



TABLE TENNIS NEWS

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ENGLISH TABLE
TENNIS ASSOCIATION

No. 147

December 1984

Price 60p



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ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT By THE EDITOR

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REMARKABLE MAN

No one is immortal and yet within a life span so much can be accomplished and indeed was by the late Hon. Ivor **Montagu**, Founder President of the International Table Tennis Federation and Hon. Vice-President of the English Table Tennis Association.

And yet table tennis was but a small part of the great man's activities which took in such diverse poles as film producing and **directing**, zoology and the written word.

A truly remarkable man to be sure and in the tributes paid elsewhere in this issue, by H. Roy Evans and Tom **Blunn**, we have all in varying degrees, benefited in some way from this arch administrator.

It was back in the early twenties. 1923-29, that Ivor took over the Chairmanship of the ETTA from Percy Bromfield with further spells in succession to Harold Bunbury and Corti Woodcock in 1932-33 and **1936-58**. Furthermore he became the Association's first President from 1927-31 and from 1958-66.

Sadly the era of obituaries in respect of pioneers, such as Ivor, is upon us. Nobody is irreplaceable, it is said, but those who become a legend in their own lifetime are but few. Ivor Montagu was one of those.

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Having successfully appealed against a decision of the ETTU to deduct 2 points from them because of an equipment rule violation, **SWEDEN's** 5-2 win over England in Stockholm on **Nov. 7**, means that they now have 3 points and head the Super Division of the European League from the still unbeaten defending champions - Czechoslovakia.

But what of the feats of England's Carl Preat in Stockholm with victories over the reigning European champion, Ulf Bengtsson, and Jan-Ove Waldner, the latter, in October, having scooped one of the most valuable prizes ever presented in table tennis when he won the Federal German Grand Prix . . . a **PORSCHE 924!**

Meantime away to Hungary in Salgotarjan. Czechoslovakia brought off their third successive 4-3 win when Jindrich Pansky beat Tibor Klampar and Zsolt Kriston; Marie Hrachova beat Edit Urban and Pansky/Vladislav Broda won the men's doubles.

Federal Germany too had cause to rejoice when, in Neustadt A. Aisch, they brought off a similar result against Poland whose Andrzej Grubba had two singles wins and a share of the mixed with Jolanta Szatko as against one each for Georg Bohm, Wilfried Lieck and Suzanne Wenzel and Bohm/Lieck in the men's doubles.

Yugoslavia after two successive reverses took the Netherlands apart in Cerknica on Nov. 14 winning 7-0, the upheld **appeal** of the Dutch, in similar fashion to the Swedes, availing them nought such being the sum total of their points after three engagements. Results and individual scores relating to the third series of matches were:-

Hungary 3 Czechoslovakia 4
Z. Kristan bt M. Broda 9. 17;
T. Klampar lost to J. Pansky 14. -19. -16;
E. Urban lost to M. Hrachova -18. -24;
Klampar/Kriston lost to V. Broda/Pansky -1 5. 15. -17;
Kriston/Urban bt Pansky/Hrachova 18. 14;
Kristan lost to Pansky -14. 16. -20;
Klampar bt M. Broda 11. 18.

Yugoslavia 7 Netherlands 0
O. Surbek bt R. v. Spanje 11. 13;
E. Mesaras bt H. v. Spanje 14. 8;
B. Batinic bt J. Jansma 12. 6;
I. Iupulescu/Surbek bt H. v. Spanje/A. Vlieg 15. 12;
Iupulescu/G. Perkuciu bt Vlieg/Jansma 19. 10;
Surbek bt H. v. Spanje -8. 8. 7;
Mesaras bt R. v. Spanje 17. 17.

Sweden 5 England 2
U. Bengtsson bt A. Cooke 17. -1 7. 18;
J-O. Waldner lost to C. Preat -13. -20;
M. Lindblad bt J. Grundy 16. -15. 22;
E. Lindth/Waldner bt Cooke/Preat -17. 17. 16;
Lindth/Lindblad bt Preat/L. Bellinger 17. 19;
Bengtsson lost to Preat 13. -18. -18;
Waldner bt Cooke 12. 16.

Federal Germany 4 Poland 3
G. Bohm lost to A. Grubba -16. -24;
W. Lieck bt P. Molenda 13. -21. 18;
S. Wenzel bt J. Szatko 16. 8;
Bohm/Lieck bt Grubba/Molenda 11. -15. 17;

Lieck/Wenzel lost to Grubba/Szatko -16. -11;
Bohm bt Molenda -17. 7. 20;
Lieck lost to Grubba 18. -14. 14.

SUPER DIVISION

| | P | W | L | F | A | P | T |
|----------------|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|
| SWEDEN | 3 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 6 | 3 | |
| Czechoslovakia | 3 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 9 | 3 | |
| F.A. Germany | 3 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 8 | 2 | |
| Yugoslavia | 3 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 9 | 1 | |
| Hungary | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 1 | |
| England | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 1 | |
| Poland | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 1 | |
| Netherlands | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 19 | 0 | |

December Fixtures

| | | |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Dec 12 | Poland | v Sweden (Iodz) |
| | England | v Czechoslovakia (Ipswich) |
| | Hungary | v Netherlands (Kaposvar) |
| | Federal Germany | v Yugoslavia (Gunzburg) |

FIRST DIVISION

In the first division Italy caught up with their outstanding fixture at home to Denmark in Verona, winning 5-2, and subsequently, in Isernia on Nov. 10, got home 4-3 against Finland thanks to a last set win for Massimo Costantini over Jarmo Jokinen.

Meantime Belgium won their third match out of four beating Spain 5-2 in Virton on Nov. 10, this after losing the first two sets when Roberto Casares beat Jean-Michel Saive and Jose-Maria Pales accounted for Didier Leroy. Both Denmark and Norway also brought off 5-2 wins to keep France alive to the opposition.

Results and scores:-

Italy 5 Denmark 2
M. Costantini lost to J. Harkamp -19. -17;
L. Nannoni bt C. Pedersen 15. -9. 19;
A. Busnardo bt S. Pedersen 5. 18;
G. Bisi/Costantini bt L. Hauth/Pedersen -17. 14. 17;
Costantini/M. Cergol bt Pedersen/C. Polk 17. 19;
Costantini lost to Pedersen -16. -13;
Nannoni bt Harkamp -20. 12. 19.

Belgium 5 Spain 2
J-M. Saive lost to R. Casares -19. -18;
O. Leroy lost to J-M. Pales -16. 21. -16;
K. Bogaerts bt A. Godes 15. -14. 8;
M. Lambotti/Saive bt I. Caymel/Pales 16. -16. 20;
Saive/Bogaerts bt Pales/Godes 18. -18. 17;
Saive bt Pales 19. -14. 18;
Leroy bt Casares 18. 19.

Denmark 5 Luxembourg 2
L. Hauth bt G. Stebens 13. 11;
J. Harkamp bt Y. Maas -21. 12. 16;
S. Pedersen lost to C. Risch -19. -19;
Hauth/K. Kartholm bt Maas/Stebens -10. 14. 16;
Harkamp/Pedersen lost to Maas/Risch -18. -19;
Hauth bt Maas 17. 14;
Harkamp bt Stebens 17. 17.

Italy 4 Finland 3
Bisi lost to J. Jokinen 15. -13. -12;
Constantini bt S. Soderberg -17. 14. 16;
Busnardo lost to S. Grefberg -16. -10;
Bisi/Constantini bt Jokinen/Soderberg -12. 18. 17;
Constantini/Cergol lost to Jokinen/Grefberg -11. -22;
Bisi bt Soderberg, g 21. 14;
Constantini bt Jokinen 17. 15.

Norway 5 Austria 2
T. Johansen bt E. Amplatz 12. -19. 13;
E. Rasmussen bt D. Palmi 20. 21;
T. Folkesson bt E. Maier 17. 16;
Johansen/Rasmussen bt Amplatz/P. Eckel 19. -19. 13;
Johansen/Folkesson lost to AIT. iatz/Maier -18. -17;
Johansen bt Palmi 19. 18;
Rasmussen lost to Amplatz 18. -20. -17.

DIVISION ONE

| | P | W | L | F | A | P | T |
|---------|---|---|---|----|----|---|---|
| FRANCE | 3 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 5 | 3 | |
| Belgium | 4 | 3 | 1 | 17 | 11 | 3 | |
| Denmark | 4 | 3 | 1 | 17 | 11 | 3 | |
| Norway | 4 | 3 | 1 | 16 | 12 | 3 | |
| Italy | 3 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 9 | 2 | |
| Finland | 4 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 11 | 2 | |



| | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|
| Luxembourg | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 15 | 0 |
| Spain | 3 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 17 | 0 |
| Austria | 4 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 0 |

December Fixtures

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| Austria | v Italy (Sitzenberg-Reidling) | 12/12) |
| Denmark | v Spain (Skive) | |
| France | v Belgium (Mandeville) | |
| Luxembourg | v Finland (28/11) | |
| Open date: Norway | | |

SECOND DIVISION

In the denuded second division following the withdrawal of both Ireland and Portugal, the only match played in November was that between Wales and Switzerland in Barry on Nov. 10 which resulted in a 6-1 Welsh win reported by Roy Evans in Welsh Corner. The Swiss are again called upon to travel in December when they travel to play Scotland on Dec. 15 at Bridge of Allan, Stirling. The table reads:-

| | P | W | L | F | A | P | T |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|
| BULGARIA | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 1 | |
| Wales | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 1 | |
| Greece | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 1 | |
| Scotland | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 0 | |
| Switzerland | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 0 | |

THIRD DIVISION

It is now hopeful that Iceland will stage a Division 3 round robin in Reykjavik during the period Feb. 15/17, 1985. Jersey have replied positively to the invitation and the Faroe Islands have expressed more than a passing interest. News is awaited from both Guernsey and Malta in the hope that a worthwhile competition can be run by Gunnar Johannsson who would be interested in contacts from other interested associations.

EURO-ASIA TOURNAMENT

It is disappointing to have had the invitation extended to England's Desmond Douglas turned down which means that the European teams participating in

International News

Hong Kong over the period Jan. 4/7, 1985 will have no English representation with Douglas now being replaced by Russia's Andrei Mazunov.

EURO JUNIOR TOP 12

Now ranked No. 1 Junior in Europe, England's **Carl Prean** has been invited to participate in the first Euro Junior Top 12 to be played in San Marino (Jan. 5/6, 1985). The invitees are:-

- Boys
- Carl Prean (ENG)
- Ilija Lupulescu (YUG)
- Thomas von Scheele (SWE)
- Vasile Florea (ROM)
- Zoran Primorac (YUG)
- Steffen Feitzner (FAG)
- Calin Toma (ROM)
- Didier Mommessin (FAA)
- Josef Bruan (TCH)
- Jean-Michel Saive (BEL)
- Milan Grman (TCH)
- Italian Representative

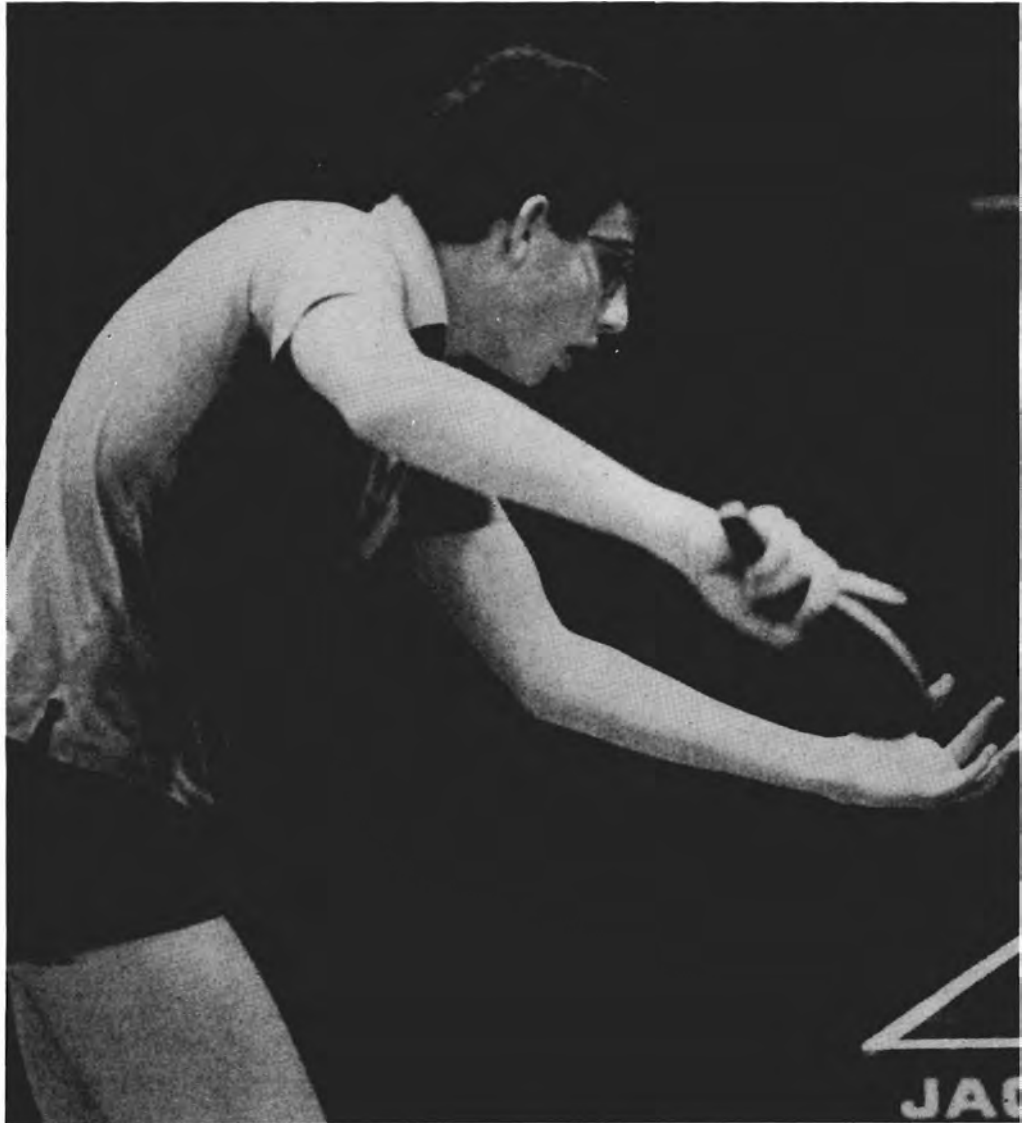
- Girls
- Olga Nemes (FRG)
- Csilla Batorfi (HUN)
- Ivana Masarikova (TCH)
- Marie Svensson (SWE)
- Renata Kasalova (TCH)
- Vesna Ojstersek (YUG)
- Elisabeth Maier (AUT)
- Flera Khasanova (VRS)
- Isabelle Delepine (FRA)
- Otilia Badescu (ROM)
- Kristina Nagy (HUN)
- Italian Representative

• Cadets

ETTU WOMEN'S GRAND PRIX

Three players are tied with 100 points in the Sports Promotion-sponsored Women's Grand Prix after the Dutch, Italian and Yugoslav Open championships. They are:- Branka Batinic (YUG), Valentina Popova (URS) and Bettine Vriesekoop (HOL).

In fourth place in Zsuzsa Olah (HUN) with 95 points followed by Marie Hrachova (TCH), with 75, and Olga Nemes (FRG) with 50. Gabriella Szabo (HUN) and Edit Urban (HUN) share seventh position each with 45 points.



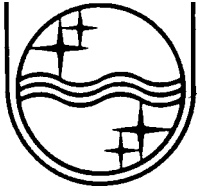
Carl Prean, a double winner in Stockholm against Ulf Bengtsson and Jan-Ove Waldner.



Desmond Douglas who says NO to an invitation to Hong Kong.

Photo by Tony Edenden, Barlestone, Nuneaton.

PHILIPS



PHILIPS 19th DUTCH OPEN

HOME WIN FOR BETTINE -AWAY SUCCESS FOR DES AND CARL

By George R. Yates

SPORTPALEIS
ahoy
ROTTERDAM



Bettine Vriesekoop, Holland's pride and joy, did her country proud when on Sunday, Oct 21, in front of 2,500 people, she won the women's singles title of the Philips Dutch Open with a final victory over Marie Hrachova of Czechoslovakia in the Sportpaleis Ahoy, Rotterdam.

It was a tremendous success for the Dutch girl, often plagued with ill health but on this occasion more than equal to the task of fending off the challenge strongly mounted by Brigitte Thiriet of France, in the quarters, and Zsuzsa Olah of Hungary, in the semis, both of whom took the champion to a fifth and deciding game.

But what of England's success in the men's doubles in which Desmond Douglas and Carl Preat recovered pride in sailing through with wins over Erick Amplatz and Franz Klaus of Austria, Ron van Spanje and Anne Vlieg of Holland, Georg Böhm and Wilfried Lieck of Federal Germany and, in the semis, Tibor Klampar and Zsolt Kriston of Hungary (4 and 13) before tipping the scales against Zhou Ping and Zhu Xiaoyong of China in the final. A truly tremendous performance.

So too was that of Leszek Kucharski in reaching the final of the men's singles and beating his higher-ranked compatriot Andrzej Grubba, the latter celebrating the birth of his first child, a son, to Lucyna, his wife, on Oct 18. Kucharski's run took him past Jos Verhulst of Holland, Sandor Varga of Hungary, Eric Boggan of the U.S.A., Böhm and Klampar.

Spreading the titles around, Gabriella Szabo and Edit Urban won the women's doubles for Hungary and Erik Lindh and Marie Lindblad of Sweden brought off the shock defeat of Grubba and Miss Vriesekoop in the mixed final. All this after Poland had won the "men's team event and China the women's, the latter being represented by a team from Shanghai but containing world-ranked Ni Xialiang who had scores of 6 and 2 (!) against European champion Valentina Popova of the Soviet Union in the last set of the team event final.

REJOICE

Graham Sandley also had cause to rejoice in the men's

team event for when England brought off that magnificent 3-0 win over the Soviet Union the Middlesex player accounted for the European Youth champion, Andrei Mazunov, whilst, again Poland, he beat the ultimate men's singles winner Kucharski!

It was an altogether different story in the men's singles event when Sandley was seen off 13, 13, -18, 15 by Sweden's Jurgen Persson, his companion in distress in the first round being Preat who was carted by Geirr Gustavsen of Norway." 3, -19, -17, 18!!

Alan Cooke, after beating Jaap van Spanje of Holland, took his departure in Rd. 2 beaten 14, 17 and 11 by Patrick Birocheau of France. This left Douglas to carry the fight which he did up to the quarters there to be seen off by Grubba in a repeat of his team event meeting.

If gold was to be our return for the men then also salute our three girls, Alison Gordon, Joy Grundy and Lisa Bellinger who succeeded in reaching the semi-final of the women's team event thus obtaining bronze with wins over Poland (3-0) and Austria (3-2). The crunch came at the hands of the Soviet Union whose Popova and Narine Antonian wasted little time in securing their victory.

In the singles Alison predictably lost to Ni Xialiang but scores of -20, -19, -19 give cause for commendation considering what the world's No. 7 ranked woman had done to the Russian champion.

Joy took the count in the first round when beaten 18, 14, 18 by Nadine Daviaud of France nor did Lisa do much better after a first round bye when faced by Edit Urban who won 17, 19, -24, 14.

In the women's doubles Alison and Joy, after winning their first game against Elisabeth Maier and Barbara Wiltsche, dozed off to give the Austrian pair a first round success. Lisa, however, paired with Katarzyna Calinska of Poland, had a first round win over the Dutch girls Ellen and Jose Bakker but subsequently lost to Antonian and Popova -1 7, -15.

NO JOY

No joy either in the mixed with Carl and Joy first round victims of Didier Leroy and Barbara Lippens of Belgium whilst, in Rd. 2, Des

and Alison played second fiddle to Patrick Renverse and Daviaud and Alan and Lisa, after a first round walk-over, lost to Henk van Spanje and Mirjam Kloppenburg.

Mazunov fell in the first round of the men's singles to that wily campaigner Wilfried Lieck, the Russian having to content himself with winning the consolation singles with a final victory over his compatriot Vladimir Dvorak who, in the semis had ousted Preat. Sandley, in the same event, was eliminated by the Dutchman Han Gootzen.

Austria's female combination of Maier and Wiltsche did well to beat Hrachova and Vriesekoop in the quarter-final of the women's doubles whilst Anne Vlieg and Jantien Jansma of Holland had an equally impressive win over Klampar and Urban in the mixed.

-All in all, it was a well conducted tournament and being the first of the Sport Billy Women's Grand Prix Bettine Vriesekoop picked up DM 1,000 with DM 500 going to Miss Hrachova. Outgoing, however, was a hefty fine imposed on the American, Eric Boggan, caught speeding in pursuit of his shorts left in his hotel room! Results:-

MEN'S TEAM

Round 1
Austria 3 Switzerland 0
Round 2
China 3 Austria 0
Netherlands 1 3 Yugoslavia 1
Poland 3 U.S.A. 1
England 3 U.S.S.R. 0
G. Sandley bt A. Mazunov 21-19, D. Douglas bt V. Dvorak 12, 18; Douglas/C. Preat bt Dvorak/Mazunov 11, 8.
Hungary 3 Belgium 0
France 3 Norway 1
Czechoslovakia 4 Federal Germany 2
Sweden 3 Netherlands II 0
Quarter-final
China 3 Netherlands I 0
Poland 3 England 1
A. Grubba bt Douglas 13, -19, 20; L. Kucharski lost to Sandley 11, -19, -17. Grubba/Kucharski bt Douglas/Preat 14, 18; Grubba bt Sandley 15, 15.
Hungary 3 France 0
Czechoslovakia 3 Sweden 1
Semi-final:
Poland 3 China 0
Kucharski bt Zhou Ping 13, -17, 19;
Grubba bt Zhu Xiaoyong 19, -17, 16;
Grubba/Kucharski bt Ping/Xiaoyong 12, 17.
Hungary 3 Czechoslovakia 0
T. Klampar bt M. Broda -14, 19, 13;
Z. Kriston bt V. Broda -15, 19, 19;
Klampar/Kriston bt Broda/Broda -14, 20, 27.
Final:
POLAND 3 Hungary 2
Grubba bt Klampar 10, 14; Kucharski lost to Kriston -20, 15, -19; Grubba/Kucharski bt Klampar/Kriston 15, 16; Kucharski lost to Klampar 15, -22, -20; Grubba bt Kriston 14, 10.

WOMEN'S TEAM

Round 1
Norway 3 Netherlands II 1
Round 2
China 3 Norway 0
Federal Germany 3 France 1
Hungary 3 Finland 1
Czechoslovakia 3 Belgium 0
England 3 Poland 0
L. Bellinger bt J. Szatko 11, 18; A. Gordon bt K. Calinska 20, 24; Gordon/J. Grundy bt E. Gracek/Szatko 15, 17.

Austria 3 Netherlands I 2
Yugoslavia 3 Sweden 2
U.S.S.R. 3 Switzerland 0
Quarter-final:
China 3 Federal Germany 0
Hungary 3 Czechoslovakia 2
England 3 Austria 2
Bellinger lost to E. Maier -14, -19; Gordon bt B. Wiltsche 15, 19; Gordon/Grundy lost to Maier/Wiltsche 17, -20, -15; Gordon bt Maier 16, 18; Bellinger bt Wiltsche 13, 10.
U.S.S.R. 3 Yugoslavia 0
Semi-final:
China 3 Hungary 1
Chen Shuping bt Z. Olah 10, 13;
Ni Xialiang bt G. Szabo 14, 8;
Shuping/Xialiang lost to Szabo/E. Urban -16, 13, -19;
Xialiang bt Olah 5, 6.
U.S.S.R. 3 England 0
V. Popova bt Grundy 13, 12; Antonian bt Gordon 16, 16; Antonian/Popova bt Gordon/Grundy 8, 19.
Final:
CHINA 3 U.S.S.R. 1
Shuping lost to Popova -11, -15; Xialiang bt Antonian 14, 8; Shuping/Xialiang bt Antonian/Popova -16, 16, 22; Xialiang bt Popova 6, 2.

MEN'S SINGLES

Round 3
G. Böhm (FRG) bt F. Farout (FRA) 12, 17, 11;
L. Kucharski (POL) bt E. Boggan (USA) 16, -16, 20, 18;
T. Klampar (HUN) bt Zhu Xiaoyong (CHN) 12, 14, 15;
J. Secretin (FRA) bt J. Persson (SWE) -12, -12, 17, 17, 14;
E. Lindh (SWE) bt Z. Kriston (HUN) -13, 12, 12, 13;
P. Birocheau (FRA) bt Zhou Ping (CHN) 13, -19, 12, -19, 16;
D. Douglas (ENG) bt P. Renverse (FRA) 15, -21, 7, 20;
A. Grubba (POL) bt M. Grman (TCH) -11, 9, 18, 13.
Quarter-final:
Kucharski bt Böhm -20, 14, -19, 13, 14;
Klampar bt Secretin -13, 18, -13, 18, 19;
Lindh bt Birocheau 13, 14, 15;
Grubba bt Douglas 14, -16, *16, 13.
Semi-final:
Kucharski bt Klampar 9, 18, -20, 18;
Grubba bt Lindh -15, -18, 14, 6, 20.
Final:
KUCHARSKI bt Grubba 18, -16, 15, 19.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Round 3
Ni Xialiang (CHN) bt S. Grefberg (FIN) 6, 11, 9;
M. Lindblad (SWE) bt N. Antonian (URS) 21, -13, 20, 18;
G. Szabo (HUN) bt I. Kovalenko (URS) 9, 21, -17, 14;
M. Hrachova (TCH) bt M. Kloppenburg (HaL) 14, -18, 14, 8;
B. Vriesekoop (HaL) bt B. Thiriet (FRA) -17, 15, 10, -18, 19;
Z. Olah (HUN) bt B. Lippens (BEL) 10, 20, -20, 18;
E. Urban (HUN) bt Chen Shuping (CHN) 14, -19, 16, 18;
V. Popova (URS) bt M. Reflak (YUG) 12, 6, 10.
Quarter-final:
Ni Xialiang walk-over Lindblad (injured);
Hrachova bt Szabo 7, 6, 9;
Vriesekoop bt Olah -18, 8, -13, 18, 14;
Popova bt Urban 15, 18, 7.
Semi-final:
Hrachova bt Ni Xialiang 17, 15, -10, 17;
Vriesekoop bt Popova 19, 19, 19.
Final:
VRIESEKOOP bt Hrachova 14, 17, -18, 15.

MEN'S DOUBLES

Quarter-final:
Lindh/Persson bt V. Dvorak/A. Mazunov (URS) -21, 11, 17;
Zhou Ping/Zhu Xiaoyong bt S. Dryszel (POL)/Kucharski 18, 17;
Klampar/Kriston bt Grubba/P. Molenda (POL) -10, 18, 23;
Douglas/C. Preat (ENG) bt Bohm/W. Lieck (FRG) -11, 18, 21.
Semi-final:
Zhou Ping/Zhu Xiaoyong bt Lindh/Persson -19, 13, 13;
Douglas/Preat bt Klampar/Kriston 4, 13.
Final:
DOUGLAS/PREAT bt Zhou Ping/Zhu Xiaoyong 21, 19.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Quarter-final:
Antonian/Popova bt M. Freiberg/A. Olschewski (FRG) 13, 11;
Chen Shuping/Ni Xialiang bt N. Daviaud/M. Montoux (FRA) 13, 16;
Szabo/Urban bt A. Ojstersek (YUG)/Refflak 12, 19;
E. Maier/B. Wiltsche (AUT) bt Hrachova/Vriese-

John Prean - European Championships

koop 19, 19.
Semi-final:
Chen Shuping/Ni Xialiang bt Antonian/Popova -18,12,13;
Szabo/Urban bt Maier/Wiltsche -20, 18, 8.
Final:
SZABO/URBAN btChen Shuping/Ni Xialiang 14, -12,13.

MIXED DOUBLES

Quarter-final:
Grubba/Vriesekoop bt Secretin/Thiriet 22, 17;

Dvorak/Antonian bt *RenverselDaviaud* 21, -14, 12;
Kucharski/J. Szatko (POL) bt Bohm/Olschewski 15, -14,18;
lindh/lindblad bt Mazunov/Popova 11, -22, 10.
Semi-final:
Grubba/Vriesekoop bt Dvorak/Antonian -20, 14, 14;
Lindh/lindblad bt Kucharski/Szatko 13, 19.
Final:
L1NDHILINDBLAD bt Grubba/Vriesekoop 23

-19,16.
Men's Consolation Singles:
Quarter-final:
Mazunov bt E. Amplatz (AUT) 12, 13;
P. Haldan (HOL) bt H. Gootzen (HOI) 13, 19;
Dvorak bt J. v. Spanje (HOI) 15, 13;
Prean bt I. Kovac (YUG) 14, 16.
Semi-final:
Mazunov bt Haldan 12, 13; Dvorak bt Prean 15, 18.
Final: Mazunov bt Dvorak -18, 16, 15.

WOMEN'S CONSOLATION SINGLES

Quarter-final:
C. Witte (SUI) w.o. J. Grundy (ENG) scr;
E. Gracek (POL) bt K. Hagen (NOR) 18, 9;
Ojstersek bt B. Hirzel (SUI) 17, 15;
Wiltsche bt E. Noor (HOI) 19, 9.
Semi-final:
Gracek bt Witte 20, -1 8, 16; Ojstersek bt Wiltsche 21, -17, 13.
Final: Gracek bt Ojstersek 17, 13.

The Charge of the Light Brigade

John Prean's Analysis of the European Championships (Part 2)

Only 11 months separated Tokyo from Moscow. In the former, the World Championships, our men gained the Bronze, in the latter, the European Championships, it was a wooden spoon. We were 4th in the world in Tokyo, 12th in Europe and relegated into Category II in Moscow. It was by any standards a fiasco of the first magnitude - for all of us, for the top layers of the Sport and for the local leagues that are losing members. We need the publicity that good results bring. We need new members to replace the ones we have lost over the years.

I have refrained till now from comment on the English disaster, because I wanted time to pass to look at everything after a period during which I could think about everything I had heard and talked about.

UNLUCKY DRAW- BAD START

Denis Compton once said that you make your own luck, but he found out that he was wrong as a knee injury turned a battling genius into a struggling player. You need luck in Sport and in Moscow our players did not have it. It was assumed that we could fill one of the top places in our group and advance to the semi-finals. Sweden would probably be too good, but Hungary and France, with players who had seen better days, were surely beatable.

The first day saw defeat not only against Sweden, but against Hungary. Earlier hopes sank like lead in one day. We would, so we thought, have to settle for the 'play-offs for Places 5 to 8. Bulgaria was defeated with immense difficulty after which defeat against France no longer surprised.

SHELL-SHOCKED

Still defeat against Norway was not considered. The countries had always been poles apart. What was overlooked was that the young troops were shell-shocked and liable to lose to anybody. Graham Sandley was injured and destined to take no further part. There were 3 aces in the pack in the shape of Desmond Douglas and the Norwegian No. 3 had lost every set.

THE NORWEGIAN DISASTER

Since no one thought of defeat, insufficient thought was given to the playing order. Douglas, who had played well so far, sensationally lost to Norway's No.1, Rasmussen. After that Fate struck hard and one from Douglas and one from Prean was all we got as we crashed to a 5-2 defeat, leaving Douglas' set against the Norwegian No.2 and Cooke's against the winless No. 3 unplayed. Surely these were matches we would have won. A 5-4 defeat would have left us playing Italy in our relegation encounter. All the evidence pointed to a possible win as we managed 3 without Douglas (losing the match 5-3). WITH Douglas victory seemed inevitable. As we came bottom in our Group, the cross-over match was against Germany. 3 from Douglas was all we could expect and so lost 5-3 and were relegated.

DID THE PREPARATION GO WRONG?

How could everything go so completely sour? Did the team arrive in Moscow in peak condition? I entertain considerable doubts. Only one day was allowed to recover from a 4 hour plane journey and a three hour time difference which is, of course, laughably little. It was forgotten amidst the euphoria of Tokyo that in the earlier Commonwealth Championships, part of the same tour, England had had a thoroughly bad time, failing to win a single Gold. Again only a single day was allowed to recover from a time difference of 6 hours and a plane journey of more than 20!

In Tokyo, by way of contrast, the teams had three days to acclimatise and the results reflected this. Yet the lessons were never learned.

Little separates winning and losing players at this level. Therefore, 'as Don Parker has often said, preparation will make all the difference. It is elementary that in a contest of equals the tired, jet-lagged player will not only lose, but lose badly, I felt too that three training camps, one after the other, with much of

the intervening time spent travelling to and fro, was in the end too much of a good thing.

VICTORY OR PETTY CASH?

Clearly our scheduling owes less to players' needs than the desire to keep costs down. The later you arrive, for instance, the lower your costs. Nevertheless I suggest that this is money that has to be found. To send players into battle jet-lagged and tired cannot be right and this has happened over and over again. The conclusion that this must stop is inescapable, but it has not. If the remedy means fewer foreign events, but to enter them better prepared, so be it.

SUCCESS OR FOREIGN GOODIES?

Our record in foreign Opens has for some time been dismal. Nobody took much notice. These events were looked on as little goodies to be shared among as many as possible by kindly Selector uncles. To win something seemed the last thing on anybody's mind. No one lost sleep over uniformly awful results. Often the same players were picked again next time. Losing had become a habit, almost a friend.

THE COMBINATION BAT

I make no apologies for this headline as our old friend or villain, the 'funny' bat, plays a starring role in this post mortem. Readers, sick of this topic, may turn to the next section. In Tokyo 'The Toast of the Town', certainly of England, were the 15-16-year-olds Lisa Bellinger and Carl Prean. The latter bagged some 19 scalps, many of world renown, three of whom were to reach the semi-finals in Moscow only 11 months later. In Moscow he was not the same player. England's was not the same team. In Tokyo Hilton had produced vital victories. He did not make the trip to Moscow. Duggie Johnson earlier had beaten players like Appelgren, Orlovski, Secretin and Gergely, all of them former European Champions. He was now in semi-retirement. In their place we had young, inexperienced players, short of international victories.

It is not the purpose of these notes to discuss the wisdom or otherwise of the new colour rule which seems to have destroyed

the combination bat player except as an occasional defensive eccentric. For England this has been devastating.

ECCENTRICS AND MINORITIES

This has long been a country in which eccentrics and minorities could prosper and help make life more interesting than in more rigid conformist societies. It was no coincidence that Hilton was an Englishman and that he could win the European Title in an entirely original and therefore unusual way. This encouraged English players to take up eccentric rubbers and combinations to defeat the state robots of other lands who have much greater resources behind them. All this has now ended - except in local leagues where they have more sense than to wish to ruin their friends' game. For England the rule change was an unmitigated calamity as the statistics show. We start again - an arms race in which we have surrendered our best weapons, a battle in which the foe is better equipped.

WAS THE RIGHT TEAM SELECTED?

I have read with interest the correspondence on this subject and, with hindsight, the short answer is 'NO'. It is unprofitable and now pointless to select an alternative team. I had a feeling of doom akin to that probably felt by the earlier Light Brigade. No team would have come away with very much. I have already shown that relegation could and should have been avoided. The preparation, rather than the selection ensured another doomed 'Charge of the Light Brigade'.

THE RAT-RACE

We must pose the question whether the English Calendar as we know it in its unaltering, unchanging way is a help or a hindrance in producing a strong National Team. There is a bewildering succession of events, week-end after week-end, a rat race from which players are afraid to rest even for a moment for fear of losing those magic computer points, recognition and perhaps selection. One asks in vain when they have time to rest, to improve their skills, since no one gets better by driving up and down the motorways. It is a schedule that is too much for full-time

players as the Moscow performances so clearly show. For part-timers it is even more absurd and must undermine what they do the rest of the week, work and play. The tournament circuit seems made up mainly of the same hundred or so addicts. Few stay around long. In our Clubroom is an old TSP Calendar (for the Year of 1982). 15 players are in the picture, representing the England Squad of the day. Only 7 of the 15 are still around. Of those seven 3 play abroad. All the 8 who retired or disappeared were in their early twenties. This cannot be right. So, whilst we ask our players to play better, let us make the Sport better or at least more sensible.

PLAYERS IN THE POVERTY TRAP

In the end players will achieve as much or as little as we put behind them. It is a lot to expect a player to feel 10 feet tall if his allowance is less than he would get on the dole - and many get nothing. Defeats abroad are almost guaranteed by incompetent, unthinking scheduling at home. If we support the players, they will respond. Support means the elimination of anything that stands in the way of their progress. We have not even started on that road. As soon as a player has a little success, forces gather, anxious to knock him down again. Players sense this and we

are breeding a new type more inclined to timidity than courage. That too has played its part in our decline. There is no sport that treats its best players so badly, almost as if to take it out on them that they play better than we do. That is why sometimes players blow up. The frustration of months and years is seen for a few moments. We are then surprised, there are confrontations, disciplinary actions and animosity. It would all happen less often if the Sport itself were better.

for so long. The Establishment should not be denied full credit for the appointment of Don Parker as England Captain. Now let them get behind him. The National Council has decreed that a strong England Team is now a top priority. This is good sense and good business. There is no other way the Sport will Ret media and TV exposure which alone will bring back all those lost members. The fight is on - for the future of Table Tennis. Moscow need be no more than a setback, Tokyo only a beginning.

ALL IS NOT LOST

Having done so much wrong

Next issue: Are, things getting better?

The National Scene

By Donald Parker, National Trainer

PREPARATION

For any team or individual to play to their full potential it is vital that they are well prepared. This means arriving at the venue with sufficient time to adjust to the journey and as far as International duty is concerned to adjust to any time difference. Also it is important to have had good quality practise prior to the event as well as a good knock at the venue itself to accustomise to the conditions. One of the problems for the England team is that often a day is spent in travelling to a London Hotel and the following day travelling to a foreign venue often arriving fairly late in the evening. Consequently the players have to play the next morning having not fully recovered from the journey, having not had a good knock at the venue and not having practised for two days.

For the Dutch Open last month, the team met at an airport hotel at lunch time and spent the afternoon practising at the Ashford Table Tennis Club. The facilities were ideal and the

players had an excellent afternoon's practise and were very grateful to the club members who allowed such a session to take place. The flight from Heathrow was direct to the host town, Rotterdam, and hence the players arrived in time for a good practise at the actual venue. As a result of this preparation I was confident the players could realise their full potential in the first matches as it is in these matches more so than any other that this type of preparation is vital. Indeed this was the case with the men having a very good victory over Russia 3-0 and the women beating Poland 3-0. Clearly this type of preparation is not possible for all players all the time in domestic and International events for a variety of reasons. However, to realise your full potential you must aim as near as possible to the guide lines above.

TECHNICAL

During the Dutch Open itself, it was interesting to observe any technical developments since Moscow. Basically I felt that the topspin players were playing the

same type of game but striving to keep closer to the table more often and take the ball early. For this particular topspin stroke, both the backhand and forehand techniques of the English players have improved. The length of the stroke is short using mainly the elbow and wrist and hitting almost the top of the ball. To create an opening for this stroke the long fast serve is used frequently and indeed the long fast attacking push receipt of serve is used more often than in previous years. It is important to stress that players should not try to take every ball early but should have the ability to produce the stroke because if it is played well, it is a very effective point winner. It was also interesting to note that well over fifty per cent of the leading European male topspin players used "BICYCLE GLUE".

The Dutch Association had a squad of video men, six in all, who were filming throughout the tournament. It is very important in my opinion to use video equipment as there are several benefits. Players can assess their own performance both technically and tactically, opponents can be analysed prior to a match and of course, coaches will have the opportunity to watch their

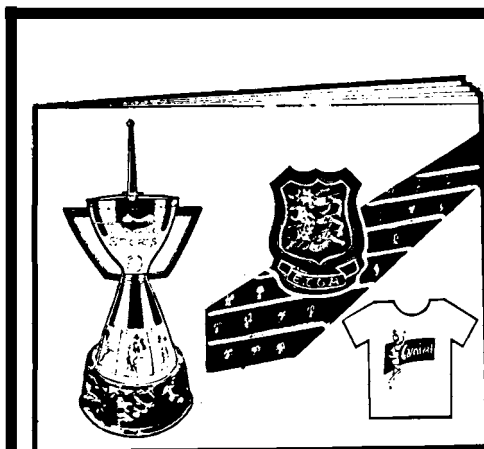
players competing abroad. We are now in the process of buying our own portable video and this no doubt will be a great asset in the future.

GENERAL COMMENTS

I would like to stress at this point, that any coaches are welcome to attend training camps in an observational capacity at virtually any time. Hopefully this column helps with the inevitable communication problems; however, there is no substitute for seeing the players in training themselves and being able to discuss the situation with the coaches running the camp. About a dozen coaches came on the last camp at Lilleshall and I am sure they all had an enjoyable and informative time. The remaining training camps are at Lilleshall except where indicated and the dates are below:

- December 17-21 (Junior Camp at Lancaster)
- January 7-11
- January 28-February 1
- February 25-March 1
- March 11-16 (Isle of Man)
- July 1-6.

Should you wish to attend any of the above training camps please do not hesitate to contact me (0524-791 866) and arrangements will be made.



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11th ITALIAN OPEN HARD TIMES IN VENICE

Venice proved to be a most unpopular venue for Nicky Jarvis and his quartet of English players especially the travel, by train from Milan, and subsequently between the hotel and the hall, the Pala Sport Dell Arsenale.

But in spite of it all, the results achieved were highly commendable, over the period Nov. 1/4, with both the men's and women's team events yielding semi-final places.

That we lost in both does not detract from wins over Poland (3-2) and Denmark (3-1) by the men and over Belgium (3-0) and Switzerland (3-1) by the women. The players responsible were Alan Cooke, David Wells, Lisa Bellinger and Fiona Elliot.

Against Poland in the men's event Cooke had wins over Andrzej Jakubowicz and Stefan Dryszel with Wells also accounting for the latter, the doubles being the only set lost.

Cooke was again to the fore against Denmark with wins over Claus Pedersen and Jan Harkamp, after Wells had gone down to Pedersen in the opening set. On this occasion the doubles was won. Up against the Soviets in the semi, however, it was quite a different story with Andrei Mazunov and Igor Podnosov proving far too strong.

Lisa and Fiona had no trouble whatsoever against both Kristian Van Camp and Nathalie Hiquet of Belgium and Beatrice Witte and Brigitte Hirzel of Switzerland but, up against the Chinese in the semis it was the old, old story.

Wells was our most successful player in the singles events with wins over Massimo Constantini (ITA) and Steffen Fetzner (FRG) before losing to the reigning European champion, Ulf Bengtsson of Sweden. Cooke bowed the knee to Patrick Renverse of France, Lisa to Jim Mi Jung (KOR) and Fiona to Weronika Stellmach of Poland.

One win of note, in the women's doubles, was that achieved by Lisa and Fiona over the European Youth champion, Elena Kovtun (URS) and Witte

(SUI) but Cooke and Wells ran out of steam against the Danes, Pedersen and Lars Hauth, in the counterpart men's event.

In the mixed Alan and Lisa fell to Jorgen Persson (SWE) and Kim Sook (KOR) whilst Dave and Fiona did no better against Renverse and Muriel Monteux of France.

Apart from the men's doubles, won by Jonny Akesson and Persson of Sweden, the six other titles went to players from the People's Republic of China - a somewhat repetitive occurrence it would seem! Results:-

Men's Team: Semi-finals:
U.S.S.R. 3 England 0
Podnosov bt Cooke -1 5. 9. 19; Mazunov bl Wells 15. 13;
Podnosov/Shevchenko hi Cooke/Wells 13. 15.

China 3 Hungary 1
Jiang Jialiang bt Gergely 14. 18; Cai Zhenhua bl Kristan 14. 17; Cai Zhenhua/Jiang Jialiang lost to Gergely/Kristan -11, -18; Jiang Jialiang bl Kristan 15. 15.

Final:
CHINA 3 U.S.S.R. 1
Jiang Jialiang hi Podnosov -19. 4. 20; He Zhiwen hi Mazunov 19. 22; Cai Zhenhua/Jiang Jialiang lost to Podnosov/Shevchenko 8. -17, -14; Jiang Jialiang bl Mazunov 15. 12.

Women's Team: Semi-finals:
China 3 England 0
Qi Baoxiang ht Bellinger 11. 5; Chen Uli ht Elliot 15. 20; Qi Baoxiang/XuJing bt Bellinger/Elliot 16. 16.
U.S.S.R. 3 Yugoslavia 0
Bulatova bt Batinic 6, -19. 14; Zakharian bt

Perkucin -15. 19. 11; Bulatova/Zakharian bt Batinic/Perkucin 14, 21.

Final:
CHINA 3 U.S.S.R. 0
Chen Lili bt Bulatova -16, 13. 15; Qi Baoxiang bt Kovtun 5. 8; Qi Baoxiang/Xu Jing bt Kovtun/Zakharian 2. 11.

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
A. Mazunov (URS) bt T. Roskopf (FRG) -18. 17. 16;
He Zhiwen (CHN) bl I. Podnosov (URS) 20. 17. 8;
Hui Jun (CHN) bt U. Bengtsson (SWE) 11. 16. 19;
Jiang Jialiang (CHN) bl J. Persson (SWE) -14. -17. 13. 14. 16.

Semi-finals:
He Zhiwen bt Mazunov 15. 14, 18; Jiang Jialiang bt Hui Jun 14, -19. 18. 12.
Final: HE ZHIWEN bt Jiang Jialiang 17. 17. 17.

Women's Singles: Quarter-finals:
Qi Baoxiang (CHN) bt A. Zakharian (URS) 9. 11. 7;
Z. Olah (HUN) bt Zou Zhenghua (CHN) 9. -1 5. -17. 16. 18;

O. Nemes (FRG) bt Chen Lili (CHN) 10. 14. 13;
Xu Jing (CHN) bt F. Bulatova (URS) 13. 15. 8.
Semi-finals:
Qi Baoxiang bt Olah 18, 12. 17; Xu Jing bt Nemes 20. 18. -19. -19. 18.
Final: QI BAOXIANG bt Xu Jing 14. 15. -18. 15.

Men's Doubles: Semi-final:
Cai Zhenhua/Jiang Jialiang bt S. Kovac/I. Lupulescu 14, 16;
J. Akesson/J. Persson (SWE) bt He Zhiwen/Hui Jun 15, 16.
Final: AKESSON/PERSSON t Cai Zhenhua/Jiang Jialiang 15. 15.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
Qi Baoxiang/Xu Jing bt C. Batorfi (HUN)/Olah 15. 8;
G. Szabo/E. Urban (HUN) bt Kim Soak/Lee Mi Woo (KOR) -16. 20. 14.
Final: QI BAOXIANG/XU JING bt Szabo/Urban 17. 19.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
Cai Zhenhua/Oi Baoxiang bt G. Gergely (HUN)/Urban 15. -19, 17;
He Zhiwen/Zou Zhenghua (CHN) bt J. Takacs (HUN)/Olah 21. 20.
Final: CAI ZHENHUA/OI BAOXIANG bt He Zhiwen/Zou Zhenghua 14. 12.

26th YUGOSLAV OPEN

BATTLING BRANKA

MINI SPENT '84 was the title afforded the 26th Yugoslav Open, played in Ljubljana's Hala Tivoli over the period Nov. 15/18 which again proved the graveyard for European hopes with the exception of the women's singles won, in splendid style, by the host association's Branka Batinic.

The championships were otherwise dominated by the Chinese who claimed six of the seven titles at stake with Jiang Jialiang beating Jorgen Persson of Sweden in the men's singles final.

Set of the championships was the semi-final meeting of Batinic and Valentina Popova of the Soviet Union with the Yugoslav girl endearing herself to the home crowd - just as did Bettine Vriesekoop in Rotterdam - by beating the reigning European champion.

The set went the distance of five games but Branka, aged 26 and ranked No. 7 in Europe, triumphed 19 in the fifth of a truly pulsating struggle. And it was triumph yet again for the home player in the final against Oi Baoxiang, China's world-ranked No. 6.

England had four players in the fray but in the singles events

it was a disaster for both Desmond Douglas and Carl Prean, the former losing to the 6th-ranked Pole, Piotr Molenda, while Prean was taken out by Francis Sule of Nigeria.

Nor did our two girls do any better, Alison Gordon losing to Kamilla Bjork of Sweden and Joy Grundy to Maria Alboiu of Rumania. And, in the team events, Douglas and Prean lost 3-2 to Federal Germany and the girls were beaten 3-1 by France, both on their first excursion to the tables.

Against Federal Germany in the men's team event Douglas got us off to the best of starts with a 13, 14 win over Peter Stellweg which was countered by Georg Böhm who beat Prean 10 and 19. The lead was restored in the doubles only for Böhm to again equate the scoreline by beating Douglas -19, 16, 8 and the match was lost when Prean went down fighting beaten -20, 23, -16 by Stellweg.

England's women, in receipt of a first round bye, lost 3-1 to France, our only success coming in the doubles when Alison and Joy beat Patricia Germain and Nadine Daviaud 16, -15, 13. Alison lost both her singles to these two players with Joy also a

loser against Daviaud.

In the men's doubles, Prean, paired with Didier Mommessin of France, fell to Dejan Kucin and Anton Stipanovic of Yugoslavia, whilst Douglas, partnered by Poland's Leszek Kucharski - it should have been Grubba - lost to He Zhiwen and Hui Jun of China. Alison and Joy fared no better losing out to Csilla Batorfi and Zsuzsa Olah of Hungary.

Both English pairs, in the mixed, reached the third round, Dex and Alison losing to Ilija Lupulescu and Gordana Perkucin and Carl and Joy to Dragutin Surbek and Batinic, Yugoslav combines both. Results:-

Men's Team: Semi-finals:
China 3 Yugoslavia 0
Jiang Jialiang bt Surbek 12, 17; He Zhiwen bt Lupulescu -13, 18, 11; Cai Zhenhua/Jiang Jialiang bl Lupulescu/Surbek 16, 16.

Sweden 3 U.S.S.R. 0
Appelgren bt Podnosov 13. -15, 9; Lindh bt Mazunov 17. 17; Appelgren/Carlsson bt Maxunov/Podnosov 19. 14.

Final:
CHINA 3 Sweden 1
He Zhiwen bt Appelgren 16, 21; Jiang Jialiang bt Lindh 13, 18; Cai Zhenhua/Jiang Jialiang lost to Appelgren/Carlsson -18. -18; Jiang Jialiang bt Appelgren 13. 19.

Women's Team: Semi-finals:
China 3 U.S.S.R. 1
XuJing lost to Popova -21. 14. -16; Oi Baoxiang bt Antonian 19, -21, 12; Oi Baoxiang/Xu Jing bt Antonian/Popova 15. 21; OJ Baoxiang bt Popova -18. 10. 23.
Korea PR 3 Yugoslavia 1
Han Hye Song bt Perkucin 12. 12; Kim Gyong Sun bt Batinic 18. 13; Han/Kim lost to Batinic/Perkucin

-21. -18; Han Hye Song bt Batinic -25. 20. 18.
Final:
CHINA 3 Korea PR 0
Chen Lili bt Pak Song Hyang 15. 14; Oi Baoxiang bt Kim Gyong Sun 7. 13; Oi Baoxiang/Xu Jing bt Han Hye Song/Kim Gyong Sun 15. 7.

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
J. Persson (SWE) bt T. Klampar (HUN) 19. -15. -16. 20. 15;
J.-O. Waldne, (SWE) bt H. v. Spanje (HOL) 16. 14. -20. -16, 11;
He Zhiwen (CHN) ht M. Appelgren (SWE) 16, 13, 22;
Jiang Jialiang (CHN) bt T. von Scheele (SWE) 15, 11. 11.
Semi-finals:
Persson bt Waldner -19. 9. 21. -13, 9;
Jiang Jialiang ht He Zhiwen -1 7. 12. 21. 19.
Final: JIANG JIALIANG bt Persson 19. 16. 22.

Women's Singl. : Quarter-finals:
Oi Baoxiang (CHN) bt D. Guerguelcheva (BUL) 10. 16. 12;
Pak Song Hyang (KOR) bt A. Pelikanova (TCH) 13. -9. 16. 15;
B. Batinic (YUG) bt XuJing (CHN) -20. -20. 17. 18. 12;
V. Popova (URS) bt Chen Lili (CHN) 10. 19. -16. -10. 15.
Semi-finals:
Oi Baoxiang bt Pak Song Hyang 20, 13. -17, 17; Batinic ht Popova -17. 19. 17, -19, 19.
Final: BATINIC bt Oi Baoxiang -16. 13. 23. -12, 18.

Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
J. Akesson (SWE)/Persson bt E. Lindh (SWE)/Waldner 17. 20;
Cai Zhenhua/Jiang Jialiang bt P. Birocheau/B. Parietti (FRA) 12. 13.
Final: CAI ZHENHUA/JIANG JIALIANG bt Akesson/Persson 15. 15.

Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
Oi Baoxiang/XuJing ht Guerguelcheva/V. Ojstersek (YUG) 15. 15;
N. Antonian (URS)/Popova bt I. Bolvari/K. Bolvari (HUN) 16. 12.
Final: OI BAOXIANG/XU JUNG bt Antonian/Popova 9. 15.

Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals:
Cai Zhenhua/Oi Baoxiang bt Hui Jun/Xu Jing 19. 16;
I. Lupulescu/G. Perkucin (YUG) bt He Zhiwen/Zou Zhenghua (CHN) 12. -21. 20.
Final: CAI ZHENHUA/OI BAOXIANG bt lupulescu/Perkucin -18, 16. 12.

IRISH AFFAIRS

South County Dublin Open

by Tony Martin



In the absence of Calum Slevin, now contracted to the Federal German Bundesliga, 18-years-old Aidan Walsh won his first senior title beating Jimmy Hamill in the South County Dublin Open played over the period Oct. 4/6. Anne Leonard who is also playing in Germany, but home on holiday, consolidated her No. 1 position with an easy win over Mary McMullen of Ulster in the women's singles final. Anne went on to complete a hat-trick when she also won the women's doubles, with Mary Sheehan, and the mixed with Alan Slevin.

Results:-

MS: A. Walsh bl J. Hammill 22. 19.
 WS: A. Leonard bl M. McMullen 11. 8.
 MO: Jim Canavan/Roger Strong bl Anthony Redmond/Walsh 15. 14.

WO: Leonard/Sheehan bl Anna Kelly/Marie Martin 13. 13.
 XO: Slevin/Leonard bl Jimmy Robinson/Nora McEvoy 20. 18.

IRISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION
 CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1985

| Oete | Event | Venue |
|----------|---|---------------|
| January | | |
| 5 | All Ireland Team Tournament | Malahide |
| 11-12 | Munster Open | Cork |
| 26 | Co. Armagh Open | Craigobon |
| 26-27 | Leinster Junior Close | Dalkey |
| February | | |
| 1-2 | Lucozade Open | Bray |
| 8-9 | Connaught Junior Open | Galway |
| 9 | Ulster Close | Belfast |
| 16 | Ulster Open | Newtownabbey |
| 23 | Schools Individual Championships | To be decided |
| 23-24 | Metropolitan Junior Close | Dalkey |
| March | | |
| 2 | Leinster League v Belfast & District League | Dublin |
| 9 | Senior-U21-Veterans Inter-Pros | Galway |
| 23 | Schools Team Championships | To be decided |
| April | | |
| 6 | Ulster Junior Open | Newtownabbey |
| 13 | Junior-Cadet-U12 Inter-Pros | IWA. Clontarf |
| May | | |
| 4 | Tailteann Games | Belcamp |

-- Irish Junior Open and Irish Junior Ranking-Venue and Date to be decided.
 • Irish Senior Ranking Tournaments. Players must play at least four in order to be ranked.
 •• Irish Junior Ranking Tournaments.

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS CLUB OF ENGLAND

DOUBLE LOSS

Members of the Club were most distressed, as was everyone else, when they heard of the deaths of Jack Carrington and the Hon. Ivor Montagu. Ivor has been our President for the whole period of our existence since 1963 while Jack had been a member since then as well. It will be impossible to fully replace them.

Activities otherwise must carry on and the International Club Hard Bat Tournament will be held on Feb. 3, 1985 at the usual venue of Barnet Table Tennis Centre. Closing date will be January 23rd and entry forms will soon be available from Laurie Landry at 3, Osney Way, Chalk, Gravesend, Kent. DA12 2NB.

STOP PRESS

The Ulster Branch of the Irish Table Tennis Association are pleased to announce a special DALE FARM CHALLENGE international table tennis event on Dec. 18/19, 1984, at Loughside Recreation Centre, Belfast - "The home of table tennis" - specially staged for recording by Ulster Television. The event features:-

Men:

David Hannah (SCO), Nicky Mason (ENG), Nigel Tyler (WAL), Colm Slevin (IRE) and two leading Ulster players.

Women:

Carole Dalrymple (SCO), Fiona Elliot (ENG), Lesley Tyler (WAL) and Ann Leonard (IRE).

The event will be shown on the UTV Sportscast programme on Friday evenings in January and February, 1985 and is being sponsored by Dale Farm Dairies Ltd.

Here seen discussing the Dale Farm Challenge event are:- Standing - Terry Smith (Ulster Television Sports Editor) and Brian Downing (Loughside Recreation Centre Manager). Seated - Robin Anderson (Dale Farm Dairies Ltd. Marketing Manager) and Alan Strong (I.T.T.A. - Ulster Branch, Director of Coaching).



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 0103532763159

Counties Round Up

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS ROUND-UP

By Murray Corbin

YULETIDE GREETINGS

On behalf of the County Championships Committee. I take this opportunity to wish you a most fantastic Christmas and a more productive New Year.

Regretfully, due to the shortage of personal time for this session. I am only able to show the match results you require, without the usual comments. With a little luck, I should be back to full flow in the next issue.

SENIOR PREMIER WEEKEND at BRITISH TELECOM TECHNICAL COLLEGE, Yarnfield, Nr Stone, Staffordshire, on 24/25 November.

Middlesex 9 Surrey 0; Essex 6 Cambridgeshire 3; Yorkshire 5 Staffordshire 4; Lancashire 5 Berkshire 4; Berkshire 5 Yorkshire 4; Staffordshire 5 Essex 4; Cambridgeshire 3 Middlesex 6; Surrey 6 Lancashire 3; Middlesex 8 Staffordshire 1; Essex 3 Berkshire 6; Yorkshire 3 Lancashire 6; Surrey 5 Cambridgeshire 4.

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 3rd MATCH RESULTS SENIORS 2A

Warwickshire 8 Yorkshire 2nd 2; Cheshire 10 Staffordshire 2nd 0; Leicestershire 8 Buckinghamshire 2; Lancashire 2nd 7 Suffolk 3; Lancashire 2nd 5 Leicestershire 5; Staffordshire 2nd 1 Warwickshire 9; Yorkshire 2nd 6 Suffolk 4; Buckinghamshire 6 Cheshire 4.

SENIORS 2B

Kent 3 Sussex 7; Devon 9 Gloucestershire 1; Essex 2nd 6 Wiltshire 4; Hampshire 4 Dorset 6; Hampshire 8 Essex 2nd 2; Wiltshire 3 Devon 7; Gloucestershire 2 Sussex 8; Kent 8 Dorset 2.

SENIORS 3A

Derbyshire 5 Lincolnshire 5; Durham 7 Nottinghamshire 3; Northamptonshire 1 Clwyd 9; Clwyd 5 Durham 5; Nottinghamshire 5 Derbyshire 6.

SENIORS 3B

Isle-Of-Wight 5 Somerset 5; Somerset 2nd 5; Cornwall 8 Isle-Of-Wight 2; Somerset 6 Avon 4; Dorset 2nd 2 Somerset 8; Isle-Of-Wight 5 Wiltshire 2nd 5; Somerset 2nd 4 Glamorgan 6; Dorset 2nd 5 Glamorgan 5.

SENIORS 3C

Worcestershire 9 Northamptonshire 1; Avon 2nd 3 Hertfordshire 7; Worcestershire 5 Huntingdonshire 5; Oxfordshire 5 Northamptonshire 5; Berkshire 2nd 10 Bedfordshire 0; Bedfordshire 3 Oxfordshire 7; Worcestershire 2nd 1 Worcestershire 1st 9; Huntingdonshire 6 Avon 2nd 4; Berkshire 2nd 7 Hertfordshire 3.

SENIORS 3D

Kent 2nd 7 Sussex 2nd 3; Norfolk 4 Essex 3rd 6; Middlesex 2nd 7 Cambridgeshire 2nd 3; Suffolk 2nd 1 Surrey 2nd 9; Norfolk 2nd 4 Essex 3rd 6; Suffolk 2nd 0 Middlesex 2nd 10; Cambridgeshire 2nd 7 Norfolk 3; Norfolk 2nd 2 Kent 2nd 8; Sussex 2nd 4 Surrey 2nd 6.

VETERANS PREMIER

Cheshire 9 Nottinghamshire 0; Kent 6 Huntingdonshire 3; Essex 5 Lincolnshire 4; Middlesex 2 Essex 7; Lincolnshire 5 Kent 4; Huntingdonshire 1 Cheshire 8; Nottinghamshire 4 Hertfordshire 5; Middlesex 5 Hertfordshire 4.

VETERANS 2A

Bedfordshire 1 Leicestershire 8; Buckinghamshire 5 Worcestershire 4; Essex 2nd 4 Cheshire 2nd 5; Hertfordshire 2nd 5 Oxfordshire 4; Hertfordshire 2nd 6 Essex 2nd 3; Cheshire 2nd 4 Buckinghamshire 5; Worcestershire 7 Bedfordshire 2; Leicestershire 9 Oxfordshire 0.

VETERANS 2B

Hampshire 9 Wiltshire 0; Berkshire 7 Surrey 2; Dorset 6 Avon 3; Sussex 6 Middlesex 3; Sussex 5

Dorset 4; Avon 5 Berkshire 4; Surrey 4 Hampshire 5; Wiltshire 2 Middlesex 2nd 7.

VETERANS 3A

Northamptonshire 6 Huntingdonshire 3; Essex 3rd 6 Yorkshire 3;

VETERANS 3B

Berkshire 2nd 5 Kent 2nd 4; Kent 2nd 9 Dorset 2nd 0; Hertfordshire 3rd 3 Berkshire 2nd 6; Wiltshire 2nd 1 Hampshire 2nd 8; Sussex 3rd 3 Sussex 2nd 6; Sussex 3rd 7 Wiltshire 2nd 2; Hampshire 2nd 3 Hertfordshire 3rd 6; Berkshire 2nd 5 Kent 2nd 4; Dorset 2nd 3 Sussex 2nd 6.

JUNIORS 2A

Cheshire 2 Yorkshire 2nd 8; Leicestershire 4 Cleveland 6; Warwickshire 7 Cheshire 3; Yorkshire 2nd 5 Northumberland 5; Lancashire 7 Staffordshire 2nd 3; Lancashire 3 Yorkshire 2nd 7; Northumberland 6 Warwickshire 4; Cheshire 7 Leicestershire 3; Cleveland 2 Warwickshire 8.

JUNIORS 2B

Wiltshire 8 Dorset 2; Essex 2nd 4 Hertfordshire 6; Middlesex 2nd 3 Sussex 7; Hertfordshire 5 Wiltshire 5; Dorset 5 Northamptonshire 5; Middlesex 2nd 1 Essex 2nd 9; Devon 4 Sussex 6.

JUNIORS 3A

Derbyshire 2nd 3 Nottinghamshire 7; Cheshire 2nd 6 Huntingdonshire 4; Cleveland 2nd 0; Cumbria 7; Lincolnshire 10 Cleveland 2nd 0; Cumbria 4 Cheshire 2nd 6; Huntingdonshire 3 Derbyshire 2nd 7.

JUNIORS 3B

Gloucestershire 4 Worcestershire 6; Glamorgan 7 Bedfordshire 3; Oxfordshire 4 Gwent 6; Oxfordshire 2 Glamorgan 8; Warwickshire 2nd 5 Gloucestershire 5; Worcestershire 6 Gwent 4.

JUNIORS 3C

Berkshire 2nd 8; Wiltshire 2nd 2; Cornwall 7 Surrey 2nd 3; Hampshire 3 Somerset 7; Cornwall 2nd 5 Surrey 2nd 5; Hampshire 3 Cornwall 7; Surrey 2nd 7 Berkshire 2nd 3; Wiltshire 2nd 4 Avon 6; Cornwall 2nd 1 Somerset 9.

JUNIORS 3D

Hertfordshire 2nd 1 Essex 3rd 9. There seems to be little activity in this Division.

JUNIOR PREMIER WEEKEND

Yorkshire 4 Staffordshire 6; Middlesex 2 Derbyshire 8; Essex 7 Berkshire 3; Kent 9 Surrey 1; Surrey 3 Essex 7; Berkshire 3 Middlesex 7; Derbyshire 3 Yorkshire 7; Staffordshire 4 Kent 6; Yorkshire 5 Berkshire 5; Middlesex 7 Surrey 3; Essex 3 Kent 7; Staffordshire 4 Derbyshire 6; Staffordshire 7 Essex 3; Kent 6 Middlesex 4; Surrey 3 Yorkshire 7; Berkshire 3 Derbyshire 7.

This weekend was staged at the Highgate branch of the BIRMINGHAM ATHLETIC INSTITUTE over the 20/21 October, under the direction of Referee JOHN DEVEY. International Umpire of Birmingham. The organisation, on behalf of the COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE, was by STAN PARR of Nuneaton, while the hard-working Umpires were COLIN McLEAN (Derbys), BARRY GRAINGER (Essex), LEN GOSS (Kent), REG ROCKALL (Middx), BRIAN WATKINS, ALAN BURGESS and ANDREW WALTERS of Staffordshire, JAHANGIR AZAM (Warwick), JIMMY CARTWRIGHT of Surrey, and ALEC HEAD of Yorkshire.

The player I nominate for future success, in spite of getting into too many tantrums and as a result, continually hit her right thigh very hard with her innocent bat, whenever she lost an important rally - is HELEN LOWER of Staffordshire, a very talented and competitive young lady. If she can be helped to channel this fire and exuberance into her very reasonable game, she could turn out to be an important senior force in a few years. That is, in case her leg can take the



abuse. I had a chat with her and she assured me it would. Yes, I am a fan of Helen Lower.

DIVISION 28

Sussex
Devon
Kent
Essex 2nd
Dorset
Hampshire
Wiltshire
Gloucestershire

| P | W | O | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 10 | 5 |
| 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 11 | 4 |
| 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 18 | 12 | 4 |
| 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 16 | 4 |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 17 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 8 | 2 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 0 |
| 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 23 | 0 |

DIVISION 3A

Derbyshire
Clwyd
Durham
Lincoln
Nottinghamshire
Northumberland
Northamptonshire 2nd
Cheshire 2nd

| P | W | O | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 21 | 9 | 5 |
| 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 18 | 12 | 4 |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 14 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 9 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 16 | 2 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 15 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 0 |

DIVISION 38:

Glamorgan
Somerset
Cornwall
Avon
Isle of Wight
Somerset 2nd
Wiltshire 2nd
Dorset 2nd

| P | W | O | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 19 | 11 | 5 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 19 | 11 | 5 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 12 | 3 |
| 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 17 | 23 | 3 |
| 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 16 | 2 |
| 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 18 | 2 |
| 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 22 | 1 |

DIVISION 3C

Worcestershire
Oxfordshire
Berkshire 2nd
Huntingdonshire
Hertfordshire
Bedfordshire
Bedfordshire
Northamptonshire 1st
Avon 2nd
Worcestershire 2nd

| P | W | O | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 30 | 10 | 7 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 10 | 5 |
| 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 4 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 9 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 17 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 21 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 21 | 2 |
| 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 20 | 1 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 0 |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 17 | 0 |

LATEST TABLES INCLUDING MATCHES PLAYED ON NOVEMBER 3rd

SENIORS

DIVISION 2A:

| | P | W | O | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Warwickshire | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 6 | 6 |
| Leicestershire | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 21 | 9 | 5 |
| Lancashire 2nd | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 13 | 4 |
| Yorkshire 2nd | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 14 | 4 |
| Buckinghamshire | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 17 | 3 |
| Cheshire | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 16 | 14 | 2 |
| Suffolk | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 20 | 0 |
| Staffordshire 2nd | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 27 | 0 |

DIVISION 3D

| | P | W | O | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Middlesex 2nd | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 7 | 6 |
| Surrey 2nd | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 9 | 6 |
| Kent 2nd | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 11 | 4 |
| Cambridge 2nd | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 14 | 4 |
| Essex 3rd | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 14 | 4 |
| Norfolk 1st | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 0 |
| Sussex 2nd | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 0 |
| Norfolk 2nd | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 0 |
| Suffolk 2nd | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 25 | 0 |

Counties Round Up

JUNIORS

PREMIER DIVISION

| | P | W | 0 | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Kent | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 12 | 8 |
| Derbyshire | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 24 | 16 | 6 |
| Yorkshire | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 17 | 5 |
| Staffordshire | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 21 | 19 | 4 |
| Essex | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 20 | 20 | 4 |
| Middlesex | 4 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 20 | 20 | 4 |
| Berkshire | 4 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 26 | 1 |
| Surrey | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 10 | 30 | 0 |

DIVISION 2A

| | P | W | 0 | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Yorkshire 2nd | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 10 | 5 |
| Warwickshire | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 11 | 4 |
| Northumberland | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 16 | 14 | 4 |
| Lancashire | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 15 | 3 |
| Staffordshire 2nd | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 9 | 2 |
| Cheshire | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 18 | 2 |
| Cleveland | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 12 | 2 |
| Leicestershire | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 21 | 0 |

DIVISION 2B

| | P | W | 0 | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Wiltshire | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 10 | 5 |
| Sussex | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 4 |
| Essex 2nd | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 18 | 12 | 3 |
| Hertfordshire | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 9 | 3 |
| Dorset | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 18 | 2 |
| Northamptonshire | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 1 |
| Devon | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 0 |
| Middlesex 2nd | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 16 | 0 |

DIVISION 3A

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Lincolnshire | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 4 |
| Nottinghamshire | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 7 | 4 |
| Cheshire 2nd | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 14 | 4 |
| Derbyshire 2nd | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 2 |
| Cumbria | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 16 | 2 |
| Cleveland 2nd | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 21 | 2 |
| Huntingdonshire | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 19 | 0 |

DIVISION 3B

| | P | W | 0 | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Glamorgan | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 5 | 4 |
| Worcestershire | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 4 |
| Gloucestershire | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 15 | 3 |
| Bedfordshire | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 7 | 2 |
| Gwent | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 16 | 14 | 2 |
| Warwickshire 2nd | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 1 |
| Oxfordshire | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 26 | 0 |

DIVISION 3C

| | P | W | 0 | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Cornwall 1st | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 6 | 6 |
| Somerset | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 4 | 4 |
| Surrey 2nd | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 15 | 3 |
| Avon | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| Berkshire 2nd | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 9 | 2 |
| Cornwall 2nd | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 1 |
| Hampshire | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 0 |
| Wiltshire 2nd | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 24 | 0 |

DIVISION 3D: Matches being played 1st/2nd December

VETERANS

PREMIER DIVISION

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|-----------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Cheshire | 3 | 3 | 0 | 25 | 2 | 6 |
| Essex | 3 | 3 | 0 | 20 | 7 | 6 |
| Kent | 3 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 10 | 4 |
| Lincolnshire | 3 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 10 | 4 |
| Hertfordshire | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 17 | 2 |
| Middlesex | 3 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 19 | 2 |
| Nottinghamshire | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 21 | 0 |
| Huntingdonshire | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 22 | 0 |

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Buckinghamshire | 3 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 12 | 6 |
| Leicestershire | 3 | 2 | 1 | 21 | 6 | 4 |
| Cheshire 2nd | 3 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 9 | 4 |
| Hertfordshire 2nd | 3 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 16 | 4 |
| Worcestershire | 2 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 7 | 2 |
| Oxfordshire | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 17 | 2 |
| Essex 2nd | 2 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 0 |
| Bedfordshire | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 21 | 0 |

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Sussex | 3 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 11 | 6 |
| Hampshire | 3 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 10 | 4 |
| Middlesex 2nd | 3 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 11 | 4 |
| Dorset | 3 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 12 | 4 |
| Berkshire | 2 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 7 | 2 |
| Avon | 3 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 15 | 2 |
| Surrey | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 17 | 0 |
| Wiltshire | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 16 | 0 |

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Essex 3rd | 2 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 5 | 4 |
| Northamptonshire | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| Yorkshire | 2 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 2 |
| Huntingdonshire 2nd | 2 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 13 | 0 |
| Cheshire 3rd | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 0 |

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Sussex 2nd | 3 | 3 | 0 | 18 | 9 | 6 |
| Berkshire 2nd | 2 | 2 | 0 | 11 | 7 | 4 |
| Hampshire 2nd | 3 | 2 | 1 | 17 | 10 | 4 |
| Hertfordshire 3rd | 3 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 13 | 4 |
| Kent 2nd | 3 | 1 | 2 | 17 | 10 | 2 |
| Sussex 3rd | 3 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 16 | 2 |
| Dorset 2nd | 3 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 20 | 0 |
| Wiltshire 2nd | 2 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 0 |

Would you please note the changes to County Match secretaries:

handbook
WORCESTERSHIRE
Delete Mr. K. Jukes and replace as follows:

MIDDLESEX

Junior 1st: M. Close, 2 Penn Close, Chorleywood, Herts WD3 5HG (09278 3757)
Junior 2nd: D. S. Howes, as per

Juniors: D. Rodes, 55 Kingswood Road, Kingswinford, West Midlands
Veterans: Mrs. J. Hunt, 56 Kingston Avenue, Worcester

SOUTH OF ENGLAND J-JUNIOR 2-STAR OPEN

Please note that this tournament, having been requested to change their date by the Association will now run on:-

SATURDAY 26th and SUNDAY 27th

JANUARY 1985 at

**MONKS HILL SPORTS CENTRE,
FARNBOROUGH AVENUE,
SOUTH CROYDON, SURREY**

The events will revert back to being:

Cadet Events on Saturday 26th January, 1985

Junior Events on Sunday 27th January, 1985

Entry forms available from:

Norman Hooper, 107 Largewood Avenue,

Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7NX

(Tel: 01 397 9533)

County Notes

Mary Williams reports from....

BEDFORDSHIRE LATEST RANKINGS

The latest ranking lists are:-

| Men | Women |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. D. Sharpe | 1. L. Bellinger |
| 2. I. Doughty | 2. J. Bellinger |
| 3. A. Conquest | 2. J. Dimmock |
| 4. M. Lyons | 4. L. Robins |
| 5. A. James | 5. D. Campbell |
| 6. D. Hyde | 6. A. Robinson |
| 7. D. Foster | 7. M. Jarrett |
| 8. M. Verdon | 8. B. Hammond |
| 9. D. Cartwright | 9. J. Mitchell |
| 10. D. Gilbert | |
| 11. G. Pepper | |
| 12. K. Thompson | |

| Boys | Girls |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. P. Edwards | 1. L. Robins |
| 2. N. Stanley | 2. J. Mitchell |
| 3. G. Black | 3. C. Buckley |
| 4. N. Apps | 4. A. Forrester |
| 5. M. Sharpe | 5. C. Lawrence |
| 6. N. Ali | 6. H. Lawrence |
| 7. A. Pratley | 7. M. Hollick |
| 8. D. Ward | 8. N. Stimpson |
| 9. P. Bowler | 9. L. Dean |
| 10. J. Masters | 10. S. Evans |
| 11. M. Beaumont | 11. L. Tarron |
| 12. M. Wilkins | 12. B. Setchell |
| 13. S. Graham | 13. S. Jarvis |
| 14. A. Bowler | 14. A. Cotterill |
| 15. A. Bradbury | 15. M. Willis |
| 16. G. Maunders | 16. J. Strobe |
| | 17. A. Clarke |
| | 18. S. Dawson |
| | 19. M. Harmer |

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

The County senior and junior closed tournaments were held at Bedford Trucks, Dunstable, on Sunday 21st November, 1984. Results:-

C.B.S:
M. Simmonds bt C. Bowler 16, 6.
C.G.S:
J. Strobe bt A. Cotterill 19, 18.
e.B.D:
Simmonds/M. Bolton bt G. Awudu/T. Singh 17, 17.
e.G.D:
S. Dawson/Strobe bt R. Setchell/Cotterill -19, 19, 10.
B.S:
N. Stanley bt P. Edwards 16, -15, 15.
G.S:
J. Mitchell bt Strobe 17, 16.
B.D:
Stanley/G. Black bt D. Keane/M. Weldon 17, 16.
G.D:
Mitchell/L. Dean bt Dawson/Strobe 12, 3.
X.D:
Edwards/Dean bt M. Sharpe/Mitchell 16, -10, 9.
M.S:
G. Black bt M. Lyons 11, -15, 14.
W.S:
J. Dimmock bt L. Robins 20, 19.
M.D:
Lyons/D. Foster bt Stanley/Black 10, -9, 18.
W.D:
D. Campbell/Dimmock bt L. Hanratty/A. Robinson 18, -17, 15.
X.D:
N. Jarvis/Campbell bt Foster/Robins 19, 18.
V.S:
After playing a round robin the winner of the veterans was B. Bowron with L. Jones runner-up.

The seniors travelled to Berkshire and suffered their first heavy defeat for some time. Scores:-

M. Childs bt I. Doughty 9, 11;
R. Kozlowski bt D. Cartwright 12, -17, 12;
S. Rowland bt A. Conquest 18, 17;
S. Collier/J. Collins bt J. Dimmock/D. Campbell 21, 11;
Rowland/Childs bt Doughty/Conquest 16, 15;
Childs bt Cartwright 4, 13;
Collins bt Campbell 12, 16;
Rowland bt Doughty -17, 13, 12;
Collier bt Dimmock 16, 15;
Kozlowski bt Conquest 17, 19.
Result: Berkshire 10 Bedfordshire 0

The juniors played their match against Glamorgan at the Abercynon Sports Centre and after 12

putting up a good fight went down 7-3. Scores:-

K. Roberts lost to P. Edwards -18, 14, -14;
D. Pomeroy bt N. Apps -19, 18, 16;
A. Jones lost G. Black 18, -20, -13;
J. Lee/T. Petty bt J. Mitchell/A. Forrester 15, 15;
A. Jones/K. Roberts bt Edwards/Black -18, 18, 10;
Roberts bt Apps 18, -11, 18;
Petty bt Forrester 10, 22;
Jones bt Edwards 17, 22;
Lee bt Mitchell 17, 6;
Pomeroy lost to Black -15, -7.

Gerald Hammond, Bedfordshire's International umpire has been invited to attend an International Open event this time in Yugoslavia.

At the Eastern Regional trials held at Barnet, in the under 17's, held on Oct 14, Gavin Black finished first in his group, whilst Neil Stanley and Nick Apps finished second. These three qualify for the regional top ten ranking tournament to take place on Nov 4 at Ellenborough T.T. Club. Martin Sharpe finished fifth in his group and did not qualify.

Joyce Mitchell and Ruth Forrester represented the County in the girls' competition and finished overall third and fourth, behind two Essex girls. Nevertheless, they go forward to the National ranking trials to be held in January.

In the cadet boys' held on Oct 21 similar success occurred when Peter Bowler and Kevin Copperwheat both finished first in their groups and Richard Pratley finished second in his. Again these three qualify for the Regional top ten competition but Steven Graham was the unfortunate boy who finished fifth in his group and doesn't qualify.

Our sole entry in the girls' cadet groups was Caroline Buckley who finished an excellent first overall beating strong opposition from Essex to qualify for the National junior ranking trials in January.

These are excellent results considering the quality and quantity of the opposition representing Essex (invited), Suffolk, Herts, Norfolk, Cambridge and Hunts, and shows the great potential amongst our junior players.

Adding to her string of successes Caroline Buckley won the North Yorkshire U-12's at Halifax on Oct 6, and the Grove Junior U-12's at Market Drayton on Oct 13. She also reached the semi-final in the U-14's in this tournament but was beaten by Claire Potts.

In their first home match of the season AHW Pioneers entertained Nittaku Ruislip and suffered a 7-1 defeat.

Les Wooding in the second set took command in the 2nd game winning 21-8 but in a brilliant 3rd lost out to John Burlton 22-24. However, Wooding took the only game for AHW with a win over Rupert Bole 17, 14. Scores:-

J. Bellinger lost to D. Topiwalla 16, -19, -18;
L. Wooding lost to J. Burlton -18, 8, -22;
I. Doughty lost to M. Les -11, -20;
J. Bradbury lost to R. Bole 15, -18, -18;
Bellinger lost to Burlton -14, -19;
Wooding bt Bole 17, 14;
Doughty lost to Topiwalla -18, -14;
Bradbury lost to Les 11, -21, -13.

AHW Pioneers have decided to stage their National League matches equally at Pioneer Boys' Club, Dunstable and AHW Bletchley.

Entertaining Lansdown Medway at Bletchley again Wooding was the in-form player taking both his sets against Mitchell and Spain. Colin Luscombe took the only other set for AHW as the results show a 5-3 win for Lansdown Medway.

J. Bellinger lost to B. Brown -11, -20;
L. Wooding bt A. Mitchell 17, -16, 15;
I. Doughty lost to M. Ling -10, 14, -14;
C. Luscombe lost to T. Spain -19, -18;
Bellinger lost to Mitchell -12, -15;
Wooding bt Spain -14, 14, 13;
Doughty lost to Brown -17, -12;
Luscombe bt Ling 19, 15.

In their second away match of the season to DSC Rams AHW Pioneers lost 5-3. Scores:-

D. Charley lost to L. Wooding -21, -14;
J. Dennison bt J. Bellinger 16, -16, 14;
P. Ademakinwa bt J. Bradbury 16, 15;
A. Briscoe lost to I. Doughty -17, 13, -23;
Charley bt Bellinger 18, 7;
Dennison bt Doughty 18, 16;
Ademakinwa lost to Wooding -9, -9;
Briscoe bt Bradbury 19, 17.

Brian Halliday reports from....

BERKSHIRE

NEW GROUND BROKEN

A Berkshire club has broken new ground with the entry of Omega into the women's section of the Europe Club Cup of champions. The reigning English champions got their campaign off to a splendid start with a "white-wash" victory over the Danish champions BTK Roskilde.

Mandy Sainsbury was in particularly sharp form with three convincing wins. With the current England No. 1 Alison Gordon, and No.3 Karen Witt, in local hopes are high that Omega will have a good run in the competition. The next round is away in Yugoslavia against a very powerful team from Zagreb - STK Mladost who will have Branka Batinie at No.1.

The Omega club continue to make the headlines. Their National League squad are having a run of excellent results. The Premier Division side have forced themselves into a real challenging position for major honours. The signing of John Souter was a tremendous coup for the club, especially as they are still seeking a national sponsor. John made an immediate impact on results and with team spirit so high at present, then the championship itself has become a possibility.

Part of the 1st team success

must be due to pressure for 1st team places now that the 2nd team are setting the 1st Division alight. Andy Syed has found the sparkle he usually saves for tournament play, with some devastating results. Again the team spirit in the young side, brilliantly managed by Jim Stokes Snr. has been the envy of most opposition met so far.

The third team have a large squad of players all keen to play and again the results have been impressive. Each player has player his or her part in the continuing success story.

Congratulations to Andy Syed and Jimmy Stokes who have made forward moves in the Lentec rankings. Andy's move to No.10 is particularly impressive and follows those sensational victories over Alan Fletcher, John Hilton and Graham Sandley in a 3-Star tournament. His younger brother Matthew is breathing down his neck in the success stakes, and with a penetrating attack developing to complement his fine defence, England have one of the most exciting prospects in years.

County results so far have been good, with the senior 2nd team leading the way with two comfortable wins, Simon Rowland very impressive as usual. What a fine county class player he has become. There were a few raised eyebrows when the evergreen Richard Kozlowski was recalled to the team this season, but he has repaid the selectors' faith with two excellent performances. His game is based on the old fashioned attributes of flair, stroke play and a balanced all-round game.

One must agree with John Prean's remarks in last month's issue in which he suggested that today's play is ugly. However, by no stretch of the imagination would Kozlowski fall into that category- and long may his style of play survive to delight us all.

The County has usually relied on the strength of its ladies and this season both Jenny Collins and Sue Collier have played exceptionally well. It is going to take a good side to stop our 2nd team winning their division.

The Juniors have met with mixed results so far. The Premier weekend results were a little disappointing and the 2nd team's performances have been a little mixed. Darren Jones and Robert Ettridge show promise for the future. The veterans' 1st team had an opening 7-2 win over Surrey but lost by the narrowest of margins to Avon, twice coming within one point of overall victory.

But all is not lost and forthcoming matches against Sussex and Dorset will probably decide title honours. The 2nd team have

an unbeaten record so far, Bob Holiday again showing that little bit extra form so necessary in these matches.

No real surprises on the local league front although the MOSS club had an early season shock to their championship aspirations in Bracknell when a reserve line-up was crushed 10-0 by Bracknell "B". In the all-powerful Reading League a whole spate of drawn results have thrown the league wide open. YMCA have at long last made a title challenge and lead a highly competitive field. Tip for the top remains Woodley who look to have the strength in depth to win the championship.

Cippenham, as expected, are storming away with major honours at Maidenhead. This is certainly a one horse race here with the only interest centred round who will finish runners-up. In the Bracknell hard bat tournament, Roger Mehew retained his title and in the annual grouping tournament there was first, and well deserved success, for Malcolm Hayes. Bob Sym was the runner-up in a field of 50 starters.

Both Newbury and Maidenhead have organised junior inter-town tournaments recently. These competitions build up our players for the future and are one of the reasons that keep the county in the forefront of the game. Two very well known local players have sustained injury recently. Jonathan Samuel is out for the season with knee problems and Keith Hodder crushed a finger whilst working on the new Omega Club premises. To both these talented players we wish a speedy recovery.

Geoff Waters reports from ...

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

DOING THE COUNTY PROUD

Hillary Finch and Alison Edge are doing the county proud as they remain unbeaten in singles in the three matches so far played by the senior second team.

Their splendid performance has meant the best start for this team since the 1980-81 season when they played in the old Division 3 East. After the team's 6-4 win over Suffolk, they went down 7-3 to the strong Middlesex second team, but bounced right back with a 7-3 win over Norfolk I. Four points from three matches is more than they managed from the complete fixture list during the last three seasons and it is to be hoped that this can be continued.

The form of Hilary and Alison is obviously a major factor in rid-

ing this team of the 'chopping block' image, and there is nothing like a couple of wins to restore the team spirit.

In the Middlesex match at East Finchley, in addition to the two women's singles, Martyn Livermore and Julian Wheel took the men's doubles. Two weeks later at Soham, they gained their best win since March 1981 when they also beat Norfolk I 7-3. Livermore gained his first double since 1982 when he achieved that distinction against Surrey II but on this occasion he was again a doubles winner with **Wheel** to give his best performance in county colours.

Hilary came close to losing her unbeaten tag in her singles against Wendy Hogg. After losing the first game -17, she trailed 20-15 in the second but miraculously took the next seven points, before winning the third game in more orthodox fashion.

The women's doubles were also won and Wheel completed the scoring with a win over David Smith. Trevor Bunn played well for Norfolk winning both his singles.

These are still the only county matches to be played at the time of writing, but when this appears in print the first team will have played their opening three Premier Division matches, while the two junior teams will have played five matches each at their weekend in Essex.

Everyone will know by now that Hassy Soham have had to withdraw from the Premier Division of the Halex National League, but their second team, which I presume is now the first, continues in Div. 3 East.

After their surprise 5-3 win against MBS St Neots II in the opening match, they have slumped to three successive defeats, against Playrite Northampton, E.AE. Waveney and Norwich Foxwood.

Their 6-2 defeat at home against Northampton was disappointing, but three of the visitors' wins were close in the third affairs.

Peter Holliday beat Edmonds, while Wheel got the better of Phillipson. The late withdrawal of Holliday for the match at Waveney, due to the fact that he was playing a European Cup match for the first team, proved decisive in the 5-3 defeat. However, when Soham were 3-1 up at the break, things didn't seem too bad. These three came from Livermore, Wheel and Trevor Smith against Mick Broughton, Russell King and David Smith respectively. After the interval, however, the home team rallied to take all four sets.

In the next home game against Norwich, they again started well with Livermore beating Douggie Bennett, a former

Soham first team player.

They had to wait until set six for their next win when Holliday beat Simon Steward. Chances of a draw disappeared when Wheel lost to Bennett, but Smith defeated Paul Durrant in the final set to make the match score 5-3.

March Town National League Club have made a promising start to the new campaign with 7 points from 5 games. Their initial hopes for a promotion-seeking season however were severely dented with a 2-6 reverse at home to league leaders Salford, 2 wins being registered at the expense of the away side's young No.4.

The next match was away to Chan Construction and once again it was the failure to win the close three-enders that resulted in a valuable point being dropped in a 4-4 draw. Stuart Palmer regained his top form in this game which he has continued in the Club's successes against Byker Newcastle, G.K.N. Wolverhampton and K.I.S. Stockton.

The victory at Wolverhampton was a particularly strong all-round team effort, with every player recording a win in the 6-2 success. If they can continue this form for the rest of the season, the dream of promotion may not be as impossible as their early form suggested.

Whatever way the season ends, it certainly got off to the ideal start with sponsorship being arranged with Robert Hale Estates, a local firm of Estate Agents. The Club's continued existence at this level depends upon the financial help of local businesses and let us hope that other business men are able to follow Mr. Hale's example.

Brian Hudson reports from....

CHESHIRE

23 NOT OUT!

Our all-conquering Veterans' team duly recorded their 23rd consecutive victory- 9-0 against Notts - to maintain their undefeated record since the Vets'. Divisions were formed - an unbroken run, which, we think, no other County can match. They seem well on the way to retaining their title. It is wholly appropriate that the North of England Veterans' Tournament is to be held in Macclesfield next March - further details from Roger Moss.

The results of the Seniors 1st were unfortunately mixed - an easy win against Staffs 2nd by 10-0 being followed by a surprising defeat at Bucks. Captain

Mark Hankey with typical honesty blamed himself for the defeat which leaves a lot to be done if promotion is to remain a realistic target.

The Juniors had two satisfying wins. The 1st beat Leics 7-3 in what N.P.C. Mike Freeman describes as 'a very sporting contest', with Bernie Wentworth and Andy Taylor undefeated. The boys were also responsible for the 2nds beating Cumbria 6-4, with 2 wins each for Steve Terry and Mark Danaher, 1 for Martin Thompson and the doubles from Mark and Martin. The girls, if relatively unsuccessful, deserve mention. In the absence of Claire Potts, unwilling, Julie Hope, injured, and Cheryl Clarke, unavailable, No. 3 ranked Alston Hall who was herself injured in a car crash the previous weekend, played against Leics. as No. 1 and the 2nd had to go to No.8 on the ranking list for their 2nd girl.

Finally, we are missing some tournament trophies! If anyone knows the whereabouts of those Cups not presented at this year's Closed, please contact any member of the committee or your local league.

Have a very happy Christmas, and a happy and prosperous New Year!

Jeremy Williams reports from...

CORNWALL

WAVE OF OPTIMISM

It was a relatively quiet November as far as table tennis in Cornwall was concerned; there were no Halex National League fixtures and few open tournaments entered. However, Cornish players have performed heroics in recent County matches and our band of Juniors pulled off some good results at the Region One Junior Ranking Trials; Cornish selectors can now look forward to the New Year with a fresh wave of optimism. A busy schedule lies ahead and it must be hoped that the rather depleted squad of players presently available will be enough to cope with important matches.

CORNISH INTER-TOWN LEAGUE

Cornwall's premier domestic team event, the Cornish Inter-Town League has now entered its third season. Sadly, for table tennis in the St. Austell area, they cannot raise a team this year. Rumours that Penzance will at last be taking part have not as yet come to fruition so the gap left by St. Austell, the 1983 finalists, has been filled by Bude, who welcomed the opportunity. Early results from the first series of matches indicate that Falmouth

County Notes

and Redruth appear to be the main contenders for the title.

Series I results:

Helston 3, Bude 5;
Truro 2 Redruth 6;
Falmouth 7 Launceston 1;
Camborne 2 St. Ives 6.

A good start for Bude in their opening match at Helston for whom their ten-year-old Neil Bevan clinched the decider after Percy Tripp had taken his two for Helston. A good win also for Redruth whose well-balanced side were too cunning for Truro, Roger Jacobs showing much improved form to dispose of that controversial Yorkshireman Melvin Starkie. Without Jon Woollins, Launceston were a little too raw to put up any major resistance at Falmouth who sported only two of last year's championship winning team; Andy Hunt preventing a "white-wash" after defeating Dennis Williams. St. Ives pulled off a good win at Camborne considering they have now lost the services of Nigel Cock - a minor sensation here though John Bassett beaten 2-straight by Mark James, the latter playing some inspired table tennis to defeat the former who has to date produced some of the best form of his career.

REGION ONE JUNIOR RANKING TRIALS

Of those Cornish youngsters who qualified for the above tournament at Launceston College on Oct. 21, three p-players progressed further to the National Finals on Jan. 5/6. Graham Reed (Falmouth) and Mark! James (Camborne) came third and fourth respectively in the Boys' section and so qualified. Good positions these for both players who will be hoping to recapture their best form at Coventry. Cornwall's other qualifier was Neil Bevan (Bude) who at ten years of age came third in the Cadet Boys' section. However just to dip out were Esme Stevenson (Bude) and Malcolm 'Twinkletoes' Peters (Falmouth) who finished 7th and 9th in their respective under-17 events.

Another smoothly run Cornish tournament I am informed which finished without incident and on schedule.

COUNTY MATCHES

In sharp contrast to the poor form at National League level, Cornwall's County teams have got away to a dream start. Both first teams remain unbeaten with the Seniors heading Div 3 Band the Juniors on top of 3C. The new look Junior second team have also shown promise with two draws to date.

Results:

Cornwall 8, Isle of Wight 2;
Avon 5 Cornwall 5;

Cornwall Juniors 7 Surrey II 3;
Hampshire 3 Cornwall Juniors 7;
Wiltshire II 5

Cornwall Juniors II 5;
Cornwall Juniors II 1

Somerset 9;

Cornwall Juniors II 5 Surrey II 5.

The highlights of the season to date was the draw away to Avon and that was after taking an astonishing 3-0 lead. John Bassett who first wore the "black and gold" of Cornwall in the late 50's is now back regularly in the senior side again and he proved to be the star of the show at Avon. At 44 he has been written off on many occasions now but by standing up to the table and blasting away in that familiar style, with that same hard bat that now must be of antique value he dismissed Andy Creed and Richard Russell 2-straight. It was an excellent team performance, the other 3 sets creditably coming from Ian James, Jeremy Williams and young Esme Stevenson making her debut.

Following the demolishing of a weakened Isle of Wight team, Cornwall are now well on the way to regaining second division status that has eluded them since their relegation in 1976. If a settled squad of women is achieved, then this could be the season.

The Junior firsts were also relegated in 1976 and their present form could not be better. Three wins out of three, all in a convincing manner with Graham Reed and Esme Stevenson both unbeaten makes them outright leaders of the division. It would be satisfying to see both teams go up this season although if the Juniors don't do it, they might have to wait a few years for the next batch of youngsters to come through.

Match Scores:

Avon v Cornwall

A. Creed bt J. Williams -20, 11, 12;
A. Creed lost to J. Bassett -18, -15;
P. Hooper lost to Williams -20, -14;
P. Hooper bt I. James 13, 21;
R. Russell lost to Bassett -8, -11;
R. Russell lost to James -16, -14;
H. Perrott bt G. Davies 12, 9;
M. Cohen lost to E. Stevenson 14, -19, 10;
Creed/Hooper bt Williams/Bassett -18, 16, 19;
Perrott/Cohen bt Davies/Stevenson 18, -17, 15.

Malcolm Allsop reports from.....

DERBYSHIRE

SPECIAL PRAISE

Derbyshire's 1st team did the County proud at the first Premier Junior Weekend, and special praise must go to Jackie and Maurice Billington who captained the team to three victories in the four matches.

This was Derbyshire's first experience of playing at a

Premier weekend, and the playing experience of Jackie and Maurice assisted the team!!!!

I have heard a lot of wild talk regarding how we may fare at the second weekend, but I feel any success will be a bonus. The future is important, and with 3 cadets in the team, we must be building for the future and disregarding any instant success - however sweet it may be.

Thanks must also go to National Umpire, Colin McLean, who gave up his weekend to officiate.

Unfortunately, the Junior 2nd team did not have a similar fairy-tale start and went down 3-7 to Nottinghamshire. Our girls, Julie and Louise Forster, won their 3 sets but the boys demonstrated that we have not got the strength in depth that we thought we had!

A youth policy for the second match saw victory by 7-3 over Huntingdonshire with Gavin West and William Hollingworth winning sets on their debut. Robert Scott-Birchall gained his first singles success at this level, and we added the boys' doubles to three victories from the girls, Julie Forster and Joanne Weightman.

Scores
Robert Scott-Birchall bt A. Millyard 9,-20,15; lost to K. Albon -20, -19;
Gavin West bt K. Albon 15,-15,15; lost to S. Pryke -18,-16;
William Hollingworth lost to S. Pryke 17,-14,-14; bt Millyard 16,18;
Scott-Birchall/Hollingworth bt Albon/Millyard 12,-16,17;
Joanne Weightman bt J. Baldwin 15,17;
Julie Forster bt T. Slater 17, 12;
Forster/Weightman bt Baldwin/Slater 14, 10.

After a premature retirement, Ivor Warner returned to competitive play in the Chesterfield League and got back into the Derbyshire team for the match against Nottinghamshire at Sycamore Centre, Nottingham and showed he had lost little of his imaginative skill.

Ivor and Martin Kinsella won 2 singles each and Louise Forster gained a vital victory over Jackie Bull; so it was left to Stephen Yallop to seal victory in the final set with an exciting win over Richard Tilling.

Martin Kinsella was in wonderful form and played possibly his best match for Derbyshire.

Scores
Martin Kinsella bt Ransford Scott 15,1 5; bt Trevor Kerry 18,-1 5,1 2;
Stephen Yallop lost to Kerry -9,-18; bt Richard ng 21, -18,17;
Ivor Warner bt Tilling 17, -11, 11; bt Scott 18, -17,10;
Kinsella/Warner lost to Kerry/Scott -18,-20;
To Thuy Dung lost to Pauline Simpson -18,-19;
Louise Forster bt Jackie Bull 17, 16;
Forster/To Thuy lost to Bull/Simpson -18, -14.

INTER-TOWN LEAGUE

The Derbyshire Inter-Town League got under way during November although no results are to hand at the time of writing.

The Ladies' Division has been abandoned after only one season with only Burton and Derby wishing to enter. Come on ladies, where's the spirit?

The Eastwood League's chances of retaining their Senior Division One and Two titles must be slim as a result of entering a team in the Midland League - as players are not eligible to play in both.

Fortunes will depend upon player availability, which seems so fickle nowadays, so I will make no predictions this season.

DERBY LEAGUE

The Derby Cadet 1st team have started well in the East Midlands -Cadet League with 10-0 wins over Derby 2nd, Loughborough, Retford, Coventry and Eastwood and then 9-1 against Burton.

Scott-Birchall and Paul Knowles went through the six matches unbeaten and included wins over Garry Knights for good measure.

EASTWOOD LEAGUE

The Division One competition is already a two-horse race with less than a quarter of the season gone as Rolls Royce Raiders lead from last season's Champions now known as Midland Hotel 'A'.

Division Two is wide open with Waingroves 'A', Demerva 'A', Eastwood St Marys and Horse & Jockey leading the table.

Midland Hotel lead the Junior Division, although fluctuation in juniors' form could make a big difference to the final league table.

The Eastwood Divisional Championships were held at the Heanor Community Centre, and provided a sporting and entertaining evening.

Barry Taylor played very well to win the Division One title. Barry beat Mick Peska in the quarters and followed up with a good win over Terry Bull -7,20, 19 before meeting Clive Spate the Final. Barry won the first game of the final only for Clive to hit back and take the second. Barry took advantage of serving first in the third to get into the lead, but Clive kept levelling the scores until 15-15 was reached. Barry then took 5 points off his own service before running out the winner at 18.

14-year-old Stephen Taylor was impressive in beating Tony Holland in the first round before a fighting 19,-13,-16 display when meeting Spate in the quarter-final.

In the Div 2 competition, interest was centred upon Terry Cotteril who hurt his leg in an early round and gained plenty of audience sympathy as he struggled through to the final. In the other half, Pete Wain fought through 3 game sets including 17,-1 5,19 against George Haseldine in the semi-final. The final showed the better mobility of Wain just getting the better of

an increasingly suffering Cotteril -18, 10, 16.

In the Junior event, Shaun Roper and Stephen Porter fought through to the final via semis which would not have disgraced many finals. Roger showed slightly more aggression to win -17, 18, 15.

Thanks are expressed to BirchPrint of Newthorpe, Notts for donating the trophies - the first time that Eastwood have had sponsorship for their Tournaments. Managing Director, Melvin Birch, attended the event and presented the trophies to the winners and runners-up; and also presented Representative Badges to Darren Webster, Darren Pacey, Martin O'Connor and Matthew O'Brien who have qualified by representing Eastwood in Cadet competition.

The Eastwood League are competing in the Midland League for the first time and started promisingly. A 3-7 defeat from a strong Nottingham "C" team was followed by a 7-3 win at Coventry and a home 9-1 win against Leamington.

The cadets in the East Midland League started with a 7-3 win over Retford before falling 0-10 against Loughborough and Burton.

Harry Black reports from...

DURHAM

OPENING WIN AT SULGRAVE

Durham, opening their home fixtures against Notts at Sulgrave, nr Washington, ran out 7-3 winners on Oct. 20. It was a good all-round team performance with the form of the ladies especially pleasing. Both Shirley Gelder and Linda Spensley won their singles and combined to take the doubles. Indeed it was the first time in a long time we have been so successful on the distaff side.

Stephen George was unbeaten whilst David Blackburne presented himself well but was unlucky to lose 21-23 in the 3rd against the Notts No. 1 Trevor Kerry. Gary Webstell, as in the first match away to Lincs. failed to win. Scores:-

D. Blackburne bt R. Scott 12, 21; D. Blackburne bt R. Scott 12, 21; lost to T. Kerry -18, 19, -21.
S. George bt Kerry 13, 11, bt M. Pearson 18, 13.
G. Webstell lost to Pearson -18, 17, -19; lost to Scott -8, -17.
S. Gelder bt J. Bull -17, 19, 16.
L. Spensley bt A. Brettell -20, 11, 16.
Blackburne/George bt Kerry/Scott 18, -19, 20.
Gelder/Spensley bt Brettell/Bull 22, -15, 20.

Durham's next match was at Wrexham, against Clwyd, on Nov. 3, when we came away with a 5-5 draw. Philip Stafford came in for his senior debut, in place of Webstell and Lynne Yarnell replaced Shirley Gelder. It was the women's results that helped in

this match for in addition to the doubles Lynne won her singles. Linda Spensley was beaten -19 in the 3rd by Sue Roberts who had trailed 16-19 but picked up her five service points.

Trevor Manning, Clywd's No. 1 and the Welsh No.5, won both his singles. Results:-

Blackburne bt J. Hook 18, -19, 16; lost to T. Manning -12, -15.
George lost to Manning -10, -19 bt J. Evans 18, 14.
P. Stafford lost to Evans -9, -16; lost to Hook 22, -13, -17.
Spensley lost to S. Roberts -7, 16, -19.
L. Yarnell bt K. Buckle 13, 19.
Blackburne/George bt Hook/Manning 19, -11, 11.
Spensley/Yarnell bt Buckle/Roberts 19, 18.

Washington suffered a 2-6 defeat at home to Unity, Leeds who must be one of the favourites to win Div. 3 North of the National League. Washington's two wins were accomplished by Stafford and Doug Lawrence who both beat Ian Duxbury. Scores:-

T. Trehwitt lost to P. Sanderson -7, -8; lost to K. M'Kandla -16, -19.
P. Stafford lost to M'Kandla -16, 18, -17; bt I. Duxbury 15, 16.
D. Maciver lost to M. Connell -11, -18; lost to Sanderson -19, -12.
D. Lawrence bt Duxbury 17, -11, 17; lost to Connell -12, -14.

In their latest match they travelled down to Thornaby to play Ormesby III and came away with a 6-2 victory. Tony Gelder, returning after injury, and Robert Reed gained maximums to which Stafford and Trehwitt added one each. Results:-

T. Gelder bt D. Fewdsdale 19, 11; bt J. Healy 18, 14.
R. Reed bt Healy 14, 7; bt M. Simon 19, 18.
P. Stafford lost to C. Metcalfe -14, -12; bt Fewdsdale -11, 16, 18.
T. Trehwitt lost to Simon 19, -16, -17; bt Metcalfe 23, 18.

The Northern Region League got off to its second season recently with seven teams competing covering Cleveland to Tyne and Wear. Teams are:- Ormesby I and II, North Ormesby Pavilion, Redcar Insurance, Casselworks, Wanderers and Washington.

The latter have opened their fixtures with two wins against Wanderers (8-0) and Ormesby I (7-1). D'urham County Senior League's opening fixtures have been played and Peterlee's title could well be in jeopardy after Sunderland "A" demolished Darlington's attempts at coming away with a 10-0 win. On duty for Sunderland were Tony Gelder, Chris Blake and Stafford. Sunderland "B" had an excellent result when they held Peterlee to a 5-all draw. Tom Bainbridge was unbeaten, the other sets coming from Neil Herrington. Gordon Milburn failed to take a set. Other results were:-

Philadelphia "A" 9 Sunderland "C" 1 and Philadelphia "B" 7 Bishop Auckland 3. And, in the Junior section, Peterlee 6 Bishop Auckland 4; Sunderland 0 Philadelphia "A" 10.

Early leaders in the Sunderland League are:-

Div. 1 Northumbria Centre "A"
Div. 2 Dunlop SC "A"

Div. 3 General Hospital
Div. 4 Southwick Centre "B"

First local tournament of the season was held on Nov. 11 at Consett - the Maureen Kerry Memorial. Peter McQueen took the honours. In the men's singles final he beat Cliff Olsson 18 and 10, then teamed up with his victim to win the men's doubles 16 and 16 against Gelder and Norman Hunt.

Shirley Gelder won the women's singles title beating Lynne Yarnell -22, 21, 21 in a marathon final and added the mixed with husband Tony beating McQueen and Karen Wilkinson 20 and 18. Shock result in the women's singles was the win by Sunderland's Helen Reed who defeated the County's No.2 Linda Spensley 20, -15, 18.

The Junior singles final was an all-Peterlee affair with 15-year-old Paul Young beating 17-year-old Neal Thornley 16, 11. Lynne Bainbridge and Lynne Yarnell were the women's doubles winners beating Linda Spensley and Shirley Gelder 11, -18, 14 in the final.

Trophies were presented by Mr. Gordon Cotton of Swan Chemicals, Kendal who we thank for their sponsorship.

John Holland reports from ...

ESSEX

BUMPER ENTRY

The 1984/85 Essex 'Closed' had a bumper entry (sorry, Middlesex!) and was successfully staged at Bromfords Sports Centre, Wickford, on Nov 27/28. The County's top man was absent. Perhaps Skylet could have taken the Men's title with something to spare but his presence would have added to the occasion.

It's sad to report that two leading men, Kenny Jackson and Ian Horsham, both former internationals, have now bowed out. Kenny's decision is particularly regrettable since he had just gained European selection (and his victims in Moscow included the illustrious Peter Stellwag, former West German champion). I understand that Kenny despairs of making a living out of the game and is concentrating on a career in the fire service. Of course, it's a sad comment on the game when England's No.5 cannot afford to be a full-timer. Let's hope he continues to play for fun. Kenny, you will be missed.

Success of the 'Closed', in terms of trophy weight, was (again) Lisa Hayden. The 15-

year-old Hutton girl retained her girls' singles title in a three-ender with Tanya Holland. She also took the junior mixed title with Tony West the near misses came in the Ladies' singles final where Lisa succumbed to Elaine Sayer at "deuce" in the third and the girls' doubles; in the latter, partnered by Joanne Cook (Brentwood), it was defeat at the hands of Tanya and Gillian Patten (Dagenham), the defending champions.

Dave Newman (Maldon), who never misses the 'Closed', regained the Men's crown with a final success over Des Charlery. He also annexed the men's doubles with 'Aussie' Jeff Drew (who recently ranked 7 down under) and finished runner-up with Kim Hayden in the mixed. The champions in this event were Kevin Caldon (Romford) and Kim Mudge (Dagenham).

James Griffiths (Silvertown) was another to win two titles. He defeated Bernie Lazarus (Dagenham) in the boys' singles final and took the boys' doubles title with Tony West (Wickford).

Player of the tournament for me was the redoubtable Ray Murray (Thurrock). He had an excellent run in the Men's singles, defeating two seeded 'young Turks' in Richard Darnell and Steve Dorking, before falling 19, 19 in a weit-contested quarter-final with Charlery. Then, in the Vets' singles (which sported 10 groups and an entry of 36), he defeated the fancied Alan Stallard in the quarters; yours truly in the semi after trailing 12-17 in the third (bottle, bottle!); in the final he conceded the first end to Brian Parish (Brian had already 'seen off' such first-teamers as Stan Battrick and Peter Radford) and stood 19-20 down in the second. Brian was denied his fourth title in a row by another Murray comeback which took him to comfortable victory in the third. I hope the selectors enjoyed it all as much as I did.

Another effervescent vet made her mark when Shelagh Hession (still bearing the hallmark of the highest class in that wicked chop) scored a popular victory with another former international, Lesley Radford, in the Ladies' doubles final.

Essex 'Closed', Wickford, October 27/28
Results:
BS: Semi-finals James Griffiths bt Tony West 8, 14
Bernie Lazarus bt Damian Holland 16, -10, 11.
BS Final: Griffiths bt Lazarus 18, 18.
GS Semi-finals: Lisa Hayden bt Gillian Patten 16, 10.
Tanya Holland bt Helen Platt (B'wood) 11, 13.
Final: Hayden bt Holland 16, -17, 10.
BD Final: Griffiths/West bt Lazarus/Jeff Davis (Romford)
GD Final: Holland/Patten bt Hayden/Cook 23, -22, 9.
JXD Final: West/Hayden bt Griffiths/Holland 9, 17.
CBS Final: Damian Holland bt Paul Pesce (Ilford) 10, 20.
CGS Final: Kate Gower (B'wood) bt Kelly Bennett (W.F.) 10, 19.

SENIORS
MS Semi-finals: Dave Newman bt Peter Hayden (B'wood) -18, 13, 11.

County Notes

Des Charley bt Kevin Caldan 20.-13,11.
 Final: Newman bt Charley 15.-15,11.
 LS Semi-finals: Lisa Hayden bt Kim Mudge (Dham) 17,8.
 Elaine Sayer bt Tanya Holland -15,16,18.
 Final: Sayer bt Hayden 12.-17,20.
 MO Final: **Newman/Jeff** Drew bt Caldan/Steve White (Dham) 15,16.
 ID Final: Shelagh **Hession/L--ley** Radford bt Mudge/Sayer 18.-20,18.
 VS Semi-finals: Brian Parish bt Peter Radford -16,15,18.
 Ray Murray bt John Holland -13,8,18.
 Final: **Murray** bt Parish -19,20,9.

All Essex has been saddened by the death of a great player, coach and gentleman, Jack Carrington. I only knew Jack personally in the last few years but was deeply impressed by his warmth and generosity to me as a new coach. Johnny Leach has acknowledged Jack's vital part in his success. For me Jack is a symbol of a lost golden age of table tennis when player confronted player, and before the endless arid debates about materials obscured the spectacle of true champion quality. I have only once briefly met Elsie but I should like to extend to her the most sincere condolences of all Essex players and officials in her great loss. Do carry on Jack's tradition Elsie. English table tennis needs you.

Sadly, another popular Essex table tennis personality died in the close season. He was Don McKinven the well-known East London and Waltham Forest player. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family.

On the County Championships front our teams have had mixed fortunes. The re-shuffled Vets' first team of Peter Radford, Stan Battrick, Alan Stallard and Maureen Pemberton has defeated Lincs 5-4 and Middlesex 17-2, in the Premier division. Whereas the second team has suffered two defeats, 4-5 to Cheshire II and 3-6 to Herts II, in Div 3A. Our senior 2nd team defeated Wilts I 6-4 in October but fell 2-8 to Hants I in November, in Div 2B. In 3D, Val Roffe 'managed' our third team to two away wins over Norfolk I and II, on Oct 20. The successful team was Steve Dorking, Paul Sayer, David Cole, Cathy Eakin and Maggie Pavitt. Maggie and Cathy were unbeaten and this was the deciding factor on each occasion.

SENIOR RANKINGS

| Men | Women |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Skylet Andrew | 1. Elaine Sayer |
| 2. Dave Newman | 2. Lisa Hayden |
| 3. Kevin Caldan | 3. Kim Mudge |
| 4. Des Charley | 4. Yvette Brown |
| 5. Tony Penny | 5. Kim Hayden |
| 6. Ies Eadie | 6. Sandra Alborough |
| 7. John Dennison | 7. Tanya Holland |
| 8. Richard Barnell | 8. Liz Hammond |
| 9. Steve Dorking | 9. Cathy Eakin |
| 10. Paul Sayer | 10. Alison Barker |
| 11. Stuart Gibbs | 11. Maggie Pavitt |
| 12. Neil Sweeting | |
| 13. David Cole | |
| 14. Chris Knight | |
| 15. David Window | |

Junior highlight has been the Premier weekend in Birmingham, in October. Our newly-promoted first team have a good chance of retaining their premier

status after winning two matches and losing two-all by the identical score of 7-3. The defeats were suffered at the hands of the powerful Kent and Staffordshire squads. Our successes came against Surrey and a depleted Berkshire. Our squad were relieved to note the absence of the Syed brothers and Jimmy Stokes but I doubt whether Berks officialdom will take a similarly sanguine view. Of course, these very talented young men have other fish to fry.

Star of our team was the consistent Bernie Lazarus with six out of eight single wins - losing only to Adrian Dixon and Andrew Cunningham. Bernie is a great team player whose results when playing for himself belie his talent. Our girls performed well. Lisa will be disappointed that she was again bested by Jill Powis (though successes elsewhere now put Lisa at joint 17, with Jill, in the new national women's list). Gill Patten scored an excellent win over Helen Lower (Staffs). The squad was James Griffiths, Lazarus, Tony West, Damian Holland, Lisa Hayden, Gillian Patten and Helen Platt.

Jeff Drew, who is spearheading Gidea Park's challenge for the Premier title in the Brentwood League, has been putting himself about with good effect in tournaments. He followed up that Essex 'Closed' doubles title with a good run in the Men's Singles at the Midland 3-Star, including a brilliant success over Leicestershire's Chris Rogers. On the same weekend, Nov 10/11, the up-and-coming Gower sisters from Ingatestone - 13-year-old Kate, our cadet champion, and 'big' Alison, just ten - both reached singles finals in the Kent Junior 2-Star. Kate had her best ever tournament win over top-seeded Julie Norman in the CGS semi but then fell to the other Berkshire Julie, the hard-hitting Julie Brion, in the final. Alison reached the U-12 GS final. Her conqueror was the splendid Caroline Buckley who seems to have taken out a patent on winners' trophies in this event the length and breadth of England. I expect to see Caroline making a dent in the Cadet rankings soon and she mustn't be discouraged if the push and block exponents are hard to crack at first. Her willingness to take the initiative will pay dividends in the long run.

In the National League Div 1 Dagenham F.C. were disappointed to fall 3-5 at Butterfly Cardiff. They were capable of winning this one it seemed. The team was Ian Kenyon, Dave Newman, Tony Penny and Steve Dettmar.

Entertaining the league leaders, South Yorkshire, in their

first home match, on Nov 4, the Dagers lost 2-6, but not without a stern fight. An appreciative audience saw some highly entertaining sets. Best home performance was Kevin Caldan's fine win over Steve Mills. Mills never quite got the measure of Caldan's spiny loops, especially from the backhand. This made the score 2-2 but this was the last home success.

Most exciting player on view was Chu Van Que, the lightning fast, Vietnamese pen-grip player. He was much too quick for both Kenyon and Penny. Derek Schofield and Matt Shearer won't be too delighted to welcome Chu to the Vets' ranks next season. Apart from Caldan, the other winning Dagger was Penny, in a gripping, fluctuating three-ender with Shaun Browne.

Scores:-

I. Kenyon lost to Chu Van Que -17,-13.
 D. Newman lost to Chris Rogers -15,-18.
 T. Penny bt Shaun Browne -19,22,15.
 K. Caldan bt Steve Mills 18,18.
 Kenyon lost to Chris Rogers 17,-16,-12.
 Newman lost to Steve Mills -9,-15.
 Penny lost to Chu Van Que -11,-16.
 Caldan lost to Shaun Browne -15,16,-11.

In Div 3(E) Witham Town are still among the leaders after four matches. At home to Norwich Foxwoods they suffered the hiccup of a 3-5 defeat. This was a top half problem with Nicky Standen and Peter Hayden (coming in for Keith Fellows) both losing two. Terry Dowsett kept his unbeaten record and Robin Lang was within an ace of doing the same when he stood 20-14 up in the third against Doug Bennett, but Doug clawed his way back to victory. However, Town buried this setback in fine style in their next home match against Soham II, running out 8-0 winners. The team was Standen, Fellows, Hayden and Terry Dowsett.

The major event on the admin front is that Dick Roffe (No, you can't keep a good man down!) has assumed the mantle of Essex Coaching Officer. I understand that Dick sees himself as mainly an organiser/facilitator with Malcolm Cole assuming the role of leading coach. Dick has swiftly called a meeting of all active Essex coaches on Nov. 18 so let's hope a new era is dawning.

Recent heart-searching in the County about the future of Essex table tennis has been stimulated by Ray George, our Junior Match Secretary, asking the September Management meeting "what are we sitting here for?" He wasn't alluding to the imminence of closing time in Clacton but to the erosion of our County game with the loss of players, teams, divisions and even entire leagues in the last few years. A small working party is seeking to analyse this malaise with a view to reversing this trend. Their first project was to circulate a ques-

tionnaire to players at the Essex 'Closed'. I'll report progress in subsequent notes.

Alf Pepperd reports from.....

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

In last month's I mentioned the plain facts of the 1980's and subsequent fears for many local clubs in so far that long established playing headquarters were being bull-dozed to the ground to make way for Mid-80's improvements.

This indeed has a relevant bearing upon my "Club of the month", which is "Longford" in the Gloucester City League, because this club especially conjures up this lamentable situation in a nutshell, in fact Longford is today, "A SURVIVORS CLUB", primarily because most of its members have been members of other clubs who once were quite large and established, but alas fell foul to modern day requirements, i.e.- Road works, New Office Blocks, "You name it". When it became apparent in 1980, that there were insufficient clubs to accommodate a surfeit of players in Gloucester, two very well known stalwarts of City clubs and League - Norman Saunders and Jack Reeves - formed, "The Longford T.T.C." and commenced operations in the old Church Hall in Victoria Road, Longford. Much depended on the voluntary efforts of a small nucleus of dedicated enthusiasts, augmented by the proceeds of the odd jumble sale.

Progress to become established has necessarily been slow, but season 1983-4 saw the club begin to make its mark in League circles by winning the second and fifth Division team championships in the City League, plus members winning several individual titles, the club's most recent recruit, "Manny Masih" won the Cities 2nd Division Singles this past season, the club also have high hopes for the future for - Atul Patel and Martin Bell.

The club has teams in Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4, indeed an ideal situation for an ambitious young player wishing to spread his/her table tennis wings.

The club readily admits that certain aspects of its facilities require improving, but this is dictated by finance; the first priority it would seem is the renovation of their somewhat old (pre-war) table and while this has to be a 'Do it Yourself' exercise, other problems arise as well, but there is a solid deter-

mination to succeed, and hopefully, the club will progress to become a force to contend with, within the City's League. Good luck Longford T.T.C.

COUNTY PREMIER LEAGUE
The above was only launched last season but proved so popular (contrary to a small amount of misinformed sceptics - who evidently had other thoughts) that it is being run again this season. All matches will be organised at Chosen Hill School, Churchdown, the first match on Friday Nov. 9, with nine more to follow. Teams are as follows,-

First named player is the Captain Darren Griffin, Martin Lane, Guy Greening.

Andrew Golding, Sylvester Callum, Paul Glead.

Steve Moreman, Frank Jones, Manny Masih.

Richard Russell, Paul Tsakarisianos, Robert Stroud.

Neil Taylor, Alan Giles, Craig Saunders.

Graham Slack, David Smith, Adrian Vale.

As well as the above mentioned the League has 14 players of 1st Div standard to call on in the event of reserves being required.

First Official Ranking (County) list of the season.

Gloucester = G. Stroud = S.
Cheltenham = C.

Senior Men.
Darren Griffin (G).
Paul Jackson (G).
Andrew Golding (S).
Neil Taylor (S).
Graham Slack (C).
Steve Moreman (G).
Martin Lane (G).
William Dawe (G).
Frank Jones (C).
Sylvester Callum (C).
Paul Tsakarisianos (C).
David Smith (G).

Senior Women.
Nina Tsakarisianos (G).
Christine Læopi (G).
Cathy Robb (C).
Jenny Ellery (G).
Heather Colwill (G).
Julia Evans (C).
Sue Webley (S).
Julie Bearcroft (C).
June Hall (C).
Clare Symonds (G).

Junior Boys.
Craig Saunders (G).
Dale Saunders (G).
Lawrence Symonds (G).
Tony Wilson (G).
Howard Williams (S).
Neil Gingell (S).
Adam Peck (C).
Gary Thomas (G).
Robert Pobjoy (S).
Keith Rodway (S).

Junior Girls
Jenny Ellery (G).
Sue Webley (S).
Clare Symonds (G).
Dawn Bowles (C).
Nikki Clarke (C).
Jenny Egan (C).
Lis Turner (C).
Caroline Steiner (C).
Lisra Maisey (C).

County News (Seniors)

After last year's unbeaten success in the Third Division, Glo'shire now in Div 2 are finding the pace extremely hard. To date

of writing, with the exception of our first match encounter with Essex (also promoted from Div. 3) County players will, I feel sure, not take umbrage if I say that had it not been for the timely intervention of Neil Taylor, an Australian "Just over here", the last two matches would have been total "whitewashes".

In the first (v Devonshire), Taylor won the sole set for Gloucestershire with a two-straight defeat of Paul Whiting 19 and 11. In the next County match versus Sussex again Taylor was the ONLY PLAYER to make any impression at all, beating Phil Smith - 17 and 21, then following up with a two-straight win over Adrian Moore 23 and 18.

Gloucestershire will indeed have to produce a much higher standard of play to avoid relegation.

Juniors

Our Juniors played Worc's and the latter finally emerged 6-4 winners. This was a match where golden chances offered to our male players were perhaps wasted, and Glo'shire for the want of a little more concentration could have won or at least forced a draw.

Making her County debut, 13-year-old Cheltenham schoolgirl - Jenny Egan, not only helped her doubles partner Jenny Ellery to a win, but also beat her Worcestershire opponent - Sue Burgess. Jenny Egan showed all the confidence usually associated with much older and experienced Juniors.

In their match with Warwicks, the result was a 5-5 draw. Unfortunately our top-ranked player Jenny Ellery was not available for this match, had she been, it could well have been a 6-4 win. Making his first appearance for the County this season Lawrence Symonds won one of his singles as indeed did Dale and Craig Saunders, the latter paired together won the double v Smith and Todd 17 and 12.

Bits and Pieces, or Odds and Ends

Hearty congratulations to Cheltenham's International Umpire - George Payne who married Ann Hedger on Oct 27 at St Andrew's Church, Cheltenham. I understand that the Bride and Groom honeymooned in Venice and Florence, about the time of the Italian Championships as well?

Well done Andy Seward, Chairman of Cheltenham T.T.A. for taking over as Non-Playing Captain of the County Juniors, and many thanks to Paddy Jackson for holding the job for so long.

Nice to see Gloucester's "Darren Griffin" teamed up with - Mark Owen and Michael Owens and playing for "The Hereford Times" in the Third Division West, of the Halex National League.

Paul Jackson a resident of Bristol who played for Gloucestershire last season - plays 1st Division in the Halex League for "Bath Toyota". Paul's teammates are:- Carl Preat, Andy Creed, Kevin Edwards, Adrian Moore and Chris Sewell.

Well done Cinderford - for obtaining much better playing H.Q. than that which you had last year at - The White Hart Hotel. I hear favourable reports upon your new premises at Newham-upon-Severn.

Stop Press, "The Providence Captial County Premier League" have just released the names of their respective teams, They are:- Team "A" Taylor's Pommies, Team "B", Golding's Gold-diggers, Team "C", Griffin's Tornados, Team "O", Russell's Razzle Dazzlers, Team "E", Moreman's Muppets, Team "F", Slack's Savages. The mind simply BOGGLES at what may transpire? Full report next month.

Severn-Sound Independent Radio

To date of this report going to press I have completed seven regular weekly broadcasts in an effort to spread the table tennis Gospel, and have also had the pleasure of a 5/2 minute interview with County/City/Coach - Paddy Jackson, the latter was broadcast on Nov 3.

Doubles:

Were both won by Herts.
Alison Boxall/Tracy Baines
Peter Harris/Derek Rogers

Junior 2nd team played away to Essex III losing 1-9.

Team: Richard Cook (NH), James Patterson (WH), Michael Boardman (HH), Vicky Margerri-son (Ba), Caroline Seaholme (Wa).

The Mixed Doubles was won by MB/VM.

Veterans' 1st team played away to Notts winning 5-4.

Team: David Seaholme (Wa), Derek Somers (Ba) 2, Alan Lamprell (Ba) 1, Margt Harris (Ba) 1. Also win in mixed doubles.

Veterans' 2nd team were home to Essex II winning 6-3. Team: Terry Wilson (Ba), Geoff Bax (Wa), George Tyler (Ba), Sylvia Tyler (Ba). Herts won both doubles events.

Veterans' 3rd team were home to Hants II winning 6-3. Team: Keith Hartridge (WH), David Wilson (WH), Brian Gale (Ba), Gill White (StA). Herts won both doubles.

Diary dates - Barnet Table Tennis Centre.

| | Dec. 1 |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Veterans I & III | 2 |
| Inter League - Veterans | 9 |
| Junior Closed | 15 |
| Junior Training | 16 |
| Inter League - Senior | 30 |
| Coaching course (5 days) commencing | 30 |
| Inter League - Veterans | Jan 13 |
| Junior Training | 19 |
| Junior 1st, Senior, Veterans II | 26 |

John Preat looks....

BEYOND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

BEST-EVER COUNTY TEAM

I was quoted in our local newspaper to that effect and that is what we have IF we can field all our best players at anyone time. Murray Corbin called our 5-5 draw with Somerset II in Yeovil a good result - for Somerset. Thanks, Murray, for your confidence.

WE CRASH IN CORNWALL

Without Jim Daly who is a postman and sometimes works on Saturdays and Carl Preat who was on England duty (Desmond Douglas and he won the Men's Doubles at the Dutch Open) we sank with little trace in Launceston. Regina Stevens (again) and the ladies' doubles (with Jackie Urry) was all we got. Our players returned much impressed with Cornwall's veteran John Bassett who hounded them to conclusive defeats with his hard bat.

Harry Stevens reports from....

HERTFORDSHIRE

FIRST IN FOUR

Junior 1st team were away to Essex II and had a 6-4 win.

This is the first time that a Herts Junior team has managed to defeat an Essex team for more than four years.

Singles:

Peter Harris (Wa) 1
Derek Rogers (Ch) 1
Alison Boxall (Ch) 1
TracyBaines (NH) 1

Doubles:

Win for PH/DR and AB/TB

Junior 1st team home to Wilts I and drew 5-5.

A draw was a fair reflection of the play with 8 out of the 10 sets going to three games.

Singles:

Peter Harris 2
Derek Rogers 1

County Notes

County matches are our show pieces and we want to have our best side. Anything else is unfair on players of both sides and the few spectators that come. Again the villain of the piece is the English season which is arranged for maximum discomfort and congestion and deprives us of our best player. I take some encouragement from Tom Blunn's article in the November issue. I hope that it is realised that both the quantity and quality of our season are suspect.

Our season is now in tatters, because respectable mediocrity is all we can aspire to in our league position after this defeat. It was a season which had promised so much. Cornwall, I am sure, would have agreed to a rearrangement (as Somerset had very kindly done). So full is Carl's fixture list that I was able to offer them no dates at all.

RAT RACE

Leading players' commitments now resemble a rat race. You CAN escape for the odd week-end, but you will then lose many computer points and drop in your rankings after which your income drops as you lose your sponsorship and the few paid engagements that are around. There is now some realisation of the problem. Moscow has concentrated our minds and some halting attempts at reform may be noted. There is not yet an environment in England which will produce a string of successful international players, but I propose to give the subject a rest, so that our administrators have time to come to grips with the problem.

TWO MORE DRAWS. BUT GOOD STUFF

We looked forward to our match against Somerset I after that cracking draw against the 2nd team. We did have our full side out against what I regard as the best team in the division whom we had never beaten. In that ambition we failed again, but a 5-5 draw was a good result for us. Somerset might feel that they had slightly the better of things as they lost three very close sets. The set between Regina Stevens and Rebecca Russe answered fully the detractors of ladies' table tennis, a splendid contest between defence and attack. That match, the men's doubles, two from C.P. and one from the irrepressible Jim Daly gave us a hard-earned point.

We missed Regina against Wiltshire II and it was left to the Daly-Prean double act to rescue a point as they had done so often before. The veteran played with the zest and speed of a junior in yet another tour de force. It was our third draw, good on the

football pools, but short of our best hopes here.

FUTURE OF OUR COUNTY TEAM IN DOUBT

Regina will leave the Island at the end of the season and we shall then be short of ladies at this level. We had a squad of 6 or 7 when we started as a county a few years ago, since when it has been more like an Agatha Christie play which ends and then there were none'. Retirements, loss of interest remain the main enemies. Others move where employment and further education prospects are better. Joy Batten left County Table Tennis rather than change her hard bat (same colour both sides and same rubber). New members are not coming. Short of a miracle we shall not have enough ladies to keep a team going and our men will be left high and dry, the local scene impoverished. The 3:2 ratio that the County set up demands remains grotesque and counter-productive. A 3:1 ratio would mean more, not less teams and more likely to fit into one car and so keep costs down. No such thoughts have occurred to administrators (by which I mean the members of the County Championships Conference) and so we muddle on or, in some cases, we don't.

TWO COLOUR BATS FOR LOCAL LEAGUES?

I have heard rumours that forces are gathering to make two colour bats compulsory in our local leagues where, in the main, this was rejected. I can think of nothing more likely to lose us members. A number of players have told me that, if this happens, they will give up competitive play and their ETTA membership. Shortly before the colour rule change, suppliers were unloading single colour bats in great numbers at bargain prices to unsuspecting retailers unaware of the political background. If local leagues had accepted the change many of their members would have bought a pup. These bats were dumped on the market at prices hard to resist and were widely bought.

If there was a case against funny bats, they should have been banned at the outset which was at least 8 years ago. In the meantime a new generation has grown up that is playing with these rubbers and we are in a new ball game. Locally, only the top players and ambitious ones at the bottom want to buy new rubbers before the old one falls apart. That is due to the high prices that are being charged and THAT is now the main argument against further compulsion at local level.

ISOLATION CONTINUES

The question I am asked very often concerns the small numbers of our players that take part in 'overseas' tournaments. That is the major tragedy of the ETTA: The isolation of fringe areas and ours is not the only one. To participate fully in national activities is a virtual impossibility.

I recall taking a particularly talented cadet to a ranking tournament, a player who could take games off Prean. It was not terribly far away, but a 9 o'clock start meant that we had to leave home at 4.30 to catch the 5 o'clock boat. The tournament went on for 13½ hours although most the kids were no more than 12 or 13. We missed our boat and I delivered my charge to his parents in the early hours of the morning, after which both parents AND SON decided that there were more sensibly organised sports and that really was the end. Kids have to be at school, adults at work, but Table Tennis in the main is arranged in a way that ignores the existence of such unpleasant diversions. Organisers impose on small, young children the social life of croupiers. There is no villainy, it is all well meant, books have to be balanced, a profit made (if possible) for the local association. It is a laudible cause, but in the end it is a mess. Only a regional, graduated tournament ladder will do justice to the Sport and all members. Until this comes, good players in an area like ours have nowhere to go. They quickly outgrow their local league. The next step is the rat race, the journey to Cleveland to play a couple of matches, at a cost that ensures poverty the rest of the week. There has to be a better way.

THE GRANTS SHOWED THE WAY

There IS a great deal of talent in the Cinderella regions and counties, but it is seldom tapped. Any player who makes a national impact usually does so as a result of individual enterprise and family sacrifice. 25 or more years ago Derek Grant, who played for the Ventnor Club and was coached by his father Ted, was an English Junior International. The Grants showed the way and their example was an inspiration for Carl. Is ONCE every quarter century enough? Is the ETTA doing enough in the Regions?

BRAVE, CHARLES CHURCH ... BUT NOT ETTA

I read with pleasure and admiration of the Charles Church sponsorship of English Table Tennis. In a gracious announcement Managing Director Mr. John Duggan said ".....English players rank with the world's best and the sport deserves

success and encouragement."

The first sponsored tournament of the season will be the Charles Church Invitation Event in January. It is the only E.T.T.A. event where prize money will be other than small, where audiences will number more than a few dozen. English players may chase up and down the motorway for peanuts, but when there is a little more at the end of it, both in material and prestige terms, our ETTA calls in players from other countries. There will be seven of these and Desmond Douglas.

This is not a plea, as some will say, for Carl Prean who had his chance last year, but for other English players who have made great efforts and strides this season and deserved precisely the encouragement the Sponsor visualized and which they are NOT getting here. Whether they would grasp this opportunity we do not know. If they are not given it, they cannot.

Let us not mince words: Once again the English Table Tennis Association has let down English Table Tennis.

Terry Bown reports from...

LEICESTERSHIRE

FOLLOW THAT!

Leicestershire Notes. I hope, are back in print having missed the last two issues due to the sad and sudden passing away of our much respected columnist, Phil Reid. Whilst the Leicestershire committee have been busy re-assembling their troops, this writer knows only too well that to succeed Phil is certainly a case of FOLLOW THAT!!

Pride of place amongst the latest batch of County Championship results went to the Veterans who trounced Oxfordshire 9-0 in Div 2A. All seven of the singles were won in two straight, with the only problems of the afternoon taking place in the doubles where both sets required a deciding game. After a four year absence, Glenys Odams made a welcomed return to County duty with a victory over Oxen's Gladys Loft

The Juniors in Div 2A, have suffered a disappointing start to the season losing their first three fixtures. In the latest of these, a 7-3 defeat at the hands of Cheshire. Loughborough's Paul Bumpus lost his 100% record to B. Wentworth in a tight two-ender. Nevertheless, the trip to Ellesmere Port was not entirely fruitless. Tracey Clark and Gail Chapman won an exciting Girls' Doubles, whilst Paul and Tracey had victories over S. Jones and Miss A. Hall respectively.

Having achieved wins at the expense of Staffordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Senior squad went into their third match, away to Lancashire II, without England International Karen Smith, who was guesting in another match, a wedding. Leicestershire stormed into a 3-0 lead thanks to Chris Rogers, Martin Pickles and Dave Gannon, only for Lanes to reciprocate with four wins of their own. In the end a draw was the outcome with Gannon clinching the point with an impressive success over Lancashire's A. Leigh.

Veterans

Geoff Aldwinckle bt Alf Davies 11.10.
Colin Truman bt Ian Arnold 8.18.
John Iliffe bt Dave Harse 7.13.
Glenys Odams/John Iliffe bt Gladys Ioft/Arnold 16. -18. 17.
Aldwinckle/Truman bt Davies/Harse 19. -17. 21.
Odams bt Ioft 15.15.
Aldwinckle bt Arnold 15.9.
Iliffe bt Davies 12.15.
Truman bt Harse 8.17.

Juniors

B. Wentworth bt Paul Bumpus 18.19.
A. Taylor bt Ian Brown 11.15.
S. Jones bt Richard Grimley 19.18.
Miss Hall/Miss Jones 151 lost to Gail Chapman Tracey Clark -11. 20. -11;
Taylor/Wentworth bt Bumpus/Brown 5. -14. 15.
Wentworth bt Brown 13.10.
A. Jones bt Chapman 15.19.
S. Jones lost to Bumpus -18. -17;
Hall lost to Clark -14. -18.
Taylor bt Grimley 15.15.

Seniors (Lanes names first)

A. Gray lost to Chris Rogers -5. -16;
A. Leigh lost to Martin Pickles -19. 17. 14;
P. Aspinhall lost to Dave Gannon 11. -18. -10;
C. Whitehead/A. Goodwin bt Julie Revill/Vyonna Hall -20. 15. 17;
Rogers/Aspinhall
Gray bt Gannon -8. 13. 19.
Gray bt Pickles 19. 23. 18.
Whitehead bt Hall -20.15.17.
Aspinhall lost to Rogers -8. -5;
Goodwin bt Revill -18. -16. 18;
Leigh lost to Gannon -19. -14.

Champions not defending their title!?! Never heard of such a thing, but it has happened. The Midland League organiser, Geoff Aldwinckle, witnessed the collection of the first division trophy by the Leicester 'B' team at the Leicester Leagues A.G.M., only to learn six weeks later that this team had to withdraw for the coming season owing to the unavailability of players at this standard. Shame. Notwithstanding Geoff informs us that we will still be operating Men's, Ladies', Veterans' and Juniors' in all the respective first divisions.

In the two results to hand, the Ladies succumbed to a strong Birmingham 'B' team. Despite the 8-2 scoreline, the Leicester trio of Yvonne Hall, Sandra Hall, and Jane Heath put up a good performance. Yvonne won the brace for Leicester.

The Juniors lost by a similar margin at home to Wolverhampton. None-playing captain Harry Ward, reports that despite the 8-2 scoreline the team played with great spirit. Michael Gillett featured in a superb set against Mark Roden, winning in great style. Knighton Park's Ian Brown took the other set against Julian Weston.

A glut of avoidable early season team withdrawals caused plenty of needless problems for the Leicestershire League Gen. Sec. Mike Smith. Nevertheless these problems have been ironed out and the current divisional leaders are as follows:

DIV. 1. Great Glen lead having dropped 1pt but, lying ominously in 2nd place are the champions of the last two seasons, Knighton Park who have won all three matches losing only 2 sets out of 30. DIV. 2. Relegated from Div 1 last season, Thorn EMil currently top the division with the Knighton Park third string in second place on equal points having played one match more. DIV 3. Gary Alden's 100% record is the main reason why Great Glen's second team head the division whilst in second place, British Shoe Corp. 1 have Dave Wagstaff and Bob Davies to thank. DIV 4. Coalville's club Broomleys I have swept all before them including a narrow win over their nearest challengers Belgrave Liberals 1. DIV 5. L.U.C.A. (Leicester United Caribbean Association) head the division after four straight wins. County Hall 1 are placed second with some good performances from Gary Kirk. DIV 6. Mick Pollard has helped Thorn EMI 3 to the top of the pile although second placed Epworth are level on points with a match in hand. DIV 7. In only their third season Newark have risen from division 17 to 7 which they currently top. Hard on the heels are Wigston Fields 1 who have lost 1 point. DIV 8. One set only separates Knighton Park 9 who have the advantage, and Leicester Deaf 1 whose Arthur Clarke is performing well. DIV 9. Paul Rawson and Ian Holdridge are doing their stuff for Leicester Building Society 5, unbeaten at the top of the division. A good all-round effort has seen Oadby URC 2 secure second place. DIV 10. Abbey 2 have administered the last rites on all challengers so far and second placed Post Office 4 head their third team in third place. DIV 11. Leicester Electricity 4 have powered their way to the top. Groby 3 hold second place with Steve Lomas showing well. DIV 13. Highfield Rangers and Post Office 5 are currently locked at the top with only alphabetical order separating them. DIV 14. In a close division, Hogg Robinson 3 are top closely challenged by Camber International 2 whose Derek Jordan and Mark Snape are performing admirably. DIV 15. L.A.Y.A. (Leicester Asian Youth Association) are enjoying their first appearance in the League by topping the division closely followed by Thorn EMI4. DIV 16. L.A.Y.A. 2 are unbeaten

at the top with R. Khan doing well. Abbey 3 are second on sets difference in what is proving to be a very tight division. DIV 17. New club Charis currently lead the division with an all-round team effort. Maccabi 2, in second place, have both David Cheyette and Phil Cooklin performing well.

Kath Fisher reports from....

LINCOLNSHIRE GOOD TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Lines players are having good results on the tournament scene. At Woodfield Matt Sheader reached the men's and veterans' singles finals as well as, with Brian Allison, the men's doubles, Derek Schofield proving the thorn in his side in all three. In the North of England 2-Star Matt won the vets' title with Brian the runner-up and Dave Harper (Lincoln) doing very well in reaching the semis.

In the Inter-Town competitions Grimsby beat Grantham 7-3. Pauline Hale, Connie Moran and Kath Fisher won two each but, as expected, all lost to Jane Wingad. Connie and Kath took the doubles against Jane and Joanne Craik 19 in the 3rd. It was nice to see Cathy Bryan returning to the game and playing in this match but, despite losing, a little more match play should see her strengthening the Grantham team.

In the Haigh Cup Louth beat Grimsby 7-3 Matt and Brian winning three each and the doubles, but Ian Walker and Pete Taylor both managed to take a game off Matt. In the County Championships Div 3A Lines beat Durham 6-4 the team comprising Dave Skerratt, Andy Thompson, Stuart Worrall, Susan Radley with Jane Wingad standing in for the unavailable Suzanne Hunt.

Dave played well to take his singles and, with Stuart, the men's doubles. Andy and Stuart both beat G. Webstell and Jane and Susan both won their singles to provide a good result. ~~The match was away to Derby, and the 5-0 draw was a bit disappointing. Suzanne and Susan both won their sets easily and Dave, after being 2-0 down to Stephen Yellop caught up and won 2 straight then, with Stuart, won the doubles.~~

The veterans made a good start in the Premier Division winning 8-1 against Middlesex, Babs Adedayo saving the "white-wash" by beating Allison. Unfortunately they lost their next

match when beaten 5-4 by Essex 1. Next they took on Kent and in one of the best matches I have seen they emerged the winners 5-4, their first victory ever over this team!

Allison beat Bob Laughton and just lost to Henry Buist "deuce" in the third. Sheader won both his singles but the set between him and Buist had to be seen to be believed. There were some great rallies with Buist hitting some beautiful shots each looking a winner but Matt just kept getting them back causing Henry, with a laugh, to ask if someone over there was helping. A truly remarkable set.

Matt and Brian both played well to take the doubles but Kent took the women's singles and mixed, Connie Moran not playing as well as we know she can. With the score at 4-4 Brian Edlington came to the table and as usual gave his all to take the set and the match for Lines.

John Barber reports on the....

MIDLAND LEAGUE EXTRA AWARDS

Some extra awards will be presented at the end of the season. The individual in each division, with the most wins, will receive an award.

There are some withdrawals to report - Leicester "B" from Mens' Division 1, Stratford-on-Avon from Junior Div. 3, and Cheltenham from Junior Div. 4.

In the Men's Div. 1, Potteries "A" won 6-4 at Birmingham and Wolverhampton "A" beat Gloucester "A" at home by the same score. In Div. 2, Notts "B" and Potteries "B" have started with two wins apiece. N. Jobling is unbeaten for the latter with 6 wins. Cheltenham gave Potteries a close match going down 4-6. Stroud took all 10 against Cheltenham who also lost 3-7 at Notts "B". Wolves "C" were also on the losing side against the two pace-setters' teams.

In Div. 3 Malcolm Langford won his 3 against Burton who were held to a 5-5 draw. Stafford were engaged in a closely-contested match with Telford and took four of the six sets which went to the third. Bob Murray won his three and M. Beaman was best for Telford with a double.

In Men's 4, Eastwood led Notts "C" 3-1 but the visitors fought back strongly in a tremendous game to win 7-3. Again, six went to the third, Notts taking four. In another closely contested match, Dudley won 6-4 at Leamington "B". Dudley also beat Bath 6-4 both teams making their debut in

County Notes

the league. Both followed with wins against the "B" teams of Gloucester and Cheltenham. Leamington "B" were outclassed 1-9 against a strong Eastwood team.

In Veterans' Div. 1 Birmingham "A" won 6-4 at Telford and 9-1 at home to Notts liB", and their "B" team beat Walsall 7-3 in their usual well-contested game. Oxford, with newcomers Jackson and Harse, won 8-2 against Leicester. In Div. 2 Coventry "A" have made a fine start with 3 wins, and Oxford "B" won well at Cheltenham, Len Pratt taking three.

In Junior Div 1, Notts "A" were too strong for Loughborough taking all 0, and with maximum points from 3 matches look favourites for the title.

In Div. 4 Graham Cunningham was in fine form for Leamington against Nuneaton, winning three singles and the doubles with Ian Pery. His side won 8-2, but Nuneaton were below strength. Rugby were too strong for a young Walsall "C" side who played two cadets. Stroud also had maximum wins against Worcester "B" and Nuneaton. In Div 5, Kidderminster have set the pace with two 10-0 wins.

In the Women's Division, Wolverhampton with Jill Powis, Jill Harris and Fiona Elliot won 9-1 against Birmingham "A" who had good wins over Leicester and Bristol.

Results:

Men's Div. 1:
Birmingham 4 Potteries "A" 6
Wolves "A" 6 Gloucester "A" 4
Div. 2:
Notts "A" 6 Coventry "A" 4
Cheltenham "A" 4 Potteries "B" 6
Wolves "C" 4 Coventry "A" 6
Stroud 10 Cheltenham 0
Notts "B" 7 Cheltenham "A" 3
Wolves "C" 3 Notts "B" 7
Potteries 8 Wolves "C" 2
Div. 3:
Loughborough 3 Derby 7
Nuneaton 7 Stafford 3
Telford 5 Burton 5
Burton 3 Leamington "A" 7
Stafford 7 Telford 3
Div. 4:
Eastwood 3 Notts "C" 7
Coventry "B" 3 Eastwood 7
Bath 9 Cheltenham "B" 1
Leamington "B" 4 Dudley 6
Dudley 6 Bath 4
Eastwood 9 Leamington "B" 1
Gloucs. 4 Bath 6
VETERANS' Div 1:
Telford 4 Birmingham "A" 6
Birmingham "A" 4 Notts "B" 6
Birmingham "B" 7 Walsall 3
Oxford 8 Leicester 2
Div. 2:
Cheltenham 3 Oxford "B" 7
Stroud 4 Kidderminster 6
Coventry "B" 1 Coventry "A" 9
West Brom 4 Stratford 6
Kidderminster 4 Coventry "A" 6
Coventry "A" 7 Cheltenham 3
JUNIORS Div 1:
Notts "A" 10 Loughborough 0
Div. 2:
Notts "B" 2 Walsall "A" 8
Pontesbury 6 Worcester 4
Worcester 6 Walsall 4
Div. 3:
Stafford 9 Bromsgrove "A" 1
Eastwood 8 Coventry "C" 2
Div. 4:
Leamington 8 Nuneaton 2
Walsall "C" 0 Rugby 10
Stroud 10 Worcester "B" 0
Nuneaton 0 Stroud 10
Div. 5:
Bromsgrove "B" 2 Mansfield "A" 8
Mansfield "B" 0 Dudley 10
Mansfield "A" 0 Kidderminster 10
Kidderminster 10 W. Bromwich 0

WOMEN'S DIVISION
Birmingham "B" 1 Bristol 9
Birmingham "B" 8 Leicester 2
Wolverhampton 9 Birmingham "A" 1
Birmingham "A" 7 Notts 3
Notts 8 Derby 2
INTERMEDIATE DIV.
Hinckley 7 Walsall 3

Dennis Millman reports from ...

NORTHANTS

SEVENTH TIME OF ASKING

At the seventh time of asking, Northants gained a County Championships win when the Veterans got the better of a four hour battle with Hunts Seconds. As usual Keith Jones and Joyce Porter took the principal honours as they remained unbeaten in singles and doubles, while Dennis Millman gave valuable support with a singles win and a doubles success in partnership with Tom Kelly, whose defensive skills were not tested by the expedite-conscious Ken Green, as Green finally achieved both that goal and personal victory.

Earlier in the day the Juniors had come close to winning an away fixture with Dorset, but despite two fine wins each from Andy Trott and Richard Elliott and one from Raymond Jacobs, the strength of the Dorset girls enabled the home side to gain a somewhat fortunate draw.

Previously the County Firsts had also come within a few points of an outright win, when an unbeaten Graham McKim, two singles from Iain Randle and a McKim/Ian Hawes doubles ensured a share of the spoils with Oxfordshire but the County Seconds found themselves well beaten by Clwyd for whom Trevor Manning excelled. Even a much improved Phil Snelling who gained Northants' solitary point was unable to cope with Manning's deceptively subtle skills.

The Midland Bank County Tournament could answer some of the selectors' problems, with only Keith Nicoll and Mandy Brown missing from a strong entry but the latest ranking lists show few changes, the most significant being the interchanging of Hawes and Iain Randle with the Daventry and former Warwickshire player now taking the No. 2 position behind McKim.

One pleasing feature of the home matches has been the standard of umpiring with numerous officials available on each occasion. Thanks for this healthy state of affairs are due to Arthur Palmer who has quickly got to grips with a difficult situation, and his second tenancy of the position of County Umpires Secretary.

On the league front, Malcolm Dillely Associates are currently getting the better of Abington Nomads in Northampton, but already this appears to be a two horse race, with Nomads adding Steve Lyon and Dave Marsh to their original side in an effort to wrest the title away from the former Lings' team.

The transferring of McKim's allegiance from Kettering Town to Corby has opened up Kettering's Premier Division and the latest position here is as follows:

| Team | W | L | D | Pts |
|---------------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Kettering Town 'A' | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| Rothborough 'A' | 7 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| Wellingborough Town | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Corby 'A' | 8 | 5 | 0 | 3 |
| Team Electric 'A' | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 |

Individual Averages

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) Graeme McKim (Corby) | 21 - 21 = 100% |
| 2) Keith Nicoll (Rothborough) | 20 - 21 = 95.2% |
| 3) Ian Hawes (Wellingborough) | 19 - 21 = 90.5% |
| 4) Andy Edmonds (Kettering 1) | 18 - 21 = 85.7% |
| Chris Handshaw (Kettering 1) | 18 - 21 = 85.7% |
| Steve West (Team Electric) | 18 - 21 = 85.7% |
| 7) Ken Nicoll (Rothborough) | 16 - 21 = 76.2% |
| 8) Andy Trott (Kettering 1) | 15 - 21 = 71.4% |

A well-balanced Chapman's squad, regularly winner of Wellingborough's Premier Division, found themselves headed for the first five weeks by Burton Latimer's unlikely trio of Alan Ashberry, Alan Bell and Millman, but in the end Chapman's real challengers will be Higham Band Club, whose achievements have so fired the imagination of local enthusiasts that the side receive the vocal support of some twenty knowledgeable enthusiasts at each home fixture. What a boost table tennis would have if this welcome trend should be repeated throughout the length and breadth of the land!

Pauline Long reports from

NORTHUMBERLAND

STILL UNBEATEN

The Northumberland County junior team are still unbeaten after their first three matches in Div. 2A. They came from behind to force their second successive draw when they visited Yorkshire Lion Oct. 20, with Thomas Blackman again winning both of his singles, and combining with fellow left-hander Keith Patterson to take the boys' doubles. Peter Curry won one of his sets, and Clare Mouzon scored a victory in her singles.

Results
Blackman bt Matthew Connell 14,16; bt Mark Land -13,19,10.
Patterson lost to Connell -11,-9; lost to Tony Miller -13,-9.
Curry bt Land 16,14; lost to Miller -14,-14.
Blackman/Patterson bt Connell/Miller -17, 20, 15.
Clare Mouzon bt Ruth Bray 15,16.
Denise Wilkinson lost to Catherine Bray -11,-18.
Mouzon/Wilkinson lost to Bray/Bray -20,-17.

They were forced to make two changes for their next match at home to Warwickshire on Nov.

3, when both Blackman and Patterson were unavailable. Stephen Waugh and David Watson were drafted into the team, and Watson certainly took the opportunity to impress the selectors and justify his inclusion by winning both his singles and only narrowly failing in the doubles with Curry, who also won a set. Clare and Denise were undefeated in both singles and doubles for the first time this season, and this was enough to give the home side their first win of the season by 6-4.

Results

Curry lost to Mark Randle -17,-11; bt Nigel Mayo 16,19.
Waugh lost to Randle -15,-12; lost to Veerenda Chauhan -10, -17.
Watson bt Mayo 20,11; bt Chauhan -16,20,15.
Curry/Watson lost to Randle/Chauhan 14, -16, 18.
Mouzon bt Dawn Bromley 10,9.
Wilkinson bt Tracey Green 19,17.
Mouzon/Wilkinson bt Bromley/Green 15,16.

The senior match at home to Northants on the same day as the Warwickshire fixture, was postponed at the request of the visiting team, who in view of the travelling distance involved preferred to play during an afternoon. A new date is still being arranged.

The November County ranking lists have recently been released, and as promised the amended senior rankings are shown below (previous positions in brackets).

| Men | Women |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Chu Van Que (1) | 1. Clare Mouzon (1) |
| 2. Peter McQueen (2) | 2. Caron Buglass (2) |
| 3. Neil McMaster (3) | 3. Christine Burke (3) |
| 4. Ian Robertson (4) | 4. Karen Wilkinson (5) |
| 5. Thomas Blackman (7) | 5. Denise Wilkinson (7) |
| 6. Andrew Clark (5) | 6. Lily Aust (8) |
| 7. Eddie Smith (6) | 7. Elaine Hopper (9) |
| 8. Fred Short (-) | 8. Oliver Drapkin (-) |
| 9. Andy Hammett (8) | 9. Brenda Grice (10) |
| 10. Malcolm Lusk (9) | 10. Denise Campbell (6) |
| 11. Maurice Cheek (-) | |
| 12. Bob Dodds (-) | |
| 13. Peter Whiteman (10) | |
| 14. Alan Matthewson (11) | |
| 15. Tom Trewhitt (12) | |
| 16. Keith Patterson (13) | |
| 17. Peter Curry (14) | |

The only change in the boys' first is the addition of Jonathan Miller at No. 9 to the eight players already ranked, while the girls' list is unchanged.

There are three new entries in the men's list, but no omissions, which I find rather surprising, as I know for a fact that at least three out of our top six ranked men are not prepared to make themselves available for ALL home AND away County matches. If this is the case, then in my opinion they should not be ranked. Fortunately we do not appear to have the same problem with our women. The only new name in their list is Olive Drapkin at No.8, while the only name omitted is my own by written request - it would seem that I have been more honest than some of our men by coming out when I chose not to make myself available for reasons already stated last month.

Blackman, Patterson, Curry and Watson (boys), Denise

Wilkinson and Elaine Hopper (girls) and Darren Shaw, Michael Curry, and Simon Douglas (Cadet boys) were all nominated for the Area Junior Trials at Eston on Nov. 10/11, and we hope they will have done well.

Byker Newcastle II entertained Vickers Barrow in their Halex National League Match, but despite some encouraging performances and several long sets, they went down 2-6, with Matthewson and Curry both beating Neil Yardley for the side's only successes.

North Shields Y.M.C.A. 'A' are currently setting the pace in the Premier Division of the Northumberland League, while Revac and Reyrolles 'A' are both only one point behind. Tyne Dock 'B' are the leaders in Div. 1, while newly-promoted Wansbeck, who include Charles and Clare Mouzon in their side, are in second place. Other current leaders and runners-up are as follows:

Div. 2A: Boldon C. A. and North Shields E. E.

Div 28: Ashington Y.M.C.A. and Lyne Lead.

Div. 3A: Cullercoats Methodist and Byker C.C. 'G'

Div. 38: North Shields Y.M.C.A. 'E' and Shanktea 'A'

Div4: North Shields Y.M.C.A. 'F' and Shanktea 'B'.

The preliminary and first round draw of the Knock-Out Cup has also been made and this is as follows:

Preliminary Round- 10 be completed by Nov. 30

1. ShankJea 'B' v Blaydon Y.C. 'A'

2. North Shields E.E. v Tyne Dock 'B'

3. Shanklea 'A' v Gladstone Terrace 'B'

4. Boldon C.A. v John Boste Y.C.

First Round - to be completed by Dec. 21.

A. Tyne Dock 'A' v Procter and Gamble Raiders

B. Newcastle Y.M.C.A. 'A' v Winners of (1)

C. Winners of (3) v Winners of (2)

D. Winners of (3) v Winners of (2)

D. Winner of (4) v Wansbeck

E. Revac v Electrics 'A'

F. Newcastle Y.M.C.A. 'B' v D.H.S5.

G. North Shields Y.M.C.A. 'A' v Byker C.C. 'A'

H. Washington 'A' v Gladstone Terrace 'A'

II and Bedfordshire away and drawing at home to Northants. However, the most difficult match of the season should be the next, against Berkshire II, who were relegated to this section.

The squad system seems to be working well and it is unfortunate that Arthur Chilvers is the one left-out at this stage, but there is very little between he, Clive Morris, Norman Swift and Neil Harris at the moment and the situation can change rather rapidly should anyone slip.

The county Association held an inter-town tournament recently, although not very well supported, which provided some excellent matches. Haddenham proved far too strong throughout the day and defeated Kidlington 4-0 in the final. Karl Bushell, Norman Swift and Mark Curtis are in their second season in the Oxford league and have been instrumental in improving the overall standard of the 1st Division.

Oxfordshire lost one of its most familiar characters recently, when Bill (Mac) McClintock died. Mac was a regular inter-town match secretary for Oxford's Midland league teams in the 1960's and was a frequent visitor to City and County matches and he will be missed by many.

After a good start in the Veterans' section of the County Championship, axon have slipped rather badly, their most recent defeat was to Leicestershire 9-0, although to be realistic axon were without their No.2 and No.3 Cecil Jackson and Brian Varnham. However, I doubt whether the inclusion of these two would have reversed many of the sets.

The Juniors are sadly lacking in strength, especially the boys. With the exception of Dominic O'Flynn from Banbury, there does not appear to be anyone of sufficient strength to influence axon's chances of a victory in this section. However, the girls, Amanda Shufflebotham, Nel Brett and Gillian Aston are more than strong enough, but are not keen to play.

at the beginning of November to seek pastures new and in her place we welcome Mrs. Fiona Marchbanks.

THE SCOT-ISH TOURNAMENT SCENE

The first four tournaments of the season showed the form of the top men and boys to be somewhat erratic but that of the ladies to be more in keeping with the rankings, most notable being Sarah Hurry's achievement in winning the Junior and Cadet Girls' events in all four championships.

MEADOWBANK 2-STAR OPEN, Edinburgh. 14 Oct. 1984

With the national team away in Greece for the European League fixture the way was clear for Malcolm Francis (Sussex) to claim his third Scottish title, and for good measure he won the Men's Doubles with Calum Gerrard and the Mixed with Janet Smith. Janet won the Women's Singles from young Sarah Hurry who had defeated Scots No.3 - Eleanor McIlroy - in the semi-finals.

MEN'S SINGLES:
Semi-finals:

M. Francis bt D. Blackburne (Durham) 17. 13;
D. Campbell bt G. Docherty 24. -16. 22.

Final: MALCOLM FRANCIS bt David Campbell 10. 8.

WOMEN'S SINGLES:
Semi-finals:

J. Smith bt I. Lappin 14. 12;
S. Hurry bt E. McIlroy -16. 16. 22.

Final: JANET SMITH bt Sarah Hurry 17. 15.

BOYS' SINGLES:
Final: DAVID LOW bt Jonathan Wilson 20. -20. 13.

GIRLS' SINGLES:
Final: SARAH HURRY bt Linda Hood 15. 19.

CADET BOYS' SINGLES:
Final: MARTIN SHIELDS bt Christopher Woess -13. 14. 19;

CADET GIRLS' SINGLES:
Final: SARAH HURRY bt Lorraine Anderson 11. 15.

CLASS 2 SINGLES:
Final: GORDON WADDELL bt Gerry Campbell -12. 19. 17.

MEN'S DOUBLES:
Final: C. GERRARD/M. FRANCIS bt R. Kerr/J. Procter 16. 19.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES:
Final: L. HOOD/S. HURRY bt E. McIlroy/L. Robb 22. 20.

MIXED DOUBLES:
Final: M. FRANCIS/J. SMITH bt G. Docherty/L. Robb 32. -19. 16.

MIDLANDS 2-STAR OPEN, Dick McTaggart Centre, Dundee. 28 Oct, 1984

This event was sponsored by the OKHAI (GROUP) Ltd., Dundee, for the second successive year, and held in the 'fine new sports centre named for Dundee's boxer hero of the Melbourne Olympics 1956.

In the Men's singles David McIlroy defeated Richard Yule for the first time in the Final, whilst Patrice Fleming beat Valerie Thomson in the Women's Singles Final to retain the title she won last year.

MEN'S SINGLES:
Semi-finals:

R. Yule bt J. Broe 19. 18;
D. McIlroy bt A. Majid -16. 2. 8.

Final: DAVID McILROY bt Richard Yule 18.21.

WOMEN'S SINGLES:
Semi-finals:

P. Fleming bt L. Hood -15. 6. 10;
V. Thomson bt E. Robb 17. 15.

Final: PATRICE FLEMING bt Valerie Thomson -17. 16. 14.

BOYS' SINGLES:
Final: IAN STOKES bt David Low 9. 18.

GIRLS' SINGLES:
Final: SARAH HURRY bt Patricia Calder 16. -20. 15.

CADET BOYS' SINGLES:
Final: MARTIN SHIELDS bt Henry Wong 15. 17.

CADET GIRLS' SINGLES:
Final: SARAH HURRY bt Jennifer Hook 4. 10.

MEN'S DOUBLES:
Final: C. GERRARD/J. GRAHAM bt J. Broe/R. Yule 17. 18.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES:
Final: J. COLVILLE/L. JOHNSTON bt S. Hurry/L. Hood 15.14.

MIXED DOUBLES:
Final: C. GERRARD/L. JOHNSTON bt J. Broe/P. Fleming 15. 17.

EAST OF SCOTLAND 2-STAR OPEN, Meadowbank, Edinburgh, 4 Nov, 1984

With Yule, McIlroy, Broe and Wright involved in HALEX NATIONAL LEAGUE matches with ORMESBY, David Campbell was able to stake his claim for higher honours by winning his first senior singles title, beating Calum Gerrard in the Final. Calum, appearing in his first senior singles final, has been enjoying great success as a doubles player this season with four titles to his credit so far. Carole Dalrymple, who is now personally sponsored by TRANSFORM DOUBLE GLAZING of Falkirk, won the Women's Singles with consummate ease and the Women's Doubles with Lynn Johnston. Lynn, in her first senior season, is also proving to be a competent doubles player having won both titles in Dundee the previous week and did so again in this tournament.

MEN'S SINGLES:
Semi-finals:

D. Campbell bt I. McLean 14. 17;
C. Gerrard bt G. Docherty -16. 18. 11.

Final: DAVID CAMPBELL bt Calum Gerrard 19. -16. 15.

WOMEN'S SINGLES:
Semi-finals:

C. Dalrymple bt I. Lappin 8. 7;
E. McIlroy bt L. Johnston 18. -19. 20.

Final: CAROLE DALRYMPLE bt Eleanor McIlroy 12. 11.

BOYS' SINGLES:
Final: GORDON WADDELL bt Ian Stokes 18. -21. 17.

GIRLS' SINGLES:
Final: SARAH HURRY bt Nicola McGrath (Lanes) 22. 11.

CADET BOYS' SINGLES:
Final: ANDREW EDEN (Lanes) bt Andrew Bruce 13. 11.

CADET GIRLS' SINGLES:
Final: SARAH HURRY bt Nicola McGrath (Lanes) 17. 9.

CLASS 2 SINGLES:
Final: DAVID LOW bt Gordon Waddell -15. 16. 15.

MEN'S DOUBLES:
Final: G. CAMPBELL/G. DOCHERTY bt A. Colliar/E. Henderson 10. 16.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES:
Final: C. DALRYMPLE/L. JOHNSTON bt L. Hood/S. Hurry 5. 13.

MIXED DOUBLES:
Final: C. GERRARD/L. JOHNSTON bt G. Campbell/C. Dalrymple 16. -12. 15.

STIRLINGSHIRE 2-STAR OPEN, Crammond Hall, Stirling University. 11 Nov, 1984

This tournament was last held in 1971 when the Men's Singles was won by a youthful Richard Yule early in his TT career. Resurrected this season by very generous sponsorship by P. J. AITKEN - a local building firm, and with a prize list totalling £800 - including the highest amount ever competed for in Men's Singles in Scotland - £250 - a bumper entry was expected and achieved, although disappointedly very few players



Denis George reports from...

SCOTLAND

NEW GENERAL SECRETARY

It is with sincere regret that the STTA has accepted the resignation of Miss Morag Blair, who has so admirably filled the post of General Secretary since she took up the appointment in February 1980. Morag departed

Brian Hamilton reports from....

OXFORDSHIRE REASONABLE START

Oxford have made a reasonable start to Senior County matches this year, defeating both Worcs.

County Notes



Meadowbank Open Winners. Janet Smith and Malcolm Francis.
(Photo: B. D. George)



Lancastrians' success in East of Scotland Open, Nicola McGrath (Junior and Cadet Girls' runner-up) and Andrew Eden (Cadet Boys' winner).
(Photo: B. D. George)



Midland Open Winner. David McIlroy (Photo: B. D. George)



Sarah Hurry (Stirling). Scotland's No. 1 Junior and Cadet Girl. Double winner in first four tournaments this season.
(Photo: B. D. George)

from England due to the unfortunate clash with the MIDLAND 3-Star Open in Walsall.

All the top ten ranked Scots participated in the Men's Singles, also Keith Rodger- now a member of the Birmingham Constabulary- made a comeback after a season's sabbatical. There were no early surprises, but in the semi-finals John Broe ended David Hannah's aspirations. John took the first end comfortably 21-12 with David uncharacteristically surrendering the initiative. David narrowly won the second at 19 but John got the better of the exchanges midway through the third and, despite a few devastating Hannah smashes,

led 19-16. However, David equalised at 19-19 - two more very tense points and Broe was through to the final. In the other semi Rodger, something of his old form well in evidence, won the first end against Yule but from then on Richard took control and won the next two comfortably. In the final Broe, in high spirits, played extremely well to win the first game 23-21. However Richard raised his game to win the second 21-17. John led throughout the third and had Richard at full stretch to lead 19-16 - just two points from glory and the need to hire Securicorto accompany him to the bank! But Richard was not yet prepared to

call it a day, finding some reserves of energy he attacked to take the next five points, the title and the cash. Richard was overjoyed - John disconsolate; the crowd gave both players a standing ovation - the applause lasting fully five minutes.

Carole Dalrymple won the Women's Singles, beating Valerie Thomson in the semi-finals and

Lynn Johnston in the final. Lynn defeated Patrice Fleming in the other semi.

Rodger, paired with Brian Wright who recently returned from training at the Tamasu School in Tokyo, defeated Yule and Broe in the Men's Doubles semi-final and McIlroy/D. Campbell in the final.

MEN'S SINGLES:

Quarter-finals:
 D. Hannah bt B. Wright 16;
 J. Broe bt A. Majid 11, 16;
 K. Rodger bt I. McLean -1 8, 15, 16;
 R. Yule bt G. Docherty 17, 13.
 Semi-finals:
 Broe bt Hannah 12, -19, 19;
 Yule bt Rodger -17, 10.
 Final: RICHARD YULE bt John Broe -21, 17, 19.
WOMEN'S SINGLES:
 Semi-finals:
 C. Dalrymple bt V. Thomson 12, 15;
 L. Johnston bt P. Fleming 16, 17.
 Final: CAROLE DALRYMPLE bt Lynn Johnston 5, 10.
BOYS' SINGLES:
 Final: GORDON WADDELL bt Ian Stokes 17, 19.
GIRLS' SINGLES:
 Final: SARAH HURRY bt Patricia Calder 16, 21.
CADET BOYS' SINGLES:
 Final: MARTIN SHIELDS bt Christopher Woess 17, -19, 17.
CADET GIRLS' SINGLES:
 Final: SARAH HURRY bt Anne Pashley (Clev.) 16, -11, 8.
MEN'S DOUBLES:
 Final: K. RODGER/B. WRIGHT bt D. McLroy/D. Campbell 19, 17.
MIXED DOUBLES:
 Final: J. BROE/P. FLEMING bt C. Gerrard/L. Johnston 19, 18.
MEN'S CONSOLATION SINGLES:
 Final: DAVID McILROY bt Pat McCabe (Birm.) 15, 10.

against Martin Hughes and John Robinson of Poole. Grove's only other winner was Stan Deakin who beat Darren Griffin of Hereford.

NMW COMPUTER RANKINGS

Players from Grove dominate the latest ranking list issued by NMW Computers for the Shropshire Association.

Predictably, Green is the highest ranked Shropshire player in the men's national list having recorded superb wins over Steve Scowcroft and David Dodd in National League encounters.

Paul Barnett retains his national ranking despite his absence from the tournament scene. But he is under serious threat from the much travelled Keith Sillitoe, and the rapidly improving David Morris.

Morris heads the Shropshire boys' list. His recent string of excellent results has given him a dream start to the season.

Progress up the national list must be inevitable for this Grove player as the Mary Webb school-boy goes from strength to strength.

Alison Barker retains top spot despite a prolonged absence through injury. Oswestry's Cheryl Jones and Grove's Alison Gibson are making notable strides towards the top places.

Victoria Boyd's recent string of high class wins in open tournaments sees the Grove girl at the top of the under-14 years list. Audrey Barnett retains the No. 2 spot.

The top five places in each section are (figures for players marked with * have been amended in accordance with the National Ranking list):

1 Malcolm Green (Grv) 720*, 2 Paul Barnett 690*, 3 Keith Sillitoe (Grv) 747*, 4 David Morris (Grv) 735, 5 Anthony Harrison (Grv) 732.
 Boys: 1 David Morris (Grv) 735, 2 Justin Goodall (Grv) 699, 3 Tim McGill (Grv) 695, 4 Darrell Corfield (Pnt) 690, 5 David Williams (Grv) 665.
Cadet boys: 1 Simon Cooper (Grv) 637*, 2 David Morris (Grv) 735*, 3 Matthew Jeffrey (Grv) 530, 4 Neil Martin (Grv) 505, 5 Adrian Phillips (Pnt) 599.
 Women: 1 Alison Barker (Grv) 575, 2 Julie Ballard (Grv) 570, 3 Colette Soan (Grv) 569, 4 Carol Wickstead (Grv) 550, 5 Dawn Wickstead (Grv) 530.
 Girls: 1 Alison Barker (Grv) 575, 2 Dawn Wickstead (Grv) 530, 3 Cheryl Jones (Osw) 477, 4 Victoria Boyd (Grv) 409, 5 Nicola Thornycroft (Grv) 400.
 Cadet girls: 1 Victoria Boyd (Grv) 409, 2 Audrey Barnett (Grv) 349, 3 Caroline Ashcroft (Grv) 294, 4 Johanna Dyke (Grv) 290, 5 Tara Hanley (Grv) 257.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

Telford seniors A lost 7-3 in the Midland League trip to Stafford.

M. Beaman was Telford's best player, winning two with D. Russell picking up the other.

TELFORD RANKINGS

1. S. Cullis
 2. P. Fisher
 3. G. White
 4. G. Rose
 5. W. Herbert
 6. M. Langford
 7. D. Russell
 8. M. Beaman
 9. M. Hughes
 10. M. Evans

SHREWSBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS

It's all change this year for the annual championships of the Shrewsbury Association. For the first time they are to be sponsored, courtesy of the National Westminster Bank PLC.

Up to three years ago the championship had taken place at Sundorne Road Games Hall in December but because the hall was not available for the whole day, the venue was changed to the Mary Webb School, Pontesbury, and the date changed to March.

Because of a change of policy Sundorne is now available from 10 a.m. so the championships revert to Sundorne and take place on Sunday, Dec. 3 with a 10. a.m. start.

GROVE GRADED SINGLES

Keith Sillitoe showed his class in the R & R Roofing Grade A singles to win the event and complete the weekend unbeaten with only a determined Anthony Harrison able to extend him in a hard fought final.

In similar vein this was Harrison's only defeat with the Grove man underlining recent progress.

Sillitoe reached the final with a string of excellent results over clubmates Alison Gibson, Karen Rogers and Neil Martin in the group matches, whilst at the same stage Potteries Kirk Roberts had few answers to the Grove player.

Meanwhile, Pontesbury's Darrell Corfield was well beaten by Sillitoe as wins over Corfield (Pontesbury), Allan Roberts (Oswestry), Simon Cooper (Grove) and Tim McGill (Grove) ensured a passage to the semi-finals for Harrison where club-mate David Morris lost a titanic struggle at 22-20 in the decider.

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again must be the motto of nine-year-old David Marshall.

He has never missed a graded singles competition since the tournaments began in 1983 and at last emerged victorious in the Wylie and Holland Grade E singles event.

However, the victor was made to fight all the way by another ever present player, Laura Talbot, who fought all the way before losing to Marshall by the closest of margins in the third set.

SOMERSET MILES AND SMILES

Before giving my usual report on the County and Tournament scene, I would like to give a well-

earned mention to some fairly unknown youngsters who are starting to get the results that their hard work and effort deserve. I refer to Karen Bamber (13), Marnie Jarvis (12), Nigel Allsopp (12), and Julie Burridge (13), with, waiting in the wings, Heather Jones (13), Louise Jones (11), and, Louisa Hall (10). All these players the product of the Pete Bamber coaching squad which has its headquarters in the Church Hall at West Huntspill. Where is that I hear some people say? Well it is situated just off the A38 between Bridgewater and Highbridge. This team plays in the Third Division of the Bridgewater and Dis. League which has a fairly even standard of teams in it. But the reason why this team deserves special mention is because in this their second season of competition, they have started to show their true worth by tucking some good wins under their belts. The first to date being a 9-1 demolition job on the much fancied Chilton School 'C' team who have had the benefits of the coaching system for quite some time. Pete Bamber is a fine player in his own right having played in the Bridgewater Premier for some years, and some of that experience is starting to rub off on this team, who he inspires to play their best. Even when the chips are down they bounce back to win. Keep up the good work girls and boys, and fans remember their names as I am sure they will prove an asset to the Somerset revival and worthy of your praise and mine in the future.

Somerset Senior I v I.O.W. away Oct. 13.

This was a match I would have lost money on, but I should have learnt by now that Table Tennis is very unpredictable and also that all known factors have to be included in an equation for a true answer to emerge. The two major factors that I failed to include were 1) The very inspirational effect Carl Prean has on their team and 2) The newly added inclusion of Regina Stevens to the ladies. These I am sure contributed to a well-earned draw.

Senior I v Avon, Westlands. Sports Club, Yeovil - Oct. 20.

This eagerly-awaited clash continued to follow the traditions of past matches in their all-out commitment to winning or exhausting oneself in the attempt. The Avon line-up being, Andy Creed, Paul Hooper, Paul Lewis, Helen Perrott and Lynn Porter. The Somerset team David Lee, Lee Sadler, Brian Reeves, Rebecca Russe and Judy Craig. Michelle Cohen of Avon and Melonie Carey being omitted so that they could concentrate on

Gerald Green reports from....

SHROPSHIRE FIRST SUCCESS

Grove recorded their success in the Premier Division of the National League with a 5-3 win over Larkhall. Malcolm Green and Steve Turner turning in excellent performances to end the day unbeaten. The match started well for Drayton with Turner a comfortable winner over Richard Jermyn. However, with Alan Fletcher losing to David Dodd, and Anwar Majid, on his debut, losing to Joe Kennedy it needed another win by Green over Paul Namjdou to level at 2-2. Larkhall then took the lead with Jermyn beating Fletcher but Green, with an excellent win over Dodd, levelled the scores again. Turner had a comfortable win against Kennedy. Majid then came on to record a win over Namjdou and make the long journey worthwhile.

No such luck with the next match at home to Omega Reading. This time Grove lost 2-6 with Turner and Green again recording the Drayton wins. Turner beat David Barr and Green concluded the day on a high note by doing the same to Andy Wellman. Fletcher came close against Bradbury but Kevin Beadsley was unable to stamp any authority.

Grove 2 lost both their matches in Div 3 West. 3-5 against Hereford Times and 2-6 against Jolliffe Poole. However, on the plus side, a new star has emerged in the form of 13-year-old David Morris. Making his debut against Hereford he recorded two wins against the experienced Michael Owens and Alan Castle, then followed up with another two

Tony Carey reports

the Regional Trials the next day.

After suffering a misfire in the first set with Lee losing to Creed, the Somerset Harvester started to gather in the harvest of wins with Sadler v Lewis, Reeves v Hooper and the Ladies' doubles combination of Judy and Rebecca. This put a smile on Tony Russe's face with the prospect of a big win in the offing, but Avon come from a similar stock as their neighbours and proceeded to show their tenacity and class by winning the men's doubles and Lewis gaining a surprise win over Lee. This then brought the match to 3-3.

The first game of the next set between Judy Craig and Lynn Porter was a cliffhanger with Judy losing -25. Then Tony gave his pep talk and Judy proceeded to win the next two comfortably. This put us ahead again but it was not for long as in the next set Creed won the clash of the No. 1's beating Reeves two-straight. Again all square with an interesting set between the two No. 1 Ladies Rebecca Russe and Helen Perrott. This went in our favour putting us ahead with one point safely in the bag. But unknown to us a bonus was imminent in the last set when Sadler on his home ground pulled out all the stops to come back from a game deficit to beat Hooper, giving us a 6-4 win. The first for many years and a further step up the ladder towards that elusive promotion spot. Keep the momentum going.

Somerset Juniors v Hampshire (Southampton), Oct. 20.

A good start to our ambitions of gaining promotion this season. Winners for Somerset being Philip Payne 2, Murray Barter 2, Fiona Stuart 1 with both doubles going our way.

Somerset II v Wilts II, Oct. 20.

A draw and another fine display by this fairly young team who are doing a good job by taking points off other Counties and preparing the ground for the first team to roll along and exploit. Winners for Somerset Tony Morrell 2, Mark Bryant 1, Men's doubles and Ladies' doubles. Other members of the team were Steve Palmer and Shirley Dark, a fine player who I have seen waiting in the wings for so long, who is always supportive of Somerset table tennis, stepping in when required, and gives of her free time to assist Jim Sadler, also of Yeovil, in coaching the future Lee's and Tina's. Well played Shirley and I am sure that your battle with Claire Hunter will be remembered for some time to come.

South West Cadets and Juniors Regional Trials (Launceston College), Oct. 21.

After our good performances in the preliminary trials at

Torquay hopes were high of a repeat but it didn't quite reach that peak, although our players gave of their best, their opponents just seemed to have the edge at the vital stages. This only affected the Somerset Cadet girls and, with the exception of Paul Smith, the Cadet boys.

But things came good for our top Juniors. Melonie Carey was involved in a three-way tie for first place with the other two favourites Michelle Cohen (Avon) and Susan Butler (Devon), but was declared No.2 to Michelle after the sets between each other had been taken as the deciding factor. The fourth qualifying place was claimed by Jennie Neal (Wiltshire) with Esme Stevenson (Cornwall) in the No. 1 reserve spot. In the boys Philip Payne was No.1 without dropping a set with Murray Barter second. Taking into consideration the very keen competition our squad did well and we wish them every success in the National Trials in January at Coventry.

Woodfield Junior 1-Star, Oct. 27.

Once again after a dash up the M5, we were given friendly greetings by fellow table tennis buffs, parents, sons and daughters, coaches and pupils and the ever helpful organisers of this fine tournament. The display of talented youngsters keenly contesting every point was a revelation and I can quite easily see why the West Midlands is so strong at Junior level. This speaks volumes for the coaching set up in that area.

After praises given, back to the action. Somerset's lone entry was Melonie who at the third time of trying won the singles by beating Helen Lower in the final, after Helen had emerged the winner from a hard battle with Angela Saunders in the semi. Melonie also reached the doubles final in partnership with Louise Sherratt but lost to Angela Saunders and Helen Lower. A very rewarding and enjoyable day with a boost for the County.

Somerset Juniors v Cornwall II (St. Ives), Nov. 3.

Another step in the right direction with this 9-1 win and a fine debut for Kirsty Wytheman, ex-Avon, for Somerset. The team being Philip Payne, Murray Barter, Paul Smith, Fiona Stuart and Kirsty.

Somerset Senior II v Glamorgan (Nailsea) on Nov. 3.

Another fine performance against a good side and although we lost 6-4, there were some encouraging signs in the play of our experimental team that could suggest possible promotion to the Senior 1st when they meet Glamorgan away. This could be-

come the crunch match to decide this division's champions.

Somerset Senior I v Dorset II away, Nov. 3.

Another great win by 8-2. Somerset team: Reeves, Sadler, Lee, Rebecca and Judy. I am told the score truly reflected the state of play. Well played.

Kent 2-Star Junior (Folkestone) Nov. 11/12.

Early to bed and early to rise. An early start was required from the sleepy depths of Somerset for this long journey East into the rising sun, the sun shone in more ways than one. It shone on Folkestone which brought out the Sunday trippers but unfortunately they all trooped past the big event of the day to browse over the stalls at the Sunday Market next door, and to have rides on the fun fair. Oh, if only some had paused to enter the Marine Pavilion I am sure they would have been enthralled and captivated by the enthusiasm and skill being displayed by the youngsters taking part. Perhaps some may even have got hooked and spread the word. "Ah well, a dream is a dream".

The sun also shone for Somerset's lone flag carrier at this event, Melonie Carey. Our flag was raised alongside Middlesex when she partnered Katrina Baker in the Girls' doubles final, and emerged the winners from a hard fought set with Rachel Knight (Surrey) and Lisa Hayden (Essex). They are a doubles combination that I have seen quite often and never have I seen either display bad temper when they have lost, even when some calls could be regarded as questionable.

All these results are very encouraging for the future and perhaps it also means that my column is read more often in the County than I thought. Keep up the good work because nothing succeeds like success.

Jack Chalkley reports from....

STAFFORDSHIRE

VIEWS RESTRESSED

It seems to me that Staffordshire should take note of Cheshire's attitude towards County players, which in essence requires players to give a commitment to the County before they are considered for the County ranking list. Brian Hudson wrote on this subject in the October issue, and he restressed his views to me when we met at the recent Div 2 clash between our two Counties. With proper support from all our players, our second team would at least be a reasonable match

for teams in Div. 2, but with seven ranked players failing to respond to the County's call, it's hardly fair on the opposition - or on the players finally selected - to 'field such a weakened side.

These players who are not committed to the County just do not deserve the privilege of a County ranking- and if they do not consider it a privilege then they forfeit any right to it. Most of our problems are with the senior second team, but this year it has also affected our junior Premier Division side where surprisingly, Staffordshire's real chance of winning the division came second place as far as one of our girls was concerned.

Having made this point as strongly as I can, let me now commend those players, some at short notice, who did turn out against Cheshire. They enjoyed their table tennis and we thank Cheshire for their hospitality. Personally, I also had the pleasure of seeing some of the Cheshire v. Notts. Vets. Premier Division match, with Derek and Doreen Schofield, Ron Bolton well to the fore. For the record, Cheshire had a clean sweep in our match, although Dave Hanney had his chances in the last set of the day against Wayne Percival, before going down 19 in the third.

Against Warwickshire 1sts at Tamworth we retained the same trio of men and brought in the two juniors Angela Sanders and Helen Lower. Hanney's win against Lester Bertie prevented the "whitewash", but there were some creditable performances from the other players Greg Hallam, Bob Murray and the girls against the strong competition from our neighbouring County.

The closeness of the matches in the Junior Premier Weekend only serves to re-emphasise our disappointment in coming away with only two wins out of the four matches. It would seem that doubles play is our main weakness - some readers may recall my many comments a few years back regarding our senior doubles - we lost 7 'out of the 8, including those in the critical 6-4 defeats by Derbyshire and Kent. Adrian Dixon and Jill Powis had significant wins against higher nationally-ranked players Andrew Cunningham (Kent) and Joanne Shaw (Yorks) but this level of performance was unfortunately not maintained throughout. Richard Hayward, Kevin Lawrence and Stephen Slater made useful contributions without being outstanding and Helen Lower, coming in as replacement, gained valuable experience with one win and some close sets. Staffordshire's wins came against Yorkshire (6-4) and Essex (7-3) and with all the Counties dropping points there could be a close

finish with Staffs. perhaps in the reckoning.

Results:-

v. Yorks.
 Dixon bt Newton 19, -19, 21;
 Dixon bt Guest -17, 11, 13;
 Hayward bt Guest 20, 18;
 Hayward lost to Bult -14, -17;
 Lawrence bt Bult 18, -6, 14;
 Lawrence bt Newton -17, 19, 19;
 Powis bt Shaw -16, 17, 20;
 Lower lost to Evans -18, -13;
 Dixon/Hayward lost to Newton/Guest -11, -18;
 Powis/Lower lost to Shaw/Evans -16, -19.
 v. Derbys.
 Dixon lost to Billingham -14, -19;
 Dixon lost to Henry 24, -15, -8;
 Hayward bt Henry -17, 14, 7;
 Hayward bt Harvey 20, 14;
 Lawrence bt Harvey 11, 17;
 Lawrence lost to Billingham -12, -18;
 Dixon/Slater lost to Henry/Billingham -13, 11 -15;
 Powis/Lower lost to Hall/Billington -16, -6;
 Powis bt Hall 8, 18;
 Lower lost to Billington 18, -16, -15.
 v. Kent.
 Hayward lost to Cunningham -14, -17;
 Hayward lost to O'Grady -13, -20;
 Lawrence bt O'Grady 13, 16;
 Lawrence lost to Amos -4, -14;
 Dixon bt Amos 10, 16;
 Dixon bt Cunningham 20, 19;
 Powis lost to Houghton -11, -16;
 Lower bt Ashdown 18, 14;
 Dixon/Lawrence lost to Cunningham/Ball -16, -12; Powis/Lower lost to Houghton/Ashdown -17, 19, -19.
 v. Essex.
 Hayward bt Griffiths 14, 18;
 Hayward bt West 19, -14, 16;
 Slater bt West 18, 16;
 Slater lost to Lazarus -19, 12, -12;
 Dixon bt Lazarus 14, 13;
 Dixon bt Griffiths 21, 14;
 Powis bt Hayden 20, 17;
 Lower lost to Patten -16, 15, -17;
 Dixon/Lawrence bt Griffiths/Lazarus 5, -19, 16;
 Powis/Lower lost to Hayden/Platt -21, 15, -9.

Most players have accepted the need for them to pay a match fee, although the County Committee have agreed that in the case of a player having to travel more than 50 miles total for a home match at their own expense the match fee will be waived.

With much sadness I report the death of Robert Gould. Robert played for the Norton club in the Potteries league and achieved County junior ranking a couple of years ago, playing also in the winning Potteries team in the Beattie Trophy. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues in table tennis.

Good news at the recent County committee meeting. Despite the disappointing poor response in the Malcolm Scott Restricted last year and the resulting cancellation, the Woodfield club at Wolverhampton are intending to have another go this season in the New Year. They deserve a good entry from all round the County, so rally round and support this tournament which has been very popular in past seasons. At the same meeting, the County gave agreement to the Hard Bat Tournament which will be run at the end of the season at the St. Leonards club in Stafford. Details are being circulated, but briefly each league will send 6 representative players and the total of 60 players will be drawn into 15 groups of 4, each player playing the other three in the group. Winners of each group will go forward to the final pool which will be played off as a knock-out to give the

individual winner who will be awarded the Turner trophy. The winning league - to be awarded the Beattie trophy - will be the league whose 6 players win most matches in the groups, not including the final session. It should be good fun and well worth watching.

Entry fees for the County Closed will range from 50p to £1 this season, a general increase of about 10p to help offset the increasing costs of running the event. Entry forms will be out in good time, the date in question being Sunday March 24.

Following my comments regarding the Wolverhampton league in the October issue, I received a letter from Tony Clift, the Wolverhampton chairman. He feels that my reference to their County League entries being delayed was unfair, and although they have faced problems this year their new committee is coping well. My main point in talking about some of the jobs being missed was to emphasise that we need more help in administering table tennis at all levels and there was no intention to criticise or cause irritation. I apologise to those upset by my comments.

I have already reported the retirement of Alan Deeley from the County committee. He had been a member of the comTlittce since the late fifties and was senior team non-playing captain for over a decade, spanning the sixties and beyond. Top names in those days were Albert Hiscock, Glenn Warwick, Peter Eaton, Stan Ward, John Pugh, Beryl Broad, Meryl Upton and, of course, his own wife, Dot, whom he married in 1961. In his own time Alan was quite a player. He was the youngest player to play for West Bromwich and made over 90 appearances for them. In the mid-forties he won what was the forerunner of the Staffs men's singles, when the top sixteen from N. Staffs played off against the top sixteen from the south. Unfortunately a football injury causing a back problem - he was in a spinal jacket for three years - brought a halt to his table tennis career, but he continued to work for the game, both at town and county level. Dot, of course, has an illustrious record, being West Bromwich and Staffs ladies' champion in her teens and many times beyond. Alan and Dot now spend much of their leisure time playing golf, and as you might expect they are no mean performers. Dot was runner-up in the Birmingham Golfer of the Year Tournament recently. Colleagues and friends will be pleased to know that Alan has recovered from his recent bout of ill-health, and I'm sure we all wish him well and look forward to seeing him from time to time.

Ian Bullock reports from.....

SUFFOLK

ANTICIPATION

We look forward in anticipation to the forthcoming international between England and Czechoslovakia in a European League match at the Corn Exchange, Ipswich, on Wednesday, 12th December. It is expected that the National team will be at full strength to take on the current champions of Europe before an expected capacity crowd. Joyce Love, the organiser and her team have worked very hard to ensure a successful, evening's entertainment and she advises me that there are a few tickets remaining for late applicants who can contact her at 8, Dorset Close, Ipswich (telephone 0473 21 7704).

The England team includes Desmond Douglas, Carl Prean, Graham Sandley and Alan Cook for the men and Karen Witt and Alison Gordon for the women.

Prean recently beat the top two Swedish players, one of whom is ranked No.3 in Europe, when England went down 5-2 to Sweden.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

The two Suffolk teams, EAE Waveney and Britannia Deepsure are enjoying mixed fortunes in Division 3 East. EAE Waveney, at the time of writing are undefeated having won all three matches whereas Britannia Deepsure, new to the League, have won 1, drawn 2 and lost 2 in their opening campaign. In winning their first match against Halex Crusaders, the Ipswich team entertained their home supporters to some exciting table tennis. John Kitchener produced a captain's performance, winning both his sets and was ably backed by the rest of the team, who all won a set each.

Scores (Britannia first):-
 John Kitchener bt Roy Harper 12, -20, 11; bt Brian Hill 14, 12.
 Derek Wood bt S. Brophy 14, 17; lost to Hill-5, -13.
 Laurence Rutter bt R. Hodson 15, 11; lost to Harper -17, -30.
 Chris Shepherd lost to Brophy -21, -16; bt Hodson 15, 11.

This win considerably improved Britannia's league position and it is hoped that with the new signing of Mick Palmer, released from second division March, the momentum can be maintained.

COUNTY NEWS

The County Committee have issued the following ranking list:

| Men | Women |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Stuart Palmer | 1. Julie Dowsett |
| 2. John Kitchener | 2. Sue Welham |
| 3. Mick Palmer | 3. Sue Butcher |
| 4. Russell King | 4. Kath Brierley |
| 5. Terry Dowsett | 5. Jane Leonard |
| 6. David Henderson | 6. Dawn Harvey |
| 7. Julian Hall | 7. Michelle Akers |
| 8. Charles Fulcher | 8. Sylvia Kenyon |
| 9. Roger Margetson | 9. Julie Mortimer |
| 10. Keith Baskett | 10. Karen Perkins |
| 11. Shawn Caraccio | 11. Claire Nicholls |
| 12. Paul Gooding | 12. Andrea Ambrose |

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 13. Chris Shepherd | 13. Rosemary Bullock |
| 14. Clive Woollard | |
| 15. Nigel Hodder | |
| 16. David Halliday | |
| 17. Richard Hutchinson | |
| 18. Malcolm Davis | |

The Junior Trials took place at Stowupland and the results were as follows.

| Boys | Girls |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. S. Caraccio | 1. S. Kenyon |
| 2. P. Gooding | 2. K. Perkins |
| 3. W. Shaw | 3. C. Nicholls |
| 4. D. Jones | 4. A. Ambrose |
| 5. R. Hutchinson | 5. R. Bullock |
| 6. M. Wright | 6. M. Cobbold |
| 7. P. Marshall | 7. C. Plummer |
| 8. C. Nicholls | 8. A. Knight |
| 9. D. Earrey | |
| 10. N. Talbot | |
| 11. L. Lawrence | |
| 12. S. Day | |
| 13. A. Phillips | |
| 14. C. Shanworth | |
| 15. R. Cole | |
| 16. A. Pinny | |
| 17. A. Cotes | |
| 18. M. Dawson | |
| 19. M. Naylor | |
| 20. M. Barnard | |

Congratulations to Russell King, Terry Betts, Colin Kerry on successfully completing the umpire's test paper. Graham Mortimer, the Umpires' Secretary, is working hard to ensure that all matches are covered by the appropriately qualified officials.

The County first team have yet to register their first win of the season going down to Warwks. 3-7, Lancashire 3-7 and Yorks. 4-6. They have been faced with travelling difficulties and it does help to have a non-playing driver for away matches. Any volunteers!

The second team are also finding the going tough losing out to Cambs. 1-9 and Middlesex 0-10. It is a sorry state of affairs when you have to drop to No. 13 in the rankings in order to find a second lady player! Saturday evenings may not be the most popular time to play but don't people have any pride left! In my day it was an honour to play for one's County, albeit at any level!

Finally, I understand that the East Anglian League are having problems in fulfilling fixtures. It would appear that there have been clashes with other fixtures and that a concentrated weekend has failed to materialise. Let us hope that these problems can be overcome at a special meeting on Nov. 30 as this League, in particular, provides many a springboard for promising youngsters to gain valuable experience with less travel than the National Tournament Circuit.

Michael Green reports from...

SURREY

SURREY JUNIOR CLOSED

The Elmbridge elfin, 13-year-old Matthew Perriet, carried off the

County Notes

title of Surrey Junior champion at the recently held Closed Championships at Elmbridge Leisure Centre.

Playing at his home venue, Matthew's scintillating performance in the Boys' Singles event earned him high praise indeed from those privileged enough to watch him.

With his superb all-round game, but most particularly his lethal hitting to the sides of the table, Matthew powered his way through a quite breath-taking semi-final with Croydon's Martin Lower, the No.1 seed.

The other semi, a much quieter affair, saw No. 2 seed Andrew Davies from Frimley creep home tight in the third against Stephen Defries. Stephen's father had sponsored the event and his son had responded with a quite unexpected victory in the quarters against third seed Richard Jones.

Davies, whilst living in Frimley, had played most of his table tennis in Hampshire prior to this season. The prospect of County Premier play, however, saw him elect to join Surrey for whom he is eligible by residence this term.

Pernet was not to be denied by this newcomer. Evenly matched as they were, and despite some ferocious forehand hitting from Davies, young Pernet proved just too consistent for the Frimley lad running out winner in three closely fought games.

Matthew had also lifted the U14 title the preceding day. Here, due to the unfortunate absence of defending champion Richard Jones, there should have been no-one to touch him. But club-mate Alexander Hole nearly upset the apple-cart pushing Pernet close in the third.

Overnight, however, Matthew shook off his nerves and his sluggishness to loop and smash his way to the U-17 title and challenge for the No. 1 ranking position now vacated by the retired Julian Dudman.

The U-17 Girls' event was bereft of the injured defending champion Lesley Popkiewicz. This was a pity, for the eventual winner of the title looked very impressive with her new combination bat. Deborah Simmonds from Virginia Water cruised relentlessly through the final against Croydon's Claire Brooks. A Popkiewicz/Simmonds clash will now be eagerly anticipated by followers of Surrey table tennis.

Debbie teamed up with Graham Spicer's Karen Wilde in the U-17 Doubles. Despite performing poorly, they were good enough to see off the young and inexperienced pairing of Cheryl Bateman and Elouise Kerr who had done exceptionally well to reach the final anyway.

Miss Simmonds had a chance

of lifting a third title as she also contested the U-17 Mixed final with Paul Bennell. However, opponents Richard Jones and Claire Brooks just had the edge although young Paul produced some dynamic winners during the contest. Jones took his second title when partnering Darren Hams in the U-17 Boys' Doubles final against Russell Hurley and Andrew Davies.

The U-12 Boys' semi-finals confirmed the standing of the Downside School in Croydon. Downside had won the U-11 National Schools team title last year and three of the four semi-finalists were in that Downside team. In the end, it was the unseeded and unranked Tom Courtenay-Evans who lifted the title thrashing team-mate Bradley Podbur in the final.

Graham Spicer produced both the winners of the U-12 and U-14 Girls' Singles. Hot favourite Cheryl Bateman won the elder age group, but little Karen Ashley played like a demon to upset the form book and take the U-12 title. The losing finalist in each case was Amanda Dewsbury from Croydon.

The U-12 event produced at least one potential champion in Tracy Cole, little Miss Personality Plus who has bags of ability besides.

The U-14 Boys' Doubles was won by that Elmbridge pairing of Matthew Pernet and Jeremy Krzystyniak defeating club-mates Alexander Hole and Damon Coles. Cheryl Bateman and Amanda Owsbury beat Karen Ashley and Liz Cocks in the Girls' event.

PS. As many of you know, I have resigned the post of Surrey Press Officer as I now live in Suffolk (4, Diamond Close, Ipswich). The Association has been without a Press Officer since the beginning of the season. Any volunteers?

John Woodford reports from....

SUSSEX

DESPERATE NEED

Not many counties can be in such desperate need of talented youngsters, especially girls, as Sussex. Bexhill and Crawley are the two towns that have in the past, provided the bulk of the talent but now both towns and their respective coaches Roger Standen and Dave Berryman are struggling hard to produce some gems.

There is a possible new shining star coming from Hastings. She is Rosemary Rainton, now playing in Division 5 of the Hastings League. She

put up a sterling show at the new regional trials held at Tonbridge in September and she struck again at the Hastings Tigers Open.

With a delightful consistent series of forehand hits to the backhand court she reached the semi-final by knocking out second seed Sue Haffenden. But then she fell to veteran Pat Wales.

I am always delighted to see people enjoying table tennis and for that reason good luck to the ever-increasing number of veteran matches at county level. Sussex now have two "youngsters" of 40 boosting their chances, flame-haired Robin Stace (Lancing) making his debut season right now and next season, I think that Keith Horton is about to take the 40 year plunge.

With football fanatic Phil Richardson, Horton, player-manager of the National League side TCB Dolphins landed the third time the men's doubles title at the Hastings Tigers Open.

Worthing Leisure Centre, one of the better sports centres in Sussex is now expected to be the venue for the all-Sussex championships on March 24th. The new organiser is Brian Spicer, now Regional Development Chairman for the south-east and I understand he is prepared to become a candidate to be the national councillor for Sussex. At the next annual meeting or before his name will be put forward as a candidate.

POP RILEY was a Jegend in Sussex table tennis for 25 years. Often appearing in winter with a "tea cosy" hat on his head, his devotion to the junior game was virtually complete. He died at the age of 78 a few weeks ago leaving many memories of junior players being brought to senior status and county level through his enthusiasm.

THE WAR over the banning of the top two players in the Eastbourne League Paul and Alan Rowden is over. Peace broke out recently with both sides claiming some measure of victory. Both men are playing again locally.

In the next edition of "Table Tennis News" the Editor has asked league secretary, Derek Wilkinson who led the suspension move and myself who led the huge response action to each write a report on the affair, which I am sure all players, everywhere will find interesting.

Mary Rose reports from....

WARWICKSHIRE

PROMOTION FORM

I apologise for not having any notes for the last issue of the

magazine but due to a family illness I was unable to supply any information in time for the deadline.

After being relegated from the Premier Division last season our Seniors seem to be well on the way back to the top flight with two very convincing results.

In their opening match against Suffolk at Ipswich, represented by Barry Johnson, Lester Bertie, Phil Gunn, Karen Groves and Sandra Peakman they were too strong for their opponents winning 7-3. Barry Johnson won both his singles. The result obviously gives our side much needed confidence for the hard programme ahead.

The second match against Yorkshire 2nds at the Tally Ho. Edgbaston was even more encouraging with an 8-2 result in our favour. We have now established ourselves as one of the favourites for promotion which is very encouraging after last season's many disappointments.

Warwickshire's Juniors have unfortunately already had matches postponed, but in their match at home to Cheshire, played at Coventry, they won 7-3 which gives us hope for better performances from our Juniors this time around.

TITLE DELIGHT

Birmingham's Sandra Peakman has won her first ever Open title in Aberdare. She turned in a series of tremendous performances ending in a final against the Welsh No.1, Lesley Tyler. Sandra won the final 17,-12, 12, and wasn't finished there, she also won the women's doubles title with Di St Ledger also from Birmingham.

Birmingham's Barry Johnson also enjoyed a successful tournament, reaching the semi-finals of the men's singles defeating Welsh International Nigel Thomas along the way.

CARL REACHES TOP 20

Carl Morgan after some very impressive results this season has reached the top, 20 of the English Rankings. As Carl has been having a lot of practise against Desmond Douglas recently, I feel he could go much higher. Do not make me eat my words Carl!

MIDLAND OPEN

Graham Sandley headed a powerful list of entrants for the Midland 3-Star Open at Walsall's Alumwell Centre. They included several English Internationals such as Carl Prean and Alan Cooke. The men's title holder Max Crimmins being one of the few top players not entering. Alison Gordon who was last season's surprise winner of the women's title was seeded one.

As it turned out all the rankings came to nothing, but it was good to see so many of our younger England stars turning in such fine performances.

Alan Cooke won the Men's title defeating Nicky Mason in the final after storming past Preatn at the semi-final stage. Top performance by local players came from Morgan of Birmingham who reached the last eight before going down to Preatn.

Steve Bertie also had a first round win against Richard Jermyn ranked just outside England's top 20. Bertie went down to Birmingham skipper Barry Johnson in the next round, Johnson then lost to Mason. Alan Fletcher was an early casualty against Wolverhampton's Adrian Dixon.

In the Women's event Wolverhampton's Fiona Elliot had a marathon day, reaching the final after some very impressive results but losing to Joy Grundy.

SOCIAL EVENTS

As reported earlier, Brian Lloyd is organising Quiz evenings on behalf of Warwickshire's Fund Raising programme. The first evening was held at the Dunlop Sports Club (Coventry) on Sept. 5 and it proved a very enjoyable and successful event with a good response from our members. Many other similar events have been organised around the area, anyone wishing to know more about the Quiz evenings can ring Brian on 021-754 2360.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Another set back for Birmingham Optical-sponsored 1st Division team came in the home match with Toyota Bath.

The West Country side looked every bit the promotion favourites as they romped to an impressive 6-2 win.

England International Preatn who moved to Bath from Premier Division Fareham in the summer, set up the visitors' success, but he was given a tough opening battle by Morgan who has always worried Preatn in practice and training sessions. A surprise looked to be on the cards in the opening game before Preatn edged home 21-19. Morgan fought all the way in the second to 10-10 but then lost touch and went down -11.

The Optical successes came from Morgan and Phil Gunn who both defeated Paul Jackson.

There will have to be a massive about-turn of form in the second half of the season if Optical are to reverse this defeat in the return trip to Bath and also in the visit to South Yorkshire who have already beaten the Birmingham side.

It has not been all gloom for Optical as they have had a impressive win against MBS St. Neots winning 6-2 with six of the eight sets going to three.

Laurie Selby reports from....

WILTSHIRE FAMILY AFFAIR

There are three chips off the old block in the latest ranking lists issued by the Wiltshire T.T.A.

No fewer than four members of the Oxley family from Cherhill, near Caine, are in the men's top 20. The youngest, Michael (jun), steps into the list at No.3, six places ahead of brother Andrew.

Graham Oxley is at No. 12 and dad, Michael (sen), is No. 20.

Kevin Satchell is still the undisputed No. 1 and Kevin Edwards is unchanged at No.2.

Claire Maisey continues her reign at the head of the unchanged women's list.

But the juniors show big changes as several of last season's players are now too old to qualify.

Paul Tuck steps up from No.9 to take top spot in the boys. Jenny Neale rises two places to take over the lead in the girls' list.

Lorraine Cox tops the girls' Cadet section and Michael Auchterlonie leads the boys.

RANKINGS

Men: 1. Kevin Satchell (West Wilts), 2. Kevin Edwards (West Wilts), 3. Michael Oxley (jun) (Swindon), 4. Terry Bruce (Salisbury), 5. John Chandler (West Wilts), 6. Steve McBean (Swindon), 7. Ray Hughes (Swindon), 8. Steve Davies (Swindon), 9. Andrew Oxley (Swindon), 10. Andrew Metcalfe (Swindon), 11. Brian Powell (Swindon), 12. Graham Oxley (Swindon), 13. Jon Hook (Swindon), 14. Kevin Harford (West Wilts), 15. Alan Duke (Swindon), 16. Mark Holt (Devizes), 17. David Richards (Devizes), 18. Lance Morse (Swindon), 19. Bill Moulding (Salisbury), 20. Michael Oxley (sen) (Swindon).

Women: 1. Claire Maisey (Swindon), 2. Janet Parker (Swindon), 3. Tracy Watkins (Swindon), 4. Alison Boyce (Devizes), 5. Helen Wilson (Swindon), 6. Brenda Lee (Swindon), 7. Claire Hunter (Swindon), 8. Pauline Townsend (Swindon), 9. Debbie Aldridge (Swindon), 10. Sarah New (Swindon), 11. Jenny Neale (Swindon), 12. Sylvia Morse (Swindon), 13. Julie Mills (Caine), 14. Karen Richards (Devizes), 15. Alison Morse (Swindon).

Boys: 1. Paul Tuck (Swindon), 2. Raymond Powell (Swindon), 3. Ian Neate (Swindon), 4. Mark Colyer (Devizes), 5. Michael Edwards (Swindon), 6. Michael Auchterlonie (Salisbury), 7. Mark Powell (Swindon), 8. Martin Page (Swindon), 9. Clive Sims (West Wilts), 10. Jasvinder Singh (Swindon), 11. Paul Timis (Swindon), 12. Stephen Ely (Swindon).

Girls: 1. Jenny Neale, 2. Julie Mills, 3. Lorraine Cox (Swindon), 4. Susan Vowles (Swindon), 5. Sharon Phillips (Salisbury), 6. Tina Mills (Caine), 7. Rachel Watkins (Swindon).

Cadet Boys: 1. Auchterlonie, 2. Timis, 3. Mark Nelson (Swindon), 4. Colin Morgan (Swindon), 5. Nathan Pickett (Swindon), 6. David Bellamy (Swindon), 7. Michael Willis (Swindon), 8. Peter Fry (Swindon), 9. Alex Collar (Swindon), 10. Andrew Willis (Swindon).

Cadet Girls: 1. Tina Mills, 2. Rachel Watkins.

Under-12 Boys: 1. Auchterlonie, 2. Pickett, 3. Bellamy, 4. Fry, 5. Collar, 6. Willis

Under-12 Girls: 1. Rachel Watkins, 2. Tina Mills, 3. Michelle Freegard (Swindon).

Wiltshire junior team opened their County Championships programme in style when they beat Devon 7-1 in Swindon.

Swindon players Ray Powell, Tuck and Neate gave the home side a good start by winning the opening singles.

Then Julie Mills and Jenny Neale opened up a 4-0 lead by winning the doubles.

Powell and Tuck went on to win their next singles and Miss Neale scored a fine win over the ranked Sue Butler to round off a fine victory.

Results:-

Powell bt R. Aitken 15. 17;
Tuck bt A. Sainsbury 11. 13;
Neate bt G. Hughes -10. 17. 16;
Mills/Neale bt J. Wright/So. Butler 15. 11;
Powell/Tuck lost to Aitken/Sainsbury -17. 17. -22;
Powell bt Sainsbury 20. 19;
Mills lost to Wright -12. -19;
Neate lost to Aitken -20. -15;
Neate bt Butler -10. 17. 19;
Tuck bt Hughes -18. 13,24.

A strong rearguard action gave Wiltshire junior first team a hard-earned point against Herefordshire.

But the seconds lost 4-6 against Avon in Swindon.

The first team, playing at Barnet, needed to win the last two sets to snatch a draw.

Swindon's Jenny Neale pulled off a stunning win against Alison Boxall, then Ray Powell beat Leonard Rossa in a tense three game battle to level the scores at 5-5.

The seconds made a poor start against Avon, winning only one of the opening five sets.

They put up a better fight in

the second half of the match with the Wiltshire girls, Lorraine Cox and Susan Vowles, winning both their singles.

Results:-

First team:
Neate bt Derek Rogers -13. 14. 19;
Tuck bt Leonard Rosso 15. 9;
Powell lost to Peter Harris 19. -9. -21;
Neale/Mills lost to Alison Boxall/Tracy Baines 19. -18;
Tuck/Powell lost to Harris/Rogers -13.14. -12;
Tuck lost to Rogers 20. -14. -19;
Mills bt Baines 18. -20. 13;
Neate lost to Harris -10. -8;
Neale bt Boxall 12. -17. 17;
Powell bt Rosso -16. 11. 15.
Second team:
Sims lost to James Fletcher -13. -16;
Ely lost to James Boley -12. -13;
Colyer bt Robert Chandler 19. 18.
Cox/Nowles lost to Sarah Kettle/Kate Matthews -16. -21;
Colyer/Sims lost to Fletcher/Chandler -14. -18;
Sims bt Boley 15. 22;
Vowles bt Matthews 21. 13;
Colyer lost to Fletcher -14. -17;
Cox bt Kettle 19. 12;
Ely lost to Chandler -9. -22.

Only one point was earned by Wiltshire senior teams.

The point was gained by the second team who drew 5-5 after making the long trip to the Isle of Wight who included Carl Preatn.

But while the seconds were working hard for a point, the first team crashed to their second defeat when they lost 3-7 against Devon in Swindon.

The firsts got away to a terrible start losing the opening three men's singles and the women's doubles before they got on the scoreboard with the men's doubles.

Janet Parker was in tremendous form when winning her singles and giving Wiltshire a brief ray of hope at 2-5.

Satchell notched another Wiltshire victory to make it 3-5 but then the home side's challenge crumbled and they never won another set.

Hughes stole the limelight for the second team when he won his first county set to steal a draw. His win came at a vital time - Wiltshire were 4-5 down.

The Wiltshire girls, Tracy Watkins and Brenda Lee, kept their team afloat and ended the day with 100% records.

Results:-

Wiltshire 1st team v Devon:
Edwards lost to Garry Lambert -19. -15;
Chandler lost to Paul Whiting -11. -9;
Satchell lost to Garry Wilson -16. 20. -12;
Maisey/Parker lost to Carol Butler/Amanda Hegarty -14,20. -12;
Satchell/Edwards bt Lambert/Whiting 17:-17. 19;
Edwards lost to Whiting -14. 15. -1 7;
Parker bt Hegarty 20. 7;
Satchell bt Lambert -12. 19. 12;
Maisey lost to Butler -13. 10. -16;
Chandler lost to Wilson -10. -10.
Wiltshire 2nd team v Isle of Wight:
Jim Daly bt Powell-17. 15. 16;
Keith Taylor lost to Davies -16. -16;
Carl Preatn bt Hughes 9. 8;
Jill Fothergill and Jackie Urry lost to Lee/Watkins -14. -9;
Preatn/Daly bt Powell/Hughes 13, 11;
Daly bt Davies 13. -19. 15;
Urry lost to Lee -4. -12;
Preatn bt Powell 4. 6;
Fothergill lost to Watkins -20. -16;
Taylor lost to Hughes -20. -8.

Doug Moss reports from....

WORCESTERSHIRE SUCCESSFUL START

The County teams have made a successful start to the season.

The Senior I team, which has see-sawed between the 2nd and 3rd Divisions, is making a bid to go straight back to Div. 2. They have beaten Herts., Northants and drawn with Hunts, who, with Berkshire look to be the chief rivals. The Junior team has also done remarkably well with wins over Gloucestershire and Gwent. Their chief rival seems to be the Warwicks. II team, who have dropped a point to Gloucestershire, Mark Roden has won all his singles matches and Tim Holder and Dean Kloos have given good support. The girls have not fared too well so far. The Warwicks. team visits Warcs. on Dec 1. The Veterans team, has beaten Bedfords. but lost to Bucks., who have been promoted and are showing very good form. The County now has the services of Ray Dixon, formerly with Staffs., and he will be making his debut against Leicestershire on Dec. 1. With Lynda Reid not available Helen Pogmore, who has moved from Avon, will make her debut for the County II Senior team - away to Avon!

The Worcester School of Sport has been active again this season with Bryan Merrett in attendance most weeks. Some of the older players from last season have been replaced by younger ones and there is a good proportion of 12-year-olds. The financial situation did look a little difficult after the first season when generous grants had started the scheme off with tables, surrounds, Halogen lighting and free use of School premises. However in response to an appeal for assistance the Worcester City Council has generously given another £500. To supplement the coaching/training I was able to arrange a cadet girls' match between Worcester and Leamington Spa. The 4 Worcester girls were all 12-year-olds. Both teams played well and would have benefited from the experience. Leamington won 6-4 but it was very close with Kate Ryan (Leamington No.1) beating Nicola Jones (Worc. No.1) at 22 in the third. A return match is to be played in Worcester during the Christmas/New Year holiday. I would think there are not too many matches played at this level, especially when we hear of Counties withdrawing Junior teams because they have only 1 girl. Are there any cadet girls' teams interested in a friendly match?

The financial situation has caused some concern this season, mainly because we had sponsorship for our County Closed for 2 seasons, but this has not applied for the past 2 years. Negotiations are at present proceeding with a Build-

ing Society. A Rummage Sale in which, quite remarkably, helpers come from all over the County, is to be held in mid-November. It has also been a help that, because of representations by all sporting bodies, the County Council has drastically reduced its hire charges for School premises, which are used for County Matches and Tournaments. The charges are now about 50% of that originally proposed.

The County I team Knock-Out Championships will start in mid-November. There is a wide range in the handicap competition and there are 31 entries, which seems to be consistent each season. The Scratch Competition, which is more attractive to the stronger teams, has 8 entries.

The County League, with matches being played during fixed periods, has not functioned very satisfactorily in the past. This has been mainly because of the many commitments of the players involved and the insistence of teams to want to play their best players even if this meant postponements. This season it has been agreed to consider inviting teams to one venue for the matches to be played on one particular day.

County officials continue to undertake national responsibilities. Doug. Young is on the National Tournaments Committee and is again referee of the English Senior Closed. He has already continued his long period as Referee of the Midland and Woodfield Opens and in February next will also be responsible for the Cotswold Beneficial Trust Junior Championships. Yours truly continues as National Councillor and membership of the County Championships Committee, with responsibility for the individual records of performances of the 1,000 odd players involved.



Welsh Corner

By H. Roy Evans

It can hardly be said that Wales has made a very auspicious start to the 1984/85 season, with indifferent results by our National League teams, and tournament results that reflect nothing new.

That is why our European League win against Switzerland is like a beacon in a grey sky.

Our first European League match was supposed to be away to Portugal. But the latter dropped out, and we had had no chance to try out new combinations. And as it was, Alan Griffiths, our first choice for the Swiss match, couldn't get over from Germany, and Mark Thomas was not selected as he didn't look in good form in the Aberdare Open, and one is tempted to ask what good his sojourn in Germany is doing.

So Nigel Tyler became No.1, with Nigel Thomas at No.2 with Lesley Tyler taking the woman's spot.

The match was staged by the Barry League at the Barry Leisure Centre. And very well done it was, with excellent playing conditions, and tiered seating for what was our biggest crowd for a long time.

They had a very good night's entertainment, for apart from the welcome Welsh win, there was some excellent table tennis, with many thrills as many sets went close. But unlike too many times in the past, when Welsh players have failed at the final hurdle, this time it was they who held firm and the Swiss who had to give second best.

Nigel Tyler started Wales on the road to success with a fine win over Stefan Renold. Then came a crunch match indeed - Swiss No.1 Thierry Miller against Nigel Thomas. Nigel was playing really well, took the first game convincingly and built up a good lead in the second. But Miller staged an incredible recovery to level at 19-all. But then Nigel still went for his shots, and won a very important set.

Playing the women's singles, Lesley Tyler again met Beatrice Witte, who had beaten her before in the European League. Lesley turned on one of her best performances to take the first game, but a change in tactics by the Swiss girl, denying Lesley her forehand top spin, brought second and third game wins for Beatrice.

Now 2-1 up, the important doubles was played. The two Nigels combined well, and although losing the first game, took the second. Then disaster seemed to strike, and with Nigel Tyler quite out of touch, we turned around at 3-10 down. This quickly went to 6-14, but then came a transformation. Everything now seemed to go right for the two Nigels, and amid wild enthusiasm they not only caught up at 19, but took the next two points to make it 3-1 to us.

This inspired Nigel and Lesley, who although brother and sister, had never played together in

mixed before! They won the first at 20-all, but towards the end of the second, and trading point for point, Nigel had a bad patch. But then Lesley came into her own, and made some fine shots to deny the Swiss a possible win.

So we were home and dry, but there was no lack of competition in the remaining singles. Nigel Tyler faced Miller, the two No. 1's, and it was a fine set, with both players revelling in long range counter attack. But Miller who is particularly good at this, found his match in Nigel, who won in the third. Nigel Thomas, so often the scape goat in the past when he has had to win the last set to save us, now continued his good form to take the first game from Renold. Nigel built up a good lead, but Renold then staged an incredible recovery to level at 20-all. But Nigel's nerve was equal to the strain and he won 22-20 to complete a fine Welsh win.

Barry's excellent organisation, and the social side of a splendid day were indeed garnished by this Welsh victory.

Results:

N. Tyler bt S. Renold 13,18; bt Miller 17, -13,18.
N. Thomas bt Miller 19, 19; bt Renold 16, 20.
L. Tyler lost to B. Witte 18, -11, -15.
Tyler/Thomas bt Miller/Renold -16, 17, 19.
Tyler/Tyler bt Renold/Witte 20, 18.

THE QUADRANGULAR

The breath of sea air at Llandudno didn't bring any unexpected results. The match was staged at the Aberconwy Conference Centre, with excellent conditions and with most enjoyable social occasions. Regrettably there were not as many spectators as one would have hoped to see.

Wales finished in third position, losing easily to England, beating Ireland but failing once again to beat the Richard Yule bogey when facing Scotland. Lesley Tyler played well up to a point to take the first game against Carole Dalrymple, and went very close in the second but lost the third comfortably.

SWANSEA OPEN

MS: S/F:
Trevor Manning bt Brian Jeanes 16, 16;
Nigel Tyler bt Andrew Jones 16, 16.
F: TYLER bt Manning 12,16.
WS: S/F:
Stephanie Jones bt Lesley/Tyler 17, -17,17.
Evelyn Wright bt Shirley Cain-Williams -10, 21, 16.
F: JONES bt Wright 16, 21.
MD: F:
JONES/WILKINS bt Tyler/Manning 16.-21, 13.
WD: F:
CAIN-WILLIAMS/TYLER bt Sully/Cotter 17, -19,13.
BS: F:
JOHN ELLIS bt Anthony Jones 16, 10.
GS: F: EVELYN WRIGHT bt Joanne Lee 13, 8.

ABERDARE OPEN

MS: SF:
Alan Griffiths bt Barrie Johnson 9, 19;
Nigel Tyler bt Brian Jeanes 11, 19.
F: GRIFFITHS bt Tyler -15, 17, 15.
WS: F: SANDRA PEAKMAN bt Lesley Tyler 17, -12, 12.
MD: F: GRIFFITHS/N. THOMAS bt Tyler/M. Thomas -18, 13, 19.
WD: F: PEAKMAN/ST. LEDGER bt Sully/Cotter 17, 12.
JBS: F: ELLIS bt Anthony Jones 19, 11.
JGS: F: MELONIE CAREY bt Helen Perrott 11, 18.

CBS: F. PAUL SMITH bt John Pobjoy 12, 15.
CGS: F. JUSTINE THOMAS bt Sian Evans 17, 13.

THE WELSH OPEN

Entries for the Welsh Open closed on Dec. 3, with a very imposing list of countries coming to this event in Cardiff on Jan. 17/19.

Entered are China, Japan, South Korea, USA, Canada, Sweden, F.R. Germany, Denmark, France, Poland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Switzerland, Norway, Czechoslovakia, Soviet Union, together with England, Ireland, Scotland, Guernsey and Wales.

The withdrawal of the Norwegian sponsorship threw the holding of the Welsh Open into doubt, but help came from the Far East, with the Dong-Ah Construction Company of Korea putting up the bulk of a £20,000 deal, in which Tamasu Europe and Sch-ildkrot are also involved.

Les D'Arcy reports from....

YORKSHIRE

OUTSTANDING OFFICIAL

The Y.T.T.A. is fortunate to have in its ranks one of the most outstanding young table tennis officials in the country. Richard Scruton, who this year takes over from our Chairman, Alec Head as County Umpires' Secretary has previously served the Association as Development Officer and was the first presenter of the 'Match Point' programme on Radio Leeds. Richard obtained his first big assignment when chosen as an umpire for the 1977 World Championships in Birmingham. In addition to being an international umpire, Richard is one of the two national referees in the County. Recently, he has accepted an invitation from the Swedish T.T.A. to act as an assistant referee at the World Championships in Gothenburg next year. We are delighted that Richard has been able to accept this honour and hope that other Y.T.T.A. officials will soon be following his example.

Had the pleasure of visiting the Regional Ranking Trials recently at Moor Grange School, Leeds where 38 very promising juniors and cadets from Yorkshire, Humberside and Lincolnshire did battle for the privilege of taking part in the England Trials on Jan. 5/6. Qualifiers and positions:-

Boys: Matthew Connell, 1st; Andrew Ball, 2nd; Tony Miller, 3rd; Nicholas Carr, 4th;
Girls: Ruth Bray, 1st; Linda Thompson (Lincs) 2nd; Caroline Dada 3rd; Helen Broomhead, 4th;

Cadet Boys: Wayne Moon (Lincs) 1st; Andrew Whiteley 2nd; John Milner, 3rd; Jason Swaine, 4th;
Cadet Girls: Ellen Meddings, 1st; Paula Hookem 2nd; Janine Harrison, 3rd; Rachel Metcalfe 4th Yorkshire and Humberside gained 1st of the 16 places.

I was very impressed by the Syed brothers, Andrew and Matthew at the 50th Humberside 3-Star Open which due to a number of adverse circumstances, including the retirement from the tournament committee of Tony Ross and other key officials was the last one. May I say on behalf of the thousands of players and spectators who have enjoyed this popular tournament for so many years, a very big 'Thank You' to all involved.

Back to Andrew and Matthew. Their performances were a revelation. Had hoped to be able to report some outstanding Yorkshire success to mark the occasion but it was not to be; the Syed brothers stole the show. 16-year-old Andrew created the first sensation by defeating John Hilton in the men's singles, beat our own Alan Fletcher in the next round before literally blocking Graham Sandley out of the competition. Philip Bradbury, the eventual champion knocked out Andrew in the semis.

In the meantime, brother Matthew chopping down the opposition on the way to Class 2 mixed singles final where he bamboozled stylish Chris Bartram of Kent with long range defence, punctuated by crisp attacking shots, as he darted in and out like a yo-yo to take the set two straight. For a cadet to win an event dominated by seniors must be unique at a 3-star. Would be interested to know if it has been duplicated. From a Yorkshire point of view I was keen to know the secret of the Syeds' success. Both boys, according to Mr. Stokes, their team manager, play about two to three hours every night after school. In addition, on two nights a week they attend the county Centre of Excellence. Then, with matches and a regular tournament circuit to fit in, the boys have a strenuous, but enjoyable and successful programme. To reach their standard it is helpful to have one attribute which cannot be produced by practice or dedication - talent. Matthew, for example in addition to his many table tennis successes has already represented his county at tennis and badminton, is a blue belt at self-defence and plays the piano well.

Michael O'Driscoll, Yorkshire's No.1 Cadet and one of the most talented players at the Leeds, Moor Grange Centre of Excellence, is one of the few cadets to have beaten Matthew more

than once, but what about the rest? Are there any other players who can approach and possibly overtake the Syeds? One coach who is sure to answer in the affirmative is Regional Coach for West Yorkshire, Rowden Fullen, where he is becoming as well known in coaching circles as John Prean is in the Isle of Wight and beyond. I respect the dedication, tenacity and input into table tennis of both. You already know a great deal about John from his regular excellent contributions to this magazine so here's a little background information about Rowden.

A former captain of the Leeds University Table Tennis Team which had in its ranks at that time the formidable Andy Petersons, currently playing as well as ever in the veteran and open age circuit. Rowden spent much of his spare time as a youngster playing table tennis in the cellar at his home with his three brothers. He soon made the city youth side, but I lost contact with him when he emigrated to South Africa after leaving university. There he became involved in business, part of the time as a business lecturer. In his spare time, Rowden continued his participation in table tennis and for some time coached one of the national teams. On his return to England he expressed his avid interest in the game, wrote a thesis about it and made rapid progress to become a 2-star diploma coach.

In February this year he became coach in charge of the Alan Hydes, Dunlop Advanced T.T. Training Centre. At this year's county ranking trials in two counties the group Rowden coaches picked up 19 ranking places. Over 75% hold or have held England rankings, with two in the top five. In the Yorkshire Cadet Closed and the West Yorkshire Closed his players reached eight finals and won seven. In demand in other counties, Rowden took charge of the Oldham Advanced Training Centre for several months and was recently guest of David Marsh, County Schools' Coach of the Northamptonshire T.T.A., for a strenuous week-end involving junior and advanced adult players. He was very impressed with the dedication and enthusiasm of the county and Kingsthorpe School officials involved on the coaching course at the twelve table centre, with new lighting valued at £3,000.

Latest good news for this enthusiastic and talented coach who feels that several of his players have the ability to emulate the England No.1 position held by Joanne Shaw, currently his top girl, was the recent selection of Alaric Bassano, Matthew

Connell, Tony Miller and Mark Land for the County Junior II team. In their latest match, against Lancashire, Alaric and Tony each won 2 with one each for Ruth Bray and Matthew, who also took the boys' doubles with Tony in the 7-3 result. With such progress being shown at the Dunlop Centre it may not be too long before the outstanding Syed brothers start looking over their shoulders.

HULL & DISTRICT T.T.A.

An informative newsletter from the Hull & District T.T.A. indicates a very enthusiastic and industrious band of officials. Was pleased to note that both in the coaching report by Tom Burrett and the A.T.C. section by Eddie Evans, invitations to players to join the coaching sessions. Hope other leagues will follow this example and bring players in - off the streets - in some cases, to join in the programme. This column will always be available to coaching secretaries wishing to recruit players.

In the Hull Premier Division, Noddle Hill 'A', led by 18-year-old Kevin Rogerson, now back in the Hull, Yorkshire League squad, look to be establishing themselves after an indifferent last season. County starlet, Alison Evans and skipper Paul Needly, playing for the first time in the Premier, are providing strong support. The experienced Y.P.I. Cossacks were extended all the way, thanks largely to Rogerson, unbeaten in singles. It needed a doubles win by former county player, Eddie Beedle and former junior international, Ron Jackson to edge Cossacks home 6-4. Ron, now a veteran, recently became the first Hull player to represent Yorkshire at veteran level. In the two matches played he has won three of his four singles and both his men's doubles partnered by Yorkshire's No. 1 Vet. Geoff Brook of Huddersfield.

Outstanding result in the highly competitive Division 1 goes to Hessele 'A' who, with Ricky Burrett back in their ranks, defeated last year's runners-up, Reckitts 'D' 8-2. Now with maximum points from early season games the Hessele side emerge as real contenders.

Steve Roberts, in fine form for Fish Trades Tigers, won three sets for his team to beat Cottingham 'D' 7-3 and maintain their place at the top of Div. 3, alongside Jacksons 'A', while in Div. 10, newcomers Beverley O.M.A. 'D' with Graham Smith and the Straw brothers are unbeaten and have recently recorded four successive wins.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Unity Bradford and Unity Leeds are still neck-and-neck at the top

Table Tennis Foundation

of Div. 3N. Both have registered convincing wins against close rivals recently; Bradford defeating South Yorkshire 116-2 and Leeds by the same margin over Ormesby III. It is nice to see local youngsters being given a chance in

both teams. 15-year-old Andrew Ball made his debut against S. Yorks. and impressed with a win against the dynamic 13-year-old, Chris Oldfield who rarely stops smiling - even in defeat he soon bounces back - which makes

him something special and a large number of friends. Matthew Connell, like Chris, a former team mate of mine, is, at sixteen, becoming a very formidable force for Leeds. Two players who may be just out of their teens and

still making good progress are Julian Gittings, who played in his own club's 2nd team last season and Craig Render, whose perseverance has paid off. Both won their two sets for their respective N.L. teams.

FOUNDATION HOPES FOR SECOND SUCCESSFUL YEAR

By Jill Hammersley-Parker

Already many members have renewed their membership and several new members have joined the Foundation. For people unaware of the aim of the Foundation, it is quite simply to provide International expertise, both in training and competition, for the Junior players who are just missing out on International honours. The money raised by the membership and any other fund raising activities is spent on travel and hospitality when the youngsters selected by the Foundation Selection Committee are competing either in England or abroad.

Members will have already received a breakdown of last year's activities and the costs they incurred. Very briefly, 4 players played in the English Junior Open, 4 players in the Italian Junior Open and 10 players took part in a training camp with the Swedish Junior Team. I was very pleased with the results of the first year and from the feedback from the membership, it would appear this was the general feeling. Hopefully with similar support this year we will be able to repeat a similar programme but clearly we are reliant on old members renewing membership and new members joining.

Should you wish to help the Foundation by becoming a member, simply send a cheque for £10 (payable to "Jill Hammersley-Parker Table Tennis

Foundation") to: Jill Hammersley-Parker, The Barn, Common Bank, Dolphinholme, Nr. Lancaster, Lanes.

If you have any ideas regarding raising funds for the Foundation please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Mr. J. Arnold
Mr. R. Amos
Miss J. Bellinger
Mrs. J. Billington
Mr. R. Clark
Dewsbury T.T.L.
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CHEERS!



By Budimir Vojnovic. Novi Sad. Yugoslavia.

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halex

NATIONAL LEAGUE

By Fiona Brown

| PREMIER DIVISION | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pta |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 1. Thorn EMI Ellenborough | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 29 | 11 | 8 |
| 2. Ormesby I | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 23 | 9 | 6 |
| 3. Omega Reading I | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 18 | 14 | 5 |
| 4. GKN Steelstock Wolverhampton I | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 15 | 5 |
| 5. Jaques Fareham I | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 14 | 2 |
| 6. Grove Market Drayton I | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 22 | 2 |
| 7. Tibhar London | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 27 | 0 |

INTRIGUE AT ELLENBOROUGH

Premier Division leaders Thorn EMI Ellenborough failed by a whisker to maintain their 100% record when they travelled North to play a controversial fixture against second placed Ormesby. England duty for Alan Cooke and David Wells gave both team managers cause for concern and when the Enfield side reluctantly released No. 1 Graham Sandley in order that he could compete in Hong Kong the scene was set for a close encounter between two very balanced teams.



Comeback 'boy' Denis Neale for Thorn EMI Ellenborough.

In a desperate eleventh hour attempt to sway the balance, Ellenborough signed former England No. 1 Denis Neale. The appearance of Neale came as a double shock to Ormesby manager Alan Ransome, a personal friend of Denis, firstly because Neale dropped out of top competitive table tennis several years ago and secondly as he had been an Ormesby player for the major part of his illustrious career.

The shocks did not end there as Denis despatched Ormesby's Lindsay Taylor 21-10, 21-9 in his opening rubber, showing flashes of the brilliance which made him English Closed Champion six times between 1965 and 1977. There are few players in England who could return from the relative obscurity of local league competition to win in such convincing style against any Halex National League Premier Division player. Congratulations Denis!

Unfortunately, Neale's second rubber on which the match hinged was not so successful. With the score standing at 4-3 to Ormesby he faced Scottish international David McIlroy, winning the first but unable to sustain the Scotsman's pace he eventually bowed out, narrowly defeated in the third end.

Nevertheless, Ellenborough retain top spot. but Ormesby with a game in hand are only two points behind; this result may well prove to be crucial as the season unfolds.

Third placed Omega Reading have signed former Soham star John Souter who immediately justified his No. 2 position with two straight

set wins over Grove's Alan Fletcher and Kevin Beadsley; the final match score of 6-2 keeps the Reading side ahead of GKN Wolverhampton on games average. The Midland side recorded an identical match score against bottom club Tibhar London with both Skylet Andrew and Steven Scowcroft cruising to easy Victories, Max Crimmins and Andrew Bellingham won one rubber each.

| FIRST DIVISION | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pta |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 1. Bath Toyota | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 32 | 16 | 10 |
| 2. Omega Reading II | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 29 | 11 | 8 |
| 3. Birmingham Optical | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 23 | 17 | 6 |
| 4. South Yorkshire I | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 21 | 11 | 6 |
| 5. Butterfly Cardiff | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 20 | 3 |
| 6. Dagenham F.C. | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 14 | 26 | 2 |
| 7. MBS St. Neots I | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 23 | 2 |
| 8. Ormesby II | 5 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 1 |

Bath Toyota are beginning to look unbeatable, in their latest match England No. 4 Carl Prean retained his 100% record as his side despatched Birmingham Optical 6-2. Paul Jackson was Bath's only weak link going down in straight sets to both Phil Gunn and Carl Morgan.

Omega Reading are flying high following their 8-0 crushing of MBS St Neots, a tremendous performance by the young squad of Andrew and Matthew Syed, Jimmy Stokes and Chris Bartram. Although it is early days yet my guess is that the title could well be decided when Reading and Bath meet on 5th May in the season's penultimate set of matches.

Ormesby II finally registered their first point of the season with a 4-4 draw against Butterfly Cardiff. The exodus of Ormesby I's Henk van Spanje and Donald Parker at the end of last season has forced manager Alan Ransome to drain second team resources.

One team who will have to limit their socialising over the festive period are South Yorkshire who have crucial matches against Bath Toyota and Omega Reading and with every chance of scoring points in both meetings the squad will be anxious to give their best performances.

| SECOND DIVISION NORTH | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pta |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 1. Patsun Target Gold | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 12 | 10 |
| 2. March | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 27 | 13 | 7 |
| 3. Chan Construction | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 25 | 15 | 6 |
| 4. GKN Steelstock Wolverhampton II | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 19 | 5 |
| 5. South Yorkshire II | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 21 | 5 |
| 6. Sincil Lincoln | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 23 | 4 |
| 7. Byker Newcastle I | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 15 | 25 | 2 |
| 8. Kingsbro' Insurance Services | 5 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 11 | 29 | 1 |

The matchstick men from Salford are certainly 'going for gold' with a maximum points haul from five fixtures they must be odds on to win this division. Tynesiders, Byker Newcastle were able to offer little resistance when the two teams met recently, only No. 4 Stephen George who won both his rubbers against Salford's Tony Boasman and Howard Leigh gave the scoreline an air of respectability.

Malcolm Corking provided the solitary rubber earned by Kingsbro' Stockton who were overwhelmed 7-1 by March the team whose only real chance of displaying leaders Patsun Salford depends upon the outcome of their meeting in January.

Following a string of indifferent results Chan Construction crucified Sincil Lincoln for whom even new signing England Cadet Bradley Billington could make no impression. In the mid table struggle between South Yorkshire and GKN Steelstock the home team won 6-2, three of these rubbers being earned by the Illingsworth twins, Mark and David.

| SECOND DIVISION SOUTH | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pta |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 1. Holts Carpets Salisbury | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 10 | 10 |
| 2. Jaques Fareham II | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 17 | 7 |
| 3. TCB Dolphins | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 21 | 11 | 6 |
| 4. Omega Reading III | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 21 | 19 | 6 |
| 5. Cranfield Colours Halex | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 22 | 18 | 5 |
| 6. Spicer New Malden | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 21 | 2 |
| 7. Gunnersbury Triangle | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 2 |
| 8. TSP Larkhall | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 12 | 28 | 0 |

Halex League

When Holts Carpets Salisbury joined the Halex National League they made what seemed at the time to be rather ambitious claims that they would rise two divisions in two years. Following promotion at the end of last season they are now sitting comfortably at the top of this division with a three point lead. In their last match TCB Dolphins were shown little grace as Holt's Dave Constance and Tony Clayton scored maximums with No. 3 Gary Lambert adding the vital fifth rubber.

Jaques Fareham maintained the pressure with a 5-3 win over bottom team TSP Larkhall. In the light of results to date the fixture between Omega Reading and Spicer New Malden should have been a close fought affair, the visitors started confidently with Martin Shuttle drubbing Mandy Sainsbury but their hopes were steadily eroded as Reading levelled at 1-1 then raced to a 7-1 final scoreline.

Welsh side Cranfield Colours recently suffered an unexpected setback when Halex withdrew their sponsorship of the club. If anything this has made the team hungrier for success, having devastated Gunnersbury Triangle 8-0. Let us hope that the resultant local publicity has been of help in attracting a replacement sponsor.

| THIRD DIVISION NORTH | P | W | 0 | 1 | F | A | Pts |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 1. Unity Bradford | 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 10 | 10 |
| 2. Unity Leeds | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 29 | 11 | 8 |
| 3. South Yorkshire til | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 24 | 16 | 6 |
| 4. Ormesby III | 6 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 19 | 5 |
| 5. Vickers Sports Barrow | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 17 | 23 | 5 |
| 6. Washington | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 18 | 22 | 4 |
| 7. Ormesby IV | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 2 |
| 8. Byker Newcastle II | 6 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 31 | 0 |

It seems that one way or another Ormesby teams are often in the headlines, unfortunately in this instance the cause is a misdemeanour which has resulted in a sanction from the league Administrator. The 6-2 result achieved in Ormesby III's meeting with Washington was amended to 4-4 when it came to light that Trewitt and Stafford had played out of ranking order; in this instance a genuine mistake was made but should be taken as a warning to everyone else, remember Big Brother is watching you"?!)

Unity Bradford and Unity Leeds have emphasised their superiority with 6-2 wins over South Yorkshire and Ormesby IV respectively.

| THIRD DIVISION SOUTH | P | W | D | 1 | F | A | Pts |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 1. Aspro Cippenham | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 29 | 11 | 9 |
| 2. Medway | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 22 | 10 | 7 |
| 3. The OSC Rams | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 25 | 15 | 6 |
| 4. Nittaku Ruislip | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 16 | 8 | 5 |
| 5. Ashford | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 23 | 4 |
| 6. AHW Pioneers | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 15 | 25 | 2 |
| 7. Erreys Print '84 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 24 | 2 |
| 8. Abeng Warriors (Stiga) | 5 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 1 |

There are no reasons for headaches at Cippenham these days. The news that local Company Nicholas Laboratories Ltd., producer of the famous Aspro tablet, is to sponsor not only the National League team but general activities at the new Haymill Centre is a boost for our sport.

The club maintained top league position with a 5-3 home win over AHW Pioneers, a scoreline made possible in part by the absence of the visitors England ranked sisters, Lisa and Jackie Bellinger; however this does not detract from Cippenham No. 2 Richard Beckham who maintained his 100% record.

Medway have secured a further two points following their 8-0 drubbing of Erreys TTC '84. Only Peter Bartram of Erreys looked capable of winning at this level as he went down in three games to Andy Mitchell and Tony Spain.

Bottom club Abeng Warriors are to be congratulated on winning this first point of the season against Ashford; this came as no surprise to Manager Murray Corbin who predicted that success lay just around the corner following early season fixtures, the results of which did not reflect the number of close rubbers.

With teams in this division having played a different number of matches it is difficult to predict as yet the likely winners.

| THIRD DIVISION EAST | P | W | 0 | 1 | F | A | Pts |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| 1. Norwich Foxwood | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 28 | 12 | 9 |
| 2. EAE Waveney | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 10 | 8 |
| 3. Playrite Northampton | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 24 | 16 | 6 |
| 4. Witham Town F.C. | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 21 | 11 | 6 |
| 5. Britannia Deepsure | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 19 | 21 | 4 |
| 6. MBS St. Neots II | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 17 | 23 | 3 |
| 7. Hassy Perfection Soham | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 13 | 27 | 2 |
| 8. Crusaders Lincoln | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 32 | 0 |

Norwich Foxwood remain top after their 6-2 win over MBS St. Neots for whom even New Zealander Alan Shewan could only

manage one win, England ranked Helen Bardwell providing St. Neots' second set.

Hassy Soham seem unable to emulate the success which the club's first team has enjoyed in recent years; in their latest tie with Witham Town FC they were defeated 8-0. Only Halex Crusaders Lincoln cushion Soham from the bottom of the division. The Lincoln team went down 3-5 to Britannia Deepsure in their last match.

Early season leaders Playrite Northampton have suffered their first defeat, 3-5, against EAE Waveney, neither Playrite's No. 1 Graeme McKim nor No.2 Keith Nicoll could find an answer to the consistency displayed by Waveney No. 1 Phillip Logsdon. Trevor Bunn bagged two more rubbers for the home team, his second against Andy Edmonds being the final encounter upon which the match hinged. No. 2 Russell King picked up the other Waveney rubber.

| THIRD DIVISION WEST | P | W | D | 1' | F | A | Pts |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|-----|
| 1. Pengeley Sports Torbay | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 10 | 10 |
| 2. Olivers Shoes Hinckley | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 26 | 14 | 8 |
| 3. Jolliffe Poole | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 23 | 17 | 6 |
| 4. GKN Steel/stock Ladies | 6 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 19 | 5 |
| 5. Hereford Times | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 15 | 5 |
| 6. Global Sports Plymouth | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 11 | 29 | 2 |
| 7. Grove Market Drayton II | 5 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 14 | 26 | 1 |
| 8. Launceston Kemow | 4 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 20 | 1 |

Top team Pengeley Sports Torbay with five wins from five games remain top, they showed little mercy in beating Hereford Times 6-2. News that Hereford had signed ETTA National Coach Bryan Merrett. a former English Closed Champion, caused a ripple of excitement but Bryan assures me that he is only registered as cover in the event of a dire emergency!



Olivers Shoes Hinckley, 3rd Div. West. left to right:- Keith Mitchell, Phil Smith. Mike Holt (Administrator). Maurice Newman. Graham Hill. Martin Rickles, John Iliffe (captain).

Oliver Shoes Hinckley are not breaking any records but they have a squad capable of taking two points from most of the division's teams and must not be dismissed from title consideration. When they met Global Sports Plymouth, new NO. 1 Gary Wilson showed excellent form in beating both Martin Pickles and Phil Smith, Mike Short picked up a third rubber for the visitors as Hinckley ran out winners 5-3.

Jolliffe Poole picked up two more points with a valuable away win, 6-2 over Grove, a result which leaves the losers dangerously placed at the lower end of the league.

AND FINALLY

Prize money in each division has been increased this season. The fund will now be distributed as follows:

| | £'s | | | |
|--------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| | Premier Div. | First Div. | Second Div. | Third Div. |
| Winner | 1750 | 800 | 500 | 400 |
| R/U | 1000 | 400 | 250 | 200 |
| Third | 500 | 150 | | |

LEAGUE FIXTURES

PREMIER DIVISION

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 23.12.84 | |
| Grove | v Thorn EMI Ellenborough |
| Tibhar Larkhall | v Jaques Fareham |
| GKN Steelstock | v Omega Reading |

30.12.84

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Ormesby | v Jaques Fareham |
| GKN Steelstock | v Thorn EMI Ellenborough |
| Grove | v Tibhar Larkhall |

2.1.85
Grove v Ormesby
Tibhar Larkhall v Thorn EMI Ellenborough
Omega Reading v Jaques Fareham

FIRST DIVISION

23.12.84
Omega Reading 1/ v Birmingham Optical
Dagenham FC v Bath Toyota
Butterfly Cardiff v MBS St Neots
Ormesby II v South Yorkshire

~~29.12.84~~

Bath Toyota v South Yorkshire

~~30.12.84~~

Omega Reading II v South Yorkshire
Birmingham Optical v MBS St Neots
Ormesby II v Bath Toyota
Dagenham FC v Butterfly Cardiff

2.1.85

Ormesby II v Omega Reading II
Dagenham FC v Birriingham Optical
Butterfly Cardiff v Bath Toyota
South Yorkshire v MBS St Neots

SECOND DIVISION NORTH

23.12.84
South Yorkshire II v March
Patsun Target Gold' v Kingbro Insurance
Chan Construction v GKN Steelstock II
Halex Sincil Lincoln, v Byker Newcastle

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH

23.12.84
Omega Reading III v Holts Carpets
Gunnersbury Triangle v TSB Dolphins
TSP Larkhall v Spicer New Malden
Jaques Fareham II v Cranfield Colours

THIRD DIVISION NORTH

23.12.84
Byker Newcastle II v Ormesby III
Unity Bradford v Washington
Ormesby IV v Vickers Barrow
Unity Leeds v South Yorkshire III

THIRD DIVISION SOUTH

23.12.84
Cippenham v Nittaku Ruislip
Erreys Print v DSC Rams
Ashford v AHW Pioneers

THIRD DIVISION EAST

23.12.84
Norwich Foxwood v EAE Waveney
Halex Lincoln v MBS St Neots II
Britannia Deepsure v Hassy Perfection Soham II

THIRD DIVISION WEST

23.12.84
Launceston Kernow v Pengeley Torbay
Olivers Shoes v Here.ford Times
Grove II v Global Plymouth

[POSTBAG]

GREAT SORROW

It was with great sorrow that I heard of the death of Ivor Montagu. Much will be said elsewhere of his contributions to the game of Table Tennis and it says much for the greatness of this man with his multiple activities, that the Obituary in the Daily Telegraph hardly mentioned the game. I have four books, all by Ivor or with his help and they cover Table Tennis, Filming, Russian Folk Tales and Autobiography.

I will always remember Ivor as someone who never considered anyone too unimportant, no matter what their standing. This was highlighted many years ago when I was involved in an accident which put me in hospital for a considerable time. My parents received a marvellously worded letter and Ivor came to hospital in person as soon as it was possible. He kept me amused with stories of his travels and also continued to see how I was for the weeks that followed. An unforgettable man.

Laurie F. Landry

3 Osney Way,
Chalk,
Gravesend, Kent.
DA12 2NB

UPSET

It upset me to read in the "Times" that Ivor Montagu had died. He was such a clever yet unassuming man and gave so much to Table Tennis. The obituary mentioned that he had lost his wife a month previously - at his age maybe the shock was too much for him.

..Pinkie" Kydd

22 Parke Rd.,
Barnes,
London S.W.13.

In Appreciation of Jack Carrington

By Dolly Harmer

"Watch me!" said Jack, when he came to visit a school. "That handsome lad at the other end of the table will be here next week. I'm only here for today."

Accordingly, a bevy of young girls turned up for coaching 'the next week', "like Mr. Carrington said".

"Help, please," said the Head of Evening School, when so confronted.

That was 25 years ago. My coaching career had begun.

It was entirely due to Jack and his continuing support. He inspired us all with his dedication and professionalism which his students aim to emulate. He has kept in touch with us by way of the Award Scheme and borne with us there through our mistakes in admin.

Despite my limited time and resources - I was six months pregnant when I qualified for my Coaches Teacher's Certificate and now we live in an OAP flat - I can still claim to have introduced table tennis to around a thousand children and some of their parents too. Multiply that by the many coaches who were similarly inspired - you would need a computer.

There must, now, be another generation coaching today's young people, descended from the same roots. The number is monumental - a continuing memorial to Jack.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are hereby afforded Duggie and Angela Johnson on the birth of a daughter, Gemma Elizabeth, who weighed in at 7lbs 50zs on November 10th.

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RANKING MATTERS

By Peter Charters,
Chairman, National Selection Committee

At this point in time, the changes made over the summer to the Lentec Computer Ranking System seem to be having the intended effect. The results of the Humberside 3-Star Open have had a great influence on the latest list; Phil Bradbury, the men's winner moving up from No. 8 to No.3 and the women's champion Joy Grundy taking up a very close second place behind Alison Gordon.

The new formula was designed to give the top players the opportunity to hold or improve their ranking position without having to compete every weekend of the season in a frantic point hunting exercise. At the end of last season some of the England regulars were reported as seeming jaded from the effects of a hectic domestic programme on top of their international involvement.

Now, if the players selected to play for England do well in either international competition or the major (3-Stars and National Championships) domestic events their ranking positions are safeguarded. Success or failure in BOTH these areas would have the obvious result in ranking position, up or down.

The wide spread of events included in the 'Lentec' scheme gives a broad base for the vast majority of places on the ranking lists published. The scheme has not been without its hiccups but few if any would oppose the view that it has been a huge success. One of the major plus factors for the LENTEC/EITA system as against some foreign versions is its simplicity; the method of point winning calculations are not shrouded in mystery nor has the formula to be published in the complicated language of computer cobledgook.

Some players are very accurate at assessing their points tally. Another plus is its flexibility. The system has remained basically the same but with small changes in weighting factor, points gain table, bonuses etc., improvements or revisions can be made. The latest changes for this season were published in the October issue of IT News.

In answer to one enquiry, the policy of not including junior events in senior tournaments is continued. Where two separate tournaments are organised on different days (the Wiltshire is such a case) both events will count towards ranking.

DOUGLAS CUTS A DASH

Desmond Douglas retains his No. 1 spot in the latest Lentec

rankings issued on Nov. 7/84. Philip Bradbury has leapfrogged five places to No.3, his highest position to date. This is not only a personal achievement for Philip but a welcome indication to the national selectors that the revision of the computer ranking scheme, which they advocated following England's poor performance at the European Championships in Moscow is proving effective.

With an eye to the future it is exciting to note the meteoric rise of 15-years-old Reading boy Andrew Syed from No. 33 to No. 10. In the women's list Alison Gordon remains No. 1 but Joy Grundy moves above Karen Witt into second place. Jackie Bellinger who has for some time been overshadowed by younger sister Lisa, has recently given up her job to concentrate on table tennis, her early season performances reflect this move and she is now within striking distance of the top group.

Revised rankings (previous positions in brackets) are:-

| Men | Points |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| 1 Desmond Douglas (Wa) (1) | 1138 |
| 2 Graham Sandley (Mi) (2) | 702 |
| 3 Philip Bradbury (Bul) (61) | 549 |
| 4 Carl Preen (IOW) (3) | 543 |
| 5 Alan Cooke (Oyl) (4) | 494 |
| 6 David Wells (Mil) (61) | 432 |
| 7 Skylet Andrew (E) (71) | 415 |
| 8 Kenny Jackson (E) (5) | 366 |
| 9 Nicky Mason (Sy) (10) | 360 |
| 10 Andrew Syed (Bk) (33) | 359 |
| 11 John Souter (Mi) (13) | 342 |
| 12 Colin Wilson (Mil) (11) | 313 |
| 13 Max Crimmins (Sy) (12) | 305 |
| 14 Nigel Eckersley (Ch) (23) | 298 |
| 15 David Dodd (K) (21) | 288 |
| 16 David Barr (Bk) (61) | 282 |
| 17 John Hilton (Lal) (9) | 278 |
| 18 Chris Rogers (Lei) (18) | 270 |
| 19 Andrew Bellingham (St) (24) | 257 |
| 20 Carl Morgan (Wa) (20) | 254 |
| 21 Alan Fletcher (V) (15) | 252 |
| 22 Stephen Moore (G) (36) | 251 |
| 23 Richard Jermyn (He) (17) | 250 |
| 24 Mark Mitchell (Mi) (22) | 250 |
| 25 Stephen Scowcroft (La) (27) | 248 |
| 26 Dougie Johnson (Wa) (19) | 246 |
| 27 Andy Creed (Av) (34) | 244 |
| 28 Jimmy Stokes (Bk) (47) | 244 |
| 29 Steven Turner (La) (26) | 241 |
| 30 Andrew Wellman (Bk) (25) | 238 |
| 31 Kevin Satchell (Wi) (32) | 231 |
| 32 Steve Mills (V) (40) | 221 |
| 33 Chu van Oue (Ndl) (35) | 219 |
| 34 Kevin Beadsley (V) (28) | 200 |
| 35 Adrian Moore (Sxl) (59) | 191 |
| 36 Ian Kenyon (Kl) (30) | 188 |
| 37 Chris Bartram (K) (69) | 184 |
| 38 Malcolm Green (Sp) (45) | 183 |
| 39 Glen Baker (Sy) (38) | 180 |
| 40 David Reeves (Bk) (29) | 176 |
| 41 Barry Johnson (Wa) (44) | 174 |
| 42 Lindsay Taylor (Cv) (55) | 171 |
| 43 Mark Oakley (Sy) (31) | 168 |
| 44 Tony Clayton (Do) (41) | 167 |
| 45 Philip Gunn (Wa) (50) | 162 |
| 46 Gary Spencer (K) (46) | 160 |
| 47 Stuart Palmer (Skl) (43) | 154 |
| 48 Joe Kennedy (Kl) (52) | 152 |
| 49 Dave Constance (Do) (48) | 150 |
| 50 Michael Harper (Ca) (67) | 148 |
| 51 Phil Smith (Sxl) (80) | 148 |
| 52 Phil Bowen (La) (39) | 147 |
| 53 Paul Jackson (Av) (56) | 145 |
| 54 David Newman (E) (57) | 143 |
| 55 Gary Lambert (Ov) (63) | 141 |
| 56 Matthew Syed (Bk) (95) | 139 |
| 57 David Tan (Mi) (42) | 136 |
| 58 Stephen Sharpe (V) (60) | 134 |
| 59 Keith Richardson (Ca) (49) | 132 |
| 60 Shaun Browne (La) (68) | 132 |
| 61 Tony Taylor (Chi) (96) | 132 |
| 62 Stephen Brinskill (Cv) (75) | 130 |
| 63 John Burtleton (K) (51) | 128 |

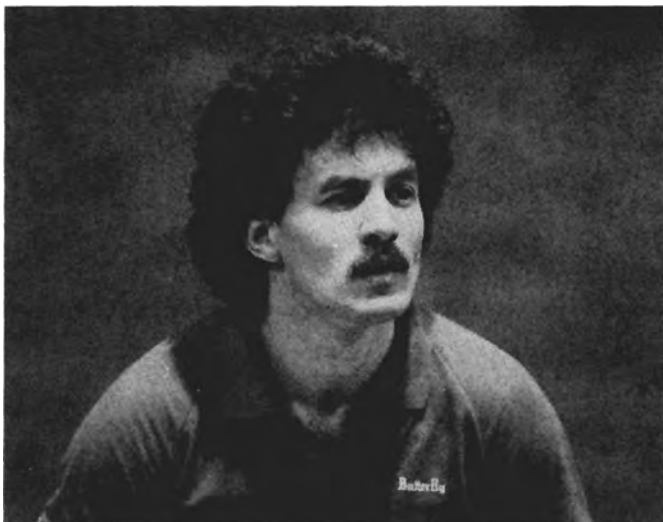
| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 64 Brian Johns (Chi) (65) | 128 |
| 65 Anthony Penny (E) (82) | 128 |
| 66 Peter Taylor (He) (53) | 127 |
| 67 John Kitchener (Sk) (62) | 126 |
| 68 Andrew Dodd (K) (72) | 121 |
| 69 Philip Logsdon (Nkl) (106) | 121 |
| 70 Robert Swift (Ca) (162) | 120 |
| 71 David Gannon (Le) (58) | 119 |
| 72 Stephen George (ou) (-) | 119 |
| 73 Stephen Holloway (Sy) | 119 |
| 74 Michael Hammond (Sy) (90) | 118 |
| 75 John Payne (Mi) (54) | 117 |
| 76 Andrew Rich (St) (71) | 116 |
| 77 Desmond Charley (E) (66) | 113 |
| 78 Tony Sanderson (V) (83) | 106 |
| 79 Les Wooding (Bdl) (98) | 106 |
| 80 Richard Venner (Sx) (191) | 104 |
| 81 Peter Collino (Mil) (81) | 103 |
| 82 John Dennison (E) (133) | 102 |
| 83 Graham Slack (Gs) (137) | 102 |
| 84 David Sharpe (Bd) (77) | 101 |
| 85 Richard Beckham (K) (94) | 99 |
| 86 Graham Gillett (Sx) (113) | 99 |
| 87 Clive Bakewell (St) (71) | 95 |
| 88 Lester Bertie (Wa) (74) | 94 |
| 89 William Gleave (Ch) (70) | 93 |
| 90 Keith Samuels (Hu) (92) | 92 |
| 91 David Skerrett (Lil) (100) | 92 |
| 92 Ray Tilling (Kl) (128) | 92 |
| 93 David Goode (Mi) (104) | 90 |
| 94 Steven Dettmar (E) (174) | 90 |
| 95 Matt Shearer (Ll) (76) | 89 |
| 96 Costos Papanitiou (Mi) (192) | 89 |
| 97 Peter McQueen (Ndl) (78) | 88 |
| 98 Graham Toole (Ha) (85) | 88 |
| 99 Rupert 80le (Sy) (97) | 87 |
| 100 Stanley Oakn (St) (91) | 86 |

| Women | Points |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| 1 Alison Gordon (Bk) (1) | 488 |
| 2 Joy Grundy (La) (3) | 452 |
| 3 Karen Witt (Bkl) (2) | 367 |
| 4 Lisa Bellinger (Bd) (4) | 358 |
| 5 Jackie Bellinger (Bd) (5) | 296 |
| 6 Mandy Sainsbury (8k) (11) | 208 |
| 7 Karen Smith (Le) (6) | 177 |
| 8 Fiona Elliot (St) (7) | 176 |
| 9 Jill Harris (St) (8) | 157 |
| 10 Sarah Sandley (Mi) (10) | 141 |
| 11 Joanne Shaw (V) (9) | 135 |
| 12 Susan Collier (Bk) (12) | 133 |
| 13 Jean Parker (La) (14) | 124 |
| 14 Suzanne Hunt (Lil) (13) | 118 |
| 15 Helen Williams (Mi) (15) | 115 |
| 16 Angela Mitchell (Mi) (16) | 97 |
| 17 Lisa Hayden (E) (23) | 94 |
| 18 Jill Powis (St) (25) | 94 |
| 19 Carol Butler (Ov) (19) | 90 |
| 20 Mandy Reeves (Mi) (17) | 83 |
| 21 Karen Groves (Wa) (18) | 81 |
| 22 Jane Barella (Syl) (46) | 81 |
| 23 Sandra Peakman (Wa) (29) | 80 |
| 24 Mary Denbow (Oxl) (27) | 78 |
| 25 Joanne Palmer (Ca) (32) | 78 |
| 26 Cheryl Buttery (Lil) (21) | 76 |
| 27 Nina Tsakarianos (Gs) (20) | 69 |
| 28 Rebecca Russe (Av) (22) | 68 |
| 29 Teresa Moore (Sx) (30) | 68 |
| 30 Elaine Sayer (Ei) (33) | 64 |
| 31 Jenny Collins (Bk) (24) | 60 |
| 32 Helen Bardwell (Hel) (28) | 58 |
| 33 Carol Spain (K) (26) | 57 |
| 34 Gillian Sharpe (Ll) (-) | 56 |
| 35 Helen Shields (V) (31) | 55 |
| 36 Cathy Ridgard (Hal) (1) | 54 |



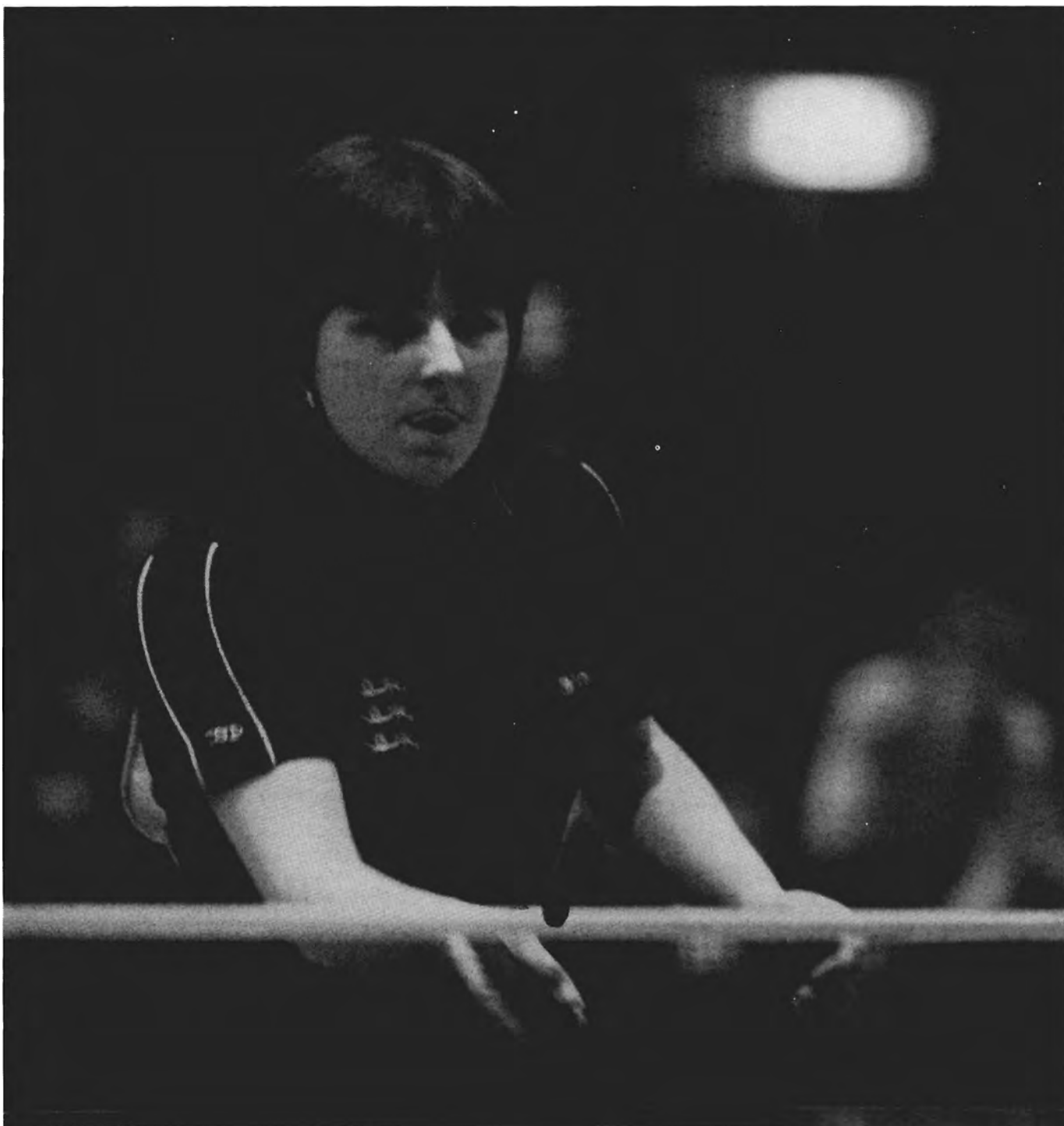
Lancastrians Joy Grundy and Jean Parker ranked at Nos. 2 and 13 in the revised classifications.

Photo by S. J. Line. Shoreham-by-Sea. W. Sussex.



Nigel Eckersley of Cheshire, up from No. 23 to No. 14.

Photo by Tony Edenden. Barlestone. Nr. Nuneaton.



Berkshire's Susan Collier unchanged at No. 12.

Photo by S. J. Line, Shoreham-by-Sea, W. Sussex.

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|----------------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|
| 37 Debbie Soothill (Cu) (34) | 48 | 41 Julie Dimmock (Bd) (49) | 44 | 45 Deborah Simmonds (Sy) (42) | 37 | 49 Hilary Finch (Cal) (45) | 35 |
| 38 Claire Maisey (Wi) (38) | 48 | 42 Melonie Seaton (V) (44) | 41 | 46 Sally Weston (Sx) (43) | 36 | 50 Susan Radley (Ii) (41) | 34 |
| 39 Laura Goldsmith (Mi) (35) | 46 | 43 Amanda Hearty (O.) (36) | 39 | 47 Yvonne Hall (Le) (39) | 35 | | |
| 40 Karen Burrows (V) (-) | 45 | 44 Melody Hillij (37) | 39 | 48 Taryn Napier-Vallis (8k) (40) | 35 | | |

£16,000 Butterfly Clothing Contract

Tamusu Butterfly Europa have now completed a £16,000 sponsorship deal with the English Table Tennis Association. The company, which is one of the world's leading manufacturers of table tennis equipment, will provide an

extensive kit of fine clothing and accessories to both senior and junior national squads for an initial period of two years and a company spokesman has indicated that a further two year option is likely to come into effect in 1986.

Tamusu Butterfly Europa have similar agreements with leading teams in America, Asia, Africa and Europe. This is a natural extension of their promotional campaign and a move which is warmly welcomed by ETTA Chairman Tom Blunn.

"Our international squad have earned several encouraging results this season to date and this new sponsorship can only help to develop the team spirit which coach Donald Parker is trying to foster."

LANCASHIRE LIFE Premier Weekend Success

By George Yates

Lacking the services of both Donald Parker and Joy Grundy, Lancashire did well to beat both Berkshire (5-4) and the 'old enemy' Yorkshire (6-3) although losing to Surrey (3-6) in the first of the County Championships weekends played at British Telecom College, Yarnfield, nr Stone, Staffs. (Nov. 24/25).

The Red Rose quartet, equally split between players from Bolton and Preston in the

persons of Stephen Scowcroft and Shaun Browne of Bolton and Steve Turner and Jean Parker of Preston did the county proud.

Both Scowcroft and Browne won three of their six singles both beating David Reeves (Bk) and David Rook (Y) with the former adding the scalp of A. Fletcher (Y) and the latter Andy Wellman (Bk).

Steve Turner accounted for Fletcher and Wellman whilst

Jean Parker beat Helen Shields (Y) and Jane Barella (Sy) losing to Mandy Sainsbury (Bk). Browne and Turner, and Scowcroft and Miss Parker, recorded two wins in the doubles.

In matches played at Burnley on Nov. 3 Lancashire's senior second team in Div. 2A dropped a point to Leicestershire the home wins being accomplished by Andy Gray, Mandy Goodwin and Carey Whitehead in singles and the two doubles.

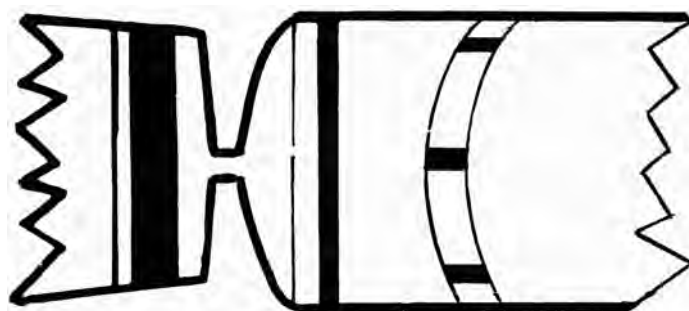
Earlier in the day, at the same venue, in Junior Div. 2A Lancashire were beaten 7-3 by Yorkshire the home wins being achieved by Andrew Eden and

Nicola McGrath and by Nicola and Lynne Harnden in the girls' doubles.

LANCS. AND CHESHIRE LEAGUE

After wins over Liverpool (8-2) and Fleetwood (9-1), Bolton, the defending first division champions in the Lancashire and Cheshire League, had their gallop stopped when held to a 5-5 draw by Stockport.

Lacking the services of Scowcroft and Andy Leigh the Trotters had to call up second teamer Ron Durose who obliged with a win over ace veteran Derek Schofield who, 10 and



CHRIS CRAC

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behold, lost also to Browne and Nigel Hallows!

Fleetwood, having gone four seasons without defeat in climbing from the 5th to the First Division had their record well and truly shattered by Bolton whose only loss was suffered by Hallows, beaten by Brian Carney,

But watch Oldham, promoted last season, they began their fixtures with a 6-4 home win against Manchester with Phil Aspinall (2), Mark Hankey (2), Larry Bainbridge (1) and the doubles doing the trick,

BOOK REVIEW

"Tennis. Squash and Badminton Bygones"
- Gerald N. Gurney.
Shire Publications. 95p

Author Gerald Gurney claims in this, the first book entirely devoted to the equipment and miscellanea of racket sports, that he has by far the largest collection of early table tennis equipment in the world. Indeed, some of it has been exhibited in parts of Europe, although the ETTA have not as yet seized the opportunity of showing it in this country.

It is rather strange, therefore, that the title does not include a reference to table tennis although

the sport is well represented in this fascinating book. He looks at the often obscure origins and inter-relationships of racket sports before describing the way in which the rackets and other equipment have developed since the last twenty years of the nineteenth century, the period in which lawn tennis, badminton, table tennis and squash were all invented in Britain and then exported to the rest of the world.

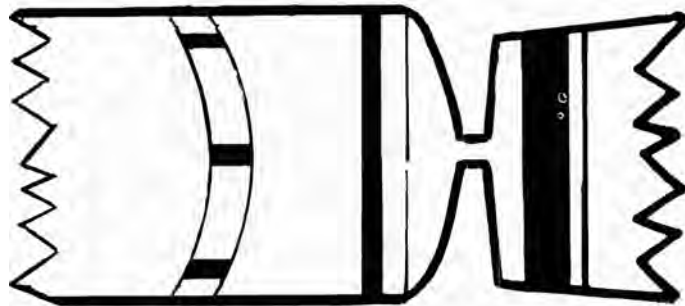
In a section on postcards and photographs Gurney writes, "among racket sports only table tennis and lawn tennis have achieved the popularity which leads to the publication of picture postcards in quantity. A private collector of table tennis cards

has found over eighty such cards, the great majority of which date from the period 1902-5".

Gerald Gurney was instrumental (with Jack Carrington) in forming the English Schools' Table Tennis Association in 1968. He was the first Honorary Secretary and then became Chairman and President before taking a less active role on being elected the Association's first Life Member. He can claim the rare distinction of playing table tennis both for Oxford against Cambridge and for Cambridge against Oxford. In this well-illustrated book he also coins a new word - "Racketana".

D.A. L.

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OBITUARY

IVOR MONTAGU

**A Tribute from H. ROY EVANS, aBE,
President, I.T.T.F.**

Although I knew little of Ivor's important contributions in other, maybe more prestigious, walks of life, I was very much a part of his tremendous endeavours for table tennis over the sixteen years of my Hon. Secretaryship of The International Table Tennis Federation.

I first became aware of his considerable presence at the World Championships in Baden bei Vienna in 1933, when I played for Wales, and was also its delegate to the ITTF Congress. I had the temerity to propose the adoption of a certain ball, which I knew perfectly well stood no chance of being recognised, and experienced the full weight of Ivor's disapproval.

But it was not until after the Second World War, when I became a member of the Advisory Committee, that I came to understand the extent of his knowledge of our game, and the scope of his experience in international matters.

He certainly ruled, his mastery of several languages giving him enormous advantage in the days before simultaneous interpretation. His political leanings showed clear in an extraordinary ability to handle complex problems in a split Europe. Indeed, it was mostly through his influence that table tennis became one of the first sports in which international competition between West and East took place in harmony.

He knew his subject better than anyone else, and although there are conflicting claims as to who set up The International Table Tennis Federation, it was Ivor who certainly lead unorganised international table tennis into the formation of the Federation in London in 1926. And it was Ivor who remained unchallenged at its head for

forty-one years.

I became the Honorary Secretary of the ITTF in 1951, following the late Bill Pope, being at all times the close working colleague of Ivor and Bill Vint, the latter being a closer personal friend. Ivor drafted the original rules of the ITTF, and in the late fifties he chaired a weekend long meeting of the late Ake Eldh, at that time Deputy President, Bill Vint and myself, when we investigated the whole of our Constitution, and drafted a new handbook. Although that Constitution, with its Rules and Regulations, has of necessity had to be up-dated from time to time since then, many of the original concepts are pure Montagu.

During the period of my Secretaryship, I knew Ivor in his many moods. He was certainly impatient and suffered fools badly. Yet the essence of his leadership was the ability to compromise, to find a way through the labyrinth of problems that confronted us during the period of the so called Cold War. He usually managed to get his own way, but always gave his opponents the chance to save their faces. He was certainly a dictator, imperious for all his Communist leanings. A big man, in every way. A true leader, and our game owes so much to his astuteness, his grasp of huge problems and minute details, and above all to his belief in table tennis, giving it a solid foundation on which to build.

I succeeded Ivor in 1967. I learned much from him, sometimes in agreement and sometimes in disagreement. But I am confident that whatever of Ivor Montagu that has rubbed off on all of us who knew him will help to continue the growth of a tree planted by this never-to-be-forgotten man in 1926.

October and, although her death was expected, Ivor was completely overcome with grief and never really recovered. There is no doubt that Ivor would have no complaints in joining up again with his beloved wife.

Fortunate it was that at the time of his 80th birthday Ivor was able to attend, what turned out to be, his last table tennis event in this country. This was the first annual championships of the newly-formed Veterans English Table Tennis Society (VETTS) Which, by chance, was being held near Ivor's home in Watford on May 26/27, 1984.

A report of the event appeared in the October, 1984 issue of Table Tennis News along with a photograph of Ivor who had teamed up with his old doubles partner Maurice Goldstein, the current President of the E.T.T.A. Maurice reports that Ivor was in good heart and in good form despite the stress he was suffering due to prolonged illness of his wife.

I was very pleased that the E.T.T.A. made a presentation for this event of the Ivor Montagu Trophy for the winners of the men's over-40's singles event. The name of Ivor Montagu will live on through this event.

It is easier to write about Ivor now that he has gone rather than when he was with us as he disliked any fuss or publicity; he never asked for thanks nor sought any praise. He just liked to lead those who had sufficient faith and confidence to follow him.

It is hard to realise that he was

the first chairman appointed by the ETTA (then known as the Ping Pong Association of England) and that was at the age of eighteen years! He was up at Cambridge, reading for a degree which was to form the basis of a distinguished career. Yet he took time out of his life to prepare the foundation on which we, the current members of the ETTA now play and enjoy our game.

This foundation has stood the test of time over the past 60 years and will continue to do so. Ivor's initiative and involvement in the creation of the International Table Tennis Federation gave the E.T.T.A. an elevated position in international affairs from which it has reaped the highest respect from members of the I.T.T.F.

Ivor was a man of the people and there was nothing he enjoyed better than being with and working for people, particularly the younger generation. He saw table tennis as a vehicle for the participation of people of all ages in a simple and non-expensive sport.

His own personality is reflected in the legacy he has left to us all, a good clean sport, devoid of all that is bad in many other sports. For all that, Ivor, we salute and thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

**CABLE FROM
BUDAPEST**

"We extend our deepest sorrow at the passing of Ivor Montagu".
Dr. Gyorgy Lakatos. Dr. Fekete-Horvath,



ETTA President Maurice Goldstein serves with Ivor Montagu awaiting the return at the VETTS Championships.

IVOR MONTAGU

**A Tribute from TOM BLUNN, Chairman,
E.T.T.A.**

It seems only like yesterday that I wrote about Ivor, with the greatest pleasure and delight to celebrate his eightieth birthday. It was last May and every effort was made to get Ivor involved in some way to allow his table tennis friends to celebrate the event.

It was not as happy for Ivor as would have been expected under normal circumstances. But these were not normal circumstances, his dear wife, Eileen, affectionately known to everyone as Hell, and companion for so many years was gravely ill and not expected to recover. Indeed she died in



THE HON. IVOR MONTAGU
Film director and writer

The Hon. Ivor Montagu, the film producer and director died on November 5. A prominent British Communist in his day he was also a noted left wing theorist of the cinema and had collaborated with some of the great names of Soviet film making, such as Eisenstein.

In addition Montagu was a moving force in the early days of table tennis and made a considerable contribution to the establishment of the game as an international sport.

Ivor Montagu, son of the 2nd Lord Swaythling, the banker, was born in 1904, and educated at Westminster, the Royal College of Science, and Kings College, Cambridge. His special interest was zoology.

Brought up in the height of traditional luxury, he broke away early in order to live independently in a style he felt to be more proletarian. He was attracted to films both as an art form and as offering him a career, and from the late 1920s he played an active part in film-making, working at various times in many different capacities - as an editor, screen-writer, director and producer.

He was for a while the *Observer's* film critic and was

also a regular contributor to the *Daily Worker*, and in 1925 was one of the original founders of the London Film Society. In 1928 he was associated with Adrian Brunel, H. G. Wells, Charles Laughton and Elsa Lanchester in the production of an experimental series of short comedies based on original ideas by H. G. Wells - *Bluebottles*, *The Daydream*, and *The Tonic*. Although these films are remembered because of the distinction of those involved in them, they were successful only in Germany.

Ivor Montagu's interest and involvement in left-wing politics as well as his love for the cinema led to visits to the USSR during the 1920s, and to his close association with Eisenstein, Alexandrov, and Eisenstein's cameraman, Tisse during the greater part of their grand tour of Western Europe and the United States during 1929-30.

Montagu and his lively wife, Eileen, affectionately known to everyone as Hell, established a *menage* for the distinguished Russian visitors in Hollywood, and Montagu assisted Eisenstein in his abortive script projects for Paramount, *Sutter's Gold*, based on the novel *CO* by Blaise Cendrars, and *An American*

Tragedy, derived from Theodore Dreiser's work.

Although Hollywood scarcely knew what to do with Eisenstein, he, and Montagu with him, were for a while feted, enjoying in particular the hospitality of Charles Chaplin. Montagu wrote his own colourful account of this period in *With Eisenstein in Hollywood* (1968). When Eisenstein left with his colleagues for Mexico, the Montagus returned to London.

Montagu's various later assignments included *Wings over Everest* (1933, co-director), and production or associate production for several of Alfred Hitchcock's British films, such as *The Man Who Knew Too Much* and *The Thirty-Nine Steps*; during this period he began his long association with Michael Balcon. He also produced *Behind the Spanish Lines* and *Spanish ABC* during the Civil War in Spain.

From 1941-45 he acted as adviser to the Soviet Film Agency, and in 1948 he joined Sir Michael Balcon at Ealing Studios as an associate producer; here he co-wrote the screenplay for *Scott of the Antarctic* (1948).

His considerable literary work included the translation of

Pudovkin's *Film Technique* (1929) and *Film Acting* (1935), the translation of plays and novels from French, German and Russian, political works such as *The Traitor Class*, *Plot Against Peace*, and *Germany's New Nazis*, and the Pelican book, *Film World*.

Montagu was an active executive member of the film-makers' Union, the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, of which he was one of the founders.

Montagu was a champion table tennis player, representing Britain in matches all over the world. But he also made a great contribution to the life of the early game, helping to establish and finance the first world championships in London in 1926 and becoming the first chairman of table tennis's international federation, a post he held for over forty years.

He also wrote two books, *Table Tennis Today* (1924) and *Table Tennis* (1936) which were both part of the impetus he gave to the sport.

His wife died last month.

From The Times, London, 7th November 1984.

WEST YORKSHIRE
2-STAR OPEN

THIRD TIME UNLUCKY FOR JOHN

by Steve Nunn, Referee and Organiser

These championships on Nov. 3, sponsored by the West Yorkshire County Council, must be causing a considerable amount of embarrassment to John Hilton, the former European champion. Three times now he has reached the final of the men's singles event and three times he has failed to win the title.

Although he beat Kevin Beadley, the 1983 champion, in the semi-finals, he was just no match for his county colleague, Stephen Scowcroft who triumphed in straight games in the final.

But John was successful in the doubles when, partnered by Phil Bowen, they took the title at the final expense of Scowcroft and Chen Peretz of Israel - scratch pair who did remarkably well to reach the final.

Chen left London for Bradford at 4 a.m. and such enthusiasm deserves some success. Although some entries were lost through County Championships commitments, it was nice to see Melody Hill back on the tournament scene. It may take her a little time to get back to top form but I am sure if Melody plays more tournaments it will not be long before she asserts some pressure on the top women in the land.

Stephen Sharpe of Yorkshire

also had a great day defeating Carl "Major" Morgan and Steve Mills before falling to Hilton in the semis. In the women's singles Joy Grundy was the winner as she was with her Preston partner, Jean Parker, in the doubles. All in all a very good tournament and my thanks to the West Yorkshire County Council, the management team, the Sports Centre staff and the local press (Telegraph and Argus) for their support.

RESULTS:

MS: s-fs:
J. Hilton (La) bt S. Sharpe (Y) 10, 18;
S. Scowcroft (La) bt T. Taylor (Ch) 22, 7, 19.
Final: SCOWCROFT bt Hilton 18, 17.
WS: s-fs:
J. Grundy (La) bt M. Hill (Y) 9, 7;
J. Harris (St) bt J. Shaw (Y) 14, 19
Final: GRUNDY bt Harris 8, 15
MD: -f-;
C. Peretz/Scowcroft b. K. Beadley/T. Bottomley (Y) 17, 21, 9;
P. Bowen (La)/Hilton bt S. Mills (Y)/C. Morgan (WA) 9, 15, 18.
Final: BOWEN/HILTON bt Peretz/Scowcroft 6, 20, 7.
C. Gundy/J. Parker (La) bt Shaw/D. Soothill (Cui) -11, 16, 14;
K. Hill (Dwl)/A. Holt (La) bt Harris/Head (St) 12, 18, 14.
Final: GRUNOY/PARKER bt Hill/Holt 18, 13.
BS: s-fs:
B. Billington (Oy) b. C. Gues. (V) -20, 10, 12;
R. Hayward (S.) b. N. Newson (V) 16, -19, 18.
Final: BILLINGTON b. Hayward 18, 18.
GS: s-fs:
Shaw b. Holt -17, 12, 14;
A. Evans (Y) bt Soothill 16, 17.
Final: SHAW bt Evans 20, 17.
VS: s-fs:
B. Allison (Li) bt R. Norton (Ca) -19, 1, 20;
M. Shearer (Li) bt A. Timewell (Ch) 4, 2, 13, 15.
Final: SHEARER b. Allison 12, -18, 8.

DUNLOP 56th MIDLAND COUNTIES 3-STAR OPEN

TWO IN A ROW FOR JOY

by GEORGE YATES

As an encore to her success in the Humberside 3-Star Open at Hull, Lancashire's Joy Grundy repeated her success in the Midland 3-Star Open over the weekend of Nov 10/11 with yet another win over the national champion and No. 1 seed Alison Gordon in the women's singles event.

Nor was the No. 2 seed. Karen Witt, any more successful for she too was taken out in the semis by the up-and-coming Fiona Elliot the rising star from Staffordshire. But what a set this was with Fiona, having won the first game 26-24 letting slide a 20-11 lead in the second with Karen Witt jangling the nerves of the Wolverhampton girl to a remarkable equalising success.

Nor was the torment over as the decider also went to "deuce" and beyond as Fiona finally clinched it 24-22 in a contest that had the gallery enthralled. Up against Joy in the final, however, it was Fiona's turn to fall from a "deuce" position in the second game having lost the first comfortably. And so for the second time in a fortnight Miss Grundy scooped up a major cash prize - this time a cheque for £125.

It was not a great day for the top seeds for, in addition to

Mesdames Gordon and Witt, Lisa Bellinger, at No. 4, was yet another victim being an early faller to Mandy Sainsbury. No joy either for the top two seeds in the men's singles with Graham Sandley, but a shadow of his former self, being removed by Kent's David Dodd who won -1 0, 14 and 18.

CHALLENGE

Carl Preat, figuring at No. 2 in the other half of the draw, did manage to reach the semis having been at pains to fight off the challenge of Andy Wellman. But in his semi-final encounter with Alan Cooke, the 'cookie' crumbled very much in favour of the Chesterfield lad whose coolness was in direct contrast to the agitation visibly displayed by the Isle of Wight boy.

Throwing down his bat in disgust when returning alongside his father I had to smile at the remark from father to son which likened him to an "idiot". A bit much really but, I suppose, a bitter pill to swallow after his lad's conquest of Ulf Bengtsson and Jan-Ove Waldner in the European League match in Stockholm five nights previously.

In the other semi Nicky Mason had the upper hand against David Wells but young Cooke

stood for no nonsense in the final with a cheque for £250 in his sights - and one for £125 was sufficient to console the loser I would have thought.

Surprise finalists in the men's doubles were Lancashire's Stephen Scowcroft and his Cheshire partner, Brian Johns who, en route, had put to the sword Andrew Syed and Jimmy Stokes, John Souter and Colin Wilson and, in the semis, Cooke and Sandley!

BURST

Their bubble was burst in the final however despite taking the winners, Skylet Andrew and Mason, to a deciding game. In a repeat of their Hull success the Bellinger sisters again took the women's doubles title again at the expense of Mesdames Gordon and Sainsbury.

As though by divine right the veterans' title went to the national champion, Derek Schofield, whose final victim was Matt Shearer. Chris Bartram won the men's Class 2 singles, going one better than he did at Hull, and, in the counterpart women's event Teresa Moore denied a home success for Diane St Ledger.

Having given yeoman service in the capacity of referee for this particular tournament a presentation of a tankard was made to Doug Young as this was to be his last. But did I overhear Maurice Goldstein mumble "these youngsters can't take it?" Nonetheless well done Doug and for yet another successful event, not forgetting his assistant John Devey nor the maestro

himself, Maurice Goldstein, aBE, the tournament's Hon. Sec and Organiser. The Alumwell Centre, Walsall, was a good place to be.

Results:-

Men's Singles: Quarter-finals:
N. Mason (Sy) bt **D. Dodd** (K) 22, -18, 7;
D. Wells (Mi) bt **J. Souter** (Mi) 11, 19;
A. Cooke (Oy) bt **P. Bradbury** (Bu) 12, 13;
C. Preat (IOW) bt **C. Morgan** (Wa) 14, 15.
 Semi-finals:
Mason bt **Wells** 18, 17;
Cooke bt **Preat** 13, 14.
 Final: **COOKE** bt **Mason** 15, . 1.
Men's Doubles: Quarter-finals:
A. Gordon (8k) bt **J. Harris** (St) 16, 9;
J. Grundy (La) bt **J. Bellinger** (Bd) 12, 11;
F. Elliot (St) bt **M. Sainsbury** (8k) 18, -14, 17;
K. Witt (Bkl) bt **K. Smith** (Ie) 15, 16.
 Semi-finals:
Grundy bt **Gordon** 12, 10;
Elliot bt **Witt** 24, -20, 22.
 Final: **GRUNDY** bt **Elliot** 21, 12.
Men's Doubles: Semi-finals:
B. Johns (Ch)/**S. Scowcroft** (la) bt **Cooke**/**G. Sandley**(M):-13, 20, 18;
S. Andrew (E)/**Mason** bt **Bradbury**/**Wells** 18, -18, 18.
 Final:
ANDREW/MASON bt **Johns**/**Scowcroft** 17, -17, 14.
 Women's Doubles: Semi-finals:
J. Bellinger/**L. Bellinger** (Bd) bt **S. Hunt** (li) **Smith** 16, 14;
Gordon/**Sainsbury** bt **Grundy**/**J. Parker** (La) 17, 14.
 Final:
BELLINGER/BEUNGER bt **Gordon**/**Sainsbury** 13, 12.
 Veterans' Singles: Quarter-finals:
O. Schofield (Ch) bt **B. Edlington** (li) 9, 9;
G. Chapman (Sy) bt **R. Norton** (Hu) 10, 17;
 (Chi) bt **J. Holland** (IE) 22, 15;
M. Shearer (li) bt **S. Batrick** (E) 9, 9.
 Semi-finals:
Schofield bt **Chapman** 12, 18;
Shearer bt **O'Arcy** 17, 14.
 Final: **SCHOFIELD** bt **Shearer** 15, 16.
Men's Class 2 Singl.s: Quarter-finals:
C. Bartram (K) bt **T. Taylor** (Ch) 19, 17;
Johns bt **A. Dodd** (K) 13, 16;
A. Moore (Sx) bt **A. Bole** (Sy) 13, 13;
A. Dixon (St) bt **G. Lambert** (Dv) 22, -18.
 Semi-final:
Bartram bt **Johns** -22, 19, 12;
Moore bt **Dixon** -17, 11, 18.
 Final: **BARTRAM** bt **Moore** 21, -11, 19.
 Women's Class 2 Singl.s: Quarter-finals:
H. Shields (V) bt **J. Barrella** (Syl) 10, 19;
T. Moore (Sx) bt **K. Mudge** (E) 19, -19, 19;
E. Sayer (Ei) bt **M. Riddard** (Ha) 9, 6;
D. St. Ledger (Wa) bt **C. Butler** (Dv) 9, 7.
 Semi-finals:
Moore bt **Shields** 20, 19;
St. Ledger bt **Sayer** 19, 12.
 Final: **MOORE** bt **St. Ledger** 15, 14.

NORTH YORKSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN

NICHOLAS SPRINGS SURPRISE

Major titles in the 16-event North Yorkshire Junior 2-Star Open, played at North Bridge Leisure Centre, Halifax over the weekend of Oct 6/7, were kept within the broad acres when successes were registered by Nicholas Newton and Joanne Shaw.

Joanne, as top seed in the girls' singles, was expected to win, her final victim being the No. 2 seed Jill Powis of Staffs. But Newton, from down the field, accumulated computer points aplenty in disposing of the higher ranked Clive Guest and, in the final of the boys' singles, the top seed Adrian Dixon of Staffs.

Newton picked up another title when, in the final of the boys' doubles, with fellow Tyke

John Bult, defeat was inflicted on Bradley Billington and Sean Gibson. And, for good measure, Joanne and Jill, had success in the counterpart girls' event with a final win over Andrea Holt and Lesley Popkiewicz and the Staffs/Yorks pair also won the girls' team event. Dixon and Murray Jukes were the boys' team winners.

In the Cadet singles victories were recorded by Norfolk's Neil Pickard and Lancashire's Miss Holt. Organised by the North Yorkshire TTA in conjunction with the Metropolitan Borough of Calderdale Amenities and Recreation Department the tournament, boasting a prize fund of £475, was voted a great success. Richard Scruton was the Referee with Stuart Sherlock as his assistant.

Results:-

BS QF:
A. Dixon (St) bt **N. Pickard** (Nkl) -20, 13, 11;
T. Blackman (Nd) bt **A. Taylor** (Ch) 10, 12;
N. Newton (Y) bt **C. Guest** (V) -15, 15, 17;
B. Billington (Oy) bt **A. Bassano** (V) 9, 10.
SF:
Dixon bt **Blackman** 15, 15;
Newton bt **Billington** -19, 15, 14.
F: NEWTON bt **Dixon** 19, -19, 15.
GS QF:
J. Shaw (V) bt **J. Billington** (Oy) 12, 15;
A. Holt (la) bt **C. Mouzon** (Nd) 19, 14;
K. Hall (Dy) bt **L. Robins** (Sd) 11, 19;
J. Powis (St) bt **L. Popkiewicz** (Sy) 13, 10.
SF:
Shaw bt **Holt** -14, 18, 15;
Powis bt **Hall** -19, 19, 21.
F: SHAW bt **Powis** -16, 13, 19.
BD SF:
J. Bult (Y)/**Newton** bt **Oixon**/**M. Jukes** (Wo) 14, 18;
Billington/**S. Gibson** (La) bt **A. Bolton** (Ng)/**Pickard** 10, -18, 19.
F: BULT/NEWTON bt **Billington**/**Gibson** 19, -17, 19.
GO SF:
Powis/**Shaw** bt **T. Holland** (E)/**A. Shufflebotham** (O.) -13, 13, 14;
Holt/**Popkiewicz** bt **A. Boxall** (He)/**Mouzon** 11, 18.
F: POWIS/SHAW bt **Holt**/**Popkiewicz** 15, -14, 15.
8T F: DIXON/JUKES bt **Billington**/**Gibson** 3-1.
GT F: POWIS/SHAW bt **L. Hayden** (E)/**A. Knight** (M) 3-0.
CBS OF:
Billington bt **O. Holland** (E) 10, 6;
C. Oldfield (V) bt **O. Saunders** (Gs) 3, 19;
Pickard bt **M. Pernet** (Sy) 9, 9;
O. Morris (Sp) bt **J. Taylor** (Ch) 12, -18, 18.

SF:
Billington bt **Oldfield** 5, 9;
Pickard bt **Morris** 14, -9, 16.
F: PICKARD bt **Billington** 13, -13, 7.
CGS OF:
Hall bt **S. Hurry** (Sco) 23, 17;
O. Toole (V) bt **J. Forster** (Oy) 9, 16;
Billington bt **A. Barnett** (Sp) 16, 10;
Holt bt **V. 80yd** (Spl) 9, 13.
SF:
Hall bt **Toole** 13, 15;
Holt bt **Billington** -21, 13, 10.
F: HOLT bt **Hall** 19, 15.
CBO SF:
Billington/**Pickard** bt **M. Shields**/**C. Woess** (Sco) 15, 8;
Oldfield/**N. Simms** (V) bt **HoUand**/**Pernet** 5, 18.
F: BILLINGTON/PICKARD bt **Oldfield**/**Simms** -19, 12, 11.
CGO SF:
Billington/**Holt** bt **C. Bateman** (Sy)/**Holt** 18, 15;
E. Meddings (Y)/**Toole** bt **L. Anderson** (Sco)/**Hurry** 15, 16.
F: BILLINGTON/HALL bt **Meddings**/**Toole** 13, 18.
CBT F:
OLDFIELD/SIMMS bt **Holland**/**Pickard** 3-0.
CGT F:
BILLINGTON/HALL bt **Anderson**/**Hurry** 3-1.
U-12 BS SF:
G. Knights (St) bt **L. Jeffries** (Wa) 17, -20, 10;
B. Mileham (K) bt **A. Eden** (La) -22, 20, 9.
F: MILEHAM bt **Knights** 17, -18, 19.
U-12 GS SF:
Meddings bt **J. Hook** (Sco) 17, 15;
C. Buckley (Bd) bt **S. Iawton** (Cv) -19, 16, 15.
F: BUCKLEY bt **Meddings** -10, 18, 18.
U-12 BO F:
JEFFRIES/KNIGHTS bt **Eden**/**Mileham** 1* -13, 16.
U-12 GD F:
HOOK/LAWTON bt **Meddings**/**J. Robe**. (VJ) 10, -19, 15.

HUMBERSIDE 3-STAR OPEN

FAREWELL TO HULL

by Rea Balmford

The 50th - and, sadly the final - Humberside 3-Star Open, held at Hull's Ferens Recreation Centre over the weekend of Oct 27/28, threw up more than the usual quota of surprises in the two major singles events, with the top four seeds in the men's and the top two on the distaff side all going out before their time.

In the final analysis the four men's semi-final places were taken by three players jointly seeded at No.5 - Phil Bradbury, David Hannah and Skylet Andrew - plus the unseeded Andrew Syed who had battled his way through from a Preliminary Round.

The Berkshire 17-year-old did not reach the winner's rostrum, but, nevertheless, much of the weekend's glory fell upon his shoulders as he supplied the two major turn-ups of the championships. First victim was former European champion John Hilton, seeded #5 and dismissed 19 and 16 in Rd. 2 then, after Syed had kept his hand in with a 19, 12 success over Alan Fletcher which took him to the quarters, came the big one.

The man to go was top seed Graham Sandley, who does not yet look to be the dominant figure to take over the top England spot from Desmond Douglas, and the Middlesex left hander went by the same 2-straight route (18, 18) to bring Syed face to face with another ambitious teenager in Bradbury.

He had come through his quarter and past Nicky Mason to face David Wells for a place in the semis, and this latter hurdle was safely cleared, albeit at 19 in the third.

ENCOUNTER

Thus was set up the best encounter of the finals session - a thrilling, open contest in which Syed made all the running in the opening game, only for Bradbury to fight back over the final points and get the verdict at 17. The second followed a similar pattern, but this time Syed hung on to take it out at 22, before the Bucks lad took full control in the decider and duly claimed his final spot.

In the top section of the opposite half Alan Cooke, the holder, and Hannah took their allotted places in the last eight with the Surrey-based Scot then making a comfortable passage to

the semi. But the fourth quarter saw the end of Carl Preat, still struggling to rediscover his best form, beaten by John Souter who, in turn, fell to Andrew.

The semi-final, which brought far too many errors from both players, went the way of Hannah in an advantage third game with Andrew, of the high thrown service and crowd induced mannerisms, probably his own worst enemy as he failed to produce the application to match his talents.

The final, too, had more than its share of unforced errors, but there was no stopping Bradbury who, although, like Andrew, he did not help his cause with some unnecessary histrionics, finally came through to a comfortable win.

In the parallel women's event top seed Alison Gordon, who had already dropped games to Gloria Hsu (Canada) and Mandy Sainsbury, winner over the seeded Karen Smith in the latter's first outing, went out in the top semi to Joy Grundy, who is now

beginning to knock loudly on the door at the top.

OUSTED

Upsets, too, in the bottom half when Karen Witt, seeded No.2 and runner-up to the retired Carole Moore twelve months previously, was shown the door 19, 19 by Marianne Domonkos, and Lisa Bellinger was ousted by elder sister Jackie, the latter going on to overcome the Canadian NO.1 despite dropping the middle game at 9!

In the final Miss Grundy raced away to take the first game and, although Jackie came right back, the Lancashire lass retained her composure under pressure to edge home to the title.

Both doubles events went through with few surprises, the top seeded pairs coming up against each other in the finals, where Sandley/Cooke (seeded 1) and the Bellinger sisters (seeded 2) gained some consolation for their singles dismissals, while, to complete a fine weekend for the Syed family Matthew won the Class 2 title with Chris Bartram the losing finalist.

And so to the end of top table tennis on Humberside but it is hoped that, next season, the 3-star event will remain within the boundaries of the county of Yorkshire and move to Halifax as the Yorkshire and Humberside Open.

Sponsorship has already been promised, the magnificent North Bridge Leisure Centre, home of the Beneficial Trust Yorkshire Junior, booked for the traditional late October date, and I am sure that everyone in the sport will look forward, not to a new event, but to the continuance of an old established tournament in modern surroundings.

Results:-

Men's Single:- Quarter-finals:
 P. Bradbury (Bu) bt D. Wells (Mi) 15, -17, 19;
 D. Hannah (SCO) bt A. Cooke (Dy) 19, 8;
 A. Syed (8k) bt G. Sandley (Mi) 18, 18;
 S. Andrew (E) bt J. Souter (Mil) 20, 17.
 Semi-finals:
 Bradbury bt Syed 17, -22, 2; Hannah bt Andrew 16, -7, 21.
 Final: BRADBURY bt Hannah 17, 14.
 Women's, Singles: Semi-finals:
 J. Grundy (La) bt A. Gordon (8k) 19, -14, 16;
 J. Bellinger (Bd) bt M. Oomonkos (CAN) 16, -9, 18.
 Final: GRUNDY bt Bellinger 11, 20.
 Men's, Double: Semi-final:
 Cooke/Sandley bt Andrew/N. Mason (Sy) 12, 20;
 Bradbury/Wells bt Souter/C. Wilson (Mij) 17, -20, 18.
 Final: COOKE/SANDLEY bt Bradbury/Wells 17, -19, 11.
 Women's, Double: Semi-final:
 J. Bellinger/L. Bellinger (Bd) bt Domonkos/G. Hsu (CAN) 16, 17;
 Gordon/M. Sainsbury (Bk) bt F. Elliott/J. Harris (St) 1, 15.
 Final: BELLINGER/BELLINGER bt Gordon/Sainsbury 18, -9, 15.
 Class 2 Mixed Single:- Quarter-final:
 M. Syed (8k) bt A. Shewan (Ca) 19, 17;
 C. Bartram (K) bt A. Dodd (K) 10, -9, 14;
 M. Kinsella (Ng) bt P. Gunn (Wa) -16, 21, 13;
 A. Moore (Sx) bt E. Smith (Nd) 14, 15.
 Semi-final:
 Syed bt Kinsella 13, 12; Bartram bt Moore 18, 18.
 Final: SYED bt Bartram 18, 18.



Philip Bradbury of Bucks, winner of the men's singles title in the Humberside 3-Star.

Photo by David Wingar, Staines, Middlesex.

Stamco Sussex 2-Star Open

UNIQUE DOUBLE FOR BROTHERS AND SISTERS

by Ron Kemp

The Stamco Sussex 2-Star tournament held on Oct 6/7 at Hastings Sports Centre was again well attended, with record entries in men's and women's singles since mid-60's; and highest ever in the veterans' singles. It provided plenty for local fans to cheer at - as the Bexhill-based Moore brothers took a firm grip on both doubles events.

The Bellinger sisters from Beds were equally successful in their doubles events - the unique results being:- MD Winners A and S. Moore; WD Winners L and J. Bellinger; XD Winners S, Moore/J. Bellinger; XD R-up A Moore/L Bellinger. Surely a set of results involving related players not ever recorded before in a tournament? Watch this space for an entry in that celebrated 'Book of Records? ...

The move to the Sports Centre because of improvements to the White Rock Theatre proved successful, most players enjoying the better playing conditions, all 10 tables being courted; and being able to see all of the tables assisted in the general running of the tournament for the Control officials,

In the absence of top seeds Graham Sandley (injured at training camp) and Alan Cooke (in bed with 'flu) the unseeded Andy Bellingham and Stephen Scowcroft contested the semis of the men's singles during the Finals' session with joint 3rd seeds Colin Wilson and Philip Bradbury, Bellingham did take the middle game, but Wilson was through to the final after winning the 3rd easily 21-9. He met the challenge of Bradbury, who beat Scowcroft in 2 close games, The final was a highly charged affair, with Bradbury just squeezing out Wilson 19 in the 3rd for his first MS title at the Sussex,

The women's singles event saw a quality field with no less than 7 from the top 12 England-ranked players competing. Three of the 4 top seeds reached their respective places in the semis, the only absentee being Jackie Bellinger falling to unseeded Mandy Sainsbury in the quarters. Alison Gordon, the top seed, cruised past Lisa Bellinger, and holder Karen Witt conclusively put out Mandy. And so as seeded a final between the top two - Alison just having the edge in two tight games for her first WS title in this tournament

Men's doubles event was thrown wide open when the top two seeded pairs Cooke/Sandley and Bradbury/Wells scratched,

The top quarter saw unseeded D. Dodd/S. Sharpe through to the semis after 3 tough encounters going the distance; Second quarter the unseeded Moore brothers found themselves in the semis after a 19 in the 3rd win over P. Smith/R. Venner and a 19, 19 win against Bellingham/Scowcroft. Third quarter D. Iszatt/D. Tan excelled to topple N. Mason/J. Souter 20 in the 3rd at the quarter-final stage; while in the bottom quarter G. Lambert/S. Mills beat the scratch pairing of Bradbury/D. Barr,

After dropping the first game, A and S. Moore trounced Dodd/Sharpe in the first semi; Iszatt/Tan squeezing through over Lambert/Mills by the closest possible margin, The final saw a 14-6 lead by the Middlesex pair slowly eroded, and the Sussex boys crept home 23-21. However, the 2nd game was a one-sided affair as confidence returned the Moores, much to the home crowd's delight won 21-9, so the MD title went to a Sussex pair for the first time.

Women's doubles winners were the Bellinger sisters, who were only extended at the semi-final stage by A Mitchell/S. Sandley, The final against 2nd seeds Goron/Sainsbury was a comfortable win for the sisters to retain the title.

The mixed event completed the domination by the Moore/Bellinger combination. Scratch pairings Wilson/Sandley and Barr/Sainsbury could not stop the brother/sister partnerships to the final, and what an incredible final it turned out to be! Favourites Adrian and Lisa were surging easily to the title and led game and 19-9 when the fight-back began. Even at 20-13 down Stephen and Jackie did not falter, and won the next 9 points to win 22-20. The 3rd game was equally close, either pair capable of winning - the game eventually going to 'deuce', and finally Stephen and Jackie taking the two vital consecutive points to win 24-22.

Veteran singles top seeds Derek Schofield and Peter D'Arcy both fell at the latter stages, leaving joint 3rd seeds Henry Buist and last year's runner-up Roy Norton to battle for the honours. In an excellent final, the hitter Buist just outlasted the tiring defender Norton.

The final session which commenced at just after 6 p.m. in front of a fair audience including the Mayor and Mayoress of Hast-

ings and representatives from our various sponsors, concluded just after 9 p.m. Our thanks for the help from all sponsors, especially Stamco, and to the manager and staff of the Hastings Sport Centre. The weekend again proved popular with players and officials alike; but where do we hold the tournament next year? Answers on a postcard please. Thanks also as ever to the Referee and all umpires - and well done to all involved in the organisation.

Watch this space then for the venue of next year's tournament, the 50th Sussex Open! Will Chester Barnes and Dennis Neale be forced out of retirement to play an exhibition match?? Will Bert Fretwell astound us with another juggling act on the scoring machines?? Will Alison Gordon be able to use her high thrown service?? Will Colin Hyland be presented with his National Referee's badge at the Silver Jubilee celebrations next October?? For these and many more answers, see you all next year.

Results:-

MS: a-fs:
A. Bellingham (St) bt D. Barr (Bk) -B.13.14:
C. Wilson (Mi) bt R. Jennyn (He) -25.2.9
S. Scowcroft (La) bt E. Onsum -18,17,15,
P. Bradbury (Bu) bt J. Souter (Mi) 14,11.

..fs:
Wilson bt Bellingham B. -14. 9: Bradbury bt Scowcroft 17.15
Final: BRADBURY bt Wilson 1B-1B.19.

WS: a-fs:
A. Gordon (Bk) bt L. Bellinger (Bd) 19.-9.1':
K. Witt (Bk) bt M. Sainsbury (Bk) 15.-17.4.
Final: GORDON bt Witt 17.18

MD: a-fs:
A. Moore/S. Moore (Sx) bt D. Dodd (K)/S. Sharpe (Y) -15.10.8:
D. Iszatt (E)/D. Tan (Mi) bt G. Lambert (Dv)/S. Mills (Y) -20.19.19.
Final: MOORE/MOORE bt Iszatt/Tan 21.9.

WD: a-fs:
J. Bellinger (Bd)/Bellinger bt A. Mitchell/S. Sandley (Mi) -14.1B.17:
Gordon/Sainsbury bt T. Moore (Sx)/H. Williams (Mi) -17.9.12.

Final: BELLINGER/BELLINGER bt Gordon/Sainsbury 17.14.

XD: ..fs:
S. Moore/J. Bellinger bt Wilson/Sandley 15.19:
A. Moore/L. Bellinger bt D. Barr (Bk)/Sainsbury 11.-20.12.

Final: S. MOORE/J. BELLINGER bt A. Moore/J. Bellinger -17,20,22

VS: a-fs:
H. Buist (K) bt D. Schofield (Ch) 17.-12. 12:
R. Norton (H) bt W. Brookman (Mi) 16. 20.
Final: BUIST bt Norton 10.19.16.

women's singles title in the Kirkless 2-Star Open with a final win over Fiona Elliot on Nov. 17.

Skylet Andrew was the winner of the counterpart men's event, beating Alan Cooke at the penultimate stage and Nigel Eckersley in the final, Eckersley having dismissed Scotland's John Broe in the semis.

Miss Elliot found some consolation in winning the women's doubles, partnered by her Staffs colleague Jill Harris, the men's doubles title going to Chris Rogers and Steve Mills.

Both junior titles stayed in the home county, the boys' singles title being won by Clive Guest of Sheffield and the girls' by Joanne Shaw of Wakefield.

Julie McLean of Hull took the Class 2 women's singles titles with a final win over Lancashire's Andrea Holt but it was Cheshire's Tony Taylor who won the counterpart men's event his final victim being Neil Taylor of Cirencester.

Results:-

Results:-

MS: a-fs:
N. Eckersley (Ch) bt J. Brow (SeO) 15.-.3. 5:
S. Andrew (E) bt A. Cooke (Oy) 19.-16. 18.
Final: ANDREW bt Eckersley 15. 14.

WS: Final:
M. HILL (V) bt F. Elliot (St) B. 21.

MO: Final:
S. MILLS (V)/C. ROGERS (Le) b. K. Bead'srey/A. Fletcher (Y) 20. 18.

WD: Final:
ELLIOT/J. HARRIS (St) bt K. Burrows/J. Speight (V) 12. 12.

AS: Final:
C. GUEST (V) bt A. Billington (Dy) -19. 13. 17.

GS: Final:
J. SHAW (V) bt A. Evans (V) 19. 16.

Men's Class 2 Singles: Final:
T. TAYLOR (Ch) bt N. Taylor (Gs) 17.-19. 16.

Women's Cl. 2 Singles: Final:
J. McLEAR (V) bt A. Holt (La) 16.-9.

KENT SENIOR 2-STAR OPEN

The Kent County Senior 2-Star Open will be staged at the Black Lion Sports Centre, Gillingham on Feb. 23/24, 1985, when 15 tables will be in use. In order to encourage entries the Prize Money has been doubled with the men's singles winner receiving £100 and the runner-up £50.

The women's singles winner will receive £60 with the runner-up £30. The MS, WS, MD and WD events will all be played on the Saturday, Feb. 23 in order to avoid the clash with the Halax National League programme.

On the Sunday, Feb. 24, a Mixed Class 2 Singles event will be run and separate U-20 events both for male and females and a Veterans' Singles all with prize money. Referee for the tournament will be Brian Openshaw and entry forms can be obtained from him at 12 Jennings House, Eastney St., Greenwich, London, SE1 0 (Phone: 01-85894021 h). The closing date for entries is Jan. 26/85.

KIRKLEES 2-STAR OPEN

MELODY ON SONG

By Gordon Sanders

Melody Hill of Bradford, having given herself a run out in the West Yorkshire 2-Star on Nov. 3, in which she lost to Joy Grundy in the semis, really hit the top note at Batley when she won the

KENT JUNIOR 2-STAR OPEN HOME SUCCESSES FOR ANDY AND JULIET

by Allan Fisher

The Kent Junior 2-Star Open, organised by the Kent TTA, was held at the Marine Pavilion, Folkestone over the weekend of Oct. 10/11. The tournament attracted a good entry totalling 375 in all.

One of the best finals ever to be seen at Folkestone occurred in the boys' singles when Andrew Cunningham, the No. 1 seed, was challenged by Paul Amos, the No. 2 seed, both Kent players who, respectively in the semis, had disposed of Paul Savins and Rodney Thomas.

Cunningham took the first game but Amos fought back to win the second. In the decider Amos took an early lead with some brilliant attacking play and

led 19-16 and 20-18. But Cunningham came back with some fine counter play, going for his shots to put Amos under severe pressure. It was just that little extra experience that carried the day in favour of Cunningham in the end.

Consolation came for Amos when he partnered Cunningham to win the boys' doubles just getting the upper hand against 14-years-old Michael Rutherford and Karl Ball, Rutherford also showed his promise by reaching the quarters of the singles and winning the cadet boys' singles beating Brian Mileham in the final.

This latter pair succeeded in the cadet boys' doubles beating

Andy Houghton and R. Jones of Surrey. A boys' U-12 event for the first time, the winners, from a small entry, being 10-years-old Mileham. Houghton celebrated the news of her England Junior selection in fine style. Seeded No. 1 she won the trophy she so proudly missed last season when she gave a consistent attacking display to outwit her rivals. Rachel Knight tested her in the early rounds but Juliet had no trouble against Lesley Souter in the final.

In the girls' doubles final Melonie Carey and K. Baker of Middlesex beat Lisa Hayden and Rachel Knight. Julie Brion of Berks upset the seedings in the cadet girls' singles when she beat Julie Norman en route to the final in which she beat K. Gower of Essex. The two Berks girls, Brion and Norman, won the cadet girls' doubles beating T. Hooker, also of Berks, and C.

Buckley (Beds). The latter won the girls U-12 event beating A. Gower of Essex in the final.

Results:-

BS: s-ra:
A. Cunningham (K) ht P. Savins (Ok) 18. 11;
A. Amos (K) bl R. Thomas (Do) 14. 5.
Finel: CUNNINGHAM bl Amos 17. -17, 22.
GS: s-f' :
J. Houghton (K) bl L. Robins (Bd) 8. 15;
L. Souter (M) hi A. Boxall (He) 18. 22.
Finel: HOUGHTON bl Souter 16. 7.
CBS: s-fs:
M. Rutherford (K) bl S. Greenbrook (Sx) 9. 8;
B. Mileham (K) bl A. Houghton (K) 15. 17.
Finel: RUTHERFORD bl Mileham 19. 12.
eGS: S-T :
J. Brion (Bk) bl C. Buckley (Od) 19. 20;
K. Gower (E) bl J. Norman (Bk) 15. 16.
Finel: BRION bl Gower 17. 22.
U-12 BS: s-fs:
L. Jeffries (Wa) bt P. Bowler (E) 13. 9;
Mileham bt G. Solder (E) 10. 13.
Finel: MILEHAM bt Jeffries 16. -16, 15.
U-12 GS: so's:
A. Gower (E) bt L. Wilson 11. 16;
Buckley bl T. Hooker (Bk) -19. 10, 11.
Finel: BUCKLEY bl Gower 8. 9.
BO: Finel:
AMOS/CUNNINGHAM b. K. Ball (Kl/ Ru'herford) 17. 1B.
GO: Finel:
K. BAKER (M);/ M. CAREY (So) b. L. Hayden (E)/R. Knight (M) 15. 16.
CCO: Finel:
RUTHERFORD/MILEHAM b. Houghton/A. Jones (Syl)-1B. 15. 13.
eGO: Finel:
BRION/NORMAN bl Buckley/ Hooker 15. 20.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

by David Lomas

Schools and counties are reminded that final entries are due in to the Competition Secretary, Mr. G. R. Gardiner, 36 Froom Street, Chorley, Lancs. PR60AN by NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 17th,

The county area winners are due to compete in one of twelve area competitions due to be played on Sat/Sun. Jan. 19/20, 1985. Details of the areas are as follows:

NORTH REGION

| Area | Day | Venue |
|------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Sat | Thornaby Pavilion, Stockton-on-Tees |
| 2 | Sun | Moor Grange High School, Leeds |
| 3 | Sun | Hesketh High School, Fleetwood |
| 4 | Sun | The Drill Hall, Grantham |

MIDLANDS & WEST REGION

| | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 5 | Sat | The Grove School, Market Drayton |
| 6 | Sun | Kingsthorpe School, Northampton |
| 7 | Sun | Egguckland School, Plymouth |
| 8 | Sun | Redbridge Sports Centre, Southampton |

SOUTH & EAST REGION

| | | |
|----|-------------------------------|---|
| 9 | Sat | Table Tennis Centre, St. Neots |
| 10 | Arrangements to be determined | |
| 11 | Sun | TT Centre, Aylestone School, Brent |
| 12 | Sun | Monks Hill Sports Centre, South Croydon |

Winners from these area qualifying competitions go through to one of three Regional Finals (due to be played on **Sunday, Feb. 24**) and thence the National Finals at Lea Green, Matlock, Derbyshire on SATURDAY, March 23, 1985.

Fuller details in the ESTTA Official Handbook which will be sent to each school involved. Alternatively, copies are available from: Mr. L. C. Henry, ESTIA Hon. General Secretary, Dronfield Junior School, School Lane, Dronfield, Sheffield S18 6RY (0246 413145)(50p incl. post & packing).

The Association is again organising a Coaching Course for pupils of promising potential, but not players from ETTA regional squads and/or Centres of Excellence. The course is due to take place at Lea Green, Matlock on April 1st-4th, 1985. Any persons interested are asked to contact their County Schools' Association. Closing date is 28th February, 1985.

Latest news re the launch of the new Dunlop Skills Award Scheme suggests that it will be under way before the New Year. Seasonal greetings to all!

TABLE TENNIS NEWS

Published each month from October to May. Postal subscriptions £6.50 for eight issues (U.K.) Europe (including Eire) £11.00, Overseas airmail £13.00.

Advertisements: Mrs. Christine Wilkes, English Table Tennis Association, 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex. TN34 1HF. Phone: Hastings (0424) 433121.

Subscriptions: Miss B. Davies, English Table Tennis Association, 21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex. TN34 1HF. Phone: Hastings (0424) 433121.

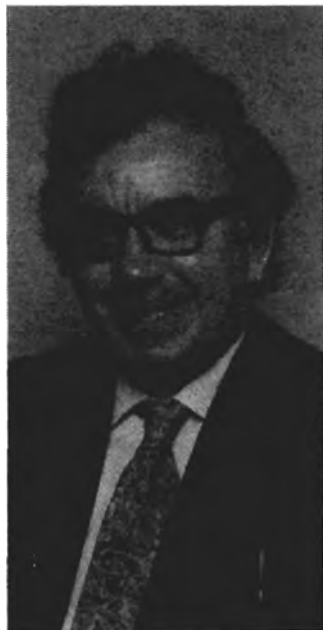
Distribution: Mrs. E. Doreen Yates, 43 Knowsley Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancs. BL1 6JH. Phone: Bolton (0204) 42223.

Editorial: Mr. George R. Yates, 43 Knowsley Road, Smithills, Bolton, Lancs. Phone: Bolton (0204) 42223.

Preliminary information from member County Schools' Associations indicates that entries for the 1984/85 Dunlop National School Team Championships are likely to be UP on last year's total of 252 county winners. The most significant increase is in Area 7 of the Midlands & West Region where entries from schools in Cornwall, Devon and Somerset are all better than previously.



GEOFF GARDINER,
Team Competition Secretary



"CHUCK" HENRY, ESTTA
Hon. General Secretary.