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AGAINST THE WIND

Strive as one does to improve the circulation of this magazine it still amounts, in effect to battling against the wind. Previous season's subscribers do not renew, others take their place, and one is left with virtually the same number subscribing from one season to the next.

Happily subscriptions for this season are running ahead of last but only one league in the country take a copy per member club and as that is Boltol\ the Editor's League, this is not surprising. But just think what an effect on the circulation there would be if every league did the same.

Last season's Management Committee Report listed 313 leagues throughout the country with 7,079 member clubs and yet the circulation figures still remain far short of that number.

One can only come to the conclusion that the vast majority of leagues are so insular and parochial what happens outside their own backyard is of no interest whatsoever to them But they pose the question what do we get for our affiliation fees? Well the magazine tells them what happens elsewhere- the International, County and National League matches, the open tournaments and county notes in abundance.

Indeed every aspect ranging from sponsorships to previously unknown youngsters breaking through into the big time. It's all there yet very few want to know, unless it is they read a communal copy.

Why does not our sport attract more publicity is the cry. And yet month by month, all that happens can be read about in the magazine but few, it seems, want to know. You can indeed lead a horse to water.. but you still cannot make it drink.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT by THE EDITOR

RAMPANT SWEDES

Twice away in their opening matches, to Hungary on Sept 21 in Cegled, and to England on Oct 12 in Sunderland, Sweden have emerged as the pace-setters in the Super Division of the European League.

One had to look twice at the result sheet which showed Sweden beating Hungary 7-0 but there it was for despite six of the seven sets going to a third game decider the end result was a "whitewash" for the home team.

Mikael Appelgren, Jan-Ove Waldner and Marie Lindblad contested the singles with Erik Lindh, partnering Waldner and Lindblad, doing his share in the doubles. In line with Hungary's football team it was a sad spectacle for the home audience to witness and not a successful comeback for Tibor Klampar. Scores:-

T. Klampar lost to J-O Waldner - 7, 17, -14;
Z. Kristan lost to M. Appelgren -18, 19, -13;
E. Urban lost to M. Lindblad 15, -20, -9;
Klampar/Kriston lost to E. Lindh/Waldner -19, 17, -19;
Kriston/G. Szabo lost to Lindh/Lindblad -16, 16, -19;
Klampar lost to Appelgren -17, 15, -14;
Kriston lost to Waldner -15, -21.

Next away to England at the Crowtree Leisure Centre, Sunderland, in front of an appreciative audience, the Swedes had Lindh *hors de combat* his replacement, in the doubles, being the tall blonde Ulf Carlsson - no lack of talent on the reserve bench.

Prior to, in Wroclaw, from being 3-1 up against Poland in their opening match on Sept 21 it was finally left to Douglas who, in the final set, beat Andrzej Grubba to get England home 4-3 after the Poles had fought their way back to 3-3.

Prior to young Preat had lost both to Grubba and Stefan Dryszel, but had partnered Douglas to a men's doubles success. England's other win came in the women's singles won by Miss Witt against Jolanta Szatko - this after Douglas had opened the proceedings with the smart dismissal of Dryszel. Scores:-

S. Dryszel lost to Douglas -15, -17;
A. Grubba bt Preat 12, -19, 13;
J. Szatko lost to Witt -20, -8;
Grubba/L. Kucharski lost to Douglas/Preat -19, -17;
Grubba/Szatko bt Douglas/Witt 18, -14, 14;
Dryszel bt Preat 14, 19;
Grubba lost to Douglas -15, -12.

Meantime Yugoslavia, the defending title holders, were beating Czechoslovakia 5-2 in Pozega Siavonska where Dragutin Surbek was twice beaten, firstly by Miroslav Broda and, finally, by Jindrich Pansky. Scores:-

Z. Kalinic bt J. Pansky 18, -18, 19;
D. Surbek lost to M. Broda -17, -16;
B. Salinic bt A. Pelikanova -15, 18, 15;
Kalinic/Surbek bt V. Broda/Pansky 17, 20;
Surbek/Batinic bt Pansky/Pelikanova 16, 16;
Kalinic bt Broda 20, 18;
Surbek lost to Pansky 19, -17, -0.



Next away to promotees France, in Frejus on Oct 12, the Yugoslavs were more than hard-pressed before Zoran Kalinic sealed the issue 4-3 by beating Francois Farout in the final set of a fluctuating match in which the visitors had Milivoj Karakasevic replacing Surbek. Scores:-

P. Reverse bt Kalinic 19, -17, 17;
F. Farout lost to M. Karakasevic -20, 18, -19;
N. Daviaud bt Batinic 11, 18;
P. Birocheau/Reverse lost to Kalinic/Karakasevic -8, -12;
Reverse/Daviaud lost to Kalinic/Batinic -20, -16;
Reverse bt Karakasevic 19, 13;
Farout lost to Kalinic 17, -18, -14.

In their opening match, away to Federal Germany in Landau, France had gone down by a similar score, the German successes being obtained by Georg Böhm (2 singles), Suzanne Wenzel (1 single) and Wenzel and Jurgen Rebel in the mixed doubles. Scores:-

G. Böhm bt Birocheau -14, 18, 17;
R. Wosik lost to Reverse -12, -12;
S. Wenzel bt M. Monteux 8, -15, 14;
Bohm/J. Rebel lost to Birocheau/Reverse 19, -17, -12;
Rebel/Wenzel bt Birocheau/Monteux 14, 10;
Böhm bt Reverse -18, 9, 19;
Wosik lost to Birocheau -11, 19, -18.

Czechoslovakia got back to winning ways in Presov on Oct 12 when inflicting yet another heavy reverse on Hungary who were beaten 6-1 the sole win for the visitors coming in the final set when Janos Molnar beat Miroslav Broda. Klampar was again twice beaten in singles, by Broda and Pansky. Scores:-

Pansky bt J. Molnar 6, -12, 13;
M. Broda bt Klampar 18, 14;
M. Hrachova bt Urban 12, 8;
J. Dvoracek/Pansky bt G. Gergely/Klampar 18, 19;
Pansky/Hrachova bt Gergely/Urban 8, 18;
Pansky bt Klampar 19, 21;
Broda lost to Molnar -16, -20.

No result sheet is to hand re the Poland/Federal German match in Katowice, played on Oct 12, but the 7-0 result in favour of the Poles is another shocker.

SUPER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt.
Sweden	2	2	0	12	2	2
Yugoslavia	2	2	0	9	5	2
Poland	2	1	1	10	4	1
Czechoslovakia	2	1	1	8	6	1
England	2	1	1	6	8	1
Federal Germany	2	1	1	4	10	1
France	2	0	2	6	8	0
Hungary	2	0	2	1	13	0

Fixtures for Nov 9/83

Hungary	v England (Miskolc)
Sweden	v France (Kalmar)
Fed Germany	v Czechoslovakia (Aalen)
Poland	v Yugoslavia

DIVISION ONE

Netherlands, who finished third bottom of Division 1 last season, are the pacesetters this season with two wins under their belt, 5-2 at home to Austria and 6-1 away to promotees Spain.

In Gorssel on Sept 21 the Dutch only bowed to Austria's Gottfried Bär who beat both Patrick Swier and Henk van Spanje, whilst in Barcelona only the men's doubles was lost by van Spanje brothers, Henk and Ron, to Ismael Caymel and Jose Pales. Bob Potton, the former English international now living in Holland, played in this latter fixture winning both his singles. Scores:-

v Austria
 H. v Spanje bt D. Palmi 19, -10, 21;
 P. Swier lost to G. Bar -22, -16;
 E. Bakker bt B. Wiltische 13, 16;
 H. v Spanje/R. v Spanje bt Bar/Palmi 17, -9, 11;
 H. v. Spanje/M. Kloppenburg bt Palmi/Wiltische 13, -10, 16;
 H. v. Spanje lost to Bar -19, -12;
 Swier bt Palmi 19, 15.

y Spain
 J. Pales lost to H. v. Spanje -20, -13;
 I. Caymel lost to R. Patton -16, -9;
 A.M. Godes lost to Kloppenburg -8, -17;
 Caymel/Pales hi Spanje/Spanje 17, 18;
 Pales/Godes lost to H.Y. Spanje/Kloppenburg -18, -18;
 Pales lost to Patton-20, -17;
 Caymel lost to v. Spanje -18, -16.

Italy, third placed last season, have also begun with two wins their first at home to Belgium in Mantova on Sept 21 when they won 5-2 and their second away to Denmark (no scores to hand) 4-3. Scores in Mantova were:-

M. Costantini bt T. Cabrera 17, 20;
 G. Bisi lost to R. De Prophetis -15, 19, -12;
 G. Zampini lost to B. Lippens -17, 18, -17;
 Bisi/Costantini bt Cabrera/de Prophetis -18, 10, 12;
 Costantini/Zampini bt Cabrera/Lippens 7, 14;
 Costantini bt de Prophetis 20, 18;
 Bisi bt Cabrera 17, 18.

Also unbeaten in this division are Finland, 4-3 victors over Denmark in Helsinki on Sept 17, and by 5-2 over Austria in Traismauer on Oct 12. Scores:-

v Denmark
 J. Ikonen lost to K. Kartholm -14, -12;
 J. Jokinen lost to C. Pedersen -17, -8;
 S. Grefberg bt L. Jacobsen 12, 13;
 Ikonen/Jokinen bt T. Jonasson/Kartholm 17, -18, 18;
 Ikonen/Grefberg bt Kartholm/Jacobsen 14, 11;
 Ikonen lost to Pedersen -, 5, 19, -17;
 Jokinen bt Kartholm 18, -12, 9.

v Austria
 Bar lost to Jokinen -18, -10;
 Palmi bt Ikonen 12, 18;
 E. Oeistler lost to Grefberg -8, -18;
 Eckel/Glanzer lost to Ikonen/Jokinen -12, -17;
 Palmi/Oeistler lost to Jokinen/Grefberg -12, -17;
 Rar lost to Ikonen 17, -18, -13;
 Palmi bt Jokinen -14, 17, 19.

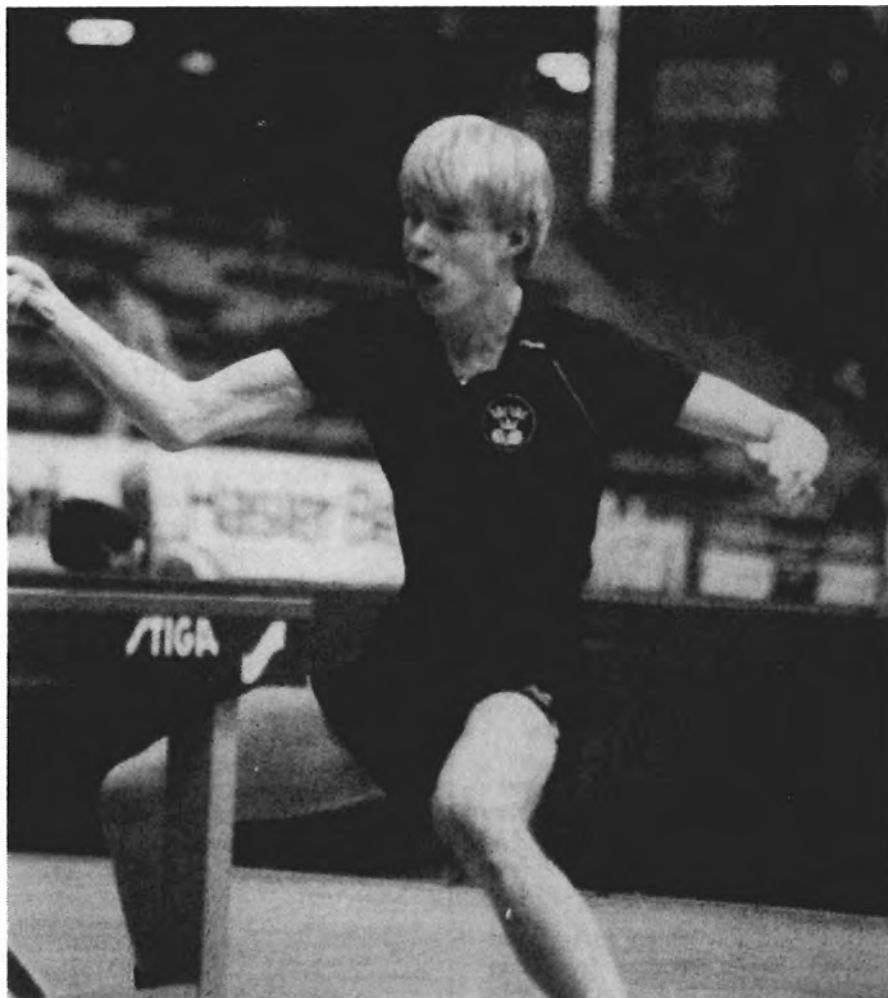
Having regard to the withdrawal of the Soviet Union the up-to-date table reads:-

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt.
Netherlands	2	2	0	11	3	2
Italy	2	2	0	9	5	2
Finland	2	2	0	9	5	2
Denmark	2	0	2	6	8	0
Austria	2	0	2	4	10	0
Belgium	1	0	1	2	5	0
Spain	1	0	1	1	6	0

Fixtures for Nov 9/83

Netherlands v Belgium
 Finland v Spain
 Austria v Denmark
 Open Date: Italy



Ulf Carlsson. brought in by Sweden at Sunderland. to partner Mikael Appelgren and Marie Lindblad to two doubles successes.



Milivoj Karakasevic. the Yugoslav replacement for Surbek against France in Frejus.

DIVISION TWO

Ireland, at home to Switzerland in Division 2, on Sept. 24, disappointed their followers when surrendering a 3-0 lead in Galway to be beaten 4-3 but, on Oct 12, in Dublin, they redeemed themselves by coming back from a 0-2 deficit to beat Scotland 4-3. Scores:-

v Switzerland
 C. Slevin bt T. Miller -19. 19. 20;
 T. Heasley bt T. Busin 11. -16. 15;
 A. Leonard bt C. Witte -13. 13. 17;
 Heasley/Slevin lost to Busin/Miller -16. -18;
 Slevin/Leonard lost to Miller/Witte 14. -14. -17;
 Slevin lost to Busin -16. -18;
 Heasley lost to Miller -13. -16.
 v Scotland
 Slevin lost to D.Hannah -13. -16;
 Heasley lost to J. Brae -14. -8;
 Leonard bt J. Smith 13. 22;
 M. Kelly/Slevin bt Brae/ Hannah 20. 18;
 Slevin/Leonard bt Hannah/Smith 15. 10;
 Slevin bt Brae 7. 9;
 Heasley lost to Hannah -10. -6.

But what of Scotland, beaten 7-0 at home to Turkey at Coatbridge on Sept 21! And this after beating the Turks 5-2 in Izmir last season! Scores:-

Brae lost to O. Cimen -17. -12;
 Hannah lost to G. Yaldiz 15. -21. -13;
 D. Geieg lost to S. Dogan -5. -6;
 Brae/ Hannah lost to Cimen/Yaldiz 19. -19. -11;
 Hannah/Smith lost to Yaldiz/Dogan -13.19. -16;
 Brae lost to Yaldiz -13. -8;
 Hannah lost to Cimen 12. -18. -14.

Ironically the same fate befell the Turks when, at home at Norway, in Ataturk on Oct 8, the "whitewash" brush was applied to them. Scores:-

E. Bahatann lost to G. Gustavssen -8. -13;
 E. Tayfun lost to E. Rasmussen -9. -11;
 Dogan lost to T. Folkeson -14. -16;
 Bahatann/Tayfun lost to T. Johansen/Gustavssen -12. -17;
 Tayfun/S. Mustecapli lost to Johansen/Folkeson -13. -10;
 Bahatann lost to Rasmussen 19. -8. -10;
 Tayfun lost to Gustavssen -18. -8.

Luxembourg, at home to Norway in Remich on Sept 23, let slip a 3-2 lead to lose 3-4 but, in Linger on Oct 8, saw off promotees Guernsey 7-0 with ne'er a set going to three. Scores:-

v Norway
 A. Hartmann bt Rasmussen -13. 13. 13;
 Y. Maas lost to Johansen -18. -17;
 C. Risch bt Folkeson 18. 20;
 Hartmann/Maas lost to Gustavssen/Johansen -17. -20;
 Hartmann/Risch bt Gustavssen/Folkeson 23. 14;
 Hartmann lost to Johansen -13. -16;
 Mass lost to Rasmussen -17. 15. -8.

y Guernsey
 V. langehegermann bt P. Hunkin * . 9;
 Hartmann bt I. Powell 11. 9;
 D. Kerschen bt J. Gallienne 13. 10;
 Hartmann/M. Wolter bt Hunkin/Powell 18. 11;
 Hartmann/N. Deltour bt Powell/Gallienne 17. 10;
 Langehegermann bt Powell 11. 16;
 Hartmann bt Hunkin 6. 15.

Wales, having beaten Guernsey 6-1 (as reported last month) were beaten by a similar score by Switzerland but, as yet, no details to hand.

DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	2	2	0	11	3	2
Switzerland	2	2	0	10	4	2
Luxembourg	2	1	1	10	4	1
Ireland	2	1	1	7	7	1
Turkey	2	1	1	7	7	1
Wale.	2	1	1	7	7	1
Scotland	2	0	2	3	11	0
Guem.ey	2	0	2	1	13	0

Next fixtures for November are:-

Norway v Ireland
 Wales v Luxembourg
 Guernsey v Turkey
 Switzerland v Scotland (Nov 5)



Andrzej Grubba, (Poland) victor over Carl Preat in Wroclaw but subsequently beaten by Desmond Douglas.



Graham Sandley, England's only winner against Sweden at Bury.

FRIENDLY INTERNATIONAL

Sweden brought off their second successive victory over England at Bury's Castle Leisure Centre on Oct 12 when, in a friendly meeting following the European League match in Sunderland, they followed up their 5-2 success by inflicting a 6-1 defeat on a scaled down English side.

Only Carl Preat of the team that played at Sunderland turned out at Bury and he only contested one set, the last, in which he was defeated by the European champion Mikael Appelgren.

Undoubtedly the set of the night

was the one between Derbyshire's Alan Cooke and Ulf Carlsson with one particular point receiving a standing ovation and well deserving of it. Carlsson won the set in the end but it far surpassed that in which Graham Sandley was credited with England's sole success against Jan-Ove Waldner.

Only one of the seven sets contested went to a third and deciding game that between Lancashire's Joy Grundy and Marie Lindblad, the Swedish women's champion. Scores:-

S. Andrew lost to J-O. Waldner -16. -16;
 Mandy Sainsbury lost to M. Lindblad -17. -19;
 A. Cooke lost to U. Carlsson -6. -14;
 Joy Grundy lost to Lindblad 19. -17. -16;
 Andrew/Cooke lost to Appelgren/Carlsson -11. -19;
 G. Sandley bt Waldner 21.22;
 C. Preat lost to M. Appelgren -16. -18.

EUROPEAN CLUB CUP OF CHAMPIONS

England's two sides in this season's Europe Club Cup of Champions have fallen by the wayside Hassy Perfection Soham, after beating AO Pera-Tatavla of Greece 5-0 in Athens, going down 1-5 at home to TTC Simex Julich of Federal Germany (see Cambs report). In the women's section EMI Ellenborough conceded their away match against Varbergs BTK of Sweden who were given a walk-over. Results:-

Round 1
Pellicce Canali (ITA) w.o. Lisboa E Benefica (POR);
Raiffeisen Langenlois (AUS) 5 Club de 7 a 9 (ESP) 2;
DT Echternach (LUX) 5 KPK (FIN) 4;
Hassy Perfection Soham (ENG) 5 AO Pera-Tatavla (GRE) 0;
Universitatea Craiova (TCH) 5 TTV de Veluwe (HOI) 2.

Round 2
Heinzelman Reutlingen (FRG) w.o. Pellicce Canali (ITA);
Olympija Ljubljana (YUG) 5 Raiffeisen Langenlois (AUS) 3;
Kremlin Bictre (FRA) 5 DT Echternach (LUX) 1;
TTC Simex Julich (FRG) 5 Hassy Perfection Soham (ENG) 0;
Bronshoj B.K. (DEN) 5 B-72 (NOR) 0;
Stockhams Sparvagars 5 Royal Villette (BEL) 1.

WOMEN
Round 1
Olympiacos SC (GRE) w.o. R. Smash Pantheon (BEL).

Round 2
Amicale laique Briz (FRA) 5 Odense BK (DEN) 3;
Varbergs BTK (SWE) w.o. EMI Ellenborough (ENG);
Vitkovice (TCH) w.o. Fiat Carrell (ITA);
Tolnai Voros Iobogo (HUN) 5 Scylla (HOI) 1;
Atus Judenburg (AUS) 5 TTC Uster (SUI) 2;
STK Mladost (YUG) 5 Club de 7 a 9 (ESP) 0.

Bettine Vriesekoop, the Dutch European champion, has an illness and on the advice of her doctor will rest for two months. She trained normally after her summer holiday but has become more and more tired since. She is naturally very disappointed but hopes to play in December and in time to train for the Top 12 and, subsequently, for the European Championships in Moscow (writes Bas den Breejen).

RANKINGS

Federal Germany
Men: 1) Georg Bohm 2) Ralf Wosik 3) Peter Stellwag 4) Michael Plum 5) Englebert Hugin 6) Peter Engel 7) Jurgen Rebel 8) Wilfried Liech 9) Heiner Lammers 10) Erwin Becker

Women: =1) Susanne Wenzel and Kirsten Kruger 3) Anke Olschewski 4) Andrea Gutknecht 5) Dagmar Solja-Andruszko 6) Margit Freiberg 7) Annette Mausolf 8) Monika Kneip-Stumpe 9) Annette Greisinger 10) Heike Baltzer.

France
Men: 1) Jacques Secretin 2) Patrick Renverse 3) Patrick Birocheau 4) Christian Martin 5) Francois Farout 6) Bruno Parietti 7) Jean-Claude Decret

Women: 1) Claude Bergeret 2) Nadine Daviaud 3) Brigitte Thiriet 4) Muriel Montoux 5) Patricia Germain 6) Beatrice Abgrall.

STOP PRESS

Denmark v Italy

In front of 200 people in Maribo on Oct 11 Denmark went down to their second defeat of the season in Division one of the European League when beaten 4-3 by high-flying Italy.

Scores:-

C. Pedersen bt M. Costantini -18, 10, 16;
K. Kartholm lost to G. Bisi 14, -7, -21;
C. Polk lost to A. Busnardo -12, -8;
T. Johansson/Pedersen bt Bisi/Costantini 18, 15;
Pedersen/Polk bt Costantini/G. Zampini 18, 15;
Pedersen lost to Bisi -14, -15;
Kartholm lost to Costantini -12, 12, -17.

K.O. IN KATOWICE

Poland's trio of Andrzej Grubba, Leszek Kucharski and Jolanta Szatko carried all before them in beating the Federal Republic of Germany 7-0 in Katowice on Oct 12.

Only Georg Bohm for the visitors put up any real resistance in taking both his singles to a third game decider. Scores:-

L. Kucharski bt R. Wasik 21, 17;
A. Grubba bt G. 14, -20, 20;
J. Szatko bt S. Wenzel 11, 16;
Grubba/Kucharski bt J. Rebel/Wasik 15, 14;
Grubba/Szatko bt Rebel/Wenzel 15, 15;
Kucharski bt Böhm -13, 14, 21;
Grubba bt Wosik 18, 18.

E.T.T.U. YOUTH

RANKINGS

SIX OF THE BEST

In the Youth classification lists issued by the European Table Tennis Union on Sept 30, following on the 26th European Youth Championships in Malmo, England have four players in the junior category and two in the cadets.

Both Carl Preat, the beaten finalist in the boys' singles in Malmo, and Lisa Bellinger, who was eliminated by Olga Nemes, the eventual winner of the girls' singles title, are listed at No.2 and with Jan-Ove Waldner now over age Preat can consider himself the No. 1 boy in Europe.

Alan Cooke, at No. 10, and Nicky Mason, at No. 20 are also included in the boys' list with Andrew Syed, at No. 10 and Jill Powis, also at No. 10, figuring in the cadet category.

Rankings:-

Boys	Girls
1 Jan-Ove Waldner (SWE)	1 *Olga Nemes (ROM)
2 *Carl Preat (ENG)	2 *Lisa Bellinger (ENG)
3 *Andrei Mazunov (URS)	3 *Raisa Diachenko (URS)
4 Jorgen Persson (SWE)	4 *Eva Malmberg (FIN)
5 *Ilija Lupulesku (YUG)	5 *Ellen Bakker (Hal)
6 Alek Stadenichenko (URS)	6 *Ivana Masarikova (TCH)
7 Ferenc Simon (HUN)	7 *Szonja Pircsak (HUN)
8 *Andras Krenhardt (HUN)	8 *Flora Khasonova (URS)
9 Igor Ondrejicka (TCH)	9 *Anette Greisinger (FRG)
10 Alan Cooke (ENG)	10 Jolanta Danilavitchiute (URS)
11 *Vasile Florea (ROM)	11 Pa Eliasson (SWE)
12 *Mikhail Manashirov (URS)	12 *Raisa Timofeeva (URS)
13 *Szolt Harcsi (HUN)	13 Gyorgy Fazekas (HUN)
14 Miroslav Maran (YUG)	14 *Katalin Bolvari (HUN)
15 *Radovan Cinner (TCH)	15 Alessandra Busnardo (ITA)
16 Miroslav Pieronczyk (POL)	16 *Alena Safarova (TCH)
17 Dariusz Kabacinski (POL)	17 Babbara Wittsche (AUT)
18 Peter Greczula (SWE)	18 Mirjam Kloppenberg (HOI)
19 *Cristian Tiugan (ROM)	19 Ewa Brzezinska (POL)
20 Nicky Mason (ENG)	20 *Tatjana Krsnik (YUG)

Cadet Boys	Cadet Girls
1 *Milan Grman (TCH)	1 *Otilia Badescu (ROM)
2 Thomas Von Scheele (SWE)	2 Csilla Batorfi (HUN)
3 Mats Andersson (SWE)	3 Renata Kasalova (TCH)
4 Josef Braun (TCH)	4 *Krisztina Nagy (HUN)
5 Jorg Roszkopf (FRG)	5 Ilka Bohning (FRG)
6 Steffen Fetzner (FRG)	6 Elena Komrakova (URS)
7 Roland Krmaschek (TCH)	7 *Katja Nolten (FRG)
8 Jean-Philippe Gatien (FRA)	8 Jose Bakker (Hal)
9 Johan Falby (SWE)	9 Elena Timina (URS)
10 Andrew Syed (ENG)	10 Jill Powis (ENG)
11 Zoran Primorac (YUG)	11 *Nada Kujundzic (YUG)
12 *Jean-Michel Saive (BEL)	12 Renata Limdnerova (TCH)
13 Iztok Jamsek (YUG)	13 *Anca Cheller (ROM)
14 Dmitrij Abramenko (URS)	14 Iouisa Hallner (SWE)
15 Ivan Vitsek (HUN)	15 Mireille Siotmans (BEL)
16 Vladimir Marinkevitch (URS)	16 *Emmanuelle Coubart (FRA)

* Indicates players who will still be juniors or cadets for the next championships.

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Cover Photo

Berkshire's Karen Witt who has started off her season with European League wins over Jolanta Szatko of Poland and Marie Lindblad of Sweden in addition to retaining her women's singles title in the Stamco Sussex 2-Star Open.

Photo by Tony Edenden of Barles-tone, Nr. Nuneaton.

The First Asian Cup

by H. Roy Evans

Wuxi City, south of Shanghai, and situated on the shores of the beautiful Lake Taihu, with its forty-eight islands, was the venue for the first ever Asian Cup.

Thirty-two men and sixteen women were selected to play, selection of the men being by a mixed format of not more than three players from each of the top four men's teams in the Asian Championships, two each from the fifth to eighth placed teams, the champions of the latest Asian Championships, the Arab Championships, the South East Games, the Peninsular Pentangular Tournament, the Champion of the Host Country, China, and others from the Asian Classification list. A similar format was used for the selection of the women.

The stadium accommodated 4,000 people, and it was a heart-warming sight to see all seats filled on each of the six sessions.

Except for a very small number of players whose ability was not quite up to the standard, all competitors displayed great skill and a tenacity of pur-

pose that produced some tremendous table tennis, wildly applauded by the very volatile crowd.

Predictably, the Chinese men and women carried off most of the 30,000 US Dollars prize money, but there were some great battles for the lesser prizes. There were early upsets, ex-World Champion Seiji Ono of Japan losing two matches in his group and failing to qualify for the quarter-finals, and in the women's groups Emiko Kanda of Japan forcing Kim Gyong Sun of North Korea into second place, and Hui So Hung of Hong Kong only getting third place in her group. With only the eight group winners qualifying for the 1 to 8 final places, such failures at an early stage had dire consequences. The seconds in the groups qualified for a play-off for 9 to 16 places, and a share in the prize money. The others only received prizes.

Sensation, too, in the knock-out for the first eight places. Hui Jun, the new Chinese National Champion, was knocked out by Japan's No.1 Kiyoshi Saito, in a tremendous match of attack

and counter attack, but Saito couldn't maintain his form in the semi-final against Cai Zhenhua of China, although the latter had to survive a fantastic fight back by Saito from a seemingly impossible position in the fifth. Cai had an easy win over Commonwealth Champion Chiu Man Kuen of Hong Kong, the latter looking in poor form.

In the other half Xie Saiké, showing better form than in Tokyo, beat fellow countryman He Zhiwen, but was no match for Jiang Jialiang, to whom he lost 3-0. Jiang dropped a game to Hong Chol of North Korea in his semi-final, but won comfortably enough in the end.

The Final was a match of swaying fortune. Jiang starting well, but Cai showing greater accuracy to win in the fifth.

Saiké beat Saito for third place.

Chu Jong Chol of North Korea beat Japan's Hiroyuki Abe for 9th place, with Cho Yong Ho of North Korea in 11th and Wong Lu Weng of Hong Kong in 12th place.

World Champion Cao Yankua beat ex-World Champion Tong Ling comfortably enough in the women's final, the latter's defence, so strong in her semi-final defeat of the new Chinese Champion Jiao Zhimin, seeming to pose Cao few real problems. Cao had an easy win over Hong Kong's Yu Kam Kai in her semi-final. Jiao Zhimin beat Yu Kam Kai for 3rd place.

Hu So Hung of Hong Kong beat Mok Ka Sha, also of Hong Kong for 9th place, with India's veteran Inda Puri losing to Mika Hoshino of Japan for the next two places. Altogether a most successful event, inevitably well organised by the Chinese Table Tennis Association, so successful that the Asian Union has decided to make it an annual affair, the next meeting being in India in 1984.

An interesting side-light of the Championships was that all Associations with players participating had to pay their own travel expenses, and there appears to have been no lack of Associations anxious to send players at their own expense. Accommodation provided by the Chinese was first class, the fine hotel affording plenty of opportunity for relaxation in beautiful surroundings. One black mark, a repeat of experiences in Caracas and Barbados - the new service rules. Despite assurances that all players and umpires had been well schooled in what is required of them, several of the top players were guilty of breaking the rule about the racket hand having to be above the table surface in service, and no umpire action was taken. But this feature in no way detracted from the undoubted success of the First Asian Cup.



Cartoon by courtesy of the Yugoslavian Table Tennis Federation in conjunction with Budimir Vojinovic, the artist, who is a full-time contributor to Dnevnik, a Novi Sad newspaper.

DRAGUTIN MARKS DOUBLE ANNIVERSARY

by Stjepan Kljuic

When Dragutin Surbek - with Zoran Kalinic by his side - won the final in the men's doubles in Tokyo, at the 37th world championships, the spectators applauded the feat turned in by Surbek, in a way seldom seen in a table tennis hall.

Surbek, one of the world's best table tennis players, deserved this kind of reception beyond any doubt. The Yugoslav athlete ranks as a worthy opponent to the best in the sport, although his rivals are often only half as old as veteran Surbek. Of course, he has not given up competitive sport, in fact he puts off the last farewell time and again. Drawing on his immense physical strength and will-power he continues his workouts. Hard work is the secret of his successes, and of his fantastic career.

Dragutin Surbek was born in Zagreb on August 8, 1946, and similarly to many of his contemporaries, he tried his hand at several sports. He liked football and gymnastics, but under the guidance of his sports teacher he soon found himself playing table tennis. Although, as a boy, he suffered more defeats than victories, he never gave up a match, thanks to his incredible grit.

While he finished last out of 15 entrants at the junior championships of Croatia in 1960, the tournament became in a funny way a turning point in his career. From then onwards the former winners finished behind him and Surbek, thanks to well-planned training, moved up the domestic rankings. Slowly but surely, he grew more powerful and skilful, and it was not long before he won the first national title in Yugoslavia.

At the beginning he was thought to be lacking in talent, mainly because of his poor backhand shots, but time was on his side. He first entered an international open in 1963 and he made sure others took note of him. At the French Open in Lyons, Surbek faced Dick Miles, an experienced American, who among others, had beaten two one-time famous Yugoslavs, Dolinar and Harangozo.

But Miles met his match in the person of Surbek. The young Yugoslav, although lacking international routine that is so very necessary, hit the ball to Miles' side with such force that the American ended up as a loser. Though Surbek was eliminated in the next round, his sensational victory over Miles marked his first major international success. It was precisely at the Crystal Palace of Lyons five years later that Surbek won his first ever European title.

Following his victory and the gold medal in Lyons, Surbek was praised by the famous former world champion

Victor Barna in the columns of the World Sports of London under the title "Surbek the Fighter", Barna, a reputed expert, said that of Surbek, an outstanding attacker, had surprised the whole world field with something new, Barna also praised Surbek many times as well for his chivalrous moral stand and his love of table tennis.

Surbek entered a world championship in 1965 for the first time, right in Ljubljana, his homeland. On that occasion the Yugoslav men's team, including Surbek, took fourth place at a time when the Chinese and Japanese "masters" dominated the field. Later Surbek became one of the prominent representatives of a top European generation, among them Johansson, Bengtsson, Jonyer, Klampar, Stipanovic, Orlovski etc., who held their own against the best of Asia, and won valuable successes for the old continent. Surbek was the first European to wit, capable of beating all three Chinese team members, a rare feat in itself.

Surbek came out as the top player of the world championship in the team event, and won a European title in men's singles. He also collected a total of 31 medals at European and world championships, among them two world and four European medals. His best trophies were beyond doubt the two world titles in men's doubles, alongside Stipanovic (1979) and Kalinic (1983), but he also has fond memories of his individual European title (1968). Surbek was winner at over 50 major international tournaments, among them the Yugoslav, Scandinavian, Czech, Soviet and the Austrian Opens.

Surbek won the Champion's Euro-



Yugoslavia's men's doubles winners in Tokyo, Zoran Kalinic (left) and Surbek.

Photo by Malcolm Anderson, Cicero. II.. U.S.A.

pean Cup three times with his former team Vjesnik of Zagreb. while Stipanovic and he, won unforgettable successes in men's doubles. At this year's world championships in Tokyo Surbek marked a double anniversary; he won his first major international success 20 years ago and he entered the world championships for the tenth time. If the Elo points system of chess were also used in table tennis Dragutin Surbek would undoubtedly lead the world rankings.

Despite these brilliant achievements and enhancing the reputation of Yugoslav sport, Surbek has never been elected sportsman of the year in his homeland. Yet it may be something of a satisfaction for the "Tiger of Zagreb" (he was dubbed so after his victory at the European Championships in Lyons) to have grown into a legendary player who is held in esteem by the most renowned sports authorities of the world.

There may have been better table tennis players than Surbek. There were some who won more world titles, but it is unique for someone to play table tennis on the same high level for twenty years. Rivals and generations have come and gone through the past two decades. Dragutin Surbek, however, has stood in the centre of attention at all times. He is a legend who defies his rivals and the passing of time.

Surbek, who is married with two sons, one 15, the other 6 years old, has been a "foreign worker" in the Federal Republic of Germany for the seventh year running. At present he plays in Essling, the second division of the Bundesliga, helping his team to advance to the first division.

Article by courtesy of Mihaly Kozak, of Hungary, Editor of the International Sports Press Association. Table Tennis Section's Bulletin.



"TIGER OF ZAGREB"

COOL SWEDES TOO HOT FOR ENGLAND

by Robert Oldfield

Even England's best, Desmond Douglas and Carl Prean, found Sweden irrepressible at the Crowtree Leisure Centre, Sunderland on Wednesday, 12th October. A crowd of over 750 people had assembled for the second European League match of the season. They left disappointed.

Disappointed, however, only with the result, for they could not have failed to have been impressed by the skill and mobility of the Swedish players which left both Prean and Douglas stranded on more than one occasion,

If there was an omen that England's resistance would be short-lived it was provided by the pre-match National Anthem which ended prematurely. Forty minutes later, after two men's singles, England were two nil down.

The opening set found Sweden's Jan-Ove Waldner in commanding form - obviously in no mood to allow Prean revenge for the European Youth Championships final and the recent World Cup. Douglas, however, started

promisingly against Mikael Appelgren.

The World Cup and European Champion then began to pile on the pressure to England's most consistent European League player, and the Douglas backhand winners became few and far between. Appelgren won the second game comfortably and then raced to an early and decisive lead in the third. As if convinced the first game loss was due to some technical malfunction, Appelgren spent the rest of the match with his hands covered in glue, rerubbing his bats with a frequency that turned the local league spectators green with envy.

CONSOLATION

Consolation and hope for England came from Karen Witt, Despite a niggling back injury the European No. 23 from Reading played superbly to beat Marie Lindblad, Lindblad won the first before Witt decided that her opponent's loop gave little to fear. The block seemed superfluous, on all but the most difficult occasions she just smashed the ball past the blonde Swede who is 11 places higher on the European list.

The two doubles sealed England's

fate. Neither pairs, Prean/Douglas nor Douglas/Witt, looked impressive when losing in straight games. Prean then gave Appelgren a close fight before Douglas added the second set of the 2-5 defeat.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The English Table Tennis Association are pleased to thank the Borough of Sunderland and their Recreation Department for the support of this European League Super Division match. Credit for the full house must also be recorded for Ken Taylor and the Sunderland league and to the match preparations of Tom Snowdon, Northern Regional Development Officer, ETTA.

England 2 Sweden 5

Carl Prean lost to Jan-Ove Waldner 20-21, 18-21;

Desmond Douglas lost to Mikael Appelgren 21-18, 17-21, 13-21;

Karen Witt bt Marie Lindblad 10-21, 21-18, 21-14;

Prean/Douglas lost to Appelgren/Ulf Carlsson 13-21, 17-21;

Douglas/Witt lost to Carlsson/Lindblad 18-21, 13-21;

Prean lost to Appelgren 20-22, 17-21; Douglas bt Waldner 21-18, 21-15.

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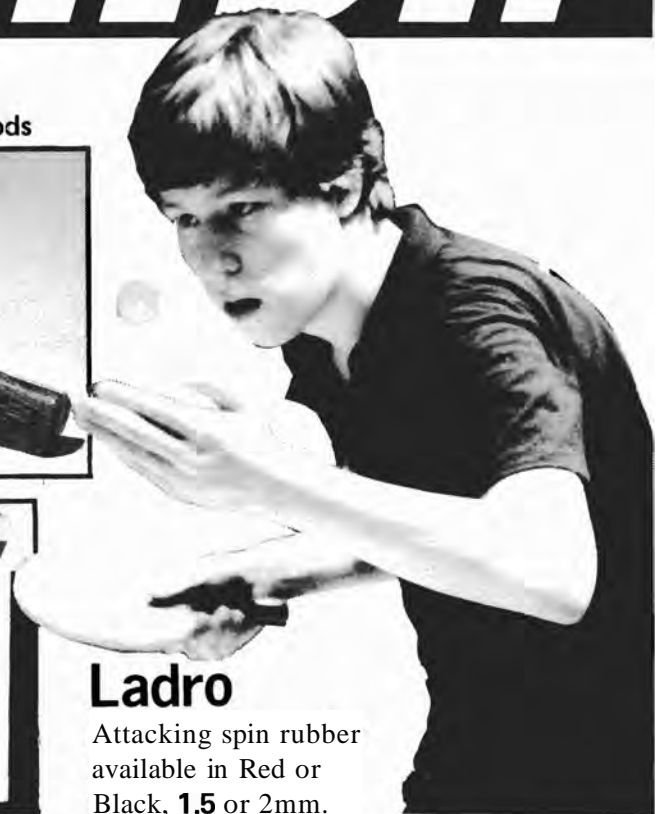
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10th QUADRANGULAR

TEN OUT OF TEN FOR ENGLAND

by George Yates

When last engaging England in the lapsed Quadrangular international matches in the Central Exhibition Hall, Belfast in February, 1968, Ireland suffered only a narrow 6-4 defeat when represented by Jimmy Langan, Tommy Caffrey, the now deceased Cliff Thompson, Joan Fitzsimmons (now Mrs. Cornelius Warren) and Miss J. Geary.

On Friday, Sept. 16, however, on its resumption, with younger exponents on view at British Aerospace Dynamics, Lostock, Nr. Bolton, it was only the two Dubliners, Colum Slevin and Anne Leonard, who put up any marked resistance to a youthful English side which triumphed 7-0.

Two wins each for Skylet Andrew and Alan Cooke and one each for Karen Witt and Joy Grundy, plus the men's doubles, brought about the "whitewash". On the adjacent table, Scotland ran out 5-2 winners over the Welsh whose Garry Wilkins and Nigel Thomas both got the better of John Broe.

Graham Sandley took over from Andrew in the Saturday afternoon match against Wales and both he and Cooke took two singles apiece with Andrew and Cooke again successful in the doubles with Miss Witt and Miss Grundy having easy wins over Shirley Williams (nee Cain) and Lesley Tyler.

But it was Ireland who took the eye in beating Scotland 5-2 with Slevin winning two, and the doubles with Mervyn Kelly, and Miss Leonard and Jennifer Reid successful against Diane Greig and Janet Smith, the former standing in for Carole Dalrymple nursing a broken collarbone. Kelly lost to both David Hannah and Broe.

Young Cooke was stood down from the singles in England's final match against Scotland which began with Hannah nudging home 19 and 20 against Andrew and Sandley hard-pressed to dispose of a rejuvenated Broe. From this shaky start England then got into their stride with the two girls, Miss Grundy and Jean Parker, the latter substituting for Miss Witt nursing a back injury, easily winning

their singles as did Andrew and Cooke the doubles.

Sandley went down to Hannah in the penultimate set but Andrew disposed of Broe for a final 5-2 result in favour of England who maintained their unblemished record in this series.

Ireland's bubble was burst in Saturday's final session when only Slevin, with wins over Wilkins and Mark Thomas, maintained his form of the afternoon although Miss Leonard went down fighting to Miss Tyler, the Welsh winning 5-2,

As in the previous nine such meetings between the four home countries England finished the unbeaten winners. Of the nine men engaged in the series only England's Cooke remained unbeaten in singles and doubles, and this on his senior debut for his country.

Full marks to British Aerospace Dynamics in general and to David Plowes, Personnel Director, in particular for hosting the event and to Gardner Merchants, the caterers, for a truly magnificent buffet which rounded off the proceedings which, happily, will be furthered next season in North Wales.

Scores:-

England 7 Ireland 0
S. Andrew bt C. Slevin 19, 21;
A. Cooke bt M. Kelly 12, 14;
J. Grundy bt A. Leonard 12, -19, 14;
Andrew/Cooke bt Kelly/Slevin " -21, 10;
K. Witt bt J. Reid 9, 5;
Andrew bt Kelly 17, -11, 13;
Cooke bt Slevin -17, 19, 1a.

Scotland 5 Wales 2
J. Broe lost to G. Wilkins -13, -16;
O. Hannah bt N. Thomas -17, 14, 9;
J. Smith bt S. Williams 19, 14;
Broe/Hannah bt N. Thomas/Wilkins 15, -14, 18;
O. Greig bt L. Tyler 21, 19;
Hannah bt Wilkins 18, 17;
Brae lost to Thomas -18, -14.

England 7 Wales 0
Sandley bt M. Thomas 18, 21;
Cooke bt Wilkins 8, 13;
Grundy bt Tyler 12, 13;
Andrew/Cooke bt M. Thomas/Wilkins 15, 19;
Witt bt Williams 8, 18;
Sandley bt Wilkins 19, 8;
Cooke bt Thomas 9, 19.

Ireland 5 Scotland 2
Slevin bt Broe 10, 12;
Kelly lost to Hannah -1, -17;
Reid bt Smith -14, 25, 18;
Kelly/Slevin bt Broe/Hannah -17, 18, 17;
Leonard bt Greig 19, 18;
Slevin bt Hannah 17, -9, 18;
Kelly lost to Broe -15, -22.

England 5 Scotland 2
Andrew lost to Hannah -19, -20;
Sand/ey bt Broe -19, 21, 15;
J. Parker bt Greig 11, 12;
Andrew/Cooke bt Broe/Hannah 19, 15;



Alan Cooke of Derbyshire who went through the Quadrangular series at Lostock, Bolton without defeat returning to the area to win the men's singles title in the Colgate North of England at Stretford.

Grundy bt Smith 14, 10;
Sandley lost to Hannah -14, -22;
Andrew bt Brae 19, 12.
Wales 6 Ireland 2
Wilkins lost to Slevin -14, -7;
M. Thomas bt Kelly 13, 9;
Tyler bt Leonard 20, -12, 22;
M. Thomas/Wilkins bt Kelly/Slevin 20, 8;
Williams bt Reid 12, 17;
Thomas lost to Slevin -12, 19, -14;
Wilkins bt Kelly 15, 19.

TABLE

	P	W	L	F	A	Pt.
England	3	3	0	19	2	6
Scotland	3	1	2	9	12	2
Wales	3	1	2	7	14	2
Ireland	3	1	2	7	14	2

Analysis of Match.s

	P	W	L	F	A
England (v Scotland)	10	10	0	93	4
(v Ireland)	10	10	0	94	3
(v Wales)	10	10	0	96	1
Scotland (v Ireland)	10	3	2	5	44
(v Wales)	10	7	0	3	62
Ireland (v Wales)	10	5	1	4	55

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Junior Grand Prix to be sponsored by Beneficial Trust

SEARCH FOR A FUTURE WORLD CHAMPION BEGINS



A bid to find the successor to Johnny Leach, England's last World Champion in 1951, was launched in London on 26th September with the announcement that Beneficial Trust are to sponsor a series of major junior table tennis tournaments, to be known as the Beneficial Trust Grand Prix.

The sponsorship, representing a £75,000 investment in table tennis by the national retail banking service, Beneficial Trust, covers an initial period of three years and begins with the Beneficial Trust English Junior Closed at Hinckley Leisure Centre in December. Other tournaments to benefit from the deal are the four County Junior Select tournaments and the English Junior Open at Portsmouth next May.

PROGRESSIVE

ETTA chairman, Tom Blunn, is delighted with the new agreement: "This sponsorship is really the most progressive we have ever been offered", he said. "The effect of the Grand Prix will be wide-reaching and will assist the development of table tennis throughout the country."

At each tournament in the series, junior players will have the chance to win Grand Prix points in the singles events. The ten English players accumulating the most points by the end of the season will be awarded cash bursaries which will be administered by the ETTA to help the winners with their future training and competition expenses. For a junior to visit all the major tournaments, a year's expenses can be as much as £1,000.

"The cost of playing table tennis at the highest level is such that many juniors have to severely restrict their participation" explained Mr. Blunn. "Virtually all rely heavily on their parents financial support. This generous sponsorship by Beneficial Trust means that our best junior players will have the chance to benefit directly from the Grand Prix prize fund and I congratulate Beneficial Trust for their faith in the English junior table tennis".

INVESTMENT

"England are fortunate in having some exceptional young players at the moment," he continued, "but the Grand Prix sponsorship is also an investment in the future. The ETTA are confident that it will encourage the development of more players of inter-

national standard and hope, eventually, a future World Champion. We are sure that this series will be watched with great interest by other national Associations."

It is the first time Beneficial Trust have sponsored a sport and the company's staff have welcomed the link with table tennis. Local branch offices are to be directly involved with each event, providing vital promotional and public relations support. All the events are situated near to one of the sponsor's many branches.

"We are used to dealing with investments in the banking industry" said managing director, Jack France, "but this investment is of a very special kind - it is an investment in talent and, what is more, in young talent. I would say to anyone asking why Beneficial Trust are entering into this sponsorship, 'Come along to one of the tournaments, and you will soon see why we think this is a worthwhile investment'."

SECURITY

As well as cash bursaries, the Grand Prix will provide essential security for the top junior events. The English Junior Open has been cancelled in the recent past due to lack of funds and other tournaments have faced the axe as costs have spiralled with inflation. For some the sponsorship is a lifeline

and will allow the future to be planned with more certainty.

Over the three years, eighteen tournaments will benefit from cash help and essential support costs in the form of printing and promotion. The players, spectators and supporters will soon realise that a "Beneficial Trust Grand Prix Event" is something special in table tennis tournaments.

PROMOTION

A range of attractive promotional items have been produced for the series bearing the official slogan of the Grand Prix "Excellent Service with Beneficial". T shirts, Barrel bags and Mugs will be on sale at the tournaments, with mementos provided for all the participants, including track suit badges, hats, balloons and button badges.

For each championships the ETIA and the Beneficial Trust are hoping to maximise local media coverage for the benefit of the sport, the Grand Prix and its participants. And, of course, in the English Junior Open, aspiring English juniors will have the chance to meet some of the best young players in the World. Last year, at Worthing, eleven countries took part - the ETIA are expecting an even bigger entry at the superb new Mountbatten Leisure Centre in 1984.



Tom Blunn, chairman of the English Table Tennis Association (left) and Jack France, managing director of Beneficial Trust Limited (right) at the conclusion of their sponsorship agreement.



Tony Lambourne, marketing manager, Beneficial Trust Ltd., Tom Blunn, chairman of the English Table Tennis Association; Norman Reeve, ETТА vice-chairman, public relations; and Jack France, managing director, Beneficial Trust Limited, toasting the success of their sponsorship agreement.



GRAND PRIX PRIZES

At the end of the season the players who have accumulated the most Grand Prix points will qualify for the Grand Prix prizes. These cash bursaries will be administered by the English Table Tennis Association and may be used towards bona-fide expenses incurred in training or competing in table tennis events,

1st place	£400
2nd place	£300
3rd place	£200
4th place	£150
5th place	£100

Equal prize money Will be awarded to the Junior Boys' and Junior Girls' winners,



THE POINTS SYSTEM

Players participating in the Beneficial Trust Grand Prix events will be awarded points in accordance with their progress in the junior boys' or junior girls' singles events at the tournaments. The following table illustrates the distribution of points in the Beneficial Trust Select tournaments:

Last 16:	2
Quarter Finalists:	4
Semi Finalists:	6
Runner Up:	8
Winner:	10

The Beneficial Trust English Junior Closed is worth double points and the Beneficial Trust English Junior Open treble points. The allocation of points is restricted to English players.

Quotes^{II}

Tom Blunn
ETТА CHAIRMAN

*"The most progressive **we have** ever been offered."*

Jack France
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
BENEFICIAL TRUST

"It is an investment in talent."

Johnny Leach
FORMER WORLD CHAMPION
"The Grand Prix will provide invaluable support for young players on their way to the top."

Donald Parker
ENGLAND JUNIOR CAPTAIN
*"The **series** will allow the junior players to prepare properly for the top events."*

Peter Charters
ETТА VICE CHAIRMAN,
SELECTION AND COACHING
"The Grand Prix gives young lads improving players the chance to pily llgllnst the stars."

Alan Ransome
ETТА VICE CHAIRMAN, DEVELOPMENT, ORGANISER OF CLEVELAND JUNIOR SELECT
"We lire looking forward to putting on lin excel/ent tournament with the aid of this sponsorship."



Beneficial Trust Grand Prix Events



The Beneficial Trust Grand Prix consists of six events-located in areas near to one of the sponsor's many branch offices. For the 1983/84 season, these are:

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	ORGANISER
3rd/4th December, 1983	Beneficial Trust English Junior Closed	Hinckley Leisure Centre	ETIA Office, 21 Claremont, Hastings TN34 1HF
4th/5th February, 1984	Beneficial Trust Cotswold Junior Select	Gloucester Sports Centre	L.J. Smith, Endfield, Cowie Road, Stroud GL5 2JR
18th/19th February, 1984	Beneficial Trust Cleveland Junior Select	Eston Leisure Centre, Middlesbrough	A.E. Ransome, Conifers, Church Lane, Ormesby, Middlesbrough TS7 9AX
14th/15th April, 1984	Beneficial Trust Essex Junior Select	Harlow Sports Centre	R.C. Roffe, 18 Buckingham Close, Emerson Park, Hornchurch RM11 2QS
28th/29th April, 1984	Beneficial Trust Yorkshire Junior Select	North Bridge Leisure Centre, Halifax	R. Balmford, 30 Gleave Road, Wawne, Hull HU7 5XR
12th/13th May, 1984	Beneficial Trust English Junior Open	Mountbatten Leisure Centre, Portsmouth	ETIA Office, 21 Claremont Hastings TN34 1HF

John Prean looks..... Beyond the Isle of Wight

The summer, so often the dead season, proved an interesting time for us, taking Carl in person and us in spirit to a number of big events.... the Commonwealth, the Worlds, the Norwich Union Masters (Jamaica) and the 555 World Cup (Barbados). Seldom has Table Tennis enjoyed so much space in the Press, particularly the 'quality' papers which are more likely to be read by potential sponsors. This column does not dwell on old news no matter how stirring. Let us therefore merely record that the first Isle of Wight player to represent England in the World Championships collected the following 'scalps' in a few dizzy months: Grubba (4 times), Constantini, Bisi, Kucharski, Dryszal, Nukasuka, Ovcharov, Mazunov, Jonyer, Kriston, Gergely, Pederson, Cho Yang Ho, Chu Jong Chol, Ulf Bengtsson, Dvoracek, Waldner, Kim Ki Taek, Boggan and Seemiller.

We were in regular contact with Tokyo during those exciting days and many table tennis friends phoned to get the latest news on our teams' great performances and some with whom relations had chilled became friends again. We were touched by and grateful for the immense interest.

Non-stop play took its toll and Carl's form has suffered in recent weeks. He has taken some defeats, all against world-ranked players in the German Grand Prix and two European League matches. Long periods of travel, hardly any time for practice took its toll, though he played two magnificent sets in Sunderland and then in Bury against Mikael Appelgren, winner of the World Cup and reigning European Champion who he outgunned for long spells. Only periods of inconsistency, the result of too little practice for some weeks, caused his downfall. The big target this season is the European Championships in Moscow and his training is designed so that he 'peaks' around that time.

The International matches against Sweden were great successes for Table Tennis as they produced some magnificent play if not quite the results we had perhaps hoped for. These will not come very often unless and until a much more professional approach is adopted. We could and should do a lot better and do it within available budgets.

I have nothing but praise for the organisers of the matches: Ken Taylor in Sunderland and Stan Leigh in Bury. When we start 'Promoter's Awards' as visualised by Alan Ransome's '1990' document here are two gentlemen who have already qualified for the club. They put their towns and their associations on the map that evening. Now keep at it, build on the interest you have created and put on at

least one big show each year.

So, despite the rigours of a 940 mile journey, I returned home greatly heartened by what I saw once again at the grass roots of this game of ours. Before the international matches we paid a highly enjoyable visit to the Maccabi Youth Club in Newcastle and again we were impressed by the enthusiasm of the organisers, Mr and Mrs Henry Ross and all the youngsters who turned out in force for our visit and then the international match. We were impressed too by the excellent juniors, Damian Linskill and Darren Shaw.

Our first county match vs Cornwall ended in victory. Jim Daly and C. P. contributed five, after which it was a question of whether we would manage a 6th to give us two points. The women's doubles and a men's singles (Roger Hookey) narrowly eluded us, but Jill Fothergill saw us through to the promised land of 6-4. Sympathies to our visitors who played and travelled well and were again well supported.

Whilst still on the County Championships path I was astonished that the Bob Bridges Plan was defeated - an imaginative document that would have breathed new life, even fire into the tired, old war horse. Mr Bridges is no wild man from the Isle of Wight whose good ideas are automatically viewed with suspicion. He is a man who has served the County Championships with distinction. Yet his fate was the same as mine. Utter 'triumph' of the status quo brigade. What the apostles of 'no change' have not yet understood is that their unbending, rigid attitude to anything new will bring about the biggest change of all when everything comes crashing down. The dinosaur too once seemed eternal, unshakable. Everything moves slowly in Table Tennis, but I see no future for the C.C. unless there is a radical change of format that creates fresh interest, that is able to compete with the National League which is more popular.

Certainly our future participation is in some doubt. Our system over-plays our leading player who would like to go on, because he shares our affection for the game at the grass roots and this part of the world. We are short of ladies as are so many other counties and our Sport has conspicuously failed to attract women - one of our major failures.

Our pre-season meeting was livelier than usual as law and rule changes were on the agenda. 'Different colours' on the two sides of the blade were thrown out by an enormous majority, not because everybody was against it, but because we felt the last thing we needed was to upset our members or plunge them into unnecessary

expense. I have only heard of one league that has adopted the change. I hope they keep their members. We just managed to hold our figures, which I regard as a success. The days of growth are over - until the E.T.T.A. stimulates national interest as happened during the World Championships in Birmingham. The present cluttered-up calendar, as boring as it is full, has the opposite effect. It wears out the victims as the conveyor belt once did and many of our brightest young players are sick of the sport before they reach 30, many much sooner.

We cannot comment on the new service rule because none of us understand it. When the chairman read it out for the first time there was an embarrassed silence. The second time there were a few suppressed giggles whilst one wag not versed in international matters cried out 'Is this what we pay the E.T.T.A. for?'. When the chairman read the famous words a third time, the meeting dissolved in laughter.

I do and did try to look beyond the gibberish. Indeed as the coach of an international player I have to. I was, I think, the first to go into print about 'hidden' services. My player adopted one mainly because so many others did and nothing was done about it. Indeed it began as a satirical gesture. His back-to-the-table-serve was always a high risk gambit as the whole table was left uncovered and it only worked against certain players. Some local players got it back well, some international ones made a mess of it. Crowds loved it. In Kuala Lumpur they called for encores. In Jamaica and Barbados where they appreciate individuality there was nothing but enthusiasm. In England it got on T.V.'s Blue Peter (Audience 8 million - or, if you like, 25 times that of 'Top Table' Table Tennis). That service has now been banned. Others, more lethal continue, indeed flourish. All this from the apostles of bringing longer rallies back into the game, the same who have ruined practically all the world's best defenders as a result of the rubber rule... and there were not many to start with.

I predict too that the next World Championships will see new technical innovations from China against which the rest of the world will be as helpless as it was against the Chinese mastery of the combination bat. That began in 1975, perhaps sooner. Europe, accustomed to being second best, continued to sleep. In 1980 John Hilton became European Champion and the campaign began that will ruin many careers at all levels without contributing a great deal at any level. This is, alas, still a minority view. If the rule change ruins our best young players as some predict, then I ask how often our Sport will make the newspapers or the television screen and where it will go without such encouragement. I ask too where we

would have ended up in the World Championships without our combination bat players. I suggest side-by-side with Germany, i.e. near or in second class status. There is the closest relationship in the health of a sport at the grass roots and at the top.

All of us who are involved in the administration of our Game know that,

as Joe Gormley put it, we are having "to run like hell to stand still". I know of a big, well-run league that in one season lost a quarter of its members. Our own is well, if a trifle conservatively run. We held our numbers this season mainly because one club got new premises and an increase in membership. Five clubs folded. As our

Editor put it, the vultures are gathering. I could add that they will leave only skeletons - at the feast of other sports which have achieved public respect.

Though I mean every word, all that is perhaps a negative, if accurate statement of the Game's current plight I have sketched the positive side - the way out, as I see it.

CARL TO PLAY FULL TIME

It seems almost certain that Carl Prean, England's 16-year-old star of the last World Championships, will become a full time player from the beginning of the year. Carl, who is taking some 'O' levels in November, is likely to quit school at Christmas to concentrate on his table tennis.

In Sunderland in October for Carl's home European League debut against Sweden his father, John, said, "It's

impossible for Carl to keep playing as much as he is and attempt to maintain his school studies. He may continue with some subjects, particularly German where I can help him, but he is certain to play full time after the end of this term."

The decision has been taken by the close knit Prean family in consultation with Carl's headmaster but it represents a gamble even for Carl who is currently European ranked. "The big contracts in Germany are over," said John, "and the ETTA payments are

little more than pocket money. He will have to rely on endorsements, prize money and the occasional TV appearance fee".

One thing is certain, however, the 1988 Olympics are not one of Carl's objectives. He has already earned prizes in excess of the ITTF limit which many anticipate will be the Olympic criterion of amateur status. He is determined to make a success of being a professional table tennis player. It is a route chosen only by the very talented and brave.

DESMOND DOUGLAS JOINS BUTTERFLY

DESMOND DOUGLAS, Britain's most successful table tennis player of modern times, has signed an endorsement contract with the world brand leader, BUTTERFLY, commencing on 1st October, 1983.

Desmond says, "It is ideal to be able to enter into a promotional arrangement with a company whose products I genuinely prefer. I have known the Butterfly people for a long time and I have complete confidence in the company's products. I am very pleased indeed with my new arrangement".

Desmond will use and endorse the Butterfly Kenny Blade, which is the

blade he uses with Sriver Red rubber on one side and Sriver Black rubber on the other. Desmond will also be endorsing the Butterfly table tennis shoe.

In the New Year the Kenny Blade will carry Desmond's name, whilst a new range of Douglas rackets will be launched for the 1984/85 season for the school, youth club and hobby market.

Douglas's form so far this season has been very impressive. He has won both the West German and French Grand Prix and three out of four matches for England so far in the European Super League.

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

21 Claremont,
Hastings,
East Sussex TN34 1HA

SALES ITEMS

I.T.T.F. Official Handbook
(Constitution, laws in full and international regulations) £2.50 each
I.T.T.F. Rules Booklet (Laws and international regulations) 25p each
Norwich Union Law Booklets
(containing the basic laws of table tennis in handy pocket size) 2p each
(minimum order 10 copies)

Badges

ETTA Members - cloth blazer badge
£1.00 each

Umpires - gold wire on blue cloth
£4.00 each

Lapel badges - ETTA crest on pin
35p each or 3 for £1.

ETTA Ties

Blue or maroon
(single motif) (100% polyester)
4½ inch blade £2.00 each

Tournament Stationery

Tournament Diary
(showing the dates and organisers of all open tournaments in England, Scotland and Wales) £1.50 each

Individual match scorepads
(100 sheets per pad) 35p each
or 5 for £1.50

Draw sheets - for 64 entries in two blocks of 32 specially ruled for tournaments 25p each
or 5 for £1

Poster blanks - for advertising your event (edged in blue and indicating table tennis) in two sizes - A4 (8" x 12") and A2 (15" x 20")

10 of each for 50p
25 of each for £1

THE PRICES SHOWN ABOVE INCLUDE POSTAGE/PACKING AND VAT (WHERE APPLICABLE)

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH WITH ORDER ALL CHEQUES/POs TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO E.T.T.A.





INITIAL INFORMATION

I have pleasure in showing the results of matches played in early October. Many of the individual results were fascinating and it is a pity that there is not enough space for me to share the excitement with you.

You will observe that in many cases, I have been able to comment on and analyse play in certain matches; this was due to the foresight of either the Referees or the Captains of teams, who included the christian names of players on the score sheets, rather than using the traditional 'initial and surname'. Since this appears cold and unfriendly to me, in future, to discourage this from happening, I will make every possible effort to highlight matches, where the christian names of players are given.

Veterans Premier Division
Middlesex 3 Lincs. 6
Kent 5 Notts 4
Essex 8 Berks 1
Cheshire 9 Leicestershire 0

Veterans 2A Division
Avon 3 Cheshire 2nd 6
Beds 8 Oxon 1
Hunts 5 Worcs. 4
Clwyd 3 Northants 6

Veterans 28 Division
Berks 2nd 1 Essex 2nd 8
Hants 5 Middx. 2nd 4
Dorset 7 Kent 2nd 2
Sussex 5 Herts. 4

Veterans 3A Division
Bucks 5 Herts. 2nd 4
Cumbria 4 Clwyd 2nd 5
Cheshire 3rd 8 Wilts. 1

Veterans 38 Division
Somerset 4 Dorset 2nd 5
Wilts. 2nd 5 Hants 2nd 4
Herts 3rd 2 Sussex 2nd 7

2A.... AVON took on CHESHIRE 2 but found the likes of MYRA LYPNYCKYJ, KEITH POWELL, NORMAN DEAKIN and ROGER MOSS, a little too much to chew. However, AVON'S Muriel Lewis, Mike Baker, Tony Brown and Roy Smith represented themselves well, in winning three. The Match Referee was ERIC WYNN.

2B.... ESSEX 2 peppered BERKSHIRE 2 at Peppard Memorial Hall, after travelling across to Berkshire. Essex, with PAM ANKER, BRIAN PARISH, RAY MURPHY and LAURIE 'Styler' FOUNTAIN, kept matters well in hand by only losing the Men's Doubles. Berkshire's Jean Gloster, Bob Holiday, Colin Dyke and Bert Foster, did actually

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND-UP

by Murray Corbin

put up a good fight. The efficient ROBIN LOCKWOOD was the Referee.

3A....CLWYD 2 travelled to Kendal, to snatch a 5-4 victory from CUMBRIA'S Clarice Rose, Ray Carr, Peter Buxton and Charles Usher. CLWYD'S strike force consisted of BARBARA WILLIAMS, DON HOBBS, RAY HOWLAND and ROY WILLIAMS. ANDREW DAWSON was the Referee.

Junior Division 2A
Lancs. 9 Beds. 1
Leics. 3 Derby 7
Yorks 2nd 4 Cheshire 6
Warwicks 10 Cams. 0

At Bamberbridge, Preston, Lancashire's LYNDASAY McEWEN, LYNN HARNDEN, PHIL HUGGON, COLIN HOGARTH and PHIL CRANKSHAW, just failed to "white-wash" Bedfordshire's Joyce Mitchell, Caroline Buckley, Neil Stanley, Peter Edwards and Dave Murgatroyd, when, in the last set EDWARDS defeated Crankshaw. The Match Referee was JACK EVANS.

LEICESTERSHIRE'S Joanne Murray, Tracey Clark, Paul Bumpus, David Aldwinckle and Marcus Bellot were contained and beaten admirably on their home ground at KNIGHTON PARK TTC by Derbyshire's LOUISE FORSTER, JOANNE WEIGHTMAN, ANDREW HENRY, PAUL HARVEY and NIGEL ADAMS. The Match referee was K. BRAMHALL.

On paper, the YORKS/CHESHIRE match ended in a draw. However, with MICHAEL O'DRISCOLL of Yorks not being a registered player, I expect a 6-4 adjustment in favour of Cheshire. M. GREENWOOD was the Referee.

OAKFIELD CLUB, Rugby, was the setting where WARWICKSHIRE should have entertained CAMBRIDGESHIRE, but there must have been a misunderstanding, because they knocked the stuffing out of Cambridgeshire's Helen Smith, Louise Ward, Tim Ashman, Peter Holliday and Nick Ashman. Who, on the day, could not manage to win a set against MELANIE McHAYLE, DAWN BROMLEY, MARK RANDLE, MICHAEL THOMAS or MARTIN CAMPBELL. Sorry! but I could not understand the signature of the Referee.

Junior Division 28
Middx. 2nd 3 Herts 7
Essex 9 Dorset 1
Gloucs. 6 Glamorgan 4

Junior Division 3A
Cleveland 2nd 1 Northumberland 9
Lincs 2nd 7 Cumbria 3
Lincs. 6 Cumbria 4
Cheshire 2nd 8 Notts 2 (Match lasted 4 hrs.)

CLEVELAND'S Anne Pashley, Clare Metcalfe, John Healey, Andrew McKeowen and Stuart Millar, were crushed to defeat at Hartlepool, due to the superior skills of Northumberland's DENISE WILKINSON, DENISE CAMPBELL PETER CURRY, KEITH PAITERSON and THOMAS BLACKMAN. Cleveland's only success came when ANNE PASHLEY got the better of Denise Wilkinson in the penultimate set. The Referee was T. SNOWDON.

Junior Division 38
Oxon 3 Northants 7
Cams. 2nd 6 Warwick 2nd 4
Berks 2nd 7 Staffs 2nd 3
Herefordshire 0 Worcs. 10

Oxfordshire finally went down 3-7 to NORTHANTS MAXINE SHEARS, DONNA FURNISS, ANDREW TROIT, RICHARD BASHFORD and ANDREW EDMONDS, after some low scoring games. Oxfordshire was represented by the young, promising, Amanda Shufflebotham, Gillian Aston, Jean-Pierre Greaves, Tommy Filmer and Dominick O'Flynn. Referee J. DENBOW officiated.

CAMBRIDGE 2nd Team was at home in ROKEWOOD NURSERIES, WISBECH, when WARWICKSHIRE'S 2nd Team paid them a visit, but made the proceedings 'a little difficult'. However, Cambridge, with SAMANTHA WALES, DENISE HINKS, NICKY RAYNER. PAUL OLDROYD and NEIL BURGESS, just pipped the visitors to the post after an exciting encounter with Tracey Green, Lisa Spilbury, Dave Thomas, Sean Simon and V. Chauhan. CLIVE HARROD was the Referee.

BERKSHIRE 2 defeated Staffordshire 2 at Merton Hall, Newbury, where the teams met for their dust-up. Berks, with JULIE BRION, RACHEL WAITS, the talented PAUL SAVINS, KEITH HODDER and STEWART CHAMPION, just had a little more ammunition than Staffs' Angela Sanders, Dawn Warden, Kevin Lawrence Steven Meigh and Adrian Hough. BRIAN LATHAM-the Referee, officiated at this 7-3 victory for Berks.

HEREFORDSHIRE'S Sally Rees, Heather Tompkins, Paul Bridges, Andrew and Chris Cooke, appear to have suffered considerably at the hands of

Worcestershire's HELEN JONES, LISA HUNT, DEAN KLOOS, TIM HOLDER and MARK RODEN, who gave them a good whipping. Let us hope that this young Herefordshire team can 'get it together' soon. P.J. KIMBER was the Referee.

Junior Division 3C
Cornwall 2nd 0 Cornwall 10
Somerset 8 Hants 2
Wilts 2nd 3 Cornwall 7
Wilts. 10 Cornwall 2nd 0
Hants 8 Avon 2nd 2
Avon 6 Somerset 4

CORNWALL 1, comprising ALISON CLEMENS, ESME STEVENSON, MARK JAMES, GRAHAM REED and ANDREW HUNT, put their Second Team in its place with a 10-0 thrashing when they met at Camborne on Sept 4. I also note that Cornwall 2 also suffered the same fate when they visited Wiltshire in October. The Referee at Camborne was A.R. BUNT.

Junior Division 3D
Sussex 2nd 1 Essex 2nd 9
Herts 2nd 0 Surrey 2nd 10
Norfolk 2nd 4 Suffolk 6
Essex 3rd 3 Kent 2nd 7

A very talented Essex 2 - GILL PATTEN, CATHERINE THOMPSON, the bubbling TONY WEST, the serious minded BERNIE LAZARUS, and the up-and-coming DAMIAN HOLLAND, sent a lot of bullets at Joanne Fletcher, Robert Warner, Robert Watt and Simon Plummer, who must all have been very relieved when their NINA WILLIAMS stopped the "white-wash" by beating Gill Patten quite comfortably. H.J. WEBB was the Match Referee.

SUFFOLK travelled to the NORMAN CENTRE, Norwich, to take on NORFOLK 2, and returned home in good spirits after a very bruising battle against Carolyn Chamberlain, Melissa Howe, the well-mannered. Neil Pickard, Stephen Fox and Lee Diggins. Suffolk, with JULIE MORTIMER, SYLVIA KENYON, PAUL GOODING, SHAUN CARACCIO and RICHARD HUTCHINSON must have been very satisfied with their 6-4 score-line, especially after six sets had to go to three. The Match Referee was R. HOGG.

I regret to learn that BUCKINGHAMSHIRE TTA have had to withdraw their JUNIOR 2B team, due to the shortage of one girl-player. For the benefit of the team, I am wondering if it would not have been better for them to play, even with this handicap: By the way, this is not a criticism I am making of Bucks, but in case a similar situation arises, it would be in good order for the County concerned to approach The County Championships Administrator - LESLIE SMITH, for guidance. I am informed by IAN WHITESIDE - The Chairman, that according to the rules, a Team must put-out 'a full side'; failure to do so could result in the County being fined. He also pointed out that, in order to keep a fixture date, and in the interest of both teams having a 'full match',

well meaning and thoughtful counties would play an 'unregistered player', anticipating a snatch-back of any sets won by such a player. Again, this statement is not levelled at Bucks. What does bother me in this case is the fact that Bucks found only one Junior Girl, who wished to play in their Junior Trials. I will have to find out if there is a facility where Counties can make additional registrations, say, up to the end of November or even December.

Senior Division 2A
Lancs 2nd 5 Warwicks 5
Derbys 3 Staffs 2nd 7
Cams. 6 Suffolk 4
Worcs. 1 Yorks 2nd 9

Cambridgeshire's MANDY JUDD, JOANNE PALMER, KEITH RICHARDSON, ANDY WITHERS and GEOFF DAVIES, had a narrow victory but a very good win over SUFFOLK'S Julie Dowsett, Sue Welham, John Kitchen, Stuart and Mick Palmer. It appears that if MICK could have won one of his singles, Suffolk might have clinched a 'draw'. The articulate GEOFF WATERS was the Match Referee.

In the WORCESTERSHIRE/YORKSHIRE match, I am informed that Yorks did not notify Worcs. in good time of their team for this match. If this is true, it is a bit naughty and cannot be encouraged. The Referee on this occasion was DOUG YOUNG.

Senior Division 2B
Sussex 4 Dorset 6
Berks. 7 Wilts. 3
Middx. 2nd 3 Avon 7
Devon 4 Kent 6

Mandy Reeves, Michele Williams, Nigel Tyler, John Payne and Michael O'Leary of MIDDLESEX, were given a 'proper going-over' at EAST FINCHLEY TIC by the visiting HELEN FERRET, MICHELLE COHEN, the productive ANDREW CREED, RICHARD RUSSELL and PAUL HOOPER of AVON. Notable victories here being - CREED's demolition of Payne and Tyler; FERRET over Reeves; RUSSELL's flogging of O'Leary at 4 and 10, and the skilful PAUL HOOPER dusting-off of O'Leary and Payne. Wow! Bodies must have been lying all over the place. The spectacle was Refereed by J. RAN-DALL.

Senior Division 3A
Durham 4 Lincs. 6
Northumberland 8 Clwyd 2
Cheshire 10 Notts. 0

Northumberland's CLARE MOUZON, CARON LASS, PETER 'Retriever' McQUEEN, IAN 'Benny' ROBERTSON and NEIL McMASTER, had a comfortable win against the visiting Sue Roberts, Caren Buckle, Trevor Manning, Terry Turner and John Hook of CLWYD, whose long journey may not have helped. The match was played at BYKER CC under the supervision of AUBREY DRAPKIN - the Referee.

At Hyde, Cheshire JANET DEAKIN, DOREEN SCHOFIELD, BRIAN JOHNS,

DEREK SCHOFIELD and ROGER HAMPSON were just warming up when the steam of NOTTINGHAMSHIRE'S Cheryl Buttery, Gloria Stocks, Trevor Kerry, Richard Tilford and Lee Neil, ran out completely before mounting a serious threat. In spite of this, Referee T. R. VARDON witnessed a very friendly game.

Senior Division 3B
Isle of Wight 6 Cornwall 4
Wilts. 2nd 5 Berks. 2nd 5
Cornwall 6 Somerset 2nd 4
Dorset 2nd 1 Hants 9

Senior Division 3C
Northants 2nd 2 Gloucs. 8
Herefords 3 Bucks. 7
Beds. 8 Northants. 2
Oxon 7 Worcs. 2nd 3
Glam. 2 Hunts. 8

Gloucestershire's CHRISTINE IACOPI, CATHY ROBB, DARREN GRIFFIN, my good friend PAUL JACKSON, and the very promising SYLVESTER CALLUM, cruised comfortably to victory over NORTHANTS' Mrs. M. Maltby, Mrs. B. Gibbs, J. Sanders, B. D'Hoogne and C. Handshaw. The Referee was R. W. ALLEN.

At LEOMINSTER YC, Herefordshire's Ms L. Morse, Ms S. Powell, M. Owen, M. Owens and A. Castle fell to the skills of Bucks' SYLVIA COOMBS, JACKIE FARWELL, m'old mate PETER SIMMONDS, KARL BUSHELL and LES WOODING. HERTS three rubbers came from M. OWEN and M. OWENS over Peter Simmonds, and M. OWEN against Karl Bushell. yes.... I too was confused by the names Owen and Owens, until I got the 's' of it. The Referee was O. G. NEWCOMBE.

Senior Division 3D
Kent 2nd 4 Surrey 2nd 6
Suffolk 2nd 4 Cams 2nd 6
Essex 2nd 6 Sussex 2nd 4
Norfolk 9 Norfolk 2nd 1
Herts 3 Essex 3rd 7.

KENT'S Karen May, Ms J. Farthing, Richard Beckham, Gary Spencer, and Andrew Dodd suffered a narrow defeat at MILTON BARRACKS, Gravesend, only because Surrey's Ladies - LINDA 'Thunderthighs' CLEMETT and the effervescent JANE BARELLA, pulled through MIKE HAMMOND, ANDREW SEXTON and DAVID HARDING. HAMMOND must have played splendidly to beat Beckham and Spencer, and in partnering SEXTON in the Doubles because neither Sexton nor Harding was successful in the singles. The Match Referee was L. G. GOSS.

P.S. All team **captains** please note: Match results must be phoned through to the ETTA 24 hours answering machine service within 24 hours of matches being played. This is to be quickly followed by the posting of the three top score sheets by the home captain to the Administrator - L. J. Smith, within 48 hours of the same matches being played. You must meet these reasonable requests. Thank you.

COUNTY NOTES SUPPLEMENT

Mary Williams reports from.....

BEDFORDSHIRE RESOUNDING SUCCESS

The first Bedfordshire County senior match held at Vauxhall Motors (Luton) against Northamptonshire resulted in a resounding success for Beds. who won 8-2. David Sharpe, Ian Doughty, Andy Conquest, Dawn Campbell and Mary Jarrett participated in a most enjoyable game.

On the other hand the juniors who travelled to Preston to play against Lancashire lost 9-1. These youngsters on their first away game of the season put up a good fight and several of the games were very close. Ten-years-old Caroline Buckley put up a fine performance. Also putting on a good show were Neil Stanley, Peter Edwards, David Murgatroyd and Joyce Mitchell. It was left to Peter Edwards to win the final set for Beds - Well done Peter.

The dates for the County Closed Tournaments are Nov 27, 1983 - Senior Closed and Jan 22, 1984 - Junior Closed. Both events will take place at Bedford Trucks (Dunstable).

County rankings are:-

Men	Women
1. D. Sharpe	1. L. Bellinger
2. I. Doughty	2. J. Bellinger
3. A. Conquest	3. J. Dimmock
4. M. Lyons	4. L. Robins
5. A. James	5. D. Campbell
6. D. Hyde	6. M. Jarrett
7. D. Foster	7. L. Hanratty
8. M. Verdon	
9. D. Cartwright	

Boys	Girls
1. N. Stanley	1. L. Bellinger
2. P. Edwards	2. L. Robins
3. D. Murgatroyd	3. J. Mitchell
4. L. Holmes	4. R. Forrester
5. C. Wright	5. C. Lawrence
6. G. Black	6. C. Buckley
7. M. Sharpe	7. M. Hollick
8. N. Apps	8. S. Evans
	9. H. Lawrence
	10. L. Deane

Veterans (Men)	Veterans (Women)
1. J. Wooliscroft	1. A. Robinson
2. P. Cutting	2. M.-Stuppel
3. D. Folds	3. D. Harmer
4. C. Gill	
5. D. Holden	
6. S. Griffiths	
7. T. Dimmock	
8. G. Sharpe	
9. B. Bowron	
10. F. Nelson	
11. K. Jordan	

National League

The debut of Dunstable & AHW Club's venture in the National League resulted in them being thrashed 1-7 by Tulse Hill Rams.

The Crystal Palace side showed all the class associated with a team containing three England-ranked players, adapting immediately to the very fast conditions of the Pioneer Boys' Club in Dunstable.

Sharpe tried hard to stem the tide in his second set losing 21-23 to the visitor's top player Des Charlery in the third.

Doughty capitalised on the revival winning his second set easily against Andrew Dodd, displaying a tremendous range of shots.

Gary Hamilton and Bob Harman completed the team.

The next match away to Jaques Fareham 11, although fought well, resulted in Dunstable & AHW losing 3-5 after being 3-0 up.

A 4-4 draw was obtained in the match against Cippenham (Slough).

The second home match against Ashford (Middlesex) started off well with Sharpe winning the first set for Dunstable & AHW. Although the sets were fought well, the score of 1-7 against them was nothing to be ashamed of. Fine efforts were made by Doughty, Hamilton and David Cartwright against the Middlesex team of Mike Hammond, Peter Simmonds, Rupert Bole and Steve Everard.

Luton League

Eighty-two teams with a total of 398 players have now registered in the Luton League making up seven divisions.

At the last Luton A.G.M. the retiring Treasurer, Paul Denton, was elected a Vice-President.

The Luton League Senior Closed will take place on Sunday Feb 5, 1984 at Bedford Trucks (Dunstable).

The same venue has been arranged for the Junior Closed on Sunday, Feb 19, 1984.

Luton was invaded last weekend when the town played host to the Round Tables of Great Britain and Ireland.

About 800 Tablers between the ages of 20 and 40 were participating in nine sporting events at various venues.

The Luton Regional Sports Centre was the venue for the preliminary rounds of a Table-Tennis Tournament held on Saturday Oct 8, 1983.

The Luton Secretary was approached by this organisation to provide officials for the semi-finals and final held on Oct 9 at Putteridge Sports Centre, Luton.

The winner was Peter Dunstan from Devon.

To conclude we welcome back sisters Jackie and Lisa Bellinger who have been training at the Butterfly DOHJO centre in Tokyo.

Whilst I think they may have picked up one or two words of Japanese their main problem there was trying to find someone who spoke English.

Brian Halliday reports from.....

BERKSHIRE

BRIGHT START

The senior 1st team got the county season off to a bright start by beating Wilts. Perhaps it is a little too early to start counting our medals but with the talent at our disposal the team must have every chance of promotion. The 2nd team drew with Wilts 2 thanks to a useful performance from Jonathan Samuel who was recalled to the squad and took his chance well.

The junior 2nd team found Staffs 2 too strong but the improving Paul Savins was again impressive with two wins.

Essex veterans routed both our 1st and 2nd teams in no uncertain fashion. Last season's euphoria is a thing of the past and the 1st team are going to find life in the Premier Division very difficult indeed.

The local National League side Gillette-Reading have made a poor start to the season. The opening fixtures provided tough opposition all round and this, coupled with injuries and other circumstances, have left the three Gillette teams with a desperate anti-relegation battle on their hands. The format of presenting three matches all together has been popular with both players and spectators. Presentation has been good and some excellent play has been witnessed. The one big niggle seems to be the apathetic attitude of local league players - surely they could spare a few Sundays to watch table tennis of the highest class. The club is averaging over 100 spectators per match but need very much more support to break even. The local radio and press coverage has been very good, but it seems quite impossible to attract the really big crowds that the game so urgently needs.

Full marks to the Claw Scaffolding Company who have provided financial backing for the Kidmore End Club in the Reading League. In the past few seasons the club have brought a number of highly talented youngsters to the fore. Berkshire Champion Simon Rowland and the reigning Reading Men's Senior Champion Michael Childs both owe much of their success to the club. Jimmy Stokes is another who is progressing rapidly up the ladder at international level. Jenny Collins is another who has achieved an England ranking. While these players have now moved on to new clubs, Jim Stokes Sen. now has a new crop of young players of whom much is expected. It was anticipated that results in Reading's top division would take some time in coming but already Graham Kemp has achieved an excellent trio of wins in one match, including the scalp of the Berkshire Champion. I believe we are going to hear more of this young man and also his rather promising team mates Keith Hodder,

Rachel Watts, and Clare Plumridge.

Rumour has it that there is a big new inter-town tournament covering several nearby counties in the offing. Events at senior, junior, and veteran level are to be organised. Towns and local leagues will be advised as soon as more information is available.

Geoff Waters reports from.....

CAMBRIDGESHIRE PROMISING START

The County made a promising start in the County Championships winning three of their five matches played.

The senior first team expected a tough match against promoted Suffolk in Div 2A and so it proved, just getting home 6-4. Mick Harper was missing from the Cambs. line-up, having contracted a virus that prevented him from walking and spending some time in Stevenage Hospital. Happily, Mick is now playing again although he is still far from match fit. Luckily Cambs. were able to welcome back Geoff Davies after a year's absence and he showed he is none the worse for his lay-off by winning his opening singles against Mick Palmer. Keith Richardson was also a winner against Stuart Palmer, but not surprisingly Andy Withers went down against John Kitchener. Cambridgeshire's 2-1 lead soon evaporated, however, when Suffolk took both doubles but Withers levelled the scores with a singles win over Mick Palmer.

Joanne Palmer totally eclipsed Sue Welham and Richardson had a magnificent 16,16 win over Kitchener to assure a point. Mandy Judd met Julie Dowsett, unbeaten in Div 3 last season, and after sharing the first two games, Mandy led 18-12 in the third. Julie fought back to 19-19 to give home county supporters a fright, but the Cambridge girl took the next two points to earn Cambs. a winning lead. The second team won their first match for nearly two years by completing a 6-4 double over Suffolk at Ipswich.

This was a good team effort with every player winning at least one set and a 0-2 deficit was turned into a 6-3 winning margin. Martin Livermore, Julian Wheel and Trevor Smith each won a singles, while Hilary Finch and Alison Edge won all three women's sets in straight games.

The second team, however, blotted their copy book two weeks later when they met Sussex II at Soham. They led 2-0 with singles wins from Wheel and Smith over Mick Browne and Dave Jemmett respectively, but only a Smith and Livermore doubles was added to the score and they lost 3-7. The junior first team, promoted to Junior 2A, found Warwickshire much too strong and despite sterling work from Tim Ashman and Peter Holliday failed to win a set.

We had some revenge, however,

when junior II beat Warwickshire II 6-4 at Wisbech. Neil Burgess was Cambridgeshire's star winning both his singles with ease. He had good support from Paul Oldroyd and Nicky Rayner, who both won a singles and the boys' doubles, while Samantha Wales and Denise Hinks chipped in with the girls' doubles.

Hassy Soham had an easy first round tie in the European Club Cup, but they had to travel to Athens to progress into the next round. They beat their Greek opponents A.O. Pera Tatavia 5-0 with Paul Day and Kenny Jackson winning two each and John Souter one.

The second round proved a much tougher proposition when they encountered Simex Julich the Federal German champions at Soham. The Germans fielded Ulf Carlsson, Engelbert Hugging and Michael Plum and what a formidable club side that is.

With two defenders in the team, Soham omitted Jackson, who is not at his best against this type of player, and: fielded Day, Souter and Dave Hannah.

Soham made a good start with Souter winning an exciting duel against Hugging. The Middlesex lad always plays 'choppers' well, as his many wins against David Barr prove, and here again he showed his worth. He lost the first -20 but he didn't let it get him down and he kept his nose in front for most of the second until 19-16. Then Hugging pulled back to 20-20, but Souter scraped home by taking the next two points. The third was a real thriller with the crowd loving every minute. Souter led 18-14, but then lost six point in a row and when all seemed lost suddenly produced four winners to win by yet another 22-20 score. Soham were optimistic of going two up when Day won the second game against Plum after losing the first, but a more determined Plum retrieved some impossible balls in the third that left Day shaking his head.

It was not realistic to expect Hannah to beat Carlsson, but the Scot fought splendidly and forced the Swede to make errors. In the end, he lost the first game -19, but in the second he had the chance of winning fourtimes at 20-18, 21 -20 and 23-22, but in the end he threw it away when he served off the table at 23-23.

This was really the end for Soham as their spirits sagged and the next three sets went comfortably to the German champions, who ran out 5-1 winners.

Results (Soham names first)

Souter bt Hugging -20, 20, 20; lost to Carlsson -11, -10;
Day lost to Plum -14, 13, -14; lost to Hugging -13, -10.
Hannah lost to Carlsson -19, -23; lost to Plum -10.

In the Halex National League, Hassy Soham have won their two opening matches, both away. They had a comfortable 7-1 win against Dunlop Birmingham, but were given something of a fright by Gillette Reading, who they beat 5-3.

In the Reading match Soham had to thank their lower order men for seeing them through. Barr beat Day and then

Philip Bradbury beat Jackson to give Reading a 2-0 lead. Souter and Nicky Mason levelled the scores, but Soham fell behind again when Day lost to Bradbury. The champions managed to take the last three with Souter and Mason completi'ng winning doubles.

Soham II didn't start their season in Div 3 East too well, losing their opening matches against Coles Waveney and Rackets (Nottingham), both 6-2. Peter Holliday did well with wins over Robert Watson, Russell King and David Henderson. In their third match, however, they got things together and beat Halex Lincoln 7-1.

Halex March won two of their three matches in Div 2 North, their one defeat being against the powerful South Yorkshire. The Yorkshiremen have acquired Chris Rogers and Keith Rodger but if they thought they were going to have an easy passage in the second division, they were soon in for a shock as Stuart Palmer beat both. Unfortunately, the rest of the team could not add to these fine wins and they lost 6-2.

In their second match against Tarmac Wolverhampton II they had a comfortable 6-2 win with all four players playing their part. Palmer and Davies won two each, while Withers and Gary Jordan won one.

Their 5-3 win over Sincil Lincoln was their most satisfying to date as in previous seasons they had drawn and lost to this team. It was March's bottom half who came to their rescue with Davies and Robert Swift winning two each against Lincoln's defenders. Palmer lost his first of the season against Dave Gannon.

There is only one Newmarket Construction League result to hand at the time of writing with Cambridge beating Haverhill 8-1. Chris Burdon and David Leaderwere unbeaten, but Neil Burgess went down to Yvonne Driver.

CORRECTION - In last month's issue, I mentioned that Andy Withers was the only player to win matches for Haverhill in last season's NCL League. This was in fact not true as David Miller won two and Yvonne Driver. My apologies to these two players for not crediting them with these wins.

Ron Weatherby reports from.....

CHESHIRE JUNIOR RANKING TRIALS

Cheshire's junior ranking trials were held at Crewe and produced some very unexpecteQ results and, no doubt, left some players very disappointed on the day.

In the absence of Billy Gleave the top position was wide open but after many hard-fought sets it was Keith Weatherby, who just pipped Simon Jones, to come out on top. Stephen Lypnyckyj worked hard all day and deserved his third spot. The trials were once again organised by Karen Tonge, and as usual they went without a hitch.

Mike Freeman sends out a plea for help in running the County Junior teams. Anyone interested and ready to give a helping hand please contact Mike at 24 Parkfield Drive, Whitby, South Wirral (Phone: 051-355 5622).

Rankings:-

Boys

1. Billy Gleave
2. Keith Weatherby (St)
3. Simon Jones (EP)
4. Stephen Lypnyckyj (St)
5. Bernard Wentworth (Wl)
6. Stephen Colclough (EP)
7. Andrew Taylor (Wl)
8. Gavin Dickson (Cr)
9. Tim Turner
10. Steve Terry (EP)
= Alan Gibson (W/R)
11. Martin Thompson (MC)
12. Andrew Coxon (Cr)
13. Michael Curley (Wr)
14. Wayne Harrison (Cr)

Girls

1. Claire Potts (Ch/EP)
2. Lynne Harrison (St)
3. Cheryl Clarke (Wr)
= Michelle Welsh (Cr)
4. Julie Hope (EP)
5. Alison Hall (St)
6. Karen Upton (Cr)
7. Beverley Parkes (EP)
8. Ester Brown (Cr)
9. Sharon Dorman (Wl)
10. Angela Tickle (W/R)
11. Alison Jones (EP)
12. Helen Potts (Ch/EP)

Cadet Boys

1. Paul Birken (Wl)
2. Colin Eden (Wr)
3. Neil Kersop (Wl)
4. M. Welsh (Cr)
= M. Parker (St)
6. R. McDonald (Wl)
7. S. Freeman (EP)
8. M. Dean (EP)

Cadet Girls

1. Claire Potts (Ch/EP)
2. Ester Brown (Cr)
3. Sharon Wood (Wl)
4. Angela Tickle (W/R)
5. Alison Jones (EP)
6. Helen Potts (Ch/EP)
7. Alison Upton (Cr)
8. Barbara McQuade (EP)

Key: Ch = Chester; Cr = Crewe; EP = Ellesmere Port; MC = Mid-Cheshire; St = Stockport; Wl = Wirral; Wr = Warrington; W/R = Widnes/Runcorn.

Malcolm Allsop reports

DERBYSHIRE SUCCESSFUL START

The Derbyshire Junior team made a successful start to the season when they travelled to Leicester, and returned 7-3 victors. With the team which won Junior 3A still available Keith Weightman had no selection problems; but Nigel Adams provided a bonus with a performance which showed he had regained his form from the start of last season.

Nigel won both his singles whilst Andrew Henry and Paul Harvey gained one singles win apiece. The girls, Louise Forster and Joanne Weightman won their singles although failing to win the girls' doubles for the first time.

With so many players fighting for a team place the only selection problem will be to decide when to give them their opportunity. What a nice problem for a captain to have!

The Derbyshire senior team made a disappointing start to the season when they suffered a 3-7 defeat at the hands of Staffordshire. To Thuy Dung and Marilyn O'Sullivan won their singles, and Stephen Yallop won one of his singles for Derbyshire's only successes. Captain Philip Vickers felt that the presence of Alan Cooke could

have turned the match Derbyshire's way, but we must accept that Alan's availability cannot always be guaranteed and build a team accordingly.

Congratulations to Alan upon his success for England in the Home International Tournament. He has already received further senior International selection which will be played prior to this being published. Here's hoping he has done well.

The retirement has been announced of the former Derbyshire Junior and Men's Singles Champion, Tony Bird, who having reached the age of 50 this year, suffered a heart attack during the Summer. Tony was a member of the Doveside team which won the Brittan Cup in the Burton League this past season (see May Table Tennis News), and had retained his form and consistency for over 35 years.

Fred Moody says "I remember Tony as one of the youngsters who had a beautiful style and fluency combined with enough intelligence to take advantage of these natural gifts. So many who are so blessed, waste them by lacking control and understanding how to use them."

"Tony's ability was combined with a becoming modesty - a sure sign of a confident, capable player. When one is genuinely good, there is no need to remind people about it."

"Although a naturally aggressive player, Tony has a consistent pleasant manner and is one of those people one is always pleased to meet, long may he continue to grace T.T. environs."

I think that we would all agree with Fred that table tennis needs the likes of Tony Bird, and we all hope that he will continue to grace table tennis gatherings, even if he can no longer grace the table.

In the Burton Summer League, Drakelow won Division One with nine victories and one draw; with Central Ladies winning Division Two (8 wins and 2 draws).

The Burton League's Annual Dinner was a success with over 250 attending, and next year's Dinner (mark your diaries for May 11th), will be the League 25th and it is hoped to organise something special! What do they mean?

As part of the Burton twinning with Lingen in Federal Germany, a party of Officials visited Lingen, and although not having a successful time on the table, Ian Knight's the exception, had an enjoyable and hectic time. A return visit of the Germans to Burton is being arranged next year (to sample the local, brew?). A debt of gratitude has been expressed to Granville Schools German teacher Danny Kreft who helped make a memorable trip with his navigation and interpreting.

The Burton League will consist of 54 teams in 5 Divisions this season and we welcome four new Clubs -

Uttoxeter, Alrewas Boys' Brigade, George St Club and Linton.

A Coaching course for boys, girls, beginners or league players is taking place at Hill Street P.E. Centre, Stapenhill every Sunday 2-5 p.m. and Monday evening 7-9 p.m.

The Centre is also looking for persons interested in becoming coaches or umpires. The Centre offers the use of 8 tables and up to 6 coaches.

Stephen Yallop led St Andrew's 1st to an exciting victory over Mechanics 1st in the Premier Division of the Derby League, to raise St Andrew's hopes of retaining the title whilst denting Mechanics' hopes and this could lead to a more open Championship than I envisaged before the season started - although I cannot see the title ending up with any of the other Clubs!

Derby Y.M.C.A. are competing in the Eastwood League, in addition to five teams in the Derby League, to give more competitive experience to the youngsters. Having played in the first match against Neville EMV at Sutton-in-Ashfield, I was pleased the sporting spirit and attitude of the Neville's team of Clive Spate, Steve Spencer and Doug Haywood which contributed to a very enjoyable match.

Having played for over 20 years in the Derby League, and played the same players many times was refreshing to see some new faces, and I look forward keenly to further matches. May I advise other players seeking a new challenge to join another League - no matter where you are, there's another League not far away, who knows, it may revitalise your game.

The Derby League has increased membership this season with over 100 teams in eight divisions; whilst plans are going ahead for the new Headquarters which is expected to be ready for the start of next season. The extra facilities could produce a flood of new teams as, if past experience has shown, teams with no playing quarters appear together with additional players from Clubs outside the playing area of the League who use the Headquarters as their playing base.

John Holland reports from.....

ESSEX

CREDIT NOT CASTIGATE

Let me begin by making good some of the omissions from my October notes. First my congratulations to Lisa Hayden on winning her first 'Open' Women's Singles title at Tulse Hill. Her semi-final victory over the in-form Juliet Houghton was particularly satisfying. As a further footnote to that tournament I couldn't agree with Murray Corbin's accusation that Kent's Carl Ball didn't really try against his county colleague, Chris Bartram, in the Boys'

final. I felt he was simply outclassed and would credit Chris, not castigate Carl.

The next missing item was the much-coveted Corti Woodcock Memorial Award. Clive Oakman is the worthy winner for 1982/83. He has been an indefatigable servant of the Essex Association in recent years; a brilliant tournament organiser and secretary, and an extremely efficient treasurer.

The third lapse concerns Stuart Gibbs, who was clearly overcome, at the AGM, to receive the Harry Walker Memorial Trophy as the players' "player of the year". Stuart had a fine season for Dagenham F.C. in the 'National League, steered Basildon to the quarter-finals of the Wilmott Cup and was an inspiring county captain.

All ranking trials have now been completed and the top tens are:

Men		Women	
1. S. Andrew	(Oag)	E. Sayer	(Oag)
2. K. Jackson	(Ro)	L. Hayden	(Bre)
3. I. Horsham	(Dag)	K. Mudge	(Oag)
4. O. Newman	(Ch)	Y. Brown	(Bas)
5. L. Eadie	(Oag)	J. Askem	(Oag)
6. O. Charlery	(Oag)	K. Hayden	(Ch)
7. K. Caldou	(Ro)	C. Eakin	(Ch)
8. T. Penny	(Oag)	J. Smith	(Ha)
9. P. Hayden	(Bre)	S. Aldborough	(Oag)
10. J. Dennison	(Oag)	A. Barker	(Oag)

Boys		Girls	
1. R. Darnell	(Bre)	L. Hayden	(Bre)
2. S. 'Dorking	(Oag)	T. Holland	(Bre)
3. S. Tilson	(Ch)	G. Patten	(Oag)
4. N. Sweeting	(Ch)	C. Thompson	(Bra)
5. T. West	(Bas)	H. Mawbey	(S'end)
6. B. Lazarus	(Oag)	J. Cook	(Bre)
7. O. Holland	(S'end)	S. George	(W.F.)
8. O. Cole	(Bre)	K. Alder	(Sil)
9. S. Woods	(S'end)	K. Mudge	(Oag)
10. S. Wayland	(Ro)	H. Platt	(Ch)

Biggest surprise among the men is the low placing of Tony Penny. He missed the trials but was in the first team last term.

On the distaff side, Kim Hayden has shown good early season form and moves up to sixth. Unfortunately, she has suffered another injury to her troublesome right wrist which will keep her out of action for some time.

Richard Darnell gains the No.1 spot in the boys after dropping only one set at the trials, to Steve Tilson. Tony West, my tip for fast progress, rises to No. 5, Steve Dorking, reigning Junior 'Closed' champion, is No.2. David Cole and Simon Woods showed big improvements on last season to take spots 8 and 9, respectively.

Lisa stays No. 1 though losing to unbeaten Tanya Holland at the trials. So Brentwood now have the No.1 girl and boy, which must bring another smile to the face of Graham Moon, doyen of Brentwood T.T.C. Swiftest girl climber is Catherine Thompson of Braintree, now playing with more self-confidence but, like most of the girls, needing to attack much more. Cadet lists are not issued yet but comfortable trials winners were Tanya and Damian Holland.

The Veteran Men's trials were somewhat inconclusive in the absence of 'Stan the Bat!' Fred Lockwood and Brian Parrish. Laurie Fountain had a

good day, losing only to Ray Murray. Shirley Carroll of Chelmsford won the Women's section.

Although the GLC areas are excluded, the Essex Games, on Sept 11, produced a fine competition between teams from 14 boroughs. The final was contested by Brentwood, the hosts, and Basildon, the holders. With the teams level 2-2, Dave Bunting (Bas) faced Peter Hayden. It seemed curtains for the hosts when Dave led 17-13 in the third, but back came Peter, raising his game in the crisis, to win at 25-23. Each team comprises a junior boy, a junior girl, a man, a woman, and a veteran. Each plays one set. As the Basildon vet I was choked!

The first County Championships day saw us off to a promising start; six of our seven teams were winners. Our first and second veterans' teams beat Berks. I and II respectively, both by 8-1. Junior I overwhelmed Dorset I by 9-1; Darnell celebrated his No. 1 slot with a resounding win over England No. 17, Rodney Thomas. Junior II beat Sussex II by the same score; Damian Holland and Catherine Thompson were unbeaten on their debuts. In the same division, Junior III lost 3-7 to a full Kent II. All five Essex players in this match - David Cole, Simon Woods, James Griffiths, Sara George and Kay Mudge - were making debuts. Cole did well to beat Ball and Woods to defeat Williams. Kent II seem likely to challenge our second team for the divisional title.

Senior II beat Sussex 6-4, despite two defeats for our No. 1 Les Eadie. Steve Dorking turned up trumps in his second match of the day, winning two in fine style. Senior III, also in Div. 3 (d), travelled well to beat Herts 7-3. John Dennison was in brilliant form, taking a maximum.

On the 'Open' scene our most recent success is Ray Murray's victory in the Veterans' Singles final at the Stamco Sussex 2-Star. He overcame Norton (Hunts) in straight games. He also had excellent wins over second seed, Peter D'Arcy and Stan Batrick (semi). This was Ray's first 'Open' success for a couple of years and should send him galloping up Mike Watts' unofficial ranking list to about 6 or 7 in England. The flashing backhand looked as good as ever. Kenny Jackson reached the Men's singles semi-final, losing to the eventual winner, Graham Standley. Tony Penny didn't survive his group but recorded a good win over Staffs No.1, Bellingham.

Meanwhile in the National League Div 2 (S) Dagenham F.C. have made an excellent start, with an away drubbing of Witham Town F.C. in the Essex derby, 8-0; followed by a 6-2 home success over Larkhall. Penny was out of town for the second match so Steve Dettmar came in at No.4. He and Gibbs (3) each suffered one defeat, at the hands of Gary Spencer and Ray Namdjou, respectively. Dave Newman (1) is unbeaten so far as is Kevin

Caldon. Caldou played 3 against Witham and 2 against Larkhall. Peter Cranmer retains the team which beat Larkhall for the clash with Gwent.

Witham have themselves Lip after that 0-8 mauling with two good away draws at Dolphin's (Brighton) and Gunnersbury. They led 4-2 at Dolphin's, with two wins each for Nicky Standen and Peter Hayden, but then Robin Lang fell to Graham Gillett and Terry Dowsett lost narrowly to Horton. So the seaisiders snatched a point. Against Gunnersbury, Witham came back from 3-4 as Dowsett overcame Peter Harry in the last set.

On Oct 16 they travel to Graham Spicer's (New Maldon) with considerable interest surrounding the debut of 16-years-old Steve Tilson. Dowsett is the man to drop out. Hil Dowsett's men will be hoping to notch up that elusive first win.

On the administrative front the Essex Management Committee has been grappling with the new rules. Two colours aroused a few passions at the September Management meeting. Eventually, on the chairman's casting vote, the Executive's recommendation to implement the 2-colour rule in the inter-league, Essex Cup and Essex 'Closed' this season, was defeated. Some seemed to regard this decision as bordering on calamity though I am not counted in their number.

On the subject of combination bats, I have been surprised and a little saddened to see a number of classy, primarily defensive players, abandon them in what almost appears as panic. Of course they are at a disadvantage with the new regulation but are still likely to be more effective with the variation of the combi- than with sponge. Perhaps I do them an injustice and know nothing of heavy hands upon their shoulders, or wallets! (joke). Perhaps Lisa Bellinger, Billy Gleave and Matthew Syed, to name only three, are now going to become all-out hitters, like me!

Let me leave you with a riddle. What is heavy, dusky and elliptical and seen only at high class table tennis competitions in England? (No, alas, it's not the voluptuous slopes of Diana Ross).

Alf Pepperd reports from.....

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

BACK ON COURSE

Cheltenham have re-claimed a whole division they lost last season whilst Stroud and Gloucester remain static, five divisions in Stroud and seven in the City.

Cheltenham have for many years hit upon a marvellous idea. On the front page of their hand-book there is a mark which is quoted as being 6" from the bottom. It is used for guidelines as to the height of the net. Cheltenham? Members, Players and Administrators Please: Note, On my copy of the hand-book the mark is 2/1 Oth in, excess of

six inches, I suggest you all check your respective hand-books to see if the same mistake is relevant.

I am pleased to be able to say that Stroud have formulated their own newsheet, presumably for internal distribution. Cheltenham have long had Net & Edge, and Gloucester now have Bat-Chat, so Stroud's organisers of this welcome venture, Dave Pobjoy, T. Gardiner & P. Jones are at least keeping up with the Jones's. Well done lads, keep up the good work.

News of what's going on these days is of vital importance. Several local papers that used to produce a specific Saturday Night Sports special no longer do so and yet, Football, Rugby, and a host of lesser sports seem to get ample coverage. I know for a fact that lots of table tennis Press Officers and such like are having a very hard time to get the message over and out. It does seem today that unless you have a T.T. orientated person on the inside you invariably find yourself, on the outside. Whilst on the subject things got so bad as regards the printing of table tennis news, that Gloucester's General Secretary - Andy Browett, started up Bat-Chat last season, and has come out with an excellent third edition this season.'

I do not want the Stroud Officials to think that I am levelling criticism at their handbook, but would it not be better if all the pages inside were numbered? Cheltenham have long since pursued this policy, and Gloucester has just done it for this season for the first time. If someone makes a tentative enquiry about a certain matter in the handbook - it's so much easier to say, Oh Yes - that's on page so and so, rather than, well it's in the handbook somewhere or other.

Many an inspiring player has graduated to a higher level in our sport through the medium of the Schools in his or her County. The Gloucestershire Schools T.T.A. is again wholly operative and willing to be of help to any such players in question:- Headmasters, Teachers P.T.I. Instructors. The man to contact is:- Mr. S. Taylor, 24 Hazelcroft, Churchdown, Glos.

COUNTY PREMIER LEAGUE

Further to my rather carefully worded mention of the above in October's T.T.N. I am now firmly of the opinion that the straight-jacket that has housed all past mentions and ideas of getting this venture off the ground, WILL NOW SUCCEED. Why am I so confident?

Because in the first instant we have an organised Sub/Committee that right from the start has meant business. This Committee is headed by Cheltenham's John Boyd and comprises Peter Cruwys and one other member. We have canvassed Stroud, Gloucester City, and Cheltenham for players and the response from them has been simply magnificent. So, without hesitation, I think this season will see the start of a new competition

for the leading players (who have availed themselves). All fixtures will be played on Friday nights with all teams playing one fixture per evening at one venue.

Once the pool of players from the three Associations has been finalised players will be divided into three groups, and teams will be formed by drawing one name from each group - top, middle and bottom. It is quite possible that players who play in the same team in their league competitions will play against each other in the C.P.I. And finally this new venture will give people the opportunity to see the leading players in the County in competitive match play.

Another interesting project that I mentioned in last month's T.T.N. was the start of work on the foundations of the Rudford & Highleadons T.T. Club's NEW playing Headquarters, next to the Village Hall.

Few clubs in the Country are lucky enough to have their very own building for table tennis only, and it is credit due to the club's Committee that at long last something positive has emerged.

Rudford's hard-working Secretary, Stenneth Salisbury, informs me that the builders' work is finished and now the members themselves will be expected to apply the finishing touches. I understand that a very high ranking ETTA Official has been approached to perform the opening ceremony some time next year and that the aforesaid person has accepted. More news anon.

I was both honoured and delighted when local Independent Radio Severn-Sound asked me to do a review on the air of Jill and Donald Parker's excellent new book, TOP-CLASS TABLE TENNIS. And Mr. Editor may I, through the medium of these columns, say what an excellent manual it is. I thoroughly recommend it as an absolute MUST for all enthusiasts. If you haven't already, GO BUY IT.

Although he handed THIS & THAT in Surrey over to Michael Green, I was pleased to note that Murray Corbin (table tennis Columnist extraordinary) is still continuing to write freelance, and long may he continue to do so.

I also noted a nice little letter from Barry Granger, a County Umpire, who officiated at the English Schools International in Gloucester last July. Yes Barry your remarks noted, it was a bit hot in the leisure Centre. Mind you, it was a hot summer? Just think how much hotter it would have been IF, as you so rightly say, all those non-playing personnel had turned up, and furthermore:- What about all those MANY players actually affiliated to the Gloucester, Stroud and Cheltenham Leagues, 'WHO COULD NOT BOTHER TO TURN UP AT ALL'.

John Moss, Cheltenham's Summer league Secretary provided me with a very entertaining interview on local Independent radio in mid-October. John is shortly taking up residence in

Stroud and I wonder if he will be able to get a summer league going there, no reason why not.

COUNTY NEWS

It was very disappointing for our Juniors to have their first match of the season cancelled. They were to have played Sussex in Gloucester, but unfortunately Sussex could not provide a team. However, a week later, the Juniors were well rewarded with a highly successful win over Glamorgan. The team responsible comprised:- Aarron Beckett, David Smith, Craige Saunders, Jenny Ellery and Carole Slack, Craige and Carole both making their County debuts.

Our Seniors, -(to date of writing) have only played one match so far, that was versus Northamptonshire at Kingthrope. I'm delighted to report that we won 8-2. The team being:- Paul Jackson, Darren Griffin, Sylvester Callum, Christine Iacopi and Cathy Robb.

England trials (Juniors) at Cleveland in late October.

Gloucester (City) have no girls in it? Gloucester (City) have no Cadet girls in it either? But happy I am to report that the City do have two boys participating they are:- Aarron Beckett and David Smith.

In the Cadet boys South-West Region trials, Gloucestershire had three boys in the first top five:- namely, Dale Saunders from Lydney, who plays in the City league, and two Stroud boys Howard Williams and Neil Gingell, Well done young Sirs!!

COUNTY JUNIOR RANKINGS

Here are the up-to-date lists of the top 10 Boys and top 8 Girls. Code: S = Stroud, G = Gloucester, C = Cheltenham, (in brackets last year's rankings).

Boys	Girls	
1. A. Beckett (2)	G J. Ellery (2)	G
2. D. Smith (3)	G C. Symonds (4)	G
3. C. Saunders (9)	G N. Clark (9)	C
4. D. Saunders (11)	G D. Boles (8)	C
5. T. Wilson (5)	G C. Stack (7)	C
6. A. Patel (14)	G A. Wyeman (-)	G
7. M. Stevenson (10)	C S. Webley (6)	S
8. G. Thomas (18)	G E. Sprawson (10)	S
9. N. Gingell (16)	S Since this ranking list	
10. H. Williams (12)	S was compiled, Clare	
	Lawrence Symonds is not included at his own request.	Symonds and Suzanne Webley are not available for County play.
		Julia Evans of Cheltenham is not included at her own request.

David Cosway reports from....

HAMPSHIRE RESPECTED BY ALL

Such a lot of water has flowed under the bridge since my last report, that it is difficult to know where to begin. My request in my last report for help in obtaining information from distant parts of the county has drawn the response I perhaps expected - nothing!

The Hampshire A.G.M. correctly, I thought, agreed to two county teams,

the second string juniors and seniors, being withdrawn from the County Championships for this season. Some criticism was forthcoming, about it being a retrograde step, but teams can only be run if you have the players to fill them and officials to run them. In Hampshire we are not over endowed with either at the moment. I was sad to hear that Dennis Knellor has been forced to quit the job as secretary of the county selection committee on health grounds. Dennis must be the most honest and hardworking secretary, and he is respected both by players and fellow officials alike. I do hope his health improves shortly to enable him to renew old friendships. There is just not enough people around like Dennis these days!

Into the breach at short notice came the county president Ray Yates, who has now retired from business, and has taken over Dennis's job for the season. I understand Ray's fingers are taking most of the strain as he is typing all his letters himself. Lack of help for Ray in running the county teams has been a problem despite having only four teams to worry about. Keir Donaldson has agreed to take over the senior team and despite his many other commitments the new county coaching officer Peter Thorne has been coerced into running the junior team. As usual least problems from the two veteran teams, which almost run themselves!

Despite having only one senior team, one would have hoped of players falling over themselves to represent the county in the first match. You had to go down to the number eight ranked player to fill the team! The result, though, a pleasing 9-1 win over Dorset II. Derek Holman lost the only set to Jason Creasey. Chris Shetler won two as did Nigel Maguire making his debut. Jill Green also made a successful first appearance winning her singles and combining with Barbara Clark to win the doubles. The junior match against Somerset was brought forward and the result was a 2-8 defeat with Sarah Hammond and Christos Hannides each winning a singles. This match really stretched Peter Thorne's loyalties to its limit - Southampton were at home to Manchester United that day! The following match against Avon II was an 8-2 win with Andrew Davies winning two, and Alan Charles and Hannides one each of the singles. Sarah Hammond and Caroline Jenvey won all the girls' events. Two close matches for the veterans with the A team winning 5-4 and the B losing 4-5. Norman Stagg newly promoted to county No. 1 lost both his singles while Ray Lush won two, and Ged Holley one.

Mary Clegg won her singles and combined with Lush to win the mixed, in the A match with Middlesex!. In the B team match with Wiltshire II John Harvey won two and Ron Powell one

of the singles while Ann Abrahams combined with Harvey to win the mixed.

Absentees for a variety of reasons from the trials, and also from the county scene this season, give the ranking lists a slightly strange look particularly on the female side. No Serina Sinanan, no Kathy Conlon and no Christine Davies! On the plus side Jill Green sailed through the trials unbeaten and is clearly a fine acquisition. Despite being ranked No. 1 Senior, Sarah Hammond looks likely to play most of her county table-tennis at junior level this season. Firstly she is needed in the junior team with the dearth of girls, and also, I understand, wins at junior level count for the junior computer rankings and not senior wins! Strange situation that! The rankings published by the county team management and selection committee for everyone to pick holes in, without knowing all the facts behind them! are:-

Men		Women	
1. G. Toole	(G/F)	S. Hammond	(S)
2. C. Shetler	(S)	J. Green	(Aid)
3. D. Holman	(Bou)	B. Clark	(Aid)
4. R. Bhalla	(Aid)	A. Seager	(Aid)
5. C. Wilshere	(S)	J. Turley	(G/F)
6. N. Frost	(And)	M. McCabe	(Aid)
7. M. Wilding	(SEH)	D. Sandford	(S)
8. N. Maguire	(S)	A. Gilbert	(SEH)
9. S. Billmore	(P)	T. Knellor	(P)
10. G. Green	(Aid)		
Boys		Girls	
1. Wilding		S. Hammond	
2. T. Mogg	(BAS)	C. Jenvey	(S)
3. A. Davies	(Aid)	S. Lewis	(Bou)
4. P. Smith	(P)	E. Salisbury	(Bou)
5. C. Hannides	(S)		
6. A. Charles	(S)		
7. H. lyne	(Aid)		
8. B. Mansell	(Aid)		
9. P. Hudless	(Aid)		
10. A. Welsh	(Aid)		
Veteran Men		Veteran Women	
1. N. Stagg	(P)	A. Waters	(BAS)
2. R. Lush	(P)	M. Clegg	(Aid)
3. G. Holley	(P)	A. Abraham	(G/F)
4. R. Powell	(BAS)	W. Lewis	(G/F)
5. J. Harvey	(Aid)	D. Winmill	(G/F)
6. K. Giles	(S)		
7. G. Philpott	(W)		
8. M. Shave	(S)		
9. I. Schwartz	(Aid)		
10. E. Millsom	(S)		

Talking about disagreeing with selection committees, I was a little disappointed that Sarah Hammond was not picked for the European Junior event after her marvellous progress at the end of last season. Wins in 'Select' tournaments and over her main cadet rivals Jill Powis and Debbie Soothill must have made her very close to selection. Still up to No. 11 in the juniors is not bad from nowhere in one year, and she's already beaten me this season, so must still be improving!

A good start for Jaques Generation in their first season in the premier division of the National League with a 7-1 win over Gillette Reading, but then down to earth with three defeats. What excellent table tennis has been produced by this Fareham-based team in their two home games! A win over Gillette did not really do justice to the visitors with David Barr taking Carl Prean close and beating Ian Kenyon.

Without Prean for the prestigious visit of Thorn EMI EllenborOU9h, Jaques were within a point of a draw. Kenyon pulled back from 16-20 in the third to lead 21-20 and sportingly acknowledged that a faint touch was side and not edge to allow Colin Wilson to draw level at 22-22 and then win the next two points, and give his team a winning lead. The 3-5 defeat however shows that Generation are not just Prean. I was particularly impressed in both these two games by Alan Cooke - not only his ability but his temperament. He'll go far - certainly a lot higher than his current senior No. 22 ranking.

On the subject of predictions, two years ago I was told I had gone "over the top" in my prediction that Prean would follow Desmond Douglas into the England rankings. I will admit it has happened quicker than I thought but look who's No.1 in the England senior rankings! I am glad to see Carl is now getting the publicity and credit he deserves. He is not just a "funny bat" player. He has far more than that. In a way I wonder if this bat has been a hindrance rather than a benefit in getting the recognition of being potentially the best player this country had produced.

Finally, some dates for your diary:-
 Nov 27 - Hampshire Senior Closed
 Dec 18 - Junior intertown block matches.
 Jan 15 - Hampshire Junior Closed.
 Mar 11 - Junior intertown block matches.

All these events will be played at Redbridge Sports Centre, Southampton.

'Doreen Levey reports from.....

KENT REDUCED DIVISIONS

Although, overall, there appears to be a slight decrease in local league membership, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks have all suffered reductions in divisions.

But, when it comes to invitations to the National Junior and Cadet Ranking Tournament, at Cleveland, Kent have increased by three more than last season - one girl and two cadet boys. Mark Williams (TW) and Elizabeth James (Wool) will be attending for the first time whilst Michael Rutherford (Dov) is the only cadet with previous experience.

In the Regional Trials (Sept. 24/25) for unranked players Kent managed to get Williams at No.2, Karl Ball (Folk) at No.5, Greg Barden (TW) at No.9 and Jonathan Huckle (Wool) at No. 12. Elizabeth James finished No.3, Alison Woollven (Ton) at No. 8 and Susan Brame (Folk) at No.9 in the girls.

Michael Harrison (TW) topped the cadet boys with Lee Mileham at No.2, Michael Roberts (TW) at No. 5 and David Butler (TW) at No.7. Lynne Roberts (Brom) finished 5th in the

cadet girls. A most encouraging performance for both players and coaches. Other Kent juniors to do well were Robert Levett (Cant) 17th, and Bernard O'Grady 18th.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Kent 1st in Division 2B, travelled down to Exeter and had a fine 6-4 win over Devon with David Dodd being very sharp to win both his singles supported by John Burleton (1), Paul Namdjou (1), Carol Spain (1) and Carol with Juliet Houghton claiming the women's doubles. Well done.

At Milton Barracks, against Surrey II in Div. 3D, Andrew Dodd covered himself in glory, winning both his singles for Kent II against Andrew Sexton and David Harding, the latter 22-20 in the third overcoming a 5-15 deficit! Gareth Spencer and Richard Beckham (both Beckenham) got one each but Karen May and Jill Farthin (both NWK) were unable to help. Surrey II won 6-4.

Away to Essex II on Oct 1, Kent Junior II won 7-3 with Levett having an encouraging debut beating J. Griffiths 18 and 12 and S. Woods 16, -19, 18. Williams lost to Woods but beat D. Cole, whilst Ball lost to Cole but beat Griffiths 2-straight. Susan Brame and Tracy Ashdown were successful in both singles and doubles.

KENT LEAGUE

Two innovations this season are central venues for the top divisions, both men and women, and the placement of each team entered based on its player strength. The men's section shows an increase of three teams over last season and the 31 teams have been spread over 3 divisions of 8 and one of 7. The women have a one team increase so the 12 teams make a neat division of six in each. The veterans also have another team, so the 20 teams are arranged into a strong 8-team 1st division and two divisions of 6.

In the Junior section, the concentration of strength has made life difficult. Nearly 20 players from last season are now over-age and the reduction of 7 teams reflects this. The 27 teams have been formed into a 6-team 1st division, 8 teams in Div. 2, 7 in 3 East and 6 in 3 West.

All junior matches are played at central venues with a divisional singles on the final match day when all trophies are presented. These central venue sessions are popular. Only 3 or 4 Sundays are involved which provide a social atmosphere without too much strain on the adult taxi service and organisers.

In the men's 1st Div. the holders Beckenham must be favourites to retain the Winner Trophy. Burleton, Spencer and Beckham form a useful trio. Medway Towns "A" have a strong squad but they are less likely to get them out together due to National League commitments. Bromley and Woolwich are the only other likely contenders.

Ian Kenyon and Andrew Cunningham, for Bromley, and the Dodd brothers for Woolwich are their possible stars.

Both Spencer and Chris Bartram reached the last 16 in the Stamco Sussex Open, Gareth bowing out to the eventual winner Graham Sandley. Chris beat Avon's Andy Creed and only lost to Dave Wills 20 in the third-how disappointing after being 16-8 up. But, that's the name of the game!! I hear that David Dodd's set against Richard Jermyn was a real nail-biter with Dodd stealing the show 23-21, 24-22. He lost to Kenny Jackson 15, -14, -11. Carol Spain reached the women's quarters losing to Karen Witt but beating Teresa Moore and Mandy Reeves on the way - a fine achievement.

Philip Reid reports from.....

LEICESTERSHIRE DISAPPOINTING RESULT

The county opened their season with two defeats, one expected, one rather disappointing. The expected result was the Veterans' 9-0 trouncing by champions Cheshire in what was Leicestershire's first experience of Premier play. The team have done remarkably well to zoom to the dizzy heights of Premier play from the depths of second division in less than three seasons but will clearly be hard-pressed to retain this status, although if fighting spirit is a criterion, the team are already there next season. The disappointing result involved near neighbours Derbyshire in a Junior 2A fixture. Despite a magnificent display by Paul Bumpus, who easily won both his sets, he suffered from lack of support and only one other set - surprisingly the girls' doubles - went to the home side. I was impressed by the industry of Nigel Adams who was full of fight, an ingredient lacking in the home team's colours.

I have to report the death of stalwart Alf Kirtley at the age of 72. Alf was well past his best when he came from Sunderland but he shamed many youngsters with his enthusiasm and keenness. A penholder-grip player, he endeared himself to many people with his honest and eager approach. When he reluctantly decided to call it a day as far as playing was concerned he was a regular attender at town and county matches where his enthusiasm was infectious. His eager, happy face will be sadly missed in the coming seasons.

In the Leicester League things are well under way. Secretary Mike Smith has certainly got his hands full with team changes, resignation of teams etc. but he is battling gamely on. Representatively, lack of cadets is causing some concern. These players are the juniors, and - ultimately - the seniors - of the future and an intensive search is going on to find more cadets. Post Office, newly-promoted from

Division 6, are setting Div 4 alight with their start, the signing of Vijay Sheth by Head Postmaster Ken Hathaway proving a master stroke. Fellow promotees Leicester Building Society have made a good start in Div 2, with Terry Highton conspicuous. Div One champions, Knighton Park, have made a fine start to the season with two 10-0 wins. A player to be reckoned with is Loughborough Kingfishers' Trevor Kinsey, late of Birmingham and the West Country. He beat Great Glen's formidable Grahame Hall and Suzanne Hunt, but Maurice Newman proved too good for him. Table tennis 'widows' decided if you can't beat them, join them and this they did. Consequently Doris Murray, Sheila Aldwinckle and Pat Pickles form the Knighton Park twelfth in Div 17. There is no fairy story ending - they've had three 10-0 trouncings so far - but if there is a happier team in the league, I've yet to see them.

Two local league clubs I commend for their enthusiasm. Leicester Polytechnic had trouble in getting their matches finished in time because the caretaker finished at 9 p.m. The players got together and paid his wages until 10.30. Result - a happy caretaker and happy teams. Braunstone Avenue TIC recently had a Rummage Sale to boost club funds. To boost county funds Keith Fellows is once again organising a marathon at Knighton Park. Keith recently took a team to Guernsey again and I gather Simon Griew (spelt it right this time - sorry about last time Simon!) was the star. The Inter-towns Senior and Junior events are planned for Oct-30 at Melton, with the Cadets later in the season. At the time of writing the Rose Johnson Bowl final-between Groby and Knighton Park-has not been resolved but nevertheless next season's forms have been despatched. The Elbow Tankard final-the Leicester League Summer competition - resulted in a win for Maggie over Sturictor. Leicestershire juniors are looking forward to the English Junior Closed to be held at Hinckley on Dec 3/4 and I hope we can improve locally on the rather disappointing entry we have had previously.

Finally - my health. The ulcer has, unfortunately, turned rather nasty and the foot underneath it has developed an infection and swelling. But thanks to the dedicated care of Dr. Jugessur (Westcotes surgery) and Velda Mephram (Equity Shoes) things are improving and if you see me dashing about at Hinckley Leisure Centre you'll know I'm alright!

County scores. Leicestershire Juniors 3 Oerbyshire Juniors 7
P. Bumpus bt A. Henry 18. 9 bt P. Harvey 14. 17.
O. Aldwinckle lost to Henry -10. -17. lost to N. Adams -19. -14.
M. Bellot lost to Harvey 15. -14. -16. lost to Adams -18. -19.
Miss J. Murray lost to Miss L. Forster -7. -15.
Miss T. Clark lost to Miss J. Weightman -20. -15.
Bumpys/Aldwinckle lost to Henry/Harvey -17. 13. -18.
Miss Murray/Miss Clark bt Miss Forster/Miss Weightman 19. 14.
Leicestershire Veterans 0 Cheshire Veterans 9
J. Jilffe lost to O. Schofield-16. 14. -11. lost to P. O'Arcy-11. -13.
G. Aldwinckle lost to P. O'Arcy -18. -15. lost to E. Griffiths -16.
-20.
C. Truman lost to Schofield -15. -13. lost to Griffiths -17. -20.
Mrs. P. Kilsby lost to Mrs. O. Schofield -13. -12.
Aldwinckle/Truman lost to Schofield/Hendy 19. -17. -12.
Iliffe/Mrs. KilsbyV lost to Griffiths/Mrs. Schofield -11. -17.

Iris Moss reports from.....

MIDDLESEX

THANKS TO GLC

The first thing I must report is that thanks to the Arts and Recreation Committee of the Greater London Council, the Middlesex 3-Star Championships will take place. Mind you, at the moment, I have not yet received anything in writing but we have decided to go ahead on the strength of verbal assurance that help will be forthcoming. By the time you see this article, entry forms will have been issued to all players who entered in the last 3 years, but if you have not received a copy and want to enter, you are warned that the closing date is Nov 17. Forms are available from me at 7 Hillside Court, Holders Hill Road, London NW4 1EL or a call to 01-203 4476 (not too early in the morning please!) will ensure that they will be posted immediately. In an endeavour to satisfy the players with a long journey home after a full day of table tennis, we have decided not to run a Mixed Doubles event and to stage the Finals at 17.00 hours on Sunday, Dec 11. This means, of course, that we have even less money available from entry fees, but we have decided on this course to try and improve our "image". As this experiment increases our financial difficulties, we will be interested to know the reaction of the players.

Entries for the Middlesex Senior Closed Championships have closed, but how about coming along to the Finals? They will take place at Ellenborough Club, Kimberley Gardens, Enfield, starting at approximately 17.00 hours on Sunday, Nov 20 and it would be nice to see some spectators at this event.

The 1st October was not a happy day for our teams in the County Championships with both our Veterans teams as well as our Senior and Junior 2nds losing. Let's hope that the players will have pulled their socks up and had a better day on Oct. 29. Our Senior and Junior 1st teams have not yet started their programme but we are hoping that they will retain the Senior Cup and, who knows, the Juniors might improve on last season and win their event, too.

Our Representative Matches Subcommittee have now published the Middlesex Ranking Lists which are as follows:-

Men		Women	
1. G. Sandley	(N. Mx)	A. Mitchell	(N. Mx)
2. D. Wells	(N. Mx)	S. Sandley	(N. Mx)
3. M. Mitchell	(N. Mx)	M. Reeves	(N. Mx)
4. C. Wilson	(N. Mx)	H. Williams	(N. Mx)
5. J. Souter	(N. Ac)	M. Williams	(N. Mx)
6. D. Tan	(N. Mx)	L. Goldsmith	(N. Mx)
7. N. Tyler	(N. Mx)	S. Prowen	(Wi)
8. J. Payne	(N. Mx)	R. Knight	(W/H)
9. T. Stark	(N. Mx)	L. Souter	(N. Ac)
10. M. O'Leary	(N. Mx)	M. Symes	(W/H)
11. M. Adedayo	(Cen)	E. Britton	(Ux)
12. P. Collino	(Cen)	K. Nunn	(SW.Mx)
13. C. Papantoniou	(Wi)	J. Malybanks	(W/H)
14. B. Tyler	(N. Mx)	C. Cumino	(Ux)
15. W. Mascarenhas	(Wi)		

16. D. Goode	(W/H)
17. D. Topiwala	(N. Mx)
18. N. Stratton	(W/H)
19. C. Carder	(Cen)
20. J. Goode	(W/H)

Veteran Men		Veteran Women	
1. A. Lindsay	(Cen)	M. Symes	
2. M. Adedayo		E. Britton	
3. W. Brookman	(SW.Mx)	K. Nunn	
4. D. Smith	(Act)	B. Blanch	(Act)
5. I. Redfeam	(SW.Mx)	M. Prowen	(Wi)
6. J. Smith	(N. Ac)	M. Cherry	(LCS)
7. R. Loreth	(W/H)	M. Seilly	(W/H)
8. N. Slifkin	(Sta)	J. Tuddenham	(Act)
9. J. Morris	(SW.Mx)	D. Stannard	(N. Ac)
10. A. Taylor	(W/H)	M. Souter	(N. Ac)
11. R. Laderman	(Wi)		
12. G. Muranyi	(Act)		
13. L. Ridley	(N. Mx)		
14. M. Isaac	(Wi)		
15. A. Marshall	(Wi)		
16. E. Alleyne	(Ux)		

Boys		Girls	
1. N. Tyler		L. Goldsmith	
2. D. Goode		R. Knight	
3. J. Goode		L. Souter	
4. K. King	(Cen)	G. Blanch	(Act)
5. C. Herbert	(Cen)	K. Baker	(Act)
6. L. Noakes	(Cen)	J. Solley	(W/H)
7. P. Szekeres	(N. Mx)	C. Knibbs	(N. Ac)
8. A. Donovan	(N. Mx)	J. Cutler	(Wi)
9. M. Thurston	(N. Ac)	R. Skinner	(N. Mx)
10. D. Corby	(Wi)	H. Smees	(W/H)
11. S. Michael	(N. Mx)	E. Thompson	(Act)
12. S. Emmanuel	(Cen)	E. Stone	(N. Ac)
13. M. Jarvis	(N. Mx)	B. Wallis	(N. Ac)
14. T. Noakes	(Cen)	T. Katz	(Wi)
15. C. Rockall	(N. Mx)	M. Dwornik	(N. Mx)
16. P. Ramdial	(W/H)	S. Lynes	(Wi)

Cadet Boys		Cadet Girls	
1. P. Szekeres		R. Skinner	
2. S. Emmanuel		M. Dwornik	
3. S. Rockall	(N. Mx)	S. Lynes	
4. P. Ramdial	(W/H)	P. Blanch	(Act)
5. R. Traviss	(Cen)	E. Blanch	(Act)
6. T. Cutler	(Wi)	L. Schacht	(Wi)
7. G. Cline	(N. Ac)	K. Kodish	(Wi)
8. D. Parnes	(Wi)		
9. G. Muranyi	(Act)		
10. J. Swede	(W/H)		
11. J. Bitram	(Wi)		
12. J. Roodyn	(Wi)		
13. K. Jolly	(N. Ac)		
14. D. Matthews	(Act)		
15. B. Matthews	(Act)		
16. R. Norton	(Wi)		

And to think that I remember some of the Veterans when they were Juniors!

Ashley Bennett reports from.....

NORTHANTS

DISAPPOINTING START

The County's senior teams had a disappointing start to the season, both going down 8-2. The first team, playing away at Luton, against Bedfordshire, have Graeme McKim to thank for their only men's singles win when he beat Ian Doughty in the opening set. The other point was won by the women's doubles pair of Glennis Hooper and Dusty Marsh. They beat the Beds. pair of Campbell and Jarrett. However, neither they, nor the other men, Ian Hawes and Brian Wooding could record a singles victory.

The 2nd team, playing at home at Kingsthorpe School in Northampton, were unfortunate in not gaining at least a draw from their match with Gloucestershire. Four of the men's singles ended at 21-19 in the third, with Gloucs. taking three of them. The Northants trio of Brian D'Hooghe, John Sanders and Chris Handshaw, like the first team, could only win one singles set between them, this coming from D'Hooghe, who defeated Callum. The Gloucs. pair of Paul Jackson and

Darren Griffin overcame the home side despite some hard-fought resistance. The other Northants win came from Margaret Maltby, who beat Iacopi.

The Junior and Veteran teams on the other hand, had a good start. The Juniors travelled to Oxford where they won 7-3 and the Veterans to Clwyd, where they too were victorious, 6-3.

Youngster Andrew Trott, the Northants No.1, was outstanding in the Junior game, with good support from Richard Bashford and Andrew Edmonds. The girls, Maxine Shears and Donna Furniss, played well but couldn't take a game from the Oxon pair of Aston and Shufflebottom. The whole squad, however, must have gained a lot of confidence from this opening display, and although they lack experience, they will improve as the games and season continues. Veterans Keith Jones, Dave Marsh, Dennis Millman and Joyce Porter had a long journey to Wales, but the result made the trip well worthwhile. Jones was undefeated as was Porter, but Millman lost both of his singles. Keith Fitzsirnmons won two for the opposition.

The County Closed which was due to be held on Sat. Nov 26, has been moved on a week due to a clash with the County Championships weekend. It will now be held on Saturday, Dec 3, 1983, at Kettering. A high entry is expected.

The National League side Playrite Northampton, has had a good start to the season. They won 6-2 and 7-1 in their opening matches against MBS St. Neots II and Halex Crusaders Lincoln respectively. Both were at home and an audience of around 50 or so attended on each occasion, which was under the expectations of the venue organisers, but if the results continue to be as good, hopes that the crowd will grow are not unfounded. The side look to be one of the main contenders for the Division 3 (East) title in their debut season.

Pauline Long reports from.....

NORTHUMBERLAND

GREAT START

The Northumberland senior County team got off to a great start on Oct. 1 with an emphatic 8-2 win over Clwyd at Byker Community Centre. Neil McMaster, Clare Mouzon and Caron Buglass were all unbeaten, while Peter McQueen and Ian Robertson each won a singles and also combined to take the men's doubles. Both players lost to the spectacular defence of Trevor Manning, the only Clwyd player to offer any real resistance.

Scores:

Northumberland 8 Clwyd 2
P. McQueen lost to T. Manning -8, 17, -15; bt T. Turner 11, 18.
I. Robertson lost to Manning -19, -19; bt J. Hook 11, -15, 16.

N. McMaster bt Turner 15, 15; bt Hook 6, 13.
McQueen/Robertson bt Manning/ Hook 17, 14.
Clare Mouzon bt Sue Roberts 18, 19.
Caron Buglass bt Karen Bukle 15, 16.
Mouzon/Buglass bt Roberts/Bukle 9, -18, 15.

The junior team travelled to meet Cleveland Lion the same day, and came back as 9-1 winners, with Peter Curry, Keith Patterson, Thomas Blackman and Denise Campbell all unbeaten. Denise Wilkinson lost the one set in the top girls' singles.

The senior team then followed with an excellent 6-4 victory over Leicestershire II on Oct. 15, which was all the more noteworthy as McQueen was not available. Clare and Caron were again unbeaten in singles and doubles, Robertson won both his singles, and McMaster one. After such a good start, the seniors must be hoping that this will be the launching pad that will take them back to the higher divisions, having been relegated from the Premier to Div. 3A in successive seasons.

The County ranking lists for the new season were to have been published in this issue of "Table Tennis News". However, since the first rankings were actually issued, it has come to our notice that Chu Van Que no longer wishes to be considered for County play, and Andrew Clark may not be available on a regular basis. In view of this the ranking committee are to issue a further men's list, and in case of any other changes, the latest rankings will be published in the December issue.

Halex National league success still eludes Byker Newcastle. They crashed to yet another defeat, this time by 0-8 at the hands of Tarmac Wolverhampton, who were led by England international Duggie Johnson. In their next match, they fared only marginally better when they lost 1-7 to Ormesby II, Nigel Jobling getting the one set with a victory over Kevin Green. However, the second team of Neil McMaster, Eddie Smith, Peter Curry and Martin Moore all gained maximums, when they beat Unity III 8-0 at Byker.

It appears that Chu Van Que has also played his last game for the Newcastle National League side, and he is expected to be transferred to South Yorkshire in the near future. This is a great pity, but at least it gives an opportunity for the younger players to be tried out at this level of competition.

International table tennis came to the North-East for the first time in many years on Oct. 12, when England entertained Sweden at Crowtree Leisure Centre, Sunderland. Even though England eventually lost 2-5, those who were present at least had the opportunity to experience a high standard of match play, and an opportunity to see England's leading ranked players in action against top class opposition.

Finally, our leading junior boy Eddie

Smith is to be congratulated on doing so well in the recent area ranking trials at Ormesby by finishing second in his event.

Gerald Green reports from.....

SHROPSHIRE INTER CLUB LEAGUE

The newly-formed Shropshire Inter-Club League (which replaces the old County League) looks like being a closely fought contest between the three most progressive areas in the County with a strong entry having been received from Oswestry, Pontesbury and the Grove of Market Drayton.

The small number of teams entering from Telford and Shrewsbury is disappointing, however hope springs eternal and we can only look forward to greater participation from these areas in the future.

Three Divisions are being contested, with ten teams in each Division, sponsored as follows:

Div. 1 - Shropshire Star

Div. 2 - B.J.M. Heating

Div. 3 - Kayvale Finance

SEALINK SPONSORSHIP

The monthly graded singles tournaments received a major boost with Sealink U.K. Ltd., Britain's largest car ferry operator sponsoring a top twelve tournament on Sunday, 20th May, 1984.

The qualifiers will be the highest ranked players at the end of the season, with a prize to the value of £300 for the winner, in the form of a car plus four passengers on any Sealink ferry.

SHROPSHIRE MINI OLYMPICS

The Shropshire Mini Olympics held on Saturday Sept 17 proved to be a Grove-dominated affair with players from Market Drayton gaining Gold in every event.

The Senior title went to Keith Sillitoe and David Williams but not before Jim Bishton from Oswestry had caused all kinds of problems for the Market Drayton duo. Meanwhile Carol Wickstead and Julie Ballard narrowly won the Junior title with Carol unbeaten throughout the day. Pontesbury brothers David and Stephen Morris were gallant runners-up. The younger age groups were dominated by Grove with brothers, and newcomers to the area, John and Phillip Ainsworth in Gold medal positions. John partnered Dawn Wickstead to victory in the U-14 event whilst Phillip partnered Edward Knighton to success in the U-11 event.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

Telford and Grove both made a fine start to the new Midland League season.

Telford A visited Leamington whom they beat 8-2. M. Beaman and M. Langford each winning three and D. Elkin one.

Grove trounced Leamington 10-0 and as the score suggests the Grove trio of Paul Barnett, Sillitoe and Colin Wilson were in complete control.

REGIONAL RANKING TOURNAMENT

Louise Sherratt of Grove booked her place in the forthcoming national ranking tournaments by finishing in the number one spot in the regional U-14 trials. Johanna Dyke and Victoria Boyd, both of Grove, impressed by gaining positions in the top ten.

In the U-17 events clubmate Stephen Meigh surpassed all expectations in the boys' competition where he finished second.

Karen Rogers and Carol Wickstead gave impressive performances in the U-17 girls' singles, finishing fourth and sixth respectively. Dawn Wickstead (13) gave an excellent performance to finish number 8.

Star of the Cadet boys' event was Pontesbury's Justin Goodall who showed a full range of attacking strokes to finish the day in a highly creditable third place, with David Morris at 12 and Steven Eaton at 16.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Carol Wickstead of Grove was in top form at the North of England Championships at Manchester when she demolished England International Jill Powis 21-5 in the third. Carol proceeded to the latter stages of the women's singles where she was narrowly beaten in three by Joanne Shaw of Yorkshire, another England-ranked player.

Julie Ballard of Grove reached the final stages of the girls' singles, beating Lynne Harrison and then scoring a superb win over England-ranked Amanda Hegarty of Wolverhampton before losing to Joanne Shaw.

Malcolm Green, Grove, reached the last 16 of the men's singles, including a good win over Brian Johns, Cheshire, before losing a hard-fought game with Kevin Beadsley, Yorkshire.

Karen Rogers, Grove, was in fine form at the North Yorkshire Junior Open, reaching the quarter-finals of the U-15 girls' singles. In the early rounds Karen proved too strong for Rachel Bullock, Suffolk, and Scottish-ranked Sarah Hurry. In the last 16 she faced tough opposition in the highly-rated Helen Broomhead, Yorkshire, but in a hard match the Grove girl made good use of her spin serves and improved forehand topspin to emerge as winner. In the quarters she gave a splendid performance before losing a hard-fought match to England No. 1 Cadet Andrea Holt.

In the same tournament Pontesbury's David Morris reached the latter stages of the boys' U-15 event before losing to Stuart Craggs of Cleveland. He also reached the last 16 of the U-13 event before falling to Andrew Eden, Lancashire, by a slim margin.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

A nervous start to the National League campaign saw Grove I beating Gillette Reading 5-3 in a close match thanks to unbeaten displays by John Hilton and Malcolm Green.

This nervous start was followed by a superb win against Byker Newcastle on the Geordies' home ground. Hilton maintained his 100% record, Phil Bowen returned to form and together with Steve Scowcroft was unbeaten. Green got the other for a 7-1 win.

In the absence of Hilton, Paul Barnett was recalled for the journey to Ormesby and what a splendid job they did with the Middlesbrough quartet hammered 7-1. Scowcroft beat Scottish International John Broe in three, then 'demolished' Lindsay Taylor. Bowen maintained his outstanding form humbling Taylor and giving a severe lesson to Kevin Green. Malcolm Green, gaining in confidence, beat Broe in style and proved too consistent for Steve Brunskill. Barnett then came back to form to beat Brunskill.

Again without Hilton a tremendous team performance saw Grove gain a superb 6-2 home win over Butterfly Cardiff. Barnett rose to the occasion beating Welsh International Tony Healan in the crucial fourth set and dismissing Nick Williams in the last set of the day. Bowen again outstanding, again unbeaten, and with Steve and Malcolm chipping in with good wins the team's unbeaten record remains intact.

The second team of Joe and Stan Deakin, Sillitoe and Wilson are finding life a bit tough, but gaining valuable experience. One win, one draw and two defeats does not really do them justice and it must be said that Stan is performing very well with wins over people like Mark Owen and Michael Owens under his belt. The others are fighting as hard as ever and I am sure improved results are in sight.

Tony Carey reports from.....

SOMERSET SILVER LININGS

The County season for us got off to a fine start with our juniors recording a good 8-2 win over Hampshire at the Westlands Sports Club, Yeovil on Saturday Sept 17. This was a re-arranged fixture to allow the juniors to compete in the Wilts 2-star tournament on Oct 29 when this match was scheduled to be played.

Prior to this match the cadets and juniors started their tournament season with a trip to the Swansea Senior and Junior Open - a fine venue, well-organised with friendly folk and a fitting stage for all players who attended to display their competitive play and skills. I know that all who attended will agree these were considerable at all age levels, the balance

of spoils being in favour of the Welsh players who resisted the English invasion with considerable tenacity. But we still managed to come away with some of the spoils with Melonie Carey taking the Cadet title from Jane Wright of our near-neighbour, Devon, with another neighbouring county, Avon, providing the runner-up in the women's event with their first year junior, Helen Perrott, who showed very good control, skill and determination in her passage to the final before going down to the No 1 seed, Lesley Tyler. Well played, Helen!

Not to be outdone by the ladies, the men also showed what they could do, and although Somerset did not have any seniors competing we could still be cheered by the fine play of other western County players the major one being Kevin Satchell of Wiltshire, who with David Hannah of Scotland fought out a memorable semi-final with David going forward to meet another member of the Tyler family, Nigel, who had previously won the junior title. But it was not to be a double, with David taking the major prize. I feel we are fortunate to be this side of the country and therefore able to take advantage of the early season tournaments provided by the Welsh organisers and give ourselves the opportunity to assess our match fitness without the pressures that we will have to face later in the season on the English Junior Tournament circuit with its computer points system.

Our Junior team suffered a surprise defeat 6-4 at the hands of our near rivals, Avon, on Saturday Oct 1. This was not the result I expected, but I understand there were various circumstances which contributed to this, the first being that our two top Juniors, Mark Bryant and Melonie Carey, were not playing due to Mark still recovering from his broken arm (which I am pleased to report is healing well and we should see him in action before the year's end) and Melonie attending a training camp weekend arranged before the season's fixtures were known. But even with them absent, I still felt that with the team selected and everybody turning out and playing well that we had a good chance of a close win or, at the worst, a draw. But on reflection I must admit that I failed to remember how unpredictable this game is and also to recognise that if a formula is to produce the required result, all known factors must be present. This unfortunately did not happen, but all is not gloom for us as one of our young and promising juniors, Paul Smith, stepped in at the last minute and was just unlucky not to record a win on his debut. It is refreshing to see one of our boys who started his playing under our coaching scheme, coming good and setting the pace for others to follow, and I am sure it will not be long before he commands a regular place in the team. Well played, Paul!

Our Senior second team also suffered

the same result away to Cornwall 1st and from the report I have received this again could have swung either way. But we must not let one or two results throw us off our projected course of lifting Somerset into the big leagues, which, in so doing, will raise our standard overall and provide an incentive and goal for which our Juniors must reach.

All the local leagues have started their 1983/84 season and some of the results have provided food for thought. This has been notable in Bridgwater and District where young teams in the lower division who were blooded last season are starting to play well and gaining confidence with each game. The Premier Division also looks a hotbed for upsets, with many a battle in prospect before a clear indication of the likely champions is known.

Our County Senior side had a very good match in prospect on Oct 15 at Yeovil, when they were due to entertain an Isle of Wight team complete with England's No. 1, Carl Preen - a daunting prospect. I was unable to watch this, being in attendance at the Grove School Tournament on the same day with our Juniors, so I hope somebody will provide me with the details to include in my next report.

Ian Bullock reports from.....

SUFFOLK GALLANT FIGHT

Both senior teams opened their campaign in the County Championships with matches against Cambridgeshire on Oct 1, Suffolk I playing at Soham and Suffolk II at Ipswich.

In a keenly fought contest, the first team put up a gallant fight against a team which finished third in the division last season. Suffolk began well and at one stage led 3-2 but they found Keith Richardson in excellent form and in a match of fluctuating eventually went down 4-6, defeated but by no means disgraced.

Scores (Suffolk first):-

J. Kitchener bt A. Withers 16. -14. 16; lost to K. Richardson -16. -16.
S. Palmer lost to Richardson -13. -18; bt G. Davies 12. 13.
M. Palmer lost to Davies -18. -15; lost to Withers -18. -15.
Miss J. Dowsett lost to Miss M. Judd -16. 11. -19.
Mrs. S. Welham lost to Miss J. Palmer -15. -7.
Kitchener/S. Palmer bt Richardson/Withers 20. 14.
Dowsett/Welham bt Judd/Palmer 12. -12. 12.

A similar defeat was inflicted on Suffolk II by Cambs. II. Despite being level at 3-3 our opponents finished strongly and won 6-4. Julian Hall, David Henderson, Terry Dowsett, Sue Butcher and Kathy Brierley represented Suffolk. Dowsett recorded 2 wins, Hall (1) and Terry and Julian won the men's doubles.

SUFFOLK II v KENT II

This match was played on Oct 15 at Ipswich. Owing to unavailability and illness the County called upon the services of Sylvia Kenyon, a promising junior, who had already played in the afternoon at Norwich. Sylvia more

than justified her selection by beating Jill Farthing - 20 in the 3rd. Hall and Dowsett won a set each, the final result being 7-3 to Kent.

It was unfortunate that the date chosen for the senior ranking trials clashed with the National League programme and as a result five men were unable to attend. Nevertheless, the list was compiled as follows:-

Men	Women
1 John Kitchener	1 Julie Dowsett
2 Stuart Palmer	2 Sue Welham
3 Mick Palmer	3 Sue Butcher
4 Russell King	4 Kathy Brierley
5 David Henderson	5 Jane Leonard
6 Julian Hall	6 Dawn Harvey
7 Terry Dowsett	7 Debra Hubble
8 Chris Shepherd	8 Michelle Akers
9 Rob Milne	9 Julie Mortimer
10 Malcolm Davis	10 Sylvia Kenyon
11 Paul Gooding	11 Jayne Mitchell
12 Shaun Caraccio	12 Claire Nicholls
13 Nigel Hodder	
14 David Halliday	
15 Clive Woollard	

JUNIORS

The Juniors played their first match against arch-rivals Norfolk II in the newly extended and equipped Norman Centre in Norwich in a marathon which lasted four hours. The form book predicted that Suffolk would record an away victory, but enterprising play by the Norfolk side ensured that our juniors had to fight for every point. Players on both sides were making their County debuts and had to overcome anxiety problems before settling down to play their shots. A high standard of skill was evident throughout the match with Suffolk eventually winning 6-4. Scores (Norfolk first):-

S. Fox bt P. Gooding 14, -17, 20; bt R. Hutchinson 18, 22.
L. Digging lost to Hutchinson 20, -12, -15; lost to S. Caraccio 13, -11.
N. Pickard lost to Caraccio -18, 12, -13; lost to Gooding -12, 18, -13.
C. Chamberlain/M. Howe lost to S. Kenyon/J. Mortimer -13, -11.
Fox/Pickard bt Caraccio/Gooding 18, -20, 18.
Howe lost to Kenyon -17, -13.
Chamberlain bt Mortimer -13, 15, 12.

The season's second match was at the same venue against Norfolk I. Darren Jones made his debut as Shaun Caraccio was unavailable. Norfolk established a 6-0 lead before Sylvia Kenyon opened Suffolk's account with a good win against Rachel Wilson. This seemed to spur the team on, further wins being recorded by Paul Gooding and Richard Hutchinson to make the final score more respectable, Norfolk winning 7-3. Scores (Norfolk first):-

C. Rayment bt P. Gooding -10, 9, 19; bt D. Jones 17, 15.
P. Rich bt Jones -19, 19, 19; lost to R. Hutchinson -18, 19, -7.
S. Steward bt Hutchinson 20, -19, 16; lost to Gooding -18, -17.
R. Wilson lost to S. Kenyon -10, -16.
S. Jenkinson bt J. Mortimer 18, 11.
Rayment/Steward bt Gooding/Hutchinson 15, 17.
Jenkinson/Wilson bt Kenyon/Mortimer 13, 17.

ST. NEOTS

Sylvia Kenyon, Richard Hutchinson and Chris Nicholls (all Cadets) together with Claire Nicholls, Paul Gooding, Shaun Caraccio, Darren Jones, Wayne Shaw and Michael Wright (Juniors) have attended the Eastern Region Training Squad at St Neots and by all accounts have acquitted themselves well. Most of these players will continue to make progress on the tournament scene and our best wishes go out to Caraccio and Gooding who will be going to the Junior Ranking Tournament in Cleveland.

Gooding was ranked fourth and

Caraccio eighth, in the boys, with Hutchinson coming ninth in the Cadet boys at the East/East Midlands Region 3 trials in October. As competition is fierce for places on the Top Juniors' coaching sessions held bi-weekly in Ipswich, it has decided to start a monthly session for the most promising Cadets who just failed to make the Junior squad. This will serve the dual purpose of maintaining a steady supply of youngsters to replace those who eventually become too old and will help to preserve the younger players' interest. Congratulations to Steve Bond who will run the sessions.

STOWMARKET & DISTRICT

Ian Ward, Chairman, tells me that things look promising for the current season. The first committee meeting was well attended and members were showing positive attitudes towards the job in hand.

Roy Smith and the ICI Red Team are going to do a sponsored parachute jump to help the Greenpeace campaign. Joe Nice has already organised a hard bat competition at Stowupland Village Hall and the arrangements for the 1984 championships are April 10/12, at Stowupland for the preliminary rounds with the first finals night on April 16 at Needham Market. Finals and Presentation Night will be Friday, April 27 at ICI.

Finally, committee meetings are on the 20th of the month unless the date falls on a weekend, in which case no meeting! They are held at the Conservative Club (7.30 p.m.) and Ian asks for your support.

Michael Green reports from.....

SURREY SAVIOURS

Challenge Trophies Ltd. the trophy and engraving specialists from North Cheam, have emerged as the saviours of the Surrey Closed tournaments agreeing to sponsor both the Senior and Junior events.

The Surrey TIA owe both George and Margaret Seymour much gratitude and hope that this will be the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship.

Because of a clash of dates with The Kent Junior Open, Surrey have now moved the date of their Junior Closed to Nov 19/20 with the venue unchanged at Elmbridge Leisure Centre. Details concerning the tournament can be obtained from Johnny Somerville on 01-777 6098.

The Surrey Senior will be held on Feb 4 again at Elmbridge. The organiser for this event is John Hammond 01-399 8341.

The referees for the junior and senior will be Phil Goacher and Janice Seabrook respectively.

It is worth noting that the S.T.T.A. have not adopted the E.T.T.A. Re-

gulation concerning different bat rubbers for the two County Closeds and the Inter-League Competitions. However, all you juniors beware.... this rule will apply at The South of England Open on Jan 7/8.

Johnny Somerville is attempting to whip up enthusiasm for the various Inter-League competitions. I know he'd love to see the Inter-League Junior revived.

It has been suggested that the various Surrey Inter-League events be held at a central venue on a weekend or two towards the end of the season rather along the lines of the County Premier. This would enable Leagues, who have been unable to field truly representative sides, to have to do so only once or twice during the season rather than on a number of occasions. An excellent idea if there is a spare weekend somewhere.

Graham Spicer have had a difficult start to their Halex National League campaign. No doubt they would have beaten Larkhall had Martin Shuttle not rested himself.... Not too keen on choppers Martin?

I am pleased and delighted to inform you that Charles' Bourne has posthumously been awarded an E.T.T.A Merit Award. All his friends in Surrey will concur that Charles certainly deserved such an accolade and indeed much more....

Mike Kercher is again on the lookout for venues for County matches. Tweeddale has been equipped with a brand new tournament table from the Junior South of England sponsors Cornilleau (UK) Ltd.

While on the subject of County matches, the Senior Second team opened their campaign with a 6-4 victory over Kent at Gravesend. The Surrey team comprised Dave Harding, Andrew Sexton, Mike Hammond, Jane Barella and Linda Clemett with Mike and the two ladies remaining unbeaten.

Bob Lewis, Chairman of Rosehill TIC, has been appointed Surrey Representative on The Regional Development Advisory Panel to the National Sports Council. Anybody interested in finding out details concerning capital grants from The Sports Council should contact Bob on 01-337 2157.

Following is a list of the top placings in our own junior county trials. However, pride of place must go to the three youngsters who did so well in the Regional County Trials. (Each Region has ten counties). Cheryl Bateman was 2nd in the Cadet Girls. Richard Jones 3rd in the Cadet Boys. Claire Brooks 2nd in the Junior Girls. Congratulations are in order to all three who will now be invited to the National Trials.

Unfortunately, our top junior boy, Julian Daniels, could only come 10th which suggests that we might be struggling in this category for a while....

Surrey Junior Rankings:

Boys - 1. Julian Daniels, 2. Jerome Jonah, 3. Steve Carpenter, 4. Julian Dudman, 5. Neal Davis, 6. David Hodson, 7. Adam Degay, 8. Martin Lowe, 9. Reuben Ramos, 10. Steve Lewjs, 11. Richard Jones, 12. Robert Smith.

Girls - 1. Lesley Popkiewicz, 2. Jane Mills, 3. Karen Wilde, 4. Claire Brooks, 5. Nicky Taylor, 6. Jane Sutton, 7. Cheryl Bateman, 8. Catherine Binks, 9. Joanna Binks, 10. Maria Hitchcock, 11. Jenny Nolan, 12. Sophie Cohen.

Cadet Boys - 1. Richard Jones, 2. Matthew Pernet, 3. Nigel Willis, 4. Paul Bennell, 5. David Carter, 6. Damon Coles, 7. Nicholas Csillag, 8. Charles Winter, 9. Alex Hole, 10. Peter Markham.

Cadet Girls - 1. Cheryl Bateman, 2. Lisa Pritchett, 3. Tracy Pritchett, 4. Eloise Kerr, 5. Elizabeth Cocks, 6. Sonia Peters, 7. Jill Lessenburgh, 8. Karen Ashley, 9. Rachel Crook, 10. Nicole McLean.

South Of England Junior Two-Star

The South of England Junior Two-Star will again be held at Woking Leisure Centre in Surrey over the weekend of Jan 7/8.

Despite not being accepted into the Grand Prix series, the organisers are pleased to announce a major sponsorship deal with the table manufacturers and suppliers Cornilleau (UK) Ltd.

Cornilleau's David Tabor is keen to make an impact in the UK market and has set up premises at 21 Bramley Road, Cheam, Surrey (01-393 9474). County matches at Tweeddale already have the benefit of a top competition table from Cornilleau.

The Surrey nA, as part of the deal, have arranged four exhibitions for Cornilleau at Seymour's Garden Centre (Oct 22, Nov 5, Nov 19 and Dec 3) which is situated along the A24 in Epsom.

It has been suggested that Jacques Secretin will be at the finals session to perform that awe-inspiring comedy demonstration recently seen on T.V. We can only hope that this will happen.

Entry forms for the tournament will be available from Norman Hooper, 107 Largewood Avetlue, Tolworth, Surrey. (01-397 9533).

John Woodford reports from.....

SUSSEX

MIXED FORTUNES FOR STARTERS.....

ADRIAN and STEPHEN MOORE gave Sussex what appeared to be a flying boost for the new season by both appearing in the County Championships opening match, but alas, an eye injury for Rachel Mackriell put her out and Sussex went down 6-4 to Dorset,

a result that would probably have been reversed if Mackriell had been fit.

After that plus and then a minus came another set-back when the first junior side was unable to come to the table because seven juniors had more important things to do on a Saturday than play for Sussex. New junior boss Derek Elphick had a few things to say about that however and now the junior county championships programme is proceeding with far less absenteeism. The threat was so real that the possibility of withdrawing one of the junior teams was made.

Another early set-back came when it was discovered that the venue for the all-Sussex championships, Lancing Leisure Centre had already arranged a volley-ball match on the chosen evening in January. However, now that everyone is waking up to the fact that sports halls need to be booked even in pencil at least a year in advance, that situation has been rectified with a new date, April 1st! It might be April Fool's Day, but at least it is date free of other major commitments like National League, so all the leading players should be competing with the possible exception of Malcolm Francis who could be either on the QE2 World Cruise or taking part in an exhibition with Jacques Secretin.

The top players may also be available, at least the men, for the East Sussex championships on Nov 27 at Bexhill when £200 prize money will be at stake. There will be new East Sussex women doubles champions however, as Diane Griggs who won it last year with Carole Hewett now has a family of three youngsters including new twin girls! Teams of baby-sitters are now being sought in the Hailsham area, but at least in years to come there could be a Griggs family team!

Mary Rose reports from.....

WARWICKSHIRE

HONOURS EVEN

The first County Championships matches of the season were played on Oct 1.

The Senior 'B' team playing in Div 2A were held to a 5-5 draw away to Lancs., Lester Bertie, Ian and Phil Gunn winning a set each and Ian and Phil pairing up to win the men's doubles. Our other set was won by Sandra Peakman and Di St. Ledger in the women's doubles.

The Junior 'A' team competing in Div 2A entertained Cambs and won by the convincing score of 10-0. The team comprised Mark Randle, Mike Thomas, Martin Campbell, Dawn Bromley and Melanie McHayle.

The Junior 'B' side playing in Div 3, and made up of U-15-year-olds put up a strong fight against Cambs 'B' but lost 6-4. Our team was Dave Thomas, Verandra Chauham, Shaun Simon, Tracey Green and Lisa Spilsbury, the

latter playing her first match for the county.

COUNTY JUNIOR TRIAL

Following the Junior Trials the ranking lists were circulated as:

Boys:

1. M. Randle, 2. M. Thomas, 3. M. Campbell, 4. N. Felton, 5. N. Mayo, 6. G. Woodcock, 7. A. Albiston, 8. A. Brown, 9. D. Thomas, 10. C. Geelan.

Girls

1. M. McHayle, 2. D. Bromley, 3. T. Brown, 4. J. Falls, 5. L. Stanbridge, 6. T. Green, 7. L. Spilsbury, 8. C. King, 9. H. Adams, 10. L. Poole.

WARWICKSHIRE LEAGUE

The first Sunday play-off matches of the Warwickshire League will again be held at the West Warwickshire Club, Olton on Dec 11 1983. It is anticipated that 8 teams will be participating, 3 Birmingham Leagues, (South, East and Business Houses) and teams from Coventry, Leamington, Rugby, Nuneaton and Stratford. I will have a little bet with Brian Lloyd, the South Secretary, and say I have a feeling that the South will this time be hard-pressed to retain their title, but I will not make any predictions as to who will be the eventual winners except that I hope this tournament is as successful and enjoyable as in previous seasons.

DREAM FULFILLED

The Birmingham Association are very happy to announce that they now have their own Headquarters. They have taken over the lease of the BSA Sports and Social Club in Small Heath, which will be known as the Birmingham Table Tennis Centre.

The Centre will be in operation 7 days a week and will accommodate 4/5 tables (also a licensed bar) and it is hoped that all Birmingham Association members will join in and support the new Centre and use it as their practice and coaching facility.

A more detailed report on the Centre and the future of the Headquarters will be published in a later edition of Table Tennis News but any member requiring more information can write or telephone the Association Secretary Mr M. Goldstein, 31 Blenheim Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 Telephone 021-449 7047.

55TH DUNLOP MIDLAND COUNTIES OPEN

The Midland Open is again being staged at the Alumwell Centre, Primley Avenue, Walsall over the weekend of Nov 12/13, 1983.

As the only 3-Star Championship in the area we anticipate a first class entry with the majority of the National-Ranked players competing, so if you are not entering the tournament it will be well worthwhile visiting the Centre as a spectator.

The Finals on Sunday evening are at 6.30 p.m.

Laurie Selby reports from

WILTSHIRE "NICE GUYS"

Two Mr "Nice Guys" of Wiltshire table tennis were saluted at the county's annual meeting at Devizes.

Swindon's Roy Hazell, who has been a county administrator for 20 years, was made president.

And Dennis Waters, who has played for the senior and now the veterans' teams, was presented with a trophy for his services to Wiltshire table tennis.

He was presented with the Kathleen Waters Memorial Shield - a trophy in memory of his sister who also played for the county and was its secretary for many years.

Roy Hazell, who retired as chairman, said the county's open tournament had become one of the best in the country but urged more people to get involved in fund raising.

Match secretaries of both the first and second senior teams reported problems in fielding their top teams in the County Championships.

Officers elected were: President - Roy Hazell; Chairman - Len Smith; Vice-Chairman - John Webb; Secretary - Cliff Mills; Treasurer - Doug Parsons; County Match Secretaries - Doug Parsons (seniors), Val Clack (juniors), Dennis Waters (veterans), John Bright (veterans II); Umpires' Secretary - Ted Fisher; Coaching Officer - Sylvia Morse; Press Officer - Laurie Selby; Inter-Town Secretary - Alan Duke; Auditor - Les Howse.

The new international ruling over different coloured bat coverings was given the thumbs down at the annual meeting of the Swindon league.

The meeting voted to oppose the new law and asked the Wiltshire ETIA representative to channel their views to the national association.

Officers elected were: President - Roy Hazell; Vice-President - Ted Fisher; Chairman - Colin Skingsley; Secretary - Val Clack; Treasurer - Andrew Eatwell; Coaching Officer - Val Clack; Registration Secretary - Alan Duke; Umpires' Secretary - Margaret Plumb; Inter-town League Secretary - Steve McBean; Cotswold League Secretary - Brenda Lee; Press Officer - Laurie Selby; Minutes Secretary - Sylvia Townsend; Championship Secretary - Sylvia Morse.

At both annual meetings tributes were paid to Coun. Alf Bown, president, who died during the season.

Ever heard of table tennis helping a schoolgirl to pass an exam?

Well, it happened to Swindon's Brenda Lee. The former Swindon schoolgirl champion hit on the idea when searching for a project for her GCE 'A' level exam in communication.

She decided to launch the first ever Swindon schools league, and it proved

a hit with 16 teams taking part in Under-14 and Under-19 events.

She sent letters to all PE teachers in the town and wrote to all junior players in the league - and she got donations of team and individual trophies.

She also got her photo in the Swindon Evening Advertiser for her enterprise.

And it all paid off with a Grade 'B' pass for Brenda.

A great performance by Andrew Oxley won him the South West regional assessments.

Other Wiltshire players who went through to the England ranking trials were Mark Powell, Martin Edwards and Lorraine Cox in the cadet section.

Doug Moss reports from.....

WORCESTERSHIRE DIFFERENCE IN STANDARD

The County teams did not have the best fortune in their first round of matches. The 1 team, on promotion to Div. 11, played Yorkshire II. The difference in standard was apparent and, although there were many close games the Yorkshire players generally came out on top. The one event, in a 9-1 loss, was the men's doubles won by Murray Jukes and Trevor Washington - and that was at 21-19 in the 3rd game! The II team travelled to Oxfordshire and, of the selected players, Simon Claxton and Nick Bottomley were not available. This brought in Steve Horton, for his first match, and Mark Hingley and they both won a singles. Sandra Roden played well to win her singles but this was the sum total with Oxfordshire winning 7-3. Simon Claxton will be playing in the Irs first home match versus Huntingdonshire, and there are good chances of a win to give the team confidence.

The Veterans' team played Hunts. The teams had previously met 2 seasons ago when Hunts won 5-4 and went on to gain promotion. However, after one season, the teams met again in Div. II - the score stood at 4-4 but Hunts again managed the 5-4 win. The one bright spot for Worcestershire was the Junior team of Dean Kloos (Worcester), Tim Holder (Bromsgrove), Mark Roden (Kidderminster) and Helen Jones and Lisa Hunt (Kidderminster). They visited Hereford and won 10-0 - all in straight games.

There is a new Cadet League in the Midlands with all teams visiting Leamington Spa on three occasions during the season. Worcester, Bromsgrove and Evesham have teams entered. In the first round of matches Worcester lost to Bromsgrove 9-1 and 10-nil to Evesham. This League indicates the amount of coaching which is going on of really young players. To my mind this is safeguarding the future of our game.

The Worcester Junior A team has

played its first match in the Midlands League. They beat Burton 6-4. Kloos played very well to win his 3 events in straight games. Andrew Bullock contributed two and Mark Jones one. The Burton team is coached by Ian Knights, who spent quite some time in Worcestershire and had considerable success as a Coach.

I have always been impressed by the number of Team Knock-Out Competitions which are played in both the Kidderminster and Malvern Leagues. Kidderminster has two straight K.O. team events - The Vice Presidents Cup, mainly for the top 3 Divisions, and the Regent Cup for teams below Div 3. There is also the Terry Jackson Cup for a Team Knock-Out Handicap Competition. The Vice-Presidents Cup is already under way with just one result to date - St. Gilberts C3 Cookley 6.

With the Sports Council laying emphasis on the importance of sport for the over-fifties the County Association is hoping to run a special Tournament near the end of the season.

Les D'Arcy reports from.....

YORKSHIRE

SERVICE TOTABLE TENNIS

Congratulations to Ross on winning the Ivor Montagu Award for the second time in recognition of his services to table tennis at National level; to Steve Sharpe, who becomes one of the youngest recipients of the Les Forrest Memorial Trophy, for his outstanding contribution as sportsman and No. 1 boy, in which capacity he led the County's team to become National Junior Premier Champions; to Mandy Holmes on winning the J.A. Cram Trophy for the most improved young player in the county; to Karen Arnold, Lesley Broomhead, Alison Evans and Jonathon Bult, members of the successful England squad in the 1983 Stiga Schools' International Team Championships. Lesley Broomhead was also joint 3rd in the Senior Girls' International Individual Championships while coaches Sylvia Broadbent and Helen Shields were non-playing captains.

WHISTLE STOP TOUR

How many ambitious young coaches have looked at some of their senior colleagues and thought, "I wish I were in their immaculate footwear, they've a bobby's job." What I've seen of the work done by one or two of our top coaches recently it could be a case of "The other man's grass always looks greener". If that man happens to be Donald Parker from whom he would like to take over, let the young coach first consider if he has the right qualifications. Let us assume that he is a first class coach, has played for his

county and doesn't mind working hard on two or three coaching sessions every week. Commendable, but, unfortunately not quite ready for the top. What would this young hypothetical coach have to do to be at least on equal terms?

If he had played for England more than a hundred times; had been captain on numerous occasions and can usually command a place in his country's top ten of the senior rankings, then this young man could be considered as a candidate. Should he also be able to write learned articles on technical table tennis topics, has the ability to be co-author of a very readable book 'Top Class Table Tennis' which Don and Jill have recently had published, then the candidate may just inch his way into the 'short list'. If also he is willing to spend up to sixteen hours a day coaching and travelling, when the occasion demands, then he would have a chance of selection, but it would be only as assistant to the National Coach, for Don has achieved these career milestones and has other qualities as well.

Recently with Mr John Arnold, Chairman of the English Schools T.T.A., eighteen year old Steven Sharpe, who is quickly becoming established as one of the county's top senior players and your correspondent accompanied Don on a 'Whistle stop tour' of five schools in a forty miles circuit. In addition to supervising and directing the coaching demonstrations in each school, Don gave five superb exhibitions with Steve, who was also extremely impressive, to a total of about five hundred enthusiastic youngsters, giving sufficient inspiration to last them a lifetime. At the fifth school, Don synchronised his last exhibition with a coaching course for "teacher coaches, organised by John Arnold. Near 7 p.m. I parted company with Don but at that point would estimate that after a further twenty miles to Leeds with Steve for a coaching session at the Centre and then seventy miles or so trip over the Pennines back to his starting point, he would have done a sixteen hour day, punctuated by a two hundred miles journey in the process. Perhaps the boss's job isn't too easy after all. Incidentally, schools in Bradford are scheduled for a similar coaching tour from Don and Steve. Other leagues who may be interested contact Don by letter, details in the new Yorkshire Handbook which should be available by the time you read this.

Before moving on, my thanks to Don, John, Steve; P.E. Organiser Miss W. Marsh, to staff and pupils of the schools concerned, particularly visiting top cadets Michael O'Driscoll and Nicky Ryder who were outstanding at Ossett and Debbie Toole and John Arkle at Pontefract. Eleven-year-olds Nicky and Debbie both topped their respective Cadet class in the recent Area 5 five counties trial for players below ranked standard.

YORKSHIRE CLUB FINALS

The much awaited Yorkshire Club's Men's K.O. final took place at Batley Sports Centre. In a closely-contested encounter Bradford Hermits defeated Huddersfield Brook Motors 5 sets to three. From the first set Hermits took the lead and although Brook Motors three times drew level the Bradford team took the seventh and eighth sets to become worthy winners with Michael Stead outstanding (3 wins) and Tony Bottomly (2), Tim Dyson and Steve Brailsford (1) provided strong opposition in a sporting contest. The event was umpired by Y.T.T.A. Chairman, Alec Head who has very sharp elbows when looking for volunteers which resulted in your press-ed correspondent presenting the trophies. Think I'll take a course on public speaking just in case Alec spots me at another Y.T.T.A. function.

Abbeydale (Sheffield) won the women's competition for the second successive year this time defeating Barnsley North End 5-nil.

YORKSHIRE SUMMER LEAGUE

Popular Yorkshire League player, Nigel Thorn, who also plays in the top divisions of York and Selby, proved this summer that not only is he a player to be respected on the table, but also has a flare for organising when time permits. Nigel, at short notice, took on the task of Yorkshire Summer League Secretary and to quote his own words: "It turned out to be a very enjoyable and rewarding season." Next season he hopes to build the League to full strength with its own Championships and handbook. More strength to your elbow, Nigel.

Divisional Summer League Winners: Yeadon T.T.C. spearheaded by Premier Division National League player David Indriks, assisted by Tony Lupton and Paul Stansfield, won the top division title for the first time, but could be a threat for years to come. However, the Sturge T.T.C. of Selby provided the Merit Winner in Mike Wilcockson, who had a very successful season individually and assisted his club 'A' team to take 2nd place.

Alwoody Community Association 'B' took the Div 2 title with their top player, Graham Wylie, taking the Merit. Harrison's 'A' who finished last the previous season improved considerably to take second place. This could provide encouragement for the young Thorpe 'B' side who never gave up in spite of losing 99 of the 100 sets played. If there were medals for 'guts' and enthusiasm I think you would have won them boys; I'm sure readers join me in wishing you more material success next season.

YORKSHIRE RANKINGS

Melody Hill of Bradford retains her No.1 ranking at the top of the women's list, but Steve Mills of Sheffield has been overtaken by Alan Fletcher, who leads the men's list.

Men		Women	
1. A. Fletcher	(H)	M. Hill	(B)
2. S. Mills	(S)	H. Shields	(B)
3. K. Beadsley	(B)	J. Shaw	(W)
4. A. Sanderson	(Y)	J. McLean	(H)
5. S. Sharpe	(W)	L. Broomhead	(5)
6. K. Naser	(H)	R. Brook	(De)
7. K. M'Kandla	(L)		
8. D. Rook	(B)		
9. M. Firth	(B)		
10. D. Indriks	(B)		
Boys		Girls	
1. Rook		J. Shaw	
2. Firth		A. Evans	(H)
3. C. Guest	(S)	R. Baxter	(L)
4. R. Thompson	(S)	R. Bray	(H)
5. J. Bult	(H)	H. Broomhead	(S)
6. N. Newton	(De)	A. Huitt	(H)
7. A. Bassano	(W)	R. Beaumont	(B)
8. R. Buxton	(S)	M. Holmes	(W)
9. C. Oldfield	(S)		
10. N. Simms	(Do)		
Cadet Boys		Cadet Girls	
1. M. O'Driscoll	(De)	H. Kavanagh	(H)
2. Oldfield		C. Dada	(B)
3. Simms		D. Toole	(W)
4. N. Ryder	(De)		
5. A. Hall	(W)		
6. I. Rogerson	(Do)		
7. M. Ward	(S)		
8. J. Chew	(L)		
9. M. Oldfield	(S)		
10. K. Pickles	(B)		

Key: B=Bradford, De=Dewsbury, Do=Doncaster, H=Hull, L=Leeds, S=Sheffield, W=Wakefield, Y=York.

Finally, may I give a gentle reminder to hard-pressed officials in of county teams, tournaments and league secretaries that your players deserve featuring in these notes or elsewhere. Look forward to hearing from you 'Phone: 0924 366420.

Roy Williams reports from

NORTH WALES

MIXED FORTUNES FOR CLWYD

Clwyd made a mixed start to this season's County Championships campaign with a win for the veterans' second team against Cumbria 5-4 in Div. 3A but defeat (8-2 for Northumberland) at Newcastle in the senior Div. 3A. And in a tight match at Colwyn Bay in Div. 2A the veterans' first team went down 3-6 to Northants.

But, on Oct 15, our senior team won their second encounter against Cheshire II with Trevor Manning keeping his unbeaten tag for the fifth time having won all his singles last season. Please note that I have now taken over as secretary for ALL our county teams.

The first session of the North Wales Counties League took place at Eirias Park, Colwyn Bay on Oct 23 when eight matches in three of the divisions were played. In the senior division Don Hobbs led Anglesey to a narrow win over Llandudno but were then beaten by Rhyl although Don remained unbeaten both in singles and doubles with Keith Williams.

Shock in the veteran division was the fighting display by Llandudno II who beat last season's runners-up Wrexham. Well done Bill Rushton, John Johnson and Dennis Hunt. Champions Rhyl had earlier beaten Llandudno II but were flattered by the result. The only junior match played provided a good win for Rhyl who, in Andrew Harrison, Craig Thomas and Leon Bennett have a promising trio.

by Robert Oldfield

SOHAM SLOW TO START

European Club Cup commitments have kept champions Hassy Perfection Soham out of the Premier Division fight so far and the other two big clubs, Thorn-EMI Ellenborough and Ormesby, are making all the running. However, Tibhar London are looking dangerous in third place with ex-Soham player, David Wells, as their No. 1

On 2nd October, London visited Ormesby but found Donald Parker and Henk Van Spanje too strong. Both won two sets and Lindsay Taylor beat Richard Jermyn 21-19 in the third to clinch victory for the Teesiders.

PREMIER DIVISION						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Ormesby	4	4	0	0	25	7 8
Thorn-EMI Ellenborough	4	4	0	0	22	10 8
Tibhar London	3	2	0	1	17	7 4
Hassy Soham	2	2	0	0	12	4 4
Jequea Fareham	4	1	0	3	14	18 2
Unity Bradlrod	3	1	0	2	8	16 2
Gliatta Reading	4	0	0	4	B	24 0
Dunlop Birmingham	4	0	0	4	6	26 0

TARMAC RACE AHEAD

No takers for Paul Chester's athletic challenge last month have yet come forward. Perhaps the opposition wisely prefer to save their energy for the match when facing Tarmac Wolverhampton.

But if any club is to stop Tarmac they will need more than energy and Grove Market Drayton might have the essential ingredients. The two clubs meet on 6th November, bringing former Sealink Milton Keynes team mates Douggie Johnson and John Hilton to opposite ends of the table.

FIRST DIVISION						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Tarmac Wolverhampton	4	4	0	0	26	6 8
Grove Mkt Drayton	4	4	0	0	25	7 8
S18 Bath	4	3	0	1	24	8 6
Orm..byll	4	1	0	3	13	19 2
Gillette Reading II	4	1	0	3	12	20 2
Butterfly Cardiff	3	0	2	9	'5	2
M8S St. Neots	3	1	0	2	8	18 2
Byker Newcastle	4	0	0	4	3	29 0

CHANGE FOR CHU

A draw against Tarmac Wolverhampton II on 25th September convinced South Yorkshire manager, Graham Coe, to take action. No. 1 Chris Rogers had won two but he decided another player was needed to strengthen the squad and approached Byker Newcastle for Chu Van Que.

"When Newcastle had a sponsor it was possible to pay Chu", said Byker manager, Jimmy Scope, "but this year the club is very short of funds. We didn't feel we could keep Chu after South Yorkshire's offer and released him for a reasonable transfer fee."

SECOND DIVISION NORTH						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Chan Conatruction	4	4	0	0	24	8 8
uth Yorkshire	4	3	1	0	23	9 7
Salford TG	4	3	0	1	22	10 6
srchHale.	4	3	0	1	'9,	13 6

Tarmac Wolverhampton II	4	1	1	2	12	20 3
Bradford Hermits	4	0	1	3	12	20 1
Sinclair Lincoln	4	0	1	3	10	22 1
RIS Stockton	4	0	0	4	6	26 0

REVAMPED DOLPHINS

New players and management team at TCB Dolphins have brought the Mid-Sussex club improved fortune in Second Division South. Demoted from the first division last season, Dolphins lost the Moore brothers to other clubs and are now tackling the task of rebuilding the team.

They started impressively and have soared to the top of the division. But Dagenham, with Dave Newman and Kevin Caldon, have played only two matches to date while Dolphins have already dropped a point - at home to Witham FC on 25th September.

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
TC8 Dolphins	4	3	1	0	2'	11 7
Larkhall Clapham	4	2	1	1	17	'6 6
DagenhamFC	2	2	0	0	14	'2 4
Cranfield Hate.	3	1	2	0	13	11 4
Spicer New Maldan	4	1	1	2	16	16 3
Witham Fe	3	0	2	1	8	18 2
Gunnallbury Triangle	3	0	1	2	9	15 1
Gillatte Reading III	3	0	0	3	8	18 0

SOUTH YORKSHIRE ON TOP

New club, Washington, are second placed in Third Division North but were beaten 7-1 by the leaders, South Yorkshire II, on Sunday 25th September. South Yorks, with a large squad of talented players to field in the National League, are favourites for the Division and promotion next year. If their first team slip up to Chan that would cause problems as regulations about two teams from the same club in the same division are to be suggested for next year.

THIRD DIVISION NORTH						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
South Yorkshire II	4	4	0	0	28	4 8
Washington	4	3	0	1	24	8 8
Unity Bradlrod II	4	2	1	1	19	'3 5
Ormaaby III	4	2	1	1	18	18 5
South Yorkshire III	4	1	2	1	18	14 4
Byker Newcastle II	4	1	1	2	18	16 3
Vickers Barrow	4	0	1	3	7	25 1
Unity Bradlrod III	4	0	0	4	0	32 0

CIPPENHAM RECOVER

Cippenham staged a dramatic recovery from 2-4 down on Sunday 26th September to win their first point in Third Division South writes *Graham Trimming*. Heroes were Frank Earis and Steve Brindle who, between them, won the last two sets of the afternoon in the drawn match against Dunstable at The Centre, Slough.

The following Sunday, Alec Watson made a spectacular comeback after Brindle was injured in a motorcycle accident. Watson whose table tennis career was threatened by illness and

injuries won two sets as Cippenham surprised unbeaten Jaques Fareham II to snatch a draw on October 2nd.

The previous week, Fareham had had to survive intense pressure from newcomers Nittaku Bourne Ruislip. Fareham raced to a 3-0 lead and things looked black for Bourne reports *Hazel Smith*. But Martin Les played brilliantly and John Burleton with determination, to haul the away team back into the match. It was to no avail, bad tactics by Les let in Graeme O'Toole and Chris Shetler crushed Vic McCarthy to keep the Fareham team challenging for promotion.

THIRD DIVISION SOUTH						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Tul. Hilli	4	4	0	0	27	6 •
Jequea Fareham II	4	2	2	0	18	14 B
Bourne Ruislip	3	2	0	1	17	7 B
Ashford	4	1	1	2	14	18 3
	4	1	1	2	13	'9 3
Lansdown Medwysy	3	1	1	1	11	13
Cippenham	4	0	2	2	11	21
Dunstable	4	0	0	3	9	23 1

NORWICH THE PERFECT VENUE

October 2nd brought the first National League fixture ever to the new Norwich table tennis centre. It was a match that fitted the occasion perfectly enthused *Vic Bennett* of Norwich Foxwood afterwards.

Norwich stars, Doug Bennett and Richard Stevenson took an hour to go into a 2-0 lead but Playrite Northampton hit back to level at half time. Bennett and Stevenson made sure of a point and then Simon Steward took the eighth set in a storming finish to a memorable match. Norwich 5 Northampton 3.

THIRD DIVISION EAST						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Norwich FoxwoDd	4	2	2	0	2	11 6
Nottingham Racket Sense	3	3	0	0	18	8 5
Coles Waveney	4	2	1	1	18	18 5
Playrite Nonhampton	3	2	0	1	18	8 4
Ha..ySohamII	3	1	0	2	11	'13 2
MBS St. Neots II	3	0	1	2	9	16 1
Hale. Grsnlshsm	2	0	1	1	7	9 1
Hale. Lincoln	4	0	1	3	8	28 1

TORBAY TRANSFER

The name of George Evans always looked somewhat out of place on the team list for Pengeley Sports Torbay; it was no surprise when he transferred to Cranfield Colours Halex of Gwent within two weeks of the season beginning. Torbay, however, are still leading Third Division West with a vital match against Holts Carpets of Salisbury scheduled for 6th November.

THIRD DIVISION WEST						
	P	W	D	L	F	A
Pengeley Torbay	4	4	0	0	28	4 8
Holts Salisbury	4	4	0	0	24	8 8
launcaston Kamow	4	1	2	1	18	18 4
	4	2	0	2	15	17 4
Hereford Timas	4	2	0	2	14	18 4
Grove Mkt Drayton II	3	1	1	1	10	14 3
WW Sollhull	4	0	1	3	9	23 1
Global Plymouth	4	0	0	4	11	21 0

PREMIER DIVISION RESULTS

Sunday 18th September 1983
 Dunlop Birmingham 1 Hassy Soham 7
 Alan Fletcher bt Kenny Jackson 18, -13, 17;
 Ian Horsham lost to Paul Day -13, -11;
 Barry Johnson lost to David Hannah -16, -19;
 Rupert Sterling lost to John Souter -5, -17;
 Fletcher lost to Day -18, -11;
 Horsham lost 10 Souter -11, 20, -18;
 Johnson lost to Jackson 20, -18, -15;
 Sterling 10s110 Hannah -12, -14,
 Unity Bradford 3 Thorn-EMI Ellenborough 5
 Skylet Andrew lost 10 Mark Mitchell -19, 10, -24,

Steve Turner bt Graham Sandley 20, -17, 18;
Steven Sharpe lost to Nigel Tyler -17, -15;
Martin Firth lost to Colin Wilson -9, -7;
Andrew bt Sandley -12, 17, 10;
Turner bt Wilson 14, 16;
Sharpe lost to Mitchell -17, 13, -11;
Firth lost to Tyler -14, -16.

Gillette Reading 2 Ormesby 6
Philip Bradbury bt Nigel Eckersley 18, 17;
David Barr bt Donald Parker 17, 12;
Martyn Smith lost to Richard Yule -14, -15;
Jimmy Stokes lost to Henk van Spanje -8, -19;
Bradbury lost to Parker -12, 12, -19;
Barr lost to Spanje -22, -15;
Smith lost to Eckersley -16, -12;
Stokes lost to Yule -13, -13.

Tibhar London 6 Jaques Fareham 2
Dave Wells bt Ian Kenyon -19, 12, 12;
Max Crimmins bt Alan Cooke 16, -22, 20;
Richard Jermyn bt Tony Clayton -7, 18, 19;
Dave Dodd bt Mark Oakley 20, -20, 18;
Wells bt Cooke 14, 12;
Crimmins bt Oakley 16, 19;
Jermyn lost to Kenyon -16, -9;
Dodd lost to Clayton -13, -7.

Sunday 25th September 1983

Thorn-EMI Ellenborough 6 Gillette Reading 2
Graham Sandley bt David Barr 20, -19, 11;
Mark Mitchell bt Philip Bradbury 19, 12;
Colin Wilson bt Matthew Syed 12, 13;
David Tan lost to David Reeves -21, -17;
Sandley bt Bradbury -19, 19, 18;
Mitchell lost to Reeves -16, 14, -18;
Wilson bt Barr 17, 17;
Tan bt Syed -19, 18, 19.

Ormesby 6 Jaques Fareham 2
Donald Parker bt Ian Kenyon 12, 14;
Nigel Eckersley lost to Alan Cooke -19, -15;
Henk Van Spanje bt Glenn Baker 6, 18;
Richard Yule lost to Mark Oakley -13, 14, -21;
Parker bt Cooke 18, -18, 16;
Eckersley bt Oakley 14, 10;
Spanje bt Kenyon 19, 16;
Yule bt Baker 10, 16.

Tibhar London 8 Dunlop Birmingham 0
Dave Wells bt Ian Horsham 13, 13;
Max Crimmins bt Alan Fletcher 14, -16, 19;
Richard Jermyn bt Rupert Sterling 8, 18;
Dave Dodd bt Barry Johnson -17, 19, 16;
Wells bt Fletcher -20, 17, 14;
Crimmins bt Johnson 17, 15;
Jermyn bt Horsham 11, 10;
Dodd bt Sterling 18, -17, 15.

Sunday 2nd October 1983

Ormesby 5 Tibhar London 3
Donald Parker bt Max Crimmins 11, 15;
Nigel Eckersley lost to David Wells -11, -17;
Henk van Spanje bt David Dodd 11, 13;
Lindsay Taylor bt Richard Jermyn -18, 17, 19;
Parker bt Wells -17, 18, 17;
Eckersley lost to Jermyn -19, -18;
Spanje bt Crimmins 18, 15;
Taylor lost to Dodd 17, -19, -10.

Jaques Fareham 3 Thorn-EMI Ellenborough 5
Alan Cooke bt Mark Mitchell 17, 9;
Ian Kenyon lost to Graham Sandley -17, -16;
Mark Oakley bt Nigel Tyler 20, 18;
Tony Clayton lost to Colin Wilson -17, -14;
Cooke lost to Sandley -12, -15;
Kenyon lost to Wilson -20, 18, -22;
Oakley lost to Mitchell -9, -14;
Clayton bt Tyler 20, 12.

Gillette Reading 3 Hassy Soham 5
Philip Bradbury bt Kenny Jackson -14, 19, 19;
David Barr bt Paul Day -15, 19, 17;
David Reeves lost to Nicky Mason 19, -16, -10;
Martin Smith lost to John Souter -6, -18;
Bradbury bt Day -16, 19, 18;
Barr lost to Souter -16, 20, -15;
Reeves lost to Jackson -12, -13;
Smith lost to Mason -15, -17.

Unity Bradford 5 Dunlop Birmingham 3
Skylet Andrew bt Ian Horsham 10, 14;
Steve Turner bt Alan Fletcher 13, 17;
Steven Sharpe bt Derek Munt -17, 18, 14;
David Indriks lost to Barry Johnson -15, -14;
Andrew lost to Fletcher -16, -13;

Turner bt Johnson 17, 14;
Sharpe bt Horsham 15, -19, 20;
Indriks lost to Munt -20, -12.

OTHER RESULTS

FIRST DIVISION

Sunday 18 September 1983
Tarmac Wolverhampton 6 SIB Bath 2
Gillette Reading II 6 Ormesby II 2
Byker Newcastle 1 Grove Market Drayton 7

Sunday 25th September 1983
SIB Bath 7 MBS St. Neots 1
Butterfly Cardiff 5 Gillette Reading II 3
Ormesby II 1 Grove Market Drayton 7
Byker Newcastle 0 Tarmac Wolverhampton 8

Sunday 2nd October 1983
Ormesby II 7 Byker Newcastle 1
Grove Market Drayton 6 Butterfly Cardiff 2
Gillette Reading II 0 SIB Bath 8
MBS St. Neots 2 Tarmac Wolverhampton 6

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Sunday 18th September 1983
Salford TG 7 Sincil Lincoln 1
Chan Construction 6 RIS Stockton 2
March Halex 6 Tarmac Wolverhampton II 2
Bradford Hermits 3 South Yorkshire 5

Sunday 25th September 1983
Sincil Lincoln 2 Chan Construction 6
RIS Stockton 2 March Halex 6
Tarmac Wolverhampton II 4 South Yorkshire 4
Bradford Hermits 2 Salford TG 6

Sunday 2nd October 1983
South Yorkshire 8 RIS Stockton 0
March Halex 5 Sincil Lincoln 3
Chan Construction 5 Salford TG 3
Bradford Hermits 3 Tarmac Wolverhampton 115

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Sunday 18th September 1983
Gunnersbury Triangle 3 TCe Dolphins 5
Witham FC 0 Dagenham FC 8
Gillette Reading III 3 Cranfield Halex 5
Spicer New Malden 3 Larkhall Clapham 5

Sunday 25th September 1983
TCB Dolphins 4 Witham FC 4
Cranfield Halex 4 Larkhall Clapham 4
Spicer New Malden 6 Gunnersbury Triangle 2

Sunday 2nd October 1983
Cranfield Halex 4 Spicer New Malden 4
Larkhall Clapham 2 Dagenham FC 6
Gillette Reading III 1 TCB Dolphins 7
Witham FC 4 Gunnersbury Triangle 4

THIRD DIVISION NORTH

Sunday 18th September 1983
Washington 8 Vickers Barrow 0
Unity Bradford III 0 Unity Bradford II 8
South Yorkshire II 7 Byker Newcastle II 1
South Yorkshire III 2 Ormsby III 6

Sunday 25th September 1983
Vickers Barrow 3 Unity Bradford II 5
Ormesby III 5 Byker Newcastle II 3
South Yorkshire II 6 Washington 2
Unity Bradford III 0 South Yorkshire III 8

Sunday 2nd October 1983
Ormesby III 1 South Yorkshire II 7
Byker Newcastle II 8 Unity Bradford III 0
Unity Bradford II 2 Washington 6
South Yorkshire III 4 Vickers Barrow 4

THIRD DIVISION SOUTH

Sunday 18th September 1983
Bourne Ruislip 7 Jolliffe Poole 1
Tulse Hill Rams 8 Cippenham 0
Jaques Fareham II 5 Dunstable 3

Sunday 25th September 1983
Jolliffe Poole 6 Lansdown Medway 2
Ashford 2 Tulse Hill Rams 6
Cippenham 4 Dunstable 4
Jaques Fareham II 5 Bourne Ruislip 3

Sunday 2nd October 1983
Cippenham 4 Jaques Fareham II 4
Dunstable 1 Ashford 7
Tulse Hill Rams 6 Jolliffe Poole 2

THIRD DIVISION EAST

Sunday 18th September 1983
Playrite Northampton 7 Halex Lincoln 1

MBS St Neots II 4 Norwich Foxwood 4
Hassy Soham II 2 Coles Waveney 6
Halex Grantham P Nott'ham Racket Sense P

Sunday 25th September 1983
Halex Lincoln 0 Norwich Foxwood 8
Coles Waveney 1 Nott'ham Racket Sense 7
Halex Grantham P Playrite Northampton P

Sunday 2nd October 1983
Coles Waveney 5 Halex Grantham 3
MBS St Neots II 3 Nott'ham Racket Sense 5
Hassy Soham II 7 Halex Lincoln 1
Norwich Foxwood 5 Playrite Northampton 3

THIRD DIVISION WEST

Sunday 18th September 1983
Global Plymouth 2 Holts Salisbury 6
Tarmac Ladies 5 Launceston Kernow 3
WW Solihull 0 Pengeley Torbay 8
Hereford Times 6 Grove Mkt Drayton 112

Sunday 25th September 1983
Holts Salisbury 6 Tarmac Ladies 2
Launceston Kernow 4 WW Solihull 4
Pengeley Torbay 7 Grove Mkt Drayton II 1
Hereford Times 5 Global Plymouth 3

Sunday 2nd October 1983
Pengeley Torbay 8 Hereford Times 0
Grove Mkt Drayton II 4 Launceston Kernow 4
WW Solihull 2 Holts Salisbury 6
Tarmac Ladies 5 Global Plymouth 3

FIXTURES

PREMIER DIVISION

Sunday, 6th November
Thorn EMI Ellenboro v Tibhar London
Ormesby v Hassy Soham
Jaques Fareham v Dunlop Birmingham
Gillette Reading v Unity Bradford

Sunday, 20th November
Hassy Soham v Tibhar London

FIRST DIVISION

Sunday, 6th November
Butterfly Cardiff v Byker Newcastle
Ormesby II v SIB Bath
Grove Market Drayton v Tarmac Wolverhampton
Gillette Reading II v MBS St Neots

Sunday, 20th November
MBS St Neots v Butterfly Cardiff

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

Sunday, 6th November
South Yorkshire v Salford TG
March Halex v Chan Construction
Bradford Hermits v RIS Stockton

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

Sunday, 6th November
Dagenham FC v Spicer New Malden
Larkhall Clapham v Gunnersbury Triangle
Gillette Reading "" v Witham FC
Sunday, 20th November
Cranfield Halex v TCB Dolphins

Sunday 27th November
Witham FC v Cranfield Halex

THIRD DIVISION NORTH

Sunday, 6th November
Unity Bradford III v South Yorkshire II
Ormesby III v Vickers Barrow
Byker Newcastle II v Washington
South Yorkshire III v Unity Bradford II

THIRD DIVISION SOUTH

Sunday, 6th November
Ashford v Jaques Fareham II
Cippenham v Jolliffe Poole
Dunstable v Bourne Ruislip
Tulse Hill Rams v Lansdown Medway

THIRD DIVISION EAST

Sunday, 6th November
Halex Grantham v MBS St Neots II
Coles Waveney v Halex Lincoln
Nott'ham Racket Sense v Playrite Northampton
Hassy Soham II v Norwich Foxwood

THIRD DIVISION WEST

Sunday, 6th November
Pengeley Torbay v Holts Salisbury
Grove Mkt Drayton II v Global Plymouth
Sunday, 13th November
Launceston Kernow v Hereford Times
Sunday, 27th November
Global Plymouth v WW Solihull

SCOTTISH NEWS

by Denis George



TRIPLE LOSS

The season started with the need to re-assess our fortunes due to the withdrawal from international play of three of our top players. RICHARD YULE - the backbone of our national team for more than ten years - has just commenced full time employment with the Scottish Sports Council as a Development Officer with responsibility for five sports (but not including Table Tennis), in consequence he will have less time for practice and playing. He remains Vice-Chairman (Coaching) of the Scottish TTA, will play a few tournaments when the requirements of his new job allow, and hopes to be available for Moscow if required. ELAINE FORBES, who came back to international play in 1981 to compete in Budapest and Tokyo, has decided to call it a day and in future will concentrate on coaching the youngsters. She is the Assistant Manager at the Lasswade High Centre, near Edinburgh. KEITH RODGER is at present undertaking a police induction course in Coventry prior to joining the Birmingham Constabulary. In consequence he has retired from the international scene for the time being - we hope this absence will only be temporary - until he finds his feet in his new environment - as he is a player who will be hard to replace; he has the rare quality of being able to produce his best form at times of stress such as winning the 9th tie against both AUSTRIA and ISRAEL in Tokyo to give Scotland 5-4 victories and 25th place overall.

These three players have all given sterling service to Scotland over the years and we wish them every success in their new careers. With the loss of these three from the international squad the news of Carole Dalrymple's misfortune in breaking her right collarbone, when she was knocked off her bicycle, the evening before the first event of the season was hard to take. However, she is now well on the way to a complete recovery and she hopes to be fit to play before Christmas. 3.9.83: STTA Senior Classification Tournament, Jack Kane Centre, Edinburgh.

With David Hannah away on holiday and Carole Dalrymple indisposed, both Scottish No. 1's were absent from the day long play on 12 tables. In the MEN'S event players in the top three categories were allocated according to the current ranking list or assessment of their ability. The balance of entrants played off in eight groups with the winners going into Category 4 and the losers into Category 5. The LADIES played in two groups of eight.

MEN: Yule, in good form, finished the day undefeated, dropping only one game to John Broe in their last set. Graeme Docherty, who had been in



Keith RODGER in action in Tokyo. (Photo: B. D. George)



Richard YULE in action in Tokyo. (Photo: B. D. George)



Elaine FORBES in action in Tokyo. (Photo: B. D. George)



SCOTTISH TEAM CUP 1983 - Winners Glasgow CENTRAL YMCA - 'B' team, l-r: Brian Wright, John Broe, Patrice Fleming and Russell Brown. (Photo: B. D. George).

such good form at the end of last season (wins over Broe and David Mcilroy), had a poor day and could muster only one win.

Top Ten positions:

1. R. Yule, 2. J. Broe, 3. D. Mcilroy, 4. D. Campbell 5. B. Wright, 6. C. Gerrard, 7. J. Graham, 8. A. Colliar, 9. I. McLean, 10. G. Docherty.

WOMEN: Top junior - Diane Greig-won the event despite a loss to the other top junior - Lynn Johnston - however she defeated Patrice Fleming and took top position with a superior games average.

Top Ten positions:

1. D. Greig, 2. P. Fleming, 3. E. Robb, 4. L. Johnston, 5. J. Smith, 6. E. Meenan, 7. I. Ferguson, 8. L. Davren, 9. P. Calder, 10. S. Tomkins.

16/17.9.83: Home Countries Quadrangular Tournament. Bolton. Full details of Scotland's achievement of 2nd place behind England is reported elsewhere. It was good to see David Hannah continuing in the form which brought him the SWANSEA OPEN and BOURNEMOUTH OPEN titles the previous weekend, by taking the only two sets lost by England with defeats of both Skylet Andrew and Graham Sandley. With the incapacity of Carole Dalrymple it had been decided to give our junior girls Janet Smith and Diane Greig, who had performed with credit in the recent European Youth Championships, their first senior caps and they justified their selection by winning their sets in the 5-2 defeat of Wales.

21.9.83: European League Div. 2: Scotland v Turkey

Our 0-7 defeat by Turkey was hard to understand, we knew them to be a strong side but not that strong! Hannah was 14-7 and 20-17 up in the second, having won the first, yet lost and the third 13-21 whilst in his second singles and in the doubles, with Broe and Janet Smith as partners, defeat only came in the third end.

25.9.83: STTA Junior & Cadet Assessment Tournament, Meadowbank Sports Centre, Edinburgh.

A large entry, including many youngsters new to competitive table tennis, played throughout the day on 14 tables.

BOYS: Martin Crawford had a good day, losing only to Gordon Waddell who lost only to Gordon Cummings, however Martin took top place with a better games average. Ian Stokes had a disastrous day, winning only one set to finish in lowly 8th place.

GIRLS: Lynn Johnston completed her schedule with 7 straight wins, including an 18 and 17 win over Diane Greig, to achieve top position, with Diane in 2nd place. Maureen Cusick was 3rd.

CADET BOYS: Gavin Turnbull (Edinburgh) was unbeaten and Colin Carmichael (WoS) gave best only to Gavin 19 in the 3rd.

CADET GIRLS: With the top two cadets - Sarah Hurry and Linda Hood-competing in the junior event (where they finished 5th and 10th respectively) it was left for the other young girls to sort themselves into order in one group. Lorraine Anderson (WoS), undefeated, took top place whilst resort to points won/lost was necessary before Jennifer Hook was given 2nd place over Catherine O'Neill.

9.10.83: STTA Team Cup. Meadowbank Sports Centre, Edinburgh.

Glasgow CENTRAL YMCA confirmed their superiority of the Scottish club scene when they retained the STEWART ANDERSON TROPHY on Oct 9 against a challenge from 13 other top Scottish clubs - winners and runners-up of affiliated leagues' top divisions in 1982/83 season. CENTRAL have now won the title 8 times in the past 10 years and the last three years in succession. As last year their 'A' and 'B' teams contested the final, in 1982 the 'A' team won, this year it was the 'B' team which came out best 5-4 in a thrilling, hard-hitting game, with Brian Wright winning his three for the 'B' team, and Mcilroy beating Broe and Russell Brown for the 'A' team.

Ranking List (Published 7th September 1983)

MEN		
1	(1)	David HANNAH (Ham)
2	(2)	Richard YULE (Abdn)
3	(4)	John BROE (WOS)
4	(6)	Oavid McILROY (WOS)
5	17)	David CAMPBELL (Edin)
6	(10)	Brian WRIGHT (WOS)
7	(8)	Calum GERRARD (WOS)
8	(14)	Jim GRAHAM (Monk)
9	(13)	Alan COLLIER (Edin)
10	19)	Ian McLEAN (WOS)
11	(5)	Graeme DOCHERTY (tWOS)
11A	(11)	Bert KERR (Edin)
12	(15)	Gordon CLANCEY (WOS)
13	(-)	Ron LINDSAY (WOS)
14	(-)	John WILSON (WOS)
15	(12)	Tom REID (W Dunb)
16	(-)	Alex STRUTHERS (Monk)
17	(-)	Peter SHAW (IMonk)
18	(-)	Willie WILSON (tWOS)
19	(-)	Martin CRAWFORD (Stir)
20	(-)	Ian STOKES (WOS)

Note: For seeding purposes only.

WOMEN		
1	(1)	Carole DALRYMPLE (Stir)
2	(-)	Janet SMITH (Kent)
3	(9)	Diane GREIG (tWOS)
4	(3)	Patrice FLEMING (WOS)
5	(5)	Liz ROE (Fife)
6	16)	Valerie THOMSON (WOS)
7	(7)	Lynn JOHNSTON (Stir)
8	(-)	Eleanor MEENAN (WOS)
9	(8)	Isobel FERGUSON (WOS)
10	(10)	Lynne DAVREN (WOS)

Key: Abdn = Aberdeen; Edin = Edinburgh; Fife = Fife; Monk = Monklands; Stir = Stirlingshire; WOS = West of Scotland; W Dunb = West Dunbartonshire; Ayr = Ayrshire; Stir Dist = Stirling District.

JUNIOR/CADET RANKING LISTS (Published Thursday, 29 September, 1983)

JUNIOR BOYS			
1	(2)	Martin CRAWFORD	(Stir)
2	(4)	Gordon WADDELL	(Stir)
3	(6)	Martin BURKE	(Edin)
4	(7)	Gordon CUMMINGS	(Lan)
5	H	David LOW	(lAbdn)
6	(-)	Derek SCHOFIELD	(Lan)
7	(8)	Alan MILLER	(Stir)
8	13)	Ian STOKES	(IWOS)
9	(-)	Jonathan WILSON	(Edin)
10	H	James ROWAN	(IWOS)

JUNIOR GIRLS			
1	(2)	Lynn JOHNSTON	(Stir)
2	(3)	Diane GREIG	(WOS)
3	(7)	Maureen CUSICK	(WaS)
4	16)	Lynn DAVREN	(WOS)
5	†)	Sarah HURRY	(Stir Dist)
6	(41)	Pat CALDER	(Stir)
7	(-)	Linda MACKAY	(WOS)
8	(-)	Pauline FOX	(WOS)
9	(-)	Karen STURROCK	(Lan)
10	(-)	Linda HOOD	(Edin)

CADET BOYS			
1	(5)	Gavin TURNBULL	(Edin)
2	(8)	Colin CARMICHAEL	(WaS)
3	(-)	Mark HUNTER	(Stir)
4	H	Fraser THORNTON	(W Dunb)
5	(-)	Steven SUTHERLAND	(She)
6	(-)	Brian MILLER	(Abdn)
7	(-)	Scott GILBERT	(Lan)
8	†)	Graham SMITH	(WOS)
9	(-)	James WEATHERSTON	(WOS)
10	(-)	Alan SMITH	(WOS)

CADET GIRLS			
1	(1)	Sarah HURRY	(Stir Dist)
2	(2)	Linda HOOD	(Edin)
3	(6)	Lorraine ANDERSON	(WOS)
4	(-)	Jennifer HOOK	(Edin)
5	(-)	Catherine O'NEILL	(WOS)

BOURNEMOUTH 1-STAR OPEN

Anglo Scot David Hannah was the winner of the men's singles title at Bournemouth on Sept. 11 beating John Payne of Middlesex in the final. Kent's Juliet Houghton won the women's singles title, beating Sarah Hammond of Hants in the final, and this *aher* victory over Sally Weston of Sussex in the girls' final. Results:-

Men's Singles: Semi-Finals:
D. Hannah (Sea) bt D. Holman (Ha) 19, 18;
J. Payne (Mil bt M. Francis (Sx) 10, 21;

Final:
HANNAH bt Payne 13, 21.

Women's Singles:
J. Houghton (K) bt S. Hammond (Hal) 14, 10.

Men's Doubles:
Holman/Payne bt T. Glennon/R. Russell (Gs) -20, 19, 15.

Women's Doubles:
J. CoopT. Watkins bt C. Brooks/Houghton 15, 15.

X-Doubles:
Francis/J. Smith (Sco) bt A. and J. Houghton -16, 16, 19.

Boy's Singles:
M. Oxley (W) bt J. Jonah 9, 18.

Girl's Singles:
J. Houghton bt S. Weston -19, 17, 14.

Veteran's Singles:
S. Battrick (E) bt C. Dyke 14, 6.



Playrite Northampton - National League Team (Third Division East). (Sponsored by Playrite Sports).

L to R: Ken Marchant. (Team Manager). Rod Marchant. Ian Hawes. Brian Wooding. Nat Richardson. Graeme McKim.

Photo by courtesy of Chronicle & Echo. Northampton.

POSTBAG

TABLE TENNIS MUSCLE

We often hear talk of 'industrial muscle' but what of 'table tennis muscle'? I think table tennis underestimates its potential collective strength. We could more actively show our sponsors that we are a valuable market to count and win over.

I have recently been engaged in the traumas of buying a house once again. I wanted a mortgage with a minimum cost endowment policy. The Halifax Building Society suggested I used Clerical Medical for life assurance. I had not heard of Clerical Medical and to my knowledge the company did not support table tennis. However, The Halifax manager was happy for me to obtain a quotation from Norwich Union of whom I had heard and who did support table tennis. The Norwich Union terms were comparable, indeed favourable, and so Norwich Union has my business.

My proposal is that we all should give the companies who support table tennis the opportunity to quote. They are doing us a favour and if they have competitive prices, we should return the compliment. Even more importantly, we should tell our building society managers etc. why we want to support particular companies. It may get them to think for, after all, many table tennis players will be first time, second time, third time.... house buyers.

KEITH SOOTHILL

Chairman North West Regional
Development Advisory Panel
Conder House,
Conder Green,
Lancaster, LA20BG.

REDRESS THE BALANCE

I read with great interest the article by Stan Proffitt in the October issue, and can find no disagreement with him on the measures needed to make the game a spectacle that it once was. However as a veteran who would dearly love to see the standardisation of rubber whether it be Mark V, Tackiness or reversion to the pre-sponge era Barna type, quite clearly the commercial element is such that there is absolutely no chance of this happening. The loop, tricky spin serves, 'funny' rubbers are here to stay, but I have always felt that the best games to watch at any level are those where the contestants are predominantly, one an attacker and another a defender.

Modern coaching is concerned only with the eventual attainment of a devastating forehand loop, and a glance at the first 50 names in the computer rankings shows to my knowledge only 3 defenders - John Hilton, Dougie Johnson and David Barr. Probably the next 50 contain less!

Therefore to restore the balance, Mr. Proffitt's suggestion of raising the height of the net might mean that

youngsters would have to be coached in all aspects of the game, i.e. attack and genuine defence as opposed to the counter hit. In a reasonably short time we could then expect to produce rather more players with a sound defence, better equipped to make the attacker 'work for the point' as was the case prior to sponge.

Not only would table tennis at the top level become more interesting to watch, but I am sure at the lowest level where young club players often seemingly flail around with fast rubbers, happy to get the odd hit on the table, would soon realise they needed to be more consistent, and this in turn would lead to longer rallies.

I am not old enough to have known the game in 1937/38 when the net was lowered $\frac{3}{4}$ " but obviously it was done to encourage more attacking play. With modern fast rubbers capable of tremendous spin being employed today, surely it is time to redress the balance.

ALAN LANE

115 Hazelwood Lane,
Palmer's Green,
London. N13 5HH

P.S. Congratulations on the new format, it is a great improvement.

CRITICAL STATE

I was interested to read the letter from Cheltenham TTA linking the decline in membership with the increase in ETTA affiliation fees.

The Watford League had a peak membership of 120 teams in 1953-54, including 24 Ladies' teams. Since that time there has been a continuous decline, excepting 1968 with 112 teams and this season we are down to 56 teams. During the halcyon days of the 50's, Watford Town Hall was filled with several hundred spectators on Tournament Finals night but now they are watched by just a few players.

In our experience the increase in ETTA affiliation fees is not related to the decrease in the number of teams, and so far our members have put up with fee increases without complaint. Obviously, if our membership continues to fall whilst costs and ETTA fees rise still further, then a time will soon be reached when the cost of playing Table Tennis could become prohibitive.

Thus the game is in a critical state and an increase in membership is essential if it is to survive. This objective should be given immediate priority at all levels. Realization of the membership crisis and its effect on finances has dawned slowly on the ETTA and their actions may be too little and too late.

At League level, we have failed to provide a Club with modern facilities where our own teams could play seven days a week. This omission has become more serious as teams who are lost due to the economic recession have nowhere to play. The hundreds of pounds collected by the ETTA in

affiliation fees could have been put to better use in a building fund for a League Clubhouse. It is a fact that at least 95% of ordinary Club members are only interested in their own League match each week and they see no advantage in affiliation with the ETIA.

The governing body has failed to promote and market the game in a changing world - even diverse but relatively successful organisations like the Conservative Party and Spurs F.C. need to be sold, so why not Table Tennis?

On the administration side, one remembers the financial failures of the World Championships and generally the ETTA should adopt a more professional approach.

One of the major reasons for the decline in Table Tennis has been the failure of the ITTF to come to grips with the problem of standardisation of the bat rubber. The average player is baffled by the many combinations of rubbers, blades and thicknesses and their effect on speed, spin and control. A good knowledge of polymer technology and ballistic missiles would seem to be essential qualifications for the modern player. In the maligned days of pimped rubber, the better player was the winner as he could only rely on his own skill and determination whereas today it is the one who can afford the latest in new technology to produce an unplayable service or drive.

Tom Blunn asks where do we go from here? Unless membership is increased then Table Tennis will soon rate with marbles and tiddly winks as curious games rather than an important sport.

In the fiercely competitive modern world, trying hard is no guarantee of success and new policies, professional management and decisive leadership are urgently needed - time is not on our side!

PAT SNOXELL

Hon. Gen. Secretary
Watford & District TTL.
19 Gade Avenue,
Watford, Herts.

OH WHERE, OH WHERE?

I feel that I cannot let John Preat's letter in the last issue pass without comment. Personally, I resent the comment that there is a gap between those at the top and those at the roots. May I suggest that my own involvement at grass roots level is considerable and is at least equal to John's. I am sure that most table tennis players in Northumberland and Durham would bear this out. This involvement is also true in respect of most members of the Management Committee.

His comment may upset me, but that is not the real issue that has prompted me to put pen to paper. The suggestion that there is money about to spend on the top players is my main concern, because if there is, I am not

aware of it.

A comprehensive document which I am certain everyone has heard of entitled 'Meeting the Cost' was circulated to all leagues prior to the Annual General Meeting setting out exactly where our income arises, the chairman of the Association has discussed it in previous articles in this magazine and I spent a considerable amount of time at the A.G.M. explaining in detail the sources of income and areas of expenditure.

Where, therefore, is this money that John refers to? It certainly does not come from the Sports Council who greatly subsidise our sport by contributing 75% of the salaries of the Hastings staff and of the fees paid to the National Coaches, as well as 75% of the travel costs to away international events and fixed sums in respect of training camps and administration expenses. Sponsorship, television fees and cash from the trade reduce the costs of and enable us to stage competitive events such as the Norwich Union Open, Norwich Union Closed, Halex National League, Charles Church Invitation event, Beneficial Trust Junior events etc.

That leaves the money received from the membership in fees. This amounts in total to some £60,000 out of which 25% of salaries and coaching fees (approx. £26,000) as well as the balance of administration expenses, training camps, etc. have to be funded.

Every attempt is made to keep expenditure, especially administration and committee expenses, as low as possible, but even then my estimate for this current financial year shows at very best a break-even situation.

So where, I repeat where, is this money that John says we 'prefer to spend on other things'? I wish that I knew because I would dearly love to have access to it in order to use it primarily on promoting and developing our sport and to make larger payments to the top players.

AUBREY DRAPKIN
Hn. Treasurer, E.T.T.A.
49 Beach Avenue,
Whitley Bay,
Tyne and Wear. NE26 1DZ

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COMPUTER ENQUIRY

This is an enquiry about the use of computers in Table Tennis. I would be interested to hear from anyone who has written and used a computer programme in the compilation of results for clubs or leagues. I would also be interested to hear from anyone willing to exchange ideas on this subject.

JOHN C. FAIRWEATHER
26 Avenell Road,
Highbury,
London. N5 1DP

JUNIOR RANKING TOURNAMENT v COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

This argument must surely be a totally new line on the on-going saga of C.C. v N.L.

The Final Draft Calendar of Events for the 1983/84 Season was printed and issued showing the Junior/Cadet Ranking Tournament FIXED for the weekend of 19/20th November. It must have been a great shock to many people, including myself, unless you happen to be in the know, to have found that this prestigious points Tournament had been switched to a County Championships weekend, i.e. 26/27th November. No previous notification having been received other than the issuing of the E.T.T.A. Diary. The Diary is invariably sold some time after the beginning of the new season when a lot of arrangements for individual County Tournaments have already been made.

Believe it or not the only event advertised on the original date was the Kirklees 2-Star (Senior?) Tournament. There is no mention of a Junior Tournament in either Diary.

Question:

1. What importance is placed on the County Championships when officials can decide to stage a Junior/Cadet Ranking Tournament on the same weekend?

2. Would this have happened if that same weekend had been a Junior Premier County Championships event (Although only 8 Counties are involved out of a total of 38, Shh....., National League was scheduled?)

3. Why should an apparently 2-Star Senior Tournament take precedence when the change was made?

Questions should also be asked of the appropriate officials responsible for the change why they decided to, on the face of it, downgrade an event which the E.T.T.A. have been so persistently trying to justify over the last few years as the main tournament.

I appreciate that the damage has already been done but this must surely place the County Championships in its right perspective.

'Food for Thought' for you Murray and congratulations on your new appointment as Press Officer. Best of Luck!

KEN R. JUKES
Match Secretary, Worcester County
9 Waverley Close,
Greenhill,
Kidderminster, Wares.

WHAT'S ON AND WHERE

November 1983

- 9 European League: Hungary v England (Miskolc)
- 11/13 Hungarian Open (Miskolc) Norwich Union Grand Prix Event
- 12/13 Midland 3-Star Open (Alumwell Centre, Walsall) Kent Junior 2-Star Open (Folkestone)
- 13 Hastings Tigers 1-Star Open
GE Williamson's Cameras 2-Star Open (Glasgow)
- 18 Charles Church Championship (Wembley Conference Centre)
- 19/20 Kirklees 2-Star Open (Batley)
- 26 County Championships (3)
Cadet Ranking Tournament (Cleveland)
Cardiff Open (Sofia Gardens)
Royal Bank West of Scotland 2-Star Open (Glasgow)
- 26/27 County Championships: Senior Premier Weekend, Birmingham Athletic Institute, Balsall Heath Road, Highgate, Birmingham B12 9DL.
- 27 Junior Ranking Tournament (Cleveland)

December 1983

- 1/4 Scandinavian Open (Gothenburg)
Norwich Union Grand Prix Event
- 3/4 Beneficial Trust English Junior Closed (Hinckley)
- 4 Yorkshire 2-Star Open (Batley)
- 9/11 Finnish Open (Helsinki)
- 10 European League: Scotland v Luxembourg (Grangemouth) Halton Junior 1-Star Open (Runcorn)
- 10/11 Middlesex 3-Star Open (Edmonton)
- 14 European League: Czechoslovakia v England
- 17 County Championships (4)
- 17/18 County Championships: Junior Premier Weekend (St Neots TIC)
- 18 Halex National League (7)

SSAF SUPPORTS TABLE TENNIS PLAYERS

The Scottish Sports Aid Foundation has announced its latest list of cash awards amounting to £3,430 which is shared among 30 Scottish sportsmen and women. Once again, Table Tennis players fare well in these grants which range from £50 to £200.

They are David Hannah (aged 24) of Dorking in Surrey, Janet Smith (aged 18) of Walworth in London, and Carole Dalrymple (aged 20) of Brightons in Falkirk. Each receives £100 to assist with his/her Table Tennis.

Since the SSAF was established in January 1980, a total of £45,765 has been paid out to 452 people. Its main aim is to give Scotland's sporting hopes a better chance of success in national and international competitions. To this end, it awards these cash grants to sportsmen and women who have already achieved success at a high level, concentrating on competitors poised to break through into international honours.

ST. BRIDES INSTITUTE

Practice facilities are again available at St. Brides Institute, Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London EC4, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday.

Six tables are available and Coach Roy Pugh will be in attendance at all sessions.

A charge of £1 per player per session will be made, payable on the day to Roy Pugh.



The Way out

By John Preat

I came into Table Tennis less than two decades ago. When I was younger I played Football and Bridge and when I started playing our Game I was already too old to scale great heights. Nevertheless Table Tennis has been my Sport ever since. That it was so little regarded by the wider public passed my comprehension. I could not understand why our inter-town matches, even county matches were played in empty halls, why so few came to the English Open, why the **ETTA** was forever short of money, why we were hardly ever on Television. For many years I regarded my fellow-citizens as mistaken fools who did not know a good thing when they saw it. I could not imagine- and still cannot- a finer sport that has so much going for it. So what has gone wrong? Are all our fellows fools? It IS a great sport.

Wherever there is a table tennis table - from holiday camp to ocean liner - people will rush to play. They have even been known to come to blows; the small table is suitable for the small screen, far more than a tennis court or a football pitch. Can anyone tell me that the housewife finds the monotonous sticking of darts into the same spot accompanied by somewhat eccentric commentary more interesting than table tennis? Unfortunately the answer is often 'yes'.

And that, sadly, shows how low our sport has sunk. Today Sport is Business. Big, if successful. Inefficient, ailing, if not. It is the difference between a well run business and one that is not, prosperity or struggle, even failure. If your business is struggling, first look at your product. Is ours right? I think it is. It is a Sport people like to play. In Germany the national association has 700,000 members. We have, perhaps, a tenth of that. So we have a good product. But it is a competitive market.

There are many sports competing for attention, time, money, members. No product will succeed in the market place unless it is sold, promoted, marketed. If the sample remains in the rep's brief-case, no one will buy it.

If table tennis is played in near-secrecy it too will not gain new customers, new members. As the old ones fade away, the new ones will not replace them. We have lost 10% in two years. A business that loses 10% of its customers is in trouble. Any businessman will tell you that. That is the **ETTA's** problem. The easy solution is to raise revenue by 10% to replace the lost members. That is not the answer. It may not even paper over the cracks. I refer everybody to 'A Connection between increased Fees and Declining Numbers' (T.T. News October) one of the most thoughtful and best contributions I have ever read. The headline tells the main story, but the research supports the argument. **ETTA** fees are already inflation-proofed. Nevertheless few of us in the main stream of national table tennis really oppose increased affiliation fees if we felt the money would be well spent, on the sport rather than bureaucracy and fringe activities.

The No. 1 priority is to sell and promote the Sport I say that in the present crisis it is almost the only priority. That is the only way we shall get more public respect, that results from publicity and media exposure, the only way we shall get more members and more income. To try to extract more from fewer, clearly dwindling numbers will merely increase our problems. The National A.G.M. may vote it through, but more and more members will drift away to play their own table tennis without the **ETTA**. The reader from Cheltenham told the story we see every day.

In the short term **ETTA** fees will have to be raised. It will not be popular in the local leagues. If they all came to the A.G.M. the fee increase would not get through. Most local players regard it as a sort of tax, unpleasant but inevitable. Some drift away and play outside the **ETTA**. I beg the **ETTA** therefore to make membership more attractive, to give value for money. I have made various suggestions privately. My main public one would be to get the Magazine out into the local leagues. It remains the best thing the **ETTA** does, but only a tiny minority sees it. It should be a condition of membership to buy the Magazine. The advantages are obvious: Larger circulation, lower printing costs, higher advertising revenue. The biggest asset of all would be a well-informed membership, one that looks beyond the next local league match. It is the only way of communicating with the membership, the only way of breaking out of the present Catch 22 situation where little gets done, less gets changed because few know and fewer still care, where virtually nothing goes

on except the time-worn annual rituals many of which are totally uninteresting to the wider public and only a little less so to the membership.

In my column I write about the excellent staging of recent international matches in Sunderland and Bury. Last season I reported similarly from Grimsby. Great - but every local association should have at least one show piece event each season - that will create a background for Table Tennis of local pride, achievement and respect. Here the **ETTA** could and should take the initiative to get some packages together that local associations would take up. That is what the BarnalSzabadosBellak tours of the '30's were - that is what helped put Table Tennis on the map. It would help our top players, quite a few of whom are on the dole. It would help the leagues put Table Tennis on the local maps. The 1990 document visualises all that, but I am afraid it is the 1990 part that is taken seriously, rather than the recommendations, which need action in 1983/4.

Our Sport rarely appears on Television and when it does, I sometimes wonder whether I am watching a home-movie, so inept and uncaring is the treatment. I take the point that all too often our negotiators feel like small manufacturers trying to sell to a chain store, but there is something we can do. We can make sure that at least our televised events are played before large and enthusiastic audiences rather than empty benches and bored 'V.I.P.'s'. Complimentary tickets should go out in dozens rather than singles to the people who run the local leagues and counties as a gesture for keeping the **ETTA** going at the roots - and to fill those empty spaces which create such a bad impression.

Gradually it will get around as a result of such steps and others that the **ETTA** is not just a tax collector, but that it cares about its members some of whom officers of the **ETTA** would meet on these occasions. Let the **ETTA** think what it can do for its members, rather than what its members can do for the **ETTA**.

I close with one of my favourite Churchill stories. As the great man entered a building in Whitehall a group of workmen who were repairing the building gave him his usual big reception: 'Good, old Winnie. . . he'll get us through'. It was just after Dunkirk. Hitler was at the gates. Inside, a companion noticed tears running down Churchill's face. When he asked why, Churchill replied: 'Because I cannot see ANY way out'. There was a way out. There is a way out for English Table Tennis too. The **ETTA** is an institution and institutions do not die overnight, but there have been too many nights. The membership has been taken for granted too long and now there IS a crisis and there is a time for unity, but even more for effort and action.

SECRETIN AND FRANCIS THE FRENCH CONNECTION

by JOHN WOODFORD

JACQUES SECRETIN, VINCENT PURKART and now MALCOLM FRANCIS! Three names to conjure with in the world of exhibition and trick-shot table tennis.

Most enthusiasts inside our sport and many thousands on the outside marvelled at the exhibition give by Secretin and Purkart televised at Basingstoke two years ago. . . pure magic was the expression I heard used to describe their antics.

Professional Malcolm Francis, the former Sussex champion and still nationally ranked by the computer has now joined the two Frenchmen and I understand that the Uckfield controversial figure will feature in a number of forthcoming exhibitions both in Britain and elsewhere. Exhibition play will be predominantly between Secretin and Francis.

October 26th is the launch date of the latest exhibition series at a venue in Sutton, Surrey and the French ambassador has promised to attend to help boost the export drive for the "Cornilleau" table tennis table! Yes, there has to be a strong commercial angle and here it is - The French

company CORNILLEAU based near Paris have sold 100,000 quality table tennis tables in France this year and are now expanding into the export markets, especially to this country, in fact 7,000 tables have been sold in England since May.

The twin attractions are the quality and the competitive prices of the "Cornilleau" tables. I am told that the French production line produces tables at the rate of 12 a minute - the achievement is mass production of fine tables, all produced at one factory, instead of the top coming from one source and the under-carriage coming from elsewhere, keeping the price right down, well below the long-standing competitors.

All sports exhibitions of any size this season will contain the new French assault on the table market and also personal appearances and even exhibitions by Secretin and Francis who is also heavily involved all the year round with exhibition matches without the French connection all over the country. Additionally, he is expected to be going on the Round-the-World cruise on the QE2 on January

2nd for thirteen weeks, supplying coaching and exhibitions.

An extra on the QE2 cruise is that Francis and hopefully two reasonably skilful passengers will issue local team challenges at the 26 ports of call round-the-world.



MALCOLM FRANCIS (Sussex) and the former French and European champion JACQUES SECRETIN two of the vital components in the Anglo-French table tennis circus soon to be seen in Britain.

SUPPORT DES AND CARL AT WEMBLEY!

Both Des Douglas and Carl Prean will be at Wembley on Friday, 18th November, facing four of the World's top competitors in the CHARLES CHURCH CHAMPIONSHIP. Now, with a special offer only available to Table Tennis News readers, you can be there to support England's leading players and take advantage of specially reduced tickets.

Tickets for the Championship, which starts at 6.30 p.m., are available from the England Table Tennis Association, price £4.50 and £3.50 (group rates by negotiation). By sending in the two 50p vouchers from the October and November issues with your ticket order to ETТА office, Table Tennis News readers will be allowed £1 discount on the cost of a ticket. A maximum of two vouchers per ticket will be allowed and each voucher can only be used towards the cost of one ticket.

But hurry! This offer has to end on November 15th 1983 to allow postal applications to be processed by the ETТА office: 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF, Tel: (0424) 433121, and continue saving the NORWICH UNION ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP vouchers for the season's other major event in January 1983. Details will appear in December and January issues of Table Tennis News.

T

50p

CONDITIONS

1. This offer applies only to tickets for the Charles Church Championship purchased from the ETТА before 15th November 1983

2. A maximum of two vouchers, taken from separate editions of Table Tennis News, will be allowed against the purchase of a single ticket for the Charles Church at Wembley Conference Centre on Friday

When you buy a ticket from the ETТА for: **CHARLES CHURCH CHAMPIONSHIP** at Wembley Conference Centre on Friday

12/20p off

CONDITIONS

This offer applies only to tickets for the Norwich Union English Open Table Tennis Championship purchased from the ETТА on Friday, 2nd in January 1984.

2. A maximum of two vouchers, taken from separate editions of Table Tennis News, will be allowed against the purchase of a single ticket for the Norwich Union English Open at Brighton Centre on Saturday

When you buy a ticket from the ETТА for: **NORWICH UNION ENGLISH OPEN** at Brighton Centre on Saturday

LANCASHIRE LIFE

By George Yates
HONOURS EVEN

Lancashire 2nds began their County Championships programme in Division 2A by sharing the spoils with Warwickshire 2nds on Oct 1 at Bamber Bridge. It proved to be a marathon encounter lasting all of four hours making it a long day for the umpires who had, in the afternoon, officiated in the Junior 2A match between Lancs and Bedfordshire.

Keith Williams, that bonny battler from Liverpool, served Lancs II well by beating Lester Bertie and Ian Gunn to which successes Phil Huggon beat his namesake, Gunn, and both girls, Nikki Cowley and Amanda Goodwin, added their singles, the latter accounting for Sandra Peakman, conqueror of Carole Moore in the Colgate North of England 2-Star. Scores :-

K. Williams bt L. Berties 19. -20. 17;
S. Bevan lost to I. Gunn -10. -15;
P. Huggan bt P. Gunn -18. 17. 18;
N. Cowley/A. Goodwin lost to S. Peakman/D. St Ledger 17. -15. -20;
Bevan/Williams lost to Gunn/Gunn -11. 17. -12;
Williams bt I. Gunn 18. 7;
Cowley bt I. Gunn -20. 15. 12;
Huggan lost to Bertie -17. 9. -16;
Goodwin bt Peakman -16. 13. 18;
Bevan lost to P. Gunn -16. 21. -6.

In the afternoon the juniors, lacking the services of Howard Leigh and

Andrea Holt, who were at Lilleshall, triumphed 9-1 over Beds whose only success came in the last set when Peter Edwards just got home 28-26 in the third against Phil Cranshaw. Scores:-

C. Hogarth bt N. Stanley 17. 20;
P. Crankshaw bt D. Murgatroyd 14. -25. 23;
P. Huggan bt P. Edwards 13. 11;
L. Harnden/L. McEwen bt C. Buckley/J. Mitchell 11. 19;
Hogarth/Huggan bt Edwards/Murgatroyd 14. 9;
Hogarth bt Murgatroyd 7. 6;
Hamden bt Buckley 15. 17;
Huggon bt Stanley 9. 12;
McEwen bt Mitchell 10. 12;
Crankshaw lost to Edwards -17. 13. -26.

At the Regional Junior and Cadet Trials held at Market Drayton over the weekend of Sept 24/25 Lancs provided the No. 1 Cadet boy in David Carse of Bury. Kristina Cox of Liverpool came second in the cadet girls' behind Louise Sherratt of Staffs. Rochdale's Lee Brown finished in second spot behind Carse and Andrew Eden of Preston came fifth.

In the Junior boys Colin Hogarth of Fleetwood came third, behind Keith Weatherby of Ches. and S. Meigh of Staffs. Howard Leigh of Bury came fifth and Sean Gibson (Preston) eleventh. Andrea Holt (Bury) was pipped for first spot in the girls' by Claire Potts of Ches. and Lindsay McEwen, also of Bury, finished 9th.

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN RUSSELL

It is with regret that we report the recent death of John Russell. Dorset Veteran player and current County champion. John, who lived in Moordown, Bournemouth, died suddenly during a table tennis match for his local team. Lytchett, in the Poole league.

John also played in the Bournemouth league. As secretary, he ran the Bournemouth YMCA club with untiring enthusiasm, and all benefited from his kindness and advice so freely given. In addition, he served on the general management committee of the YMCA and his many other interests included chairmanship of a local football team.

John, ranked No. 2 veteran in the County, has played many times for Dorset, as well as on countless occasions for Bournemouth in the Hampshire league. His tolerance and unselfish attitude won him many friends and he will be sorely missed.

John, who was 45, leaves a widow, Rachele, and two daughters, Abigail and Elaine, all to whom we offer our deepest sympathies.

LAC.

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

Ends 20th December

IDEAL PRESENT - A NEW BANDA KIT

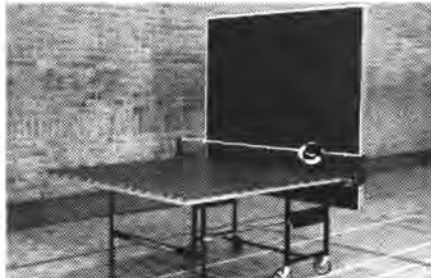
A9-1 Shirt	14 years	£11.26	£8.95
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Colours: Navy/Gold Trim, Bordeaux/Gold Trim.			
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	S,M,L.	£10.50	£8.95
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STAMCO SUSSEX 2-STAR OPEN

SQUARE-SHAPED SPHERES

by Ron Kemp

The Stamco Sussex 2-Star tournament was held at the White Rock Pavilion, Hastings over the weekend of Oct 8/9 and again proved very successful. With a record entry of 283 competitors (the best since 1965), which included 17 of the top 42 men and 6 of the top 7 women ranked in England, this was an excellent entry for this early 2-Star event and greatly pleased and encouraged the organisers and their sponsors.

Men's singles holder and No.1 seed Graham Sandley, retained his title with a final win over 5th seed Colin Wilson who had earlier beaten 3rd seed David Wells in the semis; and 2nd seed Paul Day in the quarters. Sandley's run to the final had been simplified somewhat by the non-appearance of David Hannah, the top player from Scotland and equal 5th seed who must have got his dates mixed as he was on international duty for Scotland on the Sunday.

However, Sandley's stiffest test was in the quarters against his Middlesex colleague John Souter (equal 5th) just squeezing through 20 in the 3rd; the only time he was extended to a decider. Kenny Jackson was Sandley's semi-final victim in an easy first game, far closer in the second.

The final itself was delayed by a few minutes when Sandley and Wilson discovered that a practical joker had replaced the brand new Barna 3-crowns with square imitations, and Organiser Colin Hyland had to make a quick trip to the local sports shop for replacements. Sandley subsequently proved his ranking and superior skill by winning quickly; in both games an early lead proving to be decisive (12-1 in the 1st. 11-2 in the 2nd).

Women's singles holder since 1980, and England No.1 Karen Witt retained her title and firm grip on the 'Parsons Cup' by beating unseeded teammate Alison Gordon in an exciting final. One

game all, level at 17-all, Witt snatched the next 3 points for, it seemed the match-winning lead, only to see Gordon take the next 3 and level at 20-all. Then a tiny piece of luck swung the game to Witt, as her forehand drive clipped the net and landed on the table. Gordon's immediate return touched the net and went off, for game and championship to Witt.

Surprise of this event was the fall of the Bellinger sisters in Rd. 2, Lisa lost to unseeded Helen Bardwell and Jackie to Helen Williams. Neither victor continued after that point as Bardwell was beaten by Gordon and Williams by Sarah Sandley in the quarters.

No surprises in the Mixed, top seeds Sandley and Gordon meeting a challenge from holders and 2nd seeds Wilson and Williams. Giving maximum viewing pleasure to the 200-plus crowd at the finals this was another to be decided in the third game, Wilson and Williams retaining their title.

Women's doubles holders and top seeds, the Bellinger sisters, were well beaten in the final by the inspired play of Gordon and Mandy Sainsbury (a reverse of last year's event) this giving Gordon one title from 3 final appearances. Only upset was in the semis when 2nd seeds Sue Collier and Witt were beaten by the eventual winners.

Last event of the evening was the men's doubles final, and here was high drama indeed' both on and off the table. Second seeds Souter and Wilson just pipped top seeds Day and Jackson. At game-all Day and Jackson led 8-2, but were caught at 14-all, then led again 20-19 with match point but could not take it. And when the score had gone on to 22-all, it was Souter and Wilson who took the next 2 points and the title.

Off the table during that final, a problem with one of the scoring machines was causing much amusement to all but the players, who were oblivious to our esteemed Sussex colleague Bert Fretwell twiddling the machine. Within the silence of the arena, subdued giggles and whispers were heard when, as Bert struggled to

turn the cards over, one flipped back, clipping him in the eye, and so from then on he had to continually bob up and down over the machine and force the cards down into position with one hand, while the other hand turned both cards over. What a spectacle! Quite how the umpire, Miss Moors, was able to score the remainder of the game without a trace of emotion in her voice is beyond me!

Veterans' singles winner this year was the unseeded Ray Murray who excelled to beat 2nd seed Peter D'Arcy in Rd. 2, Gordon Chapman in the quarters, "Stan the Bat" in the semis, and Ron Norton, the 3rd seed, in the final which was played on Sunday afternoon.

Trophies were presented by Mr. Shepardson from main sponsors Stamco, and the finals which began at 6 p.m. ended at the respectful hour of 9.30 p.m. Well done to all helpers, umpires, and staff at the White Rock; we'll be back in 1984 for the 49th Open Championships of Sussex (and we promise we'll get some better balls and scoring machines.... Bert... P.S. Did you see the publicity in all the daily papers on Monday?!! (Thanks Bob....)

Results:-

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:

G. Sandley (Mi) bt J. Souter (Mi) 8. -18. 20;
K. Jackson (E) bt D. Dodd (K) -15. 14. 11;
D. Wells (Mi) bt M. Crimmins (Sy) 19. 18;
C. Wilson (Mi) bt P. Day (Ca) -10. 19. 13.

Semi-finals:

Sandley bt Jackson 8. 19; Wilson bt Wells 12. 12.
Final: SANDLEY bt Wilson 16. 10.

Women's Singles: Semi-finals:

K. Witt (Bk) bt S. Sandley (Mi) 18. 16;
A. Gordon (Bk) bt M. Sainsbury (Bk) 17.21.

Final: WITT bt Gordon -15. 14. 20.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:

Day/Jackson bt Crimmins/Sandley 19. 18;
Souter/Wilson bt I. Kenyon (K)/Wells 12. 14.

Final: SOUTER/WILSON bt Day/Jackson -19.16.22.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:

J. Bellinger/L. Bellinger (Bd) bt M. Reeves/H. Williams (Mi) 16. 13;
Gordon/Sainsbury bt S. Collier (Bk)/Witt -21. 8. 14.

Final: GORDON/SAINSBURY bt Bellinger/Bellinger -20. 15. 10.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:

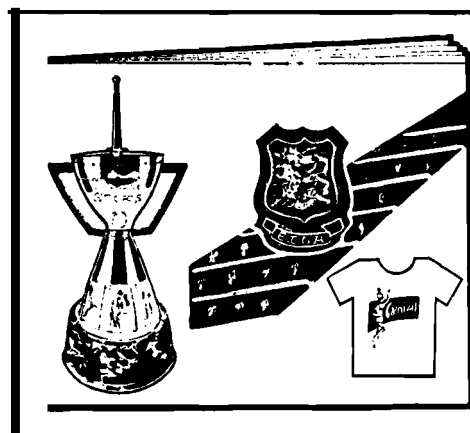
Sandley/Gordon bt Crimmins/Witt -19. 17. 12;
Wilson/Williams bt Day/Sainsbury 16. 15.

Final: WILSON/WILLIAMS bt Sandley/Gordon 18. -2. '7.

Veterans' Singles: Semi-finals:

R. Norton (Hu) bt J. Holland (E) 11. 21;
R. Murray (E) bt S. Battrick (E) 7. 18.

Final: MURRAY bt Norton 15. 9.



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WEST MIDLAND LEAGUE

Results of matches played at Mary Webb School, Pontesbury, on Saturday Sept. 10:-

Grove 2 Chester 8
 Pontesbury 8 Grove 2
 Ellesmere Port 10 Norton 0
 Pontesbury 7 Ellesmere Port 3
 Gloucester 5 Ellesmere Port 5
 Pontesbury 10 Norton 0
 Gloucester 8 Telford 2
 Grove 1 Gloucester 9
 Telford 3 Chester 7

TABLE

	P	W	L	O	F	A	Pts
Pontesbury	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Gloucester	3	2	0	1	22	8	5
Chester	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
Ellesmere Port	3	1	1	1	18	12	3
Telford	2	0	2	0	5	15	0
Grove	3	0	3	0	5	25	0
Norton	2	0	2	0	0	20	0

Players showing win averages:

Grove
 Dawn Wickstead 44%
 Peter Giles -
 Stephen Eaton 11%
 Chester
 Clare Potts 100%
 Helen Potts 50%
 Kristina Cox 66%
 Pontesbury
 David Morris 100%
 Justin Goodall 100%
 Adrian Phillips 44%
 Norton
 Lee Gallon-
 Jeremy Hodgson -
 Craig Bellingham -
 Gloucester
 Dale Saunders 100%
 Garry Thomas 77%
 Ian Hopkins 33%
 Telford
 Tim McGill 50%
 Andrew Kendrick -

Robert Norton 33%
 Ellesmere Port
 Paul Birkin 66%
 Neil Kirsopp 66%
 Stephen Freeman 55%

With last year's champions, Ellesmere Port, not as strong the young improving Pontesbury side made a great start to their campaign this year. With Adrian Phillips a reserve for the injured Simon Cooper, together with the unbeaten David Morris and Justin Goodall, the locals remained too strong for their opponents..

Gloucester, with skilful Dale Saunders and Garry Thomas still eligible from last year's team, remain in contention; while Chester's all-girl squad, led by top England-ranked cadet Clare Potts, also remain unbeaten.

Next session to take place at Mary Webb School, Pontesbury, on Saturday, Feb. 26, 1984.

WEST YORKSHIRE CLOSED

by Les D'Arcy

Wakefield League players dominated the West Yorkshire Closed Championships held at Parkside Youth Centre, Bradford. Of the eight titles at stake four were won outright and two shared. Two other Wakefield players reached their respective finals before bowing out.

Undoubtedly the most successful player was 15-years-old Joanne Shaw, former cadet international and now in her first year as a junior. In which category she leads the Yorkshire rankings being also the No.3 woman.

Joanne's best performance was to defeat the County's No.2, Helen Shields, in the women's singles, al-

though her win over Ruth Baxter of Leeds, the County's No. 3 girl, was also impressive as a final of spectacular attacking shots from both players, with Joanne stamping her authority on the latter stages of the set. A win in the mixed, partnered by senior county player Mick Stephenson, over Helen Shields and Richard Priestley, gave Joanne an excellent start to what could become an eventful season.

Steven Sharpe, now the County's No.5 in his first season in the senior ranks, had his title chances improved when Kevin Beadsley, ranked No.3, withdrew from the men's singles after a disagreement with the officials about the type of ball to be used. Denied the chance of doing battle with Yorkshire's former No.1, Steve showed his class by defeating talented junior, Martin Firth, in the men's final to take the title.

Runner-up last year in the veterans'

final, Keith Hurley made no mistake on this occasion when he defeated city teammate, Les D'Arcy in the last round of this year's championship after Les had beaten last year's winner Don Kelly in the semis 10 and 7. Julie Speight gave her usual dynamic performance when partnering Rachel Brook to take the women's doubles and Aleric Bassano rounded off Wakefield's outstanding performances by reaching the final of the boys' event. Results:-

Men's Singles:
 S. Sharpe bt M. Firth 19, 10.
 Women's Singles:
 J. Shaw bt H. Shields -18, 17, 14.
 Boys' Singles:
 M. Firth bt A. Bassano 14, 13.
 Veterans' Singles:
 K. Hurley bt P. O'Arcy -20, 13, 17.
 Girls' Singles:
 J. Shaw bt R. Baxter 16, -22, 8.
 Men's Doubles:
 K. Beadsley/S. Kosmowsky bt R. Priestley/M. Stephenson 15, 14.
 Women's Doubles:
 R. Brook/J. Speight bt C. Raynor/Shields 14, 17.
 Mixed Doubles:
 Stephenson/Shaw bt Priestley/Shields -20, 8, 12.

HEART OF ENGLAND CADET LEAGUE

by Brian Aston

After the first session of matches of the newly-formed Heart of England Cadet League (in Good Standing with the ETTA) held at Leamington Boys' Club on Sept. 17, Walsall emerged league favourites with a strong team of R. Brissett, M. Stretton and R. Till. Having won all three matches they head the table with 6 pts with Leamington second with 4 pts.

The local derby between Coventry and Rugby was eventually won by the latter 6-4 with Michael Thomas of Rugby beating his close friend and clubmate Richard Todd. Stratford fought out a fine draw with Rugby and Neil Betteridge playing well for Stratford.

Leamington played three matches beating Bromsgrove 7-3 and Evesham 6-4 before losing to Walsall 1-9. Barry Dalby took the last set off Roger

Brissett. The eight teams taking part all enjoyed the first of three full days of table tennis and with this in mind the League fully expect more teams next season. Results:-

Leamington 7 Bromsgrove 3
 Leamington 6 Evesham 4
 Leamington 1 Walsall 9
 Coventry 2 Walsall 8
 Coventry 4 Rugby 6
 Stratford 1 Walsall 9
 Stratford 5 Rugby 5
 Bromsgrove 9 Worcester 1
 Evesham 10 Worcester 0

SELBY JUNIOR 1-STAR

The ETTA Tournaments Committee has agreed a change of date for the Selby Junior 1-Star from Saturday, March 10 1984 to Saturday March 17, 1984.

DUNLOP SPORTS

Following organisational changes the Specialist Sports Division of Dunlop Sports Company Limited are now located at 97 Bridge Road, Horbury, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF2 5NN ('Phone: (0924) 276321) from Oct 17/83.

The personnel in this department are:

G. W. Mortimer - Director
 H. Dagnall - Supplies and Service Manager
 E. A. Bamforth - Assistant to Supplies and Service Manager
 A. Hydes - Table Tennis Manager
 J. A. Haller - Assistant to Table Tennis Manager
 N. Hughes - Public Sector Sales Manager
 S. M. Gaskell - Secretary to Director

COLGATE NORTH OF ENGLAND 2-STAR OPEN

COOKE **DELIVERS** BRUSH-OFF
by George Yates

Having won the boys' singles title twelve months previously, Derbyshire's Alan Cooke returned to Stretford Sports Centre on September 24 to snap up the men's title defeating the defending title holder, Kevin Beadsley of Yorkshire, in a one-sided final.

And, for more measure, partnered by Andy Creed of Avon, the men's doubles title was also annexed with Cheshire's Brian Johns and Wayne Percival on the receiving end.

On two successive weekends 18-years-old Cooke has kept a clean sheet, both in singles and doubles, for he emerged unscathed from the Quadrangular matches in Bolton on September 16/17.

Much interest at Stretford was also centred on the women's singles in which Carole Moore (nee Knight) was beginning her comeback trail following a change of heart on her previously announced retirement at Woking last season.

But it was not to be in the Colgate North of England for, after an opening success against Yorkshire's Lesley Broomhead, the Cleveland looper fell to Sandra Peakman of Warwickshire -16, -21.

Nor was Carole any more successful in the women's doubles, losing in the second round to Janet Dunning and Jill Harris, when partnered by Helen Shields. No, the women's events proved a happy hunting ground for Lancashire's Joy Grundy, who successfully defended her singles title, and also won the doubles partnered by Jean Parker.

In a classic girls' singles final

Debbie Soothill fought back from an opening game deficit to account for Joanne Shaw whilst in the boys' final Richard Hayward had the edge over Jonathan Goode.

Derek Schofield, that veritable "king of the oldies" took the veterans' title at the final expense of Geoff Brook.

Because of a contractual engagement in Federal Germany top seed in the men's singles, John Hilton, had to scratch although his lively son, Kirk, made his presence felt with an invasion of the "pitch".

Wiltshire's Kevin Satchell was another missing seed in whose absence Lancashire's Steve Cowley - not long returned to these shores from Australia and married to the former Bucks player Nikki Hamilton - made the quarters, going under to Andy Rich from Hilton's part of the draw.

At the other end, second seed Alan Fletcher fell foul of his fellow Tyke Beadsley having survived a hard struggle with Scot John Broe in the previous round.

Between the outer limits young Cooke sailed serenely through 2-straight against veterans Eddie Griffiths and Pete D'Arcy - the latter recovering from a cartilage op - and Philip Gunn. It was only in his quarter-final meeting with Chris Rogers that the pride of Chesterfield was extended to a third game.

Andy Bellingham won one hell of a quarter-final against Nigel Eckersley, 20 in the third, the Wolverhampton player going out in like fashion to Beadsley in the semis.

Despite the attraction of Manchester United playing hosts to Liverpool at nearby Old Trafford the attendance at

Stretford Sports Centre was above average which must have pleased tournament organiser Leslie Jones who, now aged 74, still has his shoulder very much to the wheel. This too can also be said for Manchester League chairman Harold Johnson and President Benny Casofsky both of whom struck to their tasks all day long.

Men', Singl••: a quarter-finell:

A. Rich (St) bt S. Cowley (Lei '6. -21. 12;
A. Cooke (Dyl) bt C. Rogers (Lei 19. -23. 1S;
A. Bellingham (St) bl N. Eckersley (Ch) 19. -15. 20;
K. Seedsley (V) bt A. Fletcher (Y) 9. 15.

Semi-finals:

Cooke bt Rich 17, 18; Beadsley bt Bellingham -17.17.20.

Final:

COOKE bt Beadsley 9. 13.

Women', Singl••: Quarter-finell:

J. Grundy (La) bt C. Peacock (La) 8. 14;
S. Hunt (UI) bt F. Elliot (St) 16. .S;
J. Parker (La) bt K. Groves (Wal -15. 22.11;
K. Smith (Lei) bt S. Peakman (Wa) -20. 6. 5.

Semi-finals:

Grundy bt Hunt 11. 11; Smith bt Parker 16. -2'. .5.

Final:

GRUNDY bt Smith 11. 16.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:

S. Johns/W. Percival (Chi) bt S. Scowcroft (La)/K. Weatherby (Ch) -14. 16.11;

Cooke/A. Creed (Av) bt I. Gunn/P. Gunn (We) 14, 17.

Final:

COOKE/CREED bt Johns/Percival 13. 1S.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:

Grundy/Parker bt Hunt/Smith 19, 23;
J. Dunning/J. Harris (St) bt M. Seaton/J. Spreight (VI) 20, -8, 13.

Final:

GRUNDY/PARKER bt Dunning/Harris '4. 20.

Boys' Singles: Quarter-finell:

J. Goode (Mi) bt N. Greenwood (Lal) 12, 16;
Weatherby bt M. Wiffen (La) 6, 15;
R. Heywerd (S.) bt A. Dixon (St) 16. 13;
D. Goode (Mi) b. D. Rook (Y) 17. 21.

Semi-finals:

J. Goode bt Weatherby 20, 14; Hayward bt D. Goode 12, 17.

Final:

HAYWARD bt J. Goode 9. 17.

Girl's Singles: Quarter-finell:

J. Shew (Y) bt A. Tickle (Ch) 3. 16;
J. Sallard (Spi) bt A. Hegerty (S'1-'4. 15. 16;
D. Soothill (Cu) bt C. Wickteed (Sp) 14. 16;
E. Wright (W.II) bt J. Powi. (St) 10. 20.

Semi-finals:

Shaw bt Ballard 9, 8;

Soothill bt Wright 19, -17, 16.

Final:

SOOTHILL bt Shew -12. 1S. 16.

Beterens' Singles: Quarter-finell:

M. Sheeder (U) bt S. Allison (UI) 7. -19. 14;
G. Srook (V) b. P. D'Arcy (Ch) 13. 17;
E. Griffith. (Chi) bt N. Merples (Jy) 17. 15;
D. Schofield (Chi) bt R. Forrest (T'11.6. 14.

Semi-finals:

Brook bt Sheeder 18, 16; Schofield bt Griffiths 10, 17.

Final:

SCHOFIELD bt Srook 17. 16.



Sheer determination was not enough for Cleveland's Carole Moore who, attempting a comeback at Stretford, was beaten by Sandra Peakman of Warwickshire. (Photo by Tony Edenden, Barlestone, Nuneaton).

BLESS' EM ALL

.. Says Tom Blunn,
Chairman, ETТА.



Having found my old treasurer's hat I thought I would put it on for a little while and look back into our financial history. When it comes to doing the work and solving all the problems I will, of course, take my hat off again and leave it all to the present treasurer. I do in fact "take my hat off" to the present treasurer, Aubrey Drapkin, for his achievements so far in the three years he has held the position.

Income has always been the problem of the E.T.T.A. and in the old days income from outside sources was just as necessary as it is today. There was no grant aid from the Government and television with its attendant potential sponsorship was not even a pipe dream.

The backbone of outside assistance was supplied by the equipment manufacturers. And, although names have changed this assistance has continued for over sixty years and has been instrumental in keeping the

E.T.T.A. as a going concern. The early members of the E.T.T.A. were reluctant to finance their game completely on their own and relied on the trade to come up with life-saving contributions. In some early years the contribution from the trade exceeded that from members' affiliation fees. The trade still provides but members now make a more realistic contribution.

In the very early years most income from members' affiliation fees. The trade still provides but members now as Jaques, Spalding, Halex and Umbro were early contributors. The shirt rebate in particular was an excellent source of income; surely table tennis must have been one of the first sports to promote clothing designed specially for the sport. I know of one Umbro shirt that lasted over 25 years!

The foregoing firms were soon joined by Dunlop who promoted all their early equipment under the name of 'Barna'. In post war years new names have joined the benefactors, such as Stiga, Lentec, Ascot, T.S.P. and Butterfly who have, from time to time, made financial contributions direct to the E.T.T.A. as well as giving welcome support in the promotion of local competitions.

Early World and English Championships could not have been held without the support of the trade and on several occasions they got together to raise funds to help us to send teams abroad.

The official magazine would never have been published in the first instance, over forty years ago, if the trade had not guaranteed the advertising space. Indeed is not this still the case with our present publication?

Indirectly the members benefited by the regular support from the trade with advertisements in local handbooks, and still do so. Individual members have always been assisted by the trade with clothing and other equipment and this practice is growing very quickly now with a lot of help being given to the young promising players - probably a spin off from the Lentec ranking scheme.

The total amount currently received by the E.T.T.A. from the trade in direct payments, advertising and equipment is about £40,000 per season, and this does not include any assistance to leagues and counties or to individual players.

Probably the most effective assistance given by the trade is the provision of good quality tables which are let out on permanent hire to member clubs by the E.T.T.A. The scheme was started by Jaques in 1968 and is currently being operated jointly by Jaques and Dunlop, though Halex and Stiga have participated for a few years in between. The scheme helps the E.T.T.A. to obtain an income of about £15,000 per season and ensures first class tables being available for even the smallest club.

Such assistance by the trade has been invaluable throughout our whole existence and it is vital that it should continue; there is just no substitute that would cover such a wide area. The E.T.T.A. is very grateful to our friends in the trade and expect all our members to give their whole-hearted support when they consider renewing their equipment, both their own and that of their club. If you want to be good, then you should look good.

THE VETERANS' SCENE

by Mike Watts

"What about the women?" is the cry following the publication of my article on Veterans that appeared in last month's magazine. Well, I can assure them that they have not been forgotten as the ranking list below, based on last season's County Championships results, show.

TOP 15

	Pts.
1. D. Schofield (Cheshire)	35
2. J. Coop (Dorset)	30
3. J. Hunt (Worcs.)	21
4. P. Butcher (Kent)	20
5. J. Gillan (Essex)	18
6. P. Hammond (Notts.)	15
7. N. Pemberton (Essex)	13
8. J. Bruton (Berks)	12
9. H. Cathcart (Essex)	12
10. J. Porter (Northants)	12
11. C. Moran (Lincs.)	10
12. M. Symes (Middx.)	10
13. S. Combes (Bucks)	9
14. M. Harris (Herts)	9
15. M. Hooker (Avon)	9

Of course, some of these ladies do enter Men's events in open tournaments and this will be covered from this season, doubling the points scored for the men.

The "Veterans Association"

I expected some interest but have been overwhelmed with the response and so far I have received over 100 replies from all over the country. Therefore, having looked at the Calendar of Events the most appropriate date for a meeting to be convened appears to be Sunday, **15th January, 1984.** At this meeting it is hoped the

Association will be inaugurated and dates agreed for the holding of an **Annual Veterans' Championships.** The first to be during either April or May 1984. The venue for this meeting will be the Crest Hotel, Hinckley Road, Walsgrave, Coventry, which is adjacent to the M.6/M.69/A.46 interchange (M.6 Junction 2) commencing at 2.30 p.m. All those who have expressed interest will receive individual invitations.

Veterans' Events

The following open tournaments have included Veterans as part of their

programmes:

5th November, 1983 - West Yorkshire 2 Star
6th November, 1983 - Woodfield 1 Star
12th/13th November, 1983 - Midland 3 Star
10th/11th December, 1983 - Middlesex 3 Star
7th January, 1984 - Pontefract 1 Star
11th/12th February, 1984 - Essex 3 Star
4th February, 1984 - Lancashire 2 Star
18th/19th February, 1984 - Kent 2 Star
11th March, 1984 - East of England 2 Star
17th/18th March, 1984 - South of England 3 Star
24th March, 1984 - Merseyside 2 Star
1st April, 1984 - Durham 2 Star
5th May, 1984 - Northumberland 2 Star

Results:

2 Open Tournaments have already been held. At the North of England 2 Star held at the Stretford Sports Centre on the 24th September, 1983, D. Schofield (Cheshire) maintained his great form last season within the event without dropping a game. In the final he beat G. Brook (Huddersfield) 21 - 17 21 - 16. The 48th Sussex Open, held at the White Rock Pavilion, Hastings, on the 8th/9th October, produced a surprise winner from a very strong field, Ray Murray of Essex beating his final opponent, Roy Norton of Hunts, who succumbed in two straight games.

SET POINT

Robert Oldfield, the E.T.T.A.'s Development Officer, has accepted the offer of new employment as 'Promotions Executive' for the Keep Britain Tidy Group (KBTG). Accordingly Robert has formally tendered his resignation with the intention of joining the KBTG on Monday, November 7th, 1983.

Fortunately it is Robert's intention to still serve the ETIA in a voluntary capacity.

We wish him well.



IT'S A BOY



Congratulations to Donald and Jill Parker (nee Hammersley) on the birth of a son, Adam, on October 14 at Lancaster Royal Infirmary. Baby Adam weighed in at 8½lbs. Jill, like Linda Jarvis before her, came through with colours flying. Pictured below Ben Jarvis at home in Guisborough, Cleveland.



SHERWOOD FORRESTERS

by Gerry Chapman

Nottingham and District TTA held its first ranking tournament in which there was keen competition especially among the twelve veterans who eventually sorted themselves out as follows:-

1 Alan Jesson	7 Stuart Annal
2 Mick Jennings	8 Gerry Chapman
3 John Ellis	9 Bill Poyser
4 Dave Stills	10 Dave Mitchell
5 Dave Pearson	11 Terry Baxter
6 Pat Shilcock	12 Dave Inkley

PREMIER DIVISION WEEKENDS

Senior Premier - November 26/27, 1983 (Referee - Geoff Taylor)

Venue - Birmingham Athletic Institute, Balsall Heath Road, Highgate, Birmingham B12 9DL

February 25/26, 1984

Venue - Walthamstow Y.M.C.A.

Junior Premier - December 17/18, 1983 (Referee - Mr. J. Jermy)

March 31/April 1, 1984

Venue - St. Neots Table Tennis Club, Riversmead, The Common, St. Neots, Cambs.

Jill Hammersley-Parker Table Tennis Foundation

Earlier this year I retired from International Table Tennis play and so for the past few months I have been able to observe the table tennis scene in a more dispassionate and objective way. I can now see what is required to develop the game for some of our leading young players. In short many more need international playing experience. The scheme I wish to present to you - modelled on a similar scheme pioneered in Sweden (the leading European table tennis country) - is one which needs your support.

In the World Championships in Tokyo recently in which England did so remarkably well - coming fourth in the men's team event and seventh in the women's team event - we soon realised that two young English players had arrived. 15 year-old Carl Prean and 16 year-old Lisa Bellinger suddenly produced a string of important victories. These were the two players who have had the opportunity of playing abroad in tournaments and the returns have been rich for English Table Tennis. However, what we clearly need is much greater depth of outstanding English players coming up with International experience from the junior ranks. More success will be good for England and good for the game. It will produce wider interest at the grass-roots. Quite simply we must begin to prepare now for the World Championships in Delhi in 1987 and the Olympic Games in Korea in 1988 when table tennis will be an Olympic Sport for the first time.

The costs are, of course, enormous and the English Table Tennis Association can only afford to pay for very few youngsters each year to gain the necessary experience in playing in the top events. Hence, I want to provide a way by which many more juniors can develop their

game in top tournament play. For this reason I am launching "The Jill Hammersley-Parker Table Tennis Foundation" to provide financial assistance to youngsters who will benefit from such a scheme. Clearly we have a long way to go to compete with Sweden but we need to get organised and ensure that as wide a range of players as possible gain international playing experience. In that way we will produce good teams in the future. The alternative is a bleak one. At best we will continue to produce one or two who are outstanding individual players but no English teams of serious merit.

I am very keen to put something back into the game which I have enjoyed as a player for so many years and this is one way I can see of helping. I am writing around to persons who will have the interests of the game at heart. I HOPE VERY MUCH YOU WILL ASSIST ME IN THIS EXCITING NEW VENTURE. The details of the scheme are shown overleaf. Please do not hesitate to contact me personally if you need any further information or if you feel that you can assist the scheme in additional ways.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely,
JILL HAMMERSLEY-PARKER, M.B.E.

DETAILS OF THE SCHEME

What do you have to do?

Please become a member of the Jill Hammersley-Parker Table Tennis Foundation (all contributions are welcome but £10 enables you to become a member) by writing a cheque to The Jill Hammersley-Parker Table Tennis Foundation, The Barn, Common Bank, Dolphinholme, Lancaster LA2 9AN.

What will happen to the money?

A panel of four persons will meet at least twice-yearly to decide how to allocate the money over the following six months. The panel will meet soon after the English Junior Closed in December and English Junior Open in May, but other meetings will be arranged as necessary. By normally attaching the additional players financed by the Foundation to the official parties of the E.T.T.A. we will be able to minimize the costs of sending officials to accompany juniors. The panel will consist of Jill Hammersley-Parker as Chairperson, Donald Parker (National Coach and the administrative link with the English selection committee) and two members nominated by members of the Foundation.

What are the benefits of contributing to the Scheme?

Naturally I hope that you will feel that contributing directly to the development of English table tennis in general and junior play in particular is a worthy cause. As well as writing to individual members, Table Tennis News will be the media by which the names and organisations of all members of the Foundation and the activities of the Foundation are made public. I am confident that table tennis players will tend to support those clearly identified as friends of table tennis in their own towns.

Accountability

Each September as a member you will get a financial statement an indication of the publicity received and most importantly, the range of players helped.

TO THE JILL HAMMERSLEY-PARKER TABLE TENNIS FOUNDATION
The Barn, Common Bank, Dolphinholme, Lancaster LA2 9AN.

FROM:

ADDRESS:

I enclose £10 to become a member.

Please tick (✓) if you require a receipt 0

BOOK REVIEW

by Ron Crayden

TOP-CLASS TABLE TENNIS
by Jill Hammersley M.B.E. and
Donald Parker

Publishers:-
E.P. Publishing Limited.

I have known Jill Hammersley for more than fifteen years and during that time have shared emotionally in many of her notable triumphs and disappointments. I was her first senior team captain and through the years she has become a personal friend. It is therefore with a certain amount of trepidation that I face the task of reviewing her first book. It is never easy to be totally unbiased when a friend is involved.

For the table tennis enthusiast this is a stimulating book, it interests and instructs at the same time. Strokes, tactics and techniques are analysed in detail and with the liberal use of photographs and drawings it is easy even for the tyro to follow. I particularly enjoyed the chapter on the Chinese scene although I did not wholeheartedly agree with the opinion expressed that the Chinese were moving away from their beloved Penholder grip. One of the major reasons of their amazing success story is that the Chinese not only experiment with but

promote all styles of play. It is an incontrovertible fact however, that the Penholders have been the most successful and since 1952 only four shake-hand grip players have won the Men's singles title. In Europe very few are encouraged to use the pen-grip but three who did, all won European and World titles. I thought it a pity that a chapter was not written on playing with and against this important style.

One of the illuminating features of the book is the forthright manner in which the co-authors have tackled the subject. Throughout they have written with authority and honesty. It is to be admired that Jill, who had such outstanding successes with a Combination bat can clearly see the detrimental affect it is having on the sport. Both she and Donald believe that standardisation is the only answer to making table tennis an attractive spectator sport again. As professional players Jill and Donald take a kindly but critical look at officialdom - their interest is not for personal gain but for the good of the sport which they both obviously love very dearly.

In closing I must add a note of criticism about the final editing, particularly with regard to the front cover. It has much visual appeal except for the fact that Jill is right handed and not a 'lefty' as shown.

TOP-CLASS TABLE TENNIS

Jill Hammersley & Donald Parker

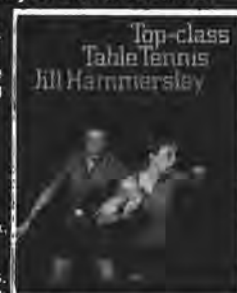
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NAME OMISSION

JOHN BOYD of 376 Old Bath Road, Cheltenham, Glos. GL53 9AD was the writer of the letter "A Connection between increased fees and declining numbers" in the October Postbag feature.

STOP PRESS.....

Derbyshire's Alan Cooke continued his winning ways by lifting the men's singles title in the Humberside 3-5 Star Open beating Skylet Andrew 13, - 19, 15 in the final after ousting top seed Karl Prean -1 6, 14, 16 in round 2.

Come back girl Carole Moore puts herself back into the reckoning by beating Karen Witt the top seed -18, 18, 22 in the final of the women's singles point.

A full report and detailed score will appear in the December issue.

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