



# TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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## Minor League

When it comes to prize money table tennis is very much the poor relation when compared with tennis - both indoor and out-snooker and darts all of which provide more than an adequate living for the professionals in the game.

So called table tennis professionals in this country are but paupers by comparison and those who embark on making table tennis their living have a hard road to tread.

Granted Desmond Douglas has done very well but he is the exception rather than the rule for apart from contractual engagements of a commercial nature his financial rewards have been as a result of playing in the Federal German Bundesliga.

Remuneration by clubs to players in the Bundesliga is far in excess of what is currently paid by their counterparts in the Halex National League in this country.

Granted open tournament organisers in England, and indeed those in the home countries generally, strive diligently to provide sufficient cash incentives to attract the better players, and therefore a better audience, but sponsorship of a significant nature is hard to come by.

Marketing then must be our objective and what can, and is being done, in other sports must not be the envy but the spur to challenge for parity.

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# ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT

## by THE EDITOR

### CHAMPIONS DEFEATED

A magnificent performance by England in beating Yugoslavia, the defending champions, in the Super Division of the European League, should ensure a retention of status for next season when four of the seven matches will be at home.

The 4-3 win at Mansfield, as written up elsewhere by Mike Watts, was certainly one against the book being the first accomplished at home to the Yugoslavs in the 16 years the competition has been running.

Despite their loss, the defending champions still maintain their lead position with a 3-set advantage over Czechoslovakia who, following their 4-3 win over Sweden in Ostrava, are now breathing down the neck of Yugoslavia.

Jindrich Pansky was the Czech hero against Sweden firstly accounting for Jan-Ove Waldner, then sharing a mixed doubles success with Marie Hrachova and then, with the match score tied at 3-3 brought the house down with a 2-straight win against Erik Lindh. The other Czech success was achieved by Miss Hrachova, again in straight games, over Marie Lindblad. Scores:-  
V. Broda lost to E. Lindh -18, -15;  
J. Pansky bt J.O. Waldner 15, 15;  
M. Hrachova bt M. Lindblad 13, 14;  
Broda/Pansky lost to Lindh/Waldner .5, -15;  
Pansky/Hrachova bt Lindh/Lindblad -19, 20, 12;  
Broda lost to Waldner 19, -, O, -16;  
Pansky bt Lindh 17, 19.

Poland, without the services of Andrzej Grubba, followed up their remarkable win over Sweden by accounting for France 4-3 in Lyon where both Stefan Dryszel and Leszek Kucharski beat Christian Martin, the pair combined to win the men's doubles and Jolanta Szatko saw off Brigitte Thiriet. Patrick Birocheau achieved two singles successes for the home side whose only other success occurred in the mixed. Scores:-

P. Birocheau bt L. Kucharski 12, '5;  
C. Martin lost to S. Dryszel -20, 18, -'2;  
R. Thiriet lost to J. Szatko -18, -18;  
Birocheau/Martin lost to Dryszel/Kucharski 17, -15, -16;  
Martin/Thiriet bt Kucharski/Szatko 11, -19, 18;  
Birocheau bt Dryszel 18, 16;  
Martin lost to Kucharski -18, -14.

Federal Germany crashed to their fourth successive defeat when beaten 6-1 by Hungary in Essen where Ralf Wosik registered the only home win when, in the final set, he beat Zsolt Kriston -29, 7, 20! Scores:-

G. Bohm lost to Z. Kriston -16, 13, -14;  
R. Wosik lost to T. Klampar -16, -12;  
K. Kruger lost to E. Urban -20, -17;  
M. Krumtunger/P. Stellwag lost to Klampar/Kriston -12, -15;  
Bohm/Kruger lost to Kriston/G. Szabo -11, -23;  
Bohm lost to Klampar -14, -15;  
Wasik bt Kriston -29, 7, 20.

### SUPER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	5	4	1	23	12	4
Czechoslovakia	5	4	1	20	15	4



Sweden	3	2	22	13	3
Poland	3	2	21	14	3
Hungary	3	2	17	18	3
Engl. nd	2	3	15	20	2
Federal Germany	1	4	9	26	1
France	0	5	13	22	0

### Fixtures for February 15th

Hungary	v	Poland
Czechoslovakia	v	France (Nachod)
Yugoslavia	v	Sweden
		(Ljubljana)
Federal Germany	v	England (Berlin)

### DIVISION ONE

Both the Netherlands and Italy, the two unbeaten teams in Division 1, were hard-pressed to keep their records intact, especially Italy, away to Spain in Guadalajara where, in the final set with the scores tied at 3-3, Giovanni Bisi beat Ismael Caymel, this after Massimo Costantini had beaten Jose Pales, 22-20 in the third, in the penultimate set. Scores:-

J. Pales bt G. Sisi 20, 15;  
I. Caymel bt M. Costantini 9, 18;  
A. Godes lost to A. Busnardo -15, -10;  
A. Casares/Pales lost to Sisi/Costantini -19, 21, -18;  
Pales/Godes bt Bisi/M. Cergol 15, -1\* IB;  
Pales lost to Costantini -10, 16, -20;  
Caymel lost to Bisi 17, -9, -13.

The Netherlands, in Eindhoven, had former English international Bob Potton to thank for their win over Finland, his singles successes over Mika Pyykko and Jarmo Jokinen being of paramount importance when added to the solos achieved by Henk van Spanje and Mirjam Kloppenburg. Scores:-

A. Potton bt J. Jokinen 11, -17, 18;  
H. van Spanje bt M. Pyykko 10, 15;  
M. Kloppenburg bt S. Grefberg 17, 16;  
H. v. Spanje/A. v. Spanje lost to Jokinen/Pyykko -16, 19, -13;  
H. v. Spanje/Kloppenburg lost to Jokinen/Grefberg -20, -13;  
Potton bt Pyykko 22, 16;  
H. v. Spanje lost to Jokinen-IB, 16, -20.

In Ghent Belgium tumbled to their fourth successive defeat when beaten 6-1 by Austria whose Dolores Fetter lost to Barbara Lippens. Much looks like depending on the final match of the season when Belgium travel to meet Denmark, the other team still seeking their first success. Scores in Ghent were:-

R. De Prophetis lost to D. Palmi -17, 13, -9;  
O. Le Roy lost to E. Amplatz -12, -17;  
B. Lippens bt D. Fetter 16, 17;  
De Prophetis/J. M. Saive lost to Amplatz/G. Muller -15, -9;  
Le Roy/Lippens lost to Muller/Fetter -17, -15;  
De Prophetis lost to Amplatz -11, 13, -13;  
Le Roy lost to Palmi -13, -15.

### DIVISION ONE

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt.
Netherlands	5	5	0	26	9	5
Italy	4	4	0	18	10	4
Finland	5	3	2	21	14	3
<b>Austria</b>	4	2	2	15	13	2
Spain	4	1	3	8	20	1
Denmark	4	0	4	10	18	0
Belgium	4	0	4	7	21	0

#### Fixtures for February

14th Belgium	v	Finland
15th Spain	v	Denmark
Italy	v	Austria

### DIVISION TWO

As reported by H. Roy Evans in Welsh Corner and by Denis George, north of the border, both Wales and Scotland achieved victories, the latter, against Guernsey, their first of the season. In the only other match, with Turkey having withdrawn, Norway, the championship favourites, registered a 6-1 win over Switzerland in Oslo.

It was the season's first defeat for the Swiss whose only winner was Thierry Miller against Erik Rasmussen in the final set. And that by 23-21! Scores:-

T. Johansen bt T. Miller 14. 19;  
E. Rasmussen bt T. Busin 16. 18;  
T. Folkeson bt B. Hirzel 17. 17;  
G. Gustavsen/Johansen bt Miller/S. Renold 18. 19;  
Johansen/Folkeson bt Miller/C. Witte 9. 17;  
Johansen bt Busin 12. 15;  
Rasmussen lost to Miller 15. -19. -21.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt.
Norway	4	4	0	21	7	4
Switzerland	5	4	1	21	14	4
Luxembourg	4	3	1	22	6	3
Wales	5	2	3	12	23	2
Scotland	4	1	3	13	15	1
Ireland	4	1	3	12	16	1
<b>Guernsey</b>	4	0	4	4	24	0

#### Fixtures for February

Luxembourg	v	Switzerland
Guernsey	v	Ireland
•Scotland	v	Norway

• On Feb. 11 at Alexandria Community Centre, Vale of Leven, Dunbartonshire (7 p.m.).

### BUNDESLIGA

England's Desmond Douglas, playing for PSV Bar. Dusseldorf, leads the way in the Federal German Bundesliga with 16 wins against one loss followed by Ulf Carlsson of TTC Simex Jülich [16:2] and Eric Boggan of TTC GW Bad Hamm (12:6).

On the distaff side Marie Lindblad of Kieler TTK GW heads the field (31:1) followed by Brigitte Thiriet of DSC Kaiserberg (31 :5) and Susanne Wenzel of TSV Kronshagen (29:3).



Jindrich Pansky, the Czech hero in Ostrava who beat Jan-Ove Waldner and Erik Lindh.  
Photo by Pierre Nicolas of France.



Former England player Bob Potton much instrumental in Holland's victory over Finland in Eindhoven.  
Photo by Thomas B. Slater of Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

### INTERNATIONALE DEUTSCHE MEISTERSCHAFTEN '84

Twenty-eight men from the European ranking list of 30 have entered for the Federal German Open being played in the Rhein-Ruhr-Halle, Duisberg (Feb 9/12) and only eight of the 30 ranked women will not be participating.

The two Patricks, Birocheau and Reverse of France, are the missing links on the male side whilst from the top twelve females the three Russians, Valentina Popova, Fliura Bulatova and Irma Kovalenko together with Holland's Bettine Vriesekoop will be the absentees.

Last held in Kiel in 1982 the winners then were:-

MS: Josef Dvoracek (TCH)  
WS: An Hae Soak (KOR)  
MD: Paul Day/Desmond Douglas (ENG)  
WO: An Hae Sook/Hwang Nam Soak (KOR)  
XO: Jindrich Pansky/Marie Hrachova (TCH)  
MT: Yugoslavia  
WT: Rep. Korea.

### EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

The European Table Tennis Union take pleasure in announcing that the Austrian Association has kindly agreed

to organise the European Youth Championships in Linz over the period July 17/25, 1984 on the basis of reduced hospitality and with financial assistance from the ETTU.

Next to the European (Senior) Championships, this is the ETTU's most prestigious event, and it would have been tragic if it could not have been played in 1984. Many young players have been directing their training towards these championships, and, in many cases, it would have been the last chance for them to reach the pinnacle of cadet and junior categories. For them to have had this chance taken away would have been cruel indeed, and all will rejoice that the Austrians have come to the rescue.

It must be emphasised, however, that the ETIU's Management Committee proposals which have made the 1984 event possible, apply to this event in this season only, and must not be taken as a precedent for the future. It will be for the BGM in Moscow to decide whether there should be any long term changes in the rules in respect of hospitality.

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# EUROPEAN LEAGUE

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

by Mike Watts

What a wonderful start to 1984. Peter Simpson and his team excelled beyond all expectations when meeting Yugoslavia, the current European League champions, at Mansfield Leisure Centre on Wednesday, January 12, 1984. Albeit the visitors were without Dragutin Surbek, but his able deputy Milivoj Karakasevic is currently ranked No. 30 in Europe and has represented his country on many previous occasions.

The match was sponsored by Mansfield Building Society and a capacity crowd of around 750 saw England, for the second month running, go into a two-nil lead with Desmond Douglas and Graham Sandley beating Zoran Kalinic and Karakasevic, both in straight games.

At this stage, Joy Grundy entered the arena deputising for Karen Witt, struck down with a back injury earlier in the day. This was Joy's singles debut and although she did not beat Branka Batinic, the European No.7, she produced a creditable performance and was by no means outclassed.

The Douglas/Sandley Men's Doubles pairing came to the table with almost everyone in the hall knowing that the final outcome rested on this set- and how well they responded. A game and 20-18 up everyone thought the set was over, but back came the Yugoslav pair to level. At 19-17 down in the third it looked bleak for the England pair but in a last desperate surge they took the game 23-21 and with it a certain win in the overall match.

Alan Cooke and Joy responded to the challenge in the Mixed against Kalinic and Batinic but although they won the first the final two games went to the Yugoslavs, to bring the score back to 3-2.

At this point, Douglas returned and, as expected, took the set, and the match, for England to the delight of the home crowd. Kalinic reduced the deficit in the final set but the night belonged to England.

This win obviously eased England's relegation fears and was the first win by England in this country over Yugoslavia in the sixteen years that the competition has been running.

Score\*\*:  
O. Douglas bt Z. Kalinic 1S, 7;  
G. Sandley bt M. Karakasevic 13, 20;  
J. Grundy lost to B. Salinic -'6, -15;  
Oouglas/Sandley bt Kalinic/Karakasevic 11, -20, 21;  
Cooke/Grundy lost to Kalinic/Batinic 17, -14, -16;  
Douglas bt Karakasevic 11, 16;  
Sandley lost to Kalinic -16, -14.  
Result: England 4 Yugoslavia 3.

### INTERNATIONAL

The following evening, in Newmarket, Suffolk, before an audience of well over 400, England took on Yugoslavia in a Friendly match sponsored by Yugo Cars Ltd. This was the



Lancashire's Joy Grundy who made her European League singles debut at Mansfield and avenged her defeat by Branka Batinic on the following night at Newmarket, Photo by Tony Edenden of Barlestone, Nr. Nuneaton.

first big table tennis event ever held in the town and the Newmarket Sports Centre can be well pleased with their first efforts. Anglia Television added an extra dimension to the proceedings and the players responded magnificently.

The evening was a personal triumph for Joy Grundy as she took on Branka Batinic for the second night running and this time succeeded in beating her. Cooke looked impressive in both his singles whilst Alison Gordon, after dominating her set with Batinic only just failed to bring off a win. The other England player, Skylet Andrew, was outclassed by Kalinic but gave a good

account in his second set against Karakasevic.

Score\*\*:  
A. Gordon lost to B. Batinic 23, -14, -16;  
S. Andrew lost to Z. Kalinic -8, -11;  
A. Cooke lost to M. Karakasevic -12, 24, -17;  
J. Grundy bt Salinic -17, 17, 9;  
Andrew lost to Karakasevic -19, -13;  
Cooke lost to Kalinic -12, -16.  
Result: England 1 Yugoslavia 5

### Cover Picture

Graham Sandley of Middlesex who is beginning to realise his potential with European League victories over Vladislav Broda of Czechoslovakia and Milivoj Karakasevic of Yugoslavia and success in the men's singles event of the Middlesex 3-Star Open with a final win over Carl Prean.

# NORWICH UNION ENGLISH OPEN

## DES THE DEMON

For the second time in his illustrious career Desmond Douglas won the men's singles title in the Norwich Union English Open beating Vladislav Broda of Czechoslovakia in a pulsating final from being 0-2 down.

But spare a thought for Philip Bradbury in this event for he had a show stopping 3-1 win over the French ace Jacques Secretin in the very first round.

Russia's Anita Zakharian was the winner of the women's singles title beating Brigitte Thiriet of France in the final, England's main hope Karen Witt having pulled out with a recurrence of back trouble.

Graham Sandley and Alan Cooke did extremely well in reaching the final of the men's doubles and only lost -20, -15, to Sweden's Johnny Akesson and Jorgen Persson.

France did take gold in the women's doubles with Thiriet and Patricia Germain beating Japan's Yoshino Shimauchi and Kumiko Nohira in the final, the former Japanese lady, with former world champion, Seiji Ono, winning the mixed with a final victory over Leszek Kucharski and Jolanta Szatko of Poland. Results:-

MS: sofs:  
M. Broda (TCH) bt A. Grubba (POL) -18, 7, 14, -25, 17;  
D. Douglas (ENG) bt G. Bohm (FRG) 17, 18, 11.  
Final: DOUGLAS bt Broda -17, -16, 12, 7, 14.

WS: sofs:  
A. Zakharian (URS) bt F. Khasanova (URS) -11, 22, 17, -14, 14;  
B. Thiriet (FRA) bt V. Popova (URS) -14, 16, -18, -16, 8.  
Final: ZAKHARIAN bt Thiriet -16, 22, 18, 16.  
MD: Final:  
J. AKESSON/J. PERSSON (SWE) bt A. Cooke/G. Sandley (ENG) 20, 15.  
WD: Final:  
P. GERMAIN/THIRIET (FRA) bt K. Nohira/Y. Shimauchi (JAP) 18, 18.  
XD: Final:  
S. ITO/SHIMAUCHI (JAP) bt L. Kucharski/J. Szatko (POL) -13, 20, 19.  
MT: Semi-finals:  
Japan bt Yugoslavia 3-1; Poland bt France 3-0.  
Final: JAPAN 3 Poland 1  
WT: Semi-finals:  
Japan bt Norway 3-0; U.S.S.R. bt Czechoslovakia 3-1.  
Final: U.S.S.R. 3 Japan 0.

A full report with photographic coverage will appear in the March issue. Ed.

## MOSCOW SELECTIONS

The ETTA Selection Committee, meeting in Brighton at the conclusion of the Norwich Union English Open, announced the following selections for the European Championships to be held in Moscow from Api 14/22:-

### Men

D. Douglas (Wa), G. Sandley (Mi), A. Cooke (Dy)

### Women

Karen Witt (Bk) and Lisa Bellinger (Bd).

Being committed to entering 5 men and four women, the other two selections, in both male and female categories, will be announced following the Norwich Union English Closed at Bletchley (March 8/10).

## PREAN FOR BLETCHLEY

Carl Prean, a non-entrant in the Norwich Union English Open at Brighton because of his dislike of the plastic ball, has had a change of mind having entered the Norwich Union English Closed at Bletchley. This latter event is likely to be the last major championship to be played with the plastic ball. Dunlop Sports Co., aware of the mounting criticism about their plastic ball, are not just sitting idly by.

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Entries Close: Tuesday, 21st February, 1984.

# U.S. CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Fifth Title For Danny

by Tim Boggan

At the 437-entry U.S. Closed, held Dec. 15/18 at the Tropicana Hotel, Las Vegas, defending champion Danny Seemiller beat U.S. Open champion Eric Boggan, 21-17, 23-21, in the first 2/3 final in U.S. history, to win his 5th National Championship.

In-sook Bhushan, as anticipated, also won her 5th U.S. Women's Championship - with Alice Green, a U.S. World Team member since 1969, finishing second.

Danny and Ricky Seemiller won the Men's Doubles, In-sook and Diana Gee the Women's Doubles, and Danny and In-sook (completing their sweep) the Mixed Doubles.

This year there was a new format that turned the men's and women's Singles championship into a marathon round robin Top 12-like tournament that would also determine the positions of our U.S. Team members for the new year. In the Men's, 12 qualifiers through two preliminary

round robins joined 12 seeded players in a third round robin (4 groups of 6 players in each) - from which came the 12 players who would compete in the 4th round robin, a Top 12, to determine who would be Champion and who would be in line for Team matches at home and abroad.

The major casualty of this new system (though the Selection Committee can select one or two players at variance with this standing list) was Sean O'Neill, our perpetual Under-17 Champion and now our new Amateur Champion. (The Women, with far fewer entries, came down to a final Top 8 round robin with the major casualty being Under-17 Champion Diana Gee).

As expected, Eric Boggan (in 3-game trouble with Brandon Olsen and brother Scott Boggan) and Danny Seemiller (in 3-game trouble with Jim Lane and Quang Bui) both came into their final match undefeated.

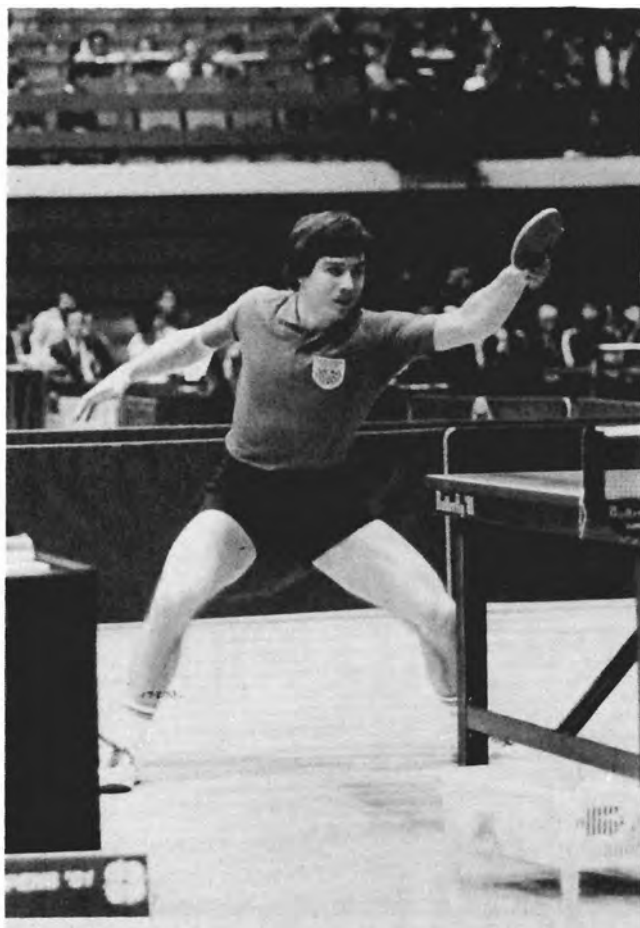
In the first game, Eric was up 17-15, then missed a shot, then failed to return two of Seemiller's serves, then loudly began to berate himself ("I'm just GIVING AWAY points!"), then came back to the table and served off-after which, Danny, who always plays Eric well, continued keeping his composure to win his 5th and 6th straight

point and so ran out the game, 21-17.

Down 13-5 in the 2nd, after having been full of anger and self-disgust, Eric finally regrouped and, playing with great heart (though still, as he had been from the very beginning of the match, distracted by the spectators), rallied to deuce the game, got the ad, but could not win the point that might have brought him - what for the last 5 years has frustratingly eluded him - his second National Championship. Results:-

Men's Singles: Danny Seemiller d. Eric Boggan 17, 21.  
 Order of finish: 1) Danny Seemiller 2) Eric Boggan 3) Ricky Seemiller 4) Scott Boggan 5) Brian Masters 6) Perry Schwartzberg 7) Attila Malek 8) Quang Sui 9) Ray Guillen 10) Khoa Nguyen 11) Jim Lane 12) Brandon Olson.  
 Women's Singles: Format did not produce a final. Order of finish:- 1) In-sook Shushan 2) Alice Green 3) Carol Davidson 4) Usa Gee 5) Lan Vuong 6) Sheila O'Dougherty 7) Takako Trenholme 8) Vicky Wong.  
 Men's Amateur: Final: Sean O'Neill d. Perry Schwartzberg -19, 20, 11, 16.  
 Women's Amateur: Sheila O'Dougherty d. Takako Trenholme -9, 18, 17, 17.  
 Over 70: Wing Lock Koon d. Ulpiano Santo 10, 11, -16, 14.  
 Over 60: George Hendry d. Bill Hornyak 12, 14, 14.  
 Over 50: Hendry d. Tim Boggan -19, -17, 20, 19, 15.  
 Over 40: George Braithwaite d. Aon Von Schimmelman 16, 15, 15.  
 Women's Over 40: 1. Patti Hodgins, 2. Yvonne Kronlage.  
 U-21: Eric Boggan d. Sean O'Neill 7, 18.  
 Boys' U-17: O'Neill bt Khoa Nguyen 10, -14, 17, 14.  
 U-15: Jimmy Butler d. Billy Ipton 13, 12, 14.  
 Girls' U-17: Diana Gee d. Ian Vuong 12, -16, -18, 13, 11.  
 U-15: Ian Vuong d. Vicky Wong 14, 18, -13, 17.

### U.S. CLOSED CHAMPS



Danny Seemiller



In-Sook Bhushan

Photos by Malcolm Anderson,  
 Chairman, Photographic Committee, USTTA,

# JILL HAMMERSLEY-PARKE, R TABLE TENNIS FOUNDATION

As can be seen from the list below the membership is increasing gradually but is still somewhat short of the Swedish Academy. The Junior International Programme is starting soon and we also discussed the possibility of an exchange with the Swedish Academy. Clearly we must start to consider the players who would benefit from International experience. Any member who would like to put a name forward for consideration for selection can do so by writing to Jill at The Barn, Common Bank, Dolphinholme, Lancaster LA2 9AN.

In order to maximise on the very generous donation of a top class table by Cornilleau we are delaying the draw of the raffle until after the English Open. If there are any members who would like to help with the sale of raffle tickets please do not hesitate to contact Jill (0524-791 866). The details of the raffle appeared in the January issue of TT News.

We have now written to many manufacturers and retailers asking whether they would become Patrons. Quite simply Patrons subscribe £25 instead of the ordinary membership

fee of £10. Anyone wishing to become a Patron simply send a cheque to Jill Hammersley-Parker T.T. Foundation at the address above. There are two Patrons to date namely: Jill Hammersley Table Tennis Services, Lancaster and J. Morris, Newsagents, Shrewsbury.

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# SPOTLIGHTON.... DAVID BARR

By John Oakley (of the Press Association)

David Barr, an impeccable sportsman, ever cheerful, and highly intelligent, has not yet aspired to the dizzy heights of England's Top Ten. Yet the 22-year-old Newbury defender could be truthfully described as the most surprising player of the season.

Here was a player who, according to the pessimists last summer, would be zooming down the computer to the ranks of near obscurity following the passing of the new rules at the world championships in Tokyo last year.

Surely, said the voices of doom, Barr, with his black bat of tackiness and long pimples, would be struggling once the two colour rule came into force on January 1. How could he continue to deceive his rivals? Poor old Dave, it would be one big ton king after another.

Unfortunately for these gloom-laden prophets Barr refused to lie down and die. In fact he became positively perky.

Using his brains, one of the great features of his game, Barr did not wait until January 1 to move into two colours. He stripped off his tackiness last June, pionked a red Shriver rubber on his forehand side and went into severe practice sessions.

When he began the season he was ranked 19. Since then he has been 13 and 15, hardly a case of going backwards.

"When I first changed to red at the start of the summer I wasn't sure what to expect" said Barr. "But by the time the summer had finished it had made no difference.

"Then in the first National League match of the season I was surprised when I was 12-10 up against Prean in the third and I realised I was playing better than I had last season,

"In June if I had been asked I would not have expected to be ranked 13 or 15 but I think the reason I didn't go back was because I didn't depend quite so much on deception as some people with funny bats.

"My game is based on getting the ball back with varying spin. I can float and chop and there aren't that many balls that I can't reach."

His opponents will certainly agree with that assessment. The new Barr took Prean to 17 in the third in that opening League match and then a week later had his first big win of the season when he beat Donald Parker two straight,

"I hadn't beaten Don for at least three years and it was a big boost for me" said Barr. "But it got even better when we played Soham because I beat Paul Day for the first time. Under the circumstances that was probably my best win of the season.

"I know Paul has dropped down the rankings a bit recently but he was still about number six when I played him:'

Since then among Barr's victims have been Dave Wells twice, Ian Kenyon, Alan Fletcher, Richard Jermyn, who has always given him trouble in the past, and Nigel Eckersley, whom he had never beaten before,

Barr believes the new rules have helped in his success because he says: "They have made me more positive. I now have to win points rather than my opponent lose them.

"I have improved my hitting and my chop is more aggressive. I think I'm overcoming my greatest weakness of not hitting the ball when it is up to be hit. I used to take the easy way out if the ball popped up and just played it back down the table. Now I club it.

"Mind you it is very difficult to change habits after chopping for so long. Sometimes I push when I should hit. probably because I'm nervous I shall miss it.

"I might have been the first to have beaten Henk Van Spanje in the National League this season if I'd been a bit more positive. I led him 13-9 in the third but I was less aggressive at the end than I should have been. But I'm improving that part of my game and my defence has not suffered because of the new rules."

Barr has never been higher than 13 on the ranking list, a figure he has reached three times, but he still has hopes of getting into the England squad. And not without reason.

"I want to be the top defender in the country and if I could achieve that I think I have a chance of making the England team" he says. "It doesn't matter if there are ten attackers ahead of me in the rankings, The selectors might consider me because I am different."

That has happened to Barr in the past. In his last year as a junior in 1979 he was ranked only fifth in England yet he made the four-strong squad that went to the European Youth championships in Rome because of his style.

The only defensive players above Barr at present are John Hilton and Duggie Johnson. Hilton is now in his middle thirties and though still a fine player can hardly stay at the top much longer. Johnson has virtually retired from tournament play.

So Barr's chance is obvious if he can just improve a shade more. As he says: "I need another couple of points on my game and then I must have a chance of breaking through".

If he does it will be quite a performance. After all, he did not take up the game until he was 14 - swimming had been his first love - yet at 16 for a few heady months he was England Junior number one.

Then he spent three years at University where he obtained a degree in economics and accountancy. But that hardly helped his table tennis



David Barr by Brian Ashton of Blatchley

career.

Now he is playing almost full time to see how far he can go. In his youth he once beat Sweden's Erik Lindh who has been known to hit a few balls over the net,

Barr would just love to record victories like that in the senior game. And take a tip. Don't back against it. He might surprise you.


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## E.T.T.A. Chairman TOM BLUNN returns to the subject of..... SPONSORSHIP

### SPONSORSHIP

I feel I must return to the question of sponsorship as there still appears to be some misunderstanding as to how it works, how it is obtained, serviced and financed and who benefits.

My own first contact with sponsorship for the E.T.T.A. was the Coca-Cola sponsorship some fifteen years ago. This was about the same time that we started the E.T.T.A. Table Hire Scheme, supported at that time by only Jaques. The two were connected by the acceptance of our European League programme by ITV. Why they do not accept it currently is a mystery I cannot solve!

Coca-Cola put up banners and we heard very little from them and our involvement was very simple - we just staged the match as usual. Unfortunately, "as usual" was just not good enough and we realised only too late that sponsorship required a great amount of effort on our part.

We lost the television coverage and Coca-Cola put further money into our national cup competitions, the Wilmott Cup, Rose Bowl, etc. We had opposition to this as there were those who felt the names of Wilmott, J. M. Rose and other donors were being belittled by the inclusion of a sponsor's name in the title. It is all the rage these days, but as usual we were ahead of our time. The Coca-Cola money was very good but we lost the sponsorship and on reflection I think we could have done a lot more to have kept it. We were just learning the sponsorship game and we have made a lot of progress since.

We signed long term contracts with Norwich Union, Lambert & Butler, Charles Church, Beneficial Trust, Halex, Jaques, Dunlop, TSP, Ascot and Stiga, along with short-term cori-

tracts with Rock, Debenhams, Goddard Finance, Jeep, Pickwick and have had excellent support from such local authorities as Brighton, Cleveland, Worthing, Manchester and Wigan. I apologise if I have missed any out. In the same period, local sponsorship has grown out of all proportion.

So what have we learned in the past fifteen years? The sponsor buys a service and expects value for money. This means a member of the staff has to be assigned to look after particular sponsors and be available when the sponsor requires him. We soon found ourselves short of staff to do this work and an extra person was recruited. This of course costs money in salary, national insurance and travelling expenses, etc., even allowing for some Sports Council grant.

A recent recruit to our staff was the Development Officer who found himself spending half his time contacting potential sponsors and following up many leads which proved fruitless. When a good sponsor was found recently in Beneficial Trust for the Junior Grand Prix, again we found that this does not suit everybody. It is a different sponsorship to anything we have had in the past and perhaps I should offer some more detailed explanation.

Sponsorship does not mean an immediate amount of money being made available for any particular purpose which the E.T.T.A. may consider to be deserving. The sponsor buys an event, or in the case of Beneficial Trust, six allied events and a package deal is made up. It would have been a very good deal just to have had financial assistance to run the English Junior Open and the English Junior Closed as both these events are loss-makers. The Junior Open is so popular with the foreigners that we could no longer bear the increased cost of hospitality and without sponsorship the event would have been cancelled, as it was in 1981. The idea of a grand prix was submitted, which brought in the four junior 'Select' open tournaments and the full package of six

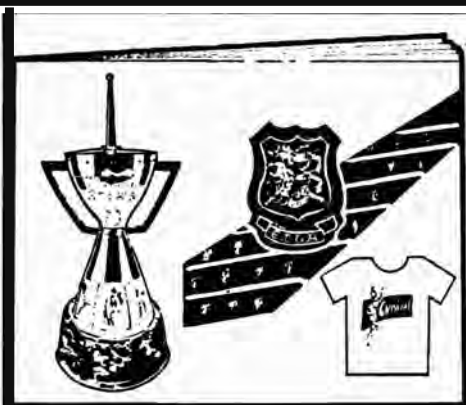
events was accepted. The deal included cash awards for the juniors for the first time and financial assistance to the four 'Select' tournaments as well as the necessary support to run the Open and the Closed.

The prime purpose of the deal is to maintain the events but some extra money was obtained which allows cash payments to juniors in the closed event and further financial rewards for those who earn sufficient points in the grand prix events. The sponsor has also invested a considerable amount in publicity and marketing which, along with administration expenses, public relation costs and, of course, VAT, which is not deductible by a banking concern, brings the total amount invested over the three years to around £75,000.

All sponsors spend considerable amounts to gain maximum publicity, in addition to the cash payment for the actual sponsorship. Of the £75,000 over the three years, about £35,000 will come in cash to the E.T.T.A., of which we will have to pay over about £5,000 in VAT. The balance will be taken to cover the loss on the Open and the Closed, to pay the prize money to the winners, subsistence to the four 'Select' tournaments and to cover incidental expenses.

I am reporting now with hindsight as the first event of the grand prix, the English Junior Closed, has now been held and there is no doubt that it was the most successful junior closed we have ever held. The relationship with the sponsor was perfect and there is no doubt that their extra investment in publicity really paid off.

There is still a demand for us to find more sponsorship and we are continually on the lookout for any. It is not easy to find a sponsor who will accept an event without television attached. I recently attended the annual Conference of the C.C.P.R. where representatives of over 90 sports were present. All of whom feel their own sport should be allocated a television spot. It's a hard world!



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# COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND-UP

by Murray Corbin

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire was sent out last month by the Chairman of the County Championships Committee, to all County Secretaries, with a request that copies be made of it and passed on to all County Captains. The questions asked in this confidential document were to be discussed amongst every individual Team, which must have included a female member, so that a majority or unanimous verdict could be given on every question. The completed document was then to be sent to the Administrator of the CCC, to arrive not later than Feb. 11. If you are a Team Captain and you have not received a copy, please contact your County Secretary, or let me know about it.

### DECEMBER RESULTS - SENIORS

#### DIVISION 2A

Derbyshire 1 Suffolk 9  
Lancashire 2nd 5 Worcestershire 5  
Warwickshire 2nd 6 Cambridgeshire 4  
Staffordshire 2nd 4 Yorkshire 2nd 6

LANCASHIRE just managed to scrape a draw in the final set of this match with WORCESTERSHIRE, when local Oldham hero PHIL ASPINALL defeated Trevor Washington in the third. **Most** credit, however, must be showered on the other Oldham player - AMANDA GOODWIN, who gave Lancashire the reprieve, because when she approached the table to face LINDA REID, her team was trailing 3-5. However, within a very short time, she disposed of Linda, to give Phil the chance of levelling the match.

MURRAY DUKES was the Worcestershire 'hit-man'; neither did he mess about with Stephen Bevan nor Keith Williams, both of whom he defeated two-straight. His partnership with Washington in the doubles saw the downfall of the said Williams and Bevan. LINDA REID and ALISON WESTWOOD brushed aside the opposing Amanda and Paula French, while Alison beat Paula in the singles.

The Worcestershire entourage is described in the detailed match report, which may have come from Referee STUART SNEYD, as "very nice people".

DIVISION TOP 4: Yorkshire 2nd: Suffolk: Cambridgeshire: Warwickshire 2nd.

#### DIVISION 2B

Middlesex 2nd 3 Dorset 7

Wiltshire 2 Sussex 8  
Avon 4 Kent 6

Dorset's LEANNE HARMAN, SAMANTHA SCOTT-PAWSON, TONY CLAYTON, JOHN ROBINSON and MARTIN ABBOTT travelled up and across to East Finchley, London, and in spite of the long journey, were still able to give Mandy Reeves, Michele Williams, John Payne, Michael O'Leary and Percy Collino, a good 'dusting'. Dorset won the first four sets and it was not until the very latter stage of play, that Middlesex were able to claw back a few sets. The Referee was the hard working J. S. RANDALL.

DIVISION TOP 4: Kent: Berkshire: Dorset: Avon.

#### DIVISION 3A

Northumberland 5 Durham 5  
Nottinghamshire 5 Leicestershire 2nd 5

Lincolnshire 7 Cheshire 2nd 3  
Cheshire 8 Northumberland 2

(Amended)

SUZANNE HUNT, SUSAN RADLEY, DAVE SKERRATT, STUART WORRELL and ANDY THOMPSON of Lincolnshire, took on bottom Team Cheshire 2nd, in the form of Ann Dakin, Anne Williamson, Tony Worthington, Malcolm McEvoy and Keith Deville, at Lincoln. Worrell lost the first set to TONY WORTHINGTON, then Stuart's team responded by winning seven of the remaining nine sets. The other two victories for Cheshire came in the men's doubles when WORTHINGTON/DEVILLE beat Skerratt/Worrell, and MALCOLM McEVOY made light work out of Andy Thompson. Going back to the first set, Worrell fought back from 12-18 in the third to lead 20-19, but all credit to Worthington for pulling himself together to win at 20. SUZANNE HUNT remained unbeaten by brushing aside Ann Dakin, while her team mate DAVE SKERRATT has only lost once, so far. The thoughtful A. OWEN was the Referee. Thank you!

DIVISION TOP 4: Lincolnshire: Northumberland: Clwyd: Cheshire 1st.

#### DIVISION 3B

Somerset 7 Berkshire 2nd 3  
Dorset 2nd 5 Cornwall 5  
Hampshire 8 Wiltshire 2nd 2  
Isle of Wight 6 Somerset 2nd 4

The Isle of Wight, with JILL FOTHERGILL, JOY BATTEN, CARL PREAN, JIM DALY and ROGER HOOKEY, playing at home in the Columbia Club, found some resistance

from the visiting Shirley Dart, Sarah Webb, David Wilson, John Crabtree and Mark Bryant, of Somerset. The possible highlight of the match, was the defeat of Wilson in the third by DALY, which may have been overshadowed by the feat of Referee JOHN BROOKS umpiring all ten sets, without a single mistake. Good on You, Dear John! I note that PREAN makes every possible effort to turn out for his County. Good on You too Son! There are many 'so-called good players' who would frown on playing in the third division, and that is one of the reasons why they are 'so-called'.

REBECCA 'Lovely' RUSSE, JUDY CRAIG, BRIAN REEVES, DAVID LEE and LEE SADLER of Somerset, recorded a fine victory over Berkshire 2nd and thus keep their sights on leaders Hampshire. The match report informs that this was a very competitive match, and played in the right spirit. Somerset's REEVES proved too wily in defence for both Steven Everard and Jonathan Samuel. However, I am informed that the best skill and excitement came from Sadler/Samuel singles, when SADLER'S attack proved too consistent and penetrative for Samuel. Somerset's women also proved too strong and skilful for Berkshire's Ruth Champion and Linda Green. ROBERT DAVIS made up the Berkshire team and the Referee was JOHN REAKES.

"Leaders Hampshire - JILL GREEN, BARBARA CLARK, GRAHAM 'The Loop' TOOLE, CHRIS SHELTER and DEREK 'Wisdom' HOLMAN, kept clear of Somerset by remaining unbeaten after meeting the unfortunate WILTSHIRE, who had to travel to Hambleton, without their No. 1 woman which, obviously, meant that Hampshire had a two-nil start. This seemed to have rubbed the visitors the wrong way. In their determination, Brenda Lee, Andrew Oxley, Steve Davis and David Richards were rewarded when DAVIS whipped Toole 12 and 18 and BRENDA LEE after losing the first at 7 against Barbara Clark, bounced back to take the other two - 15 and 18. The working Umpires were REG GLOVER and BRIAN LAMERTON, while the Referee was MICK STRODE.

DIVISION TOP 4: Hampshire: Somerset: Berkshire 2nd: Wiltshire 2nd.

#### DIVISION 3C

Oxfordshire 3 Gloucestershire 7  
**Bedfordshire** 5 Glamorgan 5

Northamptonshire 6 Herefordshire 4  
Worcestershire 2nd 8 Northamptonshire 2nd 2

Huntingdonshire 1 Buckinghamshire 9

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE correctly frontlined PHIL BRADBURY to help them keep close to leaders GLOUCESTERSHIRE. He must have had a fright though, because in the very first set, he just managed to get the edge on the promising Philip Cole of Huntingdonshire. Bucks, also with LINDA PHELPS, DAWN ROBBINS, KARL BUSHNELL and LES WOODING, won the first eight sets, but in the ninth, the straight-backed but graceful HELEN BARDWELL, stopped the 'whitewash' by spanking Linda Phelps 9 and 3. In addition to Helen and Phil Cole for Hunts, there were Tracey Reeves, Keith Willett and Keith Lakin. The match was played at Peterborough and the Match Referee was A. W. WALKER.

DIVISION TOP 4: Gloucestershire: Buckinghamshire: Bedfordshire: Worcestershire 2nd.

#### DIVISION 3D

Hertfordshire 2 Surrey 2nd 8

Suffolk 2nd 4 Norfolk 6

Cambridgeshire 2nd 3 Essex 2nd 7

Essex 3rd 4 Kent 2nd 6

Norfolk 2nd 4 Sussex 2nd 6

Kent 2nd 10 Norfolk 2nd 0 (W/O)

Referee RAY HOGG reports that in their match with Sussex, the Norfolk 2nd men should have had the win sewn up but simply let things slip, while their women, in spite of their determination, were totally outplayed by SHEILA KING and ZARINA HUSEIN-ELLIS. I note that five sets finished in the third and I can therefore understand Ray's reasons for his belief. The other players for Sussex were MICK BROWNE, the promising RICHIE VENNOR and DAVID JEMMED, while Norfolk's was a composition of Ruth Hogg, Zoe Nicholls, Stephen Howlett, Trevor Bunn and David Smith. Please note the correct details of Norfolk's 2nd Team Captain:- Michael Musson, 21 Old Grove Court, Catton Grove Road, Norwich. Home 'phone number, as per handbook.

DIVISION TOP 4: Essex 2nd: Surrey 2nd: Kent 2nd: Norfolk 1st.

#### VETERANS

##### PREMIER DIVISION

Essex 5 Leicestershire 4

Middlesex 4 Kent 5

Lincolnshire 2 Cheshire 7

Berkshire 4 Nottinghamshire 5

It turned out to be one ding-dong battle when PAT HAMMOND, ALLAN JESSON, RON BOLTON and JOHN ELLIS of Nottinghamshire travelled to SONNING COMMON, to engage Berkshire in social and competitive intercourse. The evening was going splendidly for both teams, including Sylvia Bruton, Dave Jones, Wally Allanson and Brian Halliday of Berkshire, but with the score at 4-4, BOLTON was

expected to beat Halliday, and so he did; victory was therefore won by Notts. Four sets went to three and I also observe that Ron also beat Jones and shared glory in the Men's Doubles with Ellis, when confronted by Allanson and Halliday. Gosh! there were some right upsets in this match, notably, ALLANSON thrashing Jesson and JONES saving face by just getting the better of Jesson. There was also a long, exciting and skilful set in the Women's singles, when PAT HAMMOND managed to put the finishing touches on Sylvia Bruton in the third. Oh what great stuff it must have been. The Referee was the 'One And Only' ROBIN LOCKWOOD.

DIVISION TOP 4: Cheshire: Kent: Essex: Lincolnshire.

#### DIVISION 2A

Avon vs Clwyd - Postponed

Cheshire 2nd 8 Bedfordshire 1

Worcestershire 8 Northamptonshire 1

A very talented WORCESTERSHIRE side of JANET HUNT, MERVYN WOOD, BRIAN BELCHER and MALCOLM DICKS, at their home-ground in Christopher Whitehead School, Worcester, took on the visiting Joyce Porter, Keith Jones, Dave Marsh and Dennis Millman of NORTHAMPTONSHIRE. After the first two sets resulted in a 1-1 score, Northants could not get back in contention and were unable to record another set in their favour. Their win in the second set came from MILLMAN beating Dicks 18 and 17. The Referee was DOUG YOUNG of Worcester.

DIVISION TOP 4: Huntingdonshire: Worcestershire: Cheshire 2nd: Bedfordshire.

#### DIVISION 2B

Dorset 4 Middlesex 2nd 5

Sussex 8 Berkshire 2nd 1

Hertfordshire 8 Hampshire 1

Kent 2nd 0 Essex 2nd 9

EVE BRIDON, JOHN SMITH, NORMAN SLIFKIN and ERROL ALLEYNE of MIDDLESEX, travelled out to DORSET and found great opposition from Joyce Coop, Cyril Bush, Dennis Joyce and Bunny Ellis. It was even-stevens after the eighth set, and the match draw in the ninth favoured Middlesex, whose SLIFKIN comfortably overcame the determination of Ellis who succumbed 14 and 5. The Referee was W. BRIDGES.

A very strong SUSSEX team in the form of VALARIE GILLAM, ALAN ROWDEN, GERRY BATT-RAWDEN and MIKE 'E.T.T.A.' WADS, put on a very disciplined performance at their Civil Service Club, Hove, when they met Margaret Loe, Robert Holiday, Colin Dyke and Edward Cripps of BERKSHIRE. The visitors' only win came in the Men's Doubles when HOLIDAY/DYKE outmanouvered Bat-Rawden/Watts at 20 and 15. The unfortunate Berkshire are propping up the others in the division, while Sussex are lying second behind Essex 2nd, on account of a slightly inferior sets 'for and

against' average. I am eagerly awaiting the result of the match when these two meet on Feb. 25. Sussex, who will be at home, may have the edge. By the way, BERT FRETWELL was the Referee of the Sussex/Berkshire match.

DIVISION TOP 4: Essex 2nd: Sussex: Hertfordshire: Hampshire.

#### DIVISION 3A

Hertfordshire 2nd 4 Cheshire 3rd 5

Clwyd 2nd 9 Huntingdonshire 2nd 0

Bottom team HUNTINGDONSHIRE travelled to MILLERS COTTAGE LEISURE CENTRE and had to return home without one set being 'won by them, on account of the superior skills of BARBARA WILLIAMS, DON GIBBS, RAY HOWLAND and KARL HARRISON of CLWYD. Hunts was represented by Doreen Wakefield, Sydney Burgess, Ken Green and Ray Fisher. The Referee was B. B. WILLIAMS.

DIVISION TOP 4: Cheshire 3rd: Buckinghamshire: Clwyd 2nd: Hertfordshire 2nd.

#### DIVISION 3B

Surrey 6 Sussex 2nd 3

Wiltshire 2nd 4 Somerset 5

Hampshire 2nd 7 Hertfordshire 3rd 2

Hampshire 2nd 9 Somerset 0 (W/O)

HAMPSHIRE maintained their lead by a comfortable victory over Hertfordshire, whose two successes came from GILL WHITE and KEITH HARTTRIDGE in the singles against Ann Abrahams and Maurice Shave, respectively. Herts. was also represented by Brian Gale and Doug Tomsett, while JOHN HARVEY and KEN GILES completed the Hampshire line-up. The match report states that "To make a change, a really good women's singles. Good attacking play by GILL WHITE proved too good for Ann Abrahams, despite her classic defensive play." RAY YATES was the Referee.

DIVISION TOP 4: Hampshire 2nd: Sussex 2nd: Surrey: Dorset.

#### JUNIORS

##### DIVISION 2A

Yorkshire 2nd 2 Derbyshire 8

Lancashire 6 Warwickshire 4

Bedfordshire 6 Leicestershire 4

Cheshire 8 Cambridgeshire 2

Before the commencement of the YORKSHIRE/DERBYSHIRE match, ALEC HEAD, Chairman and Umpires Secretary of Yorkshire TTA, presented County Badges to RUTH BRAY and JOHN BULT of Hull and ALARIC BASSANO of Wakefield, during generous applause their remaining teammates- Ruth Baxter and Nicholas Newton. This was one of three high-spots for Yorkshire; the other two being the narrow victory of BULT over Nigel Adams in the third, and NEWTON dispatching the bubbling Bradley Billington 10 and 15. Beside Nigel and Bradley, the DERBYSHIRE demolition squad also consisted of LOUISE FORSTER, JOANNE WEIGHTMAN and ANDREW HENRY. The Non-Playing Captains were A. LILLINGSWORTH (Y) and K. WEIGHTMAN (Dy). The Umpiring

Staff were MRS. H. MASTERS (Ilkley), S. NEWMAN (Selby) and D. NORBURN and P. STANSFIELD (Halifax). YORKSHIRE will meet LEICESTERSHIRE at The Hermits Club, BRADFORD, on Feb. 25. Thank you ERIC HILL for the information.

In their battle with WARWICKSHIRE LANCASHIRE just managed to capture full points, when in the ninth set, ANDREA HOLT proved too dominant and skilful for the promising Dawn Bromley of Warwickshire, who went down 10 and 13. With one set to go and the score standing at 6-3 in favour of Lancashire, MICHAEL THOMAS brought back a little more respectability for Warwickshire, by defeating the mobile and talented Sean Gibson whose other teammates were LINDSAY McEWEN, COLIN HOGARTH and HOWARD LEIGH, while Tina Brown, Mark Randle and Martin Campbell, completed the Warwickshire team. STUART SNEYD was the Match Referee.

DIVISION TOP 4: Derbyshire: Warwickshire: Cheshire: Yorkshire 2nd.

#### DIVISION 28

Gloucestershire 5 Hertfordshire 5  
Essex 10 Sussex 0  
Dorset 6 Glamorgan 4  
Essex 9 Middlesex 2nd 1

DIVISION TOP 4: Essex: Dorset: Hertfordshire: Gloucestershire.

#### DIVISION 3A

Cleveland 2nd 6 Lincolnshire 4  
Lincolnshire 1st 4 Cheshire 2nd 6  
Northumberland 10 Nottinghamshire 0

DIVISION TOP 4: Northumberland: Lincolnshire 2nd: Cheshire 2nd: Cleveland 2nd.

#### DIVISION 38

Cambridgeshire 2nd 2 Staffordshire 2nd 8  
Oxfordshire 9 Herefordshire 1  
Northamptonshire 10 Berkshire 2nd 0  
Warwickshire 2nd 4 Worcestershire 2nd 6

Warwickshire just failed to share the points with WORCESTERSHIRE, when, being 4-5 down, their Vee Chauhan came out to meet MARK RODEN. Vee took the first but Mark pulled on his reserves and took the other two 17 and 16. Four went to three and with a little more luck and skill, the result could have been a little different. For Warwicks, there were also Tracey Green, Lisa Spilsbury, Nick Felton and Dave Thomas. HELEN JONES, LISA HUNT, DEAN KLOOS and TIM HOLDER, made up the strikeforce of Worcestershire. RAY STON was the Referee.

DIVISION TOP 4: Northamptonshire: Staffordshire 2nd: Worcesterhsire: Cambridgeshire 2nd.

#### DIVISION 3C

Hampshire 3 Wiltshire 7  
Avon 2nd 0 Avon 1st 10

Referee HAROLD ALBERY created an excellent setting at Redbridge, Southampton, where his Hampshire

team of Sarah Hammond, Caroline Jenvey, Andrew Davies, Christos Hannides and Alan Charles tried hard to compete with the visiting CLAIRE HUNTER, JULIE MILLS, JOHN HOOK, IAN NEATE and HOWARD PHILLIPS of WILTSHIRE. At the end of the seventh set, when Wiltshire were ahead 4-3, they never looked back, because Claire, John and Ian won the last three against Sarah, Andrew and Alan, respectively. Leaders Wiltshire have to keep their eyes on Cornwall 1st, who are second, but Avon 1 in third, could turn out trumps as they have two matches in hand. Somerset are fourth.

#### DIVISION 3D

Kent 2nd 7 Norfolk 2nd 3  
Surrey 2nd 5 Suffolk 5  
Essex 3rd 7 Hertfordshire 2nd 3  
Hertfordshire 2nd 2 Norfolk 8

Sussex 2nd having withdrawn from the Division, their Record has been deleted.

In the SURREY/SUFFOLK match, six sets finished in the third. In spite of this, neither team could stop the result being deadlocked. This was a very good result for SYLVIA KENYON, CLAIRE NICHOLLS, PAUL GOODING, SHAUN CARRACCIO and RICHARD HUTCHINSON of SUFFOLK, but a bit of a set-back for Surrey, who need every possible point to keep close to Essex 2nd, whom they should have met last month. SURREY was represented on this occasion by KAREN WILDE, NICKY TAYLOR, JULIAN DUDMAN, NEIL DAVIS and my lil' mate RICHARD JONES, playing the first time for his beloved Surrey. In the last set Richard, with Surrey leading 5-4, came up against the more experienced campaigner in CARRACCIO who lost the first at 17, but bounced back to take the other two 17 and 15. Hard luck Richard' Well done Shaun. The Referee at Tweeddale School, Carshalton, Surrey, was the ever popular' JOHN HAMMOND.

HERTFORDSHIRE entertained NORFOLK 1st at Barnet TIC, and in doing so, lost 2-8, in what may have been a nice little match. Five sets went to three, so Norfolk could not have had an easy ride. Herts were represented by Tracy Baines, Vicky Margerrison, Philip and Peter Witchalls and Glen Wilkes. The happy RACHEL WILSON, CAROLYN CHAMBERLIN, CHRIS RAYMENT, PAUL RICH and DAVID REESON, were the Norfolk winners. The illustrious J. BARNES was the Referee.

DIVISION TOP 4: Essex 2nd: Surrey 2nd: Kent 2nd: Essex 3rd.

My hard' working County Championships Committee colleague DOUG MOSS of Worcester, was trying, with the assistance of his dedicated wife, to prepare the individual performance chart. This is no mean feat, and if he has been successful, we owe the Mosses our thanks.

## County Table Tennis Championships Leading Averages - To End of 1983

Compiled by  
Doug Moss

### Qualification (3 matches)

#### SENIOR PREMIER

	W	L	%
Skylet Andrew (E)	6	0	100
Donald Parker (La)	6	0	100
David Wells (Mi)	6	0	100
Kenny Jackson (E)	5	1	83
John Souter (Mi)	5	1	83
Joy Grundy (La)		0	100
Karen Smith (Le)		0	100
Jill Harris (Sf)	1		67

#### DIV.2A

Stuart Palmer (Sk)			88
Keith Richardson (Ca)			88
Philip Aspinall (La)			83
Helen Shields (Y)	3	0	100
Amanda Goodwin (La)	4	1	75
Joanne Palmer (Ca)	4	1	75

#### DIV.28

David Barr (Bk)		0	100
John Burleton (K)		1	83
Andrew Creed (Av)		1	83
Andrew Dodd (K)		1	83
Helen Perrott (Av)			67
Michelle Williams (Mi) 1			67

#### DIV.3A

Trevor Manning (Cw)		a	100
Dave Skerratt (U)		1	88
David Blackburne (Du)		1	83
Darren McVitie (Ou)		1	83
Suzanne Hunt (Li)	4	0	100
Clare Mouzon (Nd)	4	1	80
Caron Buglass (Nd)	4	1	80
Sue Roberts (Cw)	3	1	75

#### DIV.38

Carl Preat (I.O.W.1)		0	100
Graham Toole (Ha)		1	83
Chris Shelter (Ha)		2	75
Jill Green (Ha)	3	a	100
Barbara Clark (Ha)	4	1	75
Judy Craig (So)	4	1	75
Shirley Dart (So)	4	1	75
Rebecca Russe (So)	4	1	75

#### DIV.3C

Les Wooding (Bu)	9		90
David Sharpe (Bd)	7		88
Darren Griffin (Gs)	8		80
Paul Jackson (Gs)	8		80
Mark Owen (He)	8		80
Jeff Rigby (Gn)	8		80
Helen Bardwell (Hu)	5	a	100
Mary Denbow (Ox)	4	a	100
Ailsun Hillard (Hu)	3	a	100
S. Haddrell (Ox)	4	1	80
Vicky Skeats (Gn)	4	1	80

#### DIV.3D

Richard Beckham (K)	7	1	88
John Dennison (El)	7	1	88
Gareth Spencer (K)	5	1	83
Richard Stevenson (Nkl)	8	2	80
Michael Hammond (Sy)	7	2	78
Keith Samuels (He)	6	2	75
J. Taylor, (Hel)	7	3	70

#### VETERANS PREMIER

Peter D'Arcy (Ch)	8	a	100
Derek Schofield (Ch)	8	0	100
Babs Adedayo (Mil)	6	a	100
Stan Battrick (El)	7	1	88
Henry Buist (K)	7	1	88
Eddie Griffiths (Ch)	7	1	88
Doreen Schofield (Ch)	4	a	100
Pat Hammond (Ng)	3	1	75

#### VETERANS 2A

Len Saywell (Hu)	6	a	100
Mervyn Wood (Wo)	7	1	88
Mike Tew (Ch)	5	1	83
Brian Belcher (Wo)	6	2	75
Alan Albion (Hu)	4	2	67
Janet Hunt (Wo)			75
Joyce Porter (Np)			75
Myra Lypnyckyz (Ch)			67

#### VETERANS 28

Gerry Batt-Rowden (Sx)	8	a	100
Laurie Fountain (E)	6	a	100
Brian Parrish (E)	6	a	100
Mike Watts (Sx)	6	a	100
David Seaholme (He)	7	1	88
Alan Lamprell (He)	5	1	83
Alan Rowden (Sx)	5	1	83
A. Stallard (E)	5	1	83
Jim Bromley (Kent II)	4	2	67

S. Carroll (E)	a	100
Joyce Coop (Do)	1	75
V. Gillam (Sx)	1	67

### VETERANS 3A

Terry Taylor (Ch)	8	a	100
Frank Earis (Bu)	5	1	83
G. Tyler (He)	4	1	80

S. Tyler (He)			67
Barbara Williams (Cw)			67

### VETERANS 3B

Frank Hams (Sy)	5		83
R. Pittard (Sx)	4		67
S. Walker (Sx)	4		67

S. Morse (Wi)	a	100
G. White (He)	0	100

### JUNIOR PREMIER

David Goode (Mi)	6	a	100
Nigel Tyler (Mi)	6	a	100
Chris Bartram (K)	5	1	83
Andrew Cunningham (K)	5	1	83
Andrew Dodd (K)	5	1	83
Clive Guest (V)	5	1	83
Martin Firth (V)	4	2	67
David Rook (V)	4	2	67
Richard Hayward (St)	4	2	67

Amanda Hegarty (St)	3	a	100
Sue Collier (Bk)	3	a	100
Claire Brooks (Sy)	3	1	75
Alison Evans (Y)	3	1	75
Laura Goldsmith (Mi)	3	1	75
Juliet Houghton (K)	3	1	75
Rachel Knight (Mi)	3	1	75
Joanne Shaw (Y)	3	1	75
Jane Wright (On)	3	1	75

### JUNIOR 2A

Mark Randle (Wa)	6	a	100
Michael Thomas (Wa)	7	1	88
Paul Bumpus (Le)	5	1	83
Nigel Adams (Dy)	6	2	75
Andrew Henry (Dy)	6	2	75
Keith Weatherby (Ch)	4	2	67
Louise Forster (Dy)	4	a	100
Joanne Weightman (Dy)	4	a	100
Cheryl Clarke (Ch)	3	0	100
Dawn Bromley (Wa)	3	1	75
Tracey Clark (Le)	3	1	75
Lynne Harrison (Ch)	3	1	75
Melanie McHayle (Wa)	3	1	75

### JUNIOR 2B

Richard Darnell (E)	0	100
N. Sweeting (E)	0	100
Aaron Beckett (Es)	1	83
Steven Dorking (E)	1	83
David Smith (Gs)	1	83
Rodney Thomas (Dorset)	1	83
Lisa Hayden (E)	0	100
Tanya Holland (E)	0	100

### JUNIOR 3A

Thomas Blackman (Nd)	0	100
Peter Curry (Nd)	a	100
Keith Patterson (Nd)	a	100
Ian Walker (Li)	2	75
Anne Pashley (Cv)	a	100
Karen Backhouse (Cu)	1	75
Linda Thompson (Y)	1	75
Denise Campbell (Nd)	1	67

### JUNIOR 3B

Andrew Edmonds (Np)	8	a	100
Richard Bashford (Np)	6	a	100
Andrew Trott (Np)	7	1	88
Mark Roden (Wo)	6	2	75
Lisa Spilsbury (Wa)	3	a	100
Donna Furniss (Np)	3	1	75
Maxine Shears (Np)	3	1	75
Tracy Green (Wa)	2	1	67
Lisa Hunt (Wo)	2	1	67

### JUNIOR 3C

Andrew Oxley (Wi)	8	a	100
Ian Neale (Wi)	a	1	90
Paul Lewis (Av)	5	1	83
James Fletcher (Av)	5	1	83
Andy Hunt (Co)	8	2	80
Mark James (Co)	8	2	80
Graham Reed (Co)	8	2	80
Esme Stevenson (Co)	5	a	100
Claire Hunter (Wi)	5	a	100
Sarah Hammond (Ha)	3	1	75
Karen Testa (Av)	2	1	67

### JUNIOR 3D

Robert Levett (K)	6	a	100
Bernie Lazams (E)	9	1	90
Tony West (E)	5	1	83
David Hodson (Sy)	6	2	75
Karl Ball (K)	4	2	67
Shaun Carraccio (Sk)	4	2	67
Catherine Thompson (E)	5	a	100
Nina Williams (Sx)	3	a	100
Gill Patten (E)	4	1	80
Karen Wilde (E)	4	1	80
Claire Brooks (Sy)	2	1	67
Susan Jenkinson (Nk)	2	1	67

## COUNTY NOTES SUPPLEMENT

Mary Williams reports from.....

### BEDFORDSHIRE FIRST WIN FOR JUNIORS

The Senior and Junior County teams both played their matches on the same day at Vauxhall Motors, Luton.

Ian Doughty, Andy Conquest, David Hyde, Julie Dimmock and Dawn Campbell comprised the senior team. Playing for Glamorgan were Jeff Morgan, Jeff Rigby, David Chan, Cathryn Jones and Vicki Skeats.

After losing the first two sets Beds. drew level and from then on each team won a set each until reaching the final result 5-5.

The juniors entertained Leics. and gained their first victory. Neil Stanley, Peter Edwards, David Murgatroyd, Joyce Mitchell and Ruth Forrester played exceptionally well against Paul Bumpus, Marcus Bellot, David Grundy, Tracey Clark and Lucie Grundy.

Edwards and Murgatroyd won the first two sets for Beds. whilst No. 1 Stanley lost his. Joyce Mitchell and Ruth Forrester won their doubles against Tracey Clark and Lucie Grundy but I would point out that this was the first time Tracey and Lucie had played together. Better luck in the future to these two promising young players. Joyce and Ruth played exceptionally well and won 10 and 22. The Beds. boys lost their doubles, Stanley lost his second set and Joyce Mitchell also dropped one. With the final score 6-4 the Beds. juniors obtained their first win of the season.

Lisa Bellinger ranked No.2 senior and No. 1 junior became National Junior champion for the second year running.

Lisa retained the Beneficial Trust title at Hinckley without losing a game,

comfortably beating Berkshire's Susan Collier in the final.

The Luton League Divisional Tournaments were held the week leading up to Christmas. After a poor entry in Div. 1 the eventual winner was County No. 1 David Sharpe who defeated David Cartwright.

In Div. 3 veteran Frank Nelson, after putting up a good fight, went down to Chris Smith.

Recently ranked County juniors contested the finals of both Division 6 and 7. In Div. 6 Robert Figgins (12) beat Louise Dean and Robert partnered by Howard Tarron (12) also won the doubles.

Peter Bowler (10) beat 13-years-old Mark Wilkin in the final of Div. 7. They also took the doubles title beating G. Taylor and Steven Graham.

Results:-

Div. 1: D. Sharpe bt D. Cartwright 10, 12.
Div. 2: A. Bootman bt M. Jarrett 12, 11.
Div. 3: C. Smith bt F. Nelson 17, 12.
Div. 4: C. Hillan bt B. Bailey 17, -17, 16.
Div. 5: P. Webb bt J. Brunt 14, 18.
Div. 6: R. Figgins bt L. Dean -22, 12, 17.
Div. 7: P. Bowler bt M. Wilkin 16, 17.

In the Dunstable League, now at the mid-way stage, Delco Products are leading the first division six 'points ahead of Dunstable T.T. Club. The 2nd division is proving to be very competitive with just 9 points separating the top five clubs, headed by Marlborough 'A' with Johansson in second place followed by the experienced Waterlow side (strengthened by the signing of hard-working league Fixture Secretary, Dave Bradshaw) and the much-improved Dunstable Cricket Club. In the 3rd division the Cricket Club 'A' are heading the list but in hot pursuit is the youth of Dunstable T.T. Club and Cross Paperware. The Junior Division has a clear leader in T.T. Club Lions but the two novice sides from Delco are holding on to 2nd and 3rd positions.

The League's handicap knockout competitions get under way in the first week of the New Year and it looks as if

Delco will have to play their trump cards of the Bellingers if they are to overcome a handicap of -12 +12 against Vauxhall 'A'. Good luck to all teams, anyone can win these competitions.

In the St. Neots League Junior Division the Dunstable team with their squad of inexperienced youngsters are really making the most of playing at this level and potential County players are surely going to emerge from this group. Many thanks to Dudley Smy and his team of willing parents for their support.

The league wish to congratulate all the Dunstable boys and girls who attended the recent County Junior Trials. You were a credit to the League for your performances both on and off the table. Well done.

The small but ambitious Dunstable league must be the envy of many of the giants of the T.T. world. Jackie and Lisa Bellinger, representing the league, will be one of 8 teams invited to compete in the Cleveland 3-Star Tournament team events, which will include teams representing England, possibly Japan, Holland and other stray U.K. club sides. Good luck, girls.

The Dunstable League Mid-Season Disco is being held on Feb. 4 at Dunstable Cricket Club. Tickets, unfortunately, are limited to 100, so if you are one of the unlucky ones, without a ticket, we apologise but book your tickets for the end of season dance. Now!

Brian Halliday reports from ....

### BERKSHIRE OPTION TO BUY'

By the time you have read these notes a decision will have been taken that could revolutionise our sport in Berkshire. The Reading League held a special General Meeting on Jan. 26, the purpose of which was to request

authority to rent premises just outside Reading. There is an option to buy the building within 13 months.

The premises are very spacious and the modern building was previously a school gymnasium. The venue is ideally situated and could be used for play up to international standard. The Development Committee of the Reading League under the leadership of Geoff Davis and Colin Dyke are to be congratulated on their initiative in giving their league this once in a lifetime chance of acquiring its own headquarters.

Of course there are those who see the whole project as a catastrophe. The prophets of doom predict that the Reading League is biting off more than it can chew. Unfortunately table tennis at all levels is plagued with players and officials who consider the sport in a parochial way. The enthusiastic, far seeing officials and players who have approached this project wholeheartedly, deserve our support. The vote on Jan. 26 to support or reject their initiative is not only vital for table tennis in Berkshire but just might point the way for the rest of the country.

While the Reading League ponder on the their major decision there have been two further significant developments locally. The Omega Club, which has built an international reputation for the quality of its players, has acquired a very large hut indeed. Their present premises are grossly inadequate and when the chance came to buy alternative accommodation Peter Charters and his committee were very quick off the mark. Unfortunately the new hut will have to be re-sited but the enthusiasm of club members has already had a positive effect. The hut itself should be large enough for four tables (six for practice) and the dismantling and transportation has been a major problem.

A lot of people have given their time and energy unstintingly, none more so than Jim Hodder and Bob Plumridge who have risked life and limb in the cause. Among all the players who have contributed to the project so selflessly I must single out Dave Barr and Karen Witt who have set a magnificent example. There are no prima donnas at this club and with that attitude and example Omega should go from strength to strength. I will keep you posted as to their progress.

If the Omega move is a self help effort then the third major project in Reading has been handed to the lucky IBIS Table Tennis club on a plate. IBIS, who are the Sports Club of the Prudential Assurance have had a magnificent multi purpose sports hall built in Reading for the use of their members. The table tennis section will have the use of the facility twice a week with room for four tables.

All three of these exciting new developments promise to add a new dimension to the game in Berkshire. Additional facilities for both expert

and beginner with added venues for County matches, internationals etc., at long last look like taking the sport out of the dark ages.

The thoughts of what the future might hold has meant that local results and county results have taken second place this month. The senior teams continue their good runs, the junior second team showed a dramatic improvement against Oxfordshire with the long overdue debut of Roger Martin being particularly impressive. The veterans continue their woeful season. Two more defeats, at the hands of Leicestershire and Dorset, may mean changes for the next series of matches. The 1st team match at Leicester was a cracker, at least if you were a home supporter: 3-0 won then Berks level at 3-3, Leics in front only for Wally Allanson to retrieve quite brilliantly against John Iliffe to level the match. Colin Truman then brought home both points in the deciding set. A good sporting match - but oh dear those plastic balls!

The tug of war between National League and County Championships brought fresh controversy to the County. The Selection Committee chose both Jimmy Stokes and Andy Syed for the first Junior Premier Division weekend. Their NL commitments were such that a visit to Newcastle was thought more important, with the result that possible overall victory at St. Neots turned into a disaster with three successive defeats. The Selection Committee were split on the rights and wrongs of the whole episode and it is fair to record that the decisions taken were not taken by the players concerned. There was a long hard post match inquest - both points of view are, of course, valid - Berkshire is only one of several counties that have been forced into this quite untenable position by the vagaries of the table tennis calendar. Nobody denies the outstanding success of the National League, especially if it is presented and promoted properly it can provide a superb and memorable spectacle. What is disappointing is that two young players may never get the chance of winning a Junior Premier Division Championship medal because of priorities decided on their behalf.

Perhaps next season when both lads are still eligible for play in the junior ranks, our administrators will be a little kinder and give the much maligned calendar a little more thought.

Finally a plea on behalf of the Bracknell League. With a great deal of hard fund raising behind them the league managed to purchase a building suitable for erection. Approaches to the various local authorities for a site to locate their new headquarters have been met with complete apathy by the Bracknell and Wokingham Councils. All approaches have been rejected by the unfeeling establishment. It is a

national scandal that thousands of sq. feet of office space lies dormant in Bracknell while the youngsters in that area are denied their own centre. The hut recently purchased now lies rotting during the winter due to mindless bureaucratic apathy. Perhaps the ETTA could do something on the Bracknell League's behalf - a letter or approach from them would do wonders for the ETTA image at local league level.

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Les Wooding reports from.....

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

### BACK WITH A VENGEANCE

After the setback against Gloucestershire, the County senior side came back with a vengeance away against Huntingdonshire crushing them 9-1. Due to the use of the St. Neots TTC for the Junior Premier Division Weekend, the match was staged at a Peterborough sports centre.

The room was wedge shaped and the sloping roof from right to left plus a spotlight shining on the centre of the table appeared to disorientate both sides. Philip Bradbury was almost an early casualty relying on a volleyed ball from Phil Cole at 19-all in the third game to steal Buckinghamshire's first rubber. After that, despite several close games, Hel Bardwell was the only member of the home side to record a victory.

Once again the after match conversation turned to the staging of County matches at a central venue. The division consists of teams as far apart as Glamorgan and Herefordshire in the West and Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire in the East, and there are certainly valid prestigious, logistic, economic and chronological reasons for sessions to take place similar to the Premier Division play-offs. With the consistent claims that County matches take a back seat to National League matches and major tournaments and the fact that even the most enthusiastic participant of our sport likes to spend an occasional weekend at home, a central venue will allow the best players to participate and ameliorate the staging of matches.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE 1 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE 9  
(Buckinghamshire names first)  
Philip Bradbury bt Phil Cole 19, -20, 19;  
Les Wooding bt Keith Lakin 13, 8;  
Karl Bushell bt Keith Willett 19, 21;  
Linda Phelps/Dawn Robbins bt Helen Bardwell/Tracey Reeves 20, -19, 12;  
Bradbury/Bushell bt Cole/Willett -18, 18, 19;  
Wooding bt Cole 23, 12;  
Robbins bt Reeves 15, 16;  
Bradbury bt Willett 9, 17;  
Phelps lost to Bardwell -9, -3;  
Bushell bt Lakin 9, 23.

### CARTER CUP

Buckinghamshire's only Junior side participating in the competition safely reached the zone semi-final with a convincing 8-1 victory over Hunts Central. Richard Lines and Anthony Gorman were untroubled throughout the match and Carl Furness lost only to Matthew Poole in the third game of a hard fought set.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE INTER-LEAGUE

### MEN'S DIVISION 'A'

Milton Keynes 'A' 5 High Wycombe 'A' 5

Due to the non-arrival of Bedfordshire County champion Ian Doughty the Milton Keynes' side found themselves at a disadvantage but junior Richard Lines filled the gap admirably beating Robin Millar to force the draw. A good win by Norman Swift over David Sharpe but he went down to Colin Luscombe.

Milton Keynes 'B' 6 High Wycombe 'A' 4

A better result for the other Milton Keynes' side thanks mainly to three wins by Les Wooding. As in the other match against David Sharpe, County champion Karl Bushell lost a nailbiting match against Les Wooding 20-22 in the final game. Two wins from Jon Wright and one from Gary Hamilton secured the 2 points.

### MEN'S DIVISION 'B'

Slough 'B' 9 Aylesbury 'B' 1

John Knevett, Roger Fairhead and Graham Trimming were far too strong for the Aylesbury trio of Dave Wackrill, Graham Cook and Richard Humphreys, for whom the latter recorded Aylesbury's only win beating Roger Fairhead. Richard, who has been a popular player in both Aylesbury and Milton Keynes has now left for a career in the Royal Air Force and we wish him all the best.

Milton Keynes 'C' 4 High Wycombe 'B' 6

An excellent representative debut for Geoff Kemp but his team-mates Dave Allison and Brian Ingram failed to match his performance winning just one more game between them against the High Wycombe side of Mark Curtis, Lou Radmore and Robin Millar.

### MEN'S DIVISION 'C'

Chiltern 'A' 6 Maidenhead 'C' 4

Despite a maximum three wins from Mike Hetherington this was a good team performance from Alan Rance, Mike Bellamy and Mike Atkinson. Laurence Russell and David Forsey were the other two Maidenhead representatives.

### JUNIOR DIVISION

High Wycombe 6 Maidenhead 'B' 4

A good start for Lee Holloway for High Wycombe who was unbeaten. Richard McMurdo contributed 2 victories and Trevor Bunting one. Diana Spindlow became the first girl to play in the Junior Inter-League this season but was unsuccessful. Robin Benwell recorded 2 victories for Maidenhead and Stephen Reynolds one.

Milton Keynes 10 High Wycombe 0

The Milton Keynes' side of Richard Lines, Peter Edwards and Anthony Gorman were far too strong for Lee Holloway, Richard McMurdo and Matthew Lloyd. They won all their

matches apart from the doubles in straight games.

## TEAM KNOCK-OUT CHAMPIONSHIPS

### PREMIER DIVISION CHALLENGE CUP

County Arms Hammers (Milton Keynes) 5 Den Club (Chiltern) 4

Despite winning all his matches Nicky Hansell for the Chiltern side failed to prevent a narrow win by Dave Foster, Keith Carrington and Jimmy Andrews. Colin Belcher recorded a victory over Keith but Ian Catchpole was not so successful.

Cippenham II (Slough) 9 Hazlemere 'A' (Chiltern) 0

Graham Trimming, Peter Swinn and Martin King were far too strong for Paddy Maher, Jim Dodds and Linda Phelps winning all their matches in straight games.

Thame (Aylesbury) 0 Cippenham Buccaneers (Slough) 9

Frank Earis, David Poutney and Alec Watson staked their claim for the championship with this convincing victory over the Thame side of Len Pratt, John Thompson and Tony Mundy.

Flackwell Heathens (High Wycombe) 3 Molins 'A' (Aylesbury) 6

A good performance from the team from the County town. Keith Jeffrey proved what a good player he still is with good wins over Dick Smith, Bill Hansell and Pete Stiborski. Steve Honore was unlucky not to emulate him losing 22-24 in the 3rd to Dick. Alan Jeffrey recorded Molin's other win.

### KNOCK-OUT CUP

Cippenham Rogues (Slough) 9 Verco 'A' (High Wycombe) 0

Rogues' Rodney Potts, Ken Phillips and Malcolm Hicks made it a hat-trick of 9-0 victories for the Cippenham club. Paul Guze, Martin Humphrey and James Lloyd fought hard but found their opponents too experienced on this occasion.

### LEAGUE NEWS

Milton Keynes' first tournament of the season, the "Fennell Cup" handicap competition attracted a near record entry of 50. Top premier division players Bob Harman, Ian Haines and Les Wooding (all from the host AHW Club), and all previous County champions overcame severe handicaps to reach the final group in which they were joined by tournament organiser Trevor Thomas.

After losing to him in the final group Robert Harman beat Ian Haines 21-13 in the play-off to take the title.

### COUNTY CLOSED

All players are reminded that the County Closed is to be held during the weekend of 18th and 19th February, 1984 at the Hazlemere Youth Centre. Special provision has been made to

enable National League players to enter. Entries should reach Beth Wickens, 2 Frensham Walk, Farnham Common, Slough SL2 3QF no later than Saturday, 4th February, 1984.

Geoff Waters reports from . . . .

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

### SETBACK TO HOPES

The senior first team had a setback to their championship hopes in Division 2a of the County Championships, when they were beaten 6-4 by Warwickshire II. However, they bounced back in the next match to beat Lancashire II 7-3 and so the chance is not yet lost.

Only one point separates the top four counties with Yorkshire II, Warwickshire II, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire still very much in contention and it could be that the championship will be decided on sets average. One thing in Cambridgeshire's favour is that they have already played their rivals and finish against Derbyshire and Worcestershire, the bottom two counties.

In the Warwickshire match at Birmingham, the county started well with Keith Richardson and Andy Withers beating Lester Bertie and Richard Tanner respectively. The men's doubles and a singles win by Joanne Palmer over Di St. Ledger still kept them in a 4-3 lead, but they failed to win another set. Richardson lost for the first time this season when he went down to Barry Johnson and neither Mandy Judd or Mick Harper could prevent the Midlanders taking both points.

A below par Richardson, recovering from a bout of 'flu, lost both his singles in the Lancashire match at Soham, being beaten by Steve Bevan and Keith Williams. Fortunately, the rest of the team were on song and only the women's doubles went astray. Harper, Withers and Joanne Palmer all came through unscathed in the singles, while Hilary Finch, a former Essex junior now at Cambridge University, also won a singles in her first team debut.

There was some joy for Richardson, in that he won the men's doubles in partnership with Harper.

The second team, after a promising start have slumped to three defeats in a row. Their last two matches against Essex II at Impington and Kent II at Gravesend both ended in 7-3 defeats. Geoff Davies showed good form by winning both his singles in each of these matches. Julian Wheel beat Stephen White in the Essex match, while Alison Edge got the better of Karen May against Kent. The junior first team finally managed a point in Junior 2a when they drew 5-5 with Bedfordshire, but not before they had lost 8-2 to Cheshire.

The long trip to Ellesmere Port did

not appear to affect Peter Holliday in the Cheshire match as he put Cambridgeshire ahead in the first set by beating S. Jones. However, the team did not taste further success until the final set when Tim Ashman beat S. Lypnyckyj.

Holliday missed the match against Bedfordshire, but Cambridgeshire found a good replacement in Neil Burgess as he won both his singles. Tim Ashman also had a double, while brother Nicky chipped in with a singles win. Cambridgeshire now appear doomed to relegation in this division, unless they can provide shock results against Lancashire and Yorkshire II in their last two matches.

The newly formed second junior team are having a good season in Junior 3b and although they lost 8-2 to a strong Staffordshire II, they produced their third win of the season by beating Herefordshire 9-1.

In the Staffordshire match, they twice held the lead when Paul Oldroyd won the opening set against M. Harris and again when Nicky Rayner beat S. Slater to make the score 2-1.

However, they were unable to profit from this good start, losing the next seven sets to go down to their second defeat of the season.

Their win against Herefordshire at Ross-on-Wye was their biggest of the season and it was gained by a fairly inexperienced team, with only Oldroyd having played at this level before this season. Mark and Ruth Hutchinson and Denise Hinks all had their first county win, while Johnny Collins scored his first double in only his second match. Their only defeat came when Mark Hutchinson lost to the Herefordshire No.1.

Hassy Soham took a firm grip on the Premier Division of the Halex National League with three wins since my last article.

They beat close rivals EMI Thorn Ellenborough 5-3 on the Sunday before Christmas, which was as nice a present as they could wish for. Soham omitted Paul Day, which seemed a bold decision in view of the importance of the match, but it proved a wise one as Soham took a 3-1 interval lead, with only Graham Sandley posing the home team any problems.

After the interval, Sandley completed a double with a win over Kenny Jackson, but John Souter restored the two set lead with a win over a lack lustre Colin Wilson.

Mark Mitchell beat Nicky Mason and once again the match hinged on the last set. Dave Hannah is becoming something of a master of these nerve racking finals and this time he was up against former Soham player Dave Tan. It looked like the Scot was not going to pull it off this time after crashing -6 in the first game, but amid great excitement, he clawed his way back to win 17, 16.

Their two other matches were more

mundane with Soham beating both Tibhar London and Dunlop Birmingham 8-0.

With Day now ranked fifth among the Soham squad, they are now virtually assured two sets per match and with Ormesby suffering a shock defeat to Gillette Reading, they must now be odds on favourite to retain their title.

March Halex strengthened their challenge for the runners-up spot in Division 2 North with two 5-3 wins over Bradford Hermits and Tarmac Wolverhampton II. The selection of Mick Palmer at No.4 in the Bradford match proved crucial as his first win of the season helped to give March their fourth win in the division. Stuart Palmer and Andy Withers were superb in the top half to make up for the disappointing form of Geoff Davies. Stuart beat Joe Naser and Geoff Brook, while Andy also beat Naser and Richard Whiteley.

The match against Tarmac Wolverhampton was very entertaining and lasted hours. The latest computer rankings meant a change in the order and it was Davies' return to form and to his old No. 2 spot which brought the only maximum of the match. He had an excellent win over Craig Bakewell 18 in the third and easily beat Trevor Washington.

However, it was a goodteam performance with Palmer beating Mark Evans and Withers getting the better of Steve Dunning. Mick Palmer also deserves special mention for his win over Washington, proving once again that he is far from being past his best.

In their third match of the last month, March met league leaders South Yorkshire and although losing 5-3 they gave a good account of themselves. They never really looked like winning against Chu Van Que and Chris Rogers, but they pulled off some good wins against the bottom pair of Tony Sanderson and Shaun Browne. Withers and Mick Palmer both beat Browne, while Davies was too good for Sanderson.

In my last article I referred to Davies as March skipper, when in fact it is Withers. I was duly told off, in the nicest possible way, when I officiated at the South Yorkshire match and I apologise to Andy for my error.

The Cambridge League are having their best run for years in the Wilmott Cup and they eased into the third round with a 5-1 win over Leighton Buzzard. Richardson and Davies were again in splendid form with two wins each, while Martyn Livermore chipped in with a win over Andrew Conquest.

Results (Cambridge names first):-  
K. Richardson bt R. Harmon 20. -25. 10; bt I. Doughty 14. 20.  
G. Davies bt Conquest 8. 9; bt Harmon 15. 19.  
M. Livermore lost to Doughty 19. -18. -1 7; bt Conquest 20. 17.

Unfortunately, the juniors could not emulate the seniors and they went

down 5-4 to North Herts in the Carter Cup.

Neil Burgess and Martin Rinvolucrici each won two sets, but regrettably Duncan Midgley was unable to clinch the final set against Trevor Pearson, who had also failed to win up to that stage. Results (Cambridge names first):-

N. Burgess bt T. Pearson 14. 13; bt D. Samuels 2. 14; lost to J. Walsh -9. -10.  
M. Rinvolucrici lost to Walsh -10. 19. -1 5; bt Pearson -17. 13. 16;  
bt Samuels 7. 16.  
D. Midgley lost to Samuels -13. 13. -14; lost to Walsh -11. -11;  
lost to Pearson -1 5. -1 6.

Cambridge stay top of the Newmarket Construction County League despite losing 5-4 to Ely.

Livermore was unbeaten for Cambridge, but a Kevin Gray win over Tim Ashman was their only additional win. John Ashman and Joanne Palmer won two each for Ely, with Tim Ashman winning one.

Haverhill gained their first win in this league by beating March 6-3. Peter Holliday won three for March but had no support. Kevin Kent, Dave Hinks and Robert Cushen all won two each for Haverhill. Cambridge lead the division with 18 points, with Ely second on 16. Haverhill move off bottom place with 11 points, two more than bottom team March.

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Jeremy Williams reports from . . . .

## CORNWALL BUSY PROGRAMME

After a Christmas lull, table tennis activity in Cornwall is at last hatting up again with a very busy programme of events in the near future both domestically and externally.

Performance of the month must go to the Launceston Kernow National League team that fought back from 3-0 down to record a 5-3 victory at Global Plymouth on New Year's day - an amazing result and one that has boosted the morale of the Cornish side.

### COUNTY MATCHES

DORSET II	5
CORNWALL	5

A disappointing result for the County Senior team on their trip to Bournemouth on Dec. 17 but nevertheless they did well to force a draw after being 4-1 down - much of the credit going to Alison Clemens and newcomer Gail Davies both being undefeated, Ian James and Jeremy Williams recording the other wins to capture a much needed draw.

### CORNISH INTER-TOWN LEAGUE

As with last season the Cornish Inter-Town league is proving to be just as close an affair although only 3 towns now have a realistic chance of qualifying for the final play-off in April.

Joint leaders St. Austell have certainly shown good character of late and were involved in a classic 4-4 draw at fellow title chasers Falmouth.

Barry Cornelius got St. Austell off to a good start with a win over Ian James but when James had accounted for Ritchie Bartlett and Jeremy Williams scraped home against Cornelius, Falmouth had gone 4-2 up. However, 2 amazing victories by Raymond Bunt and Tim Wiltshire over Graham Reed and Malcolm Peters respectively gave the Saints a very creditable draw ... St. Austell then followed up with a fine 6-2 win over Launceston who were at full strength for the first time this season, Bunt again showing good form to defeat Jon Woollins.

Woollins hit back from an impossible situation to defeat Cornelius but it was too late to stop St. Austell ... meanwhile, last season's champions St. Ives have been quietly clocking up the points and now find themselves just 1 point behind the leaders - they trounced lowly Helston 7-1 although Nigel Cock had an unexpected defeat at the hands of Gary Williams.

Their best result so far however was the 6-2 defeat of Redruth where John Bassett, Nigel Cock and Rodney Smith were all undefeated with "steady Eddie" Curnow losing to both Melvin Stakie and Austin "grind 'em down" Chapman ... Redruth did have a creditable 5-3 win over Launceston and although improving, Launceston need their No. 1 Woollins more regularly to maintain a challenge ... Camborne fielded a full strength side for their visit to leaders Falmouth and despite the presence of Mark James and Leon Jose, Falmouth ran out 8-0 winners with Jeremy Williams, Dennis Williams, Graham Reed and Malcolm Peters all undefeated ... another team to inflict an 8-0 defeat was Truro's team of Roger Jacobs, Ron Hill, Andrew Chudley and Mark Trebilcock who also recorded their first points in the rout against lowly Helston ... a crucial match will take place at St. Austell on March 7 when the visitors are St. Ives - the winners of which should clinch a place in the final, and can Bassett's 100% record be smashed?

#### CORNISH LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	O	L	F	A	Pts
Falmouth	4	3	1	0	23	9	7
St. Austell	4	3	1	0	20	12	7
St. Ives	4	3	0	1	22	10	6
Redruth	4	2	0	2	17	15	4
Launceston	4	1	0	3	15	17	2
Truro	3	1	0	2	13	11	2
Camborne	3	1	0	2	7	17	2
Helston	4	0	0	4	3	29	0

Results:  
Redruth 5, Launceston 3; Falmouth 4, St. Austell 4; Helston 1, St. Ives 7; St. Ives 6, Redruth 2; St. Austell 6, Launceston 2; Falmouth 8, Camborne 0; Truro 8, Helston 0.

#### T.S.B. CORNISH JUNIOR 2-STAR

The Cornwall Association are again pleased to announce a sponsorship deal with the Trustee Savings Bank to enable the 4th Cornish Junior Open to take place this season. The tournament will again be held at the Carn Brea Leisure Centre, Redruth on Saturday, March 3. Entry forms can be obtained from John Crocker at Falaise, Cliff View Road, Camborne and entries close on Feb. 23, 1984.

## LAUNCESTON KERNOW

### Recent results:-

Holts Salisbury 7, Launceston Kernow 1  
Global Plymouth 3, Launceston Kernow 5  
Launceston Kernow 5, Tarmac Ladies 3

A transformed Launceston Kernow now find themselves in fourth place in Div. 3 (West) of the Halex National League following 2 very impressive wins.

The defeat at Holts Salisbury was no surprise although the score line could easily have been 5-3 instead of 7-1 with Woollins clinching a singles. New Year's Day was never a relishing day to play table tennis particularly when Launceston went 3-0 down at Global Plymouth but heroic performances from Messrs. Bassett, Cornelius, Williams and Woollins helped to soothe Pete Hancock's headache'

### Match Scores:

M. Short bt B. Cornelius 13, 16, lost to J. Bassett -6, -19.  
G. Wiltshire bt Bassett 14, 16, lost to J. Williams -17, -16.  
T. Sweet bt J. Woollins 18, -19, 19, lost to Cornelius -15, -20.  
Mrs. E. Short lost to Williams -16, -15, lost to Woollins -18, 20, -13

The return of Bassett to the side has certainly made a difference and his services were again needed at home to Tarmac Ladies where his 2 wins over Jill Harris and Fiona Elliot secured victory, although it was not a match Barry Cornelius will want to remember'

### CORNWALL SENIOR KNOCK-OUT

The draw for the quarter-finals of the Couty Senior Cup has taken place and is as follows:-

Dereham (Truro) v Launceston D.H.S.S. 'A'  
Falmouth Docks 'A' v Helston Godolphin 'A'  
St. Ives 'A' v Redruth Highway 'A'  
Truro 'A' v St. Austell.

Malcolm Allsop reports from ....

## DERBYSHIRE

### CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

The young emerging stars shone through the gloom in the Derbyshire Closed Championships at the Alfreton Leisure Centre on Jan. 15. On a day when the local weather caused frequent lighting failures, Alan Cooke, Bradley Billington, Kerry Hall and Julie "Horizon" Billington dominated the day's play not only with fine displays, but with good manners, sportsmanship and modesty - under conditions which were a test even for experienced competitors.

Cooke won the Men's Singles, Men's and Mixed Doubles and was never in trouble. Maurice Billington used all his skill and experience in the OF to take the 2nd game but could not match Alan in the deciding game. Stephen Yallop was Alan's final opponent but rarely looked capable of retaining his title. Cooke had earlier demolished Martin Simpson 2, 5!

The Women's Singles final saw Louise Forster attacking strongly, especially in the 2nd game, against the fine defensive style of the holder, Jackie Billington, but the experience of Jackie enabled her to win.

Youth came to the fore in the Women's Doubles with Kerry Hall and Julie Billington putting out top seeds To Thuy and Louise Forster 17, -18, 19; proceeding to the final to beat the experienced pairing of Jackie Billington and Pat Thorley two-straight despite being 18-20 behind in the second.

Bradley Billington took two titles when he won both Junior Boys' Events. In the U-17, Bradley was fortunate to beat Nigel Adams in the semi-final, -1 5, 15, 22, after trailing 14-20 in the 3rd game (2 let calls because of balls entering the court working in Bradley's favour). In the other semi, Andrew Henry put out the holder, Paul Harvey, but could not quite match Bradley in the important points in the final.

Bradley was not extended by Gavin West in the U-14 Boys' final, where the major interest was in the earlier matches. Adrian Weightman was Bradley's SF victim in a match which deserved to be the final, whilst No.2 seed William Hollingworth went out in the 1st round to R. Hall who, in turn, went out to West.

In the Under-17 Girls', To Thuy beat Louise Forster to retain her title and gain revenge for defeat earlier in the Women's Singles semi-final.

M.S.: O/Fs A. Cooke bt M. Billington 9, -19, 16; D. Hinchcliffe bt D. Marples 13, 20; B. Billington bt E. Hall 16, -18, 10; S. Yallop bt T. Hunt 21, -20, 14;  
Semis: Cooke bt Hinchcliffe 6, 12; Yallop bt B. Billington 14, 19;  
Final: Cooke bt Yallop 15, 15.  
W.S.: Semis: J. Billington bt M. O'Sullivan -16, 13, 16; L. Forster bt To Thuy 18, 19;  
Final: Billington bt Forster 14, -14, 18.  
M.D.: A. Cooke/No Marples bt M. Billington/E. Hall -15, 15, 17.  
W.O.: K. Hall/Miss J. Billington bt Mrs. J. Billington/P. Thorley 17, 20.  
X.D.: Cooke/Miss Billington bt Yallop /To Thuy 7, 21.  
B.S.: B. Billington bt A. Henry 22, 15;  
G.S.: To Thuy Dung bt L. Forster 12, 15.  
C.B.S.: Billington bt G. West 11, 13;  
C.G.S.: K. Hall bt J. Forster 12, 8.  
V.S.: T. Hunt bt D. Marples 12, 15;  
C.S. N. Marples bt D. Rhodes 18, -21, 18.

The Chesterfield youngsters had another successful day at Woking in the South of England tournament with Julie Billington winning the Under-14 Girls; Kerry Hall winning the Under-12 Girls; whilst Bradley Billington was runner-up in the Cadet Boys to Sean Gibson, but successful with Gibson in winning the doubles.

Bradley's growing domination was again in evidence for Chesterfield in a 5-2 win over Derby in the Wilmott Cup, in partnership with Neil Marples and Paul Wilson.

### COUNTY TEAMS

Firstly may I point out that my criticism of the County senior team's display in a match last month was my own personal opinion. I can sympathise when the best players are not available for valid reasons, but I cannot accept the lack of effort even by second-choice players - they should put in extra effort if they wish to claim a permanent place in the team. However, a new look team, contested the match against Worcestershire to gain the first points of the season.

Cooke won both his singles and combined to win the doubles with

David Hinchcliffe. The ladies won their 3 sets despite struggling in the doubles, whilst Hinchcliffe completed a 7-3 victory in the final set. Scores:

A. Cooke bt Trevor Washington 13, 16; bt Murray Jukes 16, 14; David Rhodes lost to Simon Claxton -13, 17, -12; lost to Washington -19, -17;  
D. Hinchcliffe lost to Jukes -13, -17; bt Claxton 13, 22;  
Cooke/Hinchcliffe bt Washington/Jukes 19, -18, 16;  
To Thuy Dung bt Louise Davis 13, 13;  
Marilyn O'Sullivan bt Alison Westwood 8, 8;  
To Thuy/O'Sullivan bt Davis/Westwood 16, -17, 19;

The Juniors continued their challenge for a Premier place with a convincing 8-2 win over Cheshire. Bradley Billington and Nigel ("I played like a hero") Adams won all their sets as Derbyshire went into a 6-0 lead before good play by S. Lypnykyj and Lynne Harrison stopped the gallop slightly. Scores:

N. Adams bt Keith Weatherby 7, 17; bt S. Lypnykyj 10, 20;  
B. Billington bt Lypnykyj 15, 9; bt S. Jones -19, 19, 11;  
A. Henry bt S. Jones 14, 16; lost to Weatherby -14, -17;  
Adams/Henry bt Weatherby/Jones -21, 16, 18;  
Louise Forster bt C. Clarke 9, 15;  
Joanne Weightman lost to L. Harrison -18, -17;  
Forster/Weightman bt Clarke/Harrison -19, 14, 13;

### DERBYSHIRE INTER-TOWNS LEAGUE

Maximums for Ian Burton and Dave Fern enabled Matlock 1st to gain an 8-2 victory over Burton 1st in Division One; whilst in Div. 2 D. Kennedy and D. Lee won 2 each and combined to win the doubles for Matlock 2nd to force a 5-5 draw with Derby 2nd despite 2 wins from Wayne Glossop upon his debut.

David Greaves won his 3 for Eastwood 2nd, only for David Allison and Andrew Burton to win 2 apiece and the doubles for Chestelfield to force a draw.

In the Ladies' division To Thuy Dung won a maximum for Derby only to be thwarted by Jane Vickers and Rose Haggart winning 2 each for Burton in another 5-5 draw.

David Smedley won his singles for Derby in the Veteran Division in a close 6-4 win over Burton, with the highlight being his exciting win over Pete Bentley -1 6, 25, 17.

B. Rapley and B. Ashfield won maximums for Buxton in a surprising 8-2 victory over Chesterfield Veterans.

### BURTON LEAGUE

Sunday, Feb. 26 is the date for the Burton Individual Championships.

The Burton League hold their Scratch doubles competition at the start of March, with all players automatically entered and partners drawn out of the hat. Divisions 1 and 3 are on Tuesday, March 6; Divisions 2, 4 and 5 follow on the Wednesday evening with the Veterans taking their turn on Thursday.

The Cadet team are doing well in the Midland League having won their opening six matches, the latest being 8-2 v Grantham, 10-0 v Gainsborough and 8-2 v Leicester. Gary Knights was unbeaten in this round of matches with good support from Robert Scott-Birchall and David Staniforth.

A highly successful coaching course was run over two days during the Christmas break at the John Taylor School, Barton-under-Needwood, 22

jointly organised by the Burton League and the Staffordshire Education Committee. Coaching was organised on 18 tables under the direction of Barry Hayward, with assistance from Philip Vickers, Ian Knights, Ray Harrison, Brian Fern, Dave Fern, Alan Haynes, Terry Gadsby, Graham Carlton, Brian Watkins, Pete Gourley, Mike Cross (Tamworth) with Brian Gallet and Mark Harvey (student coaches). It is hoped to run another course in the near future - the organisation of which is a mammoth task with co-operation required from all quarters, and a big thank-you is extended to Vic Roebuck; all the coaches; the Headmaster, sports department and caretaker of the John Taylor School; and Kites Transport for the use of their vans.

Burton had a double success at the Schools Tournament held at the Hill Street Club, Burton when Gary Knights won the boys' event and David Cooke won the Consolation Singles. There were entries from Burton, Cannock, Rugeley, Tamworth and Uttoxeter, and the Staffordshire Secretary, Mr. D. A. Roberts, was in attendance. Other winners were Senior: Ian Stanley (Cannock); Intermediate: Darren Smith (Barr Beacon); Girls: Angela Harvey (Tamworth).

### BUXTON

The Buxton and North Derbyshire TTL are organising an open team handicap knock-out competition in the Pavilion Gardens, Buxton on Saturday, Feb. 18 at 11 a.m. for teams of two players.

### CHESTERFIELD

Sad news from Chesterfield is that Mick Thorley is out of the Sport through illness and is likely to be out for the rest of the season, whilst wife Pat has been out with tennis-elbow for 6 weeks. We all wish Mike a sound recovery.

### DERBY

Belated congratulations to Robert Albutt and Melanie Savage upon their engagement which took place on Dec. 31.

The Derby Individual Championships will be held on March 4.

### EASTWOOD

The Junior team in the Midland League suffered a 1-9 defeat at Stafford, but gained a 7-3 win in the home match against Rugby. Rolls Royce 'A' had an exciting match with Spondon Leisure (Derby) in the Derbyshire Challenge Cup with the outcome in doubt until the final set, but 3 steady wins for County Chairman Ernie Lough saw the Eastwood Champions home by 5-4.

### MATLOCK

In the Derbyshire Challenge Cup, Cromford Globetrotters came from 3-4 down to beat the Burton representatives, Ind Coope White, 5-4, in another exciting match. S. Waller had 3 wins and Miss K. Windsor (2) for the

Matlock team; whilst C. Martin won 2 for the Burton side, with 1 each from A. Copestake and B. Baker.

My apologies to Danny Blair for stating the Matlock Championships were on Jan. 1 when they were scheduled for Jan. 31.

John Holland reports from ....

## ESSEX

### MYSTERY SOLVED

Last month I mentioned the 'disappearing tables'. Peter Hirst has shed more light on the issue. The tables (eight Butterfly, 4 Jaques and 2 Dunlop), formerly based at Beauchamps School in Wickford, under the trusteeship, so to speak, of Ron Gore, have been re-located. They are to be found now at a number of venues in Kent and East Anglia.

Hirst says that Stuart Gibbs, the Essex coaching officer, was not invited to a meeting at which a decision about moving the tables was made. There was no such meeting. It was the judgment of Hirst that the development potential of the tables was greater at the new venues, outside Essex, than within it. The judgment was reached, somewhat surprisingly, without any consultation of the Essex Association. However, Peter points out that the tables were never under the control of the Essex Association in the first place.

It appears that there was a failure of liaison which is regrettable. There are plenty of areas of development potential for table tennis in Essex, some of them desperately in need of tables. My home town of Billericay is a good example and there are many more. It would be interesting to know against what yardstick they are less worthy than the chosen new venues, one of which is for a commercial venture in Kent. Of course, I am sure all of us in Essex wish Ron Gore well in that new enterprise.

Basildon Sports Centre is to be the venue for the Essex County Schools Individual Championships this year, on Saturday March 10. We have been fortunate in securing our County Association Chairman, Alan Shepherd, as referee. Entries close on Feb. 20 and should be sent to me at 41 Foxhunter Walk, Billericay, eM11 1DZ.

Our teams continued to do well in the County Championships last month, no doubt further inspired by the super show of our senior first team in the first Premier weekend. In senior Division 3(d) our second team defeated Cambs. 'A' 7-3 with Stuart Gibbs, Yvette Brown and Kim Mudge all unbeaten. The third team entertained Kent" in the same division. This was an experimental Essex side with Chris Knight, Mark Taylor, Cathy Eakin and Liz Hammond all making debuts. All achieved at least one win and Liz

starred in defeating K. Grant and combining with Mrs. Eakin to take the women's doubles. But the team lost 4-6!

The vets' first team had a narrow 5-4 victory over Leicestershire, thanks mainly to maxima from Stan Battrick and Maureen Pemberton. Fred Lockwood was unlucky enough to mark our last match at Berger Paints by falling and fracturing his elbow in two places during his second singles. In vets' Div. 2B the second team won handsomely, 9-0 at Gravesend against Kent II.

In Junior Div. 2(b) our first team stepped close to the Premier with two 10-0 home wins over Sussex I and Middlesex II respectively. The team for both matches was Richard Darnell, Steve Dorking, Neil Sweeting, Lisa Hayden and Tanya Holland. In Div. 3(d) the third team had a 7-3 success at home to Herts II, with a debutant Duncan Woods recording a singles win.

At the time of writing Essex teams were heading no less than five divisions in the County Championships: the senior premier (Essex I); senior 3(d) (Essex II); junior 2(b) (Essex I); junior 3(d) (Essex II); vets 2(b) (Essex II). However, there is a long way to go as our vets' second team have just demonstrated by crashing 4-5 to Herts I in the January series of matches. This leaves Sussex I as the only unbeaten team in that division, and they entertain us in what promises to be a crunch match in February.

Our leading juniors and cadets competed in the South of England Junior 2-star at Woking. There was an encouragingly heavy entry and I was heartened, particularly, to see 49 hopefuls in the cadet girls' singles and even 21 in the under-12 girls' event. This is well above par and long may it continue. Essex pride of place went to the consistent Richard Darnell who reached the semi - of the boys' singles - defeating David Rook (Yorks) in the last eight - before losing at nineteen in the third to eventual winner, Adrian Dixon of Staffs. David Cole was also in spanking form, despatching Dorset's talented Rodney Thomas in the last sixteen before falling to Andrew Cunningham (Kent) in the quarters.

Sarah George also gave a good account of herself in the Cadet Girls' singles in defeating two girls ranked above her in the national list - Louise Sherratt (Salop) and our own Joanne Cook ("deuce" in the third). This should place her close to Joanne and within striking distance of the top ten.

Jill Powis had the narrowest of escapes against Alison Boxall (Herts) in the last 16, then defeated our top girl, Lisa Hayden (two-straight but 19 in the second) in the quarter-final of the girls' singles. Tanya Holland fell to losing finalist Joanne Shaw in the last 16, following a good win over Rachel Knight (Middx). In the Cadet singles, Tanya beat England No. 4 cadet,

Amanda Shufflebotham, in the last eight but fell "deuce" in the third to eventual winner, Julie Billington, in the semi. She had the consolation of winning the Cadet girls' doubles title partnered by Amanda Shufflebotham (Oxon).

In the National League Div. 2(S), Dagenham F.C. tightened their grip further by completing an 8-0 double over Witham F.C. in the Essex derby at Victoria Rd. Both Nicky Standen and Peter Hayden extended Dave Newman to a third game but Witham were overwhelmed. They are still looking for their first win and it will be a struggle to stave off the drop.

I should like to extend warmest congratulations to our General Secretary Mrs. Valerie Roffe on achieving the status of National Umpire.

In future notes I hope to feature championship struggles in the top divisions of Essex Leagues. League reps can write to me or phone Billericay 59634 if they want to be included.

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Alf Pepperd reports from.....

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

I write these notes in early January but as we are on the threshold of a new year my thoughts are somewhat intermingled by certain events that have taken place in the past year.

A very sensible letter from Stuart A. Greenberg of Southgate, London in December's T.T. News implying that all table tennis bats should be standardised: - "A wonderful thought", NAY IDEA. Unfortunately commercialism just would not let it happen, so we are far more likely to advance into 1984 with a series of weird bats etc., that the good gentleman mentions. In some league matches now, if a player turns up with a non-sponge pimped rubber type Barna bat, one often hears "Which 'ark did you get that from?", or similar words of blunt annoyance or jest. Quite frequently young sponge bat players cannot master the skill of these old style bats, (nor sometimes the old timers that use them).

Many years ago, when sponge first became legal I wrote in a local paper: "The best place for sponge was in the bathroom". A local International player who was in the top 3 in England at the time persuaded me to move with the times, "and take it out of the bathroom". I did and at my very low level of play have been using sponge ever since.

No, Mr. Greenberg, even the E.T.T.A., I fear, has capitulated to commercialism, THEY HAVE NO OPTION.

Gloucestershire, my main topic would unquestionably be the formation of the, "Capital Providence County Premier League". It is, in its own right, a unique form of table tennis League. I wonder, as a point of interest, how

many more counties have one based on similar lines?

Ours copes for the best 18 players throughout the County who are available and willing to play, plus a substantial few more held as reserves. All these players have every cause to thank John Boyd (Chairman of the League) and Peter Cruwys (Referee) for the exemplary hard work that they have put in. It's gone down exceptionally well and apart from this report I hear that the League is travelling to The Cotswold Leisure Centre at Cirencester for its 1st match session in 1984. This, in fact, will be the first time that it has played outside the precincts of Gloucester City where to date it has played three times. Going to Cirencester on the basis of "Have League will travel", could well renew enthusiasm in that fair Cotswold town where table tennis once flourished. There is no official League in Cirencester so perhaps playing a whole CPL session there, WHO KNOWS, it just might trigger something off. Spectator-wise it has not attracted much attention in Gloucester, but of course this is relevant to the age we live in.

To me an equal factor of importance is how well our Senior County team are doing this season, even if it's "in Div. 3C. We've had one or two close encounters but to date of writing are unbeaten. Paul Jackson (our current County Champion) in November went through a very sticky period, although on the tournament scene he appeared to do quite well. I was delighted to see Paul rise to the occasion the following month to produce play more in line with his No. 83 ranking. Overall regarding the men possibly the most consistent player in the team has been Darren Griffin. He has made the transition from Junior to Senior very well.

Nina Tsakarisanos has been plagued with re-occurring back trouble and had to pull out of two County matches prior to Christmas. We all sincerely hope that these troubles will cease to follow Nina into 1984.

### County Match Gloucestershire v Oxfordshire, Seniors.

This was our final match prior to the festive season and we faced Oxfordshire (minus Nina) with a certain amount of trepidation. Our men had no fears at all and proved this by winning all their sets. Oxfordshire's women, however, proved far too good and won their sets hands down. Result: - Glos 7, Oxon 3.

Scores (Oxfordshire names first): -  
A. Chilvers lost to D. Griffin -9, -9;  
R. Denbow lost to Griffin -8, -9;  
B. Hamilton lost to A. Golding -13, -15;  
Chilvers lost to Golding -10, 22, -4;  
Denbow lost to P. Jackson -6, -11;  
Hamilton lost to Jackson -16, -22;  
Denbow/Chilvers lost to Griffin/Golding -9, -19;  
M. Denbow/S. Haddrell bt C. Iacopi/H. Colwill 13, 15;  
Haddrell bt Colwill 17, 16;  
M. Denbow bt Iacopi 15, -18, 13.

### COUNTY JUNIORS

This team is having its fair share of ups and downs. The Selectors are now unable to call on Arron Beckett, the

County No. 1, for away matches, this being no fault of Arron-s. The ever increasing pressure upon Juniors with O and A levels takes its toll, and much as I love the game, youngsters and the wishes of their parents over school work MUST COME FIRST, even before table tennis or the Selectors and their wishes.

At the last match v Hertfordshire, played at home, we managed to hold the visitors to a welcome draw. Like the Seniors, it was the boys that did all the work with two singles each from Beckett and David Smith plus the doubles. Craig Saunders, the No. 3, is finding it hard but it's his first season in the team and Craig tries very hard. His day, I'm sure, will come.

On the Stroud League report in my December jottings I did mention a few words of praise for the coaching abilities of Nailsworth's Trevor Golding. One of my Stroud reporters 007½ Alan Lardner quite rightly points out that I might inadvertently have discredited the work of Alan Giles (Stroud's Chief Coach) and his coaching Committee:- Ray Westbury, Keith Simmonds and Nigel Ross. To the contrary gentlemen, I was referring to Trevor's work in Nailsworth, especially at the Boys' Club.

Still with Stroud, I am in receipt of a letter from my friend David Lomas who is the Press Officer for The English Schools T.T.A. David informs me that the three Regional Finals of the Schools are due to take place on Sunday, Feb. 26 and that the Midlands and West Region Finals are due to be held at Stroud Leisure Centre on that date.

Gloucestershire Selectors meet on three occasions each year to formulate County Rankings. And if any Official or Player thinks that this is an easy Job think again! Wesat last year a few days only before the deadline (1-1-84), upon the second lot of rankings. When the first lists were published they created quite a lot of interest and also involved players in considerable controversy. The Selection Committee are hoping that this second list will have the same effect, but it should be emphasised that these lists reflect players' efforts outside their local League and County and are not compiled by results between each other in domestic competition.

CODE:- G = Gloucester, S = Stroud, C = Cheltenham

MEN		WOMEN	
1. Darren Griffin (G)	1. Nina Tsakarisanos (G)	1. Julie Bearcroft (C)	1. Jenny Ellery (G)
2. Paul Jackson (G)	2. Christine Iacopi (G)	2. Clare Symonds (G)	2. June Hall (C)
3. Andrew Golding (S)	3. Cathy Robb (C)	3. Heather Colwill (G)	3. Janet Brier (C)
4. Steve Moreman (G)	4. Heather Colwill (G)	4. Jenny Ellery (G)	4. Carol Slack (C)
5. Martin Lane (G)	5. Jenny Ellery (G)	5. Julie Bearcroft (C)	
6. William Dawe (G)	6. Julie Bearcroft (C)	6. Clare Symonds (G)	
7. Graham Slack (C)	7. Clare Symonds (G)	7. June Hall (C)	
8. Sylvester Callum (C)	8. June Hall (C)	8. Janet Brier (C)	
9. Frank Jones (C)	9. Janet Brier (C)		
10. Paul Tsakarisanos (G)	10. Carol Slack (C)		

BOYS		GIRLS	
1. Arron Beckett (G)	1. Jenny Ellery	1. Jenny Ellery	1. Jenny Ellery
2. David Smith (G)	2. Carol Slack	2. Carol Slack	2. Carol Slack
3. Craig Saunders (G)	3. Clare Symonds (G)	3. Clare Symonds (G)	3. Clare Symonds (G)
4. Tony Wilson (G)	4. Suzanne Webley (S)	4. Suzanne Webley (S)	4. Suzanne Webley (S)
5. Dale Saunders (G)	5. Nicola Clark (C)	5. Nicola Clark (C)	5. Nicola Clark (C)
6. Howard Williams (S)	6. Dawn Boles (e)	6. Dawn Boles (e)	6. Dawn Boles (e)
7. Martin Stephenson (C)	7. Heather Penfold (G)	7. Heather Penfold (G)	7. Heather Penfold (G)
8. Atul Patel (G)	8. Anita Wyeman (G)	8. Anita Wyeman (G)	8. Anita Wyeman (G)
9. Neil Gingell (S)	9. Jenny Egan (e)	9. Jenny Egan (e)	9. Jenny Egan (e)
10. Alistair Black (C)	10. Elisabeth Turner (e)	10. Elisabeth Turner (e)	10. Elisabeth Turner (e)

## LENTEC RANKINGS

Nice to see the following mentioned:- Nina Tsakarisanos at No. 18. Jackson (83), Slack (114), Moreman (116), and Griffin (150).

In the Junior field:- Jenny Ellery (60), Beckett (50), Smith (48), Saunders (104), and Cadets:- Saunders (13), Williams (23), Gingell (68).

Hope that I have not missed anybody out.

## LOCAL INDEPENDENT RADIO-SEVERN-SOUND

In the first week of January, I celebrated three years of continuous table tennis broadcasting. To date this season I have done 15 weekly 4 minute broadcasts and have personally interviewed Father Aiden Murray, Sports master of nearby Blaisden Hall School; at the County Premier League 3rd Session:- Steve Moreman, Sylvester Callum, Andrew Golding and Chief Referee, Peter Cruwys, and finally to date, John Bunn our County Chairman who has just celebrated a full year in office. It is surprising how many table tennis people who seem reluctant to face the microphone. But there it is, we are not all made alike and perhaps a jolly good job too.

It now seems likely that the popular, "Newent Invitation Tournament" will not run this year, which would be a pity. It was a great little local tourney. I shall miss it.

Work on the Rudford & Highleadon T.T.C.'s new building goes on, the actual opening date being fixed for June 22. As I mentioned in November a high-ranking Official of the E.T.T.A. has kindly offered his services to perform the opening ceremony.

Reference Stroud's Schools, with the season now past the half-way stage, matches have taken place in both Junior and Senior Sections of this new venture by the Stroud & District League.

Problems have been experienced with the Senior Section with Marling withdrawing, and Manor's position being somewhat unsure.

It has been said that transport is the major obstacle but it does seem a great pity that early interest has not matured because a responsible person has not come forward to run the team.

Tables to date:-

Senior Section	P	W	I	Pt.
Sir William Romney	3	1	2	11
Highwood	1	1		10
Archway	2	1		9

Junior Section	P	W	I	Pt.
Minchinhampton	3	2		14
Parliament Street	2	1		11
Chalford	1	1		9
Nailsworth C of E	2		2	6
				5/1/84



John Prean looks.....

## Beyond the ISLE OF WIGHT

### WIDER SCENE

When I started this column, numerous friends asked me not to make it yet another local column, but to write about the wider scene which I was in a unique position to witness as I took part in many of the big events all over the country. This is what I have tried to do. I have covered a vast variety of subjects and events. I have been accused at times of publicising my son when I tried to err in the opposite direction. To his exploits in the World and Commonwealth Championships (some 35 victories in all) I gave 1½ column inches, the size of a very meagre small ad. I became the target of the anti-funny-rubber brigade. This surprised me, because I thought that issue had been settled by recent legislation - not to MY satisfaction, but you can't win them all. I always felt that it was the fast, rather than the slower rubbers that were damaging rallies, Hilton I thought 'the greatest' after he won the European and I always thought Johnson and Barr very good to watch.

From time to time I read that you only had to pick up one of those black rubbers and at once your game would improve by 5 points. That was not my experience. My sheet very quickly was discarded. A year later it was picked up by a 10-year-old Carl. He was then No. 5 Cadet in England and at the end of the season such was his magical improvement that he was still No.5. A season later he was No.2, but 3 of his rivals had moved into a higher age group which is one of the charms of the junior game. He never got credit for most of his wins which were always attributed to the funny bat and at both 15 and 16 he was written off as it was felt that impending legislation would finish him.

If he had a bad day, knowing glances were exchanged. The funny rubber had been mastered. If he won, it had not. It never occurred to anybody to assume that he was quite a good player. Cries of 'Cheat and Con Men' too have recently been heard, accusations that the Establishment itself was at the mercy of the manufacturers' vested interests. In short, one lived in an era of prejudice and ignorance in which those who knew least felt equipped to say most.

I have hammered at many doors in my time. Sometimes one or two opened and let in a little light and that has encouraged me to go on. One of my causes for many years has been that of a higher net to encourage longer rallies and to make bang-bang table tennis less successful. This would favour crowd pleasing players like Surbek, Jonyer and Secretin and at home Parker and Sandley. It would not favour my son, who keeps the ball

rather low, but I have work-ed in this cause for many years, most recently on the Overseas Service of the BBC where I delivered a talk on this topic. My support of the combination bat was based on its use by some very attractive players (Hammersley-Parker, Jonyer and the ones already mentioned). I rather resent being told that it was due to family reasons.

The New Year started well- with a trip to Reading where I saw three National League matches staged in the same arena before a good and enthusiastic crowd. The main feature on paper appeared only moderate with two teams who had little to play for, being out of the prize money and relegation danger, the local Gillette Club and Jaques Generation. It turned out a splendid match which did not let all those supporters down. During the interval they could watch John Hilton and Karen Witt on one of the outside courts. The issue was in doubt till the end. Jaques were fortunate to have Tony Clayton who won both his sets, whose play I enjoy more every time I see it. He returns what seem to be winners with seemingly effortless ease. He told me he had just dropped from No. 42 to No.47 in the rankings although he had won every set he had played during that period, eloquent commentary on the system which encourages quantity at the expense of quality.

I continue to favour a system that lists only the dozen or so best performances of the season. When a Clayton appears at No.47 something is wrong.

I hope I may mention that the Bradbury/Prean set was also a good one in which both players returned balls we all thought had gone for winners, sometimes several times in one rally.

Our county team scored its second win of the season, defeating Somerset II. The Daly/Prean double act plus home advantage was a great help and Roger Hookey won his first for the county. We now hope it will be one of many. We nearly got the Women's doubles, but were in the singles. It may have been Joy Batten's last match for the county. No, not a combination bat, just a very old hard one. How do you replace such rubber with many years' wear and how do you get it off the bat? A well known German player (Udo Lang) had the same problem and dyed one side of his bat. It ended up mottled. The sets he won were awarded to the other side as was the whole match. I have no news yet of the next chapter. Whether the Sport grew in stature as a result others may decide.

Doreen Levy reports from ....

## KENT SPECTATORS ABOUND

The Division 2B County Championships match Kent versus Wiltshire attracted no less than 120 spectators, this being due to local advertising and to Radio Kent, the onlookers being rewarded with a 6-4 victory for the home team. Teams were:-  
Kent: David Dodd, John Burleton, Gary Spencer, Juliet Houghton and Carol Spain.

Wiltshire: Kevin Satchell, Kevin Edwards, Steve McBean, Claire Maisey and Janet Parker.

Sets of the night were the ones between Dodd and Satchell, which produced many long rallies with David the winner, and the Juliet Houghton/Clair Maisey encounter both girls giving impressive performances with Juliet taking the set 18 in the third.

Prior to, against Avon, Kent achieved a similar result. The senior 2nd team beat Cambridgeshire II 7-3 but the second Juniors after leading 4-1 were held to a 5-5 draw by Suffolk at Ipswich.

In the Carter Cup competition East Kent Youth were beaten 5-4 by Reading but mention must be made of Karl Ball's win over Paul Savins which was a good achievement. Michael Rutherford lost to Savins -17 in the third. It was a most enjoyable match and the hospitality afforded by Hodders was much appreciated.

Tunbridge Wells "A" are leading Div. 1 of the Kent Junior League with 8 pts, M. Williams being their key player with only two losses to date. Tonbridge "A" are in second place with 5 pts, Juliet Houghton being successful in eleven of her twelve sets. 12-year-old brother Andrew is in second place. Final session is on Feb. 12 with divisional singles in the afternoon.

In Div. 2 Thanet hold a narrow 1 pt lead over Maidstone with J. Ferguson 100%. Woolwich "C" lead Div. 3 with 7 pts, one more than Bromley "A".

In the South of England Junior 2-Star, Kent's Andy Cunningham disappointingly lost to up-and-coming Adrian Dixon of Staffs in the final of the boys' singles, Dixon being seeded No.8. Juliet Houghton reached the quarters of the girls' singles and with Surrey's Claire Brooks lost in the final of the doubles to Lesley Souter and Joanne Shaw.

Karl Ball and Chris Bartram lost 21-23 in the third to top seeds David Rook and Martin Firth of Yorkshire in the boys' doubles final.

Pauline Long reports from ....

## NORTHUMBERLAND LOCAL DERBY

The Northumberland senior County team were held to a 5-5 draw by Durham in the local derby match on Dec. 17 at Byker Community Centre. Peter McQueen was unfortunately unable to play and Eddie Smith was

drafted into the Side for his senior debut, but was unsuccessful, although he did give Darren McVitie a very close game. Ian Robertson and Neil McMaster each won a singles, and Clare Mouzon and Caron Buglass were yet again unbeaten in both singles and doubles. Results (Northumberland names first):

Ian Robertson lost to Tony Gelder -18, 16, -14; bt Darren McVitie 19, -19, 20.  
Neil McMaster lost to Gelder -17, 11, -17; bt David Blackburne -15, 13, 17.  
Eddie Smith lost to McVitie -11, 8, -18; lost to Blackburne -12, -16.  
Robertson/McMaster lost to McVitie/Blackburne -17, -19.  
Clare Mouzon bt Lynne Yarnell 10, 9.  
Caron Buglass bt Joan Suddick 20, 16.  
Mouzon/Buglass bt Yarnell/Suddick 19, 15.

This result means that Northumberland are currently in second place in Div. 3A, but they have played one more match (five) than anyone else.

Meanwhile, the junior team continued their winning ways when they trounced Nottinghamshire 10-0. This victory ensures that they remain at the top of Div. 3A, and they must be in with a great chance of winning the championship, which is all the more to their credit when one considers that their No.1, Eddie Smith, has not been able to play in a single match this season due to work commitments. Results (Northumberland names first):-

Keith Patterson bt Tim Sheppard 11, 16; bt Adrian Bolton 9, -17.  
Peter Curry bt Sheppard 10, -19, 13; bt Robert Fearn 17, 14.  
Thomas Blackman bt Bolton 9, 13; bt Fearn 18, 14.  
Curry/Blackman bt Sheppard/Bolton, 17, -15, 22.  
Clare Mouzon bt Kay Myall 14, 14.  
Denis Campbell bt Beverly Arnatt 7, 10.  
Mouzon/Campbell bt Mayall/Arnatt 14, 11.

Byker Newcastle at last gained their first point in the National League when they drew 4-4 with Reading at Eldon Square. They can now face 1984 with a little more confidence, and it is hoped that this could be a turning point in their National League performances.

The Northumberland League team, who have done so well in the Wilmott Cup in recent years, made their exit this year at the first time of asking when they were defeated 5-3 by the Stockton League.

The first half of the Northumberland League season was completed during the week ending Dec. 16, and recommenced after the Christmas and New Year break on Monday, Jan. 9. Two players, T. Taylor (Post Office 'A') in Div. 3C, and Bill Hodgson (Norland Road 'B') in Div. 4 still have 100% averages. Leading teams in each Division are as follows:-

Premier Division: Washington 'A' and Byker CC 'A'.  
Div. 1: Washington 'B' and Byker CC 'C'.  
Div. 2A: Byker CC 'E' and Whitehouse Lane 'A'.  
Div. 2B: Wansbeck and B.S.R.A. 'A'.  
Div. 3A: Gladstone Terrace 'B' and Mortimer Road.  
Div. 3B: *Duston* CC 'C' and St. Charles 'A'.  
Div. 3C: North Fire 'B' and Telephones 'A'.  
Div. 4: Newcastle YMCA 'C' and Dunston Hill 'B'.

Gerry Chapmen reports from ....

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CADET STRENGTH IN DEPTH

Our Senior County side of Robert Watson, Trevor Kerry, Richard Tilford, Cheryl Buttery and Pauline Simpson held Leicestershire to a 5-all draw

whilst the Junior team, undertaking the long haul to Northumberland, were humbled 10-0.

Nottin,gham's strength for the future would appear to lie with the cadets from whose ranks Adrian Bolton, Robert Fearn and John Holland beat Loughborough 10-0. A similar result was obtained against Leicester when Kevin Flynn replaced Bolton, then the team of Bolton, Fearn and Flynn accounted for Grantham 9-1.

The Cadet "B" side drew 5-5 with Chesterfield with Garry Sheppard winning three and Richard Grant one. Tommy Oldham, without success, had to contest the last set losing, -24, 22, -24 to Kurt Hutson. But Tommy made amends in his next match winning three, as did Robert Yong and Ashley Hewes, in the 10-0 defeat of Lincoln. Still on 100% are Bolton, Fearn, Holland and Yong.

Success has also come to Notts veterans playing in the County Championships Premier Division. Travelling to Berkshire on Dec. 17 they came away with a 5-4 win, after 4½ hours, with John Ellis involved in two expedite sets, winning one. Pat Hammond won her singles and partnered Alan Jesson for a mixed success but, not to be outgunned, Ron Bolton won both his singles, his second in the last set which secured the Notts victory.

#### A.G.M. PROBLEM

At the next AGM of the Notts & Dist ITA one of many propositions will be "That the Association reverse the present divisions of 1A-1 Z so that the composition of the league for 84/85 season shall consist of a Premier Division then Divisions 1 to 14 or as many as necessary."n

Many players disagree with the present format but have problems in saying so at meetings. It does not lend itself to good competition when you have two first divisions 1A and 1Z etc. Why not take the first six from each division and make one first division which will give a better playing standard and solve the promotion and relegation issues?

My personal point of view of the relegation problem is that should a team be relegated, that team, plus all players registered for it, cannot play in the same division the following season. I have seen players from relegated clubs playing in the same division the following season having changed clubs to achieve this and THAT'S NOT CRICKET.

A team or players relegated will add strength to the division relegated to. On the other side of the coin (and the only one) for those in favour of 1A-1 Z to 6A-6Z is that young players gain promotion twice as fast (no arguments) but to counter this any player showing real ability is invited to join a club in the Premier Division. To prove a point one third of the players in the Nottingham League's Premier Division

are aged between 14 and 22.

#### NATIONAL YMCA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Make a note in your diary for April 28/29 this year when these championships will be held. They are eagerly awaited by last year's champions, Sunderland, and just as keenly by the runners-up, Wimbledon. The senior event is very keenly contested but, sadly, the junior event with only 3 or 4 entries is in danger of going under and I appeal to club leaders to make every effort to send a junior side. Last season Wimbledon were the champions with Chesterfield the runners-up. Women may compete but must be bona fide YMCA or YWCA members. Nottingham YMCA is hosting this year's championships and entry forms can be obtained from your YMCA or from me.

#### MANPOWER SERVICES COMMISSION

This pilot scheme, as reported briefly in December, has now really taken off thanks mainly to Geoff Huckstep (Notts County Council). Once a group is established a leader or worker within the group keeps the scheme in motion and the co-ordinator Gordon Fearn arranges for demonstrations and coaching etc. Notts CC masterminds the scheme setting targets for the various groups and, at the end, pupils take a Bronze Award. Groups are now in being in Nottingham, Newark, Worksop, Retford and Mansfield. The respective leaders are Andy Lever, Barry Hilton, Keith Marvin, Dave Shelley and Alison Robinson.

From the Mansfield No.2 Bulletin I read that Mansfield Hospitals "A" lead the Premier Division, Opencast Exec "A" lead Div. 2 and DHSS Sutton "B", Div.3.

Obviously the highlight of the season of any association must be the hosting of a European League match and congratulations go to the Mansfield Asscn on their excellent promotion of the England v Yugoslavia encounter. It was said that tickets were not going very well but my eyes did not deceive me on the night with no seat unoccupied.

Due thanks to Messrs Douglas, Sandley and Cooke, together with Joy Grundy, for a most enjoyable evening, the icing on the cake being the end result of 4-3 to England.

On the National League front, Nottingham Racket Sense lost their unbeaten record when beaten by Norwich Foxwood but still top the division. The defeat will certainly make Terry Bull only more determined to be in the second division next season even if it means calling on reserve Denis Neale to make a comeback!

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Gerald Green reports from . . .

## SHROPSHIRE

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

A hard fought draw and two convincing New Year wins keep Grove at the top of the First Division.

They came back from the brink of defeat at St. Neots with Malcolm Green winning the all important last set to retain the Drayton side's unbeaten record. John Hilton hammered both Keith Richardson and Peter Taylor in straight games but a slightly below par Phil Bowen, although fighting hard, lost close sets against Mick Harper and Richardson. Grove were trailing 2-4 and things looked rather bleak, but Steve Scowcroft to his credit never gave ground and with a barrage of top spin drives reduced Steven Moore's game to shreds and the fight back was under way. Green returned to the table with the pressure on to win, and rose to the occasion. By using changes of pace he never allowed Harper to settle and a straight games victory secured the draw.

New Year's day - what a day to play table tennis - saw Grove make the best possible start to the second half of the season when they beat Gillette Reading 8-0. Scowcroft, in typical determined mood, started Grove's string of successes on the Reading Club's table. He hammered Karen Witt in straight games. Hilton continued in fine style and demolished England Junior Champion Andrw Syed. Green proved too strong for Jimmy Stokes and Bowen was a class above Paul Savins. Hilton grabbed two more points for Grove when he defeated Karen Witt. Hilton's changes from defence to attack being crucial. Bowen was in fine form and he used his range of topspin strokes to good effect against Syed and the rout was completed by Scowcroft and Green who had comfortable wins against Stokes and Savins respectively.

Another resounding win - 7-1 against Byker, Newcastle - followed. Hilton gave the home side the start they needed with a straight games win over Tony Gelder. Scowcroft followed by beating Benny Robertson in three after losing the first. Alan Hammett had no answer to Bowen's topspin and Green continued the surge with a straight games win over Nigel Jobling. Hilton made the points safe for Grove when he beat Robertson in a hard match. Scowcroft then beat Jobling with a hard hitting display before Gelder caused the only upset with a win over Bowen. Green concluded the match by beating Hammett in two comfortable games.

Nice to see that all the team have gone up the list in the New Year Rankings just issued. Hilton 5 to 4. Scowcroft 37 to 34. Bowen 52 to 41. Green 73 to 59.

In Div. 3 (West) Grove 2 were beaten 1-7 at home by a strong Hereford Times Team. Stan Deakin gave the Drayton side a 1-0 lead by

beating Michael Owens but the next seven went to Hereford. Keith Sillitoe extended Mark Owen to a close third game. Colin Wilson fell narrowly to Murray Jukes and Joe Deakin extended Andrew Castle to three, but in the end it has to be said that Times were easy winners.

### TOURNAMENTS

Nice to be able to report titles for Grove players at Open Tournaments.

Wilson hit splendid form to record his first ever 'open' title by winning the boys' singles event at Merseyside's Halton Junior Open. The Grove player reached the third round with ease with an impressive victory over Lancashire's David Carse. Wilson continued his good form with a hammering of Gloucester's Dale Saunders and No. 3 seed Bernie Wentworth of Cheshire. The final provided Wilson with a tough opponent in the form of Yorkshire's Chris Oldfield, but the Grove boy rose to the occasion and gave Oldfield a straight games beating which gave him the title without the loss of a game.

Scowcroft was at his brilliant best to win the Pontefract Open. He comfortably reached the semi-finals where he faced Stephen Sharpe who, one round earlier had disposed of No.1 seed and fellow Yorkshireman Steve Mills. Scowcroft never gave Sharpe the chance to play his game and quick attacking strokes secured the Grove player's victory. In the final Mick Stead of Yorkshire (who had beaten Kevin Beadsley) had no answer to Steve's barrage of heavy topspin and fell in straight sets to give the Grove player the title.

In partnership with Sharpe Steve then completed a highly successful day by winning the men's doubles - beating Beadsley and Stead in the final.

### MIDLAND LEAGUE

Telford Veterans are having a good run in Div. 2 of the Midland League. After losing their first match of the season they have now won five consecutive matches and must be in with a chance of promotion. Averages - M. Beaman 15/1 8, J. Holding 11/1 8, N. Maycock 5/1 8.

Telford 'A' are also in line for promotion having lost only once, with the team of G. White, D. Elkin and M. Langford recently recording a convincing 7-3 victory over Loughborough.

Telford 'B' have struggled a bit, but their team of R. Fettis, D. Russell and G. Clibborn have now recorded their first victory - an 8-2 win over Leamington 'B'.

The last fixture of the current season sees the 'A' and 'B' teams clash at Albrighton Table Tennis Club.

### CHRISTMAS COMPETITION AT GROVE

Collette Soan hit her best form to take the Div. 1 title in the Grove Association's Christmas Competition.

She scored wins over Alison Durber, Dawn Wickstead and Ray Gibson.

Neil Ma"rtin confirmed his undoubted talent by winning the Div. 2 title with an excellent win over Ian Corcoran in a high class three game final.

Lawrence Davis celebrated his 12th birthday in fine style to win Div. 3. David Evans was his victim in the final.

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Jack Chalkley reports from ....

## STAFFORDSHIRE

### TABLES TURNED

Following the surprise win of our senior side over Yorkshire at the first Premier weekend, unfortunately the tables were turned in no uncertain manner when we met the same county at the Junior Premier weekend. This was quite a setback and disappointment to our young side which, at the start, had hopes of doing well in their first season in the Premier. An earlier disappointment was the omission of Kevin Cartwright from the side. Kevin, who had made such a significant contribution to gaining promotion last year, declined to join the team for reasons of his own - all of which I find difficult to understand. In his place we took Kevin Lawrence and Stephen Meigh to join the established members - Richard Hayward, Adrian Dixon, Jill Powis and Amanda Hegarty.

Hayward and Amanda Hegarty gained our only successes in our 8-2 trouncing by Yorks. Meigh came in to replace Lawrence in the second match against Kent and from a 4-1 deficit we recovered to draw 5-5. We might even have won with a little luck in the boys' doubles in which we went down 25-23 in the third. Hayward again did well with two singles wins, Dixon took one singles and the girls each won their singles. The team were obviously recovering its form and finished the weekend with a 6-4 win over fancied Berkshire. Hayward, Dixon, Lawrence and Hegarty had singles wins and with both the doubles going our way we kept open the possibility of a top position when the final reckoning comes.

The latest National rankings show Staffs. players reaching their highest positions. Jill Harris goes up to No.7, Fiona Elliot is at No. 10 in her first season as a senior and Andrew Bellingham moves from the low forties to No. 23. These are splendid rankings and congratulations to all three.

Younger players are also well to the fore. Adrian Dixon won the South of England Two-Star Junior title and at the same event Garry Knights won the Under-12 title. Garry is ranked 6 at County cadet level, but he has two more years at under-12 so has plenty of time to move up the rankings even if the current ones are controversial, as some in the County think. Our No. 1

cadet girl, Helen Lower, continues to add to her collection of honours, the Runcorn One-Star title being the latest addition, despite competition from top cadets Claire Potts and Andrea Holt.

In the County Championships the senior B side lost a close match against Yorkshire seconds at Norton. At 4-4 Rachel Roberts came up against the experienced Helen Shields. The score of 18, -22, -19 speaks for itself and a small slice of luck could so easily have given us a point. Stan Deakin was the star in winning both his singles, Fiona Elliot also won her singles and mark Evans and John Hancock paired up to win the men's doubles.

Our junior seconds travelled to Wisbech to *score* a good win against Cambs. II after a shaky start. A feature of the match was the excellent performance by new boy Ian Miller who won both his singles. Neil Harris and Stephen Slater each notched up a singles, Angela Sanders and Helen Lower won their singles and doubles and the boys' doubles gave us a final 8-2 victory.

In view of past problems with the clash of holidays with the early season trials, the Selection Committee wish it to be known that the 1984/85 pre-season trials will be held during the weekend of 8/9th Sept. I don't know how many of our players read Table Tennis News or this column, but it will be interesting to see whether this piece of information is noted and remembered. This might be an appropriate point at which to put in a plug for TIN. We now have just the 'official' magazine and I see no reason why all those interested in table tennis should not buy a copy. Certainly all clubs should have one copy at least. It makes good reading, if only to keep abreast of the funny bat controversy and associated arguments. Particularly interesting in the December issue was Stuart Greenberg's letter. He makes a lot of sense and his views on restoring table tennis fortunes are, I feel, nearer the mark than those of John Prean. We could do with reading a few other people's views on these subjects. I'm sure John means well, but for a magazine covering a national sport, we do have rather a surfeit of reports, articles and letters from John.

With both Bill Bridgeman Paul Dilger away from the Stafford scene, the only other County-ranked Stafford player, Bob Murray, has limited competition and leads the individual Stafford averages at the half-way stage with a 100% record. Tony Murrell, Phil Birchall, Martin Pickles and John Taylor are in the 90 per cents and County Junior Adrian Hough follows close behind. County cadet No.1, Nigel Tongue, has made splendid progress in this his second season in the first division, and has a 70% record. To give a mention to those in the lower divisions, Alan Povey (2nd),

Jack Royle (3rd) and Avtar Singh (4th) head the averages for their divisions.

Understandably, the RAF team of Bob Murray, Phil Birchall and Rachel Roberts (guest players are obviously allowed) head the first division with Trades and Labour "B" and "O" sides fighting it out with MESC "A" for second spot.

Entry forms for the Malcolm Scott Restricted have gone out. This event will be held on Feb. 12 at the Woodfield Club in Wolverhampton, although it may be that this magazine will not reach you in time to let you know of this date. Don Pritchard is again running the Beattie Handicap event, and the finals are due to be played on March 25, also at the Woodfield.

Graham Povey, County coaching secretary, informs me that a training programme for club and school teacher coaches is due to start in February. Schools' secretary David Roberts has been largely instrumental in demonstrating the need for this programme, and we all wish it well. I am pleased to see Tamworth continuing to be at the forefront at junior level, with a junior rally to be held in February.

Finally, may I return to the subject of the fortunes of table tennis in this country and of table tennis players at the top, to give a brief personal comment. To make money, the game has to develop spectator appeal and top players, if they want to make a career out of the game, must realise that this is a top priority. The appeal has to be wider than the small bunch of enthusiasts which form the audience at most table tennis events. I personally enjoy watching most levels, particularly county standard where some really attractive and exciting table tennis is played, but I must say that I hesitate to take along any of my non-table tennis friends, for the simple reason that table tennis, in its present form, is not attractive to them. From past experience, many of them find the knock-up before the match the most interesting part of the whole show. Why? Well here we have two players combining to show off their skills of speed and ball control, helping each other to put on a first class mini exhibition. In complete contrast to what is seen in a funny bat encounter, for example.

To these spectators, the most outstanding table tennis event in the last few years was the Jacques Secretin circus, part of which was seen on television. Why don't we see more top players travelling the country giving this sort of entertainment. I'm not suggesting this should replace the competitive game. Far from it. The game would become sterile without it, but the entertainment side could be just what is needed to widen interest, create characters in the game and lead spectators into becoming a little more

knowledgeable and, attracted to the competitive side. Perhaps players are too mesmerised by the need to gather points for their National ranking, spending all their time on the tournament circuit and the National League with this in mind. And so few of them seem to enjoy their table tennis either. In fact there is usually much more enjoyment at club level, a fact which makes that grade of table tennis often much more enjoyable to watch.

Let us watch what impact the invasion from France, referred to in John Woodford's article in the November issue, will have. Of course, Secretin is not the first to put on this sort of exhibition. I remember seeing Boros giving an exhibition on the stage as a supporting act, Phyllis Dixey being top of the bill. I went to see Boros, I assure you, and in any case for most of you, Phyllis Dixey was before your time, so you wouldn't understand!

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Ian Bullock reports from

## SUFFOLK RARE TASTE

East Anglians had a rare taste of international table tennis on Thursday, Jan. 12 when a crowd of 400-plus packed the Newmarket Sports Centre to welcome a very experienced Yugoslav team and a youthful England team. It was decided to play four men's singles and two women's singles with a doubles in the event of a 3-3 tie. It was pleasing to see the T.V. cameras present and a short film of the highlights was screened the following night.

Skylet Andrew found the competent Zoran Kalinic in scintillating form. This tall left-handed penholder who, with Surbek, was the European doubles champion in 1982, read Skylet's high service very well and disguised his own intentions to win in two. Skylet played with more composure against Milivoj Karakasevic whose steady finish saw him home. Alan Cooke attacked Karakasevic forcefully down both wings but the resolute defensive play combined with the strong counter-hitting of the Yugoslav enabled him to triumph in the third. This was table tennis at its best providing the appreciative spectators with an abundance of entertainment. Alison Gordon and Joy Grundy faced Blanka Batinic, ranked 1 in her own country and 11 and 43 in Europe and the World respectively. Alison came very close to victory but appeared to be suffering from a cold. However, Joy finally overcame her tiring opponent in the third to register England's only win of the evening. Peter Simpson must have been pleased with the way his youngsters performed against a more experienced team which has won the European Super League for the last two years and currently lead this season.

Many thanks to all concerned for providing a splendid evening's entertainment.

## COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS SENIORS DIV. 2A Suffolk v Staffordshire II

Staffordshire included Amanda Hegarty and Jill Powis, ranked 27 and 34 respectively, in their team to visit Ipswich. At the start Suffolk occupied second place in the League Table.

Stuart Palmer maintained his current form by narrowly beating Mark Evans and by despatching Dave Hanney with some forceful attacking play. John Hancock gave Suffolk's John Kitchener a very hard battle. John found his true form to beat Evans in two. Intense concentration and dogged determination helped Mick Palmer win both his singles but the Suffolk highlight was the defeat of Amanda Hegarty by Sue Welham. The final score of 8-2 in Suffolk's favour should now place the County in a strong position for promotion with two matches to play.

### SCORESHEET (Suffolk first):-

S. Palmer bt M. Evans 15. 20. bt D. Hanney 9. 13.  
M. Palmer bt Hanney 16. 17. bt J. Hancock 16. -15. 17.  
J. Kitchener bt Hancock 11. 23. bt Evans 13. 13.  
S. Welham/J. Dowsett lost to A. Hegarty/J. Powis -20. -13.  
S. Palmer/Kitchener bt Evans/Hancock 11. -15. 7.  
Welham bt Hegarty 21. 12.  
Dowsett lost to Powis -17. -15.

## JUNIORS Suffolk v Kent II

Suffolk Juniors were shocked to find themselves 4 sets in arrears when entertaining Kent in Ipswich. It took the doubles partnership of Paul Gooding and Shaun Caraccio to start a remarkable recovery. Shaun, Sylvia Kenyon and Paul Gooding followed up with wins to level the score at 4-4. Julie Mortimer then fell to Lynne Roberts and it was left to Richard Hutchinson to level the match at 5-5.

### SCORESHEET (Suffolk first):-

A. Caraccio lost to Karl Ball 11. -16. -18. bt John Ferguson 12. 11.  
R. Hutchinson lost to Ferguson -16. -20. bt Robert Levett -18. 12. 17.  
P. Gooding lost to Levett 14. -17. -19. bt Ball 13. -17. 18.  
J. Mortimer lost to Roberts -16. -16.  
S. Kenyon bt Sarah Williams -16. 9. 14.  
Mortimer/Kenyon lost to Roberts/Williams -16. 9. -15.  
Caraccio/Gooding bt Ball/Levett -14. 18. 20.

## EAST ANGLIAN LEAGUE

Ipswich had a successful weekend when two matches played simultaneously in the Britannia Table Tennis Club Dome were both won by the home teams. The 'A' team beat Dereham 7-3 whilst the 'B' team triumphed 10-0 against Lowestoft.

### Ipswich 'A' v Dereham

Caraccio bt Neil Pickard -16. 15. 19 lost to Simon Steward -17. -18.

Gooding bt Peter Wilson 11. 7. bt Pickard 19. 13. lost to Steward -13. 17. -26.

Hutchinson lost to Steward -18. 15. -20. bt Wilson 12. 13.

Julie Mortimer bt Rachel Wilson 14. -13. 19.

Hutchinson/Mortimer bt Wilson/Wilson 10. -12. 6.

Caraccio/Mortimer bt Pickard/Wilson 21. 13.

### Ipswich 'B' v Lowestoft

Wayne Shaw bt Iain Shaw 4. 8. bt Paul Wright 18. 13.

Darren Jones bt David Stroud 13. 13. bt Shaw 9.3. bt Wright 12. 12.

Andrew Hutchinson bt Wright 18. -19.18. bt Stroud 10. 12.

Sylvia Kenyon bt Carol Leech 6. 5.

Hutchinson/Kenyon bt Stroud/Leech 14. -13. 12.

Shaw/Kenyon bt Shaw/Leech 4. 15.

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Michael Green reports from.....

## SURREY

Let's start off with Mike Kercher's (the County Captain) comments on our

Junior first team's performance at the St. Neots Junior Premier weekend..... "Generally very pleasing except for the performance of Lesley Popkiewicz".

Interesting..... The facts say that we beat Devon and lost to Kent and Middlesex all by a 9-1 scoreline.

Our inexperienced team really had no chance against the exceptionally talented Kent and Middlesex sides. Having said that, the three Surrey lads, Jerome Jonah. Steven Carpenter, and Julian Daniels. stuck to their tasks well. putting up a fine gritty performance in all three matches.

Carpenter defeated Jonathan Goode in the Middlesex fixture (receiving considerable help from Jonathan's father) and Daniels took a game off Jonathan's brother. David.

Claire Brooks put her game together well, winning our one set against Kent although the Kent boys. Cunningham, Dodd, and Bartram, were too talented for our trio.

We certainly needed to beat Devon and did so with a resounding victory losing only the girls' doubles.

But what of Miss Popkiewicz? Surrey's shining star is perhaps fading slightly. Not only performance but also attitude was a little jaded at St. Neots and poor local league results seem to suggest that Lesley is "going backwards" rather than conquering the heights of junior table tennis as we had all hoped. An added attraction at St. Brides may indeed be hindering her preparation as well.. Let's hope that Lesley will soon rekindle energy and enthusiasm to enable her to challenge the very best.

Our Junior Second team still remains unbeaten. Their last match resulted in a 5-5 draw with Suffolk at Tweeddale. Richard Jones managed an impressive debut although failing to win, and our five came from Dudman and Davis gaining a singles each and the two girls, Karen Wilde and Nicky Taylor getting three between them.

The County Second team has a new Captain.... Murray Corbin made his debut in the role against Herts where we won 8-2. Having to attend this match. Murray was forced to miss the Junior Premier and he can't help but wonder whether the appointment was timed to test him.... You passed with flying colours Murray.....

Moving on to the Veterans, Surrey's two recent home matches resulted in wins over Wiltshire 7-2 and Sussex 6-3. Against Wiltshire, Frank Hams and John Garland got two each with Brian Simmonds gaining one. and with Vera Beesley making way for Greta Linter we managed both the doubles. Mike Pearson was given a game against Sussex losing one of his singles, and we also lost the women's singles and the mixed. I understand that Chessington's Graham Brown thinks he's worth a place in the side....

Let's get a few results out of the way....

In Alan Grant's Elmbridge Christmas

tournament, the home players were completely dominant....

U12: Damon Coles bt Alex Hole. U14: Matthew Pernet bt Robert Maries (Frimley). U17: Julian Dudman bt Stephen Defries (Merstham). U12D: Alex Hole and Damon Coles bt Jeremy Krzystyniak and Peter Markham (Chessington). U14D: Matthew Pernet and Paul Bennell bt Robert Maries (Frimley) and Peter Allen (Frimley). U17D: Mike Kowleski (Sx) and Scott Greenbrook (Sx) bt Graham and Steven Defries (Merstham).

There can be no doubt that Elmbridge have a number of very useful young players and it was especially pleasing to see Alexander Hole defeat the No. 1 seed, Damon Coles (E) in the South of England U12 event at Woking.

The total entry for the Elmbridge tournament was 241 (206 last year) with the largest event being the U14 singles with 104. Alan Grant's computer tells me that there were 636 sets played over the three days and 47.583 points scored....

The Croydon Schools' T.T.A. held its 7th individual championships at Monks Hill Sports Centre in December.

The winners of the various events were as follows.....

U19G: Jenny Nolan (Selhurst Girls)

U16G: Claire Brooks (Tenison's)

U14G: Kim Monaghan 1St. Mary's)

U12G: Vicki Salter (Old Palace)

U11G: Mandy Oewsbury (Appleganhj)

U198: Steve Carpenter (St. Joseph's)

U168: Steven Defries (Royal Russell)

U148: Nigel Willis (Ingram)

U128: Matthew Wakefield (Downside)

U11 B: Paul Carter (Woodcote Junior)

U16B: Steven Defries (Royal Russell)

U14B: Nigel Willis (Ingram)

U12B: Matthew Wakefield (Downside)

U11 B: Paul Carter (Woodcote Junior)

In the London Borough of 'Sutton Youth League. Carshalton Boys' Club and Wallington Crusaders "A" are fighting it out for top position in Division One. In the Second Division. Roundshaw Youth Centre lead the 74 Club although St. Helier Youth Centre "A" at unbeaten in third place with matches in hand.

In the most recently issued Lentec Computer Ranking list, the Surrey positions are as follows. Senior Men.... Max Crimmins at six (from eight). Nicky Mason at 14 (27), Mark Oakley at 43 (44), Steven Holloway at 63 (56), Rupert Bole at 67 (from nowhere), Glen Baker at 82 (86), Michael Hammond at 87 (87). Senior Women... Jane Barella at 28 (50). Michelle Hams at 36 (35), Debbie Simmonds at 50. Junior Boys.... Not a Surrey player n sight. Junior Girls.... Lesley Popkiewicz at 18 and Debbie Simmonds at 29.

in a difficult position in the National League as he must now play at No. 1. It will be interesting to see whether Rupert retains his position in the side. This is an unfortunate side effect of the way the ranking list is done.....

Jane Barella has zoomed up the list following good wins over Helen Shields and Julie Revill amongst others.

The Cadet list shows Matthew Pernet at 21 (no Richard Jones how-

ever) and Cheryl Bateman at 29.



George and Margaret Seymour presenting the Challenge Trophies Ltd sponsorship cheque for the Surrey Junior and Senior Closed Tournaments to Ron Crayden. the Surrey President and Chairman.

John Woodford reports from . . .

## SUSSEX

### VETS TO THE FORE

Mike Watts, probably the best known face in English table tennis in 1983, is currently leading the best performance by a Sussex team in the county championships. In Division 2B. Sussex veterans' first team are undefeated and favourites for promotion to the premier division.

Alan Rowden (Eastbourne) and Gerry Batt-Rawden (Haywards Heath) are providing beef in the men's matches, whilst the former Sussex champion Valerie Gillam capably handles the women's singles and mixed doubles.

### COLOUR PROBLEMS

The introduction of two-colour bats into the national team events from January 1st, provided some tension between Sussex town teams, Brighton. Haywards Heath. Eastbourne and Hastings. If only all the players had changed their bats earlier. using the six months' warning period instead of ignoring it.

In a Rose Bowl clash between Eastbourne and Hastings, four of the six players would have appeared with "illegal" bats. In reality. two Hastings girls Sheila King and Sue Haffenden did appear with all-red bats. There were a few red faces as well when it became known that although Hastings won the tie 7-2. a claim by Eastbourne for the match would almost certainly have succeeded. However, Eastbourne failed to appoint a referee so they were in trouble with Keith Ponting as well. As Hastings, with the French ace Catherine Coulombel in reserve are the much stronger side at this time. Eastbourne voted to let Hastings through.

At Brighton, where the home side despatched Haywards Heath 5-4 in the Wilmott Cup, there was some rapid pre-match rubber changing before the players got to the table

legally equipped.

Crawley, the town who regularly produce star players are having a thinner time but they are full of hopes for the young Ritchie Venner, son of the former Surrey and England player Harry. Ritchie, playing at No.4 for TCB Dolphins in the National League, Division 2, is top scorer for the club. Crawley will be looking to Ritchie on April 1st at the all-Sussex championships at Lancing Sports Centre.

Bexhill has two young residents currently very near the top of the England rankings. Teresa Moore, really beginning after a colossal amount of hard work to make the grade is the England No.4 junior and we would hope in line for a junior international cap at Portsmouth at the English Junior Open.

The other player is of course, England No. 14 Nicky Mason who chooses to live in Bexhill, continues to play for Surrey and ignore the Sussex administration in every way, an attitude that he is perfectly entitled to adopt but it is a stance that does not lead to harmony and is a hindrance to the efficient running of the Sussex publicity machine.

Personally, I believe the rules should be changed to ensure that people who live more or less permanently in a county should only be allowed to play for that county. Any other arrangement is an affront principally to the other leading players to whom the message can only be, "Sorry chaps, I am too ambitious to play with you except in practice".

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Mary Rose reports from ....

## WARWICKSHIRE

### OTHER COMMITMENTS

I apologise for the absence of a report in the previous issue but due to other commitments I was unable to have my notes ready in time for the closing date. That said I hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas and wish you a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

### COUNTY MATCH REPORTS

#### PREMIER LEAGUE

After an unfortunate run of results in the first play-off session of the Premier County Division Championships held in November at the Birmingham Athletic Institute, Warwickshire seem favourites for relegation. It could have been a different story if Desmond Douglas or Dougie Johnson had been available for selection. The County lost all three matches going down 5-4 to both Lancashire and Yorkshire and then 7-2 to Essex. The defeats by Essex and Lancashire had been expected but chances were really missed against Yorkshire. Phil Gunn gave us a great start with a win against Alan Fletcher but then Carl Morgan who so much had been expected

to be, lost to Steve Sharpe. Morgan almost gained some consolation when he played England International Skylet Andrew in the match with Essex playing superbly only going down -18 in the decider. It is to be hoped that better results are achieved in the second play-off weekend in February.

#### SENIOR 'B' v CAMBRIDGE (Home)

The County 'B' achieved a good result when they defeated Cambs. 6-4, Barry Johnson winning 2 singles. This made up a little for the disappointing result against our local rivals Worcester in November. Four matches have now been played and the County are in 4th place, one point behind the leaders Yorkshire 2nd.

#### JUNIOR 'A' v LANCS (Away) Division 2A.

The Junior 'A' lost 6-4 to Lancs even though Randle and Thomas won 2 singles each. This was the first defeat for our Juniors which places 2nd in the league table with 6 points from four matches. Derbyshire are top with 8 points. The match on Feb. 25 against Derbys. should be a cracker so let's hope we can get back to winning ways.

#### JUNIOR 'B' v WORCESTER (Home)

A very disappointing result for our Junior 'B' side losing 6-4 to Worcs. after having been forced to play a weakened side. The County are now in bottom but one place with 2 points from four matches.

### COUNTY RANKING LIST

A change has been made to the County Rankings published in the December issue. Barry Johnson moves to No.5 in place of Derek Munt who goes to No.6. This is the only change from the previous list.

### WARWICKSHIRE LEAGUE COMPETITION

The first play-off matches of the Warwickshire League competition were held at the West Warwickshire Club on Sunday Dec. 11, 1983. Coventry have this year entered a team bringing the number of entries to eight.

After the first 3 matches Rugby look favourites to take the title winning all their matches in convincing manner. South, winners for the past few seasons, disappointed, although their team has a new look they were still expected to be one of the leading contenders but lost 2 of their 3 matches as also did the East team. Each team still have 4 matches to play so it certainly is not all over yet. The next play-off weekend will be in February.

### WARWICKSHIRE CLUB COMPETITION

Matches for the 1st Round of the Warwickshire Club Competition have now been completed. Entries are very much down on previous seasons but

the biggest disappointment is that only two teams outside the Birmingham Area have entered. This could be due to the cost of travelling or that there is now such an overcrowded programme of events that teams are not able to enter all the competitions available. Results of 1st Round matches are as follows:-

Shard End (ree 27)	393	Rover Solihull (ser)	308
Lucas Yorks Road (ree 117)	364	Redhill 'B' (ser)	377
Free Wheels (ser)	364	Four Oaks B.C. (ree. 72)	330
Fireoop (ree 216)	381	Nat West (ser)	378
Birmingham Housing (ree 99)	411	British Tele (ser)	318
Selly Oak Emplex (ser)	388	Lodge Road (ree 45)	347
Coleshill Tennis (ree 90)		Sheldon Nomands (ser)	342
Hockley Port (ser)		Post Office (G/Barr)	WID
GEC Coventry (ser)		Kings Heath	WID

## BIRMINGHAM

### Rose Bowl - Second Round

Birmingham Ladies travelled to Bedfordshire to take on Leighton Buzzard in the Rose Bowl Competition. Karen Groves had to drop out of the match due to illness and Joan Harden stepped in at the last minute. The team of Sandra Peakman, Di St. Ledger and Joan were still too strong, winning 5-1.

### Wilmott Cup

Birmingham's Wilmott Cup team of Barry Johnson, Carl Morgan and Phil Gunn travelled to Essex to take on the powerful Dagenham side and came back with a very impressive 5-1 win.

## RUGBY

### Heart of England Cadet League

This is a new venture being run in Leamington and played over 3 Saturdays. Eight Midland teams have entered and the first matches have now been played. David Thomas, Robert Loj, Richard Johnson and Ian Wyatt represented Rugby and made a good start with one win and 1 draw, Thomas being third in the averages with 83%.

### Midland League

Men: The team that just avoided relegation from Div. 2 last season is completely changed due to the move from Rugby of Greg Saville, Pat McCabe and Stuart Lines. This left only Ian Randle to try and rebuild a side to represent Rugby at this top level. Not surprisingly we have lost our first two matches. The town has been represented by Ian Randle, Bill Fletcher, Noel Myatt and Jeremy Simmons.

Juniors: Two wins in two matches in Div. 5 is the record of our Juniors. In the match at Walsall they won 6-4 and then had a convincing win of 9-1 against Kidderminster. A very good start which we hope will continue and so go on to win promotion to the 4th Division next season.

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

Dunlop Birmingham are still looking for their first win but have strengthened the side by signing England-ranked Kevin Beadsley. A Yorkshire County player, Beadsley had

been playing for Salford Target Gold in the 2nd Div. North. For the match against Soham it was hoped that Kevin would be available but he was unable to make the trip due to transport problems. Reserve Rupert Sterling was called in but the strong Soham side of Kenny Jackson, John Souter, Nicky Mason and Paul Day won 8-0, and so look well on course for a second successive league title.

Chan Construction suffered their first league defeat in the Second Div. North when they were hammered by South Yorkshire. The heavy defeat could well prove to be enough to end the Handsworth club's hopes of promotion.

## OBITUARY FRANK SOPER

It is with much regret that I record the passing away of Frank Soper. Frank was a well known and much respected member of the Warwickshire Association and started his interest in table tennis just after the war as a playing member of the Springfield club in Birmingham. When his playing days ended he could always be counted on to see that the Springfield teams got to their matches by taking them by car. That was Frank - always helping out.

Frank then became an active member of Birmingham and Warwickshire committees and also became a County Umpire. He had suffered illness for many years but was never heard to complain and was always cheerful. I know that Organisers and players alike will all have their own memories of Frank, I have many but one small one that will always stand out in my mind is that he always brought a big bag of sweets to any match where he was umpiring, he would place them on a table and say to both teams just help yourselves.

Frank died on 31 December 1983 aged 73. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him and Warwickshire and Birmingham table tennis will never have a more willing servant. I for one will always remember him as a most sincere and honest man who loved his table tennis and was always willing to help out when needed. Our condolences go to his widow Nora and to his family and friends.

Laurie Selby reports from . . . .

## WILTSHIRE KEVIN LEADS THE WAY

Six Wiltshire players are included in the latest ranking lists issued by the E.T.T.A.

Kevin Satchell of Melksham is in 37th place in the senior list with 197.5 points on the computer table and Kevin Edwards of Warminster comes in at 81 with 85.5 points.

Swindon's Claire Maisey is the only Wiltshire player in the women's list. She has dropped to 49th place with 25 points because she has been to Australia and has not played many ranking matches.

Andrew Oxley of Caine jumps up to No. 32 in the boys' section with 81 points. Swindon's Claire Hunter is in at No. 34 in the girls' list with 46.5 points.

Another Swindon player, Martin Edwards, has earned 46.5 points which gives him 25th place in the Cadet section.

There was little cheer for Wiltshire senior teams from their December matches. Both sides crashed 8-2 in the County Championships.

The only joy came from the juniors who kept the county flag flying with a great 7-3 away win against Hampshire.

Wiltshire's top senior side, playing in Swindon, started badly against Sussex.

They lost the opening two men's singles before Satchell chalked up their first win.

Janet Parker and Alison Boyce staged a dramatic recovery after being a game and 10-20 down in the women's doubles to pull Wiltshire back to 2-2.

But then the home side fell apart and Sussex went on to score their first victory of the season. Wiltshire now have one win from their three matches.

The second team had a dismal time against Hampshire seconds who included the former Wiltshire champion Chris Shelter.

Shelter won all his sets and Wiltshire, who had to concede two sets because they could field only one woman, notched up just two wins.

They came from Steve Davies and Brenda Lee.

The juniors provided the only bright spot with a fine team effort against Hampshire.

It was neck and neck early on with Wiltshire just holding the edge. Then, when they were 4-3 up, Wiltshire turned on the pressure to clinch the remaining three sets.

Claire Hunter scored a surprise victory over Sarah Hammond which earned her valuable points in the computer rankings. Results:-

Wiltshire I v Sussex I:  
Kevin Edwards lost to Adrian Moore 13. -8. -18; Steve McBean lost to Philip Smith -18. -10; Kevin Satchell bt Steven Moore 17. -13. 18.

Janet Parker/Alison Boyce bt Teresa Moore/Rachael Mackerill -20, 21, 17; Satchell/Edwards lost to A. and S. Moore -17. -17.

Edwards lost to Smith -19. -15; Miss Boyce lost to Miss Mackerill -17. -25; Satchell lost to A. Moore -19. -16; Miss Parker lost to Miss Moore -12, 15. -19; McBean lost to Steven Moore -7. -11.

Wiltshire II v Hampshire II:  
Chris Shelter bt Andrew Oxley 14. 16; Derek Holman bt David Richards 12. 18; Graham Toole lost to Steve Davies -12. -18.

Women's doubles walk-over to Hampshire; Shelter/Toole bt Oxley/Davies 17. 19.

Shelter bt Richards 12. -16. 14; Barbara Clark lost to Brenda Lee 7. -15. -18; Toole bt Oxley 11. 14; women's singles walk-over to Hampshire; Holman lost to Davies -19. -10.

Wiltshire Juniors v Hampshire: Christos Hannides bt John Hook 17. -13. 18; Alan Charles lost to Howard Phillips -13. -12; Andrew Davies lost to Ian Neate -19. 19. -19.  
Sarah Hammond/Caroline Jenvey lost to Claire Hunter/Julie Mills -19. -8; Davies/Hannides bt Hook/Phillips 16, 16.  
Hannides lost to Phillips -17. 13. -14; Miss Jenvey bt Miss Mills 17, 15; Davies lost to Hook -11. -14; Miss Hammond lost to Miss Hunter 18. -16. -17; Charles lost to Neate -14. -12.

Swindon boys swept into the third round of the Carter Cup competition with a 6-0 win over Maidenhead.

But, although it seemed an easy victory for Swindon, no fewer than four of the sets went to the deciding game.

Results (Swindon players first):

I. Neate bt R. Martin -14. 16, 16; A. Oxley bt M. Metcalfe 16. 17; J. Hook bt P. Lewis -16, 11. 18; Oxley bt Martin 17. -13. 17; Neate bt Lewis -18. 8, 11; Hook bt Metcalfe 19. 18.

But while the boys were marching through to the next round, Swindon girls went down 3-6 against Bournemouth in the Bromfield Trophy.

Last season Swindon reached the semi-finals of the competition but, even with home advantage, they couldn't contain the strong challenge of Bournemouth.

Samantha Scott-Pawson, who won all her sets, built the foundations of the Bournemouth victory and two of Swindon's wins came from Claire Hunter.

Results (Swindon players first):

Claire Hunter bt Suzanne Hegarty -25. 10, 18; Sarah New lost to Tracy Scott-Pawson 14. -14. -10; Jenny Neale lost to Samantha Scott-Pawson -8. -14; New lost to Hegarty -13. -9; Hunter lost to S. Scott-Pawson -12. -11; Neale lost to T. Scott-Pawson -24. 13. -17; New lost to S. Scott-Pawson -21. -16; Neale bt Miss Hegarty 11. -12, 17; Hunter bt T. Scott-Pawson 16. 12.

Swindon teams fill the top two places in the Wiltshire senior inter-town league.

But there was a disappointing turn out for first batch of matches with neither West Wilts, the holders, nor Salisbury fielding teams.

McBean (Swindon 'A') was the only undefeated player and the only big surprise was David Richard's victory over Andrew Oxley.

Results:

Swindon 'B' 7 (R. Hughes 3. V. Miles 1. L. Morse 3). Devizes 2 (M. Oxley 1. D. Richards 1. R. Tanton 0).  
Swindon 'A' 7 (S. McBean 3. A. Oxley 2. B. Powell 2). Swindon 'B' 2 (R. Hughes 2. V. Miles 0. L. Morse 0).  
Swindon 'A' 8 (S. McBean 3. A. Oxley 2. B. Powell 3). Devizes 1 (M. Oxley 0. D. Richard 1. R. Tanton 0).

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Swindon 'A'	2	2	0	15	3	4
Swindon 'B'	2	1	1	9	9	2
Devizes	2	0	2	3	15	0

A Wiltshire table tennis club paid tribute to one of their players who died recently.

They did it by staging a table tennis tournament, the idea of his team mates.

The handicap tournament was run by the Ferndale club in memory of the late Bill Barratt.

Twenty-three players took part and the winner was Stan Tuck who beat Alan Black 17, -17, 23.

Les D'Arcy reports from.....

## YORKSHIRE LEG WEARY SCRIBE

News being scarce from the local leagues in the aftermath of Christmas your leg weary scribe, with playing

commitments in six different teams, will have to be a little less unobtrusive than he would like. In recent weeks I have had the privilege of playing in the same team as 12-years-old future super-star Chris Oldfield, in the Sheffield Super Division and with equally promising 14-years-old Matthew Connell in Leeds 1.

Jet lag disappears the moment we see their youthful enthusiasm translated into perpetual motion and delightful stroke play. In Bradford, Tony Bottomly with his side spin loop and Mick Stephenson's consistent backhands, turn me green with envy. In the Wakefield squad Cleve Judson's ball-crunching power and the defensive skills of Dave Lamb, Andy Petersons and Keith Hurley only add to my feelings of inadequacy which became a full size inferiority complex when I found myself in the same team as Steve Sharpe at Yorkshire Premier League level. Steve's inspiring performance of winning his three singles and playing a major part in the doubles was unable to prevent me drawing a blank and being dropped for the next match. One team down and five to go, so it's back to the drawing board.

One thing which seems to be missing from several leagues these days is the friendly tradition of providing refreshments on the premises. Leeds is one of the best for hospitality, although at inter-league level most leagues set a high standard with Harrogate, Halifax and Rotherham being particularly good on recent visits.

A final observation on my trip round the leagues has been the non-compliance by some players with the new service laws which have been in operation for several months. A summary of the new laws are given in the current White Rose Annual which all club secretaries should have received from their respective league secretaries.

#### DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Had the pleasure of attending the North-West Regional Development Conference at Bolton recently. The Conference which was chaired by Dr. Keith Soothill had a number of well-known speakers, players and officials, from the table tennis world; including Don Parker, John Hilton, George Yates, Deputy Chairman, E.T.T.A., Stuart Sneyd, N.W. Development Panel Secretary and International Umpire, Brian Leeson. Even though the weather was atrocious crossing the Pennines, the experience was well worth while and not just because it was possible to report to the Conference about the Festival of Sport on April 7 at Leeds University.

#### SPOTLIGHT ON THE LEAGUES

With no reports from all but two leagues, Wakefield have an extended 'spotlight'.

Three Wakefield Yorkshire League teams have completed the first half of the season without dropping a point.

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The women's team of Pat Bassano, Julie Speight, Mandy Holmes, Carol Judson and Karen Arnold gained maximum points against Leeds, York and Hull 26 sets for 4 against, with Julie Speight unbeaten.

Cleve Judson, ranked Yorkshire's No. 1 Veteran in the new computer rankings compiled by Graham Coe of Rotherham is joined this season in the city vets squad by new veteran and ex-county player, David Lamb, ranked No. 3, along with last season's regulars, Keith Hurley, Andy Petersons and your correspondent. The squad have their sights set on retaining the Yorkshire 1st Division Veterans' Title, having won four matches out of four, 32 sets for 8 against.

Wakefield's Junior City Teams are also on top form. The 2nd Team consolidated their top position in Junior Div 2, with a 9-0 "whitewash" over Doncaster 3rds to make it four wins in a row, Alison Speight being unbeaten in all four matches. Scorers:- Andrew Ball 2 singles and the doubles with Alison Speight who also won the girls' singles; Mark Land and Tony Miller each won two singles and combined well to take the boys' doubles.

In the absence of Richard Hurley, injured, Andrew Ball was promoted to the Junior 1st team to play against Hull 1st team in the Junior Premier Division and marked his debut with a 100% record, winning both his singles and the doubles with Alaric Bassano who was also unbeaten in singles. Mandy Holmes, who heads the Yorkshire League's Girls' computer rankings gave another dynamic performance to win the girls' singles and the mixed with Simon Arnold. Simon also won one of his two singles to make it a resounding 8-1 victory for Wakefield.

The Wakefield League is lucky to have a tireless group of coaches led by English Schools T.T.A. Chairman, John Arnold and West Yorkshire Regional Coach, Fullen. Both have pressed on with their many tasks in spite of illness in their respective families. Mrs. Margaret Arnold, Wakefield's popular junior teams and ladies' team secretary, is now out of hospital and no doubt delighted with her teams' continued success during her enforced absence. Mrs. Fullen is now recovering from appendicitis in hospital. We wish both ladies a speedy and complete recovery.

Outstanding power-packed performances by Steve Sharpe and Trevor Watson with solid support from Phil Tomlinson produced Wakefield's best ever result against a Bradford star studded team in the elite Yorkshire Premier Division. County players Bob Shutt and Mick Stephenson who represented Bradford 1st Team when they defeated Wakefield 8-2 earlier in the season were joined by Steve Kosmowsky, county player who, like his two team mates, has represented Bradford over one hundred times.

Watson, who broke his bat in the

previous match against Bradford and sustained three defeats, set himself up for three more when playing with a new bat for the first time in this match. New bats can play strange tricks, but Trevor played with masterly control to defeat Shutt and Kosmowsky in straight games and Stephenson 15 in the decider. He then completely reversed his previous performance by taking the doubles with Sharpe who gave his usual superb display to also take three singles. Tomlinson rounded off the day's play with a win over Kosmowsky to make it Bradford 2nds 2, Wakefield 8 for a team performance which will command respect throughout the Premier Division.

Joanne Shaw had her best weekend of tournaments so far when in the space of 24 hours won four championships and came second in two others. At Pontefract, Joanne won the girls' singles, the women's doubles, with Karen Burrows, the mixed, with Kevin Beadsley, and came runner-up in the women's singles. Immediately after her last set Joanne travelled down to Woking with her father, Ray, and the next day won the South of England Junior 2-Star girls' doubles, with Lesley Souter, and lost in the final of the girls' singles to England No.2, Sue Collier, after beating the England No. 3, Jill Powis in an earlier round. Joanne has now had her Yorkshire No. 1 woman ranking and may be considered as first choice for the County Senior 1st team.

Sharpe, recent winner of the Yorkshire men's singles title, also improved his chances of County 1st team selection with a comfortable win over Yorkshire No.3 Beadsley in the Pontefract men's singles. Steve went out to the eventual winner, Lancashire's Steve Scowcroft, who teamed up with him to win the Men's doubles final against Beadsley and Mike Stead of Bradford.

Andris Petersons showed commendable determination to defeat Cheshire's Mark Hankey and went down 19 in the decider against Vets. County Champion, Geoff Brook in the Veterans. Alaric Bassano reached the semi-final of the Boys' singles with Tony Miller bowing out in the quarters after a splendid victory over England's No.8 Cadet, Chris Oldfield. Tony also reached the quarters of the Men's doubles with Leeds junior Matthew Connell before being knocked out by N. Davies and N. Carr.

The Tournament organised by Mr. Brian Govern and the Pontefract League was praised by visiting players for its efficiency in knocking off three hours from the usual finishing time by quick fire presentation.

Current leaders in the Harrogate League are:-

Div.1:  
St. George's 'A' (Keith Bell, John Troughton & Keith Mellor)  
Y.R.H.A. 'A' (Richard Whiteley, Mick Emmerson & Ashley Alger)  
Wanderers' 'A' (Nicky Davies, Len Browning & Ian Walmsley)  
Div.2:  
C.E.G.B. 'B' (Brian Clarke, Terry Drury & Steve Weatherall)  
Ripon YMCA 'A' (Ken Reeves, John Bridgman & Andrew Buckingham)

Diy. 3.  
Knaresborough C.C. 'A' (Brian Wilkinson, Dave Simmonds & Stuart Herrington).  
Diy. 4.  
Knaresborough Social 'E' (Lewis Ward, Laurie Wardman & Graham Burnham).  
Diy. 5.  
Knaresborough Social 'F' (Geoff Scruton, Neil Pearson & Peter Doyle).  
Diy. 6.  
Self Drive (Clive Sherwood, Bill Harrison & Geoff Thompson).

## GIANT PROJECT

Thirty key Y.T.T.A. officials plus National Coach, Don Parker, English Schools T.T.A. President, Tom Matthews and Lancashire representative, Stewart Sneyd, Secretary of the N.W. Regional Development Panel attended a meeting at Moor Grange School, Leeds to listen to Mr. Cyril Villiers, Director of the Yorkshire and Humberside Sports Council, giving details of the giant table tennis project at Leeds University on April 7 which includes international players in action, including Jill Hammersley-Parker, plus coaching for 200 young players, table tennis cabaret and a Yorkshire v Lancashire cadet event.

Coaching will be in two sessions (10 a.m. to 12) and (2 p.m. to 4 p.m.). Playing events in the evening start at 7.30 p.m. Adults £1.50. Children £1. For the coaching event, directed by Donald Parker, tickets will be 50p per session, players restricted to one session only. Tickets include free admission to Sports Festival, but not to evening event, which includes a world record breaking attempt by World Champion at skipping, Albert Rayner. Part of the money raised by the Festival will go towards the Sports Aid Foundation Trust organised by the Y.H. Sports Council to help talented young table tennis players and other athletes in need of financial help.

Details about all tickets from Y.T.T.A. Treasurer, Mr. Maurice Pennock (Home) 0423 56404.

Members were pleased to hear details of proposed future coaching courses from Don Parker, including a coaching conference. Graham Coe also gave details of the 'Morte for Sport' computerised rankings for the Yorkshire League which is now sponsored by Stuart Morte. Graham now has every inter-league player and team recorded on his computer and is producing regular results and a great deal of interest.

The official Y.T.T.A. ranking lists have not been done by computer, but future lists may have the benefit of Graham's expertise - Revised rankings:-

Men	Women
1. A. Fletcher	J. Shaw
2. S. Mills	M. Hill
3. K. Beadsley	M. Seaton
4. S. Sharpe	H. Shields
5. A. Sanderson	J. McLean
6. J. Naser	L. Broomhead
7. D. Rook	R. Brook
8. D. Illingsworth	J. Speight
9. M. Stead	
10. D. Indriks	
11. R. Whiteley	
12. M. Emmerson	

Boys	Girls
1. Rook	Shaw
2. M. Firth	R. Bray
3. C. Guest	M. Holmes
4. N. Newton	A. Evans

5. J. Bult	H. Broomhead
6. R. Buxton	R. Baxter
7. A. Bassano	A. Huitt
8. M. O'Driscoll	R. Beaumont
9. C. Oldfield	C. Dada
10. N. Ryder	H. Kavanagh
11. M. Ward	J. Harrison
12. N. Simms	P. Collett

Cadet Boys	Cadet Girls
1. O'Driscoll	Dada
2. Oldfield	Kavanagh
3. Ryder	Harrison
4. Ward	Collett
5. Simms	D. Toole
6. A. Ball	K. Warner
7. J. Chew	L. Clifford
8. L. Rogerson	L. Hookem
9. M. Oldfield	E. Meddings
10. K. Pickles	R. Metcalfe

## COUNTY MATCHES

Helen Broomhead and Russel Buxton - both from Sheffield - made their debuts in Yorkshire Junior 2nds B-2 win over Warwickshire 2nds, away. Helen won her singles and the doubles with Mandy Holmes and Russel won one of his two singles. Alaric Bassano (2) John Bult (2) and Mandy Holmes (1) were Yorkshire's other winners.

The Senior 2nd Team lost their unbeaten record and Championship chances when going down 7-3 to Warwickshire 2nd. Richard Whiteley was successful in one singles and the men's doubles with David Rook. Julie McLean took Yorkshire's other set.

## Welsh Corner

by H. Roy Evans

### DEBUT FOR HEIDI

Wales made a good start to the New Year with a 4-3 European League win against Ireland in Dublin.

Alan Griffiths, home on holiday from Germany, was available, and he was joined by Mark Thomas. No. 1 junior Heidi Cotter was given her first chance in senior circles.

Alan got us off to a good start with a two-straight win against danger man Colum Slevin and, encouraged by Alan's performance, Mark took care of Tom Heasley, also in straight games.

The Irish had told us that Ann Leonard had benefited from playing in Germany, so we hardly expected Heidi to win in her debut match. But the North Wales girl, though she lost two-straight, gave a good account of herself, and showed she could improve a lot in the future.

Then came the all-important men's doubles. We have not had a good doubles pair in international matches for some time now, and it was not expected that Alan and Mark would hit it off with such little chance to play together. But they combined well and put Wales further ahead with a two game win against Slevin and Reilly.

Mark and Heidi were never really in it against Slevin and Leonard, and so Mark faced the task of consolidating the Welsh lead against the formidable Slevin. In the event Mark rose to the occasion in great style, and his two-

straight win brought a Welsh victory.

In the last set lack of concentration cost Alan the verdict against Heasley. It was a pity that Alan let this one slide, - we need every game when the final results are known at the end of the season. However, he had done his all-important bit with that opening win against Slevin.

Turkey's withdrawal means that we have no match in February, and will now meet Scotland in Bridgend in March in our last match. Scores:-

Griffiths bt Slevin 17. 14.  
Thomas bt Heasley 18. 15.  
Cotter lost to Leonard -12. -15.  
Griffiths/Thomas bt Slevin/Reilly 18, 15.  
Thomas/Cotter lost to Slevin/Leonard -13. -12.  
Thomas bt Slevin 17. 15.  
Griffiths lost to Heasley 18. -16. -6.

## HALEX NATIONAL LEAGUE

Butterfly Cardiff picked themselves up after some poor results by beating S.1.B. Bath 5-3 in an exciting match at Bath. The home side were fairly confident, having noted Butterfly's previous slips, but this time the visitors' two top men did their stuff well.

Gary Wilkins beat Kevin Satchell, and repeated his Cardiff Open triumph over Andy Creed, whilst Mark Thomas beat Satchell and Adrian Moore. Tony Healan beat Paul Jackson but lost to Moore, whilst Trevor Manning, whose chop defence was expected to give trouble, lost to Creed and Jackson. Scores:-

Thomas bt Adrian Moore 16. 14; bt Satchell -12. 14, 18.  
Wilkins bt Satchell 18. -18. 17; bt Andy Creed -14. 12. 11.  
Healan bt Paul Jackson 20. 12; lost to Moore -9. -11.  
Manning lost to Creed -10. -11; lost to Jackson -16. 22. -11.

Butterfly followed this end of year win by a New Year win over M. B.S. St. Neots. The Cardiff Club had played St. Neots five times before, drawn the first but lost the others against a team that didn't seem all that strong.

Mark Thomas's improved form enabled him to win two - beating Keith Richardson in the opening set, but there was a time when it looked odds against a Cardiff win. With the score two-all, Wilkins having beaten Peter Taylor, but Healan Andrew Jones having been well beaten, it hardly seemed possible that the latter two would win in the second half. Thomas put Butterfly ahead with a good win over Taylor, but Wilkins went down poorly to Stephen Moore. Then Healan, in a set of extremely fluctuating fortune finally beat Richardson, and it was left to Jones to go for the winning points. He pulled himself together well, played more carefully, and beat Mick Harper 23-21 in the third! Scores:-

Thomas bt Richardson 19. 18; bt Taylor 21.15.  
Wilkins bt Taylor 19. 19; lost to Moore -12. -18.  
Healan lost to Harper -19. -12; bt Richardson -20. 20. 15.  
Jones lost to Moore -11. -19; bt Harper -21. 16. 21.

Cranfield Colours Halex surrendered a point to Gunnersby Triangle in London just before Christmas.

It looked as if Cranfield were booked for a win, with the score two-all at the half way stage - George Evans having beaten Jonathon Proffitt and Angie Evans having accounted for Welsh "exile" Peter Harry.

Brian Jeanes, having lost earlier to Simon Proffitt, then beat brother Jonathon and Captain Angie won a very close set against Simon to put Cranfield 4-2 up.

But then came a very surprising result, the dependable veteran George Evans went down 21-23 in the third to Walter Mascarenhas. Warwick Armstrong never looked like beating Harry, so the final result was a 4-all draw. Scores:-

G. Evans bt J. Proffitt 15, 15; lost to Mascarenhas 14, -15, -21. Jeanes lost to S. Proffitt -18, -11; bt J. Proffitt 19, -20, 10. A. Evans bt Peter Harry 17, 20; bt S. Proffitt 20, -13, 20. Armstrong lost to Mascarenhas -23, -15; lost to Peter Harry -11, -19.

Another 4-all draw was the result of Cranfield's clash with Gillette Reading at Abersychan

Jeanes beat Paul Savins, George Evans beat Mandy Sainsbury in the third, and Andrew Evans beat Simon Rowland to establish a 3-0 lead, but Graham Sell, making his debut, lost to Michael Childs.

Jeanes lost another of Cranfield's lead when he lost 19 in the third to Mandy Sainsbury, who continues to do well in this man's world.

George Evans retrieved the situation with an easy win over Childs, but Andrew Evans lost to Savins, and Sell lost to Rowland. So Gillette had pinched victory under the Cranfield nose. Scores:-

Jeanes bt Savins 19, 15; lost to Sainsbury 16, -20, -19. G. Evans bt Sainsbury 5, -18, 17; bt Mike Childs 10, 8. A. Evans bt Rowland 15, -15, 16; lost to Savins 22, -18, -11. Sell lost to Childs -14, -14; lost to Rowland -18, -12.

Roy Williams reports from.....

## NORTH WALES WREXHAM CHAMPIONS

Wrexham won three of the four championships at the final session of the North Wales Counties League held at Eirias Park, Colwyn Bay on Jan. 15. Represented by Haydn Young, Justin Evans, Paul Griffiths and Jim Bishton they lost only 8 sets in their senior division triumph leaving holders Rhyl in the runners-up spot.

Wrexham's junior side (Karen Buckle, Tim Turner and James Tapp) easily won the junior section and they did not drop a set in doing so. In the Women's division it was again Wrexham with Karen Buckle, Sheila Rogers and Joyce Jones who outclassed their opponents.

Rhyl with Roy Williams, Ray Howland and Meirion Williams retained their veterans' championship with a final win over Llandudno (Karl Harrison, George Mynott and Les Jones) who were unbeaten until this final match. The event again proved to be successful with 9 matches being played at each session.

### COUNTY GLOOM

All three county teams lost on Jan. 14, the seniors being beaten 6-4 away to Leicestershire with Terry Turner losing the final set -21 in the third - a cruel blow. Trevor Manning was again in good form winning both his singles, the other wins coming from Karen

Buckle, both in her singles and the doubles with Sue Roberts. Karen has been selected to represent Wales in a junior international against Scotland on Jan. 28.

In the Veterans Div. 2A match Hunts beat Clwyd 6-3. Bishton won a singles and shared a mixed success with Sheila Rogers who won her singles. This match was played at Rhuddlan Youth Club and I believe hail stopped play for 5 minutes due to a hole in the roof.

At Prestatyn Cricket Club Wiltshire gained sweet revenge and reversed last season's score of 7-2. Clwyd's only bright spark was Karl Harrison who won his two sets. On the day a much sharper Wilts team fully deserved their victory. On Sunday, Jan. 22, due to heavy snow and a minor car crash our match with Avon at Bristol was again cancelled. Keep your fingers crossed for a third attempt!

### CRICKET LEAD

The only real change at the top of the local leagues is that Colwyn Bay CC defeated Colwyn Bay TTC 9-1 to take a 6 pts lead in Llandudno's first division. Llandudno Junction and Lansdowne have also made progress in recent matches and it looks like an exciting run-in to the second half of the season.

In the Anglesey League Wylfa Power Station lead followed by Holyhead "A" and, in third place, St Mary's "A". Wylfa look poised to retain the championship.

Prestatyn CC and champions Clwyd "A" are leading Rhyl's 1st division in what seems to be a two horse race. Millers Cottage "A" and Prestatyn "B" are equal third but with little chance of closing the gap on the leaders.

Gravel top the Wrexham League with Caergwrle and Malpas in close attendance. The strong Gravel team should take the title unless there is a dramatic change in their fortunes.

### N.W.C.T.T.A. LEAGUE

Leading positions:-

	P	W	0	I	F	A	Pts
<b>Senior</b>							
Wrexham	4	4	0	0	32	8	
Rhyl	4	3	0	1	26	14	
Anglesey	4	1	1	2	16	24	
<b>Veterans</b>							
Rhyl			0	0	41	9	10
Llandudno			1	1	33	17	7
Anglesey			0	2	29	21	6
<b>Junior</b>							
Wrexham			0	0	30	0	
Rhyl			0	1	16	14	
Anglesey			0	2	12	18	
<b>Women</b>							
Wrexham			0	0	19	1	
Llan/Rhyl			0	1	10	10	

Philip Reid reports from.....

## LEICESTERSHIRE

### MORE OPTIMISTIC

I am much more optimistic about the all-round county scene following recent matches. All three teams performed admirably and I am only waiting

for the first team to emulate them in the second set of County Premier matches. The second tea'm, thanks to a duo by Philip Smith, drew with Nottinghamshire, although nobody could stop Trevor Kerry, who performed brilliantly in winning both his sets easily. The team went one better when playing Clwyd, winning 6-4 - but only just. Star here was young Simon Griew, who won two including a nail-biting 12, -2, 23 in the last set of the evening against Terry Turner.

Earlier the stylish Trevor Manning had chopped his way to two wins for Clwyd. The veterans lost 5-4 to Essex (Geoff Aldwinckle 2) but then went one better to beat companions in distress Berkshire 5-4. Aldwinckle, newly-promoted to No.2, took two wins as did Colin Truman. Two expedites here. Geoff's first set with Wally Allanson and the men's doubles. Fortunately Mike 'Expedite' Jackson was present to witness the proceedings.

The juniors were without Joanne Murray against Bedfordshire, and well though Lucie Grundy played, this may just have tipped the scales in their 6-4 defeat. However they gained a totally unexpected but fully deserved point against Lancashire. They could have won this, having a 4-1 lead but Lancashire fought back well to share the spoils. Paul Bumpus won two for us but the highlight was David Grundy's win over Sean Gibson - his first win in the county's colours.

In the National Cup competitions, the women are left to hold on to the J. M. Rose Bowl without Anita Stevenson, who has retired. They beat Grimsby 6-0 in this competition, the team of Karen Smith, Suzanne Hunt and Yvonne Hall looking very sharp indeed. Chris Rogers, David Gannon and Keith Fellows combined well to register a 5-1 win in the Wilmott Cup against Nottingham whilst the girls went down 6-0 to Derby in the Bromfield trophy.

New rankings have now been issued in the Men's section. 1. C. Rogers, 2. D. Gannon, 3. G. Hall, 4. M. Pickles, 5. P. Smith, 6. S. Griew, 7. K. Fellows, 8. M. Newman, 9. A. Kinsey, 10. J. Iliffe. In the veterans the only change is in the men's section, where Truman has changed places with Aldwinckle, the latter occupying the No.2 berth and Colin third spot. There are no other changes in any of the teams. In the men's rankings most surprising is Maurice Newman's drop to No.8 but knowing Maurice's fighting qualities, he will soon be up the list again.

Terry Bown, the editor of 'Top Spin' has decided to call it a day at the end of the season, though to be fair to Terry, he has carried on for a year longer than his original commitment and has given the committee plenty of time to find a successor, though this is easier said than done. In my notes Qlast month I spoke of Brockington (Enderby) and their championship hopes.

Unfortunately I missed the star man out, so Marcus Bellot tells me. Sorry Marcus. The Leicestershire Closed, staged for the third year at the palatial Granby Halls, is this season being sponsored by Exclusive Kitchens Ltd on Feb 5. The man we are indebted to

for the sponsorship is Hinckley's Ernie McLeish who won the men's singles four times in a row for Leicestershire, a record which stood until Paul Randell took it away. The Leicester Closed is being staged at Leicester University on March 25. The Rose Johnson

Memorial Trophy - the ladies' knock-out handicap tournament organised as usual by the hard-working Audrey Watson will be held the previous Sunday (March 18) at Knighton Park NCO

# halex NATIONAL LEAGUE

by Robert Oldfield

Cranfield Colours Halex	9	2	4	3	33	39	8
Spicer N Malden	9	1	4	4	32	40	6
Gillelle Rnding III	9	2	2	5	27	45	6
Witham F.C.	8	0	3	5	18	46	3
Gunnersbury Triangle	8	0	2	6	23	41	2

## WASHINGTON STOTTY

Washington, sandwiched in third place in the league table, are the only club which continue to provide opposition for the strong South Yorkshire teams in Third Division North.

However, having lost 7-1 to the second team in the first half, their aspirations must be confined to second spot; South Yorks are virtually certain of promotion.

South Yorkshire II	8	a	0	0	56	8	16
Washington	9	7	0	2	52	20	14
South Yorkshire III	9	5	2	2	44	28	12
Ormesby III	8	4	1	3	35	29	9
Unity Bradford II	8	3	1	4	32	32	7
Byker Newcastle II	9	2	1	6	28	44	5
Vickers Barrow	8	2	1	5	20	44	5
Unity Bradford III	9	0	0	9	5	67	0

## BORN LEADERS

Bourne Ruislip, sponsored by Nittaku, have taken over at the top of Third Division South at the expense of Tulse Hill. Third placed Jaques Fareham had a narrow escape when David Sharpe and Ian Doughty put Dunstable into a 2-0 lead. But Chris Shetler and Martin Gilbert hit back for the visitors in the 5-3 win on 8th January.

Bourne Ruislip	9	6	0	3	50	22	12
Tulse Hill	7	6	0	1	43	13	12
Jaques Fareham II	8	5	2	1	37	27	12
Ashford	9	3	2	4	34	38	8
Lansdown Medway	9	3	2	4	29	43	8
Cippenham	8	1	3	4	26	38	5
Dunstable	8	1	3	4	25	39	5
Jolliffe Poole	8	1	2	5	20	44	4

## PAYNEFUL FOR MBS

John Payne, Playrite Northampton's new signing made a rousing debut against MBS in the New Year, reports Ken Marchant. Beaten 6-2 at home earlier in the season Payne lead Northampton to a convincing 7-1 revenge victory.

Norwich Foxwood	8	4	4	0	42	22	12
Playrite Northampton	8	5	1	2	42	22	11
Nottingham Racket Sense	6	5	0	1	34	14	10
Coles Waveney	8	3	3	2	37	27	9
N&S St. Neots II	8	3	2	3	33	31	8
Hassy Soham II	7	1	0	6	15	41	2
Halex Lincoln	7	0	0	7	5	51	0

## NOT THE LEAGUE

I am pleased to confirm that the National League club described in the December 1983 edition of Table Tennis News as Halex Grantham is completely unconnected with the Grantham and District Table Tennis League.

## ORMESBY DEFLATED

Former Europe Club champions, Ormesby, felt their hopes of winning the National League championship disappear like air from a punctured tyre on 8th January. With home advantage but without Richard Yule, they crashed 3-5 to Gillette Reading, despite Henk van Spanje maintaining his unbeaten record.

"You can't win a Grand Prix with only three cylinders firing", said a rueful Ormesby manager, Alan Ransome after the shock defeat. The result virtually buried Ormesby's title chances for their fourth attempt in four years and the championship seems destined to end with either of the previous winners, Thorn-EMI Ellenborough or Hassy Perfection Soham.

The Premier Division leaders met on December 18th in the last match of the first half. As captain and former international, Paul Day, stayed on the team bench in a tactical master-stroke, Soham raced to a 4-2 lead.

Ellenborough's Mark Mitchell reduced the deficit but then Dave Hannah recovered from a disastrous first game against Dave Tan to win the second point for the reigning champions. "We haven't won it yet", says Day, "but we're confident".

## PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hassy Soham	7	6	1	0	42	14	13
Thorn-EMI Ellenborough	8	6	1	1	41	23	13
Ormesby	8	5	2	1	42	22	12
Jaques Fareham	8	5	0	3	38	26	10
Gillelle Reading	9	3	1	5	32	40	7
Tibhar London	9	3	0	6	34	38	6
Unity Bradford	7	1	1	5	18	38	3
Dunlop Birmingham	8	0	0	8	9	55	0

## GROVE IN CONTROL

As mentioned briefly last issue, Grove were held by MBS St Neots just before Christmas. But two emphatic New Year wins have placed the Market Drayton club in a commanding position at the top of the First Division. One point ahead of Tarmac but with a superior sets advantage.

Successive wins by the MBS bottom half, Stephen Moore and Mick Harper, set up Keith Richardson to snatch the point from Grove. The St Neots club and Butterfly Cardiff have moved up to challenge SIB Bath for

third place and a share of the prize money.

## FIRST DIVISION

Grove Market Drayton	9	8	1	0	56	16	17
Tarmac Wolverhampton	9	8	0	1	50	22	16
SIB Bath	9	5	0	4	42	30	10
MBS St Neots	9	4	2	3	39	33	10
Butterfly Cardiff	9	5	0	4	35	37	10
Gillene Reading II	9	1	3	5	26	46	5
Ormesby II	9	1	1	7	28	44	3
Byker Newcastle	9	0	1	8	12	60	1

## ROTHERHAM ROMP AT CHAN

South Yorkshire's drubbing of ex-Division leaders, Chan Construction, was a "demolition job", according to their manager Graham Coe. "It was so easy, it was something of a disappointment" reported one of the seven local papers which follow the fortunes of the Rotherham-based club.

South Yorks No.2, Chu van Que, struggled to find his attacking form in the opening set of the match and just squeezed through in the third against the home team's Phil Gunn.

But from then on South Yorks asserted their authority, with Chris Rogers, Tony Sanderson and Mark Illingsworth winning the next six sets in straight games. Chan's Richard Tanner saved the whitewash.

## SECOND DIVISION NORTH

South Yorkshire	9	8	1	0	53	19	17
Chan Construction	9	8	0	1	48	24	16
Salford Target Gold	9	7	0	2	49	23	14
March Halex	9	5	0	4	34	38	10
Bradford Hermits	9	2	1	6	31	41	5
Tarmac Wolverhampton II	8	2	1	5	26	38	5
Soncil Lincoln	8	1	1	6	25	39	3
RIS Stockton	9	0	0	9	14	58	0

Gillette Reading's No. in Second Division South, Mandy Sainsbury, started the fight-back at Cranfield Colours Halex on 8th January.

All three sets to one down and losing the first 21-16 to the Gwent No. 1 Brian Jeanes, she survived a second game at deuce before winning the third at 19. Inspired, Paul Savins and Simon Rowland ignored the George Evans maximum to save a hard-earned point.

Dagenham, meanwhile, having played their match in hand, have extended the lead at the top of the division.

## SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Dagenham F.C.	9	9	0	0	61	11	18
Larkhall Clapham	9	7	1	1	44	28	15
Tca Dolphins	9	5	2	2	42	30	12

## REGISTRATION DESPERATION

In desperate attempts to stop Holts Carpets in the Third Division, both Pengeley Sports Torbay and Hereford Times have signed new players for the second half of the season.

Torbay have signed the former England champion Trevor Taylor, (who spends most of his time doing exhibitions with Chester Barnes). And Hereford Times have brought in the lanky looper Simon Claxton - one of the most aggressive players in the division.

	THIRD DIVI	WEST					
Holti Salisbury	9	1	0	57	15	17	
Pangaley Torbay	8	7	1	0	53	11	15
Hereford Tima.	9	5	1	3	39	33	11
Launceston Kamow	9	3	2	4	31	41	8
Tarmac Ladies	8	3	1	4	32	32	7
WWSolihull	8	1	2	5	20	44	4
Global Plymouth	9	1	1	7	23	49	3
Grova Mkt Drayton II	8	1	1	8	17	47	3

### PREMIER DIVISION RESULTS

Sunday, 18th December  
 Hassy Soham 5 Thorn-EMI Ellenborough 3  
 Kenny Jackson bt Mark Mitchell 18, 15;  
 John Souter lost to Graham Sandley 12, -14, -11;  
 Nicky Mason bt Dave Tan 16, 18;  
 Dave Hannah bt Colin Wilson 7, 17;  
 Jackson lost to Sandley 10, -12, -11;  
 Souter bt Wilson 13, 19;  
 Mason lost to Mitchell -17, -16;  
 Hannah bt Tan -6, 17, 16.

Unity Bradford 3 Jaques Fareham 5  
 Skylet Andrew lost to Ian Kenyon 16, -11, -7;  
 Steve Turner lost to Alan Cooke -22, -24;  
 Steven Sharpe lost to Tony Clayton -14, -14;  
 David Indriks lost to Mark Oakley 15, -13, -19;  
 Andrew bt Cooke 16, -17, 16;  
 Turner bt Oakley 14, -18, 17;  
 Sharpe bt Kenyon 11, 15;  
 Indriks lost to Clayton -12, -11.

Dunlop Birmingham 2 Ormesby 6  
 Alan Fletcher bt Eckersley 18, 17;  
 Barry Johnson lost to Donald Parker -20, -18;  
 Derek Munt lost to Richard Yule -13, 19, -12;  
 Ralph Sterling lost to Henk van Spanje -9, -7;  
 Fletcher bt Parker -11, 23, 19;  
 Johnson lost to van Spanje 22, -19, -13;  
 Munt lost to Eckersley -16, -13;  
 Sterling lost to Yule -8, -10.

Tibhar london 3 Gillette Reading 5  
 David Wells lost to David Barr -18, 4, -17;  
 Max Crimmins lost to Philip Bradbury -16, -12;  
 Richard Jermyn bt David Reeves 14, 14;  
 David Dodd bt Karen Witts 9, 19;  
 Wells bt Bradbury 15, 13;  
 Crimmins lost to Witt -18, 18, -18;  
 Jermyn lost to Barr -16, -15;  
 Dodd lost to Reeves 18, -8, -13.

Sunday, 1st January 1984  
 Tibhar london 0 Hassy Soham 8  
 Dave Wells lost to John Souter -17, 19, -14;  
 David Dodd lost to Kenny Jackson -10, -9;  
 Richard Jermyn lost to Paul Day -17, -11;  
 Gary Spencer lost to Nicky Mason 18, -17, -19;  
 Wells lost to Jackson -19, -17;  
 Dodd lost to Mason -21, 17, -6;  
 Jermyn lost to Souter 12, -15, -21;  
 Spencer lost to Day -13, 19, -12.

Gillette Reading 3 Jaques Fareham 5  
 Philip Bradbury bt Alan Cooke -16, 15, 16;  
 David Barr lost to Carl Preen -7, -16;  
 Andy Wellman lost to Tony Clayton -15, 20, -15;  
 David Reeves bt Ian Kenyon 10, -12, 7;  
 Bradbury lost to Preen -11, 15, -14;  
 Barr bt Kenyon 11, 19;  
 Wellman lost to Cooke -21, 17, -12;  
 Reeves lost to Clayton -16, -16.

Sunday, 9th January  
 Hassy Soham 8 Dunlop Birmingham 0  
 Kenny Jackson bt Barry Johnson 15, 8;  
 John Souter bt Alan Fletcher 22, 12;  
 Nicky Mason bt Ralph Sterling 14, 14;  
 Paul Day bt Derek Munt 9, 8;  
 Jackson bt Fletcher 17, -16, 12;  
 Souter bt Munt 9, 19;

Mason bt Johnson 16, 17;  
 Day bt Sterling 12, 15.

Thom-EMI Ellenborough 7 Unity Bradford 1  
 Graham Sandley bt Steve Turner 19, -16, 16;  
 Colin Wilson bt Skylet Andrew 16, -18, 14;  
 Mark Mitchell bt David Indriks 19, 13;  
 Nigel Tyler lost to Steven Sharpe -11, 5, -21;  
 Sandley bt Andrew 21, 17;  
 Wilson bt Sharpe 17, 16;  
 Mitchell bt Turner 19, 15;  
 Tyler bt Indriks -14, 19, 14.

Ormesby 3 Gillette Reading 5  
 Henk van Spanje bt David Barr 16, -20, 17;  
 Donald Parker lost to Philip Bradbury 14, -18, -14;  
 Nigel Eckersley lost to David Reeves -12, -23;  
 Lindsay Taylor lost to Andy Wellman -15, -15;  
 van Spanje bt Bradbury 13, 17;  
 Parker bt Wellman 13, -14, 16;  
 Eckersley lost to Barr -13, -13;  
 Taylor lost to Reeves -15, 16, -18.

Jaques Fareham 6 Tibhar london 2  
 Carl Preen bt David Wells 14, -16, 19;  
 Alan Cooke bt Max Crimmins 19, 17;  
 Mark Oakley bt Richard Jermyn 7, 14;  
 Tony Clayton bt David Dodd -17, 14, 15;  
 Preen bt Crimmins 14, 11;  
 Cooke bt Dodd 19, -10, 12;  
 Oakley lost to Wells 14, -16, -15;  
 Clayton lost to Jermyn -17, 11, -16;

### FIRST DIVISION RESULTS

Sunday, 18th December  
 SIB Bath 3 Butterfly Cardiff 5  
 MBS St Neots 4 Grove Market Drayton 4  
 Tarmac Wolverhampton 5 Ormesby II 3  
 Byker Newcastle 4 Gillette Reading II 4  
 Sunday, 1st January 1984  
 MBS St Neots 6 Ormesby II 2  
 Gillette Reading II Grove Market Drayton 8

Sunday, 8th January  
 SIB Bath 3 Tarmac Wolverhampton 5  
 Ormesby II 4 Gillette Reading II 4  
 Grove Market Drayton 7 Byker Newcastle 1  
 Butterfly Cardiff 5 MBS St Neots 3

### SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Sunday, 18th December  
 RIS Stockton 2 Sincil lincoln 6  
 Chan Construction 1 South Yorkshire 7  
 Salford TG 5 Tarmac Wolverhampton II 3  
 Bradford Hermits 3 March Halex 5

Sunday, 8th January 1984  
 Sincil lincoln 3 Salford TG 5  
 RIS Stockton 2 Chan Construction 6  
 Tarmac Wolverhampton II 3 March Halex 5  
 South Yorks 7 Bradford Hermits 1

Sunday, 15th January  
 Salford TG 8 RIS Stockton  
 March Halex 3 South Yorkshire 5

### SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Sunday, 18th December  
 TCB Dolphins 2 Dagenham FC 6  
 Witham FC 1 larkhall Clapham 7  
 Gunnersbury Triangle 4 Cranfield Halex 4  
 Spicer New Malden 4 Gillette Reading III 4

Sunday, 1st January 1984  
 Spicer New Malden 4 TCB Dolphins 4  
 Gillette Reading III 3 larkhall Clapham 5

Sunday, 8th January  
 TCB Dolphins 6 Gunnersbury Triangle 2  
 Dagenham FC 8 Witham FC  
 Cranfield Halex 4 Gillette Reading III 4  
 Larkhall Clapham 5 Spicer New Malden 3

Sunday, 15th January  
 Dagenham FC 6 Gunnersbury Triangle 2

### THIRD DIVISION NORTH

Sunday, 18th December  
 Vickers Barrow 6 Unity Bradford III 2  
 Unity Bradford II 3 Byker Newcastle II 5  
 Washington 5 Ormesby III 3  
 South Yorkshire II 7 South Yorkshire III

Sunday, 1st January 1984  
 Washington 8 Unity Bradford III

Sunday, 8th January  
 Vickers Barrow 1 Washington 7  
 Unity Bradford II 6 Unity Bradford III 2  
 Byker Newcastle II 1 South Yorkshire II 7  
 Ormesby III 2 South Yorkshire III 6

Sunday, 15th January  
 South Yorkshire III 8 Byker Newcastle II

### THIRD DIVISION SOUTH

Sunday, 18th December  
 Jolliffe Poole 2 Ashford 6  
 Bourne Ruislip 8 Cippenham 0

Thursday, 5th January 1984  
 Bourne Ruislip 6 Ashford 2

Sunday, 8th January  
 Jolliffe Poole 1 Bourne Ruislip 7  
 Ashford 3 lansdown Medway 5  
 Dunstable 3 Jaques Fareham II 5

### THIRD DIVISION EAST

Sunday, 18th December  
 MBS St Neots 8 Halex lincoln 0  
 Norwich Foxwood Nottingham Racket Sense  
 Playrite Northampton 4 Coles Waveney 4

Sunday, 1st January 1984  
 MBS St Neots II 1 Playrite Northampton 7  
 Norwich Foxwood 4 Coles Waveney 4  
 Hassy Soham II Nottingham Racket Sense

Sunday, 8th January  
 Halex lincoln 2 Playrite Northampton 6  
 Norwich Foxwood 4 MBS St Neots II 4  
 Coles Waveney 8 Hassy Soham II

### THIRD DIVISION WEST

Sunday, 18th December  
 Holts Salisbury 7 Launceston Kernow 1  
 Tarmac ladies 8 Grove Mkt Drayton 110  
 Global Plymouth Pengeley Torbay 8  
 Hereford Times 7 WW Solihull 1

Sunday, 1st January 1984  
 Holts Salisbury 7 Hereford Times 1  
 Global Plymouth 3 launceston Kernow 5

Sunday, 8th January  
 Holts Salisbury 8 Global Plymouth 0  
 launceston Kernow 5 Tarmac ladies 3  
 Pengeley Torbay 8 WW Solihull 0  
 Grove Mkt Drayton II 1 Hereford Times 7

### FIXTURES

#### PREMIER DIVISION

Sunday, 19th February  
 Tibhar London v Ormesby  
 Thorn EMI Ellenborough v Jaques Fareham  
 Hassy Soham v Gillette Reading  
 Dunlop Birmingham v Unity Bradford

Saturday, 3rd March  
 Unity Bradford v Ormesby

Sunday, 4th March  
 Jaques Fareham v Hassy Soham  
 Ormesby v Thorn EMI Ellenboro  
 Gillette Reading v Dunlop Birmingham  
 Unity Bradford v Tibhar london

#### FIRST DIVISION

Sunday, 19th February  
 Byker Newcastle v Ormesby II  
 Butterfly Cardiff v Grove Market Drayton  
 Tarmac Wolverhampton v MBS St Neots

Sunday, 26th February  
 SIB Bath v Gillette Reading II

Sunday, 4th March  
 Grove Market Drayton v SIB Bath  
 Ormesby II v Butterfly Cardiff  
 Gillette Reading II v Tarmac Wolverhampton  
 MBS St Neots v Byker Newcastle

#### SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Sunday, 19th February  
 RIS Stockton v South Yorkshire  
 Sincil lincoln v March Halex  
 Salford TG v Chan Construction  
 Tarmac W/hampton II v Bradford Hermits

Thursday, 1st March  
 Tarmac W/hampton II v Sincil lincoln

Sunday, 4th March  
 South Yorkshire v Sincil lincoln  
 Tarmac W/hampton II v RIS Stockton  
 March Halex v Salford TG  
 Bradford Hermits v Chan Construction

#### SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Sunday, 12th February  
 Cranfield Halex v Witham FC

Sunday, 19th February  
 Spicer New Malden v Cranfield Halex  
 Dagenham FC v larkhall Clapham  
 TCB Dolphins v Gillette Reading III  
 Gunnersbury Triangle v Witham FC

Sunday, 4th March  
 Larkhall Clapham v TCB Dolphins  
 Gillette Reading III v Gunnersbury Triangle  
 Witham FC v Spicer New Malden

# POSTBAG

## GOSSIMA - THIS GAME OF OURS

It all started in 1879, when some rather merry university students decided to hit champagne corks with makeshift bats fashioned from the lids of cigar boxes. The corks were soon replaced by a rubber ball, and the game became known as Gossima. Then in 1900, James Gibb produced a celluloid ball, 'ping pong' was the obvious name (how that offends us) and, in 1902, the British Ping Pong Association was formed to administer the game. Wooden bats of all sizes were used, some faced with cork, sandpaper or vellum, but the game did not really take off until the early 1920's, when a chemist, Mr. E. C. Goode, experimented with a bat to which he affixed pieces from his shop's pimpled rubber mat. Shades of Shriver, I don't suppose he ever envisaged what this would lead to.

The English Table Tennis Association was formed on the 24th April 1927, and whilst the mid-European countries dominated the scene (G. Victor Barna and Maria Mednyanszky, both Hungarians, won 15 and 18 World titles respectively), we boasted a 1929 World Singles champion in Fred Perry, who later graced the lawn tennis courts with similar success. Table tennis as a spectacle had arrived, and there were packed audiences here for the exhibition tours given by Barna, Laslo Bellak, Richard Bergmann and Bohumil Vana. Post war Britain saw the game slowly but soundly revived under the guidance of Ivor Montagu, but not without many incidents which your readers could recount.

In Gloucester, for instance, a new Club registered, only to later discover they played in a builder's hut, on a concrete table. My own recollection was actually organising a tournament afloat. It was 1942, the Indian Ocean was a silvery sheen with a slight swell, and our ship had encountered nothing more than a few dhows on its anti-submarine patrol. For my efforts, I was 'booked' for getting badly sunburnt. Unnecessary exposure was the charge, and a 'record' which gained me many strange looks thereafter.

In 1949, and again in 1951, Johnny Leach restored our national pride by wresting the World 'Singles' from the continentals, and, accompanied by the swarthy Austrian Richard Bergmann (he and Barna later became domiciled here) toured the Far East to display the prevailing Western tactics and techniques. Actually, some early records show there was some organised table tennis in China from 1923, and we were soon to learn that the Chinese and Japanese had their own ideas on how to play the game. Indeed, they brought new dimensions and flair to it,

at a period when, conversely, its appeal to the public here was waning.

Why was this so? Did the introduction of sponge rubbers in 1952, increase the tempo of the game so that the layman could not appreciate the skill, speed of stroke and reflexes so necessary to the top player?

Whatever it was, table tennis has slowly diminished as a spectacle to the general public (so much so, it gets less coverage than Terry Griffiths contemplating his next shot). The effect of the decline has been the difficulty of attracting new sponsors and advertisers, and this is where I take issue with those who are advancing the claims of better cash incentives for our players. Of course, we would like to help them, but as one who has taken the begging bowl around for many years, it becomes increasingly difficult to attract support for tournaments etc. from business concerns, and I contend our first priority must be to keep alive these events, to provide the essential competition for the players. Any personal help for the ranked players should come from company endorsements, and perhaps the E.T.T.A.'s new promotions officer should take this under his wing, on a collective basis. Let us take heed of the Soccer Clubs' dilemma who have to pay high wages to attract star players (cash which is virtually lost to the game) and bankrupt themselves in the process.

The warnings are there, and to restore table tennis as a spectacle must be our primary aim, and to present it as such to the millions who want to see it.

It may mean standardisation of the bat (even if it takes a decade to persuade the Eastern countries) to eliminate all the suggestions of trickery with textured rubbers, and also to come down heavily on those who serve to test the tolerance of umpires, before all the latter disappear into the sunset. Our old friend Stan Proffitt is probably on the right lines by suggesting the raising of the net height. Can I pile Pelion on Ossa by an idea which came out of a serious discussion by some old timers who are concerned for the game? It is simply that the service rule should ensure the ball is visible at all times, and the point of contact of bat and ball must be at least one metre behind the table.

Changes in the game must inevitably occur, but let us remember that a large percentage of our players in the lower divisions of the local leagues will have little regard for this. They simply have a genuine feel for the more enduring virtues of the game, and turn up happily each week for their 'knock'. They deplore the fashionable lapses into gamesmanship and the selfishness of some. They are good losers, always quick to subjugate their genuine disappointment at defeat with an awareness that there's another game next week. That philosophy may be frowned on today, but it stems from

the good fortune in cutting their teeth at an age when defeat was not as big a tragedy as it now seems. In short, they are grateful for the enjoyment the game provides, and may it continue so.

JACK REEVES  
21 Martindale Road,  
Churchdown, Gloucester.

Having been active in the game for over 50 years' Jack's contribution to these pages is much appreciated. Ed.

## TWO-FOLD FRUSTRATION

A number of years have passed since I was sufficiently steamed up to put pen to paper for intended publication in these pages, and I do so now in the hope that space can be found in-between John Preat's voluminous copy.

The objects of my frustration are two-fold - the computer points system, about which much has already been written, and the vexed question of the amateur status of table tennis players. Like John Preat, I have a vested interest, namely my daughter Kerry, and I make no secret of that, hence my remarks are aimed predominantly at the Junior/Cadet level.

I applaud the principle of the Lentec points classification, and accept that the aim is for Seeding rather than Ranking. Why then is the system not used to the full? As I understand it, only three Cadet lists are issued per season. The first is based on the end of the previous season, and is used for seeding purposes right up to Christmas. The second appears in the New Year, and is used for the whole of the second half, and the third is issued at the end of the season, and as such is irrelevant. I fully accept, the administrative and cost problems of sending out lists to all concerned more frequently, but if the intention is to use the system for seeding Open Tournaments, surely all that is required is for the Master Computer to be kept up to date and for Tournament Organisers to obtain by telephone the up-to-date position on the day of their draw. This may not be feasible for all tournaments, but could and should be done for all the Majors. For example, this season's English Junior Closed in December and even the South of England in January were both seeded on the list which by then was totally obsolete. The rate of progress of some players at this kind of age makes the current system nonsensical. Or is this all too logical? National Councillors please note!

My second bone of contention astonishes me even more. Table tennis has always prided itself on being an Open sport, and those with sufficient talent have been able to pick up what scraps have been available. It was welcome news indeed to hear that table tennis had been accepted for the 1988 Olympics, but I now wonder if that so-called progress will

in fact be detrimental to our game. The costs these days of maintaining an individual challenge at National level are fast becoming prohibitive without financial help in the form of sponsorship in one guise or another.

It seems now that, if the present draft regulations come into force, even an equipment sponsorship renders one a professional not eligible for Olympic participation. Heady stuff for a 12 year old to handle! Do Torvill and Dean buy their own gear - or Franz Klammer his own skis? Of course not, but you can bet they will be at Sarajevo. And we shall doubtless see the Lucozade Kid at Los Angeles!

My intention is not to be flippant, but to point out the stupidity of it all. Other sports are relaxing their rules for Olympic competition, in order to allow the World's best performers (who are clearly 'professional') to take part. Why then do we seem to be going in the other direction? In my playing days (not so very long ago), success had to be equally hard-earned and totally self-financed, but the commitment was certainly not total as it is today. Parents of budding top-class players are obliged to spend huge sums, in some cases beyond their means, and if they are fortunate enough to find help, then those benefactors rightly expect some return. But what happens? Officialdom cracks down on shirt advertising, and tells young kids they can't take part in the Olympics if they wear this shirt or those shorts. Might I remind the ETTA that as a result of one of their own sponsorships, we all have to play from time to time with a very unpopular type of ball. You can't have your cake and eat it as well. I cannot believe that our administrators and legislators are really as far removed as they seem from the realities of life.

Finally, a question. If an equipment-sponsored player loses his contract, or does not renew it, does he regain his amateur status, or is he branded for life?

I hope this somewhat lengthy grumble excites some comment both from Official sources and elsewhere, and I apologise if I have got any of my facts wrong. I will doubtless be corrected in a future issue.

With tongue in cheek apologies to John Prean, whom I now seem to have emulated.

E. B. HALL

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#### POINTERS OF INTEREST

I noted your comments on the difficulty in increasing the circulation of T.T. News (November issue refers).

It is of course an arduous task to improve or even maintain the sales of a specialist magazine, and one has to dig deeply into the market available in order to obtain worthwhile results. As

you know, one gets the feeling that it is one step forward and two steps backward!

Perhaps I could offer some pointers which may be of interest.

(1) It is important to retain existing subscribers (or most of them). Subscriptions paid by yearly direct debit could help to maintain the existing clientele. This avoids subscriptions not being renewed through an oversight of the customer. People rarely cancel an existing direct debit, once it is in operation, unless they become thoroughly tired of the product. (I'm sure this would never apply to T.T. News!)

2) Give people an incentive to buy the magazine. Discounts on tickets, such as you are now giving for major events, might be extended to tickets for European League and International Matches. Regular discounts on tickets (not just an occasional offer) would furnish a good incentive to purchase the magazine.

3) Don't overlook the casual purchasers (not reliable, but still worth having!) This means having the current issue on sale at all tournaments and international events - not just a few back numbers lying on a table, but someone actually selling the current edition to spectators (and players) at every tournament, on the basis that the more people who see the magazine, the more regular subscribers you will obtain.

4) Finally, I am sure that League and Club Secretaries can obtain a supply of subscription forms on request to your office - however, why not lead from the front and automatically send League Secretaries a plentiful supply of subscription forms for distribution to Club Secretaries etc?

Good luck, and best wishes for 1984.

RAY GREEN  
Chairman

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HA40TA

#### NOT HAVING A BALL....

In Table Tennis, as in real life, one learns to ride the punches, to live with the bad times that invariably follow the good. But I was hurt by the leading article in TT News (Jan. '84).

Is Carl Prean really a 'poor workman that blames his tools', because he refuses to play with the Dunlop plastic ball? By my definition a poor workman is one who works with poor tools and then does the inevitable poor job with them. This is precisely what the player is trying to avoid.

Having concluded what I regard as a ridiculous deal with Dunlop - the deal is about tables and the ball is in for next to nothing - it may be comforting to suggest that the player is doing it all

because HE cannot play with the plastic ball. I can re-assure the critics: He can play just as badly with it as most of the others.

At 13 he twice defeated players in the Top 10 of the English Men's Ranking list, which at the time was considered quite good. At 12 he won through to the 1st round proper of the English Open. At 15 he won the English Junior Open without dropping a game or being taken beyond 16 at anyone time. If that feat has been equalled in the history of the Game I would like to hear about it. All these achievements with Dunlop balls. Winning is wonderful, but real players also like to play well. They like to be masters of their own fate. They do not like funny bounces, shiny surfaces which their expensive rubbers do not grip. They do not like to be in perfect position only for the ball to bounce under or over their bat for no apparent reason. They do not understand when every ball in the world is made of celluloid and therefore similar, why most of the EITA's events should be played with the one ball that is made of another material.

Carl Prean too kept quiet whilst only the odd event was played with this ball. When it became apparent that practically everything was being played with plastic this season, he felt he had to make a stand.

I cannot agree that the ball does not detract from spectators' enjoyment. I do not like players I have respected look like fools who make the same mistakes that I do. I thought the last English Open played with these balls quite awful, quality of entry, quality of play.

Carl ill-advised? I don't think so. His mother and I made it quite clear to him what the consequences might be. The ETTA does not seem to us an organisation in which tolerance and understanding are bursting to get out and it is already certain that the player will be given a bad time. Sadly, it is equally certain that he will stand almost alone in the corridors of power since all our friends are as isolated as we are from the decision-making processes.

What would have been the utmost hypocrisy would have been for me to exert pressure in favour of a ball with which I would not play myself.

JOHN PREAN

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#### THE SUMMER HONEYMOON OR THE PREANS IN A NUTSHELL

NEVER in the field of human endeavour has so much been said and written about one ball and one player. I was delighted to write a few thousand words on the successes of Carl Prean in Tokyo. I am astonished at the continuing barrage of words coming from the Isle of Wight.

I agree with many of the views unceasingly erupting from John Prean. The whole world has rejected the plastic ball so the next move can only be from the ITIF. But rejecting an invitation to play for England only because of the ball is a move that could prove to be extremely unwise, leaving the selectors in a clear situation where he might only be considered again if he climbs similar mountains to those in Tokyo, Jamaica and Barbados, what I have called the Summer Honeymoon.

JOHN WOODFORD

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#### MISLEADING ANALOGY

I refer to John Prean's contribution to the January Table Tennis News, in particular his Isle of Wight notes.

I cannot be accused of hasty action, of rushing into print or of boring the readers with lengthy replies to John's many offerings. I would even now not have written but for the fact that the making of offensive and personal comments in Table Tennis News seems to have spread from the Isle of Wight to Watford (see Mr. Snoxell's letter also in the January issue). To even imply that the problems that Table Tennis has encountered over the past twenty-five years is the fault of Tom Blunn is absurd. Why should people be free to make such silly suggestions without comment in reply? Table Tennis in England is democratic, if anyone person had been doing the damage that is suggested, that would certainly not have lasted as long as twenty-five years.

Every person who offers themselves for positions of responsibility must accept criticism, hopefully of a constructive nature. Those positions range from Club, local League, County to National. Mr. Snoxell uses an analogy to a business but that is misleading. Table Tennis in England along with most other sports is governed and run for the most part by volunteers, not paid personnel to be hired and then fired if either found to be wanting or found to be giving less than 100% commitment. Unpaid volunteers make the decisions from the National Council down and as such table tennis is run on a complicated network of goodwill and effort from people who will give what time they can spare and no more, start treating these people as employees in the interests of business like efficiency and there will soon be no nationally organised table tennis in England. Generally speaking the direction of criticism in table tennis is opposite to that of business. In my experience, very rarely do local officials come under fire from people with national responsibilities. Pat Snoxell is a volunteer, as is John Prean and Tom Blunn. Members of the Management Committee (more unpaid volunteers) are actually aware of this and as

such avoid, where possible, getting into written confrontation situations where statements made can be interpreted as criticism of persons who give their free time to table tennis.

I don't know if it is wise to write this letter but I think it is about time some defence was offered on behalf of what I choose to call the silent minority (see Mr. Snoxell's comment about silent majority). These are the people who accept positions of responsibility throughout table tennis in England and because of that responsibility cannot or will not resort to the type of aggressive and irrational comment creeping into the pages of our national magazine. Because the Editor is a fair man and does not wish to be accused of censorship, he quite rightly publishes critical letters. Whilst advocating that criticism should not be stifled, my plea is for fair and constructive criticism. This includes solutions to problems. How these solutions can be implemented, how the money can be found etc. We may find then that critics, apparently united are completely divided on how proposals can be implemented. For an example, certain people may advocate that the grass roots membership should be more prepared to finance England's top players; another person, apparently on the same side, would totally oppose this view. Their disagreement may not come to light unless suggestions for implementation were included.

To answer destructive criticism becomes occasionally necessary, otherwise there is a real danger that people will begin to believe that every criticism made is justified, that every statement made is correct. I, along with others would like to have been the first to use that now famous one liner "I seem to be getting the Isle of Wight edition", for whether meant or not it summed up my feelings beautifully. Whilst being concise, that statement cannot be used as an answer to any of John's numerous writings. Let me take just one paragraph of John's contribution to the last issue of T.T. News - Page 24, the para. headed "Dropped by England?" to illustrate John's skill with the written word to make apparent nonsense out of sense.

The paragraph would have the reader believe that the selection committee a) had no thought for Carl; b) changed some previous standard procedure or criteria just to impede Carl; c) that there were no other considerations; d) that Carl was not treated fairly in comparison with England's other top players; e) that between all the members of the Selection Committee, John knows more about selection planning and responsibilities. Let me give my version of the events for the first half of the '83/'84 Season. During October, November and December English teams were being sent to three international open events - the

Swiss, Hungarian and the Scandinavian. The Hungarian was linked with the European League match in Hungary which took place a couple of days before the Open Championships. As in previous years more than the five men and four women needed for the major championships at the end of the season, were given a chance to show what they could do. This I think is fair. Selection at this stage is a balance between giving top players the necessary experience and the desirable opportunities. Some players were selected for only one of the three events, a few for two and none for all three events. Carl was selected for the Swiss and the Hungarian. Apart from the financial constraints which stop the opportunities being available to more player places in international open events, the E.T.T.U. allow only one team (two singles players and a doubles) per event from each participating country except the host nation. This severely restricts playing opportunities for players competing in the individual knockout event only. Of course we don't always send our best team to the early season foreign tournaments, how would you find your best team for the end of the current season and in the case of young players, seasons to come?

The other opportunity to record wins in E.T.T.U. competition to go towards the European ranking was to play in the European League matches. The European ranking was done after the Scandinavian Open in early December and Carl had played in all the European League matches up to that date. One other factor to be taken into consideration is that clashing with the Scandinavian Open was the Beneficial Trust English Junior Closed Championships. How could a Selection Committee of the E.T.T.A. select a junior player for an event which would take him out of a national championship sponsored in a manner to be beneficial to English junior table tennis over the next three years? As Carl was not going to be the only player to be sent to all three foreign 'opens', there was of course an alternative - send him to the first two, Carl had ample opportunity to hold his place in Europe's top twelve.

One last point - John writes "No such thoughts entered the heads of our selectors". It concerns me greatly that John can now read the minds of the five persons who make up the selection panel. You will now see how long it takes to reply to just one short paragraph of a John Prean letter. John of course has a biased point of view for quite understandably he has Carl's interests as his priority. Carl is a very important part of the Selection Committee's thought and deed, but it is to the group of players that make up the England team that the committee is committed. Individual's problems are of concern but policies cannot centre around one player to the detriment

of others.

I intend or make no criticism of Carl. He is a talented player and a likeable person. I only hope that the constant flow of controversy in Table Tennis News does not give Carlone more pressure with which to deal.

I am confident that John will continue his prolific contributions to the magazine. I hope he can remember, however, that there are sometimes other points of view and on occasions overriding factors for the general good.

Peter Charters,  
(Chairman,

National Selection Committee.)  
57 Burghfield Road,  
Reading,  
Berks.

## OH! MR. PREAN

Oh, Mr. Prean, what can we do?

Is there anything anyone can do to please you?

First its the balls, what about workmen and tools?

Then you refer to a change in the Rules.

Now it's the Rubber - Friendship 729, O dear, this became an out of stock line,

"Black's unavailable, you'll have to try red",

Wembley was where Carl tried this out you said!

Even the debut in Poland was wrong, No one to meet Carl, the journey too long.

## STRESS SITUATIONS

As the father of Juliet Houghton, I feel I must write in defence of Alan Fisher following the letter of Mr. Blanche in your last issue.

I have known Alan as a coach for many years and he is most careful never to discuss players not known to him. He does know my daughter needs to watch her temperament in stress situations.

The subject of his original article he discussed with my daughter before it was even published. He was expressing in a gentle way how control of her own tenseness eventually led to her winning.

I suggest that the advice Alan gave

The room was too small,  
And no hot water at all.

Of course, the Selectors (nothing new on that score),  
You can't say a thing that they've not heard before,  
Back to the Worlds, when Carl had his day,  
Something no one will ever take away.

You constantly remind us, lest we forget,  
You're justly proud of your son and, yet,  
Never, when you mention this scene,  
Do you ever refer to the rest of "THE TEAM",

Yes, there are others, all doing their best,

my daughter could well be taken by Mr. Blanche. I know his daughter does not need such advice because, from my knowledge of her, she is the type of girl her father says she is, and I would be a very proud Dad.

Mr. Blanche can find Mr. Fisher's address in the ETIA handbook (address list) when he sends his apology. He need not fear meeting him at the next tournament whether he wishes it or not.

E. G. B. HOUGHTON  
97, Lavender Hill,  
Tonbridge, Kent.

The rules and the tubbers, the travel,  
The rest,  
Apply to them all, the girls and the lads,  
But most do not have any help from their dads.

Please, try to see others point of view,  
They have them you know, just like you do,  
Don't blame other people, events or equipment,  
Just study your player, and find where his form went.

You praise George Yates - and almost soften,  
It shows yo can do it - why not try it more often?

MRS. P. SIMPSON,  
9 Lisker Avenue,  
Otley LS21 1DG

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## RUBBERS ARE HERE TO STAY

The contents of Mr. Greenburg's letter (T.T. News December) are unfortunately typical of an attitude of which there is all too much in table tennis circles at the moment.

When fellow players are described as "tricksters" and "con men", this really is a descent into depths that should have no part in our sport. We have to accept that men are not equal, not in wealth, not in health, not in skill, not in ability, not in outlook, not in anything. The same reasonable principle applies to bats and rubbers that cover them. I too remember the great days of the hard bat era and watched with enormous enthusiasm marvellous personalities like Barna and Bergman.

Some of these great players brilliantly illuminated the table tennis scene but we are talking about 1984! For heaven's sake let's stop continually living in the past - it's 1984 to 1990 that we have to worry about - let's build for the future with flair, creativity and confidence - even whilst we are aware that we are building upon the foundations created in the past. We have to face the fact that few want to play with such old fashioned bats any

more. The young and sometimes not so young want to produce shots with considerable spins and speeds and that is why the main world market in table tennis rubbers is for the fast varieties.

Big loop shots have produced a demand for rubbers to counter such shots and that was the start of the slower rubbers (anti-loop and long pimples). Manufacturers gave the players exactly what they wanted, that is how we stay in business. Combination bats followed and these caused some resentment as the mechanics were difficult to understand. English players (Hilton - Hammersley - Prean - Bellinger- Johnson) achieved some remarkable results for their country - valuable for all of us. That is the only way our sport gets into the papers and television and without this publicity we won't get new melTibers coming into our club rooms replacing the ones who retire.

The argument against the Combination bats seemed to me always based on fallacies, a mixture of sour grapes and incompetence. There was no evidence whatsoever that it drove

spectators away. Who can say that the above mentioned England players and Jonyer and the top Chinese and Japanese defenders were "box office" poison! They at least engaged in rallies as indeed do all the defenders, most of whom have to use Combination bats in order to stay alive at that level of competition. Let's kill this controversy once and for all. There is not the slightest chance of standardisation as far as the World Table Tennis scene is concerned. At the moment the Far East have most of the skill and most of the creative ideas and is by far the most important area in the world for table tennis.

I am afraid that Mr. Greenburg's views do not carry much weight in these most important world circles. The Chinese and Japanese and Korean National Squads still dazzle us by their skill and ability. I hope Mr. Greenburg will be the first to applaud if an England Squad succeeds in giving them a good hiding (with Combination bats!). Bats will always be of different qualities as will be the rubbers that cover them. Umpires cannot be issued with mobile laboratories and, above all, players enjoy trying out new rubbers - if they did not all manufacturers would gradually go out of business.

There is no reason whatsoever why Mr. Greenburg cannot form a "standardisation" league in his own very large London area in which everybody plays with a hard bat or 1mm soft bat or whatever appears "fair" to Mr. Greenburg. I suggest Mr. Greenburg starts a crusade in his own area to see just how successful his ideas will be. I very much doubt whether such a project would ever get off the ground because players do not want it. Mr. Greenburg may not have heard as yet of the colour changes which are designed to make it easier to play against combination bats. If you know what is going to happen there is no longer any

excuse for making a mistake. You have to accept that the shot played was too good for you, you can no longer blame your opponent's bat, you have at last to give credit where it is due. This change of attitude would be a healthy improvement on the present state of affairs.

Finally then - let's rightly retain our romance with the past but face the technical reality of the future - NO OFFENCE Mr. Greenburg - we need you!

S. T. LENTON

Lenton (Holdings) Ltd.,  
Eagle Street,  
Coventry, CV1 4GJ

## PERSONAL VIEW

I would refer you to a letter recently published in the correspondence columns of 'Table Tennis News', written by Mr. P. J. Snoxell, Honorary Secretary of this League.

I must emphasise that the views and opinions expressed in the letter are personal to Mr. Snoxell and in no way reflect or represent any held by the league committee as a whole.

KENYON MARLOW  
Chairman

Watford and District  
Table Tennis League

## THE PLASTIC BALL SITUATION

A number of comments have been made in Table Tennis News regarding the plastic ball. The fact remains that the Dunlop plastic ball is approved by the I.T.T.F. and as such can be used (and has been outside England) for major international events. It is authorised to be used in World and European Championships. The argument is therefore with the I.T.T.F. of which the E.T.T.A. is a one vote member.

Dunlop's have sound reasons for the use of plastic rather than celluloid. There could be a case for standardisation around the use of plastic.

The E.T.T.A. (players and adminis-

trators) would suffer considerably without the support of companies like Dunlop. There would be very serious repercussions without that support.

The comparison regarding standardisation of table tennis rubbers 'with standardisation of ball material is misleading. The ball is common to all taking part in a particular event. I prefer the comparison of hard court/grass court in tennis; practice is necessary between events on different surfaces to accustom oneself to the change. The playing surface for a particular event in this case is again common to all participants.

It would be foolish to pretend that there was not some disquiet about the material used for T.T. balls. However, boycotts are not the answer. There are

democratic and legitimate channels to be gone through to bring about changes thought by the majority to be necessary. The initiative shown by Barry Johnson, the elected players' representative, is along the right lines. The majority of players polled in Barry's survey took the responsible course which was to negotiate the problem whilst the current contract runs. Barry will be involved in those negotiations on behalf of the players. John Holland's petition at Hinckley seems to have been conducted in a manner such as to make his findings questionable, but Barry's investigation was fair and properly conducted, required reading and choice of action.

Peter Charters  
(Vice Chairman for Selection & Coaching)

## NATIONAL INTER-LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

North Middlesex, the current holders of the Wilmott Cup, fell 5-2 to Wimbledon in Rd. 2 of the Zonal matches but safely through are Leicester in the J.M. Rose Bowl and Wolverhampton in both the Carter Cup and Bromfield Trophy competitions. Zone semi-finals are:-

### Wilmott Cup

Zone 1	Manchester Preston Final: 1 v 2	Bolton (1) Westmorland (2)
Zone 2	Bradford Sunderland Final: 2 v 1	Harrogate (1) Stockton (2)
Zone 3	Leicester Hull Final: 1 v 2	Chesterfield (1) Potteries or Louth (2)
Zone 4	Cambridge Norwich Final: 1 v 2	Birmingham (1) Hunts Central (2)
Zone 5	Central London Southend Final: 2 v 1	North Herts (1) Braintree (2)
Zone 6	Staines Willesden Final: 2 v 1	Reading (1) Milton Keynes (2)
Zone 7	Hastings Medway Final: 1 v 2	Brighton (1) Beckenham (2)

Zone 8	Poole Salisbury Final: 1 v 2	Gosport/Fareham (1) Swindon (2)
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### J. M. Rose Bowl

Zone 1	Tyneside Summer Westmorland Final: 1 v 2	Northumberland (1) Sunderland (2)
Zone 2	Sheffield Blackpool Final: 1 v 2	Liverpool (1) Bradford (2)
Zone 3	Leicester Grimsby - Bye (2) Final: 2 v 1	Grimsby (1)
Zone 4	Birmingham Luton Final: 2 v 1	Wolverhampton (1) Cambridge (2)
Zone 5	Harlow Ilford Final: 2 v 1	Chelmsford (1) Brentwood (2)
Zone 6	Newbury North Middlesex Final: 2 v 1	Maidenhead (1) Thames Valley (2)
Zone 7	Aldershot Crawley/Horsham Final: 1 v 2	Hastings (1) Maidstone (2)
Zone 8	Bristol Plymouth - Bye (2) Final: 1 v 2	Swindon (1)

### Carter Cup

Zone 1	Hartlepool Northumberland Final: 1 v 2	Ormesby (1) Tyneside Summer (2)
Zone 2	Wirral Preston Final: 1 v 2	Bradford (1) Leeds (2)
Zone 3	Chesterfield Hinckley Final: 2 v 1	Grimsby (1) Nottingham (2)
Zone 4	March	Wolverhampton (1)

Bedford Final: 1 v 2	Milton Keynes (2)
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Zone 5	Central London Ipswich Final: 2 v 1	Brentwood (1) North Herts (2)
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Zone 6	Bracknell Wembley Final: 1 v 2	Dagenham (1) North Middlesex (2)
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Zone 7	Reading Crawley/Horsham Final: 2 v 1	Haywards Heath (1) Worthing (2)
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Zone 8	Swindon North Devon Final: 1 v 2	Bournemouth (1) Plymouth (2)
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### Bromfield Trophy

Zone 1	Ormesby Northumberland Final: 2 v 1	Tyneside Summer (1) Sunderland (2)
Zone 2	Sheffield - Bye until Rd. 5	
Zone 3	Chesterfield Leicester Final: 1 v 2	Grimsby (1) Derby (2)
Zone 4	Wolverhampton Dunstable Final: 2 v 1	Ipswich (1) Wisbech (2)
Zone 5	Brentwood Willesden Final: 2 v 1	Wembley & Harrow (1) North Middlesex (2)
Zone 6	Maidenhead Newbury Final: 1 v 2	Oxford or Thames Valley (1) Reading (2)
Zone 7	Brighton - Bye (1) Crawley/Horsham - Bye (2) Final: 1 v 2	
Zone 8	Bridgwater Plymouth Final: 2 v 1	Bournemouth (1) Bristol (2)

Semi-final ties are to be completed by Feb. 12 and Zone finals by March 11, 1984.

# SCOTTISH NEWS

by Denis George

**EUROPEAN LEAGUE.** Division 2  
After an inauspicious start to the season with three defeats against Turkey, Ireland and Switzerland, Scotland played Luxembourg at Grangemouth on Dec. 10 with David McIlroy coming in for John Broe, who played only in the men's doubles. However the Scots made little impression on the visitors with David Hannah's two singles wins their only success - his form against Yves Maas was so devastating that at times his opponent could do no more than shake his head in amazement.  
Result:-

Scotland 2: Luxembourg 5

Early January saw the Scots in Guernsey for the vital match which we had to win to ensure the retention of Division 2 status next season. Our evening flight to Guernsey was cancelled due to gale force winds over the Channel Islands which necessitated an enforced stay in the Gatwick Hilton (free of charge) so arrival was delayed until the morning of the match. Hannah started off tentatively against a confident Ian Powell and was not helped by the apparent disdain with which Ian dealt with his spin services. Powell took the first end at 18, but David came back to win 16 and 15 as Ian's confidence evaporated. From then on it was Scotland all the way, with Janet Smith winning her first European League match against Susan Ferbrache, except for the mixed doubles which Powell and Ferbrache won 2-0 from McIlroy and Smith.

Scores: Guernsey 1: Scotland 6  
Ian Powell lt. David Hannah 18, -16, -15.  
Mark Pipet lt. David McIlroy -17, -17.  
Susan Ferbrache lt Janet Smith -16, -17.  
Powell/Pipet lt. Hannah/McIlroy -12, -10.  
Powell/Ferbrache bt McIlroy/Smith 8, -11, 19.  
Powell lt. McIlroy -9, -17.  
Pipet lt. Hannah -8, -16.

## CLOBER SPORTS NATIONAL LEAGUE

The SCOTTISH NATIONAL LEAGUE has been sponsored again this season by CLOBER SPORTS of Dalmuir, Glasgow with 19 teams in three divisions.

GREAVES SPORTS (Central TTC, Glasgow), winners of Division 1 the past two seasons, have a very strong team headed by Richard Yule and seem destined for a third successive title - they started well with 9-1 and 10-0 wins over newly promoted DUMBARTON BALLANTINES and LUMLEY SPORTS (Central TTC 'B'). SPRINGBURN TIGERS, MURRAY-FIELD BANDA (for whom Hannah has yet to appear) and COATBRIDGE WILLIAMSONS will be fighting it out for second place. BEATTIES Y.M. PAISKEY, a newcomer to Div. 2, will take some beating whilst FIFE SPORT is top of Div. 3 after two matches.

A very pleasing feature of the league



FALKIRK BARRATT National League Team:  
Gerry Campbell, Carole Dalrymple, James Russell and Gordon Waddell.

(Photo: B. D. George)



## WEST OF SCOTLAND OPEN:

Men's Doubles winners John Broe and David Hannah with David Black, Chairman of West of Scotland TTL.

(Photo: B. D. George)

this season is that most of the teams have been able to obtain sponsorship, either in cash or kind (or both). Latest of these is Carole Dalrymple's Falkirk TTC squad who have been sponsored by the well-known house building firm BARRATT and now playas FALKIRK BARRATT in Div. 1.

## SCOTTISH TOURNAMENT SCENE

Honours in the men's events have been shared around with Anwar Majid winning the MIDLAND OPEN, McIlroy the MEADOWBANK OPEN, Yule the G. E. WILLIAMSON OPEN and Hannah the WEST OF SCOTLAND OPEN in his only Scottish tournament so far this season. For the ladies, with Carole Dalrymple incapacitated early on, Janet Smith won the EAST OF SCOTLAND and G. E. WILLIAMSON and Patrice Fleming the MIDLAND and Carole returned to the fray to win the MEADOWBANK and WEST OF SCOTLAND. Form in the Boys has been variable with Martin Crawford - the No. 1 - winning only the early

season EAST OF SCOTLAND. Gordon Waddell won the MIDLAND and G. E. WILLIAMSON and Martin Burke the MEADOWBANK, whilst the WEST OF SCOTLAND was won by Ulsterman Colin Inglis from Ian Stokes. The Cadet Boys, however, has been dominated by Edinburgh's diminutive Gavin Turnbull who has won all four tournaments. Lynn Johnston has also been supreme in the Girls with three wins and Sarah Hurry in the Cadet Girls.

## 16.10.83: EAST OF SCOTLAND OPEN. Meadowbank SC. Edinburgh.

Men's Singles:  
Malcolm Francis (Sussex) bt. David McIlroy 18. 16.

Women's Singles:  
Janet Smith bt. Liz Robb 11. 10.

Class 2 Singles:  
Derek Iundie bt. Ian Stokes 12. -19. 8.

Boys' Singles:  
Martin Crawford bt. Gordon Cummings 1, -21. 14.

Girls' Singles:  
Lynn Johnston bt. Diane Greig 17. 8.

Cadet Boys' Singles:  
Gavin Turnbull bt. Colin Carmichael -14. 13. 21.

Cadet Girls' Singles:  
1. Jennifer Hook. 2. Lorraine Anderson.

**30.10.83: MIDLAND OPEN, Dundee.**

M.S.: Anwar Majid bt. McIlroy 16. -19. 18.  
 W.S.: Patrice Fleming bt. Valerie Thomson 17. 17.  
 B.S.: Gordon Waddell bt. Crawford 20. 19.  
 G.S.: Johnston bt. Sarah HURRY 9.14.  
 C.B.S.: Turnbull bt. Carmichael 15. 11.  
 C.G.S.: Sarah HURRY bt. Linda Hood 10. 12.

**6.11.83: MEADOWBANK OPEN, Edinburgh.**

M.S.: Mollroy bt. Graeme Docherty-17. 14. 16.  
 W.S.: Carole Dalrymple bt. Robb 15. 22.  
 Class 2 Singles: Majid bt. Willie Mabon 14. 20.  
 B.S.: Martin Burke bt. David Low 19. 17.  
 G.S.: Johnston bt. HURRY -13. 13. 17.  
 e.B.S.: Turnbull bt. Carmichael 8. 17.  
 e.G.S.: 1. HURRY, 2. HOOD.

**13.11.83: G. E. WILLIAMSON CAMERAS OPEN, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow.**

M.S.: Yule bt. Broe 13. 7.  
 W.S.: Smith bt. Greig 17. 16.  
 B.S.: Waddell bt. Low 24. 15.  
 G.S.: Greig bt. Maureen Cusick 17.15.  
 Class 2 Singles: Kenny Mclean bt. Peter Shaw 14. 12.  
 Open Cadet Singles: Turnbull bt. Carmichael 7. 14.

**26.11.83: ROYAL BANK WEST OF SCOTLAND OPEN, Glasgow.**

M.S.: Hannah bt. Yule 19. 18.  
 W.S.: Dalrymple bt. Greig -16. 16. 17.  
 B.S.: Colin Inglis bt. Stokes 13, 16.  
 G.S.: Johnston bt. Nora McEvoy 17, 17.  
 C.B.S.: Turnbull bt. Christopher Woess -18. 18. 12.  
 C.G.S.: Hood bt. Lesley Reid 9. 11.  
 M.D.: Brae/Hannah bt. McIlroy/D. Campbell 15. 19.  
 W.O.: McEvoy/U. Masterson bt. E. Meenan/Robb 15. 10.

**25.11.83: ROYAL BANK TROPHY: JUNIOR INTERNATIONALS SCOTLAND v N. IRELAND**

The annual junior internationals with Northern Ireland were played in Glasgow on the eve of the WEST OF SCOTLAND OPEN. The girls' match was won 6-2 with Nora McEvoy winning her two for N. Ireland's only successes, however the boys' match was disappointingly lost 3-5 with the Scottish wins coming from the 3rd and 4th players David Low and Gordon Cummings.

**JUNIOR GIRLS: SCOTLAND 6. NORTHERN IRELAND 2**  
 Maureen Cusick bt. Kirsteen Stafford 12. 11.  
 Pat Calder bt. Ann Halliday 12, 2.  
 Lynn Johnston bt. Ursula Masterson 10. 13.  
 Diane Greig bt. Nora McEvoy -12, 13. -16.  
 Calder bt. Stafford 16, 19.  
 Cusick bt. Halliday 11, 12.  
 Greig bt. Masterson 16. -17, 10.  
 Johnston lt. McEvoy -18,22, -19.

**JUNIOR BOYS: SCOTLAND 3. NORTHERN IRELAND 5**  
 Gordon Cummings bt. Peter Robinson 18. -19. 16.  
 David Low lt. Stephen Dennison -15. -16.  
 Martin Crawford lt. Andrew Dennison 17. -18. -15.  
 Gordon Waddell lt. Colin Inglis 14. -9. -19.  
 Low bt. Robinson -13. 10, 16.  
 Cummings bt. S. Dennison 16. 11.  
 Waddell lt. A. Dennison -19. 19. -16.  
 Crawford lt. Inglis 15. -18. -18.

**NEW RANKINGS LISTS: Following the JUNIOR/CADET ASSESSMENT TOURNAMENT at Meadowbank on Jan. 7 a new ranking list was prepared:-**

**BOYS**

1. Gordon WADDELL (Stir)
2. GO'don CUMMINGS (Waf 5)
3. Martin CRAWFORD (Stir)
4. Martin BURKE (Edin)
5. David LOW (Aber)
6. Ian STOKES (Waf 5)
7. Jon WILSON (Edin)
8. Gavin TURNBULL (Edin)
9. George INNES (Waf 5)
10. Jim WILSON (Edin)
11. Robert ALLAN
12. David GRANT
13. Alan MILLER (Stir)
14. J. MONTEITH (Oun)
15. Danny MAHER (Waf 5)
16. J. McCARRON (5";)

**GIRLS**

1. Lynn JOHNSTON (Stir)
2. Diane GREIG (Waf 5)
3. Sarah HURRY (Stir)
4. Maureen CUSICK (W of S)
5. Pal CALDER (St;)
6. Lynne DAVREN (Waf 5)
7. Linda HOOD (Edin)
8. Pauline FOX (W of S)
9. Ka,en STURROCK (Lan)
10. Eileen CUSICK (Waf 5)

**CADET BOYS**

1. TURNBULL
2. Colin CARMICHAEL (Waf 5)



CAROLE DALRYMPLE in action in Tokyo.

(Photo: B. D. George)



N. Ireland's Junior Girls v Scotland

Ursula Masterson, Nora McEvoy, Jacky Wightman NPC, Ann Halliday and Kirsteen Stafford.

(Photo: B. D. George)



N. Ireland's Junior Boys v Scotland

Andrew Dennison, Stephen Dennison, Jimmy Wilson NPC, Colin Inglis and Peter Robinson.

(Photo: B. D. George)

**CADET GIRLS**

1. HURRY
2. HOOD
3. Jennifer HOOK (Edin)
4. Lorraine ANDERSON (Waf 5)
5. Lesley REID (Stir)
6. Catherine O'NEILL (Waf 5)

Key:-  
 Aber = Aberdeen  
 Dun = Dundee  
 Edin = Edinburgh  
 Lan = Lanarkshire  
 Str = Stirlingshire  
 Stir = West Dunbartonshire  
 W. Dunb = West of Scotland  
 W of S = West of Scotland

## PROFILE BLADES



65810 HINOKI/JELTON  
65820 HINOKI/SPA  
65830 HINOKI/SHINA

65840 HINOKI/SHINA  
65850 CHINESE/BIRCH



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SWING  
GRIP



## CLEVELAND 3-STAR OPEN

JAPANESE IN COMMAND

Apart from a men's team victory by Carl Prean and Graham Sandley, significantly by 3 sets to 1 over Japan, all other events in the Cleveland 3-Star Open, played over the weekend of Jan 21/22 at Thornaby Pavilion, were swept up by the Japanese.

But all credit to Carole Moore in reaching the final of the women's singles; to Alan Cooke and Nicky Mason and to Joy Grundy and Jean Parker the beaten finalists in the men's and women's doubles. Results:-

Men's Team - England 3 Japan 1  
G. Sandley bt S. Ono -20, 17, 12;  
C. Prean bt J. Nukazuka 10, 17;  
Prean/Sandley lost to Nukazuka/Ono -9, 8, -14;  
Prean bt Ono 19, 19.

Women's Team - England 1 Japan 3  
C. Moore bt M. Uezono -16, 13, 14;  
J. Grundy lost to Y. Shimauchi -14, -9;  
Grundy/Moore lost to Shimauchi/T. Yamamoto -20, -10;  
Moore lost to Shimauchi -12, -9.

Men's Singles: Semi-finals:  
Dno bt Sandley 21, -14;  
Nukazuka bt Prean -19, 16, 17;  
Final: Dno bt Nukazuka 20, 13.

Women's Singles:  
Shimauchi bt Moore -19, 16, 17.

Men's Doubles:  
Nukazuka/Dno bt A. Cooke (Dyl)/N. Mason (Sy) -19, 13, 10.

Women's Doubles:  
Shimauchi/Yamamoto bt J. Grundy/J. Parker (La) 16, 15.

A full report with more detailed scores will appear in the March issue.

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# LANCASHIRE LIFE

by Geo. R. Yates

## FIGHTBACK AT LEICESTER

Two singles successes extracted from Keith Richardson by Steve Bevan and Keith Williams, plus a women's doubles victory for Amanda Goodwin and Paula French, were all that Lancashire II could manage against Cambridgeshire at a cold Soham venue in Div. 2A of the County Championships.

Meantime the Juniors, away to Leicestershire, fought back from a 1-4 deficit to share the spoils in a 5-all draw thanks to singles victories obtained by Colin Hogarth, Sean Gibson, Lindsay McEwen, Andrea Holt and Howard Leigh, in that order.

Scores in this latter encounter were:-

M. Bellot lost to C. Hogarth -17, -14;  
D. Grundy bt S. Gibson 22, 20;  
P. Bumpus bt H. Leigh 13, -20, 19;  
T. Clark/J. Murray bt A. Holt/L. McEwen 21, -13, 15;  
Bellot/Bumpus bt Gibson/Leigh -20, 18, 19;  
Bellot lost to Gibson 18, -10, -15;  
Clark lost to McEwen -14, -13;  
Bumpus bt Hogarth 18, 18;  
Murray lost to Holt -12, -15;  
Grundy lost to Leigh -18, -20.

As was the case last season Preston, the defending champions, and Bolton are battling it out for honours in Div. 1 of the Lancashire and Cheshire League. In five matches to date both are unbeaten with Bolton having beaten Liverpool (9-1), Wirral (8-2), Stockport (7-3), Manchester (7-3) and Warrington (8-2). Preston, three sets in arrears,

have accounted for Warrington (6-4), Manchester (6-4), Stockport (7-3), Crewe (8-2) and Wirral (9-1). Lead positions are:-

	P	W	L	F	APts
Bolton	5	5	0	39	11 10
Preston	5	5	0	36	14 10

As at Dec. 31, Warrington led the Women's Div. 1 with maximum points from three matches with last season's champions, Preston, languishing in bottom position but thus far without the services of Joy Grundy and Jean Parker.

Bury led the Junior Div. 1, unbeaten in four matches, with last season's champions, Fleetwood, unbeaten in three.

In the Zone 1 semi-finals of the national Wilmott Cup competition Manchester are at home to Bolton and Preston play hosts to Westmorland. Tony Worthington was Manchester's hero in their 5-3 win over Liverpool in the previous round with a treble.

In the second round of the more localised Norman Cook Memorial Trophy k.o. competition Bolton beat Manchester 5-1, the former having Susan Lisle in their team, the scores being:-

Tony Taylor bt Stephen Scowcroft -15, 16, 13;  
Mark Hankey lost to Shaun Browne -13, 16, -15;  
Tony Worthington lost to Clive Heap -18, -13;  
Jean Nield lost to Susan Lisle -19, -16;  
Hankey/Taylor lost to Browne/Scowcroft 14, -21, -19;  
Worthington/Nield lost to Heap/Lisle -19, -17.

Stan Renshaw, aged 80, having presided over the **Urmston** League's 50th anniversary celebrations at the Nags Head Hotel, Davyhulme on October 20, died on Monday, January 16 and our condolences go to Stan's

relatives and to the Urmston league on the loss of only their second president.

## N.W. "TOP TABLE" SUMMER COMPETITION

A new competition restricted to players registered with leagues in Lancashire and Cheshire is being planned for the summer period. A maximum of 192 players are being invited to participate in this new event which will take place over six Saturdays in June and July of which each player will play on three dates. On each Saturday every competitor will be guaranteed six sets. The top prize for the eventual winner will be £200.

Each league in the region will have a certain number of places guaranteed for entry into the competition; All top players should contact their league secretaries or league development officers for further information. Any places not taken up by leagues will be allocated to other players so that we achieve a full entry.

The aim is to provide enjoyable competitive sessions for the top 192 players in the region. The cash incentives are intended to attract some of our very top players to risk their reputations in their own backyard. The venue is likely to be in Leyland, nr. Preston.

In charge of the project are Dr. Keith Soothill, Chairman of North-West Regional Development Advisory Panel and National Coach, Donald Parker.

# CHESHIRE CHAT

by Ron Weatherby

Cheshire county teams are having mixed fortunes, the senior teams are at present fourth and bottom, of the 3rd division, but with the Veterans, success is the name of the game. The first team is top of the Premier Division with an undefeated record, Cheshire 2nd are lying third in Div 2A, and Cheshire 3rd top Div 3A. The Junior team travelled to Derbyshire in a bid for promotion from Div 2A, but they were no match for the division leaders. With the score at 6-0 Lynn Harrison pulled a set back for Cheshire, this was followed by an overdue win for Keith Weatherby, to give a match score of 8-2 in Derbyshire's favour.

The Stockport Closed Championships were held at Bramhall, in January, and despite the extremely cold weather there was a good turnout for most of the events. In the Cadet

singles, M. Parker and J. Taylor went through to the final to reach their seeded positions. After a hard-fought final the more experienced Parker came out the winner. In the Junior finals Steve Lypnyckyj beat Keith Weatherby to take the trophy. Steve reached the semi-final of the Youth Singles, where he met Lynn Harrison.

In the final against Keith Weatherby Lynn found the going too hard, but was very pleased to receive the runners-up trophy. A poor turnout in the women's singles saw Doreen Schofield and Lynn Harrison win their respective groups to reach the final. This was a hard-fought affair with Doreen coming out the winner. The Men's singles was an event that left nothing to be desired. From the first round onwards there were upsets, and games that will be remembered for a long time. Derek Schofield the No. 1 seed reached the semis, where he met teammate Ron

Weatherby. An in-form Ron won this tussle to reach the final. Roger Hampson reached the final after a spectacular game with Paul Collins in the semis. The final itself was a ding-dong affair, with each player taking a game. The final score of 23-21 in the third in Ron's favour, emphasised how hard the two players had fought.

The Veterans was won by a youngster called Schofield, who with teammate Terry Donlon beat Ron and Keith Weatherby to take the men's doubles, and Hampson, and Doreen Schofield, won the mixed doubles.

WANTED from team and league secretaries in Cheshire  
Information about the things that are happening in the County. County committee have decided not to enforce the new rule on bat rubbers when the County Closed Championships are held later this season.

# Veterans On The Move

By Gerry Batt-Rawden

The inaugural meeting of Veterans to constitute a Society duly took place at the Crest Hotel, Coventry on Sunday, 15th January, 1984.

Representatives from most of the counties that encourage veteran play were in attendance. Inclement weather kept many delegates away and a number of apologies were received.

The meeting was opened with Mike Watts taking the chair and the following terms of reference were formulated.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To form a Society for all Veteran players of all standards, with the object of promoting friendship and competition amongst players throughout the country.
- 1a. To promote National Championships for Veterans involving over 40, over 50, over 60, over 70 events.
- 1b. The organisation of Regional Championships.
- 1c. A top 12 Ranking Tournament.
- 1d. An annual tournament involving teams from the regions.
- 1e. Other competitions as may be required by the membership and agreed by the elected committee.
- 1f. To organise a Dinner Dance in association with the National Championships.
- 1g. To promote other activities as agreed by the elected committee.
- 1h. A Computer ranking list.

## CONSTITUTION

- 2a. The name of the organisation shall be VETERANS ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS SOCIETY. (VETTS).
- 2b. The society shall remain in 'Good Standing' with the English Table Tennis Association at all times.
- 2c. The terms of reference shall be as agreed.
- 2d. The Society shall appoint the following officers:
  - 2d1 President.
  - 2d2 Chairman.
  - 2d3 Secretary.
  - 2d4 Treasurer.
  - 2d5 Public Relations Officer.
- 2e. In addition, the Society shall appoint the following Committee

To be sent to: Mr. W. Moran (Treasurer), 9 Rupert Road, Grimsby, South Humberside.

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representatives who will co-ordinate activities in their region:

- 2e1 Northern Representative
- 2e2 Midlands Representative
- 2e3 Southern Representative

The meeting initially agreed to three Regions and left the elected committee to identify boundaries and make recommendations on regional representation for the future.

- 2f. All appointments to be elected by a simple majority.
- 2g. All Officers and Committee to be initially appointed for one year. Members agreed that, following this, appointments should be staggered.
- 2h. All Officers and Committee to be appointed by the Annual General Meeting.
- 2i. Rules and conditions of membership to be agreed by the first elected Committee and, therefore, to be agreed by two thirds of the elected membership in attendance at an Annual General Meeting.
- 2j. Membership Fees shall be £10 per annum (£5 for OAPs) and shall become due on the first July.
- 2k. Membership shall be open to all Veteran Players, qualifications being in accordance with ETIA Rule 4.1.17.

The meeting agreed that the Annual General Meeting should be held in June and that the current fees agreed on the 1st January 1985 and the following six months membership would cost £5 (£2.50 for OAPs). From 1st July 1985 membership would then be regularised.

## 3. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE.

The following were elected.

1. President - Maurice Goldstein OBE (Warwickshire).
2. Chairman - Derek Schofield (Cheshire)
3. Secretary - Mike Watts (Sussex)
4. Treasurer - Bill Moran (Lincolnshire)
5. Public Relations Officer - Gerry Batt-Rawden (Sussex)
6. Regional Reps: Brian Allison (Lincolnshire); Peter D'Arcy

(Cheshire); Doreen Stannard (Middlesex).

4. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS. It was agreed that the committee should make every effort to hold the championship in May '84. The committee decided on the Spring Bank Holiday weekend 26th to 28th May inclusive. Venue to be arranged.

## 5. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.

Consideration to be given to the formation of a '100' club when there are sufficient members.

Consideration to be given to the design of a badge and notepaper. An approach will be made to the Swedish Vets. Ass. concerning use of the World Veteran Logo. To this end members are invited to send in any ideas and designs for evaluation.

Consideration to be given to including Inter-League results on the Computer.

## 6. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. (Vets).

The above are being held in Helsinki, Finland, 6th to 11th June inclusive. Interested members should contact M. Watts at 21 Claremont, Hastings, E. Sx. TN34 1HF for details of travel etc.

7. We are actively engaged in the pursuit of sponsorship, any ideas or suggestions will be investigated.

## 8. OFFICERS.

Secretary - M. Watts, 21, Claremont, Hastings, E. Sx. TN34 1HA. Publicity - G. Batt-Rawden, 18 Nevill Cottages, Ditchling, E. Sx. BN6 BUT. Tel: Bus. Handcross 400785. Home. Hassocks 5465. Treasurer - W. P. Moran, 9 Rupert Road, Grimsby, South Humberside, DN33 2AG.

### Regional Reps:

North Region - P. D'Arcy, 15 Drayton Manor, Parris Wood Road, Manchester.

Midlands - B. Allison, 27 St. Marys Park, Lough, Lincolnshire.

South - Mrs. D. Stannard, 11 Brougham Road, Acton, London, W36 JD.

# ST. NEOTS WINTER LEAGUE

by Leslie Constable

In the Junior Section the first three places are unchanged, namely Northampton, Bedford and North Herts in that order. In recent matches Northampton beat Hunts Central 9-0, Bedford beat Dunstable 9-0 and North Herts beat Kettering 9-0. In the Northampton/Hunts Central match all sets went 2-straight apart from the first when Bashford beat Pryke at 16 in the third. Results:-

Hunts Central	0	Northampton	9
Bedford	9	Dunstable	0
North Herts	9	Kettering	0
St Neels "A"	7	Peterborough	2
Wellingborough	8	St. Neels "8"	1

In the Veterans' section Barnet and North Herts share top position. Barnet beat Peterborough "A" 7-2 and Peter-

borough "B" 9-0. In the Barnet/Peterborough "A" match Gail lost both for Barnet when he was beaten by Spittlehead and Stannard. North Herts were given a tough fight by Cambridge and only succeeded in winning 5-4 when Hartridge beat Jackson at 23-21 in the last set! Thurston won two for Cambridge but lost to Wilson. Wilson also beat Green who then won his other two on expedite in the third against Hartridge and Harding. Green had another expedite in the Cambridge/Northampton match when he beat Dick in the third. North Herts beat Hunts Central 8-1 with Burgess winning the only set for Hunts Central when he beat Harding. Bedford, Cambridge and St. Neots are in that order behind the leaders.

Results:-

Peterborough "AU"	2	Barnet	7
Barnet	9	Peterborough "8"	0
North Herts	5	Cambridge	4
Hunts Central	1	North Herts	8

St NeOls "B"	0	Hunts Central	9
St Neots "B"	1	St. Neels "A"	8
St Neels "AU"	7	Peterborough "8"	2
Bedford	6	Peterborough "A"	3
Cambridge	7	Northampton	2

Leading positions:-

SENIOR		
	Played	Points
Wellingborough	6	42
RAF.	6	40
St. Neots	6	35
Bedford	6	33
Ely	6	29
VETERANS		
	Played	Points
Barnet	4	31
North Herts	4	31
Bedford	4	26
Cambridge	4	25
St Neots "A"	4	24
St Neots "B"	4	1
JUNIOR		
	Played	Points
Northampton	5	42
Bedford	5	39
North Herts	5	36
St. Neots "A"	5	24
Wellingborough	5	22

Forthcoming fixtures are dated for Feb. 11 and 26 at 2.15 p.m. and 5 p.m. for the Veterans' Division and on Feb. 19 for the Junior Division at the same times.

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# The Cornilleau South of England Two-Star Junior Open By Mike Green

## STAGGERING ENTRY

The South of England Two-Star Junior Championships sponsored by Cornilleau (UK) Ltd were held at Woking Leisure Centre over the weekend of January 7/8.

Although National League fixtures took up the attention of a number of the top juniors, the size of the entry was staggering and a number of potential competitors were turned away due to lack of space.

The tournament was the first in the country to operate the new bat covering rule but referee Phil Goacher was not over-burdened by problems in this area.

The most impressive performance of the tournament came from Adrian Dixon (St) who triumphed in the Boys' U17 event. Dixon, the No. 8 seed, easily disposed of top seed Andrew Cunningham (K) in the final.

The new Cornilleau South of England champion really is a super player to watch especially when you consider he has two further years as a junior. His semi-final with Richard Darnell was a classic with the Essex lad losing -26, 21, -19.

Darnell had come through a weakened quarter, Nigel Tyler had scratched, to a quarter-final place versus the No. 2 seed and reigning champion David Rook (Y). In another superb set, Rook lost 19 in the third.

The No.3 seed, Bartram (K) had fallen to Dixon and the No.4 seed, Andrew Dodd (K) had bowed out to Cunningham in the semi.

In the Girls' U17, Susan Collier (Bk) cruised to the semi-final confirming her No. 1 seeding. Her opponent, Juliet Houghton (K) had disposed of fourth seed Teresa Moore (Sx) to earn her semi-final placing. Despite Juliet's obvious determination, Sue was too

- good and she won two-straight.

The other semi-final saw the No.2 seed, Jill Powis (St) losing to the third seed, the powerfully hitting Yorkshire lass Joanne Shaw. the final, Joanne easily won the first game as Sue allowed her time and space for the kill. However, Miss Collier proved to be less generous from then onwards and eventually triumphed 18 in the third.

In the U17 Boys' Doubles, the No.1 seeds Rook and Martin Firth (Y) had a fairly straightforward run to the final. Their opponents in the final, Bartram and Karl Ball (K) struggled to their semi before finally seeing off the Cadet challenge of Bradley Billington (Dy) and Sean Gibson (La).

The final went to a third game which was troubled by a number of service faults called by the Umpire. Rook and Firth eventually won 22-20 with Rook thus retaining the trophy which he won the previous year with a different partner.

Surrey, the County running the tournament, only had one finalist over the weekend and that was in the Girls' U17 Doubles where Croydon's Claire Brooks partnered Kent's Juliet Houghton. Claire and Juliet had beaten the No.1 seeds in the semi-final, Jill Powis and Louise David (Wo). The No. 2 seeds, Lesley Popkiewicz (Sy) and Susan Collier had fallen early on, and it was Joanne Shaw and Lesley Souter (Mi) who came through the other half.

In another close set, it was Miss Souter and Miss Shaw who just had the edge although both pairings worked really well together.

In the Boys' U12 event on the Saturday, the top seeds didn't last long at all. No.1 seed, Damian Holland (E) didn't even get through the qualifying groups losing to Surrey's Alexander Hole two-straight. The eventual winner

was Gary Knights (St) who beat Simon Rockall (Mi) in the final.

The Derbyshire Billington-Hall clan did their best to win all the remaining Saturday titles. In the U12 girls' Kerry Hall triumphed over cousin Julie Billington in a really excellent final.

But little Julie was not to be outdone. In the U14, she defeated No.2 seed Lisa Robins in the semi having already beaten seventh seed Tanya Holland (E). Her final opponent was No. 1 seed Melonie Carey (So) who had beaten Helen Lower in her semi. Julie wouldn't let Melanie in to her stride and took the title 19, 16.

The unseeded Gavin Black (Bd) came good in the Cadet Singles. He defeated the Surrey hope Richard Jones and then No.4 seed Damian Holland before losing in the semi to No.1 seed Bradley Billington "deuce" in the third. The other half saw second seed Michael Rutherford (K) succumb to third seed Sean Gibson in the semi-final. Gibson went on to beat Billington in the final and the two combined in the doubles to beat Neil Pickard (NK) and Adrian Bolton (Ng) in that final.

The top seeds in the Cadet Girls' Doubles, Lisa Robins (Bd) and Melanie Carey lost to Kerry Hall and Julie Billington in the semi but the two Derbyshire girls could not contain second seeds Amanda Shufflebotham (Ox) and Tanya Holland (E) in the final.

The tournament ran smoothly over the weekend and everyone agreed that the tables provided by Cornilleau played superbly well. The only disappointing thing for organiser Norman Hooper was the pitifully small number of people who stayed to watch the finals. Can anyone suggest how to keep spectators at a finals session? Please let Norman know .



## ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

by David Lomas

Sunday, February 26th is the date set aside for the three Regional Finals of the Dunlop National School Team Championships. The venues arranged are:-

North - Leeds (Moor Grange High School)  
Midlands & West - Stroud (Leisure Centre)

South & East - Orpington (Walnuts Sports Centre)

Winning teams from these regional finals go forward to the National Finals at Lea Green, Matlock, Derbyshire on Saturday, March 24th.

It is disappointing to record that no entries for the team events have been received from East Sussex, Isle of Wight, Leicestershire, Northumberland and North Yorkshire.

The Dunlop English S-schools Individual Championships take place at Mansfield Leisure Centre on Saturday, May 5th. Entry is via county qualifying competitions. County Associations must nominate which events they will be represented in by no later than March 1st.

Fears that the annual Schools' International Championships might not take place look likely to be dispelled very shortly. There is a strong possi-

bility that the end of season Championships on July 5th, 6th and 7th will take place at a Midlands venue. It is hoped to announce further details very soon.

The annual ESTTA Easter coaching course will again be held at Lea Green, Matlock, Derbyshire from April 16th-19th, 1984 (inclusive dates). The course is open to all boys and girls aged 11-15 who attend a school affiliated to the ESTTA, provided that they are not already members of Centres of Excellence squads. The cost of the course, including accommodation, is £52. The closing date for applications is February 29th, 1984. Applications should be made, in the first instance, to ESTTA member County Association Secretaries. Details of member Assn. Secretaries or further information from the Course Co-ordinator, Phil Burwell, 58 Oaklands, Curdworth, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B76 9HD (Tel: 0675 70049).

# Caine and Swindon Players Dominate Championships

The West Wilts Closed Championships were held at Kingdown Sports Centre on Sunday, January 29th.

Although the Men's Singles was won by Jonathan Chandler from Trowbridge over 50% of the other trophies went to players from Swindon and Caine who play in the West Wilts League.

The championships held over a hectic 11 hour day were slightly down on entries from last year. Handicap events proved that the committee's judgment was accurate, however in the Men's singles the seedings were no guide to the form of several entrants. Ray Hughes from Swindon who was unseeded beat the No. 3 seed Andrew Oxley in round 2

and beat the No.1 seed Michael Oxley (Jnr.) (Caine) in the semi finals. This effort earned him not only a place in the final but also the Merit Shield from the committee. The other finalist Jonathan Chandler (Trowbridge), who was No. 6 seed beat the No. 2 seed John Ford (Westbury) in the quarter final. The final itself went to three games but the effect of the long cold day on Ray Hughes told in the end and Jonathan punished Ray for his mistakes in the third to win fairly comfortably.

The seedings in the Men's doubles ran to form with the no. 1 seeds, the Oxley brothers, Andrew and Michael proving too strong stay for the unseeded pair of Mark Holt and Nigel Daniels (Warminster). The Oxley pair

also dominated, as usual, the Junior events, Andrew beating Michael in the singles' final and pairing with his brother again to beat the John Holt/Mark Barkett combination.

The ladies' and mixed events were very poorly supported with the ladies' doubles being a straight final between Tracey Watkins (Swindon)/Jenny Davies (Trowbridge) and Julie Mills (Caine)/Karen Richards (Melksham). The former proving that experience counts and beating the two youngsters. Tracey Watkins went on to beat Julie Mills in the singles' final and paired up with Steve Davies (Swindon) to beat the Trowbridge pair of Jonathan Chandler and Jenny Davies in the mixed.

R. J. Culverhouse.

## Table Tennis Coaching Conference

(Organised by E.T.T.A. and assisted by N.W. Sports Council)

A one day coaching conference is to be held on SUNDAY, APRIL 1st, 1984 at the CREST HOTEL, BEAUMONT ROAD, BOLTON. The Fee of £6 is subsidised by the Sports Council and includes Morning and Afternoon Coffee and a three course lunch. The day is ideal for already qualified coaches to further their knowledge. There are only 50 places available and acceptance will be on the basis of first come first served.

The programme for the day is as below:-

10.00-10.15 Arrival and Coffee

10.15-11.00 LECTURE 1. Chairman: Dr. Keith Soothill (Chairman, N.W. Region)  
Speaker: DON PARKER (E.T.T.A. NATIONAL COACH)  
Topic: (a) 'Debriefing of 1983 World and European Youth Champs'  
(b) 'The future of the combination bat'

11.00-11.15 Questions

11.15-12.00 LECTURE 2. Chairman: Dr. Keith Soothill  
Speaker: DAVE FAIRHOLM (E.T.T.A. NATIONAL COACH)  
Topic: 'Programme planning in particular for the beginner'

12.00-12.30 Questions

12.30- 2.00 LUNCH

2.00- 2.45 LECTURE 3. Chairman: Don Parker  
Speaker: PETER HIRST (E.T.T.A. NATIONAL COACH)  
Topic: 'The Growing Process'

2.45- 3.00 Questions

3.00- 3.15 Coffee Break

3.15- 4.00 LECTURE 4. Chairman: Don Parker  
Speakers: Three Coaches from the North West  
Topic: 'The Local Scene'

4.00- 4.15 Questions

4.15- 4.45 OPEN FORUM 'Coaching in the North-West'

4.45- 5.00 SUMMING UP

\*For Hotel leave M61 at Junction 5, travel 500 yds. along A58 towards Bolton and turn left at first set of traffic lights. Hotel is 500 yards on right.

To reserve a place simply fill in the form below and send to:

DON PARKER, THE BARN, COMMON BANK, DOLPHINHOLME, NR. LANCASTER, LA2 9AN. (0524 791866)  
LA2 9AN.(0524 791866)

NAME

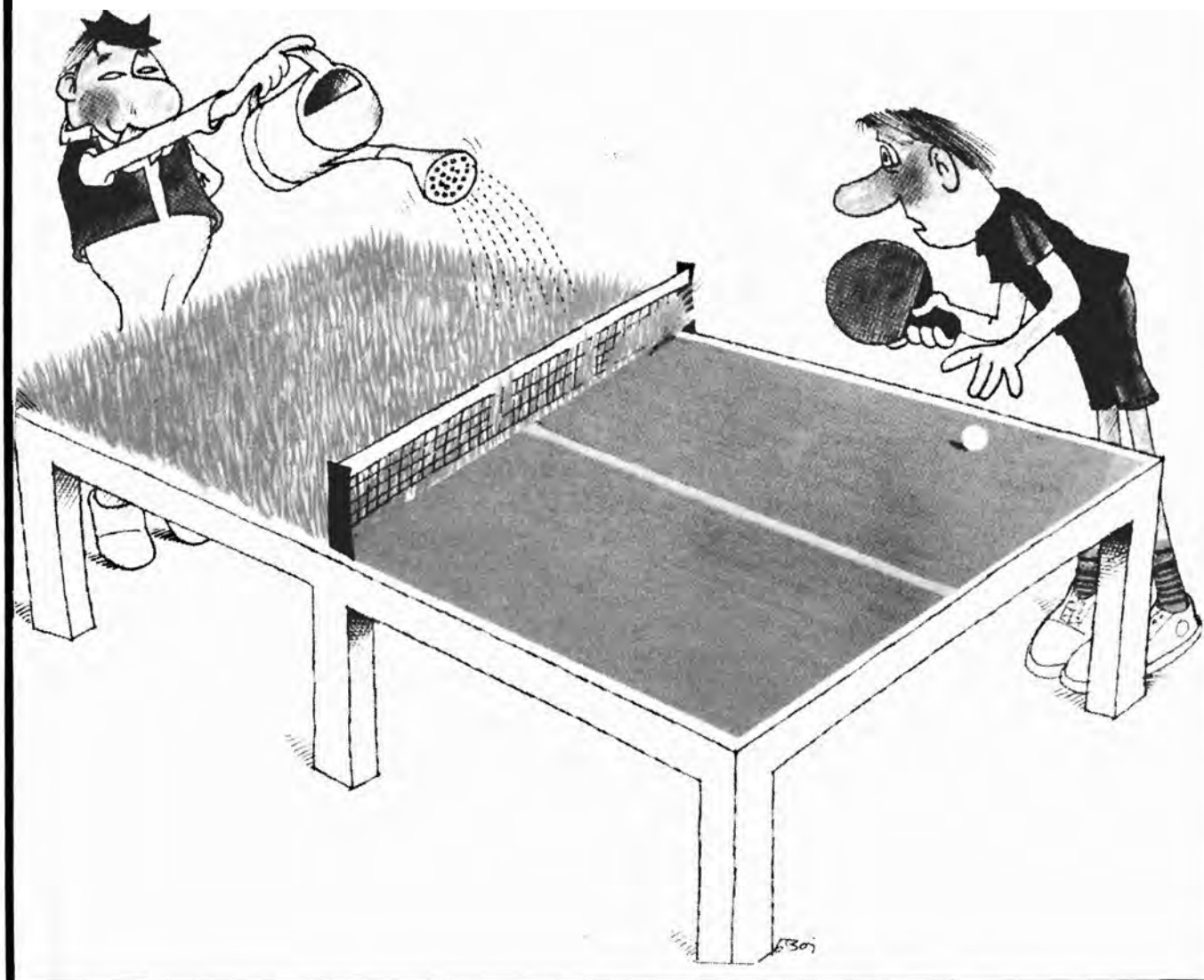
ADDRESS

..... TEL. NO

COACHING STATUS (Student, Club or Diploma)

I enclose a cheque for £6 payable to 'NORTH-WEST TABLE TENNIS R.D.A.P.'

Please assume your application has been accepted unless you hear to the contrary.



## Hastings Closed

The Trustee Savings Bank are the new sponsors of the 53rd Hastings Closed to be held on Sunday Feb. 5 at the Sports Centre in Hastings; with England-ranked Nicky Mason, Adrian and Stephen Moore and County-ranked Sheila King, Sue Haffenden and visitor to our shores Catherine Coulombel likely to compete for the major honours.

Senior officials from TSB (England & Wales) will be present at the finals, the Mayor of Hastings or his deputy will be presenting prizes. Play commences at 10am on 12 tables with finals at 7.30pm.

### WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

#### February

- 9/11 Federal German Open (Duisburg) - A.  
Norwich Union Grand Prix Event  
11 Exeter Junior 1' Star Open  
11/12 Essex 3-Star Open (Harlow)  
15 European League - Super Division -  
FEDERAL GERMANY v ENGLAND  
(Berlin)  
18 Glamorgan Open (Cardiff)

- 18/19 Kent 2-Star Open (Folkestone)  
Beneficial Trust Cleveland 'Select'  
(Eston)  
19 Halex **National** League (11)  
Senior Inter-League (Edinburgh)  
25 County Championships (6)  
Junior-Cadet Inter-League (Edinburgh)  
25/26 County Championships: Senior  
Premier Division Weekend,  
(Walthamstow Y.M.C.A.)  
26 English Schools Team Regional Finals.  
Dunlop Scottish Closed (Edinburgh)

#### March

- 3 Woolwich 1-Star Open  
Cornish Junior 2-Star Open (Redruth-  
Carn Brea Leisure Centre. Pool).  
4 Halex National League (12)  
6 European League - Super Division -  
ENGLAND v FRANCE (Guildford)  
7 International Match ENGLAND v  
FRANCE (Southend)  
8/10 NORWICH UNION ENGLISH CLOSED  
Bletchley Leisure Centre, Princes  
Way, Bletchley, Milton Keynes.  
Bucks. Finals Saturday. March 10  
(10.30 a.m.)  
9/11 Polish Open (Poznan) - A Norwich  
Union Grand Prix Event.  
11 Halex National League (13)  
East of England 2-Star Open (North  
Hykeham. lines)  
Lancashire 2-Star Junior Open (The  
Queen Elizabeth Hall. Oldham Civic  
Centre)  
17 Selby Junior 1-Star Open  
17/18 South of England 3-Star Open (Woking  
Leisure Centre. Woking Park. Kingfield  
Road. Woking, Surrey).

### TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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