separated by 1-2mm". This change of definition effectively prevented "SPOOF" from being used outside of local leagues, inter-city and I star tournament play. The I.T.T.F. had previously warned us that there may be a change of definition "Quote — this modification — not to rule but to a clarification of a rule — is currently the subject of a vote in council (I.T.T.F. 9th May 1989).

Regardless of this change in definition we intend to supply the rubber without the logo for use by local league players.

Considering the length of time (nearly 3 years) that it has taken the I.T.T.F. to resolve this problem one wonders how many of the rubbers already on the market have slipped the net, and why, when you hear so many players and officials crying out for standardisation of racket coverings.

"SPOOF" is a long lasting and good quality covering and in no way can be classed as a funny rubber.

I would ask that you publish this letter in the E.T.T.A. magazine in order that the numerous players who are interested in the outcome of the I.T.T.F. deliberation be made aware of the current situation.

CLEVE JUDSON  
51 Leeds Road, Ossett  
West Yorkshire WF5 9QW

## Danger, Gremlins at Work!

JANUARY'S Table Tennis News was dotted with a few prize winning errors. John "Prease" comments elsewhere on his change of name, but at least Carl was correctly titled on the cover picture. Ted Wallbutton's article on sponsorship had four lines arbitrarily shifted from the start to the middle of the piece, but has generated a good response from many members. The authorised version can be obtained on request. The star, however, was the headline "Psychology" — it's going to be difficult to keep it misspelt here as the proof reader is bound to spot it this time! No good adding "(sic)" — it will probably have a "k" added and summarise our feelings about the errors.

The rush to despatch the magazine before Christmas caught out the proof-reading system, apologies to all our readers. ETTA

## Top Twelve?

COULD someone please tell me who, and how players are selected for the English Top Twelve event.

Last season, following the Middlesex 3 Star in early December, Sandra Roden was ranked at No 11 and eagerly awaiting an invite. Nothing came, younger players lower down the ranking list being preferred. Too old at twenty-three perhaps? Not even an invite as reserve. (You may remember Joy Dean didn't turn up, so the Top Twelve for Ladies became a Top Eleven.)

This season Sandra had slipped to No 15 prior to the event, so she wasn't expecting an invitation initially. Now I hear Leslie Radford, ranked at No 14, was invited to stand by as reserve. Leslie, as a Veteran, understandably declined. (Obviously age no deterrent this season!) Who, then, decided that cadet Sally Marling, ranked at No 54 on the Womens list, should be next choice? She didn't just happen to be at Clacton when Fiona Elliot had to withdraw through illness; I understand she was asked several days before.

No disrespect to Sally, but surely there are enough events for Cadets and Juniors in the calendar! This was a Womens event.

What a slap in the face for the likes of Sandra, Jane Barella,

Teresa Moore and others ranked just outside the top twelve.

Could someone please explain?  
DAVE RODEN  
55 Kingswood Rd, Kingswinford  
West Midlands

SELECTIONS ARE entitled to nominate two wild cards, generally for juniors of exceptional promise. Only one was used this time. This procedure has proved controversial, but was endorsed by National Council. We understand the disappointment of those who miss out in this way. EDITOR

## Cotswold Junior Select 3/4 February 1990 8.30am start

AS IS our custom, the closing date for entries for the 'Cotswold' was agreed as the 23rd December 89, and, in mid-October, 500 entry forms were circulated bearing this date. But, for some reason, of which we are unaware, the Diary listed the closing date as 7th January 1990, which resulted in a December stampede by players anxious to submit their entry. This was further exacerbated by the fact that 100 entry forms sent for distribution at both the 'Cleveland' and the 'Junior Nationals', never appeared 'on the table'. Why? I know not, and the outcome, I didn't particularly relish. Over the pre-Christmas fortnight I was held 'captive' by my phone answering some 120 enquiries, and, tricycle at the ready, dashing off to post further photo copies of the entry form.

In consequence, we decided to accept all entries received by the date of the Draw — 29th December — and thanks to our computer expert David Dean, by 4 p.m. that day, we proceeded with copious lists of some 364 applicants — our largest ever entry.

Having been involved for over half a century in helping to administer this game, albeit in the lower strata, there's little mileage in pointing fingers at other over-worked voluntary officials. We must recognise there is a wealth of enthusiastic young players in the country, some of whom are taking their first intrepid steps on the circuit.

Suffice to say, I am still having a spate of calls, for entry forms, and, of course, wishing to ascertain if their entry arrived in time.

A successful New Year to all.  
JACK REEVES  
Organiser

SOME simple explanations for Jack's problem. The official form registering the Cotswold Select (OT1) was received in August from Jack and bore a closing date of 31 December — not 23 December. As the date of the tournament was put back one week to 3/4 February the secretary of Tournaments Committee quite reasonably put the closing date back by a week also and advised the Diary of this date. No entry forms for the Cotswold reached ETTA HQ, not even a file

copy. So no arrangements could be made to have them on hand at the Nationals.

But forget the administrative hiccups — it's wonderful news that Junior and Senior events are attracting record entries. All organisers should be warned that they are likely to be similarly successful!

TED WALLBUTTON

## John Pream comments on ranking saga...

READERS MAY have seen in sections of the Press that a leading player is reported as having alleged 'favouritism' on my part towards my son, Carl. The 'action' quoted was Carl's request to be omitted from the English Ranking Lists, which was granted by the ETTA's Management Committee. I left the room and took no part in the discussions or decision.

To correct any misunderstanding, Carl asks me to point out that at the time of writing he had more computer points than anyone else and would have been at the top of the list, had he remained on it.

No criticism is intended of Stan Lenton, whose generosity has made the Scheme possible over the years.

I regard the allegations as a disgrace, as I do the fact that they were not discussed with me before being made. One wonders what sort of people one is dealing with who treat the integrity of others with so little respect and care.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

"We have been asked by the Brazilian Association to point out that their three Japanese players were born in Brasil.

We apologise for any confusion on our part, caused by the many citizens of other countries now appearing or about to appear in the National Teams of new countries.

## Gold Medal for Swedish National Team

TWO Stiga players Erik Lindh and Peter Karlsson together with others in the Stiga sponsored Swedish National Team have received the most honoured and prestigious award in Swedish sport, the Swedish gold medal. The award is given each year to the sports person who has made the most heroic contribution to Swedish sport that year. This year Swedish table tennis has made some outstanding achievements with the runner up for the gold medal going to JO Waldner, the singles World Champion. In third place was the Swedish World Cup Ski-Jump Champion Jan Boklof.

For further information, please contact  
Sharon E Nicholls  
Tel: 0202 538877



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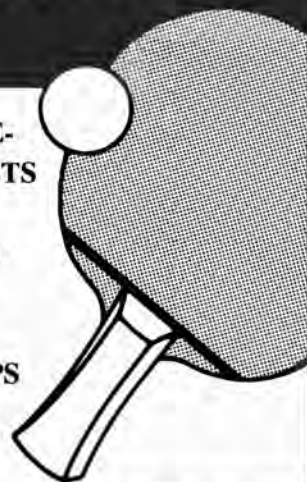
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# WATCH THESE EVENTS

## EUROPEAN SUPER LEAGUE

### the Leeds International – England v Czechoslovakia



on Tuesday 13th February, 1990 at Bude Haven Sports Centre, Bude, Cornwall Tel: 0288 353714  
Start Time 7pm

Admission Charge (including programme) Adults £4.00 Children/OAP's £2.50  
Tickets available from: Peter Hancock Tel: 0566 3625

## EUROPEAN SUPER LEAGUE

### the Leeds International – England v Federal Germany



on Tuesday 6th March 1990 – Start Time 7pm  
at Crook Log Sports Centre, Brampton Road, Bexleyheath, Kent Tel: 01 304 5386  
Admission charge (including programme) Adults £4, Children/OAP's £2  
Tickets available from the venue.



### COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS SENIOR PREMIER WEEKEND

Sat/Sun 24/25th March 1990  
at Stantonbury Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes  
Participants: Berkshire, Leicestershire, Essex, Lancashire,  
Devon, Middlesex, Derbyshire, Surrey  
Contact: ETTA Office 0424 722525



### COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS JUNIOR PREMIER WEEKEND

Sat/Sun 3rd/4th March 1990  
at Pontesbury Table Tennis Club,  
The Mary Webb School Hall, Pontesbury, Shropshire  
Participants: Lancashire, Devon, Bedfordshire, Essex, Kent,  
Yorkshire, Warwickshire, Derbyshire  
Contact: ETTA Office 0424 722525



### BRITISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION – TOP OF THE TABLE FIXTURES

On Sunday 25th February 1990 – 3pm  
**BATHWICK TYRES I v ORMESBY I**  
at Bath Sports and Leisure Centre, North Parade, Bath (Tel: 0225 462563)

### BURMAH WILTSHIRE 5 STAR

Saturday/Sunday 10th/11th February 1990  
at Link Centre, Whitehill Way, Westleagh, Swindon, Wilts  
Tel: 0793 871212  
Organiser: Bill Willson Tel: 0793 536498

### YORKSHIRE OPEN 2 STAR SINGLES

Sat/Sun 24/25th February 1990  
at Huddersfield Sports Centre, Southgate,  
Huddersfield, Yorks (Tel: 0484 535231)  
Organiser: Rea Balmford 0482 821279

### SOUTH OF ENGLAND 3 STAR OPEN

Sat/Sun 10/11th March 1990  
at Woking Leisure Centre, Kingfield Road, Woking, Surrey  
Tel: 04862 71789  
Organiser: D Beesley 01 669 3755

### CITY OF DERBY SELECT

Sat/Sun 24/25th March 1990  
at Moorways Sports Centre, Derby. (Tel: 0332 363686)  
Organiser: A Horsley 0332 663570

### ESSEX 3 STAR

Sat/Sun 14/15th April 1990  
at the Brentwood Centre, Doddinghurst Road,  
Brentwood, Essex (Tel: 0272 229621)  
Organiser: Dick Roffe (Tel: 05024 72341)

### YORKSHIRE JUNIOR SELECT

Sat/Sun 21st/22nd April 1990  
at Northbridge Leisure Centre, Northbridge, Halifax  
(Tel 0422 341527)  
Organiser: Rea Balmford 0482 821279