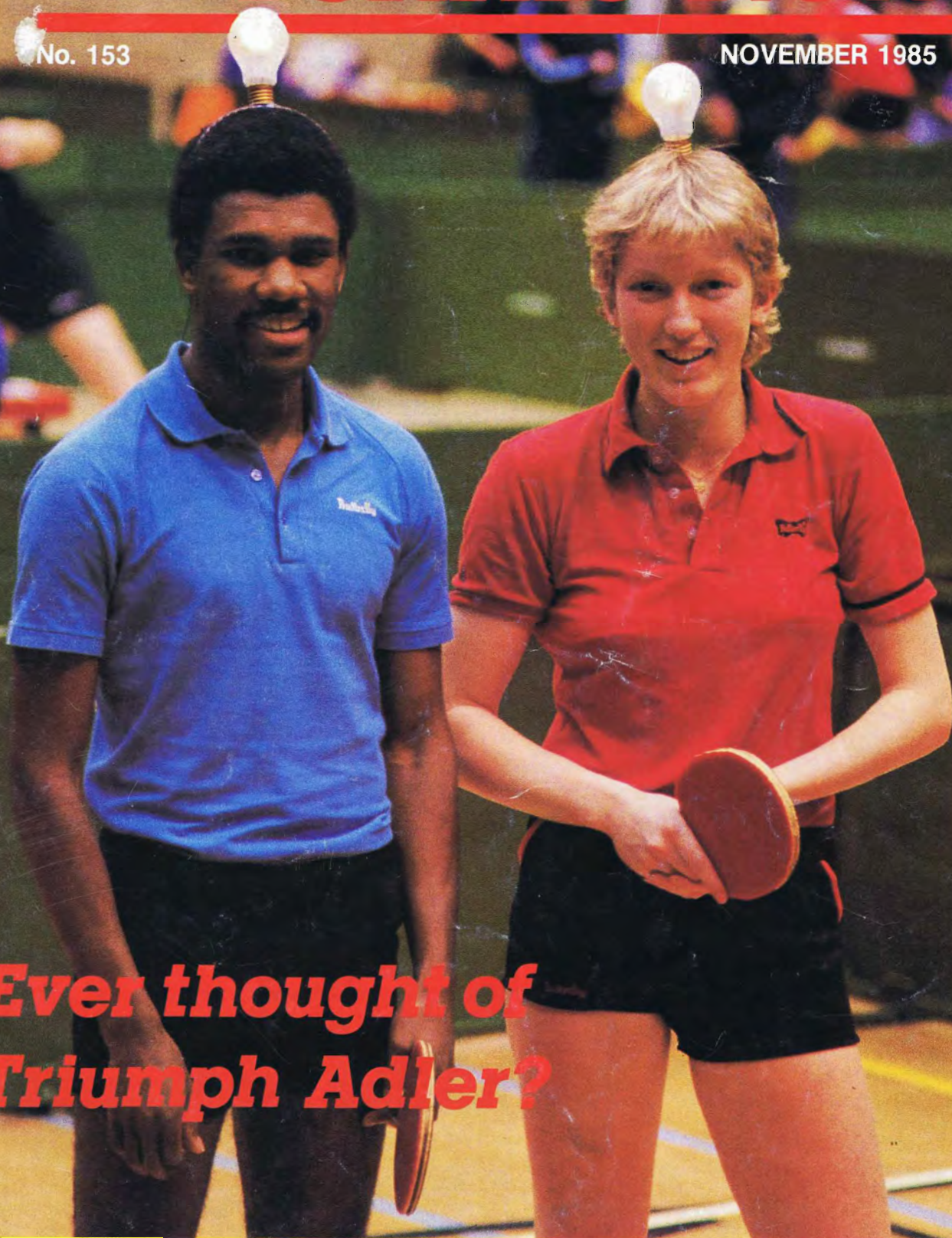




Table Tennis News

No. 153

NOVEMBER 1985 80p



**Ever thought of
Triumph Adler?**



League and Championship
tables . . . from Jaques

**John
Jaques**

L’Affaire Lomas

A variety of things about table tennis can sober the mind faster than the coldest night outside the pub door. One of those is the number that want it to be a great sport.

You may not always agree with Blunn or Ransome. Or Prean or Ponting. And you might tire of a long-winded dialogue from the furthest corner of the country but at least they still care. Sufficiently to labour over some battered typewriter or to attend yet another incredibly boring meeting.

Neil Lomas, whose article appears on page 14, like the Editor had the advantage of high-technology. Or more

precisely, probably a computer with word-processing software. No doubt John Marrs’ Zillian could tell us immediately.

The number of kilobytes, however, had scant effect on the words on the screen. The order came from the brain; the theme from the heart. And as the French might say, the motivation from the gut. The gut of a player who has never represented his chosen sport to any high level, yet who cares enough to suggest a series of radical changes.

Those reforms strike at the core of the sport and the way in which it is conducted in this country. It matters not that the

opinions may be based upon misconceptions, though they in themselves are sufficient cause for consternation. What matters is that the ETTA stands accused, by one of its own grassroots members.

That the current national affiliation fee is not high (currently around £1.50 per player on average — equivalent to less than two pints of beer and under 8p per league match) is of no concern. That players are not generally, as Mr Lomas mistakenly mentions, ‘in receipt of large sums’ is of little consequence.

The issue is whether membership of the ETTA is perceived as ‘good value’. The divisional results sec from the Crewe and District says not.

The answer he proposes is a system of direct affiliation for individuals who wish to play beyond their local leagues, coupled with a modest fixed affiliation fee for each league. The argument deserves debate.

It is not the first time such has been advocated. Indeed, rather more recently than 1963, it was put to the leagues and rejected.

But this is 1985. An era when people are prepared to pay out not inconsiderable sums provided they gain tangible benefits. We have to increase those advantages for both the casual and the committed participant; the sport must not lose either.

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
European Youth Championships – Donald Parker reports Prean’s Dutch triumph	2
International News – George Yates in Melbourne and Monklands	6
European League	7
Cover Story – Triumph Adler link up with table tennis	8
555 World Cup – Albert Shipley	9
School Report by David Lomas	10
Halex National League – Fiona Brown	12
Grassroots – “Reform or Die” warns Neil Lomas of Crewe	14
Official News	15
Zillian – winning the British championship	16
County Notes	17
Welsh Corner – Roy Evans reviews national coach Alan Griffiths	23
Memo to Council	23
Coaching – new video launched	24
Rubberneck with all the latex news	26
Club Focus – Omega go to town	27
Rankings – Peter Charters prints out this season’s policy	28
Caravan from Casablanca – Albert Shipley’s trip to Morocco	32
Mailbox – Prean, Peppard, Hamilton and Southan	33
Tournament Circuit	35
Diary	37



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Cover Picture: Rainbow Warriors Desmond Douglas and Alison Gordon, winners of the multi-coloured Top 12 in Milton Keynes, sport the new headgear of the Sports Council’s “Ever Thought of Sport” campaign.

Empire of the Son

by National Trainer Donald Parker

While several of our players in the past decade have been close to a clean sheet in a European championship, nobody had actually achieved it until Carl Prean this year. His performance must go down as the best I have seen from an English player. It was just rewards for the work and effort he put in before the tournament.

In 1978 Desmond Douglas had been unbeaten in the Duisberg European championships until he lost narrowly in the semi-final of the individual events to Istvan Jonyer. And in 1982, Jill Hammersley was unbeaten in the Budapest team events but lost in the fifth game of the singles final to Bettine Vriesekoop.

Later, that same year, Billy Gleave was unbeaten in the Cadet team event but lost narrowly to Andrei Mazunov in the final of the singles. The results put Carl's performance over 13th-20th July 1985 at the Sporthal Overbosch, The Hague, Holland into their true perspective. Sixty two victories in the junior team event – a record for any country.

Nerve-wracking

There were several nerve-wracking moments during his singles campaign, none more so than at 19-all in the third game of the final. However, I always had a 'gut' feeling that Carl would emerge as the winner.

His opponent in the final was the Romanian Calin Toma whom he had defeated 21-7, 21-11 in the team events and 21-4, 21-5 in the Europe Junior Top Twelve earlier in the year.

After winning the first 21-12, it seemed to be a case of forgetting the past, keep playing positively and just getting off to a good start in the second. However, this did not happen, nerves crept in and the resultant negative play ended in a convincing reversal, 16-21.

"It was an ambition of mine to win the European Youth title and even after winning the first game I was still nervous", explained Carl afterwards. "Toma got off to a good start in the second game when I played too soft and he started to play very well. He was playing a lot of big forehand and backhand loops which gave him a lot of confidence".



Carl Prean and Csilla Batorfi – 1985 European junior mixed doubles champions

In the third, a good lead for Carl simply wilted away and, poised at 19-all, only two points separated the winner from the loser. Fortunately, Carl won the two points quite cheaply but at that crucial stage who cares how they are won!

Last year, in Linz against Andrei Mazunov of the Soviet Union, two controversial points at 19-all in the third denied Carl the title. This year they went his way.

"I was very nervous at 18-17", said Carl. "But I looked at Toma and saw he was shaking so I just served short to his forehand with no spin, knowing he would push it long to the backhand. 18-17 and I missed a sitter! . . . I can't remember the final point!"

Carl on Toma

"He had nothing to lose and in the final he played many big forehand and backhand loops which gave him a lot of confidence despite being the underdog in view of his two previous results against me".

So, throughout the Junior Top 12 and the European championships, Carl remained unbeaten - winning 35 out of 35 sets. It will be a record difficult to emulate. It can never be bettered.

Entertaining

Some of the most entertaining table tennis provided during the championships involved Matthew Syed. Matthew played exceptionally well throughout and fully justified the No.1 seeding he received after the cadet team events.

His main rival, who he had beaten in the final of the team event, was the Soviet Dimitrij Masunov, the younger brother of Andrei - the European senior No 11. After difficult matches, both the top seeds reached the final safely.

Then disaster struck. With the score finely balanced around 15-all in the first game, Matthew developed an ankle injury. Limping through the rest of the game to lose 17-21, a ten minute delay occurred early in the second while treatment was applied.

Technically, such a suspension is unusual as play is required to be continuous unless a player becomes incapacitated due to an accident. But the referee Piet Oomens of Holland decided to allow the final to continue after Matthew's leg was strapped up.

Whether the injury was the decisive factor in Matthew's defeat is difficult to say. But it certainly didn't help and he lost the second game by the same score.

Delay

Three different opinions from physiotherapists of various nationalities who arrived on the scene caused some bemusement too! But they all agreed on one subject after the final and the medal presentation ceremony was delayed by two hours to allow Matthew to recover.

The injury trouble, though a blow to Matthew's ambitions, came after a very hard ten-day tournament. And Mazunov, employing good tactics, had decided to mix more drop shots into his play to put him under more pressure in the final.

Michael O'Driscoll picked up some very useful victories including the Swedish and German No 1's, Patrik Thorsell and Peter Franz, and he also won at 2-2 against Hungary. Bradley Billington also played well, particularly in the doubles of the team event final which we were very unlucky to lose 21-19 in the third game.

The cadet girls were by no means outclassed and finished in a creditable 7th position. Kerry Hall and Andrea Holt



Essex county umpire Barry Granger went to the European Youth Championships in Holland and despite the medal successes of Prean and Syed, claims that "England really have no players to match the skills of the top Europeans".

"Anyone who has not seen juniors at this level would not fail to be overawed", he says. "With the exception of the Chinese, the standard of the boys is almost as good as men. My memories are of a spectacular table tennis event, remembered for its fine sportsmanship and camaraderie, but most of all for its superb table tennis".

But without criticising Prean or Syed, he feels our players have not been able to improve in line with those from Europe. "Possibly it is from a lack of money", he ventures. "The total budget for training both seniors and juniors in England is about the same as the budget for Cadets in West Germany!"

"The future of any sport lies in its development at junior level", he continues, "And I believe junior table tennis must be encouraged. I wonder whether a one-off levy by the ETTA of say £2 per team could be made to create a fund for training top juniors".

were in with a chance against any of the opposition and the signs are encouraging for the future. Indeed, in the cadet girls singles, Claire Potts reached the quarter-finals before losing to the eventual winner Otilla Badescu of Rumania.

It was a disappointing championships for Andrew Syed, though, especially in the light of his excellent performance 12 months earlier in Linz. However, he made the last 16 of the singles, as did teammate Jimmy Stokes who picked up two excellent victories en route.

Mixed fortune

There was a second gold in the championships for Carl when he paired up with Csilla Batorfi of Hungary to beat Milan Grman and Renata Kasalova of Czechoslovakia. And it gave him a personal tally of no less than five gold medals over the six years he has played in these championships.

Matthew Syed and Michael O'Driscoll combined to win a bronze medal in the cadet boys doubles with England in fourth place in the medals table.

Final Medal Table

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1 Rumania	3	2	7
2 Soviet Union	2	2	8
3 Czechoslovakia	2	2	4
4 England	2	2	1
5 Yugoslavia	1	2	1
6 Federal Germany	1	1	1
7 Sweden	1	1	0
8 Hungary	1	0	2
9 Netherlands	1	0	0
10 France	0	1	0
11 Bulgaria	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	1

Individual Events Results

Individual Events

English results only for early rounds:

Junior Boys singles

First Round: Prean S1 bye; Dixon b Peter Paul De Vrind -17, 10, 9; Stokes b Claude Bouschet (LUX); A Syed bye.

Second Round: Prean b Jan Sondergard (DEN) 13, 9; Dixon 1st Florea S3 = (ROM) 13, -6, -13; Stokes b Fetzer (FRG) -23, 19, 15; Syed b Alejandro Pallares (ESP) 10, 14.

Third Round: Prean b Mats Andersson (SWE) 17, -20, 14; Stokes b Oliver Marmurek (FRA) -19, 17, 14; Syed b Nedim Yilmaz (TUR) 21, 4.

Fourth Round: Prean b Andras Podpinka (HUN) 17, 18; Stokes 1st Vladimir Marinkevitch (URS) 17, -11, -16; Syed 1st Toma S5 = (ROM) -17, -16.

Quarter Final: Prean b Rosskopf (FRG) 11, 18.

Semi-finals: Prean b Florea (ROM) 15, 14; Toma (ROM) b Marinkevitch (URS) 16, 18.

Final: Prean b Toma (ROM) 13, -16, 19.

Junior Girls Singles

First Round: Shaw b Toelthoj (DEN) 8, 19.

Second Round: Shaw 1st Marie Svensson -12, -13.

Semi-finals: Olga Nemes S1 (FRG) b Kinga Lohr (ROM) 11, 16; Vesna Ojstersek S5 = (YUG) b Katja Nolten (FRG) 13, 11.

Final: Nemes b Ojstersek 9, 14.

Cadet Boys singles

First Round: M Syed S1 b Stefan Schmied (AUT) 12, 15; Billington 1st Franz (FRG) 16, 8; O'Driscoll b Vliotinos (GRE) 8, 19.

Second Round: Syed b Roy Fabbri (ITA) 4, 3; O'Driscoll 1st Oliver Alke (FRG) 20, -20, 15;

Third Round: Syed b Petersson (SWE) -19, 17, 16.

Quarter-final: Syed b Van Haren (HOL) -17, 17, 7.

Semi-finals: Syed b Revisz (ROM) -18, 18, 17; Mazunov (URS) b Creanga (ROM) -14, 13, 18.

Final: Mazunov b Syed 17, 17.

Cadet Girls singles

First Round: Potts b Ulrika Olsson (SWE) 9, -11, 15; Hall 1st Cyril Onstenk (HOL) -10, -16; Holt b Nathalie Oth (LUX) 11, 9; Billington 1st Struse (FRG) -14, 18, -17.

Second Round: Potts b Stoyanova (BUL) -15, 19, 22; Holt b Alessia Arisi (ITA) -10, 11, 15.

Third Round: Potts b Mihockova (TCH) 20, 20; Holt 1st Rampova (TCH) -16, -17.

Quarter-final: Potts 1st Badescu S1 (ROM) -8, -19.

Semi-finals: Badescu b Tatiana Medvedeva S3 = (URS) 11, 18; Ciosu (ROM) b Andjela Tian (URS) 16, 15.

Final: Badescu b Ciosu -18, 13, 16.

Junior Boys doubles

First Round: Prean/Syed S5 = bye; Dixon/Stokes b Laszlo Pigniczki/Ivan Vitsek (HUN) 21, -13, 17.

Second Round: Prean/Syed b Robert Doppermann/Hannes Seyer (AUT) -19, 15, 12; Dixon/Stokes 1st Darko Jamsek/Karlovic (YUG) 13, -20, -14.

Third Round: Prean/Syed b Marmurek/Regis Rossignol (FRA) 14, 19.

Quarter-final: Prean/Syed 1st Tomas Janci/Petr Javurek (TCH) -6, -19.

Semi-finals: Lupulesku/Primorac S1 (YUG) b Janci/Javurek 10, 13; Josef Braun/Milan Grman S3 = (TCH) b Nannoni/Manneschi (ITA) 17, 11.

Final: Lupulesku/Primorac b Braun/Grman 17, 20.

Junior Girls doubles

First Round: Shaw/Lotta Erlmann (ENG/SWE) 1st Melnik/Helena Timina (URS) -12, -22.

Semi-finals: Daniela Davidkova/Renata Kasalova S1 (TCH) b Khasanova/Komrakov S3 = (URS) -19, 15, 12; Nemes/Nolten S2 (FRG) b Melnick/Timina -16, 18, 15.

Final: Davidkova/Kasalova b Nemes/Nolten 7, 12.

Junior Mixed doubles

First Round: Prean/Batorfi S3 = (ENG/HUN) b Nico Hansen/Mady Bassing (LUX); A Syed/Shaw 1st Frank Boute/Babette Van Veen (HOL) -15, -9; O'Driscoll/Billington 1st Nannoni/Zampini (ITA) -17, -14; Stokes/Potts b Joel Kox/Oth (LUX) 22, 19.

Second Round: Prean/Batorfi won; Stokes/Potts 1st Podpinka/Kristina Nagy (HUN) 19, -11, -7.

Third Round: Prean/Batorfi won.

Fourth Round: Prean/Batorfi won.

Quarter-final: Prean/Batorfi won.

Semi-finals: Prean/Batorfi b Javurek/Alena Safarova (TCH); Grman/Kasalova (TCH) b Janci/Davidkova (TCH) 18, 20.

Final: Prean/Batorfi b Grman/Kasalova 17, -13, 18.

Cadet Boys doubles

First Round: Billington/Mikael Ohlsson (ENG/NOR) 1st Tomas Karkoma/Juha Paivarinta (FIN) 18, -15, -14; M Syed/O'Driscoll b Martin Shield/Christopher Woess (SCO) 16, 15.

Second Round: Syed/O'Driscoll b Neven Karbovic/Robert Smrekar (YUG) 23, 17.

Quarter-final: Syed/O'Driscoll b Fabri/Antonio Morgante (ITA) 19, 17.

Semi-finals: Syed/O'Driscoll 1st Van Haren/Verhaegh S2 (HOL) 16, -10, -17; Gusev/Masunov S1 (URS) b Creanga/Revisz (ROM) 14, 15.

Final: Van Haren/Verhaegh b Gusev/Masunov -17, 18, 15.

Cadet Girls doubles

First Round: Holt/Potts b Lorraine Anderson/Sarah Hurry (SCO) 14, 14; Billington/Hall b Monica Degli Esposti/Luisa Lopes (ITA/POR) 7, -19, 10.

Second Round: Holt/Potts 1st Badescu/Ciosu S3 = (ROM) 17, -13, -9; Billington/Hall b Venuesca/Sanchez (ESP) 24, 7.

Quarter-final: Billington/Hall 1st Armine Makinian/Tatiana Medvedeva S2 (URS) -14, -13.

Semi-finals: Badescu/Ciosu b Agnes Hegedus/Gabriella Wirth (HUN) 12, 12; Makinian/Medvedeva b Ivanova/Stoyanova (URS) -16, 10, 8.

Final: Badescu/Ciosu b Makinian/Medvedeva 18, -19, 16.

European Youth Championships

Junior Boys team

First Round

Group A

Pos	DEN	AUT	SCO	ISL
1st Soviet Union	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0
2nd Denmark	X	5-2	5-0	5-0
3rd Austria		X	5-0	5-0
4th Scotland			X	5-0
5th Iceland				X

Group B

Pos	HOL	POL	WAL	POR
1st Yugoslavia	5-1	5-0	5-0	X
2nd Netherlands	X	5-1	5-0	X
3rd Poland		X	5-1	X
4th Wales			X	X
Portugal				scratched

Group C

Pos	FRG	LUX	GRE	BUL
1st Sweden	5-3	5-0	5-0	X
2nd Federal Germany	X	5-0	5-0	X
3rd Luxembourg		X	5-0	X
4th Greece			X	X
Bulgaria				scratched

Group D

Pos	ENG	NOR	SUI
1st Italy	5-3	5-0	5-0
2nd England	X	5-0	5-0
3rd Norway		X	5-1
4th Switzerland			X

Group E

Pos	ROM	FIN	ESP
1st France	5-3	5-0	5-1
2nd Rumania	X	5-0	5-1
3rd Finland		X	5-2
4th Spain			X

Group F

Pos	HUN	BEL	TUR
1st Czechoslovakia	5-4	5-1	5-0
2nd Hungary	X	5-3	5-0
3rd Belgium		X	5-1
4th Turkey			X

Second Round

1-12 Group Play-offs

Group G: URS 5 FRG 4; HOL 3 FRG 5; URS 5 HOL 1.
 Group H: ITA 3 HUN 5; FRA 5 HUN 3; ITA 2 FRA 5.
 Group I: ENG 3 YUG 5; ENG 5 DEN 2; YUG 5 DEN 2.
 Group K: SWE 4 ROM 5; TCH 5 ROM 4; SWE 5 TCH 1.
13-24 Group Play-offs
 Group L: AUT 0 ESP 5; WAL 2 ESP 5; AUT 5 WAL 2.
 Group M: LUX 5 SUI 0; BEL 5 SUI 0; LUX 2 BEL 5.
 Group N: POL 5 GRE 1; SCO 2 GRE 5; POL 5 SCO 0.
 Group O: NOR 5 TUR 1; FIN 5 TUR 1; NOR 4 FIN 5.

Semi-final Round

1-4 Play-offs
 FRA 5 URS 2; SWE 5 YUG 4.
 5-8 Play-offs
 FRG 5 HUN 3; ENG 5 ROM 2.
 9-12 Play-offs
 ITA 5 HOL 3; TCH 5 DEN 1.
 13-16 Play-offs
 BEL 5 ESP 2; POL 5 FIN 1.
 17-20 Play-offs
 AUT 5 LUX 2; NOR 5 GRE 0.
 21-24 Play-offs
 WAL 5 SUI 3; SCO 5 TUR 4.

Final Round

Final: SWE 5 FRA 3.

3/4 Play-off: YUG 5 URS 1.
 5/6 Play-off: ENG 5 FRA 2.
 7/8 Play-off: HUN 5 ROM 4.
 9/10 Play-off: TCH 5 ITA 2.
 11/12 Play-off: DEN 5 HOL 1.
 13/14 Play-off: BEL 5 POL 2.
 15/16 Play-off: ESP 5 FIN 4.
 17/18 Play-off: AUT 5 NOR 1.
 19/20 Play-off: GRE 5 LUX 3.
 21/22 Play-off: WAL 5 SCO 3.
 23/24 Play-off: TUR 5 SUI 2.
 25th: ISL..

Semi-final Round

1-4 Play-offs
 TCH 3 ROM 1; SWE 3 URS 0.
 5-8 Play-offs
 HUN 3 YUG 0; FRG 3 HOL 2.
 9-12 Play-offs
 FIN 3 POL 0; FRA 3 ITA 1.
 13-16 Play-offs
 GRE 3 AUT 1; DEN 3 ENG 2.
 17-20 Play-offs
 SUI 3 SCO 0; BEL 3 ESP 1.

Final Round

Final: TCH 3 SWE 0.
 3/4 Play-off: URS 3 ROM 0.
 5/6 Play-off: FRG 3 HUN 2.
 7/8 Play-off: YUG 3 HOL 0.
 9/10 Play-off: FRA 3 FIN 1.
 11/12 Play-off: ITA w.o. POL.
 13/14 Play-off: GRE 3 DEN 2.
 15/16 Play-off: ENG 3 AUT 1.
 17/18 Play-off: BEL 3 SUI 0.
 19/20 Play-off: ESP 3 SCO 0.
 21/22 Play-off: NOR 3 WAL 2.

Junior Boys team

England's results in detail

First Round (Group D)

ENG 5 SUI 0 (Stokes b Michael Frass 13, 12; A Syed b Jan Gurtner 5, 11; Prean b Christian Streit 2, 8; Stokes b Gurtner 15, 8; Prean b Frass 7, 5);

ENG 5 NOR 0 (A Syed b Terje Hansen 15, 22; Stokes b Kenneth Strom 17, 15; Prean b Atle Ronningen 12, 7; Syed b Strom 14, 14; Prean b Hansen 9, 6);

ENG 3 ITA 5 (A Syed Ist Andrea Del Tomba -17, -17; Stokes Ist Lorenzo Nannoni -19, -13; Prean b Francesco Manneschi 11, -21, 13; Syed Ist Nannoni 13, -13, -9; Prean b Del Tomba 10, 11; Stokes Ist Manneschi -7, -16; Prean b Nannoni 18, 11; Syed Ist Manneschi 18, -12, -14).

Second Round (Group I)

ENG 3 YUG 5 (Stokes Ist Ilie Lupulescu -12, -16; Prean b Denis Karlovic 12, 5; A Syed Ist Zoran Primorac -4, 11, -14; Prean b Lupulescu 13, -19, 16; Stokes Ist Primorac -17, 19, -14; Syed Ist Karlovic -9, -14; Prean b Primorac 19, -15, 19; Syed Ist Lupulescu 16, -15, -19);
 ENG 5 DEN 2 (Dixon Ist Henrik Angermann -16, 20, -17; Stokes b Claus Junge 18, 13; Prean b Mogens Sonnichsen 5, 9; Dixon Ist Junge -10, 17, -10; Prean b Angermann 19, 6; Stokes b Sonnichsen 15, -18, 14; Prean b Junge 14, -14, 13).

5-8 Play-offs

ENG 5 ROM 2 (A Syed b Calin Toma 17, 15; Prean b Cristian Tiugan 9, 12; Stokes Ist Vasile Florea -11, -22; Prean b Toma 13, 7; Syed Ist Florea -19, -25; Stokes b Tiugan -18, 18, 18; Prean b Florea 12, 19).

5/6 Play-off

ENG 5 FRG 2 (A Syed b Rudiger Klein 16, 20; Dixon Ist Jorg Roskopf -16, -17; Prean b Steffen Fetzner 14, 16; Syed b Roskopf 16, -15, 16; Prean b Klein 18, 13; Dixon Ist Fetzner -18, -18; Prean b Roskopf 14, -20, 19).

Junior Girls team

First Round (Group B)

ENG 0 FIN 3 (Potts Ist Anni Komvoinen -15, -13; Shaw Ist Pia Malmberg -19, -20; Potts/Shaw Ist Komvoinen/Malmberg 18, -12, -19);

ENG 3 SUI 1 (Potts b Kati Varnagyi X, 16; Shaw b Beate Kunzli 9, 7; Potts/Shaw Ist Kunzli/Varnagyi -19, -13; Shaw b Varnagyi 18, 18);

ENG 0 URS 3 (Potts Ist Galina Melnick -16, -8; Shaw Ist Fliura Khasanova 19, -11, -13; Potts/Shaw Ist Khasanova/Elena Komrakova 12, -18, 13).

Second Round (Group N)

ENG 3 NOR 0 (Shaw b Mai Erentsen -4, 12, 10; Potts b Ann Mortensbakke 9, 9; Potts/Shaw b Erentsen/Mortensbakke 15, -19, 15);

ENG 3 BEL 2 (Shaw Ist Sophie Thirion 19, -11; Potts b Mireille Sloomans 17, 15; Potts/Shaw b Sloomans/Thirion -15, 19, 16; Potts Ist Thirion 17, 13; Shaw b Sloomans -18, 19, 11).

13-17 Play-offs

ENG 2 DEN 3 (Potts b Litha Anderson 13, 18; Shaw b Pia Toelhoj 19, 9; Potts/Shaw Ist Anderson/Toelhoj -14, -15; Shaw Ist Anderson -18, 20, -20; Potts Ist Toelhoj -16, -15).

16/17 Play-off

ENG 3 AUT 1 (Potts b Martina Kagseder 13, 9; Shaw b Sabine Frank 13, 12; Potts/Shaw Ist Kagseder/Frank 16, -15, -15; Shaw b Kagseder 6, -14, 11).

Junior Girls Team

First Round

Group A

Pos	ITA	AUT	POR
1st Hungary	3-0	3-0	X
2nd Italy	X	3-1	X
3rd Austria	X	X	
Portugal			scratched

Group B

Pos	FIN	ENG	SUI
1st Soviet Union	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Finland	X	3-0	3-0
3rd England		X	3-1
4th Switzerland			X

Group C

Pos	HOL	WAL	BEL
1st Czechoslovakia	3-1	3-0	3-0
2nd Netherlands	X	3-2	2-2
3rd Wales		X	3-2
4th Belgium			X

Group D

Pos	POL	ESP	SCO
1st Federal Germany	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Poland	X	3-0	3-0
3rd Spain		X	3-1
4th Scotland			X

Group E

Pos	ROM	DEN	BUL
1st Sweden	3-1	3-0	X
2nd Rumania	X	3-0	X
3rd Denmark		X	X
4th Bulgaria			scratched

Group F

Pos	FRA	GRE	NOR
1st Yugoslavia	3-1	3-0	3-0
2nd France	X	3-1	3-0
3rd Greece		X	3-2
4th Norway			X

Second Round

1-12 Group Play-offs

Group G: HUN 2 ROM 3; POL 1 ROM 3; HUN 3 POL 1.
 Group H: TCH 3 FIN 1; YUG 3 FIN 0; TCH 3 YUG 2.
 Group I: URS 3 FRA 1; HOL 3 FRA 2; URS 3 HOL 0.
 Group K: FRG 3 ITA 1; SWE 3 ITA 0; FRG 0 SWE 3.
13-22 Group Play-offs
 Group L: AUT 3 SCO 0.
 Group M: WAL 0 SUI 3; GRE 3 SWI 0; WAL 0 GRE 3.
 Group N: ENG 3 NOR 0; BEL 3 NOR 0; ENG 3 BEL 2.
 Group O: ESP 1 DEN 3.

European Youth Championships

Cadets Boys team

First Round

Group A

Pos	HUN	TCH	AUT	LUX	SCO
1st Soviet Union	3-1	3-0	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Hungary	X	3-0	3-2	3-0	3-0
3rd Czechoslovakia		X	3-1	3-0	3-0
4th Austria			X	3-0	3-1
5th Luxembourg				X	3-2
6th Scotland					X

Group B

Pos	BEL	ITA	SUI	NOR	BUL
1st Sweden	3-0	3-0	3-1	3-0	3-1
2nd Belgium	X	3-1	3-2	3-0	3-0
3rd Italy		X	3-1	3-0	3-0
4th Switzerland*			X	3-1	2-3
5th Norway*				X	3-1
6th Bulgaria*					X

*Sets in matches between the tied countries: 5-4, 4-4, 4-5 respectively.

Group C

Pos	FRG	FRA	ESP	FIN
1st Yugoslavia	3-2	3-1	3-0	3-0
2nd Federal Germany	X	3-1	3-0	3-0
3rd France		X	3-1	3-0
4th Spain			X	3-1
5th Finland				X

Group D

Pos	ROM	HOL	DEN	GRE	ISL
1st England*	3-1	1-3	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Rumania*	X	3-1	3-2	3-0	3-0
3rd Netherlands*		X	3-2	3-0	3-0
4th Denmark			X	3-0	3-0
5th Greece				X	3-0
6th Iceland					X

*In matches between the tied countries, Sets: 4-4, 4-4, 4-4; Games: 11-9, 10-11, 10-11; Points: 373-357, 380-371, 383-408; respectively.

Second Round

1-8 Group Play-offs

Group E

Pos	ROM	YUG	BEL
1st Soviet Union	3-1	3-0	3-0
2nd Rumania	X	3-1	3-0
3rd Yugoslavia		X	3-2
4th Belgium			X

Group F

Pos	HUN	SWE	FRA
1st England	3-2	3-0	3-1
2nd Hungary*	X	3-1	2-3
3rd Sweden*		X	3-1
4th Federal Germany*			X

*Sets in matches between the tied countries 5-4, 4-4, 4-5 respectively.

9-16 Group Play-offs

Group G

Pos	DEN	FRA	SUI
1st Czechoslovakia	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Denmark	X	3-0	3-0
3rd France		X	3-1
4th Switzerland			X

Group H

Pos	AUT	ESP	ITA
1st Netherlands	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Austria	X	3-1	3-2
3rd Spain		X	3-2
4th Italy			X

17-23 Group Play-offs

Group I

Pos	BUL	LUX	ISL
1st Finland*	2-3	3-0	3-0
2nd Bulgaria*	X	2-3	3-0
3rd Luxembourg*		X	3-0
4th Iceland			X

*Sets in matches between the tied countries: 5-3, 5-5, 3-5 respectively.

Group K: GRE 2 SCO 0; NOR 3 SCO 1; GRE 3 NOR 1.

Final Round

Final: URS 3 ENG 2.

13/14 Play-off: FRA 3 ESP 0.
15/16 Play-off: ITA 3 SUI 1.
17/18 Play-off: GRE 3 FIN 0.
19/20 Play-off: BUL 3 NOR 1.
21/22 Play-off: SCO 3 LUX 2.
23rd: Isl.
11/12 Play-off: DEN 3 AUT 2.

Cadets Boys team

England's results in detail

First Round (Group D)

ENG 3 GRE 0 (O'Driscoll b Jevod Chanjjan - 21, 13, 12; M Syed b Kostas Madessis 15, 8; Billington/O'Driscoll b Madessis/John Vlotinos).

ENG 3 ISL 0 (Billington b Halldoor Bjornsson 9, 7; M Syed b Briem 7, 11; Billington/O'Driscoll b Bjornsson/Briem 7, 12).

ENG 1 HOL 3 (Billington 1st Bart Van Haren - 13, -18; M Syed b Casper Mol 10, 14; O'Driscoll/Syed 1st Van Haren/Geert Verhaegh 18, -18, -24; Syed 1st Van Haren - 19, 19, -17).

ENG 3 DEN 0 (O'Driscoll b Henrik Pedersen 16, 16; M Syed b Flemming Sann 15, 14; O'Driscoll/Syed b Pedersen/Sann 17, 18).

ENG 3 ROM 1 (Billington 1st Calin Creanga 19, -15, -9; M Syed b Romulus Revisz 13, 10; O'Driscoll/Syed b Creanga/Revisz 13, -9, 18; Syed b Creanga 15, 14).

Second Round (Group F)

ENG 3 FRG 1 (Syed b Markus Teichert 18, 17; O'Driscoll b Peter Franz 20, -9, 15; O'Driscoll/Syed 1st Franz/Teichert 20, -12, -11; Syed b Franz 7, -16, 8).

ENG 3 HUN 2 (O'Driscoll 1st Karoly Nemeth - 16, 18, -16; Syed b Attila Turbok - 18, 21, 15; O'Driscoll/Syed 1st Nemeth/Turbok 18, -15, -17; Syed b Nemeth 10, -11, 14; O'Driscoll b Turbok 14, 23).

ENG 3 SWE 0 (O'Driscoll b Patrick Thorsell 17, -14, 13; Syed b Bengt Gunnarson 17, 17; O'Driscoll/Syed b Kayodi Kadiri/Magnus Petersson 15, -10, 12).

Final

ENG 2 URS 3 (O'Driscoll 1st Dmitrij Mazunov - 10, -15; Syed b Dmitrij Gusev 19, 18; Billington/O'Driscoll 1st Gusev/Mazunov - 15, 16, -19; Syed b Mazunov - 10, 11, 17; O'Driscoll 1st Gusev - 7, 15, -16).

Cadets Girls team

English results in detail

First Round (Group C)

ENG 3 BUL 1 (Andrea Holt b Katalina Ivanova 17, -15, 11; Kerry Hall b Reneta Stoyanova 13, 15; Julie Billington/Hall 1st Ivanova/Stoyanova - 14, -15; Hall b Ivanova 10, -13, 15).

ENG 0 YUG 3 (Hall 1st Polona Frelih - 16, 17, -8; Holt 1st Jasna Fasic - 17, -8; Billington/Hall 1st Fasic/Frelih 19, -20, -12).

ENG 3 BEL 0 (Hall b Els Billen 16, 16; Holt b Elke Billen 16, 9; Hall/Holt b Billen/Billen 13, -7, 19).

ENG 3 ESP 0 (Holt b Gloria-Maria Panadero 4, 9; Billington b Penelope Venuesa - 13, 19, 20; Hall/Holt b Patricia Sanchez/Venuesa 13, 10).

Second Round (Group E)

ENG 0 FRG 3 (Holt 1st Cornelia Faltermaier 17, -13, -18; Hall 1st Nicole Struse - 19, -11; Hall/Holt 1st Faltermaier/Struse - 19, -14).

ENG 1 YUG 3 (Hall 1st Paula Rampova - 15, 14, -19; Holt 1st Jaroslava Mihockova - 9, -10; Billington/Hall b Mihockova/Rampova - 19, 15, 18; Hall 1st Mihockova 18, -18, -15).

ENG 0 ROM 3 (Hall 1st Maria Bogoslov - 15, 22, -19; Holt 1st Otilia Badescu - 12, -15; Billington/Hall 1st Badescu/Ermilia Ciosu - 15, -16).

7/8 Play-off

ENG 3 AUT 2 (Holt b Michaela Zillner 16, -14, 16; Hall b Sabine Schell 23, 9; Billington/Hall 1st Schell/Zillner 14, -9, -19; Hall 1st Zillner - 16, -19; Holt b Schell 21, 4).

Cadet Girls team

First Round

Group A

Pos	HUN	LUX	FRA	NoR
1st Federal Germany	3-0	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Hungary	X	3-1	3-0	3-0
3rd Luxembourg		X	3-2	3-0
4th France			X	3-1
5th Norway				X

Group B

Pos	AUT	HOL	ITA	SCO
1st Czechoslovakia	3-0	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Austria	X	3-1	3-2	3-1
3rd Netherlands		X	3-2	3-0
4th Italy			X	3-2
5th Scotland				X

Group C

Pos	ENG	BUL	BEL	ESP
1st Yugoslavia	3-0	3-1	3-1	3-0
2nd England	X	3-1	3-0	3-0
3rd Bulgaria		X	3-1	3-0
4th Belgium			X	3-0
5th Spain				X

Group D

Pos	ROM	SWE	TUR	GRE
1st Soviet Union	3-2	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Rumania	X	3-0	3-0	3-0
3rd Sweden		X	3-0	3-0
4th Turkey			X	3-1
5th Greece				X

Second Round

1-8 Group Play-offs

Group E

Pos	TCH	FRG	ENG
1st Rumania	3-1	3-0	3-0
2nd Czechoslovakia	X	3-1	3-1
3rd Federal Germany		X	3-0
4th England			X

Group F

Pos	URS	HUN	AUT
1st Yugoslavia	3-0	3-1	3-1
2nd Soviet Union	X	3-0	3-0
3rd Hungary		X	3-0
4th Austria			X

9-16 Group Play-offs

Group G

Pos	LUX	ITA	TUR
1st Bulgaria	3-0	3-0	3-0
2nd Luxembourg	X	3-2	3-0
3rd Italy		X	3-1
4th Turkey			X

Group H

Pos	HOL	FRA	SWE
1st Belgium	3-0	3-1	3-1
2nd Netherlands	X	3-1	3-2
3rd France		X	3-0
4th Sweden			X

17-20 Group Play-off

Group I

Pos	SCO	NOR	GRE
17th Spain	3-2	3-1	3-1
18th Scotland	X	3-1	3-1
19th Norway		X	3-0
20th Greece			X

Final Round

Final: ROM 3 YUG 2

3/4 Play-off: URS 3 TCH 1	11/12 Play-off: HOL 3 LUX 1
5/6 Play-off: HUN 3 FRG 0	13/14 Play-off: FRA 3 ITA 2
7/8 Play-off: ENG 3 AUT 2	15/16 Play-off: SWE 3 TUR 0
9/10 Play-off: BUL 3 BEL 2	

Invincibility Shattered

by George Yates



Victoria Cup winner Erik Lindh

The invincibility of the Chinese was well and truly shattered in the Melbourne Sports and Entertainment Centre over the period 15/18 August. Both in the ANZ Bank six-nation Team Classic and in the Victoria Cup to celebrate the Australian state's 150th anniversary.

Sweden beat the People's Republic of China 3-2 in the final of the team competition and Eric Lindh beat China's Wang Huiyuan in the 16-man singles event to complete a notable Swedish double and lift the Victoria Cup.

In the team event, England's Alan Cooke and Skylet Andrew brought off the shock result by beating Sweden 3-2 in their group of three.

After Cooke had gone down to Lindh and Andrew to Ulf Carlsson, back came the English duo in the doubles to win 21-15 in the third. Then followed two remarkable successes when Andrew accounted for Lindh in straight games, 21-17, 21-18, and Cooke got the measure of Carlsson 21-17, 16-21, 21-9!

Unfortunately, previously and from being 2-0 up, the English pair had lost to Japan 2-3 so Sweden topped the group on sets average, beating Japan 4-1. England could only finish fourth overall when the Republic of (South) Korea beat them 4-1 in the 3rd/4th position play-off, with Cooke the only winner.

In the singles event, Cooke, after beating Kim Yong Hyung of South Korea, was taken out by top seed Wang Huiyan - China's World No. 4 - but only by 9-21, 20-22, 25-23, 16-21. And Andrew fought all the way against Tommy Danielsson - the former Swede now playing for Australia - but lost 21-13, 16-21, 11-21, 21-18, 19-21.

At the semi-final stage, Wang beat Carlsson and Lindh beat the Chinese No. 2 Hui Jun, but it was Lindh who triumphed in the final encounter - beating Wang 21-17, 21-11, 21-12 in a very one-sided affair. This was Wang's last competitive engagement as, following his marriage in September, he is to concentrate on coaching.

Defeat against Victoria

Twenty-two thousand miles is a long way to travel for a tournament. And 52 hours is a long time to anticipate and then commiserate with two players who did their country proud.

Both on and off the table Andrew and Cooke were excellent ambassadors, even allowing for a 3-2 defeat at the hands of the State of Victoria in Bendigo - a central-state venue north of Melbourne.

In this challenge match, Danielsson was the thorn in the English flesh, winning both his singles and the doubles in partnership with Alois Rosario; England's wins coming at the expense of Glenn Tripper.

Results: ANZ Bank International Team Classic

KOR 4 AUS 2; CHN 4 AUS 1; CHN 4 KOR 1.
Group 2

ENG 2 JPN 3 (Cooke b Inoue 19, -20, 17; Andrew b Kaihoko 16, -16, 11; Andrew/Cooke 1st Inoue/Kaihoko -19, -17; Andrew 1st Inoue -14, -16; Cooke 1st Kaihoko 20, -13, -16);

ENG 3 SWE 2 (Cooke 1st Lindh 17, -19, -15; Andrew 1st Carlsson -19, -18; Andrew/Cooke b Carlsson/Lindh -19, 19, 15; Andrew b Lindh 17, 18; Cooke b Carlsson 17, -16, 9); SWE 3 JPN 1.

Final
SWE 3 CHN 2 (Lindh 1st Hui 19, -17, -12; Carlsson 1st Wang 22, -15, -19; Carlsson/Lindh b Hui/Wang 17, 19; Lindh b Wang 20, 22; Carlsson b Hui 14, 10).

3/4 Play-off

ENG 1 KOR 4 (Cooke b Kim 16, 15; Andrew 1st Ahn Jae Hyung -14, -12; Andrew/Cooke 1st Ahn/Kim -18, -16; Cooke 1st Ahn -12, -10; Andrew 1st Kim -13, -17).

5/6 Play-off
JPN 3 AUS 2.

Victoria Cup

Round 1: Wang (CHN) b A. Jakubczak (AUS) 16, 17, 21; Cooke (ENG) b Kim (KOR) 11, -16, -19, 14, 17; Inoue (JPN) b G. Haberl (AUS) 16, 19, -17, 17; Carlsson (SWE) b J. Cooney (AUS) 17, 12, 16; Hui (CHN) b Glenn Tepper (AUS) 13, 13, 11; Ahn (KOR) b Kiyoto Hitoshi (JPN) 19, 19, 13; Danielsson (AUS) b Andrew (ENG) -13, 16, 11, -18, 19; Lindh (SWE) b R. Carlyle (AUS) 17, 16, 15.

Quarter-finals: Wang b Cooke 19, 20, -23, 16; Carlsson b Inoue 10, 15, 19; Hui b Ahn 17, 14, -13, 10; Lindh b Danielsson 14, 17, 17.

Semi-finals: Wang b Carlsson 16, -19, 13, 8; Lindh b Hui 16, -15, 10, 13.

Final: Lindh b Wang 17, 11, 12.

England yet again

George Yates

In a three-session series at Monklands Leisure Centre, Coatbridge over September 13/14, England brought off their 12th consecutive win in the Quadrangular tournament between the major home countries.

The opportunity to blood young Jimmy Stokes gave the Berkshire youngster a taste of what might be required of him in the future. Although he played well in taking Colm Slevin to three and beat Hilton Meneely in the Irish match, he was outplayed by both Nigel Tyler and Alan Griffiths against Wales.

England's strength lay with the women; Fiona Elliot and Mandy Sainsbury both way above any opposition to be found in Coatbridge. John Souter, too, shone brightly.

After wins over Ireland (6-2) and Wales (5-3), England really got their act together against Scotland as they "whitewashed" their hosts; David Hannah going under in both his singles in straight games.

Ireland, for the third time in succession, became the recipients of the wooden spoon with Patrick O'Brien the carrier-in-chief.

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	3	0	0	19	5	6
Scotland	3	1	1	1	10	14	3
Wales	3	1	0	2	11	13	2
Ireland	3	0	1	2	8	16	1

Results

ENG 6 IRE 2 (Nicky Mason b Meneely 10, 8; 1st Slevin -18, -13. Stokes 1st Slevin 23, -13, -13; b Meneely 11, 12. Elliot b Nora McEvoy 13, 9; Sainsbury b L. Cheevers 10, 12; Mason/Souter b Meneely/Slevin 17, 16. Elliot/Sainsbury b Cheevers/McEvoy 14, 10).
SCO 6 WAL 2 (Hannah b Griffiths 18, 16; b Tyler -20, 16, 16; Darren McIlroy 1st Tyler -18, -16; 1st Griffiths -15, -15. Carole Dalrymple b Heidi Cotter 16, 15. Janet Smith b Elaine Wright 12, -19, 20. John Broe/Hannah b Griffiths/Tyler -12, 16, 20. Dalrymple/Smith b Cotter/Wright 6, 18).

ENG 5 WAL 3 (Souter b Griffiths 18, -19, 14; b Tyler 13, 16. Stokes 1st Tyler -16, -11; 1st Griffiths -16, -16. Elliot b Wright 9, 15. Sainsbury b Dalrymple 16, 11. Mason/Souter 1st Griffiths/Tyler -21, -19. Elliot/Sainsbury b Cotter/Wright 13, 10).

SCO 4 IRE 4 (Hannah b Meneely 11, 13; b Slevin -18, 15, 19. Broe 1st Slevin -13, -14; b Meneely 17, 12. Dalrymple b McEvoy 18, 18. Smith 1st Cheevers 20, -15, -13. Broe/Hannah 1st Meneely/Slevin -22, 15, -10. Dalrymple/Lyn Johnston 1st Cheevers/McEvoy 9, -19, -19).

ENG 8 SCO 0 (Souter b Hannah 16, 19; b Broe 15, -18, 14. Mason b Hannah 19, 18; b Broe 12, -16, 22. Elliot b Smith 9, 15. Sainsbury b Dalrymple 16, 11. Mason/Souter b Broe/Hannah 13, 18. Elliot/Sainsbury b Dalrymple/Smith 16, 19).

WAL 6 IRE 2 (Tyler b Meneely 5, 10; b Slevin -20, 16, 17. Griffiths 1st Slevin -14, -17; b Meneely 9, 20. Cotter 1st Cheevers -7, -17. Wright b McEvoy 15, 14. Griffiths/Tyler b Meneely/Slevin 20, -23, 15. Cotter/Wright b Cheevers/McEvoy 16, 19).

Stuttering Start . . . but Prean to the rescue

by George Yates

An indifferent start by Desmond Douglas with an opening set defeat at the hands of Austria's Gottfried Bär, boded ill for England in their first European league match at North Bridge Leisure Centre, Halifax of Wednesday 25 September. Bidding for promotion, it was an inauspicious baptism in division one.

Palpitations, however, were alleviated when in subsequent sets Carl Prean saw off Stanislaw Fraczyk; Lisa Bellinger took care of Barbara Wiltsche; Prean and Alan Cooke won the doubles; and Douglas with Alison Gordon snatched the mixed.

Another below par performance from Douglas saw the English champion fail for the second time when beaten by the 32 year old former Polish international Fraczyk in straight games.

One was left to wonder when



England's European League squad at Halifax

the Birmingham left-hander last lost two sets in a European league match!

But another display by Prean in the final set sent the crowd home happy from the match — sponsored by Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council in conjunction with Hold-Rain Windows of Greetland, Halifax.

Results

Division 1

England 5 Austria 2

Douglas 1st Bär -20, 16; Prean b Fraczyk 16, 13; Bellinger b Wiltsche 11, 15; Cooke/Prean b Bär/Fraczyk 18, 17; Douglas/Gordon b Bär/Wiltsche 16, -19; Douglas 1st Fraczyk -14, -10; Prean b Bär 16, 11.

Finland	2	Denmark	5
Italy	4	Belgium	3
Bulgaria	6	Norway	1
Super Division			
Czechoslovakia	5	Hungary	2
Netherlands	1	Yugoslavia	6
France	0	Sweden	7
Poland	6	Federal Germany	1

The 12th Maccabiah

from Alan Shepherd
in Israel

Every four years the athletes of the world take part in the Olympic Games. Israel has its own version, known as the Maccabiah at four-yearly intervals, but restricted to sportsmen of the Jewish faith. I have been lucky enough to take part in all of these Games except one, starting in 1961, three times as captain of the table tennis team.

In past years our British team has boasted some famous names such as Jeff Ingber, Stan Jacobson and Irene Ogus. As might be expected, they annexed quite a few gold medals.

But without a medal since 1969, our 1985 team had a big task on its hands.

The mens team consisted of Scotland's Brian Wright, Shemesh Abraham — a club-mate of Skylet Andrew in the famous Willesden league team Apollo — and two ex-Hertfordshire juniors, Perry Somers and Michael Levene. The girls were

Laura Goldsmith and Sally Prowen, both of Middlesex.

There is no doubt Carl Prean would have strengthened our team! It is ironic that one of the world's top Jewish players has never been able to take part in the Maccabiah; on this occasion he was engaged in becoming European youth champion in Amsterdam. All we can do is to wish him respectfully "Mazel Tov!"

A few days after our arrival in Tel-Aviv, we took part in the Opening Ceremony, always a moving occasion but more so in '85. Ramat-Gan stadium was overflowing with 50,000 spectators when we marched in with nearly 4000 other participants.

The Maccabiah flame was lit by one of the greatest athletes of all time, swimmer Mark Spitz, and the moment was made more poignant as three of the children of Israeli athletes murdered at Munich accompanied him into the arena.

The next day we were into competition, starting with the two team events. If we could beat Greece (easy) and Germany (hard), we had a great chance of going all the way to the final.

But at 4-4 against Germany, young Benny Feingold got the better of Perry Somers 13-21, 21-17, 21-14 and Germany went on to the final where they lost to Israel.

Britain got nothing as they exited to the USA in the quarter-final by a convincing 5-1.

The girls made a bright start by beating Venezuela 3-0. The South American Esther and Jacquie could not play table tennis but were voted the dishiest females in the tournament and were thereafter extremely popular.

After beating Australia 3-1 they lost 3-1 to the USA and were forced to play Australia again for the bronze medals. This time it was more tense but with Laura in control in the singles and Sally joining up for the doubles, they snatched the bronze 3-1.

The individual events were next to be contested and I must confess to disappointment that Brian did not make progress

after meeting a very good Canadian chopper in round one. Perry went out to Walter Nathan, a brilliant young player from Peru; Shemesh lost to an Argentinian and Michael to one of the good Americans.

But in the womens, Laura was the toast as she reached the final for a meeting with the Israeli No 1 Iris Carmi — eight times national champion.

However, despite nearly all the players rooting for her, she simply could not get going and the experience of Carmi meant she had to be content with the silver medal.

In the under 15 section, the boys team of Joseph Bitran, Daniel Parnes and Jason Tandler brought home a silver and bronze between them.

The Games ended with the closing ceremony in Jerusalem, a much more informal affair with entertainment from singers and dancers plus a few pieces of political indoctrination from prime minister Peres. Then it was back to airport and home to the rain and cold of an English summer but, as always, a memorable time in a memorable country.

Triumph Adler takes on the '86 English Open

"It was just an accident really" claimed Triumph Adler's Marketing Manager Mike Borshell. "We were already doing a major advertising campaign and decided to look at sports sponsorship as well. The Open was on a sponsorship list from the Sports Council. We rang up the ETTA and it was still available."

That fortunate "accident" meant a boost for table tennis from Triumph Adler when they signed a £25,000 deal to sponsor the English Open in 1986 at a London press conference on 17th October. The second largest supplier of electronic typewriters in the world and the largest European supplier of personal micro-computers in Europe, the UK company has a turnover of around £12 million.

"It's our first sponsorship in this country" acknowledged Triumph Adler's UK Managing Director Bernhard Kotarski. "We have been linked in a small way with the British Cycling Federation providing technical back-up to the Milk Race, but this event is our first real sponsorship - though our parent company Volkswagen have been involved with sport for a long time."



A fast sport linked with a fast business - microcomputers. "It's a start, it's new for us, but it's a natural second step and complements our above-the-line advertising for the Triumph Adler range of micro-computers," he added.

"And it's an international event," Mr Kotarski continued. "The worldwide participation and the chance of TV exposure overseas make the English Open very attractive to us, part of an international company. We're looking forward to a close co-operation with the ETTA and I expect it to be successful and satisfactory."

ETTA Chairman Tom Blunn welcomed the new sponsors, and paid tribute to the negotiations of Deputy General Secretary Mike Watts who secured the deal to replace previous sponsors Charles Church. "We look forward to a long and happy association with Triumph Adler" he said.

Meeting Marketing Manager Borshell who first made the link with the ETTA, common table tennis parlance like "the Open" made one suspect a familiarity with the sport already.

"I packed up playing myself only two years ago" he admitted but denied any special inclination in the decision to sponsor. "The decision was made on hard commercial criteria after we had decided to look at sports sponsorship" he said.

Nonetheless, an ex-Hertfordshire county player who began at 17 with Ellenborough and the Barnet league, does have some inside knowledge of the sport and knows all about combination bats too! "I umpired when David Creamer annihilated Alan Hydes when he was the English Junior No 2," he said, "and I decided to copy him with pimples (no sponge) on the backhand and reverse sandwich on the forehand."

Table Tennis News welcomes Triumph Adler. Don't miss next month's special preview issue.



Above: It's a deal - Triumph Adler (UK) managing director Bernhard Kotarski and ETTA chairman Tom Blunn

Left: Bernhard Kotarski and (right) ETTA deputy general secretary Mike Watts with Triumph Adler UK marketing manager Mike Borshell on the seafront at Brighton

Photos by John Stone Photography (01-606 3456)

Chinaman's Chance

Globe-trotting Albert Shipley reports from the 555 World Cup in Foshan, South China.

Chen Xinhua, from the Peoples Republic of China, is, for me a true champion. The complete player, possessing incredible talent at both attack and defence; the only games he lost in the 555 World Cup in Foshan, China over 22nd - 25th August 1985 were to Jan-Ove Waldner - one of the best matches I have ever seen.

That had been in the quarter-finals and Chen won 18-21, 21-16, 21-13, 21-23, 21-19. For the championship he faced Andrzej Grubba of Poland but, as so

often happens, the final failed to reach the heights of the previous rounds and Grubba was no match for the superior skill of the Chinaman.

I was in Foshan at the invitation of IMG (the Mark McCormack organisation) to provide the English television commentary on the event. When one witnesses first hand the vastness of their population, it is no wonder that China can produce champions at any sport on which they care to concentrate.

No Douglas

Sixteen world class players took part, made up of continental champions plus the highest ranked players available from the world ranking list. The absence of Desmond Douglas, now ranked No 25 in the world, meant that, regrettably, England had no representative in the four-day tournament.

For the first stage, the players were drawn into four groups; it was essential to finish first or second in order to stand any chance of taking the richest prize in table tennis of \$16,000. And it began with an upset when, in the very first match, Eric Boggan of the USA

defeated the World champion Jiang Jialiang.

The match had been eagerly awaited by the capacity audience of 4,500 who packed every session. Boggan was nervous about the task in hand but the pressure on local-boy Jiang was even greater and by varying his pace cleverly he beat the champion by two games to one.

Jiang went on to reach the semi-finals where he lost Grubba but this opening win established Boggan as a firm crowd favourite. He ended with a match against Waldner for 7th/8th place and the ice-cool exterior of the talented Swede cracked as he lost 21-10, 21-14.

Flat out

Collapsing into Boggan's arms, they both finished flat on the floor outside the arena as the US champion lost his balance from this unexpected show of emotion, much to the crowd's delight.

The European champion, Ulf Bengtsson, provided the second surprise result of the group matches when his former compatriot, Tommy Danielsson, now residing in Australia, defeated him 2-1. It seemed to take all the fight out of Bengtsson and he finished in last place.

Grubba, however, the man Bengtsson had beaten in the Moscow championships sixteen months previously, played superbly throughout the event and his concentration took him

into the final, despite much complaining about air currents at table level. The crowd wanted the windows open with no air-conditioning in the new stadium and the wind provided a ready excuse for the losers.

For others, the sub-tropical heat of South China meant a humidity problem. But, after the cold of the Commonwealths in the Isle of Man and the Worlds in Gothenburg, the warm conditions suited Lo Chuen Tsung of Hong Kong and he finished a creditable fifth.

This was my first visit to China and free enterprise appeared to be flourishing. Most people still live a simple life but they seem happy and contented; their thousands of bicycles providing the main hazard to crossing the road!



Chen Xinhua . . . "the complete player"

555 WORLD CUP 1985

Results:

Group A:

Eric Boggan (USA) b Jiang Jialiang (CHN), b Leszek Kucharski (POL), b Yoshihito Miyazaki (JPN); Jiang b Miyazaki, b Kucharski; Miyazaki b Kucharski.

Group B: Lo Chuen Tsung (HKG) b Kim Ki Taek (KOR), b Ulf Bengtsson (SWE), b Tommy Danielsson (AUS); Kim Ki Taek b Bengtsson, b Danielsson; Danielsson b Bengtsson.

Group C: Chen Xinhua (CHN) b Andrzej Grubba (POL), b Kiyoshi Saito (JPN), b Atanda Musa (NGR); Grubba b Saito, b Musa; Saito b Musa.

Group D: Chen Longcan (CHN) b Jan-Ove Waldner (SWE), b Kim Wan (KOR), b Gideon Joe Ng (CAN); Waldner b Kim W, b Ng; Ng b Kim W.

1-8 play-offs

1st Stage: Grubba b Boggan 12, 14, -9, 18; Jiang b Lo 21, 17, 17; Chen X b Waldner -18, 16, 13, -21, 19; Chen L b Kim K T -18, 17, 12, 13.

2nd Stage: Lo b Boggan 13, 14. Kim K T b Waldner 16, 10.

Final

Chen Xinhua b Grubba 16, 15, 11.

Semi-Finals

Grubba b Jiang 13, 21, -18, 16; Chen X b Chen L 15, 16, 17.

5/6 play-off: Lo b Kim K T 17, 11.

7/8 play-off: Boggan b Waldner 10, 14.

9-12 play-offs

Miyazaki b Danielsson 15, 12; Saito b Ng 17, 19.

9/10 play-off: Saito b Miyazaki 16, -18, 19.

11/12 play-off: Ng b Danielsson 15, -20, 13.

13-16 play-offs

Kucharski b Bengtsson -18, 12, 18; Musa b Kim W 21, 13.

13/14 play-off: Musa b Kucharski 17, -21, 19.

15/16 play-off: Kim W b Bengtsson 13, 17.

Dennison prevents England's clean sweep

David Lomas at the Dunlop Schools International Championships

Only a solitary win by Ireland's Andrew Dennison prevented England from a "clean sweep" in the Dunlop Schools International Championships at the Inverclyde National Training Centre in Largs, Scotland during the weekend of 22nd/23rd June 1985.

England's successes in the six team events gave them the overall trophy for the eleventh successive year since the inaugural championships at Eston, Cleveland in 1975.

Tense

Although England's team win was not unexpected there were some anxious moments for the senior girls and cadet boys teams. The girls sped to a 10-0 win over Ireland in their opening match yet could only draw 5-5 with Scotland in a tense encounter.

England's wins came from Devon's Susan Butler (two singles and a doubles with Esme Stevenson of Cornwall), Lynne Harrison (Greater Manchester) and Samantha Scott-Pawson (Dorset) with one win each. And they emerged as the winners of the event when Scotland dropped a set in defeating Ireland 9-1.

The cadet boys were also held 5-5 by Scotland but they picked themselves up to win 9-1 over Ireland - previous 8-2 winners against Scotland.

The individual events - played in groups - provided six new winners. Although Murray Jukes (Hereford & Worcester) and Susan Butler (Devon) won the senior titles, Andrew Dennison became Ireland's first-ever winner and only the second non-English player to win a schools international title in the history of the championships. He won the intermediate boys event despite losing to Peter Harris (Herts) in his final group of four; a better sets ratio giving him the title.

Louise Davis of Shropshire (intermediate girls), Damian Holland of Essex County (cadet boys), and West Yorkshire's Debbie Toole (cadet girls) were the other England winners.

Last minute rescue

The weekend's table tennis held in Scotland for only the second time after a last-minute "rescue" by the Scottish TTA, involved 90 players from England, Ireland and Scotland. Ireland were the runners-up in the team events.



CHAIRMAN'S APPEAL

ESTA Chairman John Arnold has appealed to the ETTA National Council for help in finding correspondents in nine of the Schools Association's 50 county areas where, at present, there is no effective contact.

The counties where help is needed are: East Sussex, Essex Metropolitan, Isle of Wight, Merseyside, Northumberland, North Yorkshire, West Sussex and Wiltshire.



Above: Champion Andrew Dennison (IRE) with runner-up Peter Harris (ENG)

Left: England's David Blackburne receives the International Team Trophy from Scottish Table Tennis Association chairman Brian Christie

All photos by Ian Mcpherson of Kilwinning (0294 53305)



England's senior girls team (left to right): Sarah Hammond, Samantha Scott-Pawson, Susan Butler, Esme Stevenson, Lynne Harrison, with npc Phil Burwell

Results

Team Events

Overall Team Trophy

1. England
2. Ireland
3. Scotland

Senior Boys

1. England
2. Ireland
3. Scotland

SCO 0 ENG 10; ENG 9 IRE 1; SCO 0 IRE 10.

England: David Blackburne (Do), Jukes (He & Wo), Philip Logsdon (Nf), Nicholas Newton (S Y), Mark Randle (Wa). NPC: Paul Birch (Bd).

Senior Girls

1. England
2. Scotland
3. Ireland

ENG 10 IRE 0; IRE 1 SCO 9; SCO 5 ENG 5.

England: Butler (Dv), Sarah Hammond (Ha), Harrison (Gir Manch), Scott-Pawson (Do), Stevenson (Co). NPC: Phil Burwell (W Mid).

Intermediate Boys

1. England
2. Ireland
3. Scotland

IRE 6 SCO 4; SCO 2 ENG 8; ENG 8 IRE 2.

England: Gavin Black (Bd), Jonathon Bult (Humb), James Griffiths (Inn Lndn), Harris (He), Ward (S Y). NPC: Dennis Worrell (Li).

Intermediate Girls

1. England
2. Ireland
3. Scotland

ENG 10 SCO 0; IRE 1 ENG 9; SCO 4 IRE 6.

England: Helen Broomhead (S Y), Davis (Sp), Alison Evans (Humb), Rachel Knight (Sy Met), Helen Lower (W Mid). NPC: Christiann Durnall (W Mid).

Cadet Boys

1. England
2. Ireland
3. Scotland

SCO 2 IRE 9; SCO 5 ENG 5; ENG 9 IRE 1.

England: Holland (E Cty), Lee Jeffries (W Mid), David Morris (Sp), Nicky Ryder (W Y), Adrian Thorp (W Mid). NPC: Bob Wood (La).

Cadet Girls

1. England
2. Scotland
3. Ireland

ENG 7 IRE 3; IRE 5 SCO 5; ENG 6 SCO 4.

England: Caroline Buckley (Bd), Susanne Lawton (Cv), Julie Norman (Bk), Tracy Slater (Ca), Toole (W Y). NPC: Glennis Hooper.

Senior Boys

1. Jukes (ENG)
2. Blackburn (ENG)
3. Logsdon (ENG) and Mervyn Kelly (IRE)

Senior Girls

1. Butler (ENG)
2. Hammond (ENG)
3. Harrison (ENG) and Nora McEvoy (IRE)

Intermediate Boys

1. Dennison (IRE)
2. Harris (ENG)
3. Bult (ENG) and Anthony Redmond (IRE)

Intermediate Girls

1. Davis (ENG)
2. Evans (ENG)
3. Knight (ENG) and Lower (ENG)

Cadet Boys

1. Holland (ENG)
2. Thorp (ENG)
3. Ryder (ENG) and Sean Spelman (IRE)

Cadet Girls

1. Toole (ENG)
2. Hurry (SCO)
3. Buckley (ENG) and Norman (ENG)

HANDBOOK

Copies of the ESTTA Official Handbook (60p inc. p&p) are now obtainable from the ESTTA General Secretary: L C Henry, Dronfield Junior School, School Lane, Dronfield SHEFFIELD S18 6RY and contain details of the Dunlop National School Team Championships which close on 10th December 1985.



Douglas back to sharpen Wolverhampton's steel

Fiona Brown

England No 1 Desmond Douglas, back from the German National League after a period of seven years with Borussia Dusseldorf, has been snatched up by GKN Wolverhampton for his first season in the Halex National League. Wolverhampton are hoping he will lead Steven Scowcroft, Carl Morgan and Andrew Bellingham to their first Premier division title.

Target Gold Salford, rivals for Desmond's signature, have now strengthened their team by attracting the 1982 European champion John Hilton from Dutch club Nikon Velkenswaard. Salford's caretaker manager Mike Owens says "John is playing extremely well at the moment and the team are looking forward to another successful season despite the loss of Tony Boasman".

Based in Manchester, Hilton is also to be involved with coaching activities within the city as Salford bid for promotion from the First division.

Following the departure of European Youth champion Carl Preat to Germany, Bath Toyota have added Ellenborough's Colin Wilson and re-signed Kevin Satchell from Jaques Fareham. Wilson, of course, was born in Bath and Satchell, too, is a local player.

Jarvis returns

Shropshire club Grove have also strengthened their side with former international Nicky Jarvis emerging from retirement for the No 4 spot behind John Souter at No 1 and the ever-improving Steve Mills at No 2. But Jarvis, who was forced to quit because of a constant back injury due to perpetual looping, is finding the transition from coaching to competitive play more difficult than he thought.

"Although I've been coaching regularly over the past three years, I was getting too fat", he said. "I'd been playing more and more each week, having changed my grip and changed my style, but the hardest part is changing the brain. It still wants to play the way I used to play even though I have developed my backhand more to compensate. In practice it's no problem. But a match is entirely different altogether".

Ormesby retain Alan Cooke and were to field an unknown quantity in Horatio Pinta. Now a Canadian citizen, Pinta began his international career with Rumania and has already experienced top league competition in Sweden.

His arrival was predicted to upset a number of Premier division clubs. But then Ormesby's manager Alan Ransome received bad news in a transatlantic telephone call.

"It appears Pinta has had an accident, and his foot is in a cast", he said. "But it's not as bad as we first feared and he'll certainly be playing for us after Christmas. In the meantime, though, we're losing valuable points".

New Player Awards

Adding to the interest of the Halex National league, eight engraved tankards are to awarded to the 'Player of the Month'

as selected by the National League Committee between October and May. And a £100 cash prize has been introduced for the 'Player of the Year'; club captains having the opportunity to nominate on the bottom of each score sheet.



Des Douglas - signed up by GKN Steelstock

Photo by Stephen Line of Shoreham-by-Sea (07917 3867)

League champions weakened

League champions Thorn-EMI Ellenborough have also been hit having made only one significant signing to compensate for the loss of Wilson and Nigel Tyler. New Zealand No 1 Malcolm Temperley has come in at No 3 after South Yorkshire lost the fight for his signature. South Yorks start the season with what looks to be the weakest side in the Premier and manager Graham Coe now has little chance to strengthen his top team with most of the leading players already under contract.

Omega Reading become the first club in the competition to field two Premier division teams and their intensive youth policy means they have avoided the need to sign outsiders. Jimmy Stokes earns a well-deserved place in the first team following a successful season in which he added the scalp of Preat to an impressive tally of wins. Matthew Syed, at 15, is the Premier youngest player - a move which can only benefit his international aspirations.

Former Scottish international Keith Rodger, now a police officer in Birmingham returns to top level competition with West Warwicks Birmingham, while Butterfly Cardiff have tempted Tyler to play at No 2 behind the new Welsh national coach Alan Griffiths.

In the lower divisions a number of new clubs have joined the league, including Oldham who were called in at the eleventh hour to replace South Yorks third team in the Third division North. Despite this late entry, manager Geoff Aspinall and assistant Stuart Sneyd are confident they have assembled a squad capable of challenging for the title. With veteran stalwart Derek Schofield playing at No 4, they could well be right!

THE PREMIER DIVISION LINE-UP

Grove

- 1 John Souter
- 2 Steve Mills
- 3 Steve Turner
- 4 Nicky Jarvis
- 5 Malcolm Green
- 6 John Ellis

Bath Toyota

- 1 Colin Wilson
- 2 Kevin Satchell
- 3 Adrian Moore
- 4 Andy Creed
- 5 Alison Gordon
- 6 Neil Taylor
- 7 Tony Clayton
- 8 Kevin Edwards

Omega Reading I

- 1 Philip Bradbury
- 2 Andrew Wellman
- 3 David Dodd
- 4 Jimmy Stokes

Omega Reading II

- 1 Andrew Syed
- 2 David Barr
- 3 Matthew Syed
- 4 Karen Witt
- 5 Mandy Sainsbury

South Yorkshire

- 1 Chris Rogers
- 2 Chu Van Que
- 3 Dave Gannon
- 4 Tony Sanderson

GKN Steelstock Wolverhampton

- 1 Desmond Douglas
- 2 Steven Scowcroft
- 3 Carl Morgan
- 4 Andrew Bellingham

Thorn EMI Ellenborough

- 1 David Wells
- 2 Graham Sandley
- 3 Malcolm Temperley
- 4 Mark Mitchell
- 5 Lloyd Lewis

Ormesby

- 1 Alan Cooke
- 2 Horatio Pinta
- 3 Nigel Eckersley
- 4 Richard Yule



Nicky Jarvis – forced to modify his looping style

THE FIRST RESULTS –

1st SEPTEMBER 1985

Premier Division

Ormesby I	4	Omega Reading II	4
GKN Steelstock	4	South Yorkshire I	4

First Division

Ormesby II	5	W. Warwicks/Birmingham	3
Tibhar Larkhall	1	Dagenham FC I	7
TCB Dolphins	1	Target Gold Salford	7
Airmaster St. Neots I	2	Butterfly Cardiff	6

2nd North

Unity Bradford	3	Byker Newcastle I	5
Chan Construction I	6	Sincil Lincoln	2
GKN Steelstock II	6	Byron Roofing STUTE	2
March	8	City of Leeds	0

2nd South

TSP Larkhall	4	EAE Waveney	4
Gunnersbury Triangle	3	Pengeley Sports Gwent	5

3rd North

Ormesby III	0	Vickers Sports Barrow	8
South Yorkshire II	3	Kingsboro Insurance	5
Crusaders Lincoln	2	Oldham	6
Byker Newcastle II	2	Ormesby V	6

3rd South

Deptford Rams	5	Omega Reading III	3
Abeng Warriors Stiga	6	Spicer New Malden	2

3rd East

Britannia Deepsure	7	Playrite Northampton	1
Dagenham FC II	2	Fellows Cranleigh	6
Airmaster St. Neots II	3	AHW Pioneers	5

3rd West

Leominster	2	Global Sports Plymouth	6
Leicester TTC	6	Grove II	2
Jolliffe Poole	8	Chan Construction II	0
Pengeley Torbay II	6	Banda Launceston Kernow	2



Join the ATTP!

Association of Table Tennis Players

Officials

- Hon President:** Johnny Leach MBE
Hon Chairman: Barry Johnson (Tel: 05646 2978)
Hon. Treasurer: Jill Hammersley-Parker MBE
Hon Secretary: Colin Wilson (Tel: 0707 874751)
Coordinator: Derek Baddeley (Tel: 06845 3763)
Committee members: David Barr, Karen Witt

The ATTP exists as a players association committed to improving the standard and popularity of table tennis. Many nationally ranked players have already signed as members and we welcome all regular players, whatever their standard.

The Committee is actively pursuing various projects including the staging of unusual matches, exhibitions and Pro-Celebrity events and tournaments. But we need your help and support to succeed!

Every member receives a membership card and a number of other benefits are currently being investigated. Discount rates for rail travel and hotel accommodation; reduced admission and entry fees at tournaments and events; and special insurance premiums.

So post the membership form today!

Derek Baddeley
 ATTP Coordinator

ATTP Membership form

Enclose £2.00 cheque or postal order made payable to "ATTP" and post to: Colin Wilson, Hon Sec ATTP, 25 Brookside Crescent, CUFFLEY, Herts.

Name:

Address:

Postcode: Tel:

Club:

League: Signed:

"Reform or die" warns Neil Lomas

I have been playing league table tennis for 18 years and I think I know my fellow players well enough to suggest the two reasons why the Crewe league recently decided to remain in affiliation with the ETTA.

These, in fact, both relate to the restrictive ETTA rule 32.1 (which prohibits play between affiliates and non-affiliates except by special concession under the auspices of an Organisation in Good Standing).

Firstly, disaffiliation would prevent any juniors from having the opportunity to display their talents at county and national level. Although they could affiliate directly to the ETTA, they would then be barred from membership of our non-affiliated league (by ETTA rule not ours) and without the benefit of regular league competition, would be less likely to develop to county and national standard.

Secondly, many players are members of two neighbouring leagues and, if one were to disaffiliate, they would be forced, again by the same rule,

to withdraw from one or the other. I suspect the vote in the case of our league might well have gone the other way if the Potteries had voted to disaffiliate at their AGM held a week earlier.

Irrelevance

I believe the majority of ordinary club players, among whom I number myself, consider the ETTA a complete irrelevance, and an increasingly expensive one at that. For the average player, whether or not England has a strong national team is of little importance, and the payment of large sums to individual players for the privilege of having them play in this country is an irritation.

Indeed, it could be argued that this is in breach of the ETTA's own rule 3.4 which stipulates that all income and property of the Association shall be used solely for the promotion of the Associations objects — which include the promotion and encouragement of playing and developing the sport in England (rule 3.3).

Rule 3.3 was certainly breached by the introduction of the law regarding the colour of rubbers as I understand that there has been a significant reduction in membership in those leagues which have already introduced the change — many ordinary players simply refusing to bear the expense. At the same time, there has been a reduction in playing standards, with many players now using two different types of rubber and being less able to control their game.

Resentment

Our league does not have an official view on these matters; it simply has an official policy, which is to remain in affiliation. However, the growing resentment against the ETTA is not going to subside unless radical reforms are instituted which will increase the relevance of the ETTA to the ordinary player, or greatly reduce the cost of membership. Preferably both.

I am aware it is easy to criticise an organisation, but less so to suggest ways of improving it. I therefore propose for consideration a package of reforms which, I feel, would go a long way towards rehabilitating the ETTA in the eyes of its ordinary members:

1. The ETTA should recognise that table tennis is not, and never will be, a major spectator sport; and that only major spectator sports can afford to pay large sums to individual players.

2. Rule 32.1 should be abolished.

3. Direct affiliation of individual players should be encouraged; direct affiliation of clubs abolished; and the affiliation fee of leagues reduced to a nominal sum, not dependent upon the number of teams in the league.

4. Any player registered with an affiliated league, whether individually affiliated or not, should be able to represent that league in inter-league competition; but only individually affiliated players should be allowed to enter county and national tournaments or to represent the county or country.

5. The existing disciplinary procedure should apply to all players, whether affiliated or not, taking part in competitions under ETTA jurisdiction. Rule 32.2 would need rewording to take account of this.

6. At the AGM and other general meetings, each directly affiliated individual and each affiliated league should be allowed one vote. The votes should carry equal weight except that any change in the affiliation fee should require a majority of individuals voting and any change in the league affiliation fee should require a majority of the leagues voting. Block voting should be abolished and provision made for individuals and leagues to vote by post.

If the above package were implemented, the ETTA would become dependent for the major part of its income on the direct affiliation fees of individuals, and many existing players would not affiliate. Once it became apparent, however, that the ETTA was truly answerable to its members, I would expect a large number of players to directly affiliate. The question is: are the ETTA prepared to take the risk?

There is a serious financial risk in implementing these proposals. But I believe there is an even bigger risk of the complete disintegration of organised table tennis in this country if the present situation is allowed to continue.

Leader Comment, page 1.

Thanks says John

ETTA Merit Award winner John Burtenshaw, nominated by his local league in Weston-Super-Mare, has written to the National Council after receiving the accolade over the summer.

"In accepting the award", he wrote, "I can only say this is a reflection on so many people who over many years have helped me in piecing together a large jig-saw puzzle. My sincere thanks for this honour".

John, who began playing at the Kennington youth club in Ashford, Kent in 1950, got a further surprise in August.

The day after England's Ian Botham smashed his own sixes record in county cricket, John was at the Clarence Park ground to receive Woodspring Sports Council's Mercury Award for the top sports administrator of the year from the Somerset all-rounder - in recognition for his services to local table tennis over the past seventeen years.



ETTA Merit award winner John Burtenshaw with the Weston Mercury Cup

Letter from the Chairman

Welcome back to yet another season of table tennis. It only seems a short time ago that I was signing off for last season. From a personal aspect, a lot has happened in the meantime but I am pleased to say that my health problems have improved dramatically and I look forward to a new season with renewed enthusiasm.

You will by now have noted some changes in the format of this magazine. The ever-rising costs and reducing income from advertising have forced changes which I hope you will accept.

Activity has continued as always on all fronts and the success of our juniors and cadets in the European Youth Championships over the summer overshadows all other events. I was particularly pleased to see Carl Prean achieve his greatest ambition so far, by becoming the 1985 European Youth champion. He has tried so hard for so long and well deserves his success. He was very well-supported, and indeed inspired, by the other members of the team; I very much regret that health problems at the time

prevented me from being there to give support on the spot.

The AGM took place without problems and I was pleased to have the honour of presenting A K (Bill) Vint with his well-deserved badge as the new Life Vice-President, in succession to the late Ivor Montagu. Bill still gets around and never ceases to take an interest in our affairs.

I spent a little time with him at the end of the summer and came away with more knowledge of our history and determined to maintain the standards set by Bill in his thirty odd years as Treasurer, Secretary, Chairman and President. On the ETTA's behalf, I wished him well in his health and a long service as our Life Vice-President.

Sponsorship support has been varied with some going and some coming but on balance we seem to have gained for the new season. A new approach to the problems of sponsorship and television has been introduced by the appointment of John McDonnell as our national negotiator.

John is a familiar figure through the Norwich Union

sponsorship of eleven years when he was their Public Relations Manager. He gained a vast knowledge of the subject and has met a great number of people connected with this area of activity. He is also an ETTA Vice-President and anxious to help us as much as he can.

Another innovation is the Milton Keynes National Top 12 tournament to be held at the end of October. This is an area of new sponsorship and looks like being a resounding success.

Finally, we welcome Desmond Douglas back onto the domestic scene and look forward to his appearance in some open tournaments and the national league. Desmond has already commenced his duties and, so far, has concentrated on helping the juniors.

All the best for the new season.

Tom Blunn
Chairman
English Table Tennis Assn.

Veteranary Injection

The ETTA West Midlands Coordinating Committee have given veterans table tennis a boost in the region with a Closed tournament for the Over 40s at Wolverhampton on Sunday 15 December 1985.

Open to all veterans in the table tennis counties of Shropshire, Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire, the events at the Woodfield Sports and Social Club will include Over 40 and Over 50 Mens and Womens singles.

Entry for all events is 1.00 and if time allows there will also be an invitation doubles event with contestants drawing for partners. Light refreshments and a licensed bar will be available.

Entries close on Friday 29 November 1985 and forms can be obtained from: Jim Hayward, 26 Limes Road, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton. Tel: (0902) 751427.

Approved balls

The ETTA have issued a list of the brands and grades of balls which are to be used in play within, between or organised by, any affiliated organisation or one in Good Standing with the ETTA during the 1985/86 season:

Dunlop Tournament *** and ** (plastic)
Dunlop Premier Tournament *** and ** (celluloid)
Halex Ultra *** and **
Nittaku *** and **
Schildkröt *** and **
TSP *** and **

Bat Cover

In association with former sponsors Norwich Union, the ETTA can arrange insurance cover to leagues and clubs for three main areas of risk - Public liability, Personal injury and Trophies.

With the cost of sports equipment nowadays, many members also decide to include their table tennis bats under the sports insurance extensions offered by the domestic contents policies of many leading insurance companies. "A table tennis bat?", said one incredulous agent. "How on earth can a table tennis bat cost over £40?"

"I dunno either, but you're insuring it!"

Jouez au ping pong?

From temp to temp le ETTA receives requests from notre Common Marche amici "to put us in touch with some clubs anglais, in order that we may play un match ou share ein Bier or zehn".

If your club might be interested in such an exchange the ETTA would be pleased to place you on the directory used to answer these enquiries. Tel: (0424) 433121.

ENGLAND NEEDS YOU!



EUROPEAN LEAGUE DIVISION 1

Wed. 20th November 1985
ENGLAND V BULGARIA

at
Mansfield Leisure Centre
Chesterfield Road South
Mansfield NG19 7AB
Tel. 0623 646081/2

Tickets
£3.00 Adult
£2.00 Children/OAP

Wed. 21st January 1986
ENGLAND V DENMARK

at
Castle Hall Hertford

Tickets £4.00 Front
£3.50 Rear

available from
Mr K Grethe
13 Edmunds Road
Hertford
SG14 2EY
Tel 0992 51802
(September onwards)

COME AND SEE
THE INTERNATIONALS
IN ACTION

It's for you-oo!

Just to say you'll be glad to know that the ETTA has 'one of those infernal machines' which allows you to leave messages on (0424) 433121 after office hours and at weekends. Anyone requiring information can be sure the messages are relayed as soon as the office reopens.

Veteran GP wins British title

Even in the best of circumstances, 41 is a bit late to take up competitive table tennis. So in May last year when general practitioner and police surgeon Dr John Marrs fashioned a new type of table tennis bat, he did not rate his chances.

To add that little bit of extra challenge to the game, he honed the blade down to a stripling 12.5 cm, stuck it on a piece of Addis mop handle and entered the British heats of the world championships finals, televised by Thames TV.

Perfect

He (oh yes, and Zillian, but more of that later) hardly expected to win. But the brain scanner he had scrounged from a local hospital gave him an obvious psychological advantage. Recording his opponents strokes with bits from a camera, tape recorder and typewriter, an Apple to eat its way through match reports, and two wind-screen wiper motors to keep the vision clear and the action moving, his preparation was perfect for an assault on the title.

Considering he had not played since medical school John's victory rivalled that of another's in Berne 1982. The earlier made front page of *The Times*: the second got two feature articles in *The Guardian* (3rd and 29th August 1985). And a two-day journey to London from Cleveland ended with a £500 prize representing England in the San Francisco finals in September.

Challenge

"There is nothing like a stiff dose of competition to iron the corners off pet theories," he said. "It all started when I read an article in *Practical Robotics* magazine and I decided to take up the challenge."

"The challenge" in this case, meant the construction of a robot to play table tennis — the best test of the reflexes linking complex mechanics to an optical recognition system. "My children called it Zillian", and it was born from a load of obsolete electronics scrounged from friends and local sources. The whole thing cost him around £45.



Dr John Marrs, from Billingham, Cleveland, brings Zillian's eye into focus

Photo courtesy of the Middlesbrough Evening Gazette

"Zillian's camera eye didn't work properly" he said, "and I had to move the arm with a computer joystick, but we won easily. The robot which came second didn't even score a point for a touch let alone five points for a return over the net. The one which came fourth could not even move."

But a champion is a champion — Butterfly's Alan Ransome was soon on the spot to sign up the new ping pong prodigy, kitting them out for the world finals.

Stiga to sponsor County Championships

Doug Moss

Stiga, distributors of the Nittaku ball, have agreed to sponsor the county championships over the 1985/86 season. By the time these notes are read, many counties will have already felt the benefit of the £4,000 deal which provides balls for matches in the championships.

There will be more matches than ever this year too, with yet another increase in the number of teams taking part. Twelve extra teams have been added

and, in all, over 1,000 players are expected to represent their counties over the forthcoming season.

The championships has the quantity; the aim now is to improve the quality — particularly with venues, match arrangements, publicity and presentation to attract further sponsorship. Already preparations are underway for the first of the Premier division weekends.

SWEET 'N NICE

Jackie, 21, and Lisa Bellinger, 18, from Dunstable, Bedfordshire, are to be sponsored by 'Sweet 'N Low' the sweetener in the pink sachets. The two champion sisters are currently Nos 1 and 6 in the national womens rankings.

Graham Bright, Chairman and Managing director of the 'Sweet 'N Low' company is also the MP for Luton South and said "By helping them to devote their full time to the sport, I am confident they can make an even bigger impression for England in international table tennis. Commercially, it is a good investment, providing us with the opportunity to promote 'Sweet 'N Low' in the right image of a healthy and active sport through two very attractive ambassadors".

Jackie and Lisa receive their sponsorship cheque from Sweet 'N Low managing director Graham Bright, MP for Luton South



TONY DIMMOCK

Table tennis in Bedfordshire was deeply saddened by the death in May of Tony Dimmock, following a prolonged illness.

Tony had been associated with table tennis for some 30 years, during which time he made an impact on the sport as a player, administrator and coach.

For the past seven years, Tony had given invaluable service to the Dunstable league as Chairman and his administrative ability and leadership will be greatly missed in this area.

Tony was a well-known figure in the sport outside Bedfordshire and had become very respected for his efforts on the coaching side, particularly the development of his daughter Julie into an England ranked player.

Bedfordshire table tennis association send sympathy to his wife Ann and to the rest of his family and trust they will take heart in knowing that the name of Tony Dimmock will not be forgotten and recorded in the archives for ever.

M.W.

CHESHIRE CHAT

with Brian Hudson

Problems at the county closed championships held at the end of last season were made more difficult by the lack of a PA system, which, in turn, contributed to a sad lack of atmosphere at the event. Not, therefore, an unqualified success but the results were as follows:

MS: Tony Taylor b Mark Hankey 13, 12. WS: Anne Williamson b Janet Deakin 18, 15. MD: Taylor/Ron Weatherby b Hankey/Graham Hoy. WD: Lynn Harrison/Anne Dakin b Deakin/Williamson 18, 10. XD: Hankey/Harrison b Brian Johns/Deakin -20, 15, 11. VXS: Terry Taylor b Mike Tew 13, -18, 23. XS(Class 2): Tim Malkin b Weatherby 19, -14, 19. JBS: Simon Jones b Andrew Taylor 12, 16. JGS: Julie Hope b Alison Jones 12, 16. CS: Jonathon Taylor b William Fryer 19, -11, 15.

Eddie Griffiths won the Mike Johns Trophy for playing performances and the Wally Sharples/Frank Thomas salver for services to Cheshire was awarded to Dave Kinder.

By contrast, the 3rd Altrincham Festival, in July, was a resounding success. An enormous entry, considering it was supposedly 'out of season', ended with Wilmslow's Nigel Eckersley beating Tony Taylor from Urmston in the mens singles 21-16, 16-21, 21-15, and Doreen Schofield of Stockport winning a very close battle with Carol Appleby, from Blackpool, 21-23, 21-19, 21-19.

President Terry Donlon and Chairman Roger Moss continue to lead Cheshire's administrative affairs with the committee re-elected en bloc at the AGM.

BUCKS SCHOOL OF SPORT

Les Wooding

The County's first venture into a residential coaching week over the summer was a outstanding success under the management of Ken Muhr. Held at Quarrendon School under the auspices of the 'Bucks School of Sport', England-ranked Colin Wilson did a first-rate job in training the youngsters and, then, with Nigel Tyler staged a breathtaking exhibition. If the ETTA want to strengthen their coaching and training base, they need look no further than Muhr and Wilson.

Further success was illustrated by the decision to enter a record six teams in the County championships this season. Thanks to the sponsorship of South Heath Nurseries of Great Missendine, Chalfont Press from High Wycombe and Sunnex UK Ltd in Aylesbury, a second veterans team has been added in recognition of the 1st team gaining promotion to the Premier division last season.

The strength of the veterans base

has also swelled the Bucks Inter-league championships to a record nine divisions, including the inauguration of a fourth mens division and a veteran womens division.

Bucks No 1 Philip Bradbury, from Aylesbury started the season with a return to form by taking the Lewisham 2-Star title, beating David Wells and John Souter on the way. And in the first Junior rankings of the year, Milton Keynes and Aylesbury leagues are dominant.

Darren Ward and Stephen Bagdaley from MK lead the boys, while Stephen's sister Esther has the top girls position ahead of Aylesbury's Michelle Taylor.

After serving the county in various Officer roles since the Association's conception, Leo Thompson (literally 'Mr Bucks') decided to make way for new blood at the AGM held in June and is to concentrate on his Presidential duties in the future.

DERBYSHIRE DROP

Malcolm Allsop

Derbyshire experienced a membership crisis in 1984/85 with a 16% drop in affiliations and only the Chesterfield league showing an increase in membership. County officials are now waiting for the current season's statistics in the hope they will show an increase.

The figures were brought up at the Derbyshire AGM in Alfreton last June where the majority of the county committee, led by President Danny Blair and Chairman Ernest

Lough were re-elected.

The Derbyshire Challenge Cup final, billed by organiser Malcolm Hearn as "One Hell of a Match" ended with Cromford Demons of Matlock gaining a 5-4 victory in the final set against the Buxton Devils.

Even better playing conditions are promised for the Beneficial Trust Derby Junior Select next April with new flooring and improved lighting installed in the main hall of Derby Sports Centre over the summer.

DEVON

from Dorothy White

Table tennis has been humming in Devon throughout the summer. Reports from both Plymouth and Torbay say that players have been putting in a great deal of time and effort into their practice sessions and national coach Bryan Merrett has been literally rushed off his feet attending training camps across the county.

Past practice has reaped its rewards with many Devon players appearing in the England ranking lists.

There will be no lack of top-class table tennis to watch in the county during the coming season. Devon are fielding two senior teams and one junior while national league teams are operating from both Plymouth and Torbay. Spectators will be spoilt for choice.

The task of selecting the county teams falls on the shoulders of Devon's newly elected coaching officer Brian Pengelly, Elaine Short and Francis Jarvis. To help them keep in touch with the progress of players, they plan to hold three senior and junior ranking tournaments during the season.

The first is to decide the senior teams but Richard Aitken, Sean Gaylard, Graham Yardley, Rachel Pengelly and Joanne Loosemore have already been chosen for the juniors first match against Glamorgan.

At the inter-regional under 12 tournament in Exeter on August 31st, Ippelpen's Helen Berry finished a creditable second in the girls competition. The format of under 12s on the Saturday followed by the under 14s on the Sunday provided an enjoyable weekend of highly competitive table tennis.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

by Alf Peppard

Nina Tsakarisanos, one of the county's leading players, is believed to be contemplating a return to active table tennis following a year of difficult fitness problems. The county will certainly emerge all the better with the England No 55 from Gloucester back in the team.

The county also heard some good news from the secretary Les Smith (newly appointed as an ETTA Vice-President) when he presented his annual report at the AGM. Providence Capitol have agreed to continue their backing of the highly successful County Premier league for next season.

There was also a change of personnel at the top when John Bunn, Gloucestershire chairman for the last two and a half years, stood down. Vice-chairman Jack Reeves elected

Following the annual county trials, held over two days with a record number of sixteen men invited, Durham issued their first ranking lists of the season:

Men

1. Stephen George (S)
2. Billy Reay (Pl)
3. David Godbould (S)
4. Bob Reed (S)
5. Phillip Stafford (S)
6. David Blackburne (Pl)
7. Tom Robson (Ph)
8. Michael Polkinghorn (S)
9. Chris Blake (S)
10. Don MacIver (Ph)
11. David Bissett (S)
12. Neil Herrington (S)
13. Dale Aitkenhead (Ph)
14. Alan Thompson (Ph)
15. Jimmy Laing (D)
16. Tom Bainbridge (S)

Women

1. Lyn Yarnell (S)
2. Lyn Bainbridge (S)
3. Shirley Gelder (S)
4. Linda Spensley (S)

D - Durham; Pl - Peterlee; Ph - Philidelphia; S - Sunderland.

Two of these ranked players, Alan Thompson and Don MacIver, have provided the new faces on the county management committee.

The Durham county league gets underway in October with Sunderland A and Peterlee aiming to retain their Senior and Junior titles. Later in the season, at the Consett Sports Centre in November, the 1985 Maureen Kerry Memorial Tournament is to be held with sponsorship from Swan Chemicals of Kendal, Cumbria.

to succeed him paid tribute to Mr Bunn for his leadership and skill in encouraging members to work together.

Sacrosanct?

Upon being introduced to the High Sheriff of Gloucester David Short at the Inter-city Sports week in Worcester last July (when Gloucester won the table tennis event), Cllr Short was heard to say, "Oh, is this where the ping-pong is being played?". Next year, yes 1986, Gloucester city players and supporters are invited to note that they are the host city to run the week-long series of sporting events and to defend the title against strong opposition from Worcester and Hereford.

DURHAM

Harry Black

DORSET

by Martin Hughes

Jolliffe Poole, again sponsored by Peter Jolliffe the Bookmakers, look a good bet for third division west in the Halex National League. With the season starting earlier this year, Rodney Thomas, John Robinson, Jason Creasey and your correspondent are hoping to continue the form which brought them an 8-0 victory over Chan Construction 2 on 1st September.

New rankings based on last season's results have been issued with Tony Clayton heading the mens top ten:

Men

1. Tony Clayton
2. Martin Abott
3. Rodney Thomas
4. John Robinson
5. Jason Creasey
6. Taffy Davies
7. Martin Hughes
8. Steve Davis
9. Mike Hughes
10. Terry Glennon

Veteran Men

1. Taffy Davies
2. Cyril Bush
3. Trevor Smith
4. Mike Toole
5. Dennis Joyce
6. Bunny Ellis
7. Dave Woodcock
8. Harold Feltham
9. Syd Brice
10. Ron Fairhall

Junior Boys

1. Jason Hegarty
2. Ashley Gordon
3. Bruce Toyne
4. Lee Devaney
5. Christian Carmen
6. Paul Bickell
7. Roy Devaney
8. Kevin Smith
9. Ray Cody
10. Paul Hoff
11. Shaun Conning
12. Graham Howard

Junior Girls

1. Tracy Scott-Pawson
2. Debbie Applin
3. Caroline Hamblett
4. Samantha Dench
5. Claire Freeman
6. Vanessa Green



Tony Clayton

WHILE SHEPHERD WATCHED

Laurie Darnell reports from Essex

Alan Shepherd, chairman for as long as many can remember, found himself surprisingly ousted by Peter Roden from Wickford at the end of this year's fiery AGM. But though losing the top spot, he has retained his position on the Essex management committee by representing the Waltham Forest league.

London solicitor Shepherd, still involved with junior affairs and the county tournaments committee admitted that the vote had been a bit of a shock to him. "Basically", he said, "I found myself in the middle of a power struggle that I wasn't taking part in. Peter, it seems, attracted the support of the county leagues in the eastern end of the county, I had the support of the London end, and he got himself elected. Now I'm sitting back and seeing how he gets on!"

With typical Shepherd humour he remained philosophical about the whole affair. "Now that I realise what extra time I have on my hands I'm not all that sad, though I would have liked to carry on", he said.

It was not all fireworks at the AGM. President Johnny Leach

MBE presented the Corti Woodcock Memorial Trophy to Graham Moon.

Graham formed the very successful Brentwood table tennis club in 1956 and has been president of the Brentwood league for sixteen years. In acknowledgement, the former world champion described Graham as "a Gentleman of table tennis who has given outstanding service to the sport for almost thirty years".

Plan for Essex

At an Executive committee meeting in early 1984, the question "Why are we here?" was posed. Such a deep and open-ended question was too big for an 'any other business' item to resolve.

It was Clive Oakman who grasped the nettle. He sought and received backing to form a sub-committee to investigate the decline of our sport and recommend ways and means to reverse the trend.

Clive, now the newly-created development officer, together with Margaret Darnell, Roy Franklin and Colin Trundle are to reveal the results of their survey at a presentation evening in October.

HERTFORDSHIRE

by Harry Stevens

The biggest event planned for Hertfordshire this season is the European league division one match to be staged in the county in 1986. England, bidding for reinstatement in the Super division, are to play Denmark at Hertford on 21st January and a large crowd is needed to give the home team support.

Other notes for the diary are the county closed tournaments - Junior, 8th December; Senior, 22nd/23rd February - and the Inter-league dates - Junior, 24th November and 25th January; Senior, 27th October, 1st December and 15th December; and Veterans on 24th November.

The junior ranking trials held at Barnets Table Tennis Centre on 8th September resulted in Peter Harris of Watford and Tracey Baines of the North Herts league clinching top spots in the new county rankings:

Boys

1. Peter Harris (Watford)
2. Derek Rogers (Cheshunt)
3. Michael Boardman (Hemel)
4. Ian Black (St Albans)

Girls

1. Tracey Baines (N Herts)
2. Vicky Margerrison (Barnet)
3. Maria Williams (Barnet)
4. Emma Hurling (Hemel)

WESTERN COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Hampshire's Brian Lamerton

The team championships returned to their spiritual home of Cornwall when all roads led to Launceston on May 25th. The local committee, headed by Peter Hancock and referee Pat Archdale, ensured that, as always, Cornish hospitality was faultless.

With senior teams of four men and two women, and junior teams of two boys and one girl, the players competed in a round-robin group format with the group winners proceeding to a knock-out section to earn more team points.

The senior event was a record bonanza for Devon, their points haul of 73 being only five short of a maximum and more than double that of runners-up, Avon. And Cornwall nearly slipped up in their hospitality, failing by just one point to win the junior trophy from Somerset.

Overall team positions:

Senior	pts
1. Devon	73
2. Avon	36
3. Somerset	33
4. Dorset	30
5. Cornwall 1	29
6. Cornwall 2	18

Junior

	pts
1. Somerset	24
2. Cornwall	23
3. Cornwall 2	14
Devon 2	14
5. Devon 1	11
6. Wiltshire	9
7. Cornwall 4	8
8. Cornwall 3	7
9. Dorset	1

Devon's team of Paul Whiting, Mike Short, Stuart Richards, Paul Giles, Carol Butler and Elaine Short had further success in the individual events when Whiting and Butler won the singles titles. Both junior singles finals were Cornwall versus Somerset affairs; Melanie Carey (So) defeating Esme Stevenson (Co) 10-21, 21-10, 21-17 and Graham Reed (Co) getting the better of Philip Payne (So) 21-15, 18-21, 21-17.

Hampshire, in the extreme east of the region, are to stage the event this season, with a provisional date established of Saturday 26th April 1986.

MIDDLESEX 3-STAR IN TROUBLE

New press officer Steven Rose (Tel: 01-213 3848 during office hours) has the task of boosting internal publicity and press coverage in the county.

"If table tennis is to re-establish itself as a major sport, much change is needed in people's attitudes", he says. "Leagues and clubs cannot expect to automatically increase in membership if they themselves do not embark on membership drives and other promotional ideas. I will help in coordinating these efforts but success will only come to those who manage themselves most effectively".

"The major news prior to the season concerns the future of the Middlesex 3-Star Open tournament, scheduled for 7th/8th December 1985", he reports. "Unless we can find sponsorship of around £2000 before 1st October, the tournament will have to be scrapped".

STOP PRESS

Tournament saved by Middlesex official. To take place at Picketts Lock.

HUNTS SUNDAY LEAGUE

David Deller re-emerges

When I last hit the typewriter, seven years ago, Hunts wins in the county championships were rare indeed. The St Neots purpose built centre (surely one of the best in the country) was in its formative years and generally the successes we have had in the past two or three years were virtually non-existent.

Now Peterborough have their own table tennis hall with a fine table tennis facility transformed by the hard work of members on an oldish building.

Hunts, this year, are to run one junior team and three veterans sides. However, it stops there as, at a special general meeting held at the new centre in Peterborough, it was reluctantly agreed to withdraw the senior team. An unexpected change of division left Hunts in a group where it was thought impossible to fulfil the fixtures due to the enormous amount of travel and expense involved.

The county are now hoping that some sort of regional championships will be forthcoming in the future for the lower divisions, as seems to be the case in some other sports.

The popular County Junior league will again be one of the highlights for our ever-increasing number of youngsters. Now in its fourth year, the number of divisions has been increased to three for the first time. Teams from Peterborough, St Ives, St Neots and Huntingdon will meet on five Sundays during the season; three 1st and 2nd division matches being played on most occasions: 27th October, 24th November, 19th January 1986, 9th March, 6th April.

These matches will be held at the St Neots centre whilst the third division is to be held on different dates at St Ives Recreation Centre.

All three leagues, St Neots, Hunts Central and Peterborough have their own coaching programme under the financial assistance of the Sports Council Eastern region, coordinated by coaching secretary Len Saywell.

And the town of St Ives is busily preparing for their ninth foreign exchange next Easter when they are to visit Stadtallendorf in West Germany with fifty players. Previous exchanges have also involved clubs from Sweden and Holland.

LINCOLNSHIRE LADIES

with Kath Fisher

Grimsby had a very successful summer season this year, holding both a summer league for ladies only and their annual summer league open to players of all divisions. The ladies league was as thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part and, playing the singles over three weeks, each player was handicapped between 0-20; each game being played up to 31.

The games finished very close, with all the twenty competitors playing each other. I must confess some personal enthusiasm, not least of the reasons being my own eventual victory after 17 wins with a scratch handicap! Janet Clarke (+10) was second with 15 wins; Marion Lilley (+4) third with 13; and fourth was Pauline Chapman (+2), also with 13 wins.

The doubles took up the fourth week with arranged pairs. Each pair played the others two games each up to 21 and at the end the exhausted players had no idea who had won until all the points were counted up. Angela Bray and Julie Craggs emerged as the winners from the calculation, much to Julie's disbelief.

The summer league took a dif-

ferent format with each team being of two players and matches consisting of four best-of-three singles sets. Each game won counted as a point.

For the fifth year running, everything depended on the last matches to produce the winners. John Lea in excellent form with the much-improved young John Whattam won the division one title 68-41, just ahead of myself and Andy Longbottom on 66-43. Peter Taylor won the most games individually, losing just three games out of fifty!

Peter also featured in Market Rasen's very popular Open Hard Rubber Bat competition. Losing in the groups to John Whitfield 18-21, 21-19, 11-21, he scraped into the main competition as runner-up, only to face John again when they both reached the final.

John took the first 22-20, Peter the second 21-19 and the third was unbelievable. With the score at deuce and the spectators on the edge of their seats, both players made wisecracks about the pressure. But Peter kept the coolest in the next two points to become the champion.

NORFOLK NEWS

Ray Hogg

From 21 ends to 21 points. From Henselite to Nittaku. Battle commences on the green table after a summer on the green green.

For the first time in many years, Norfolk are to field only one senior team in the county championships - a result of being unable to rely upon certain players on a regular basis.

However, as usual, there are two junior teams and many new faces are expected to appear at the weekends which are being arranged. Now that many of our players have Saturday jobs, the possibility of only two Saturdays required is far easier than the seven needed under the traditional system.

A first for the county is the veterans team which has attracted considerable enthusiasm despite learning of the first match in Gateshead and two other away matches in Cheshire and Northampton. Luckily Yorks 2 entered late or the only home match would have been Hunts 2.

With Philip Logsdon at University in Nottingham there is a big hole to fill in the senior team. But with Gerry Stevenson in charge his sons Richard and Martyn should be available - dependent on their national league commitments which clash once or twice.

For the women, Sue Jenkinson has been ranked at No 3 at the start of her first season as a senior player. And England-ranked Neil Pickard, way out in front of the other junior boys, could end up playing for the senior team instead of the juniors.

Despite much talk and correspondence with the Cromer league during the summer, they have still disaffiliated from the ETTA and are now known as the Cromer Friendly Competition. Basically Cromer are just that - a friendly league.

With just 18 teams in two divisions, they can survive without the ETTA. For my part, they were the only league who sent me a full report of their championships last season . . . Good luck.

NORTHUMBERLAND

by Pauline Long

Both county teams had quite a successful season last year with the senior team finishing as runners-up to Derbyshire in division 3A and the juniors ending their first season in division 2A in third place. Sadly, a shortage of girls has meant it has been decided not to enter a junior team this season, with the entire team from last year over age.

Instead, two senior teams have been entered with opportunities for outstanding junior or 'intermediate' level players to be selected for the second team. To prove table tennis life need not end at 25 or 30, Northumberland have entered a veterans team for the first time, on the understanding it will be self-supporting.

The cadet division of the recently completed Tyneside Summer league ended with Northumbria Centre teams completely dominating the three groups.

The winter season in Northumberland finished so late that the county closed tournament, held on May 18th at the new venue of Gibson Street Baths in Newcastle, has still not been reported. It had been feared at one time that the tournament might not even be held but a sudden rush of last-minute entries saved the situation.

Peter McQueen retained the mens singles title but Eddie Smith gave him a tremendous tussle in the semi, losing 18-21, 21-16, 19-21. In the other semi-final there was a surprise when Thomas Blackman beat

Neil McMaster 14-21, 21-16, 21-15.

In the final, Blackman ran McQueen very close in the first but the latter's experience told in the second as he won 21-19, 21-9. McQueen, in partnership with Clare Mouzon, also took the mixed doubles but he and McMaster failed to reach the mens doubles final after crashing out in the semis to the eventual winners - the left-handed pair of Smith and Ian Robertson.

Clare Mouzon comfortably regained her womens championship by beating Shirley Gelder 21-8, 22-20 in the semis and Christine Burke 21-19, 21-13 in the final. Defending champion Caron Buglass who played the game of her life last year to beat Mouzon had earlier lost to Burke 12-21, 21-19, 21-18.

It was not Buglass' day. As well as losing her singles title, she and Burke lost their womens doubles in the semi-final stage at the hands of Mouzon and Pauline Long. Mouzon, unfortunately, failed to make it a hat-trick of victories as the final went 22-20, 22-20 to Gelder and Linda Spensley.

Larry Cartmell won the veterans singles 21-15, 21-15 at the expense of Charles Mouzon. And Elaine Hopper (+16), who has just finished her last season as a junior, became the first female player to win an individual handicap title when she beat Michael Karczewski (+13) 21-15, 18-21, 21-19 in the final of the Divisions 2/3/4 handicap singles.

SUSSEX SEE SIGNS

by John Woodford

Most leagues and most counties have suffered a drop in membership from individual players during the past two seasons, but at last in Sussex there are encouraging signs from at least a couple of leagues - Hastings and Eastbourne.

Hastings increased their number of players last season, whilst other leagues fell back. The first figures for the brand new campaign are from Eastbourne, where an extra eleven teams and one division have been added to the league programme.

Sussex first team will be trying once again for promotion to the premier division of the county championships after missing out by the narrowest possible margin at Plymouth last season.

The journey to Plymouth helped to put the Sussex finances over the season in the mire, a loss of nearly £600. I really cannot think how other counties manage financially to handle the presence of Devonshire in the southern divisions.

To the Devon sides alone the cost of travelling vast distances must cost their sponsors real money, but the problem is that some other counties do not have sponsors. Something should be done this season to smooth out this problem.

It is quite understandable that the young, talented Devonians want to travel east where the opposition is strongest, but can other counties afford the reverse journey? Sussex cannot.

TCB Dolphins in the National League are leaping high after being promoted to Division 1 following the sinking of Holts Carpets. Dolphins have netted Andy Dodd as their new No.1 in place of Graham Gillett who has returned again to the rock music field. Erreys Print TTC have received increased sponsorship and will shortly resume their battles to get into the top half of Division 3 in the southern set-up.

Despite losing money Sussex have increased the number of county teams back to six, reviving the second junior side. Where is the money coming from? Hopefully, from increased fees from the players.

Most of the Sussex TTA AGM passed by with yawns, but in the last half hour following some snappy criticism by Pat Wales and Gerry Batt-Rawden the two veteran county players, Keith Jackson put the cat amongst the pigeons with a scathing attack on the administration.

The Haywards Heath player and administrator was most dissatisfied with the whole thing. Despite the fact that most organisations these days have to spend so much time trying to finance their activities, Jackson found such actions "time-wasting".

He ended by criticising the presence in the chair during the whole AGM of the Sussex president Keith Watts who was, of course, quite entitled to be conducting the proceedings.

NORTHANTS NOTES

Dennis Millman

A full complement of officials, tournament sponsorship by Money Concepts of Kettering, renewed enthusiasm for the County championships, and some purposeful activity at local league level have got Northants off to a good start in the new season.

First, however, perhaps a brief look back at the final honours of 1984/85 is in order.

Pride of place goes to Chris Handshaw and Andy Edmonds. With suitable and varied help they not only contributed to an outstanding trio of wins in the Northampton, Wellingborough and Kettering premier divisions for Malcolm Dille Associates, Chapman A, and Kettering Town A respectively, but also played for Wellingborough sides which ended good winners of both the Northants County and St Neots Winter leagues.

Success too for Anne Wallis whose exceptional talent had not been dimmed by another year of inactivity. Returning to play in her solitary event of the season, she carried a stiff handicap successfully to partner Cath Walsh to victory over 34 women in the Tina Coleman Memorial Trophy.

The Wellingborough Closed, with an increased entry for organiser Mick Morris, also produced a surprise winner in Steve West who beat Andy Trott in the final after accounting for Andy Edmonds in the previous round. Trott and Edmonds took their revenge when they defeated West in the mens doubles, while the women's singles went to young Maxine Shears.

The new county ranking list is much the same mixture as before, with Keith Nicoll's promotion to No 2 and Adrian Roper's eight place advance to No 11, the highlights.

SHROPSHIRE STARS

by John Morris

Pontesbury again attracted support from all over the country when they staged a team event on June 8th/9th with U12 and U14 teams playing for trophies donated by the county's evening newspaper, the Shropshire Star.

Twelve teams made the U12 event and a full complement of 16 entered the U14, with competitors from Sheffield, Pontesbury, Thames Valley, Kettering, Buttsbury Centre, Oldham, Dagenham, Milton Keynes, Pontefract, Selby, Wrexham, Gloucester, Tewkesbury, Bristol, Reading, Wisbeach and Coventry. Even players from Launceston in Cornwall and Tunbridge Wells made the trip for a great weekends table tennis.

After group matches in the U12s, held on the Saturday, the first semi-final saw Selby edge out Dagenham in a close-fought match by 6-2. David Milner and Andrew Nicholls were unbeaten, as was a very impressive Grant Solder for the losers. Launceston overwhelmed Bristol in the other semi 7-1. Tyler Moore gaining Bristol's solitary win.

The stage was set for a repeat of last year's final with Launceston geared up for revenge. And when England ranked cadets Neil Bevan and Mark Bawden won the first two sets, it looked like a runaway win.

But the Yorkshire lads and lass dug in with typical grit. Ellen Meddings won the first, 9 year old Andrew Nicholls the second, and when Craig Smith beat Bevan, Selby were 3-2 in front.

Launceston's Bawden edged out Meddings, then Milner defeated Johnny Maggs to set the stage for the final encounter. And in a nail-biting finish, young Nicholls, willied on by his excited supporters, just overcame his nerves and opponent to win the day for Selby by 5-3.

In the U14s, the powerful favourites Sheffield really showed their class, over-powering Thames Valley 8-0 in the first semi-final. Besides top England cadets Mark Ward and Neil Simms, there were great wins here for John Milner and Stephen Horsfield.

And in the other hard fought semi, Wisbeach won the last two sets from Launceston to go into the final by 5-3. Robin Tewkesbury had another two wins including victory over Bawden, while Bevan did likewise for the losers.

Sheffield raced into a 3-0 lead before Tewkesbury pulled one back for Wisbeach. However, there was to be no fairy tale ending for the underdogs. Despite Matthew Laughlin beating Milner, Sheffield went one better than last year as they won 6-2.

This season's tournament is scheduled for June 8th/9th 1986. Already several teams have booked their places.

Staffordshire are thinking of placing a commercial to attract more voluntary officials to help table tennis in the county. Despite several vacancies on the committee there are no new faces this year and the county has been sad to lose the long-serving and loyal administration of national councillor Geoff Williamson.

If anyone is interested in assisting the county association, they are being asked to ring the County chairman on Stafford 822013.

Also, due to lack of interest from county-ranked players, the second team has been withdrawn from the county championships. Last season, in division 2A, Staffs failed to field their strongest side and were no match for the opposition.

However, both the county's senior and junior teams are looking forward to holding their places in the Premier divisions, with the juniors in for a chance of the top position.

The county's first Hard Bat tournament, staged at GEC St Leonards in Stafford at the end of last season, was generally regarded as a great success. Seven teams competed for the Beattie Trophy and with the Poteries fielding an under-strength side, it was left to the south of the county to provide the main competition.

STAFFORDSHIRE

by Jack Chalkley

Although Wolverhampton fancied their chances with most of the individual 'stars', the strength in depth of the Walsall team triumphed in the end but by the narrowest of margins. Both teams had 21 wins but they edged out their neighbours with a sets average of 44-9 against 43-12.

Despite the presence of several regular hard bat players - all competitors played with standard hard bats supplied - the final of the individual event was fought out between two exponents of the sponge bat, Trevor Washington and Steve Dunning, both of Wolverhampton.

They adapted their 'modern' style of play with considerable success, giving a final well worth watching; Washington running away with the final game to win the Turner Trophy 21-14, 17-21, 21-11.

After missing a year, the Malcolm Scott Restricted tournament was again staged at the Woodfield club, Wolverhampton, and the final was a close fought match between Marc Devitt and Kevin Cartwright, the former winning 16-21, 21-19, 21-18. But with no women's event and a seriously affected men's championship due to lack of entries, the future of the event for this season seems in doubt.

WARWICKSHIRE

by Mary Rose

Warwickshire, with so many of its leagues pillaged by the industrial recession of the West Midlands, have decided to promote the greater use of Sports Centres in an attempt to solve the problem of 'where to play table tennis in the county'. At the AGM, each of the county's six leagues reported a loss of membership due to the closure of club and business premises and Birmingham, with a drop of teams from 450 to 250, has been devastated.

Two new ventures were successful during the year. The opening of the new Phoenix club in Coventry and the Sports Centre for the Disabled are both well-established as hives of table tennis activities. Greater use of the Birmingham Athletic Institute could also be of benefit.

The task of reviving the sport in Warwickshire now lies with Geoff Taylor of Coventry after chairman George Halvorsen decided to call it a day and resigned at the AGM.

After last season's disappointment of losing their fight for promotion to the Premier division of the county championships - narrowly losing a vital match to Leicestershire - the county's senior team has high hopes for a more successful season.

And, due mainly to the efforts of Brian Lloyd who ran three very successful quiz evenings to raise funds, the senior second team is to operate

again this season. Withdrawn through lack of finance, the move was a blow to many of the county's middle players and some departed to other counties as a result.

In one of the narrowest finishes for years, the Warwickshire league was won by North Birmingham who beat South Birmingham in the final match of their campaign to decide the inter-league championship. A great performance to celebrate their return to the competition after an absence of a number of years.

The Warwickshire club competition final, playing for the 'B Mackie Cup' at the West Warwickshire Club, saw GEC Coventry win an entertaining match by 367 points to 340 against Coton Methodists of Nuneaton. It was only after the final game that GEC learnt they had a 36 points start!

In the Warwickshire Closed, played at the West Midlands Sports Centre for the Disabled late last season, Lester Bertie confirmed his improving form when he beat Ian Gunn in the men's singles final 21-16, 21-12 - a similar result to the Birmingham Closed played a few days earlier.

Sandra Peakman won the women's singles event against Karen Groves 21-16, 21-9 and Ralph Gunnion retained his veteran singles title beating Joe Asam 21-13, 21-16.

SURREY HOSTS

Frank Hams

Surrey are to host the first County Championships Premier Division weekend over November 30th - December 1st. Thanks to the gentle persuasion of Gail McCulloch the Royal Borough of Kingston have agreed to provide the Tolworth Leisure Centre and a local hotel is to be used for competitors and supporters.

New county life-member Mike Kercher is attempting to cancel all other matches over this weekend so that Surrey are well supported in their bid for the premier title - first match, Saturday; second and third on Sunday.

In the first Halex National League matches of the season, two of Surrey's teams played each other in a local derby on 1st September. Division 3's Abeng Warriors Stiga warmly welcomed Spicer New Malden to their Brixton 'academy of table tennis' and ran out 6-2 winners.

In the other matches, Tibhar Larkhall lost to Dagenham 6-2, and TSP Larkhall, with Steve Davies on debut, drew 4-all with EAE Waveney in Second Division South.

Later in September, the first team Tibhar drew away to Target Gold Salford while TSP lost at home to Medway. And Spicer had a second defeat, this time by 7-1, in their first home match of the season against Ashford. Selwyn Walmsley, at No. 1, was the only Malden player to win a set.

Surrey coaches have also been active during the summer with the launch of the Dunlop Skills Award scheme at Camberley and, soon afterwards, a coaches' day at Frimley to discuss the scheme and hold video sessions. Vera Hutchinson was the sole representative from Surrey in this second initiative.

Other results:

MD: Barry Johnson/Phil Gunn b Bertie/I Gunn 19, 20. WD: Groves/Di St Ledger b Peakman/Ian Harden 15, 19. XD: P Gunn/St Ledger b Johnson/Groves 20, 22. JBS: Stephen Swallow b Darren Smith 20, 19. JGS: Dawn Bromley b Tracey Green 16, 16.

At the same venue with 124 entries in 14 events, the Pilgrim brothers Adrian and Kevin contested the Coventry Closed final. In a fine match of spectacular rallies and good humour, Adrian won 21-14, 21-16.

Favourite Lyn Sibley proved too strong for Julie Falls in the womens, winning 21-11, 21-10. Julie had provided the shock win of the tournament by beating Melanie McHayle in the quarter-finals.

And in the Nuneaton league championships, P Muir beat T Barker 21-14, 21-13 for the Open singles title.

MIDLAND LEAGUE

Lincoln and Banbury have joined the Midland League writes **John Barber**, bringing seven teams in the top three divisions but only six in division 4 following the withdrawal of Cheltenham.

Twenty-eight teams are set to compete for the junior championship, with 5 in the intermediates, 19 in the veterans and 6 in the womens divisions.

At the Midland League AGM, Hon Secretary and Treasurer Maurice Goldstein was presented with an award to commemorate his 50 years of service to the league.

WORCESTERSHIRE

Doug Moss

The junior county side this year is virtually a new team. The boys from last season are now over age and Lisa Hunt has asked not to be considered so the junior ranking trials held recently were crucial.

Peter Canavan and Peter Smith, both of Dudley, were ranked 1 and 2 respectively, and Bromsgrove's David Rogers captured the No 3 spot. Darren Smith (Evesham) and Richard Pratley, a recent newcomer to Malver, took the next two places.

As expected, Louise Davis continues as the No 1 girl but she plays for the county senior team and Evesham's Julie McLean played very well to seal the No 2 ranking. Twin sisters Sue and Jenny Burgess from Dudley came next with Sue just squeezing into third place by virtue of two games won at deuce.

Nicola Jones was still unfit but with her national cadet ranking appears at No 5 and the 13 year old Worcester girls Sarah Stone and Michelle McDornell played well against the older and more experienced opponents to complete the list of registered players.

Ray Norton, formerly of Hunts, has strengthened the county veterans and in the trials he and Mervyn Wood both won three matches and lost one. Brian Belcher won two, so did Ray Dixon - including a convincing win over Norton. But Brett Davis, a county veterans team player last season, failed to win a set.

Early in September, a squad of four cadet girls, all from the Christopher Whitehead School in Worcester attacked the Coventry Junior Open tournament. Thirteen year old Sarah Stone played very well indeed, and received a trophy as cadet girls consolation singles runner-up.

Michelle McDornell reached the semis of the junior girls consolation and the experience of their first tournament should prove worthwhile for Paula Hughes and Nicola Perry - both 12 years of age.

LIFE AFTER FLETCHER

Rea Balmford

In the premier division of the county championships, Yorkshire are preparing for 'life after Fletcher' following his departure to take up a teaching post in Germany. A fine ambassador, he has served his county with distinction since he first came on the scene as a schoolboy at Hull's Hymers College.

The county are hoping it will be a case of 'cometh the occasion, cometh the man', just as it was when Sheffield's top cadet Chris Oldfield stepped into the breach left by Chu van Que when South Yorkshire played GKN Steelstock in the Halex National League.

Desmond Douglas, who has made the journey in the opposite direction to Fletcher, won his two to help the Midlands side into a 4-3 lead. Then Oldfield was called to meet Andy Bellingham, currently No 28 in the Lentec senior rankings.

The South Yorkshire youngster was not overawed, however, and showed his promise with a fine win under pressure to earn his team a point. Ranked national cadet No 2

behind another Yorkshire boy Michael O'Driscoll, Oldfield has made a great start to his season with a win at this level.

Manager Graham Coe, who has left industrial South Yorks to live in rural Sancton, has already been active in setting up competitive table tennis in the sparsely populated area from Pocklington to the east coast.

Fortnightly matches between the main centres of population are planned with a break during the winter when weather can make travelling difficult. The initiative means that another section of England's largest county can be coloured in on the table tennis map.

Disappointingly, however, a proposal to run separate 'open' and 'girls' sections in the junior and cadet divisions of the Yorkshire league has met with little response from the competing leagues. The hope that this would encourage more girls to take up the sport by providing a less 'cut-throat' competition has thus been dashed.

With only a handful of leagues showing interest, it was decided to continue in the format of teams of four - three boys and one girl, playing nine-set matches.

Also a blow to the county was the loss of the Yorkshire 3-Star Open proposed for late October as a replacement for the now-lapsed Humber side tournament. But after passing the test last season and being given 3-Star status, it was too late to book the venue at Halifax - already committed to another major event on the suggested date. All efforts to find a revised date were unsuccessful.

In Bradford, the absence of Davids Rook and Indriks from the league have dealt a blow to the city's hopes of retaining the Premier division championship of the Yorkshire League. Also missing will be Linda Smith (nee Hryszko) after the birth of a daughter.

But the Bradford first division again looks like being a battle between Unity - led by Steve Sharpe and supported by Sheffield's Mark Ward - Hermits, and Clayton Heights. Hermits experienced squad of Stead, Bottomley, Kozmowsky and Priestley are unchanged from last season and Clayton have Shutt, Gomersall and Melody Hill.

WAKEFIELD WONDERS

Les D'Arcy

While most leagues tune down their coaching programmes to a tick-over during the summer months, Wakefield have gone from strength to strength to capture the interest of young players in their school holidays and to stimulate enquiries about winter league play at the start of the season.

Two star diploma dynamo Rowden Fuller, in addition to his individual coaching of the area's top England-ranked players, has been running group sessions three times a week at the Alan Hydes Dunlop Advanced Training Centre - two miles from the city centre and just off junction 40 on the M1.

The hard work certainly paid off when a squad of 15 players from the Centre invaded the Coventry junior open and took four of the six major titles. Thirteen-year-old Debbie Toole from Normanton was outstanding in the girls team and then captured the cadet and junior girls singles. Andrew Ball took the junior boys, and was joined by boys doubles winners Alaric Bassano and Mark Land.

Other good performances were registered by Mark Stephenson (CBS runner-up), Joanne Roberts (CGS runner-up), who defeated No 1 seed Jill Taylor on the way. Ian Ball completed the Wakefield party's tally by winning the cadets consolation singles.



The achievements of two of the Dunlop Centre players have not gone unnoticed by local sportsman and table tennis supporter Philip Dickinson. Mr Dickinson, owner of a chain of hair-dressing salons in the West Yorks area is to provide a very lucrative sponsorship for Debbie - already a junior international who starts this season as England No 3 cadet - and for 12 year old Ellen Meddings from Harrogate - the current England No 5 cadet.

Trials disaster

With triumphs on the table outside the county and in coaching, disaster struck the senior and veterans trials at Moor Grange on 14th September. It was probably all for the best that the junior and cadet trials planned for the following day had been cancelled a few days previously.

Sponsor Philip Dickinson with Debbie Toole (centre) and Ellen Meddings

Unfortunately, with the exception of one - a trialist himself, County chairman Alec Head found he was the only Yorkshire official there to organise the day's events. Despite valuable assistance from his wife, the job of organiser, umpire and general secretary became too much, especially in the veterans section where he also had to deal with the expedite rule.

As the day dragged on several players left without finishing the course. Those who stayed were then unable to complete the daunting task of playing everybody else and many left weary and dejected.

Alan gives Wales a boost

H Roy Evans

Welsh table tennis received a big boost in the summer when negotiations with the Sports Council resulted in the appointment of Alan Griffiths as the first National Coach and Development Officer.

Alan, Welsh No 1 for many years and the current Welsh champion, has been playing in Germany for the past four years and was always looking for the chance to return to Wales. He jumped at the opportunity to come home, with the assurance of a good job in the sport to which he has rendered such loyal service over a long period of time.

Although, in playing terms probably in the twilight of a distinguished career, Alan still has a lot to offer in a coaching capacity, and his ability and experience should prove invaluable in the new post. In addition to working with the national squad at top level, he is to oversee the growth programmes now inaugurated by most Welsh leagues, giving practical assistance to local coaches and also responsible for the efficient running of the advanced training centres.

Starting on August 1st, Alan was soon into the practicalities of the job and among his first commitments was taking two promising juniors - Kelvin Roberts and Richard Harry of Bridgend - to the ETTU course for coaches and players in Barcelona. Ex-Czech international Laszlo Stipek, now coach to the Spanish team, was in charge.

The new national coach has also been in North Wales already - supervising the North Wales assessment course organised by Len Elias at Castell Alun Sports Centre, and leading a special training session for North Wales stars Mark Thomas, John Ellis, Trevor Manning, Heidi Cotter, Evelyn Wright and Justine Thomas.

Brian Everson, the previous unpaid national coach has now taken up a new business appointment and would not have been able to undertake the new full-time job. His efforts over the years are well-appreciated by the Welsh association and he will be working closely with Griffiths as often as possible.



Alan Griffiths

Apart from his availability for the Welsh team, always a problem during his time in Germany, Alan joins the Butterfly Cardiff national league team in the No 1 spot.

Last year, Butterfly were a much-weakened side, with Mark Thomas also in Germany and other original team members not available. In fact, Butterfly were lucky to escape relegation.

This season, they must be in with a chance of promotion. In addition to Alan's strength and experience, Nigel Tyler, formerly with Thorn-EMI Ellenborough, has joined Butterfly. Mark Thomas is back from

Germany, Nigel Thomas has resumed training, and Brian Jeanes has transferred from Cranfield Colours Gwent.

At the Quadrangular International, held at Coatbridge in September, Wales finished third again behind England and Scotland but, in terms of sets won, had improved their performance with eleven wins in three matches.

Nigel Tyler was the best Welsh player with four wins. Alan had three. And in doubles they had two successes from three - the loss being 'deuce' with Scotland's Dave Hannah and John Broe.

North Wales Counties

by Charles Bayliss

The Association is this season at its strongest for many years with the return of the East Flintshire league and the new St Asaph league joining Llandudno, Rhyl, Anglesey and Wrexham. The Inter-league will be started shortly and, later in the season, the Closed tournament is to be held again.

The Wrexham league began their programme on September 16th with slightly fewer teams entered but they still have three divisions. The league's oldest club, Wrexham Old Boys, in division one for the past 31 years, find themselves starting

the season for the first time in division two. They have five teams playing in Wrexham and one in the Oswestry league.

Justin Goodall - winner of the junior boys, the intermediates, and the mens singles titles - dominated the East Denbighshire Summer Closed tournament held in the Victoria Centre at Wrexham in late June. Karen Buckle and Ann Walker, playing at their home club, controlled the destiny of the other titles - Karen winning both the intermediates and the womens at the expense of her clubmate.

MEMO TO COUNCIL

Ref: Table tennis on video

Problem: TT is getting less and less exposure on tv. On the rare occasions even aficionados often miss the little-publicised glimpses on the box. A shortage of material and an unproven demand means companies are unlikely to ever launch a commercial video tape. In any case, with retail prices often around £40, the venture would be doomed to failure.

Coaches and schools need the visual medium to show the glamour and techniques of our fast athletic sport to new young players. At present they have nothing but Parker's brave initiative which means sleepless nights feeding cassettes into his spare video machine. The obvious deficiencies in video quality will only be tolerated by the discerning public in the short-term.

Analysis: The growing demand for video has been shown by the response to Parker's modest excursion into the market with his World Championships tape. But he is only able to produce a less than perfect solution at considerable expense in terms of time and the definition of the tapes quickly diminishes as he edits in a 'Heath Robinson' fashion from one domestic recorder to another.

Fortunately, it means Parker's tapes are reasonably priced, at £12 but commercial videocopying is not prohibitively expensive and far more effective from a U-matic master tape. And the biggest technical problem is the absence of adequate editing facilities to choose the best chunks of action.

Action: Allocate the funds necessary for the purchase of U-matic editing equipment so Parker can do a proper job.

The sales of the 1985 World Championships video are reported to have gone extremely well and around 175 have now been distributed around the country. Which means, if an average of six people have viewed each one, that over 1000 people have been able to see some of the play at these championships.

"Indeed, with National and other leading coaches showing the tapes on a regular basis, I would hope that this number is actually much larger", says National Trainer Donald Parker who provided the commentary for the video. And he now has plans for another edition - this time of the 1985 European Youth Championships.

"While the quality of the first tape left a little to be desired", admitted Parker "I hope it was of interest to keen players and coaches. We tried to keep the costs to a minimum and, through lessons learnt, future tapes should be of a better quality for the same price".

England players, of course, performed extremely well at the championships and Parker has plans for an all-girls recording for coaches of female players. Each tape (either VHS or Betamax) costs £12.00 and cheques should be made payable to "ETTA". The small profit made on each tape is ploughed back into the scheme - intended to improve the feedback to coaches who use video equipment.

"The message from the tapes is obvious", continues Parker. "At international level it is vital to play positively. Relying on opponents' mistakes quite simply does not win and the examples of Alan Cooke v Desmond Douglas in the English Closed final and of Skylet Andrew v Kiyoshi Saito at the Worlds are instances of just the slightest change towards negative play resulting in defeat".

New Video

The tape also highlights technical developments in the international game. According to Parker the long fast push receipt against a short service has become more popular, opening up the chance of a fast topspin off the bounce in the fourth stroke of the rally.

"This topspin stroke is difficult to develop", he says, "but it's certainly an effective point winner! It's a very short stroke played using mainly the elbow and the wrist to hit almost the top of the ball".

"It was interesting, too," he noted, "to see both attackers and defenders playing that little bit closer to the table than in the past and undoubtedly the most common and effective service on show was the high forehand toss from the backhand side of the table".

Parker sees the tapes as filling a vital gap in the coaching system, allowing coaches to keep

in touch with developments at international level. And he has also invited coaches to observe during England training camps at Lilleshall. "Just contact me at home and we'll arrange a convenient date", he says.

England training camps this season are scheduled for:

1985

October 28th - November 1st
December 16th - December 20th

1986

January 6th - January 10th
January 27th - January 31st

Details and videos from: Donald Parker, ETTA National Trainer, The Barn, Common Bank, Dolphinhholme, nr Lancaster LA2 9AN. Tel: (0524) 791866.

Master Mark

Mark Wheeler, 16, from Harrow in Middlesex, has become the winner of the first Masters badge in the Dunlop Skills Award scheme introduced by the ETTA and the English Schools

Sue in charge

The National Coaching Foundation, directed by the former table tennis liaison officer for the Sports Council in the East Midlands Sue Campbell, provides a service for coaches at national and local level with programmes, information services and technical data from home and abroad.

Information about the foundation and its subscription service for "Coaching Focus" can be obtained from: National Coaching Foundation, 4 College Close, Becketts Park LEEDS LS6 3QH. Tel: (0532) 744802.

Table Tennis Association last season.

A regular player at the Harrow Youth Table Tennis Club over the past four years, Mark took the Masters tests with ETTA Diploma Coach Mike Close. His Club currently have over 40 young players working on the scheme for their next Dunlop Master.

Our Val

Swindon coach Val Clack was hard at work over the summer when she passed twenty-five young players from three local schools for their Dunlop Skills awards. The awards are designed to develop skills right up to the

advanced "Master" standard of play, with five levels for aspiring players.

The local paper, the "Swindon Advertiser" was so impressed they sent along a photographer to the awards presentation made by Ernie Watkins, president of the Swindon league.

Tackling Sports books

Sports books, particularly instructional ones, by tradition are incredibly boring. Interminable pages of text describing how the feet should be at 18.00 hours, the head inclined at 27½ degrees and, for balance, the index finger of the non-playing hand placed in the left ear.

The faith and commitment for the guidance offered usually ends with the witless reader tied up in knots on the floor having missed the last three balls in succession.

It is all rather refreshing, therefore, when a book has the courage to tackle the problems of conveying an active technical sport in a novel way. *Tackle Table Tennis*, published by Hutchinson Books at £4.95 uses a series of flip photos through-

out the book with action shots from author John Hilton and English champion Lisa Bellinger.

The book, written in conjunction with leading table tennis writer Richard Eaton, is as innovative as Hilton's European championship success in 1982. It reveals the techniques, psychology and single-mindedness behind the phenomenal victory at the Ice Stadium in Berne.

And though, at the end, you might feel as if you have only just begun to read, it achieves two remarkable purposes... the enthusiasm is still intact and there are always four more action shots to study as you thumb backwards through its 92 fully-illustrated pages.

REO



Some of the Swindon players with their Dunlop certificates and badges

Photo courtesy of the Swindon Advertiser



Players of the Dunlop Advanced Training Centre in Wakefield (left to right): Debbie Toole, Mark Stephenson, Mark Land, Alaric Bassano and Joanne Roberts

Drug tests ahead

Contrary to recent newspaper reports, the ETTA are to establish methods to test top players for the use of "unauthorised substances". The move has been forced on them by The Sports Council who are to insist on the existence of drug-testing procedures before a governing body receives grant-aid.

For a while, the Association adopted the International Table Tennis Federation Medical Committee's line of defence, quoting "no known drug known to us which can significantly improve performance in table tennis".

However, The Sports Council, in their crusade against drug-abuse in sport, challenged this interpretation and have required the ETTA to comply with the new conditions.

Many feel, privately, that this a waste of resources in a sport where drugs have never been known to be an issue. But the ITTF are now expected to follow suit in order to comply with International Olympic Committee requirements when table tennis joins the Olympics in 1988.

Glue sales up says Parker

England Trainer Donald Parker has revealed an increase in the rerubbing of bats amongst the top players which many consider an unfortunate emphasis on equipment and a practice detrimental to the image of the sport. "The majority of topspin players at the Worlds were using bicycle glue", he says, "many gluing up two or three times during a normal day's play".

"The biggest danger I have encountered with the 'glue' is that players blame the glue for all their problems. In fact, the 'solution' often lies in other directions".

Players use the glue in an attempt to increase the speed of rubbers. When wet between the blade and the rubber, it causes a hollow 'plop' sound when the ball hits the bat.

Sports Council drugs leaflet

The Sports Council have issued a leaflet on "Doping control in Sport — questions and answers". Further information can be obtained from the Sports Development Unit, Sports Council, 16 Upper Woburn Place, LONDON WC1H 0QP. Tel: 01-388 1277.

On target

Hearing that an unemployed man had set himself up in business as a professional darts player *Table Tennis News* wondered how long it would be before someone in a real sport took advantage of the government grants on offer.

Under the government's schemes to stimulate small businesses, Chris Johns of Penywaun, Aberdare, Mid Glamorgan is reported to have been given £1000 to buy himself a car to travel to darts contests and been guaranteed £40 a week for petrol and overnight accommodation.

"Without the cash from the government I just wouldn't be able to play darts full-time", quoted the newspaper reports. "I'd still be idling my time away in the valleys searching in vain for work that doesn't exist".

Comparing the prize monies available in the two sports, we would hesitate to recommend the playing route in the case of table tennis unless you are in with a chance of a place in England's top five. Not a bad start to a career in coaching though; a free subscription to the first successful application brought to our notice.

Ever thought
of
coaching?

NOVEMBER
22nd-24th

Further your coaching ambitions
by joining ETTA National Coach

DAVID FAIRHOLM
at
CRYSTAL PALACE N.S.C.

your weekend begins
FRIDAY 7.00pm
£28 inc. meals
(Accommodation
can be obtained)



0424 433121

Our Coaching Administrator
is here to help you.

Umpires Upoar

English Championships chairman Doreen Stannard was furious. Fellow committee member Len Pilditch angry. Even the stoical John Wright raised an eyebrow.

It all stemmed, it appeared, from a seemingly innocuous letter from NURC Secretary Tony Chatwin inviting umpires to officiate at the Top 12 tournament in Milton Keynes during October.

Oh yes, Rubberneck can reveal there was one little snag - you had to be prepared to fork out £14 towards expenses for the privilege.

"I'm thinking of establishing an Umpires Union" raged Doreen whose committee have often been criticised for the money spent on officials at championships. "I think it's diabolical . . . expecting an umpire to give up his or her time, work hard at a championships all day and to pay their own expenses into the bargain. Many of the umpires are self-employed or have to take holiday to be present at events".

"If it depends on who can afford to pay, we'll end up with the dregs of the umpiring fraternity at events", she predicted.

"Things have changed since Len and I went to the world championships in Stockholm when we had to pay our own way", reflected top referee John Wright. "It seems to me that there is a lot more money in the game and the players are getting most of it while officials are expected to subsidise them".

"I think an association for umpires would be a very good idea", said the Kingston maths teacher - his professional instincts skirting the word 'union'.

She loves me . . .

The announcement of a new clothing deal with the 1985 English Closed finalists Lisa and Jackie Bellinger hit the news in September.

Funny, Rubberneck thought it only yesterday that another company was claiming the attention of the lovely Dunstable sisters.

The Invisible Man award

Now that former national coach Peter Hirst, once described as "the invisible man", has disappeared to the other side of the



MK Topless 12?

Sunny Helen Williams, whose not inconsiderable charms have graced the early pages of a rival publication, is understood to be delighted by the invitation to the trials at Milton Keynes in October.

While the selectors experiment with the colours in order to change the image of the game, model Helen has her own thoughts on brighter table tennis gear.

Such individuality, of course, does not meet with Rubberneck's approval but no doubt the computer experts will ensure England's Topless 12 receives the bonus points she deserves.

world, Rubberneck is inviting nominations for his successor to the title.

Queuing up for the award is believed to be John Prean's 'elusive Pimpernel'.

A priceless reward for information of his whereabouts. And a further commendation for suggestions to reduce the onerous 'administration' tasks of our national coaches.

Shipley Handicap

A quick ring to the ETTA office the other week and Rubberneck found General secretary Albert Shipley "out of the office". He was reported en-route back to Hastings after a weekend with Officers Blunn, Drapkin and Ransome . . . trying to put the final touches to the ETTA's *New Approach to Grant Aid* submission to The Sports Council.

Which must have been rather a distressing handicap for golf club secretary Shipley. His Hawkhurst club tournament was scheduled for the weekend spent in Scarborough.

For once, though, he had managed to hit the fairway. While Shipley braved the bracing east coast air, Hastings golfers sheltered under the nearest tree as yet another August downpour made the greens almost unplayable.

True Sky

Sinking a tube or two of the amber nectar at Headingley reflecting upon the discomfiture of our visiting cricketing friends, Rubberneck was surprised to receive a phone call from his antipodean cousin down under.

After exchanging greetings traditional in such circumstances it transpired that England table tennis player Skylet Andrew was at the centre of 'a misunderstanding' on the other side of the globe.

Sky, it appeared, without due reference to fact, had announced himself as a county cricketer and one who had been offered terms with West Ham. The Aussies, impressed, sent along a TV crew to interview the talented Andrew.

At which time the Stratford player revealed that perhaps it was schoolboy county cricket and only apprentice terms with the famous footballing club.

Constant Exposure

Viewers of BBC's *Breakfast Time* on Monday 12 August will have recognised the enterprise of entrepreneurial ex-table tennis star Dave Constance.

With the cameras in search of the illusive summer sun, luscious Debbie Greenwood set off to Bournemouth - home of the Constance All-Stars activity holidays for kids.

But despite the early morning start hunky Dave had got wind of the BBC's plan and pulled out the reactions which once brought him a Commonwealth championships medal.

As a hurricane swept breezy

Debbie across the beach interviewing all and sundry, including actor Ted Rogers of *Dusty Bin* fame, he kept a couple of lads in the background - holding a suitable banner of course!

The day Omega went to town

You wouldn't think Omega table tennis club, one of the most successful in the country in terms of members who have represented England, needed to advertise themselves. But they, like many other table tennis clubs, realised the need for a higher profile . . . taking table tennis to the people.

It all started from an initiative by the club press and publicity officer, Brian Halliday. He hired a piece of floor space in Reading's 'Butts Centre' in the hope that some thousands of passing shoppers would stop for a while and wonder what was going on.

Douglas the star

Not only they but the local radio station, Radio 210, took interest in the Omega 'road show'. Enough in fact to send an outside broadcast unit to spend the whole day at the promotion, and the 'Over to the Butts' live broadcasts brought in 'some more table tennis enthusiasts who had missed the pre-publicity for the event. Star attraction of the day was Desmond Douglas.

Although the club has some fine players of its own, there was no doubt that the presence of the English champion was the draw. As he himself said on local radio, now he is back in England he is more available for

such activities. Many local enthusiasts stopped by when he was on playing against the club players.

Life begins at Forty

The show started at 9.00 am with performances from club members England ranked juniors Paul Savins, Graham Kemp, Peter Harris and Keith Hodder. The star-studded line-up of Karen Witt, Mandy Sainsbury, Andy and Matthew Syed, Jimmy Stokes, Phil Bradbury and Dave Barr kept the crowd entertained until Desmond's first appearance at 11.45 am. He took on challenge matches from the Omega players and remained undefeated for 45 minutes.

To push home the advantages of this sport for all, the club then brought on three special acts - 'The Teenies', 'The Wheelies' and 'Life begins at Forty'.

Tracy Hooker, Martin Adams and Stephen May, three of Omega's small members, lead the first and four of the country's top wheelchair players - Chris Ball, Stuart Anderson, John Jenkins and Mel Robinson - the second. Then the sprightly England ranked veterans Wally Allanson and Brian Halliday faced Karen and Mandy just to show they began at forty.



Douglas pulls in the crowd

While Des was having lunch and giving radio interviews, the England No. 2 Alison Gordon joined up with her European Club Cup teammates Karen and Mandy. The girls took on challenges from the watching crowd before Des came back to take on some more club players; finishing with a one-game exhibition against wheelchair batter John Jenkins.

John had earlier been employed with national coach Dave Fairholm keeping the crowd interested with virtually non-stop microphone chat throughout the day. And club secretary Mike West kept the whole thing going, handing out literature and covering when people took breaks.

Club effort

It was a real club effort and without the 'roadies' who humped the equipment, including Jim and Steve Hodder, Brian Latham, Bob Plumridge and Tim Heaps, the show would never have got off the ground. Club players kept the exhibitions up until 5.00 pm with the England-ranked Claire Plumbridge joining in despite a recent shoulder injury.

"It is difficult to measure the success rate of an event like this", said club chairman Peter Charters afterwards, "but the day must be considered of great value to table tennis. Details of national league matches, local contacts for taking up the game, coaching etc. were liberally handed out all day and, as a result of the venture, the sport gained extra publicity in the local press and radio".

Worthwhile

"In addition", he continued, "table tennis of a high standard was on view to many thousands of members of the public throughout the day. One more convert to table tennis, either as a player or spectator will have made the whole thing worthwhile".

Omega linked up with their local sports shop and Butterfly (UK) Ltd to help with promotion and the supply of equipment. Clubs, leagues or counties considering similar exhibitions might be able to benefit from local authority or regional Sports Council grants to offset costs. The ETTA's Regional Coordinating Committees should be able to advise.



Wheelchair ace John Jenkins takes on the England No 1

Ranking and Selection in 1985/86

by Peter Charters, Chairman, National Selection Committee

The Lentec/ETTA computer ranking scheme enters its fourth year in 1985/86 and begins with a rationalisation of the players currently stored on disc. With over 700 names in the computer for the mens singles list alone, the task of collating, coding and inputting had simply become too great and some pruning was essential. Human resources, if not technological, were about to blow a fuse!

As a result, after dividing the point scores at the end of the 1984/85 season by two, the qualifying point score for the mens list is now 15 — cutting the list to just over 400. The womens and veterans lists have been cut by approximately the same proportion.

Players removed from a computer place will have to win their way back in with a victory in one of the nominated events over a player holding a computer spot. The problem has not arisen with the junior and cadet lists as each season a number of players move out of the age category.

In terms of the published ranking lists, the number of players is, of course, much smaller and varies according to category. But the mens will always include at least the top 200 so that tournament organisers can hold Class 2 and Class 3 events.

The lengths of the others depend upon players achieving a set number of point-gaining victories before getting onto the published ranking list. For the benefit of Table Tennis News readers, the lists will be issued this season as soon as possible after the dates or events shown;

The Selectors

Peter Charters (Chairman)
Don Parker (National Trainer)
Paul Day
Nicky Jarvis
Mike Kercher
Mike Watts (secretary without vote)

Bryan Merrett is no longer on the Committee but is to act as the coordinator of the computer ranking scheme and any enquiries, in the first instance, should be addressed to him at: 26 Sapphire Close, Tuffley GLOUCESTER.

Seniors

1. 1st August 1985 (see below)
2. Milton Keynes National Top 12
3. Middlesex 3-Star Open
4. Triumph Adler
5. South of England 3-Star Open
6. 18th May 1986

Junior and Cadets

1. 1st August 1985 (see below)
2. National Junior Ranking trials
3. Beneficial Trust Yorkshire Select
4. Beneficial Trust Derby Select
5. 1st June 1986

Veterans

1. 1st August 1985 see below
2. Middlesex 3-Star Open
3. 30th March 1986
4. 1st June 1986

The system itself is continuing on a wins only basis and the number of points a player gains is dependent upon three factors: the relative point scores of the two opponents; the weighting factor of the event in which the win occurred; and a system of bonus points which applies to some specific competitions.

For an expected win (where a higher ranked player beats a lower one) a player can gain between 1-8 points; 8 points when there is a small points difference between the two players, and 1 point when the difference is large — 257 and over. And for an unexpected win, a point gain of between 9-16 points is possible; 16 there is a large points difference between the two players and 9 if it is small.

This point gain is then multiplied by the weighting factor; $\times 3$ for 3-Star tournaments and Class 2 international events, and $\times 5$ for European championships, for example. Then, if applicable, the bonus points are added to give the number of total points to be added to the winning player's original point score.

Cooke v Bradbury

Let's take two hypothetical examples. Alan Cooke (785 pts) plays Philip Bradbury (381 pts) in a semi-final of the Cleveland 3-Star Open (weighting factor $\times 3$).

In the first case Cooke wins but loses in the final. The points difference is $785 - 381 = 404$ pts, therefore his point gain for this expected win is 1.

The match takes place in the Cleveland and 3-Star so this is multiplied by three, and there are bonus points to both for reaching the semi-finals and final of the events (30 pts and 50 pts respectively). New point scores for both players become:

New pts score = old pts score + (pts gain) \times weighting factor + bonus pts
Cooke: $785 + 1 \times 3 + 50 = 838$ pts
Bradbury: $381 + 30 = 411$ pts

If, however, Bradbury had won and then lost in the final, Bradbury's point gain for this unexpected win in the semi-final would have been 16. Multiplied by three because it's a 3-Star, plus the bonus points. New point scores for the players would therefore be:

Cooke: $785 + 30 = 815$ pts
Bradbury: $381 + 16 \times 3 + 50 = 479$ pts

In addition, the results of some events, like round-robin events using a large group system eg. Top 12s and Ranking trials, are not computed individually into the scheme. Instead, bonus points related to the finishing positions in the event are given.

Results are computed as far as possible in chronological order. Full details of the point gains, the weighting factors and bonus points available for the 1985/86 season are obtainable in a

Trials

Regional Junior and Cadet trials are to be staged by the Regional Coordinating Committees on the weekend of 26th/27th October with nine regional Top 10 Round Robins taking place at various venues around the country.

The national Junior and Cadet trials will be at Luton on 5th/6th January 1986 and the Junior and Cadet Tops 12s are scheduled for Lilleshall on 5th/6th April. The Selection Committee feel that, unlike last season, all Junior and Cadets should compete in their appropriate Top 12 event where possible.

Technical Leaflet available from the ETTA, 21 Claremont HASTINGS TN34 1HF, price 50p.

Finally, to avoid misunderstanding, perhaps it is worth repeating the considered relationship between selecting and ranking. Selections are based on the opinions of the Selection Committee whilst, once the ranking policy is decided, the computer ranking list is factually related to wins gained. The ranking list is used only as a guide to selection.



Webb and chips

Former IBM computer buff Harvey Webb has taken over the inputting of results for the ETTA/Lentec ranking scheme from national coach Bryan Merrett. Webb, well-known for his backroom work at national championships, oversees the coding of the senior results while Mike Watts handles the rest.

It's an activity to keep the energetic Webb busy most nights and with his high-tec background he has already come up with a few suggestions to improve the scheme - including one to make himself redundant by using a computer instead.

Now working for Abbey Life Assurance in Dorset, he recently joined Elsie Carrington's club in North Bournemouth after moving westwards from Sussex with wife Marilyn and children Chloe and Jay. Their new address is: 23 Eldon Road, Winton, Bournemouth BH9 2RT. Tel: (0202) 528399.

Cooke gets a world ranking

Alan Cooke, England's rising star from Chesterfield in Derbyshire, gained his first world ranking on 25th May when the International Table Tennis Federation issued their new classification lists following the Gothenburg World Championships.

Cooke, 19, came into the rankings at No 79 to join his England colleagues Desmond Douglas and Carl Preat. Douglas, down seven places, is at No 25 but Preat, with a leap of nine positions, has risen to No 45 in the latest lists.

England's top two women Lisa Bellinger and Alison Gordon just made it into the World Top 50, with Karen Witt and Joy Grundy also gaining ranked positions.

Parker in protest

A storm has broken out over the latest ranking list issued by the European Table Tennis Union over the summer with the demotion of England's European Youth champion Carl Preat to No 28 in the rankings.

The list was the first prepared using the joint ETTU/Joola computer method and Donald Parker, the England Trainer baffled by Preat's low rating, has written to the ETTU general secretary George Yates seeking clarification of the results which have been taken into account when compiling the lists.

The England No 1 Desmond Douglas has moved up three places in the new list to No 5. And England have four women in the new rankings headed by Lisa Bellinger at 21 - two places

ahead of Alison Gordon.

Men (previous position in brackets)

1	(2)	Andrzej Grubba	POL
2	(3)	Jan-Ove Waldner	SWE
3	(4)	Mikael Appelgren	SWE
4	(13)	Leszek Kucharski	POL
5	(8)	Desmond Douglas	ENG
6	(5)	Erik Lindh	SWE
7	(6)	Jacques Secretin	FRA
8	(-)	Milan Orlovski	TCH
9	(7)	Dragutin Surbek	YUG
10	(11)	Jindrich Pansky	TCH
11	(12)	Andrei Mazunov	URS
12	(1)	Ulf Bengtsson	SWE
13	(9)	Tibor Klampar	HUN
14	(16)	Jörgen Persson	SWE
15	(-)	Boris Rozenburg	URS
16	(10)	Zoran Kalinic	YUG
17	(17)	Ulf Carlsson	SWE
18	(23)	Patrick Renverse	FRA
19	(21)	Igor Solopov	URS
20	(-)	Milan Grman	TCH
21	(18)	Georg Böhm	FRG
22	(-)	Engelbert Hüging	FRG
23	(-)	Janos Takacs	HUN
24	(14)	Zsolt Kriston	HUN
25	(-)	Ralf Wosik	FRG
26	(-)	Mariano Loukov	BUL
27	(-)	Ilija Lupulescu	YUG
28	(27)	Carl Preat	ENG
29	(-)	Zsolt Harezi	HUN
30	(30)	Henk van Spanje	HOL

Women

1	(4)	Bettine Vriesekoop	HOL
2	(2)	Marie Hrachova	TCH
3	(1)	Valentina Popova	URS
4	(12)	Olga Nemes	FRG
5	(6)	Zsuzsa Olah	HUN
6	(3)	Fluira Bulatova	URS
7	(5)	Branka Batinic	YUG
8	(8)	Marie Lindblad	SWE
9	(-)	Csilla Batorfi	HUN
10	(9)	Narine Antonian	URS
11	(10)	Gordana Perkucin	YUG
12	(13)	Marie Alboiu	ROM
13	(17)	Mirjam Kloppenberg	HOL
14	(11)	Edit Urban	HUN
15	(7)	Gabriella Szabo	HUN
16	(25)	Nadine Daviaud	FRA
17	(24)	Alice Pelikanova	TCH
18	(19)	Daniela Guergeltcheva	BUL
19	(18)	Brigitte Thiriet	FRA
20	(14)	Kirsten Krüger	FRG
21	(-)	Lisa Bellinger	ENG
22	(21)	Sonja Grefberg	FIN
23	(20)	Alison Gordon	ENG
24	(16)	Susanne Wenzel	FRG
25	(15)	Anita Zacharian	URS
26	(-)	Otilia Badescu	ROM
27	(-)	Barbro Wiktorsson	SWE
28	(23)	Jolanta Szatko	POL
29	(-)	Javoroskaya	URS
30	(28)	Anke Olschewski	FRG
31	(22)	Karen Witt	ENG
32	(29)	Joy Grundy	ENG

Men (previous position in brackets)

1	(1)	Jiang Jialiang	CHN
2	(12)	Chen Longcan	CHN
3	(2)	Xie Saikie	CHN
4	(3)	Wang Huiyuan	CHN
5	(16)	Teng Yi	CHN
6	(4)	Andrzej Grubba	POL
7	(-)	Lo Chuen Chung	HKG
8	(49)	Chen Xinhua	CHN
9	(7)	Mikael Appelgren	SWE
10	(6)	Jan-Ove Waldner	SWE
11	(14)	Erik Lindh	SWE
12	(25)	Kim Ti Taek	KOR
13	(8)	Fan Changmao	CHN
14	(10)	He Zhiwen	CHN
15	(-)	Yoshihito Miyazaki	JPN
16	(21)	Kim Wan	KOR
17	(9)	Kiyoshi Saito	JPN
18	(17)	Dragutin Surbek	YUG
19	(5)	Cai Zhenhua	CHN
20	(26)	Leszek Kucharski	POL
21	(13)	Jacques Secretin	FRA
22	(20)	Jindrich Pansky	TCH
23	(22)	Cho Yong Ho	PRK
24	(11)	Hui Jun	CHN
25	(18)	Desmond Douglas	ENG
26	(15)	Ulf Bengtsson	SWE
27	(23)	Tibor Klampar	HUN
28	(24)	Andrei Mazunov	URS
29	(33)	Ulf Carlsson	SWE
30	(27)	Zoran Kalinic	YUG
31	(47)	Milan Orlovski	TCH
32	(35)	Chu Jong Chol	PRK
33	(28)	Eric Boggan	USA
34	(42)	Wu Wen-Chia	TPE
35	(30)	Zsolt Kriston	HUN
36	(-)	Marino Loukov	BUL
37	(29)	Seiji Ono	JPN
38	(32)	Jörgen Persson	SWE
39	(31)	Patrick Birocheau	FRA
40	(34)	Hong Chol	PRK
41	(44)	Patrick Renverse	FRA
42	(63)	An Jae Hyung	KOR
43	(36)	Vladislav Broda	TCH
44	(-)	Park Ji Hyun	PRK
45	(54)	Carl Preat	ENG
46	(39)	Li Gun Sang	PRK
47	(38)	Georg Böhm	FRG
48	(-)	Janos Takacs	HUN
49	(-)	Massimo Constantini	ITA
50	(-)	Ralf Wosik	FRG

Women

1	(1)	Cao Yanhua	CHN
2	(3)	Geng Lijuan	CHN
3	(2)	Dai Lili	CHN
4	(4)	Qi Baoxiang	CHN
5	(5)	Tong Ling	CHN
6	(9)	Ni Xialian	CHN
7	(11)	Jiao Zhimin	CHN
8	(7)	Bettine Vriesekoop	HOL
9	(6)	Yang Young Ja	KOR
10	(8)	Marie Hrachova	TCH
11	(38)	Pang Chun Dok	PRK
12	(31)	Li Bun Hui	PRK
13	(10)	He Zhili	CHN
14	(20)	Olga Nemes	FRG
15	(14)	Fluira Bulatova	URS
16	(24)	Yoon Kyung Mi	KOR
17	(12)	Valentina Popova	URS
18	(13)	Zsuzsa Olah	HUN
19	(15)	Branka Batinic	YUG
20	(47)	Mok Ka Sha	HKG
21	(40)	Marie Alboiu	ROM
22	(19)	Marie Lindblad	SWE
23	(39)	Cho Yong Hui	PRK
24	(61)	Alice Pelikanova	TCH
25	(21)	Narine Antonian	URS
26	(17)	Kim Gyong Sun	PRK
27	(36)	Mika Hoshino	JPN
28	(23)	Chen Lili	CHN
29	(-)	Csilla Batorfi	HUN
30	(18)	Gabriella Szabo	HUN
31	(33)	Hui So Hung	HKG
32	(51)	Mirjam Kloppenberg	HOL
33	(26)	Gordana Perkucin	YUG
34	(50)	Han Hye Song	PRK
35	(22)	An Hae Sook	KOR
36	(27)	Edit Urban	HUN
37	(32)	Tian Jing	CHN
38	(37)	Kirsten Krüger	FRG
39	(63)	Nadine Daviaud	FRA
40	(28)	Yoshiko Shimauchi	JPN
41	(44)	Susanne Wenzel	FRG
42	(52)	Brigitte Thiriet	FRA
43	(34)	Shen Jianping	CHN
44	(43)	Li Hui Feng	CHN
45	(-)	Kiyomi Ishida	JPN
46	(46)	Lee Soo Ja	KOR
47	(-)	Lisa Bellinger	ENG
48	(58)	Alison Gordon	ENG
49	(41)	Shin Deuk Hwa	KOR
50	(45)	Anita Zacharian	URS

79	(-)	Alan Cooke	ENG
----	-----	------------	-----

Revised England rankings

The amended Lentec/ETTA rankings issued in September retain Douglas and Bellinger at the head of the senior lists. But with the points of all ranked

players halved to begin the new season, their leads over nearest rivals Preat and Gordon are reduced.

No.	Name	Town of Res.	Points
1	Desmond Douglas	(Birmingham)	1375
2	Carl Preat	(Ryde)	954
3	Alan Cooke	(Chesterfield)	785
4	Skylet Andrew	(London E15)	496
5	David Wells	(Milton Keynes)	484
6	Graham Sandley	(Potters Bar)	468
7	John Souter	(Neasden)	464
8	Phillip Bradbury	(Aylesbury)	381
9	Nicky Mason	(Bexhill)	351
10	Steven Mills	(Sheffield)	338
11	Colin Wilson	(Cuffley)	296
12	Stephen Scowcroft	(Bolton)	282
13	Andrew Syed	(Reading)	272
14	Andrew Wellman	(Reading)	272
15	David Dodd	(Charlton)	267
16	Nigel Eckersley	(Warrington)	251
17	Kevin Satchell	(Frome)	250
18	John Hilton	(Manchester)	238
19	Carl Morgan	(Birmingham)	236
20	Jimmy Stokes	(Reading)	222
21	David Barr	(Newbury)	222
22	Chris Rogers	(Leicester)	222
23	Kevin Beadsley	(Bradford)	216
24	Steven Turner	(Preston)	215
25	Mark Oakley	(Guildford)	214
26	Adrian Moore	(Bexhill)	213
27	Keith Richardson	(Soham)	212
28	Andrew Bellingham	(Wolverhampton)	210
29	Max Crimmins	(Hertford)	205
30	Christopher Bartram	(Black Fen)	198
31	Andrew Creed	(Bristol)	197
32	Alan Fletcher	(Birmingham)	197
33	Malcolm Green	(Shrewsbury)	185
34	Glen Baker	(Guildford)	182
35	Stephen Moore	(Bexhill)	181
36	Joey Kennedy	(Bromley)	178
37	John Burleton	(London SE15)	177
38	Mark Mitchell	(Edmonton)	177
39	Barry Johnson	(Birmingham)	176
40	Adrian Dixon	(Wolverhampton)	174
41	Matthew Syed	(Reading)	174
42	David Gannon	(Leicester)	173
43	David Newman	(Maldon)	172
44	Michael Harper	(Biggleswade)	171
45	Stuart Palmer	(Brandon)	171
46	Brian Johns	(Northwich)	170
47	Chu Van Que	(Newcastle)	167
48	Phillip Gunn	(Birmingham)	166
49	John Payne	(London N19)	161
50	David Tan	(London N4)	146

Rankings

Women

No.	Name	Town of Res.	Points
1	Lisa Bellinger	(Dunstable)	831
2	Alison Gordon	(Reading)	761
3	Karen Witt	(Reading)	559
4	Joy Grundy	(Preston)	488
5	Fiona Elliot	(Wolverhampton)	399
6	Jackie Bellinger	(Dunstable)	326
7	Mandy Sainsbury	(Newbury)	315
8	Jean Parker	(Preston)	179
9	Sarah Sandley	(Potters Bar)	164
10	Karen Smith	(Leicester)	161
11	Jill Harris	(Walsall)	150
12	Helen Williams	(Enfield)	121
13	Joanne Shaw	(Normanton)	121
14	Suzanne Airey (nee Hunt)	(Grantham)	115
15	Susan Collier	(Maidenhead)	112
16	Carol Butler	(Plymouth)	106
17	Michelle Hams	(Morden)	95
18	Helen Bardwell	(Ware)	92
19	Angela Mitchell	(Edmonton)	90
20	Teresa Moore	(Bexhill)	89
21	Claire Maisey	(Swindon)	89
22	Lisa Haydon	(Brentwood)	86
23	Melody Hill	(Bradford)	85
24	Mandy Reeves	(Slough)	76
25	Julie Revell	(Oadby)	75
26	Elaine Short	(Plymouth)	75
27	Jane Barella	(Surbiton)	72
28	Jenny Collins	(Reading)	65
29	Elaine Sayer	(London E12)	64
30	Jill Powis	(Wolverhampton)	63
31	Rebecca Russe	(Weston super Mare)	62
32	Debbie Soothill	(Lancaster)	61
33	Helen Shields	(Bradford)	58
34	Karen Burrows	(Castleford)	58
35	Sally Weston	(Horsham)	58
36	Joanne Palmer	(Newmarket)	57
37	Kim Mudge	(London E13)	54
38	Cheryl Buttery	(Lincoln)	53
39	Julie Dimmock	(Dunstable)	53
40	Sandra Peakman	(Birmingham)	53
41	Susan Butler	(Plymouth)	52
42	Doreen Schofield	(Stockport)	51
43	Karen Groves	(Birmingham)	50
44	Lesley Broomhead	(Sheffield)	49
45	Kathy Ridyard	(Winchester)	45
46	Julie McLean	(Hull)	44
47	Julie Speight	(Pontefract)	43
48	Susan Radley	(Lincoln)	42
49	Gillian Sharpe	(Lincoln)	41
50	Mary Denbow	(Oxford)	40

Junior Boys

No.	Name	Town of Res.	Points
1	Andrew Syed	(Reading)	606
2	Jimmy Stokes	(Reading)	512
3	Adrian Dixon	(Wolverhampton)	338
4	Matthew Syed	(Reading)	277
5	Michael O'Driscoll	(Mirfield)	264
6	Bradley Billington	(Chesterfield)	250
7	Sean Gibson	(Chorley)	190
8	Chris Oldfield	(Sheffield)	189
9	Paul Amos	(Ashford)	150
10	David Carse	(Bury)	136
11	Jonathan Goode	(Hayes)	110
12	Matthew Connell	(Leeds)	102
13	Andrew Taylor	(Moreton)	98
14	Phillip Szekeres	(Enfield)	95
15	Peter Harris	(Rickmansworth)	93
16	Matthew Pernet	(Esher)	93
17	Neil Pickard	(Reepham)	92
18	Tony West	(Wickford)	89
19	Phillip Payne	(Bridgewater)	89
20	Jonathan Bult	(Hull)	89
21	Kevin Lawrence	(Brownhills)	88
22	Paul Gooding	(Ipswich)	88
23	Alaric Bassano	(Halifax)	84
24	Karl Ball	(Folkestone)	80
25	Damien Holland	(Billericay)	79
26	Lee Brown	(Rochdale)	75
27	Gavin Black	(Bedford)	72
28	Mark Land	(Wakefield)	71
29	Andrew Eden	(Preston)	68
30	James Griffiths	(London SE12)	67
31	Darren Smith	(Birmingham)	65
32	Greg Barden	(Tunbridge Wells)	64
33	Stephen Slater	(Stoke on Trent)	63
34	Richard Jones	(Morden)	60
35	Adrian Bolton	(Nottingham)	58
36	John Holland	(Nottingham)	57
37	N. Felton	(Birmingham)	56
38	Andrew Houghton	(Tonbridge)	53
39	Gavin West	(Allestree)	52
40	Simon Jones	(Chester)	51

Junior Girls

No.	Name	Town of Res.	Points
1	Claire Potts	(Chester)	336
2	Andrea Holt	(Ramsbottom)	301
3	Kerry Hall	(Chesterfield)	283
4	Julie Houghton	(Tonbridge)	239
5	Jill Powis	(Wolverhampton)	224
6	Debbie Soothill	(Carnforth)	222
7	Lisa Haydon	(Brentwood)	192
8	Tanya Holland	(Billericay)	185
9	Louise Davis	(Bridgnorth)	137
10	Julie Billington	(Chesterfield)	134
11	Angela Sanders	(Wolverhampton)	129
12	Melonie Carey	(Bridgwater)	127
13	Lesley Souter	(Neasden)	125
14	Helen Perrott	(Bristol)	115
15	Rachel Knight	(Twickenham)	101
16	Ruth Bray	(Hull)	97
17	Sarah Hammond	(Southampton)	90
18	Helen Lower	(Wolverhampton)	88
19	Alison Evans	(Hull)	84
20	Claire Brooks	(Croydon)	80
21	Caroline Dada	(Bradford)	77
22	Katrina Baker	(Heston)	66
23	Helen Broomhead	(Sheffield)	62
24	Gillian Patten	(London E6)	59
25	Sarah Webb	(Bridgwater)	55
26	Hazel Kavanagh	(Hull)	51
27	Nicola McGrath	(Preston)	47
28	Christina Cox	(Rainford)	46
29	Anne Pashley	(Guisborough)	41
30	Amanda Shufflebottom	(Abingdon)	39
31	Claire Plumridge	(High Wycombe)	39
32	Julie Norman	(Newbury)	38
33	Julie Clegg	(Preston)	36
34	Sylvia Kenyon	(Ipswich)	36
35	Joanne Cook	(Brentwood)	34
36	Kathryn Bray	(Hull)	33
37	Julie Brion	(Newbury)	32
38	Susan Richmond	(Northallerton)	31
39	Louise Sherratt	(Stafford)	30
40	R. Paffett	(Orpington)	30

Cadet Boys

No.	Name	Town of Res.	Points
1	Michael O'Driscoll	(Mirfield)	537
2	Chris Oldfield	(Sheffield)	405
3	Damien Holland	(Billericay)	179
4	Leigh Jeffries	(Birmingham)	123
5	Neil Sims	(Pontefract)	122
6	Gary Knights	(Burton)	84
7	Andrew Eden	(Ormskirk)	80
8	Nicky Ryder	(Dewsbury)	70
9	Jonathan Taylor	(Manchester)	68
10	Brian Mileham	(Margate)	67
11	John Collins	(Wisbech)	59
12	Neil Bevan	(Bude)	59
13	Darryl Sneyd	(Oldham)	55
14	Graham Connolly	(Camberley)	54
15	Michael Auchterlonie	(Fordingbridge)	52
16	Mark Bawden	(Launcestone)	50
17	Michael Roughley	(Washington)	44
18	Robert Yong	(Nottingham)	40
19	Mark Stephenson	(Halifax)	37
20	Robert Scott-Birchall	(Allestree)	34
21	James Nicholson	(Stockton)	29
22	Jeremy Krzystiniak	(Teddington)	29
23	S. Riggins	(Washington)	29
24	Graham Cook	(Pontefract)	27
25	Kevin Sangster	(Harrogate)	24

Cadet Girls

No.	Name	Town of Res.	Points
1	Kerry Hall	(Chesterfield)	429
2	Julie Billington	(Chesterfield)	243
3	Debbie Toole	(Normanton)	213
4	Julie Forster	(Loughborough)	112
5	Ellen Meddings	(Harrogate)	99
6	Caroline Buckley	(Luton)	90
7	Anne Pashley	(Guisborough)	79
8	Susanne Lawton	(Ormsby)	74
9	Helen Potts	(Chester)	73
10	Nicola Jones	(Worcester)	54
11	Kelly Bennett	(Chigwell)	51
12	Barbara Smallwood	(Formby)	33
13	Joanne Roberts	(Leeds)	32
14	Rachel Skinner	(London N8)	31
15	H. Wright	(Plymouth)	30
16	R. Reid	(Brentwood)	26
17	R. Bullock	(Ipswich)	20
18	Julie Bryant	(Leicester)	16
19	Rebecca Ledwitch	(Birmingham)	15
20	Tracey Slater	(St. Neots)	15
21	J. May	(London E6)	15
22	Tracey Hooker	(Reading)	15
23	Delia Holland	(Billericay)	14
24	Lesley Radford	(Hornchurch)	12
25	Amanda Ledwitch	(Birmingham)	10



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

Subscriptions and distribution:
Beth Davies, ETTA,
21 Claremont, HASTINGS
TN34 1HF. Tel: 0424 433121.

Advertisements: Christine Wilkes, ETTA, 21 Claremont, HASTINGS TN34 1HF. Tel: 0424 433121.

Editorial: Robert Oldfield, 193 Cuckfield Road, Hurstpierpoint, HASSOCKS BN6 9RT. Tel: 0273 834774.

COPY DATES
January 1986 issue
10th December 1985

February 1986 issue
31st December 1985

AN APOLOGY

In the change-over of Editors and printers, some delays have inevitably occurred during the preparation of the first issue of the 1985/86 season. The Editor wishes to thank all those contributors and subscribers who so patiently have awaited the end result. A more regular service is hoped for in the future, with the publication of some issues linked with the dates of major events.

Don't miss December's preview issue of the Triumph Adler English Open

Brighton preview

Milton Keynes Top 12 report



European League

Plus all the regular features

Out Friday 13th December

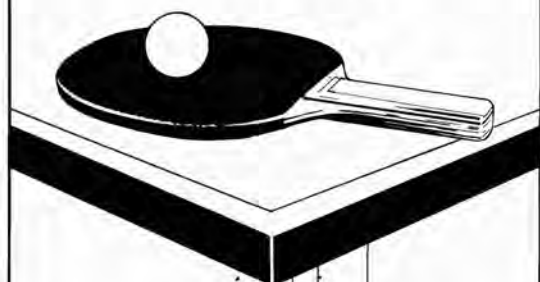
Unlucky for some! . . . don't worry, the date is only a rumour.



IT'S FOR YOU!

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

1985/6 Diary



ORDER YOURS TODAY

£1.95 inc p&p

from ETTA 21 Claremont Hastings TN34 1HF

Subscribe Now!

I would like to subscribe to the next eight issues of *Table Tennis News* beginning with issue number _____

I enclose my cheque/postal order for £8.00* made payable to "ETTA".

*UK subscribers only.

Please send me the 1985/86 Events Diary. I enclose my cheque/postal order for £1.95 made payable to "ETTA".

Please send me further information on.....

Name

Address.....

..... Post code.....

To: ETTA, 21 Claremont, HASTINGS TN34 1HF.

Caravan from Casablanca

There's no place like home (despite the rain) says Albert Shipley hanging onto his wallet on the caravan from Casablanca

In July I was invited by the ITTF to conduct a seminar for umpires in El Jadida, some 60 miles along the coast from Casablanca. It was my first visit to Morocco.

The old cliché that England is a green and pleasant land was brought to mind even as the aircraft prepared to land at Casablanca, for the view is just a patchwork of varying shades of brown. When you travel around the deep green of grass is rarely seen.

Probably my biggest single impression in both the city of Casablanca and out in the country was the enormous variation. One can see scenes ranging from biblical times to today's computer age.

Wizened old men, swathed in blanket-like clothes are seen perched on the back of a donkey already weighed down with panniers full of goodness knows what on either side. In the countryside there are thousands, probably millions, of small flocks of six or seven brown sheep wat-

ched over by a shepherd - often a small child about seven years old - sitting in any shade to be found.

The earth upon which these sheep graze resembles a ploughed field. What they found to eat remains a mystery to me.

A national pastime is attempting to part a man from his money, ranging from small boys touring the pavement cafes trying to sell cigarettes one at a time, to large shops displaying their goods without a single price label. Haggling at all levels is the accepted way of doing business and apparently the technique is to offer half the asking price and end up with something around 60% of the price first quoted.

Many of these 'shops' are like garages with goods piled high into the roof and I felt sure some of the bottles and cans on the uppermost shelves must have been there since time began. Another puzzle is how people make a living from trying to sell fruit by the side of a fast stretch of open road.

The town of El Jadida is a coastal resort obviously popular with local holidaymakers. From the fourth floor balcony of my hotel I could observe a long wide bay of flat hard sand which daily became dense with bodies, not just lying in the sun but playing either football or volleyball - mostly the latter. With no snob value in a suntan as in Europe, why people sunbathed at all was beyond my comprehension.

Food for thought

Most of all it helps to have a strong stomach - English health inspectors would have apoplexy at some of the apparent dangers. Food, both raw and cooked, is often on display with only a token attempt to shield it from the sun, and the occasional flick of a towel fails to prevent the omnipresent flies from having their share.

At the same time, Morocco is a country of extreme contrasts. Where pavements exist they are often superb but even the best of them have deep holes awaiting the arrival of a lamp-post or tree. A stroll, particularly after dark, requires a constant lookout for the hazards ahead.

And anything mechanical seems to be abused in a manner which English suburbia would not tolerate; yet this abuse is often prolonged by the skilful use of wire, string and the occasional weld. All of the cars in which I travelled needed a kick in one place or another for the door to open or for the petrol gauge to register.

Whilst the donkey and camel still exist, the bicycle seems nearly extinct and the main form of transport is seemingly ancient mobilettes which weave in and out of the traffic. Often their riders anticipate the green light by several seconds, narrowly avoiding the boots of the last cars to run the gauntlet. Not surprisingly, pedestrians have to be extra lively in order to cross the road safely!

Such were a few of the impressions gained in the short week of a visit during which my schoolboy french improved dramatically as I had to talk my way out of a problem on a couple of occasions. It is one thing to carefully formulate a question but the rapidly spoken reply tests the memory cells. Nobody ever said "la plume de ma tante" as the first-year text books would have you believe.



National Coach

The English Table Tennis Association are seeking to appoint a National Coach to be based initially in the Midlands area.

Candidates should ideally possess an ETTA coaching qualification plus a knowledge of modern training methods.

The duties of a National Coach include the organisation of general coaching within the ETTA Coaching scheme and supervision of training for leading senior and junior players. A current driving licence is essential.

Salary is negotiable according to age, experience and qualifications.

Application forms are available from the ETTA office and should be submitted to the General Secretary, ETTA, 21 Claremont, HASTINGS TN34 1HF by 13th December 1985. Envelopes should be marked "Coach".

This is a readvertisement - previous applicants may reapply.

A Farewell to Arms – part 2

I shall not write for this magazine in the foreseeable future. Readers have given me a great deal of support both publicly and privately. May I thank them all, particularly those who have not always agreed with me, but felt that I (and everybody else) had every right to express my views, to stimulate debate and change.

I have always said that the moment any contribution from me was subjected to censorship or "editing" which changed or omitted what I regarded as important, I would never write for that Editor again.

A letter (much shorter than usual!) was rejected by the Editor unless two paragraphs were cut. To this I was not prepared to agree as it substantially altered what I was trying to say and represented the humorous part of the letter. Though regarded by the Editor as "of a personal nature" it was mild compared to what my family and I have had to endure over the years.

I pointed out that the personal animosities are not on my side. Relationships that cannot

survive plain speaking are on very insecure ground. Table tennis is a fabulous sport and I shall not desert it.

My notes in these columns have brought me many friends and very few enemies. I have been quoted in many countries, including Germany and Japan. I have appeared on radio and TV many times and I continue to write for overseas table tennis publications.

My county has just elected me as its National Councillor and my voice will continue to be heard, particularly when there is injustice and incompetence or anything else that denies English table tennis a place in the sun.

We have fallen behind other countries and other sports and we are losing members rapidly — 8% last season alone. Never was there such a time for a united effort, a fresh start.

To my readers and correspondents a big "thank you" once again for their interest, support and, at times, patience.

John Prean
12 Marlborough Road
Ryde
Isle of Wight

Farcity

I would like to draw attention to the comments of the Cambridge University Captain concerning Oxford University and the Oxford District League (April *Table Tennis News*).

It is fairly obvious that the true facts of the matter have not been conveyed to Cambridge as otherwise I feel sure that they would understand the Oxford league's decision a little better. However, through your columns, I wish to enlighten the unenlightened.

Having played in Oxford's 1st division for some twenty or so years, during most of which the University have had a team in this section, it is my personal belief that the University have exploited and disrupted the top division of the league for most of this period, with the exception of one or two seasons. My term "exploited" is used because the University have used the league only to keep their game sharp, with the sole aim of their players obtaining their "Blue".

There are many problems which arise during a season, including postponements at the

start and end, but these can be overcome. The conditions offered by their team are some of the worst in the league, despite the fact that the University have the best sporting facilities in the county.

Some of the players who turn out during a season can vary in strength, sometimes from international standard to someone who has only played on the kitchen table. This causes many problems with the league title and relegation issues at stake.

To enable the University to play regular table tennis, it was suggested that they arrange friendlies with division one sides, in addition to one against the town team, but it appears that they have chosen to ignore the offer. Alternatively, the players were invited to join clubs individually. Only two did so.

The most surprising thing of all was the non-appearance of any University member at the Annual Meeting, to plead their case for the coming season. It is a pity that at a time when we should encourage more teams to join our league, we have to refuse them entry but I, for one, believe we are far better off without them.

English bat rubbers closed

Considerable debate has taken place between Messrs Len Saywell and Frank Hams regarding the "legality" of using bat rubbers without the ITTF identification marks at the English Closed bat rubbers. Readers may wish to be acquainted with the facts of the situation in closing this discussion.

The ITTF-approved symbol on bat rubbers is required under "Regulations for international competitions" which are used as a reference to stipulate the regulations applicable at domestic tournaments. ETTA Tournament regulations require that any conditions which are different from the international standard shall be highlighted by an asterisk on the entry form.

In last years English Closed the entry form did not indicate that the requirement for players to use bat rubbers bearing the ITTF-approved symbol would not apply. As a consequence, many gained the impression that only bat rubbers with the symbol could be used at the tournament.

However, the referee later wrote to competitors informing them that it was not the intention to apply this international regulation in the event. The ETTA are pleased to acknowledge that Mr Saywell's bat was therefore "legal" at the tournament.

Ivor Montagu Fund

Established in memory of Ivor Montagu, founder president of the International Table Tennis Federation, the fund exists to assist junior players to compete in major events throughout England.

Donations were recently gratefully received from: Mrs N. Vint, Mrs D M Poupard, and Messrs G Gurney, K Park, K Muhr, G A S Owen, T M Honey, W G Moon. Cheques should be made payable to the "ETTA".

Brian Hamilton
19 The Grates
Cowley
nr Oxford

Count our blessings

Facing the task of my county notes to be written in early September with a long wet summer only just behind us, it is, perhaps, rather difficult to find much to write about.

My mind, however, wanders back to a fearful and horrific night in May — May 29th to be precise. Yes, the European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus of Italy in Brussels and the subsequent carnage that followed on that summers night.

Watching it on tv, it was hard to realise that (a) it was live and (b) that nobody was actually acting out the ghastly scenes that were seen on our screens — it was real.

As I watched, I thought of table tennis, many critics and how trivial and petty some of the complaints made of our sport appeared to be by direct comparison. I have once before, a few years ago, mentioned how extremely well-behaved our game is at all levels, both from the players aspect and that of the spectators — long may our sport remain this way.

We may not, by comparison, have the tv coverage of football; we do not get the coverage that many of us seek in local or even national newspapers; what however we do have, is respect for our sport. And that goes a long way with most of us. In fact I think it makes up for a lot of our deficiencies.

That is "Table Tennis 1985". Love it or leave it.

Alf Peppard
Gloucestershire County Press
Officer
Bridge Farm
Rudford
Gloucester

Pickford's moved

I am hoping to compile a history of the Dagenham & District League and wonder whether any readers of *Table Tennis News* might be able to assist me with any information about Mr Arthur W Pickford — a founder member who lived in the Dagenham area during the 1940s and 1950s.

John Southan
Press & Publicity Officer
Dagenham TTL
20 Whybridge Close
Rainham
Essex

Aufwiedersehn Pet

Alan Fletcher, the well-known attacking Yorkshire player, has gone on the defensive with his latest move - teaching English to the children of servicemen in Germany.

The ex-England and Junior international, who took a silver medal for England in the 1979 Commonwealth team championships, won a three-year contract with the MoD and has upped camp from Birmingham with wife Susan and children Amy and Douglas.

"I hope to be able to play National League table tennis until Christmas with Chan Construction", he told *Table Tennis News* after playing for Grove in the Premier last year. "Then I shall be looking for a place with a Bundesliga club".

Alan, 30, will be joining England's other representatives in the league this year, including Carl Preat, and is no foreigner to the German competition. One of the first to challenge an ETTA ban on playing abroad, he spent three years with TUS-Vahr Bremen and another with Werder Bremen. "I'll let you know how things are going", he promised.

The Fletchers' new address is 48-2 Domfaffenweg, 4830 Avenwedde, Gutersloh, West Germany BSPO 113.

TEES SPORT CATALOGUE 85/86



- Bat advice service. Bats made up to your specifications. Blade and Rubber performance guide.
- Latest trends in table tennis clothing.
- Top buys in Tables, Nets, etc. Plus Table Tennis Robot Machine.
- Details of Special Offers including bulk ball deals.
- Table tennis Holiday and Coaching opportunities.
- Magazines, Books ITTF Section and TT Diary.
- Free copy of Tees Sport Magazine.

FOR YOUR FREE COPY OF BRITAIN'S No. 1 TABLE TENNIS EQUIPMENT GUIDE AND CATALOGUE JUST COMPLETE THE COUPON AND POST TO:
TEES SPORT, ZETLAND PLACE,
MIDDLESBROUGH, CLEVELAND, TS1 1HJ.
TELEPHONE: (0642) 217844/5 or 249000.

Name

Address

..... Post Code

Tel. No. (Code) (Number) (Day)

(Code) (Number) (Ev'g)

I am particularly interested in: Balls Book & Mags
 Blade & Rubbers Clothing Tables Holidays
Would you like to be a Tees Sport Agent YES/NO.

UNBEATABLE OFFERS . . . NOT TO BE REPEATED

A few only available . . . subject to stock

T.T. Nets. £1.95 reduced to £1.25
Rubber . . . pimples in. £10 reduced to £3.00
T.T. Balls. Official XXX. £3.50 dozen

Special commemorative medal struck for the World championships in Birmingham.
In presentation box. Ideal for a trophy. £12.00 reduced to £2.50 each.
Twelve only left.

Alec Brook . . . ADB (London) Ltd., 49-55 Harrow Road, London W2 1JH. Tel: 4025671

Cooke cashes in

Pauline Long

As shown on the front cover of the May/June *Table Tennis News*, Alan Cooke, the England ranked top seed from Derbyshire, was the winner of the £300 mens singles prize at the Newcastle Evening Chronicle Northumberland 2-Star Open Tournament at Concordia Leisure Centre, Cramlington on 27th April.

MENS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Alan Cooke (Dy) b Adrian Moore (Sx) 13, 13; Dave Hannah (SCO) b Philip Bradbury (Bu) - 12, 8, 14.

Final

Cooke b Hannah 10, 14.

WOMENS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Joy Grundy (La) b Diane St Ledger (Wa) 12, 16; Jean Parker (La) b Kate Burrows (Y) 17, 4.

Final

Grundy b Parker - 19, 10, 10.

MENS DOUBLES

Final

Bradbury/Dave Wells (Bu/Mj) b Kevin Beadsley/Cooke (Y/Dy) 16, 24.

WOMENS DOUBLES

Final

Grundy/Parker (La) b Burrows/Julie Speight (Y) - 17, 10, 17.

MIXED DOUBLES

Final

Brian Johns (Ch) b David Gannon (Le) 13, -14, 15.

VETERANS SINGLES

Final

Brian Allison (Li) b Doreen Schofield (Ch) 10, 12.

China Vice

Five hundred and ten players representing 33 of the 50 US states and 23 foreign countries took part in the first US Open to be held in Florida in Miami Beach during 26th-30th June 1985 writes Malcolm Anderson. As expected, the Chinese got a firm grip on the trophies.

Cheng Yinhua won the mens singles event with a win over Wu Wen Chia of Chinese Taipei after the last of the Europeans, Jan-Ove Waldner, went out 21-19, 17-21, 21-23, 21-17, 17-21 to Atanda Musa of Nigeria in the quarters. Earlier, a "Europe" team of George Böhm and Mariano Loukov dispatched Ulf Bengtsson and Carlsson in the semis of the team championship.

Dunlop players motor in Coventry

As reported earlier by *Les D'Arcy*, a contingent from the Dunlop Advanced Training Centre in Wakefield dominated the Coventry Junior 1-Star Open at Coventry Sports Centre on Sunday 8th September 1985.

Debbie Toole, 13, took the U14 and U17 girls singles and Andrew Ball the boys - both players at the centre.

RESULTS

MENS TEAM

Final

China 3 "Europe" 1 (Cheng Ist Böhm 15, -21, -19; Jian Jialiang b Loukov 18, 9; Cheng/Jian b Böhm -12, 11, 14; Jiang b Böhm 16, 15).

WOMENS TEAM

Final

China 3 Chinese Taipei 1 (Li Huiifen b I in I-Zu 9, 19; Cao Yanhua b Chuang Shu-Hua 13, 9; Cao/Li Ist Chuang/Li -18, -19; Cao b Lin 18, 8).

MENS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Wu (YPE) b Jiang (CHN) 18, 18, -16, 19; Cheng (CHN) b Musa (NGR) 14, 12, -13, 11.

Final

Cheng (CHN) b Wu (TPE) 18, 15, 14.

WOMENS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Cao (CHN) b Sonja Grefberg (FIN) 20, 12, 18; Li (CHN) b Daniela Guergelcheva (BUL) -17, -20, 17, 19.

Final

Li b Cao 11, 13, 15.

MENS DOUBLES

Final

Cheng/Jian (CHN) b Eric Lindh/Waldner (SWE) 16, 7.

WOMENS DOUBLES

Final

Cao/Li (CHN) b Kamilla Bjork/Guergelcheva (SWE/BUL) 10, 16.

MIXED DOUBLES

Final

Jiang/Cao (CHN) b Cheng/Li (CHN) 18, -18, 19.

JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Andrew Ball (Y) b Adrian Thorp (Wa) 18, 23; Peter Harris (He) b Alaric Bassano (Y) 9, -19, 18.

Final

Ball b Harris 16, 19.

JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Helen Lower (Wa) b Julie Norman (Bk) 13, 18; Debbie Toole (Y) b J. Forster 20, 17.

Final

Toole b Lower -13, 14, 13.

CADET BOYS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Jonathan Taylor (La) b R. Carie 5, 6; Mark Stephenson (Y) b T. Pike 5, 15.

Final

Taylor b Stephenson 11, 13.

CADET GIRLS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Toole b Ellen Meddings (Y) 14, -19, 9; Joanne Roberts (Y) b Rebecca Ledwith (Wa) 17, -17, 13.

Final

Toole b Roberts 11, 18.

JUNIOR BOYS DOUBLES

Final

Bassano/Mark Land (Y) b S. Saibu/Thorp (Wa) 12, -19, 12.

JUNIOR GIRLS DOUBLES

Final

Kristina Cox/Lower (La/St) b T. Green/K. Ryan 10, 19.

Mills runs rings round Beadsley

Taking advantage of the absence of defending champion Alan Cooke, Steve Mills, the No 1 seed, had all the confidence in the world at the Colgate North of England Open on 28th September at Stretford writes *George Yates*.

With Cooke, like Stephen Scowcroft, Nigel Eckersley, Carl Morgan and Andy Bellingham, affected by the fixture clash between the Ormesby v GKN Steelstock Wolverhampton national league match, Mills triumphed in the final over fellow Tyke Kevin Beadsley 18-21, 21-17, 21-18.

Beadsley, the No 5 seed, had earlier taken advantage of the absence of the second-seeded Kevin Satchell from Wiltshire to reach the final at the expense of Chris Rogers. While Mills put out John Hilton in an emphatic 21-24, 21-16, semi-final victory.

It was victory in the womens singles for the top seed, too. Lancashire's Joy Grundy, making a comeback after injury, defeated Fiona Elliot in the final after the Wolverhampton girl put out the defending champion Karen Smith in the semis.

Jean Parker, the No 3 seed behind Elliot, was surprisingly beaten by Cumbria's Debbie Soothill. Soothill fell to Grundy in the semis but took the girls singles title in the final against Kerry Hall.

In the boys, Bradley Billington failed to prevent Adrian Dixon's successful defence but his father Maurice put paid to the defending title holder Derek Schofield in the veterans event.

RESULTS

MENS SINGLES

Quarter-finals

Mills (Y) b Nigel Thewlis (La) 7, 10; Hilton (La) b B. Billington (Dy) -13, 13, 19; Rogers (Le) b Brian Johns (Ch) 17, 14; Beadsley (Y) b Stephen Slater (St) 17, 7.

Semi-finals

Mills b Hilton 14, 16; Beadsley b Rogers 14, -21, 10.

Final

Mills b Beadsley -18, 17, 18.

WOMENS SINGLES

Quarter-finals

Grundy (La) b Suzanne Airey (*nee* Hunt) (Li) 14, 19; Soothill (Cu) b Parker (La) -16, 17, 18; Smith (Le) b Sandra Peakman (Wa) 10, 9; Elliot (St) b Janet Dunning (St) 16, 19.

Semi-finals

Grundy b Soothill 10, 12; Elliot b Smith 11, 11.

Final

Grundy b Elliot -12, 7, 16.

MENS DOUBLES

Final

B. Billington/Hilton (Dy/La) b Barry Johnson/Peter Machin (Wa) -11, 16, 17.

WOMENS DOUBLES

Final

Grundy/Parker (La) b Airey/Smith (Li/Le) 16, -16, 11.

JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Dixon (St) b Christopher Oldfield (Y) 13, 10; B. Billington (Dy) b Michael O'Driscoll (Y) -18, 13, 12.

Final

Dixon b Billington -16, 18, 17.

JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES

Semi-finals

Hall (Dy) b Helen Broomhead (Y) 16, 14; Soothill (Cu) b C. Dada 7, 11.

Final

Soothill b Hall 20, 13.

VETERANS MIXED SINGLES

Final

M. Billington (Dy) b Schofield (Ch) 12, 18.

North Middlesex – champion league

At the superb Mansfield Leisure Centre on Sunday 2nd June, the North Middlesex league won both the major national inter-league titles as they retained the Rose Bowl and captured the Wilmott Cup *writes Keith Ponting*. Neither needed the full distance of nine sets as their strong team powered through 5–2 in the womens and 5–1 in the mens.

Wolverhampton's girls retained the Bromfield Trophy, 5–0 over Bridgwater, but the "dark horses" of Woolwich deprived Coventry of the Carter Cup with Bernard O'Grady

winning three in their 5–2 victory.

In the mens club final for the Ormesby Cup, North Middlesex triumphed again with league champions East Finchley winning for the first time at the expense of Preston's Penwortham GRYF.

And in the womens, Omega of the Reading league retained the Gainsford Cup with an emphatic 5–0 away win at the Redhill club in Birmingham to join the Halex National League champions Thorn-EMI Ellenborough in Europe this season.

LEAGUES CHAMPIONSHIPS FINALS

Wilmott Cup

North Middlesex 5 Leicester 1 (John Souter b Dave Gannon – 16, 21, 16; Dave Wells b Grahame Hall 8, 9; Nigel Tyler 1st Chris Rogers – 15, – 13; Wells b Gannon 15, 12; Souter b Rogers 16, 17; Tyler b Hall 9, 18).

JM Rose Bowl

North Middlesex 5 Leicester 2 (Helen Williams 1st Suzanne Airey – 11, 14, – 19; Angela Mitchell b Julie Revill 10, 11; Sarah Sandley 1st Karen Smith – 16, 20, – 10; Mitchell b Airey 10, 15; Williams b Smith 18, 20; Sandley b Revill – 18, 9, 18; Mitchell b Smith – 13, 17, 9).

Carter Cup

Woolwich 5 Coventry 2 (Jonathan Huckle b Steve Swallow 16, 21; James Griffiths 1st Mark Randle – 19, 18, – 13; Bernard O'Grady b Richard Hayward 18, 17; Huckle 1st Randle – 11, – 16; O'Grady b Swallow 14, – 17, 16; Griffiths b Hayward 21, – 16, 10; O'Grady b Randle 23, – 17, 15).

Bromfield Trophy

Wolverhampton 5 Bridgwater 0 (Angela Sanders b Sarah Webb 11, – 19, 16; Helen Lower b Kirsty Withyman – 17, 17, 20; Jill Powis b Melonie Carey 18, 21; Lower b Webb 17, 16; Sanders b Carey 18, 22).

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

Ormesby Cup

East Finchley 5 (6) Penwortham GRYF 2 (3) (Mark Oakley b Sean Gibson 12, 21; Costas Papanioniou 1st Steve Turner – 11, – 18; John Souter b Paul Rainford 9, 18; Oakley b Turner 16, – 15, 15; Souter b Gibson – 10, 11, 10; Papanioniou 1st Rainford – 19, – 24; Souter b Turner 14, 17; Oakley b Rainford 16, 16; Papanioniou 1st Gibson – 16, 8, – 16).

Gainsford Cup

Omega 5 Redhill 0 (Karen Witt b Sandra Peakman 18, 11; Alison Gordon b Diane St Ledger 11, – 19, 4; Mandy Sainsbury b Karen Groves 15, – 20, 16; Gordon b Peakman 15, 13; Witt b Groves 14, 16).

Lisa in Blue Jeans (easy of course)

There was quality not quantity at the 1st Milton Keynes U21 Championships, held in support of the International Year of Youth at the Blechley Leisure Centre on Sunday 15th September *writes Ken Muhr*. In a repeat of the English Closed womens final in March at the same venue, top seed Lisa Bellinger beat sister Jackie 21–15, 20–22, 21–16 to take the title and the £80 prize.

In the absence of the injured No 4 seed Jean Parker, Lisa had a comfortable ride to the final of the tournament – supported by Milton Keynes Development Corporation and Borough Council, Easy Jeans, the International Year of Youth Fund and Jarvis Sports.

Jackie, however, struggled in the first two games of her semi-final before pinning an aggressive Teresa Moore on the backhand. And the two sisters from Dunstable were in even deeper trouble in the doubles

when, as reigning English champions, they lost to the scratch pairing of Sue Collier and Lesley Popkiewicz in the second round.

Sporting a Bjorn Borg hair-style, Nicky Mason fulfilled his mens singles seeding when he overcame David Dodd 21–18, 17–21, 21–11 in a hard hitting final. It was the only time he dropped a game on his way to the title and £100 and he teamed up with Adrian Moore to beat David and brother Andrew 21–17, 21–15 in the mens doubles.

14 year old Matthew Syed, from Reading, was untroubled as he cruised his way to £80 in the junior mixed singles. Local hero Darren Ward knocked out second seed Greg Barden in the second round and then succumbed 20–22, 16–21 to the defensive skills of Bob Ginn in the semis. But Ginn had no answer to Syed.

U21 MENS SINGLES

Mason (Sx) b M. Syed (Bk) 18, 12; D. Dodd (K) b A. Moore (Sx) 12, 19.

Final

Mason b Dodd 18, – 17, 11.

U21 WOMENS SINGLES

Semi-finals

L. Bellinger (Bd) b Sally Weston (Sx) 6, 10; J. Bellinger (Bd) b Teresa Moore (Sx) – 16, 18, 14.

Final

L. Bellinger b J. Bellinger 15, – 20, 16.

JUNIOR MIXED SINGLES

Semi-finals

M. Syed (Bk) b Chris Nicholls (Sk) 2, 20; Ginn (Hu) b Ward (Bu) 20, 6.

Final

Syed b Ginn 7, 16.

U21 MENS DOUBLES

Final

Mason/Moore b Dodd/Dodd 12, 15.

U21 WOMENS DOUBLES

Final

Popkiewicz/Collier (Sy/Bk) b Jane Barella/Weston (Sy/Sx) – 15, 14, 17.

Douglas (obviously insured) grins as James Eaton tucks into his sandwich bat. Rackets journalist Richard Eaton lends a steady fatherly hand



November

1
BELGIAN OPEN
to 3rd. In Liege.
Lentec rating: ×4.

2
WEST YORKSHIRE 2-STAR
OPEN
Saturday 2nd November only.
Venue: Richard Dunn Sports Centre,
Bradford. Tel: (0274) 307822.
Organiser: S. Nunn, 42 St Matthews
Road, BRADFORD BD5 9AB. Tel:
(0274) 732438. *Events:* MS, WS,
MD, WD, JBS, JGS, VXS.
Equipment: Butterfly tables,
Schildkröt balls. *Closing date:* 18th
October 1985. *Prize Fund:* £450.
Lentec rating: ×1.

WOODFIELD JUNIOR
1-STAR OPEN
(Mitchells & Butlers)
Venue: Woodfield Sports & Social
Club, Wolverhampton. Tel: (0902)
341335. *Organiser:* M. F. Leach, 18
Cannon Road, Wombourne,
WOLVERHAMPTON WV5 9HR.
Tel: (0902) 893068. *Events:* JBS,
JGS, JBD, JGD, CBS, CGS.
Equipment: Various tables, Nittaku
balls. *Closing date:* 19th October
1985. *Prize Fund:* £120.

3
Halex National League (5)
Lentec rating: Premier and First
divisions, ×2; Other divisions, ×1.

WOODFIELD 1-STAR OPEN
(Mitchells & Butlers)
Venue: Woodfield Sports & Social
Club, Wolverhampton. Tel: (0902)
341335. *Organiser:* M. F. Leach, 18
Cannon Road, Wombourne,
WOLVERHAMPTON WV5 9HR.
Tel: (0902) 893068. *Events:* MS, WS,
MD, WD, VXS. *Equipment:*
Various tables, Nittaku balls.
Closing date: 19th October 1985.
Prize Fund: £170.

9
EUROPE CLUB CUP -
3rd Round
Men: Spartacus Budapest (HUN) v
Thorn-EMI Ellenborough (ENG).
Women: Omega Reading (ENG) v
(probably) Tolnai VL (HUN).
Lentec rating: ×2.

MIDLAND 3-STAR OPEN
to 10th.
Venue: Alumwell Centre, Walsall.
Tel: (0922) 31399. *Organiser:* M.
Goldstein, 31 Blenheim Road,
Moseley, BIRMINGHAM B13 9TY.
Tel: 021-449 7047. *Events:* MS, WS,
MD, WD, VXS, MS (Class 2), WS
(Class 2). *Equipment:* Dunlop tables
and celluloid balls. *Closing date:* 21st
October 1985. *Prize Fund:* £1155.
Lentec rating: ×3.



Andrew Syed - defender at
the Beneficial Trust

10
HASTINGS TIGERS 1-STAR
OPEN
Venue: Bexhill Youth Centre. Tel:
(0424) 215455. *Entries Secretary:* E.
Wadsworth, 7 Harley Way, ST
LEONARDS-ON-SEA. Tel: (0424)
437720. *Events:* Jaques and Dunlop
tables, TSP balls. *Closing date:* 27th
October 1985. *Prize Fund:* £170.

16
KIRKLEES 2-STAR OPEN
to 17th.
Venue: Batley Sports Centre. Tel:
(0924) 478332. *Organiser:* B.
Walker, 1 Rooks Close, Wyke,
BRADFORD BD12 9LR. Tel: (0274)
672005. *Events:* MS, WS, MD, WD,
VXS, MS (Class 2), WS (Class 2),
U21MS, U21WS. *Equipment:*
Butterfly tables, Schildkröt balls.
Closing date: 12th October 1985.
Prize Fund: £700. *Lentec rating:*
×1.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND
JUNIOR 2-STAR OPEN
to 17th.
Venue: Monk's Hill Sports Centre,
Croydon. Tel: 01-651 0984. *Entries
Secretary:* D. Beesley, 6 Stanley
Square, CARSHALTON, Surrey.
Tel: 01-661 5783 (day). *Events:* JBS,
JGS, JBD, JGD, CBS, CGS, CBD,
CGD, U12BS, U12GS. *Equipment:*
Butterfly tables, Schildkröt balls.
Closing date: 22nd October 1985.
Prize Fund: Trophies. *Lentec rating:*
×1.

20
EUROPEAN LEAGUE
DIVISION 1
England v Bulgaria
Venue: Mansfield Leisure Centre.
Tel: (0623) 646081. 7.15 pm, doors
open 6.30 pm. *Tickets:* £3; OAPs
and children, £2. *From:* Mansfield
Leisure Centre, Chesterfield Road
South, MANSFIELD NG19 7AB.
Lentec rating: ×4.

23
CLEVELAND JUNIOR
2-STAR OPEN
(including the Ladbroke Dragonara
International Team Championships)
to 24th.
Venue: Eston Leisure Centre. Tel:
(0642) 452488. *Entries Secretary:* D.
Hutchinson, 7 Skripka Drive,
BILLINGHAM TS22 5EZ. Tel:
(0642) 534738. *Events:* JBS, JGS,
JBD, JGD, CBS, CGS, CBD, CGD,
U11BS, U11GS, JB Team, JC Team
CB Team, CG Team. *Equipment:*
Butterfly tables, Schildkröt balls.
Closing date: 30th October 1985.
Prize Fund: £700. *Lentec rating:*
×1.

29
SWEDISH OPEN
to 1st December. In Landskröna.
Lentec rating: ×4.

30
Stiga County Championships (3)
Lentec rating: ×1.

SENIOR PREMIER DIVISION
WEEKEND
to 1st December.
Venue: Tolworth Recreation Centre,
Surrey. Tel: 01-391 0684. *Organiser:*
S. Parr, 7 Ennerdale Crescent,
NUNEATON CV11 6HY. Tel:
(0203) 385580. *Lentec rating:* ×2.

KENT JUNIOR 2-STAR OPEN
to 1st December.
Venue: Westborough Sports Centre,
Maidstone. Tel: (0622) 59615.
Organiser: D. B. Cue, 55 Church
Road, Willesborough, ASHFORD
TN24 0JZ. Tel: (0233) 31674.
Events: JBS, JGS, JBD, JGD, CBS,
CGS, CBD, CGD. *Equipment:*
Butterfly tables, Schildkröt balls.
Closing date: 30th October 1985.
Lentec rating: ×1.

December

6
FINLANDIA OPEN
to 8th. In Helsinki.
Lentec rating: ×4.

7
MIDDLESEX 3-STAR OPEN
to 8th.
Venue: Picketts Lock Sports Centre,
Edmonton N9. Tel: 01-803 4756.
Organiser: D. J. Miller, 16
Tomswood Road, CHIGWELL IG7
5QS. Tel: 01-504 4855. *Events:* MS,
WS, MD, WD, XD, VXS.
Equipment: Butterfly tables,
Schildkröt balls. *Closing date:* 14th
November 1985. *Lentec rating:* ×3.

HALTON JUNIOR 2-STAR
OPEN
Venue: Norton Recreation Centre.
Tel: (09285) 76796. *Organiser:* M.
Williams, Norton Recreation Centre,
Castlefields Avenue East,
RUNCORN. Tel: (098285) 76796.
Events: JBS, JGS, JBD, JGD, CBS,
CGS. *Equipment:* Butterfly tables,
Schildkröt balls. *Closing date:* 11th
November 1985. *Prize Fund:* £140.
Lentec rating: ×1.

11
EUROPEAN LEAGUE
DIVISION 1
Finland v England
Lentec rating: ×4.

14
BENEFICIAL TRUST
ENGLISH JUNIOR CLOSED
to 15th.
Venue: Hinckley Leisure Centre. Tel:
(0455) 610011. *Information:* ETTA,
21 Claremont, HASTINGS TN34
1HF. Tel: (0424) 433121. *Events*
(Sat): SBS, CGS, JBD, JGD, JXD.
Finals, 7.30 pm. *Events* (Sun): JBS,
JGS. Semis and finals, 5.00 pm.
Equipment: Dunlop tables and
celluloid balls. *Closing date:* 14th
November 1985. *Prize Fund:* £390.
Lentec rating: ×4.

Stiga County Championships
(Seniors and Veterans)
Lentec rating: Veterans Premier
division, ×2; Other divisions, ×1.

22
Halex National League (6)
Lentec rating: Premier division, ×2;
Other divisions, ×1.

29
Halex National League (7)
Lentec rating: Premier division, ×2;
Other divisions, ×1.

There's a warm welcome in

CLEVELAND COUNTY

for all Players and Officials

☆☆☆☆

INTERNATIONAL