



Table Tennis News

No. 182

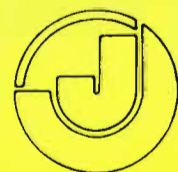
April 1989

90p



**John
Jaques**

Britain's No. 1 and only
major table maker



The problems start now . . .

I WAS the only visible journalist present when Hungary swept aside England 7-0 near Budapest, when happily the result was not critical as England were promoted and Hungary are aiming to stay in the top three in Division 1 of the European League.

The present English squad is capable of great things next campaign. But the major problem is going to be creating strength in depth. We may find that we cannot afford to play come next October without both Alan Cooke and Carl Prean in all the matches.

This season we were able to bring in other players against a couple of the weaker nations, but there are no weaker nations in the Super Division! Bulgaria are down, so it would appear that once again the team we have to beat will be Holland and that match could well be away.

What I found in Hungary is concern that a young player like Karoly Nemeth, un-ranked in Europe calmly wins all four games, singles against Nicky Mason and Bradley Billington and the two doubles matches. A class player is born.

It seemed to me that a full strength England side would have been hard-pressed to win that match with Hungary able to call on other players on the ranking list including Csilla Batorfi, who watched from the gallery.

Red Card for Ken Muhr

My spell of nearly three years as Editor of this magazine ends next month. Recalling the days when former Editor George Yates put a ban on letters from our Chairman John Prean, happily in not quite such a serious situation, I as "referee" have had to ban any further letters from Milton Keynes-based coach Ken Muhr on the subject of national coaches.

He is welcome to write on other subjects, but time is running out whilst I am still at the wheel. His one-man crusade lacks visible support. There seem to be no-one else willing to stand up and be counted with him. So his bombardment of arguments in what I find boring detail has had to be ended. You cannot expect a "house magazine" to continue to carry repetitious material, so I have advised him to try other avenues like the National Council if he wishes to continue what I think, is a hopeless cause.

JOHN WOODFORD.



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

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JOHN WOODFORD

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★ COVER
PICTURE

ALISON GORDON, 25, from Reading, Berkshire has all this season retained her position as our leading lady. She is the England champion, the England No. 1 and winner of most of the 3-star tournaments. She is also heavily into coaching and the new women's initiative. But the physical strain is showing through a racquet shoulder muscle strain as TTN went to press. ★

EUROPEAN SENIOR TOP 12 – CHARLEROI

Belgium: no rooms free at hotel!

by DON PARKER

ON ARRIVING at our hotel reasonably late on the Thursday, Alan, Des and I were given rooms that were already occupied. After pointing this out to reception, we were given two more rooms which on arrival we found were still being built!

In fact, the Hungarian girls had a room where the ceiling and wall did not meet and you could actually see the sky. Finally Reception decided that the hotel was full and so called a taxi at midnight to take us to an alternative hotel.

Needless to say, this was slightly annoying but even more disappointing was that all twelve players had arrived and so Alan as reserve was not going to play. I am still not sure why we were given a bus timetable as it was not even a rough guide as to when buses left the hall or hotel.

The conditions in the hall were first class and attempts, successful in my opinion, were made by the organisers to present the tournament in a very professional way.



Olga Nemes, who defected several years ago from Rumania to West Germany won her first European Top 12 title at Thornaby at the age of 15. She won again at Charleroi and is now regarded as a sporting superstar in Germany, having been given a smart BMW up-range car. Csilla Batorfi (Hungary) has just received her car given by the state, a Lada!

Good change for Desmond

Des played reasonably well and going into the final round against Primorac still had a good chance to finish sixth. Unfortunately, things did not work out but Des secured four victories including both Germans – Bohm and Roszkopf. Waldner dominated the men's event, losing only his final match against Ding Yi and securing his fourth Top 12 title at the age of 22. Mazunov played Waldner, Lindh and Persson consecutively, losing deuce in the fifth to each, and in total had 13 match points; such is the margin between success and failure.

Bulatova's bad start

In the women's event, Bulatova made a bad start and in the sixth round withdrew as the result of a dispute over a let call at 20-20 against the Czech, Safarova. After seven rounds it was still possible for seven girls to win, so even was the standard. However, it was Nemes who emerged from the pack to win her second Top 12 title, the first of course, being in Cleveland.

Meet the Challenge

THE Channel 4 screening of the Table Tennis 'Challenge to Sport' on Saturday 29 April gives every local league and member club a wonderful and unrepeatable opportunity to recruit new players for the sport. But only if we act now!

After the Table Tennis programme has been screened a phone number for further information will be shown. At that point thousands of eager hands will reach for telephones to find out how they can become part of the sport.

The ETTA staff will be in London taking calls from all over the country on the special 'Help lines'. Names and addresses will be logged so that special Table Tennis packs can be mailed out to the enquirers. Amongst other information each pack will detail local contacts for more information and action. The name given will usually be the local league secretary, unless he has nominated someone else when replying to a mailing which has been sent out by the ETTA.

But it is not enough just to give a few leaflets and a contact name and phone number. To really capitalise on the enthusiasms created by the programme we need to have 'Come and Try It' days organised throughout the country so that interest can be converted into action. Every league secretary has been asked to set up at least one sampling session in the week following the programme. If the details are advised to the ETTA we can pass them on to callers. But it is also possible to let them know the date, time and venue for club based sessions. If your club is in a position to help why not organise a session and then let both your league secretary and the ETTA know the details.

* Calculate the best day and time to hold your 'come and try it' session. Make sure its not too long after 29 April.

* If you don't have a suitable club room try to negotiate a free session at your local sports centre. They will know about 'Challenge to Sport' and will realise that new table tennis players could well use their facilities.

* Work out your programme and make it interesting for new recruits. Demonstrations by your club 'stars', coaching, video and play session will all go down well.

* Make sure you have plenty of helpers to ensure that the new talent is given every chance to take up the sport properly and join a club.

* Advise you league secretary and the ETTA of date, time and venue. This is our big opportunity to boost participation in Table Tennis. If you need more help or advice, just ring Diccon Gray, ETTA National Development Officer on Hastings (0424) 722525. Let's really meet the Challenge!

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION 1989 SUMMER SCHOOL



VENUE:

NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE, CRYSTAL PALACE

THIS COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED BY
SENIOR ETTA COACHES, SUPPORTED BY
EXCELLENCE SQUAD PLAYERS

COURSE FEE:

£150.00 for FULL BOARD, TRAINING and VAT

DATES:

9th/14th JULY 1989

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND APPLICATION
FORM PLEASE APPLY TO **ENGLISH TABLE
TENNIS ASSOCIATION**, Queensbury House,
Havelock Rd, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF

Michael O'Driscoll had to fight

YORKSHIRE 2 STAR (GRADED) OPEN

Beadsley is still a threat

by REA BALMFORD

THE general feeling around West Riding table tennis circles before the Yorkshire 2 star championship was that Michael O'Driscoll, who had achieved a meteoric rise up the rankings to No. 8, had only to make the leisurely journey from his Mirfield home to the Huddersfield Sports Centre to claim the tournament's major prize.

But how different the reality when the shadow of the past, in the form of the larger than life Kevin Beadsley, making one of his now rare tournament appearances, clashed with the youngster in the second round of the Mens Singles.

Today's man edged home, and thus set a course for the title which he clinched with a comfortable, 3-set, victory over John Holland after dismissing County colleague Chris Oldfield in the semi.

But Beadsley showed that he still has much to offer, despite his playing opportunities being restricted by his fire service duties, and the 18, -20, 21 defeat was the only one he suffered throughout the day as he went on to take honours in Categories 2 and 3.

He dropped only one more game - against RAF man Mark Donoghue in a Category 2 Round 1 match - before moving smoothly through to finals victories over Steve Slater (Cat. 2) and David Hanney (Cat. 3).

Scratch man

Scratch entrant Adrian Thorp deservedly took the Category 4 title past Chris Ford after a first class showing which saw him reach the last eight of Cat. 2 and semis of Cat. 3 before falling to Dave Harvey (2) and Beadsley (3).

Senior international Andrea Holt was the Ladies Singles winner, with another youngster, Debbie Toole, on the losing end of a three setter, but Debbie had her moment of glory as she shot out the No. 9 ranked Joanne Shaw in a straight sets semi-final.

Biggest

But probably the biggest plus of the whole tournament was the comment from players, some 'names', some unknown - "We enjoyed the day - we got plenty of table tennis". I will say again - "This is the way 1 and 2 star tournaments must go - based on group play and Graded events."



Michael O'Driscoll

RESULTS

Mens Singles

Semi Finals

Michael O'Driscoll (Yorkshire) bt Chris Oldfield (Yorkshire) 7, 13; John Holland (Notts) bt Tony Taylor (Lancs) 21, 13.

Final:

O'Driscoll bt Holland -18, 15, 11.

Ladies Singles

Andrea Holt (Lancs) bt Debbie Toole (Yorks) 13, -17, 17.

Category 2 Mixed Singles

Kevin Beadsley (Yorks) bt Steve Slater (Staffs) 13, 18.

Category 3 Mixed Singles

Beadsley bt David Hanney (Staffs) 13, 18.

Category 4 Mixed Singles

Adrian Thorp (Staffs) bt Chris Ford (Lancs) -17, 19, 15.



Rea Balmford, journalist

St. Neots "Table Tennis Association"

ON BEHALF of the "Table Tennis Association" I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr Lampe, Managing Director of Rexroth for sponsoring the over 45's and juniors for the past three years.

Rexroth is a hydraulic engineering firm based in St. Neots. It has helped to start important contracts, such as the channel tunnel.

"Guarantee" is their aim. Their heart lies with all the people throughout the engineering industry.

Cecil MacKnight

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GAINSFORD CUP COMPETITION

N Middlesex Thorn Ellenborough	} Worcester Lawn Tennis Club Royal Hill w/0	} Worcester Lawn Tennis Club 5-1
Woolwich Royal Hill		
Wembley & Harrow Vagabonds	} Vagabonds 5-3	} CLYCAN Sovereigns 5-2
Dunstable Electrolux		
	Grantham CLYCAN Sovereigns	

Final between Worcester Lawn Tennis club and Grantham CLYCAN Sovereigns to be played at the National Finals to be held on 14 May at Mansfield, Notts. In the semi-finals Worcester was represented by Lynda Reid, Janet Hunt and Helen Pogmore. The CLYCAN team was Jane Strawson, Helen Stephens and Suzanne Airey. DORIS L. MOORS Tournament Secretary

OFFICIAL NEWS



Results of the Elections were as follows:

CHAIRMAN:
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:
TREASURER:

J. PREAN unopposed ELECTED
A.E. RANSOME unopposed ELECTED
P.H.M. HILLIER unopposed ELECTED

ANTHONY J. H. WICKENS
Returning Officer

31st ESSEX 3 STAR OPEN TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mason beats Syed's defensive web

A RECORD of 334 players travelled to Harlow to take part in the 31st Essex Three Star Open Championships at the Harlow Sports Centre. England elite squad players Nicky Mason and Alison Gordon lifted the singles titles.

The top seeding went to Skylet Andrew of Essex with Nicky Mason at number 2.

We were very pleased to see Mr & Mrs John Preat, together with ex Essex secretary, Mike Watts, and I am sure from John's speech that they had an enjoyable evening.

Dave Hannah and John Broe were representing Scotland, Peter Jackson and Maxine Goldie, New Zealand, and Nigel Tyler, Wales, so we had a few "foreigners" in our midst.

There was a major upset as early as the second round when "journey lagged" Skylet Andrew was beaten in two straight games by the tenacious play of Essex No. 2 Steve Dorking, who in turn was beaten in the quarters by the brilliant defensive play of Matthew Syed.

The class two ladies singles was won by Jane Barella Surrey after a very dour struggle against Helen Bardwell, while the mens was lifted by Neil Bevan following a sound performance against Neil Pickard.

A fright

John Hilton took the vets singles, as expected against Peter Radford, although Peter gave John a fright in the second game.

Nicky Mason and Joe Kennedy came through unseeded to land the mens doubles against Steve Dorking and Chris Oldfield in a very closely contested match where individual skills added to the entertainment.

The ladies doubles was won by Alison Gordon and Mandy Sainsbury, No. 1 seeds against the No. 2 seeds Fiona Elliot and Lisa Lomas in a fast and entertaining match where all the players fought hard for every point.

And a fight

The semi-finals of the ladies singles matched Alison with Andrea Holt and Fiona with Lisa. Alison knew she had a fight on her hands when she lost the first game having trailed all through, but she pulled her game together and came back very strongly to take the next two. Fiona and Lisa had a very close match with there being no more than a few points between them throughout the games, Fiona eventually emerging as the winner. In the final, Alison found the form that has made her the regular in the England squad, and powered her way to the title in two straight games.

Report by

RON MACKENZIE



Nicky Mason

LOST STAR!

THE Essex 3-star is now a 2-star tournament. The reason for this is unclear. Some reports suggest that the county did not complete its paperwork in time whilst other newcomers moved much faster. Another unconfirmed report is that internal "politics" is the reason. The facts from both sides would help readers to know the truth.

J.W.

Contrasts

The Marley Tiles mens singles saw two contrasting semi-finals, with the fine defensive play of Matthew Syed proving too consistent, this time for Bradley Bill-

RESULTS

Mens Singles.

Semi Finals.

N. Mason bt D. Hannah 16, 11

M. Syed bt B. Billington 14, 14

Final

N. Mason bt M. Syed 14, 14

Ladies Singles.

Semi Finals

A. Gordon bt A. Holt -12, 15, 15

F. Elliot bt L. Lomas 19, 18.

Final

A. Gordon bt F. Elliot 14, 17

Mens Doubles

N. Mason/J. Kennedy bt S. Dorking/C. Oldfield 18, 19

Ladies Doubles

A. Gordon/M. Sainsbury bt F. Elliot/L. Lomas 18, 18.

Veterans Singles

J. Hilton bt P. Radford 9, 16

Class 2 Singles

Ladies

J. Barella bt H. Bardwell

Mens

N. Bevan bt N. Pickard 17, 12

ington, and he won in two straight games after some very long rallies that had the spectators clapping. Nicky Mason proved too strong for the Scots No. 1 Dave Hannah, and his sound play and all round strength took him into the finals.

The finals saw the vast experience of Nicky never allowing Matthew into the game long

enough to pose a threat to him and forcing the pace all the way, he took the mens title in two straight games.

The Sunday afternoon matches were filmed by Anglia Television and shown Monday evening. We obtained publicity with a little chat about our tournament on BBC Television on Friday evening.

Your scribe also had two live broadcasts on local radio, so all in all I think we did Table Tennis proud.

England women beat Sweden at the Czech Open

by JILL PARKER

AS USUAL, an 8.30am start for the men's team. Unfortunately the organisers did not inform the captain, namely me, that the Luxembourg men's team were not coming and our lads got up early to prepare for a match that did not take place. Hence a walk-over to then play Finland in the next round, whom they beat 3-1.

Their next opposition was against Yugoslavia - the tall, gangly Kalinic and the junior Slobodan Crujic. Bradley went on first but found Kalinic a very difficult opponent with his unusual style and unorthodox strokes. Nick then beat Crujic 21-11 in the third, making the match score 1-1. We lost the doubles 26-24, 25-23 - two very close and exciting games. The next game was Nick against Kalinic. If they had won the doubles who knows what would have happened at 2-2.

Our old rivals

The girls had to play against Sweden, their old rivals. Alison had a close match with Svensson, losing narrowly in the third. Lisa came on next against Erlman and what a cliff hanger -24, -22, in the third. Usually Erlman has difficulties with Lisa but she played her defence very well and we were very nearly 2-0 down.

Lisa, Fiona combined well

Lisa and Fiona played in the doubles and it was very pleasing to see them combining well together. They beat Erlman/Svensson 2-0 very comfortably. Lisa then played Svensson, winning very convincingly 21-14, 21-11, to take the match 3-1.

The next match was against Czechoslovakia A, a team of Safarova and Kasalova. Ali went on first against Safarova and played extremely well to win 2-1. I played Fiona in this match against Kasalova but she lost 2-1, a good performance. As always, the doubles are so important in these matches and with a lead in the first game we were unlucky to lose it. Had we won the first, it would have put pressure on the Czech pair but we lost 2-0, making the match score 2-1 to Czechoslovakia. With Ali playing the quick three, she went on next against Kasalova. She won the first 21-18 but could not sustain it and lost 2-1. A very good effort by all three girls and something to work on for the future.

In the men's singles Nick had a good game against Pansky (Czechoslovakia), losing 3-1 but Bradley lost in the first round to a Czech player Kokes 3-1. However, this player then went on to beat Cabrera of Belgium 3-1 so he was not a bad player at all.

Talented young player

The women's singles was a mixed affair. Fiona had a bye and then played Guerguelcheva of Bulgaria, to whom she lost 3-0. Lisa also had a bye and then a young Polish player who she beat 3-0. Unfortunately, her next encounter was a Czech player, Davidkova, to whom she lost 3-1. I felt Lisa did not play with as much confidence as she did against Sweden. Ali played against Ciosu of Rumania in a very exciting match. I think we will see more of this talented young player in the future. However, Alison showed all her experience and was the winner 3-1. Ali's next encounter was Olga Nemes of West Germany, the winner of the 1989 Top 12 (European). Again some excellent table tennis and some long and exhausting rallies. Ali should have won the first but lost it at deuce. Eventually, Nemes wore her down and Alison lost 3-1.



SIDE COURTSIDE

Compiled by

JOHN WOODFORD

Temptation to look back

ONE of my favourite pieces of advice in life in general is "never look back". On the odd occasion however, the temptation, especially when turning out old files is too great to resist.

Unlike some enthusiasts I do not keep issues of "Table Tennis News" more than a season. Glancing through some papers recently I found a copy of TTN—it was a combined March-April edition for 1986, exactly three years ago.

There was apparently no editor—"editorial" was by Rob Oldfield. The "leader" was apparently written by Rob. It started "John Prean is back". There was a "letter of inordinate length" from our present Chairman which ended "I shall have a few months off and consider my position. I have not given up my battle for a better sport and I shall be back, though not in these columns until there is much change of heart and policy."

In a 34-page issue there were only six advertisements, it was printed on paper much inferior to this and in general it was fairly appalling—that is no reflection on

Rob Oldfield who struggled with the magazine for several months before his career beckoned.

The general feeling, reading through the three-year magazine, was "We have come a long way since then". Let us hope that this progress will continue under the new editor for next season, journalist John Wood.



Conrad at Bexleyheath

AT THE promotion celebrations at Bexleyheath I spotted a familiar face I had not seen for many years—Conrad Jaschke chairman of the ETTA in 1968.

Conrad did not stay long in the ETTA chair, he had to choose between his business career, a very well-known international language organisation and table tennis and it was his career that won the battle.

Not many people know that many years ago in Vienna, chairman John Prean and Conrad Jaschke attended at one time the same school. Had anyone predicted at the time that after living for many years in England they would both be chairmen of the

English Table Tennis Association, they would I think have both been very amused.

Checking the spelling of Jaschke in the 1977 World Championships programme I noticed that the 16 members of the England squad were Desmond Douglas (21), Dennis Neale (32), Paul Day (18), Jimmy Walker (23), Andrew Barden (18), Nicky Jarvis (23), Douglas Johnson (18), David Brown (28), Nigel Eckersley (24), Jill Hammersley (25), Carole Knight (19), Linda Howard (21), Melody Ludi (18), Karen Rogers (19), Shelagh Hession (36) and Susan Lisle (23).

Any arguments on these people's ages to-day can be settled by adding twelve years to those ages given above!



Romance for Channel Tunnel?



Fiona Elliot

THERE could be a romance blossoming between two international players, one from England one from France.

The Heathrow grapevine reports frequent flights to France and return flights into England by Fiona Elliot, the England No. 3 and the French No. 4 Didier Mommessin!



Courtside behind the curtain

BEING courtside in Tatabanya on March 8 when Hungary slammed England 7-0 was a bit of an anticlimax. Because of the World Cup football between Hungary and Ireland, the table tennis was played in the afternoon.

This proved to be a merciful move because it took me two hours to get a call to The Daily Telegraph on the day we arrived—an alarming situation familiar to sports journalists behind the Iron Curtain.

Three hundred fans turned up, not a bad crowd for an afternoon when nothing depended on the result, except for the Hungarians, their pride. The atmosphere was friendly, the hospitality excellent, although we never discovered why the Hungarian team were absent from the evening meal and reception after the match. I suspect the reason would have been that they were rushed back to their training camp for Dortmund.

Swept aside

The England players did not expect to lose 7-0. Earlier views that Nemeth was not a class player were soon swept aside as he was put in all four matches and of course, won the lot without much trouble.



Bradley Billington

Why did they play Tibor Klampar? It seemed to me to be a trial for the 35-year-old "Tibby" to see how he might fare in the Dortmund Hungarian challenge. He faltered against Bradley Billington and did not impress against Nicky Mason, but he is still a very, very talented player who I expect will become world veteran champion in 1994.



European Youth Championships

ENGLAND captain Don Parker has announced that the England team for the 1989 European Youth Championships, in Luxembourg from July 22 to July 30 will be chosen after the Leeds English Junior Open at Bridlington, June 3-4.

EVENTS COMING UP . . .

16 Apr	The Leeds British League, Premier
16 Apr	Bedford 1-star
22 Apr	Lancashire 2-star, Bolton
22-23 Apr	Yorkshire 2-star select
29 Apr	ESTTA Individual championships
29 Apr	Bristol 2-star
29 Apr	Hollington Junior 1-star
30 Apr	Hollington 1-star
30 Apr	Under-11 National Championships
30 Apr	Bristol Junior 2-star
6-7 May	The Leeds English National Championships, Portsmouth
14 May	The Leeds National Team Finals
20 May	Grove Cadets 2-star
27-28 May	VETTS Nationals, Bracknell
27-28 May	Tunbridge Wells Junior 2-star
29 May	The Leeds Youth Cup Finals
3-4 June	The Leeds English Junior Open, Bridlington.

CALENDAR OF WORLD EVENTS from the ITTF . . .

May 13	May 14	3rd Deutschland-Cup (Int. Chs. of Trier)	Trier FRG
Jul 31	Aug 4	European Championships for the Disabled	Vienna AUT
Oct		Polish Open Championships	POL
Nov 2	Nov 5	Austrian Open Championships	Linz AUT
Nov 16	Nov 19	Hungarian Open Championships	Budapest HUN
Dec		Finnish Open Championships	Helsinki FIN

The hospitality was excellent

by JOHN WOODFORD in Tatabanya, Budapest

HUNGARY seems to have a soft spot for Brits – at least that was how it seemed after two brief days in Hungary when England lost 7-0 to a Hungarian side that would have given Carl Preat and Alan Cooke plenty of problems had they not been rested for this final match of the successful campaign.

We were wined and dined by the local and national table tennis administrators and the Mayor of Tatabanya and his aides until we could eat and drink no more.

Bradley Billington started the match for England like an express train, stealing the first game against Tibor Klampar 12 and then forging leads of 14-9 and 16-13 in the second game before the tide turned dramatically.

Tibor work up

Suddenly, old "Tibby" now 35, woke up and starting hitting the ball down the lines instead of cross court. Said Bradley afterwards "At that point I thought there was no way I could lose, but he is such a talented player."

After that disappointment, the 300 crowd (on a Wednesday afternoon) applauded their favourites towards their 7-0 victory. It was downhill all the way, except for later in the match when Nicky Mason managed to get to 20-20 in the second game.

There were hopes that Alison

Gordon would arrange a revenge win over Gabriella Worth but the young Hungarian girl again beat our champion 16, 18.

The surprise of the match was tremendous form shown by Karoly Nemeth – young "Charlie", unranked in Europe and tipped wrongly by Nicky Mason as easy meat.

Nemeth, who just could be yet another Hungarian star of the future dismissed the Bexhill man and then at the end hammered Billington 6, 9.

Telephone communications from behind the Iron Curtain are a journalist's nightmare most of the time. On the night before the match it took me two hours to contact the Daily Telegraph in London to tell them the good news that the match was scheduled for an afternoon start, because of the Hungary v Ireland soccer match in the evening.

However, when it came to reporting the match a small financial incentive for the telephone operator reduced the

delays on two calls to less than 15 minutes!

Speeches

After the match, at the hotel at an evening dinner there were speeches, more eating and drinking until the small hours. The only absentees were the Hun-

garian team. We never found out what happened to them, but at a guess they were hightailing back to their training camp, preparing for Dortmund. I think they played the legendary Klampar to see how he would fare against younger men.

It was an interesting trip. Tatabanya is a mining town that has run out of coal. It is still there but unattainable without the most modern machinery, which they cannot afford. Hungary might be short of coal, but there is no shortage of young table tennis players – they will be back in the Super Division before much more BROWN water has flowed under the bridges of the "Blue" Danube.



Supporters and England players in Tatabanya – left to right ETTA treasurer Peter Hillier, Alison Gordon, Kevin Satchell, Mrs Sharon Mitchell, John Woodford retiring Editor, Table Tennis News.

GREATER LONDON CLOSED TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS 1989

at

Picketts Lock Centre Saturday 20 & Sunday 21 May

Total Prize fund £2000, plus medals

Events for men and women

Singles: under 14, under 17, senior and veteran. Doubles: senior only.

Entries are invited from competitors with Greater London qualifications of birth, residence, work or full time education.



Referee : Doris Moors N.R.
Deputy Referee : Len Pilditch N.R.

Entries close 29 April 1989

For further details and entry forms ring 01 798 2209



Honours for Nicky and Fiona

by ALAN RANSOME

NICKY MASON and Fiona Elliot picked up most of the honours in the Cleveland Open International 3 Star Table Tennis Championships at Thornaby Pavilion.

Some of the shine was taken away from the tournament by the late withdrawal of Desmond Douglas and Chen Xinhua from the mens singles and from the Canadian mens team, Horatio Pinte and Jog Ng for the Butterfly international team event and the individual events.

These withdrawals gave Mason an improved chance of taking the championship and repeating the brilliant performance which he turned in at Thornaby Pavilion just over twelve months ago in the Leeds Euro-Asia in Cleveland.

Mason won the Cleveland County Leisure Services supported tournament from the seventh seeded position. His finest victory was against the Frankfurt based former Chinese star Li Yu Xiang in the semi final after Li had defeated an out of form Alan Cooke a round earlier.

In the final Mason proved too sharp for his England team colleague Skylet Andrew winning by the score line of 21-18, 13-21, 21-13. Andrew's best perform-

ance was in the semi final when he defeated Carl Prean in three games.

Triple Crown

Mason won a triple crown adding both the mens and mixed doubles titles to the singles. He combined with Andrew to beat Prean and Cooke in the mens doubles final and linked with Fiona Elliot to win the mixed.

Fiona Elliot also had a field day in winning the womens singles taking full advantage of the withdrawal due to injury of Alison Gordon. Fiona had a comfortable run to the final defeating Mapdy Sainsbury and Jill Harris both in straight games and then won the tough two game match 21-19, 26-24 against Lisa Lomas who had enjoyed a comfortable win against Andrea Holt in the other semi final.

Domination

The England teams dominated the Butterfly international team event. The mens first team of Alan

Cooke and Carl Prean scored a 3-1 victory over England's second team of Skylet Andrew and Nicky Mason in the mens final. The only set going to the second team being the doubles.

The England second womens team were comfortable winners of the womens team event after the withdrawal of Alison Gordon from the first team, through injury.

The prizes for the tournament were presented by County Councillor Keith Dobinson the Vice Chairman of Cleveland County Leisure Services Committee, County Librarian and Leisure Officer Mrs Janet Barker of Cleveland County Council and ETTA Chairman John Prean.




Alan Ransome deputy Chairman ETTA & Cleveland organiser



Triple winner, England No. 5 Nicky Mason

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RESULTS

Men's semi-finals:

S Andrew bt C Prean 19-21, 21-16, 21-13

N Mason bt Li Yu Xiang 21-13, 21-16

Final

Mason bt Andrew 21-18, 13-21, 21-13.

Doubles final:

Andrew, Mason bt Prean, A Cooke 22-20, 14-21, 21-13

Women's semi-finals

F Elliot bt J Harris 21-8, 21-14

L Lomas bt A Holt 21-7, 21-13.

Final

Elliot bt Lomas 21-19, 26-24.

Doubles final

Lomas, Holt bt J Billington, D Toole 21-10, 21-18

Mixed doubles final

Mason, Elliot bt Andrew, Holt 21-14, 21-17.

Men's team final

England bt England II 3-1 (A Cooke bt S Andrew 21-15, 21-16; C Prean bt N Mason 21-9, 21-13; Andrew, Mason bt Cooke, Prean 20-22, 21-18, 21-15; Prean bt Andrew 21-19, 12-21, 21-15.

Women

England II bt England 3-0 (Elliot bt A Holt 21-18, 21-18; L Lomas bt J Billington 21-10, 21-17; Elliot Lomas bt Holt, Billington 21-13, 14-21, 21-6)

Out and about

- KENT
- LEICESTER
- CHESHIRE
- YORKSHIRE



Another shot by Lucy McCrickard from the celebrations at Bexleyheath after England had won promotion – Alison Gordon, the “retiring” Mike Watts – what a night to retire on – and Lisa Lomas who played well at the Czech Open.



Neil Bevan, just about the best known in western table tennis circles photographed at the Cotswold Junior Select.



At The Leeds Youth Club regional finals at Grove, Geoff Twiss's camera was in action once again to capture the Under-13 doubles winners Michelle Martin (right) of Burton-on-Trent and on the left, Clare Hand from Grove.



A new name – Dale Aitkenhead (Newcastle) photo: Mike Loveder



Back to the Cotswold Junior Select – S. Williams and Nichola Deaton, girls doubles Under-17 winners with the High Sheriff of Gloucester Lady Barbara Ruddy and a man who seldom gets near the cameras, Les Smith, administrator of the Leeds County Championships.



BACK ON COURT

David Hannah (Scotland) out of action for months after a football injury is back on court and taking some prize scalps.

European League – Two in debuts

My debut as European captain

by KEVIN SATCHELL

WITH promotion already ensured it was an inexperienced team which left England to take on Hungary in Tatabanya

Hungary however with their pride already dented earlier in the season were determined to finish their campaign strongly. This added to the expectancy of a television audience meant that long time hero Tibor Klampar was called upon to lead a strong Hungary side.

Bradley Billington on his European League debut faced a Baptism of fire when faced with Klampar in the first match. In the first set, however, Bradley silenced the crowd with a stunning display of power to trounce the Hungarian master 21-12. Bradley with the bit between his teeth, again took control in the 2nd set and led for most of the set before Klampar surged back to take the set, when at one stage it looked as though England's dream might come true. In the third Klampar was unstoppable and try as he might the young lad from Chesterfield was unable to prevent the Hungarians barrage of power. A tremendous effort though by a player in his first match.

Inspired Nemeth

Nicky Mason in only his second individual performance was next to the table. From the start Nicky was unable to capture his best form and could not match the inspired Karoly Nemeth.

Alison Gordon fought well against Gabriella Worth who had beaten her in the past, and was unlucky to get no reward for what was a closely contested match, which the Hungarian girl won two straight games.

In the Mens and Mixed doubles with English pairs were well beaten and any chance of a surprise victory had gone.

Mason now faced his toughest match against Klampar and felt the full force of his game as he was demolished 21-10 in the first. After an attempt at confidence boosting from the bench, Mason began to show a glimmer of his game but could not capture the 2nd set although he did lead 20-19. Klampar's mixture of brilliance was so frustrating for the lad from Bexhill, with his set point snatched from him by a tremendous loop drive.

RESULTS

T. Klampar b B. Billington – 12,16,11
K. Nemeth b N. Mason 14,13
G. Wirth b A. Gordon 16, 18
Nemeth-Hartzi b Mason-Billington
10, 14
Nemeth-Wirth b Mason-Gordon
14, 13
Klampar b Mason 9, 20
Nemeth b Billington 6, 9.



Kevin Satchell

Debut boy Billington was now given the last chance to try and salvage something for the team as he took on Nemeth. The Hungarian was quite literally brilliant as everything Billington threw at him came back with abundance. Billington came away dejected from his defeat but the home side were delighted with an excellent performance which was capped by Nemeth who was certainly too good for us on the day.



The England team on the Sports Hotel Balcony in Tatabanya, left to right – Alison Gordon, Nicky Mason, Bradley Billington on his European League Debut and England Captain for the first time in the league, Kevin Satchell.

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Putting something back

by JOHN ROBERTSON

TO BE involved with any movement in sport is exciting. To actually be responsible for something new taking off is heady stuff indeed. When I first became involved with table tennis it was purely by accident. The details are shrouded in the mists of my memory, but I was soon aware that the sport was in danger of not being able to sustain the effort that had lifted the national teams into the leading sides in Europe.

While, quite rightly, the drive to raise standards at the top of the sport was in full swing youth had been sadly obliged to carry on as they always had done. I saw the danger then. If new blood wasn't nurtured then talented in depth would fail to emerge. Eventually that could undo the work already done.

It took me a long time to get to the position I find myself writing about now. I am directly responsible for launching, what I believe, is the basis for the next generation of players.

A chance to play, and improve through competition, on a controlled, structured scheme.

My history contains not one word of how I became a top player. I rarely ever had the chance, as a child to play. I have however deep grained thoughts on how children should be supported while growing up. I also feel that former players have a debt to put some of their efforts back into a sport that they have enjoyed because of the labours of others. I put seven years back into youth soccer, and many more into adult soccer. I held every office in club, and league at least once during my term. You may say why don't I remain with football? Mainly because I felt I had repaid my debts in full.

American football

On my way to giving my time to table tennis I stopped off with American football. I helped organise a national set up for fledgling gridiron players. Having succeeded in putting the game on a firm footing I withdrew. The twist of the story is that if I felt I was going to keep out of youth sport. I was sadly mistaken. The seeds were set, and here I am.

I am a new boy, untried, untested. I begin life now with Len Pilditch, I

am to sit on the Cup Competition Committee, as the man to market and promote a new competition. It is for the under fourteens. The long term plans have been laid, but probably will alter before settling into the final design.

A new championship

From 1989/90 season the ETTA wish to bring in a new initiative designed to attract young people into the sport and reveal the England players of the future. For next season we wish to organise a national championship for both boys and girls at the under fourteen level. To begin with it will be a knock-out cup for teams of two boys or girls from clubs. They will initially play in their own premises and there should not be too much travelling until the competition progresses through county level to regional and national final stages. The club teams of two aside will play four singles and one doubles. Eventually, and this is where clubs can begin to prepare by setting up junior sections, we will organise leagues to keep the initiative rolling. In these early stages it will be a minimum cost in money and time but with maximum return in competition for this valuable age group.

We start out on this new avenue with caution. What will be needed are others to help at local level. Perhaps ex-players, with children of their own can be persuaded to plough something back into the sport. Certainly they are unlikely to win medals for their efforts, but the reason for helping is to help the next generation of players play, improve and enjoy their lives too.

Today the plan has hardly started. We don't know just how clubs will feel about getting involved. After all it is time consuming running what they have now. Another section could take a few more minutes more to run. The rewards will be good though. New players coming through, every year, who have inborn loyalty to the club they grew up with.

Recruitment hand

The way I see it right now the competition will focus the youngsters attention on table tennis, before they are lured away by the recruiting departments of other sports. Then they will be lost to the game, for ever. Sports like cricket, rugby, and soccer are aware that the school age population is falling. The baby boom of the last war is over. New sports, baseball and gridiron, and new wider opportunities will make recruitment harder if we fail to offer the youngsters goals to aim at.

Contact me now

The goals have been identified, what the next weeks, months and years will bring is the reaching, or otherwise of those goals. I would like to think I might just have galvanised you into backing, not me, but the youngsters and table tennis. I am looking to have many people helping, write to me c/o Len Pilditch, at the ETTA Third Floor, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex. TN34 1HF.

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JIM BECKLEY

Vice-chairman of the ETTA Public Relations Committee is in charge of the advertising for this magazine. He is interested in hearing from anyone who has information that could lead to new advertisers. Jim is a professional media man and offers advice on advertising and publicity for large or small businesses. His address is: JIM BECKLEY, c/o Sports PR, PO Box 8, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 7RG. Tel: 061 488 4002 business. Home number. Tel: 061 439 6001.

NEWS IN BRIEF

JUPP SCHLAF

JUPP SCHLAF died unexpectedly on 26th February, at the age of 69.

As ITTF Vice-President for Europe from 1967 to 1982, as President of the European Table Tennis Union, and as General Secretary of the DTTB for thirty-two years from 1949, he made a major contribution to the development of table tennis in the Federal Republic of Germany and in Europe.

SOUTH KOREA now has a team of three men capable of stopping even China in the Swaythling Cup. They are the Olympic champion Yoo Nam Kyu, the gentleman with the alleged invisible services, Kim Ki Taek and the young Kim Taek Soo, highly rated by observers on the Asia v Europe circuit.

**CHANNEL 4 –
SATURDAY
APRIL 29**

We did shake the world!

THE NEWS that we had at last regained promotion to the European Super-League is now well known. It was yet another step forward for our Sport. Next season we shall have better table tennis for our players and supporters. Some of Europe's top nations will be on view in this country.

The match against Belgium at the Leeds Town Hall was, perhaps the most exciting and electrifying I can remember. I cannot recall ever feeling quite such tension. For four hours the issue was in doubt and often single points decided the issue.

The Belgians, under their Coach Milan Stencil, are now a formidable side. Saive has beaten Waldner and Teng Yi. Cabrera has beaten Kim Song Hui, Persson and Li Gungang. Our boys won all four against this formidable duo and this was the foundation of a famous victory. It was achieved before a wonderful crowd and in the end there were few dry eyes. How fitting that it all took place in Leeds, the home town of the Sponsor who has done so much for English Table Tennis.

We moved on to Preston's Guildhall for the LEEDS Masters. About a thousand spectators attended the Friday evening session and Saturday afternoon built up to 1600. It was a magnificent venue with a splendid, committed crowd and some marvellous table tennis emerged. Our gate exceeded the wildest local expectations. Far more came to us that did to Badminton and Bowls.

There was almost universal praise for the televised parts. We were lucky with our players, but we had given luck a helping hand by inviting players who were not only world class but could and would play attractively which is no contradiction in terms. Grubba showed the way, winning point after point with some wonderful lobbing, which had everyone enthralled.

Two days later we moved to Bexleyheath for the match against Turkey. We had to win this one to make sure of promotion, having done the hard work against Belgium and Austria (with Ding Yi.) Our players did this, winning 7-0.

The heroes of the evening were the local organisers,

Graham Sopp and the whole North West Kent League (our best wishes on their 40th Anniversary, which this match helped to celebrate in great style) and the Local Authority, all of whom are to be congratulated most warmly on their organisation of the match and providing a full house with "Standing Room only." It is true that the match was endowed with a magic of its own by the occasion, but it was Graham and his team who made it such a glittering evening.



Thierry Cabrera and not Andras Podpinka was the man who came between England and promotion. He seems to back as Belgian No.2

A feature of 6 great days was the press coverage received. As I said long ago, people have to read and hear about us, if they are to take up the sport and they certainly read a lot about Table Tennis during those historic days. Great credit to Richard Eaton and John Woodford, who supported the sport when we needed it most, when space was hard to get and the sport seemed to be going downhill fast. It is a pleasure to see so much more in their newspapers, (in alphabetical order) the Guardian, Independent, Telegraph and Times and the Sport's progress is confirmed by the vastly increased space our journalists are now getting. A special word for our President Johnny Leach, again very much back as a regular on the News of the World which sends the Table Tennis message to millions.

There is still a lot to be done, but present trends in Table Tennis are enormously hopeful. For us who work

within the sport every day it is sometimes hard to see the wood for the trees, but the praise we have won from outsiders is immensely encouraging.

Over a hundred volunteers work for the sport at national level and many give substantial time and effort. We owe them an enormous debt. Each season a few decide to do something else, often for reasons of work or home, sometimes for personal reasons of their own. Sections of the press sometimes describe such changes as due to my "dynamic" or "ruthless" style. That may be good copy, at any rate in the view of casual journalists, but it is not in accordance with the facts. I have welcomed all volunteers with open arms and past differences are forgotten when people work together for the sport.

Despite my very large majority, some have not accepted the democratic decisions and have fed outdated, twisted tittle tattle to sections of the national press. I do not mind that, because those journalists who know the sport and know what goes on have given me a good and fair press. I ask readers to make their protests to the paper which prints quite ludicrous inaccuracies. Fortunately this only happens on very rare occasions. What appears 99 times out of a hundred advances and helps the sport.

As you know, I am up for election every year, unlike politicians who are given a five year term and can choose their own time to get to the country. Once again I have been elected unopposed. I particularly thank those who nominated me and the names include some who voted against me when I first stood for office. I am very grateful to all who went to this trouble. I met an enormously difficult situation on my election. I assembled a strong and enthusiastic team and together we solved most prob-



John Prean

lems. We turned losses into profits, overdrafts into positive cash flows. We brought high quality table tennis to many parts of the country. We have improved T.V. exposure which is so important in modern sport. We have helped Table Tennis to look better, to command more respect. I was sustained by the support of our members, often very warmly expressed, wherever I went. The post proved far harder than my many years as a Managing Director and my reward was to see the sport moving forward. That will only continue if it remains our main aim - at local as well as national level.



Wendy Cunningham, publicity executive with The Leeds is one of the people to whom English table tennis is indebted for her avid support.

Particularly warm thanks are due to the LEEDS Permanent Building Society to whom we owe a very great debt. All the spectacular achievements of the last two years would have been harder without them. Some would not have been possible at all. Theirs has been a mixture of solid professionalism and sheer love of the sport. That great evening in Leeds and so many others repay them a little for all they have done for us. We hope and plan for many more.

JOHN PREAN

The Cabrera Theory

by MIKE LOVEDER

CHAN'S Construction's 5-3 win over Bayer Bradford keeps them on the heels of Armada 400. Bradford led 3-2 as Davd Gannon started the recovery with a 17 & 15 win over Denis Neale. Last minute registrations include a new No. 1 for Bayer Bradford who, in theory could avoid relegation. Jean-Michel Saive's European League teammate Thierry Cabrera signs up and, with Neale pushed down to No. 4, the leading teams will need to be careful. Bradford recently drew with Butterfly Cardiff as Michael O'Driscoll at No. 1 beat Carl Morgan -23, 8, 9.

Ashford beat Chan 8-0 with Dave Hannah on debut continuing his recovery with wins over Neil Pickford and Leigh Jeffries. Grove stay top of the Premier with their fixture vs Bath somehow postponed at the eleventh hour. April will be a hectic month and I hope Des Douglas is available to clear the backlog - things will be different next year!!

Promotion and relegation is virtually decided in Div. 1 South and C & L Ruislip may well now fear the premier. Plymouth Bulldogs have lost their bite. Peray Collino beat Mike Short 7 & 6 for Rejects' 5-3 win. Ladies man Richard Beckham lost 20, -14, -21 to Elaine Short. Larkhall beat Dagenham 5-3 with Mike Hammond beating John Busleton 16 & 19, but losing to David Dodd. Larkhall led Plymouth 5-0 before the latter took the last 3 to make it look more respectable. Kevin Buddel recorded his first win of the season at 19 in the third at the expense of Brian Garraway who had easily beaten Gary Lambert 16 & 13. A Spencerless Rejects drew 4-4 away to Doleq. Steve Ward led Peray Collino 11-4 in the third but lost 16-21. Pressure from Ruislip drew with Ramlosa without Nigel Tyler. Ian Girdler beat Stuart Gibbs to prevent their first loss. John Dennison was on form for Ramlosa taking two from Dolphins for a draw.

Grove II beat Burslem 7-1 with Brian Johns taking consolation in thrashing Chris Oldfield 14 & 8. Ketterl scraped through 5-3 against Ipswich with Steve Slater doing much damage against Russell King and Richard Tanner Phil Logston achieved a victory over the improving Adrian Moore. Stuart Palmer was on form for St. Neots but could not prevent a 3-5 defeat by Leeds.

West Yorkshire killed off the Ipswich challenge with a draw but John Kitchener beat Adrian Dixon -20, 12, 10. Kettler, with Steven Scowcroft as their new No. 4 beat Burslem 6-2. He beat Michael Browne -21, 10, 4. Grove beat St. Neots 6-2 too with Stuart Palmer beating Malcolm Green 18, -11, 20. City of Leeds beat Ruston Marconi Lincoln by the same score and Mark Ward secured a narrow victory over Stuart Worrell 25, -19, 23.

Chan Construction II failed to arrive against Oldham which puts the latter above Grove III. March beat Grove's four girls 5-3. Ormesby's Stephen Cooper stopped a whitewash by Vymura by beating Derek Schofield. WC Wellingbro crushed RM Leicester 8-0 to stay on promotion course while Chan should go down. Geoff Davies secured two good wins for March against WC Wellingbro only to see his team lose 3-5. Norman Thearliss led his team to victory over Ormesby II with vital wins over Stuart Miller and Mike Nisbet. Royal Mail Leicester beat Chan 7-1 with Colin Greene beating Karen Smith 19, -27, 18. When Vymara beat Grove Helen Lower beat Andrea Holt 13 & 16. She also beat Derek Schofield 19 & 12.

Chelmsford OC's continue to lead Div 2 South with a 7-1 win over Butterfly Cardiff when Paul Lewis beat Des Charlery. Grant Sotler beat Chris Kelly 2, -16, 15. OC's had a 6-2 scrape over VS Tonbridge. They led 5-0 but with two deuce in the third wins. Ashford crashed Deptford Rams 6-2 in a friendly atmosphere with Phil Bradbury just taking his two with a 20, -11, 22 win over Max Crimmins. Ashford thrashed Cheltenham 8-0 although Graham Slack troubled Dave Barr. Fellows Cranleigh won their first match at the expense of Jolliffe Poole with Paul Sayer and Dave Window both winning two. Cranleigh just missed out on a draw with Rams as Alex Facey beat Sayer 17, -16, 20. Poole beat Cardiff 5-3 as Paul Lewis won two including the scalp of Tony Clayton. Shock of the period must be an 8-0 win for Victory Sports Tonbridge over the Saracens. Mark Brown found great form to beat Graham Slack and Dave Harvey.

Continued on page 15



WELL-CONNECTED, Wellingborough TTC are the team top of Division 2 (North) with a 100 per cent record and with the best games average. Left to right: Gaeme McKim, Adrian Pilgrim, Alan Hawes, their Team Manager Andrew Edwards and Mark Randle.

The Leeds British League 2

RESULTS

Premier	
Ashford	8 0 Chan Const.
Bradford	4 4 B. Cardiff
1 North	
Ipswich	4 4 W. Warwicks
Burslem	2 6 Kettler
St. Neots	2 6 Grove II
Lincoln	2 6 C. Leeds
1 South	
Dagenham	2 6 Ruislip
Doleq C	4 4 Rejects
Plymouth	3 5 Larkhall
Ramlosa	4 4 Horsham
2 North	
Chan Con	0 8 Oldham
Grove III	3 5 March
Ormesby	1 7 Vymara
Wellingbro	8 0 Leicester
2 South	
Chelmsford	6 2 Tonbridge
Cheltenham	0 8 Ashford II
Deptford	5 3 Cranleigh
J. Poole	5 3 B. Cardiff
3 East	
Comets	5 3 Ipswich
Levi's W	3 5 Cranleigh
Norwich	7 1 M. Keynes
Ellenbro	4 4 Dunstable
3 North	
Birmingham	4 4 C Lincoln
Liverpool	6 2 BB Byker
Ormesby	2 6 Vymara
Peterbro	3 5 Hartlepool
3 South	
Triangle	3 5 Ashford II
Marley A.	6 2 Lambeth
Pillingor	3 5 Horsham
Rejects	4 4 Larkhall
3 West	
Bath T.	6 2 Reading
Doleq	0 8 S. Barry
Grove IV	4 4 AG Faresham
Launceston	5 3 Leckie
Also 19.2.89	
Launceston	5 3 Reading

Continued from page 14

Leaders of Div 3 East, Thorn Ellenborough anchored Ipswich to the bottom with a 7-1 win whilst the three other fixtures that weekend were drawn. Dunstable Pioneer shared the points with Norwich Foxwood in a match so close that Pioneer could have triumphed 6-2! Peter Bowler recorded two good wins over Mick Broughton and David Honor. Richard Elliott did well to win two for Levi's Westfield to share points with AHW Comets. Dave Solman helped Cranleigh to a draw vs City of Milton Keynes with wins over Ian Doughty and Mark Beaumont. Simon Rockall starred for CMK beating Clive Carpenter and Jason Clark.

Jonathan Bradbury lost -15, -12 to Richard Nelhams as Comets beat Ipswich 5-3. Gary Hamilton just prevent a draw winning 19 in the 3rd in the last game against Andrea Ambrose. Levi's took Cranleigh close but Clive Carthy beat Ian Hawes 18, -17, 23 and Solman won -19, 17, 19 against Rafe Miller. Foxwood crushed CMK as Stephen Baggeley beat David Honor in the last game to stop a whitewash. One of the oddest results must be Ellebro's draw with a 3-man Dunstable Pioneer. Coling Bowler played well to beat Nicky McKay and John Proffitt. This still leaves two unbeaten teams in the division.

University team-mate

Seat Peterborough took a point from Bri-Bar Byker. Mark Oakley lost to his former London University teammate Chris Bryan at 19 in the third and then lost to Jimmy Brewster -12, 20. Dale Aikenhead performed well with two wins as did Brian Hill. Ormesby III chalked up their second point from Crusades Lincoln. Jimmy Nicholson won two hard-fought games. Harlepool walloped Birmingham 6-2 while Liverpool secured a 5-3 win over Kymura after leading 5-1. Dhira Parmar and Wor Warner both won two against Lincoln only for Birmingham to record their third draw. Andre Eden was devastating for Liverpool during 6-2 win over Byker. He beat Aitkenhead 8 & 12 and Dave Godbold 4 & 15. Vymura won the last 3 games vs Ormesby to win 6-2. Nicholson won the two. Lindsay Taylor suffered his first loss to Jimmy Brewster -19, 17, -20 as Hartlepool beat Seat 5-3.

Dropped a point

Rejects II struggled to beat Ashford III with six of the first ten games ending at 20-22. They Key was Paul Carter's 20, -15, 20 win over Neil Charles. Dolphins dropped a point to Triangle. Alan Cole resisted the challenge with two wins including a 16 & 4 over Chris Boothby. Pillingor beat Lambeth 5-3 with veterans Henry Buist and Andy Means winning four. Clive Morris enjoyed two close games for Larkhall against Marley including a -12, 19, 24 win over Andy Holstock. Lambeth introduced Steve Holloway at No. 1 against TSP Larkhall. He beat Morris but lost to Derek Holman. Richard Rusesll beat Connie Warren and Brian Garroway to win the match. Ashford recorded their first win against Gunnersby. Simon Griev played well to win two. Marley beat Lambeth 6-2 but Steve Mills was under pressure as he beat Holloway 16, -15, 19. Peter Bartram experienced an off day and lost his first two against Pillingor's Henry Buist and Martin Lower although Dolphins won 5-3, Larkhall took a point from Rejects with Gordon Chapman beating Paul Carter 22-20 in the third. Scott Greenbrook was relatively untroubled by Holman and Morris.

Ramesh Bhalla beat Any Creed for Amity Generations sole win against Bath. Lee Sadler beat Graham Toole -19, 18, 20. Reading were held to a draw by Doleq Carpets as Wally Allanson was beaten by Jeremy Hobbs -10, 18, -20. Andrew Penduck secured two good wins. Leckie drew with Grove IV with Keith Sillitoe beating Phillip Pearce and Dave Hanney, the latter -14, 20, 22. Barry were held to a draw by WH Launceston to open up the way for Bath. George Evans beat Neil Bevan 19 in the third. Lee Sadler secured two wins for Bath against Reading to help set up a 6-2 victory. In '2½' games he beat Paul Savins 21-14, 30-28! Grove drew with Fareham as Maurice Billington beat Bhalla and Toole. Launceston scraped a 5-3 over Leckie with Sean Gaylard squeezing home 10, -19, 21 against Pearce. The previous week Launceston scraped a 5-3 win over Reading with Neil Bevan beating Wally Allanson deuce in the third for a 3-2 lead.

the LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE - TABLES



Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Grove I	11	7	3	1	65	23	17
Ashord I	9	6	3	0	56	16	14
Ormesby I	9	5	4	0	50	22	14
Bathwick Tyres I	6	4	2	0	32	16	10
Butterfly Cardiff I	10	4	1	5	40	40	9
Armada 400	11	2	1	8	28	60	5
Chan Construction I	12	2	1	9	22	74	5
Bayer Bradford Unity	10	1	1	8	19	61	3

Division 1 (North)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Grove II	12	8	3	1	61	35	19
Kettler Sport	12	9	1	2	61	35	19
City of Leeds	12	6	3	3	57	39	15
Britannia Ipswich I	12	5	5	2	56	40	15
West Warwickshire	12	5	3	4	51	45	13
M.B.S. St. Neots TTC	12	2	2	8	43	53	6
Burslem A.N.C.	12	2	1	9	31	65	5
Ruston Marc. Lincoln	12	2	0	10	24	72	4

Division 1 (South)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
C & L Ruislip	12	10	2	0	70	26	22
Horsham Dolphins I	12	6	3	3	56	40	15
Team Ramlosa Essex	12	4	4	4	48	48	12
T.S.P. Larkhall I	12	5	2	5	41	55	12
Rejects I	12	4	3	5	46	50	11
Dagenham F.C.	12	4	2	6	45	51	10
Doleq Carpets I	12	2	5	5	41	55	9
Plymouth Bulldogs	12	1	3	8	37	59	5

Division 2 (North)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
WC Wellingbro	11	11	0	0	76	12	22
Vymura In'I	11	9	0	2	58	30	18
March	12	6	1	5	51	45	13
RM Leicester	12	5	1	6	48	48	11
Ormesby II	12	5	0	7	40	56	10
Oldham	12	4	0	8	42	54	8
Grove III	10	4	0	6	34	46	8
Chan Const.	10	0	0	10	11	69	0

Division 2 (South)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Chelmsford	12	11	0	1	74	22	22
Ashford II	12	10	1	1	74	22	21
Cheltenham	12	6	2	4	45	51	14
Deptford	12	6	1	5	49	47	13
VS Tonbridge	12	4	2	6	43	53	10
J. Poole	12	4	1	7	39	57	9
B. Cardiff	12	2	1	9	35	61	5
F. Cranleigh	12	1	0	11	25	71	2

Division 3 (East)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Thorn Ellenborough	12	10	2	0	69	27	22
Norwich Foxwood	12	9	3	0	73	21	21
A.H.W. Comets	12	6	3	3	49	47	15
Dunstable Pioneer	12	6	2	4	53	43	14
Fellows Cranleigh II	12	4	5	3	49	47	13
City of M. Keynes	12	1	2	9	32	64	4
Levi's Westfield	12	1	2	9	29	67	4
Britannia Ipswich II	12	1	1	10	30	66	3

Division 3 (North)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Liverpool	12	10	0	2	69	27	20
Hartlepool P.C.	12	9	2	1	66	30	20
Birmingham SC R.S.	12	7	3	2	57	39	17
Bri-Bar Byker T.T.C.	12	3	4	5	46	50	10
Crusaders Lincoln	12	4	2	6	41	55	10
Vymura Intern. II	12	4	1	7	46	50	9
Seat Peterborough	12	3	2	7	40	56	8
Ormesby III	12	0	2	10	19	77	2

Division 3 (South)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Horsham Dolphins II	12	8	3	1	64	32	19
Rejects II	12	6	5	1	59	43	15
Lambeth 4 Tops	12	7	1	4	53	43	15
T.S.P. Larkhall II	10	5	1	4	40	40	11
Gunnersbury Triangle	11	3	3	5	41	47	9
Pillingor Air (Croy)	12	3	3	6	43	53	9
Marley Ashford	11	3	2	6	35	53	8
Ashford III	12	2	0	10	33	63	4

Division 3 (West)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Specsavers Barry	12	8	2	2	68	28	18
Bathwick Tyres II	10	8	1	1	55	25	17
White Hart Launceston	12	6	4	2	56	40	16
Kingfisher Reading	11	6	2	3	53	35	14
Amity Generation	11	2	6	3	43	45	10
Doleq Carpets II	11	2	4	5	34	54	8
Leckie T.T.C.	12	1	2	9	31	65	4
Grove IV	11	0	3	8	20	68	3



Julie Billington, Derby.



Jonathan Taylor

Middlesex regain the crown

by DOUG MOSS

SENIOR PREMIER; Middlesex regained the Championship. But what excitement and tension there was at Stantonbury, Milton Keynes before this was decided. It was not until the penultimate set in the last round of matches – when Berks went ahead 5-3 against Lancs – that Middlesex were assured of the title. Lancs and Middlesex were equal on points but Middlesex had a 2 sets better average! In another vital match, played on the Sunday morning, Middlesex were level 4-4 with Berkshire but Graham Sandley beat Andy Wellman 20 and 13 to give Middlesex that vital win.

After the first series Lancs looked like being champions having beaten Middlesex. However, due to injury, Lancs did not have the services of their No. 1 – Sean Gibson in this second series. The other vital factor was the introduction of Matthew Syed, who won all his singles matches, for Berks, who had to play both Lancs and Middlesex.

Apart from Matthew Syed the only other unbeaten singles player was Andrea Holt (La) – who also had 100% success in the first series. Steve Scowcroft (La) and Graham Sandley (Mi) lost only 1 singles over the weekend. Lesley Keast (Mi) also lost only 1 singles and was successful in all mixed doubles events. And Stuart Palmer/John Kitchener (Sk) again won all their doubles to give them a marvellous 100% record for the 2 series – maybe some consolation for Suffolk being demoted. The nearest they came to defeat was against Bradley Billington/Stephen Yallop (Dy) which they won – 20, 16, 20!

Yorkshire who did not win a single event involving ladies, are the other team for demotion. Four of their 7 matches were lost at 4-5.

Results

Y 4	Bk 5	Mi 5	Bk 4
Sk 1	Mi 8	Y 4	Dy 5
La 7	Dy 2	Sk 4	Le 5
Dv 5	Le 4	La 8	Dv 1
Dy 5	Sk 4	Dy 3	Mi 6
Mi 8	Y 1	Dv 4	Sk 5
Le 4	La 5	Le 4	Y 5
Bk 7	Dv 2	Bk 5	La 4

League Table

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Mi	7	6	1	45	18	12
La	7	6	1	43	20	12
Bk	7	4	3	32	31	8
Le	7	3	4	30	33	6
Dy	7	3	4	28	35	6
Dv	7	3	4	24	39	6
Y	7	2	5	28	35	4
Sk	7	1	6	22	41	2

SENR 1A:

Essex	9	Norfolk	1
Warwicks	6	Yorks 2.	4
Worcs.	9	Herts	1
N'berland	5	Cambs	5

Cambs did well, on their visit to Newcastle, to get a draw with N'berland. Cambs went 0-3 down but then won the 2 doubles events. At 4-5 down Mick Harper (Ca) played well to beat Mark Christie 14, 20 to earn the team point.

SENR 1B:

Avon	3	Middx 2.	7
Kent	3	Surrey	7
Somerset	2	Sussex	8

Kent lost their first match and Surrey press on relentlessly. David Hannah came into the Surrey team as their No. 1 with 2 singles wins.

SENR 2A:

Clwyd	2	Warwicks 2.	8
Cumbria	4	Notts	6
Leics 2.	4	Ches 2.	6.

Leics at 0-5 down made a good fight back to 4-5. Wayne Percival (Ch) clinched the points for Ches. with a – 18, 20, 17 win over Keith Fellows.

SENR 2B:

Dorset 2.	3	Worcs 2.	7
Glos.	5	Hants	5

Hants dropped their first point against Glos. Graham Slack (Gs) was involved in 3 wins. He got the final event for the draw with a 17, 13 win over Rhamish Balla. Worcs got their first win. Lynda Reid made a welcome appearance and, with Sue Meredith, involved in 3 wins.

SENR 2C:

Beds 2.	6	Cambs 2.	4
Lincs	10	Hunts	0
Suffolk 2.	6	Herts 2.	4

Lincs keep up their bid for the championship with a 10-0 win – all 2 straight. After 3 successive drawn matches Herts just succumbed 4-6 on their visit to Suffolk.

SENR 2D:

Berks 2.	7	Oxon	3
Bucks	0	Essex 2.	10
Essex 3.	5	Sussex 2.	5

Essex 3 dropped a valuable point to Sussex 2. These 2 teams were the only rivals to Essex 2, who got a 10-0 win, and now seem to be "coasting". Tony Murrell won the last set for Sussex in beating Damien Holland (E) 9 and 18.

JUNR 1A:

Hunts	2	Lancs 2.	8
Lincs	10	Ches	0
Notts	4	Durham	6

Durham did well to win their first match on their visit to Notts. Ian Collier (Du) won his 2 singles, including the last event to secure the win.

JUNR 1B:

Avon	6	Bucks	4
Somerset	3	Herts	7
Surrey	4	Kent	6
Sussex	6	Berks	4

Surrey and Kent, had both won 3 and drawn 2 matches – so it was an important win for Kent, par-

ticularly as Berks, in exactly the same position, lost at Sussex. Brian Mileham won 2 singles for Kent.

JUNR 2A:

Che 2.	2	Northants	8
Clwyd	5	Derbys 2.	4
Leics	4	Warwicks 2.	6
N'berland	7	Lancs 3.	3

Clwyd got their first win at the expense of Derbys. But it was a close thing as, in the final event, David Howarth (Cw) beat Stephen Shaw at 25 in the 3rd game! Natasha Williams (Cw) continues unbeaten.

JUNR 2B:

Berks 2.	0	Hants 10	
Herts 2.	2	Middx 2.	8
Worcs	6	Glos	4

There were some excellent matches in the Wo/Gs clash. Raymond Powell (Gs) played very well to win his 2 singles, but against Lee Horton he lost the first game at 21 and won the 2nd at 25! Worcs are on equal points with Oxon at the top of the Table.

JUNR 2C:

Wiltshire	0	Gwent	10
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The Wilts girls (Melissa Potter and Kerenza Palmer), although losing their singles easily, only narrowly lost the doubles 18, – 18, – 23.

JUNR 2D:

Essex 2.	5	Essex 3.	5
Kent 2.	8	Surrey 2.	2
Norfolk 1.	6	Suffolk 1.	4
Norfolk 2.	1	Suffolk 1.	9
Suffolk 2.	4	Sussex 2.	6

It was a vital match between the Essex teams – both in competition for the Championship. The 3rd team fought back from 3-5 down to earn a draw. Still 1 point ahead Essex 2 now look certain to take the title. Allan Radford (E2) won 2 singles as did Neil Butcher for Essex 3.

VETS 1A:

Essex	7	Leices	2
Norfolk	5	Worcs	4
Warwicks	8	Northants	1
Yorks 2.	3	Ches 2.	6

Warwicks got their first points with a decisive 8-1 win over Northants. Brian Belcher won his 2 singles and the mixed with Ann Lloyd. Neil Wheatley also had 100% success.

VETS 1B:

Dorset 1.	6	Hants 1.	3
Oxon	5	Kent 2.	4
Surrey 2.	3	Herts	6
Sussex 2.	5	Middx 2.	4

Herts are back on course with a good win over Surrey 2. They were 2-3 down but won the last 4



Matthew Syed, Berkshire, unbeaten for his county

events. Stewart Seaholme won his 3 events.

VETS 2A:

Ches 3.	2	Yorks 3.	7
Lancs 2.	2	Lancs 1.	7
Lincs 2.	2	Notts	7
N'berland	7	Clwyd	2

Lancs 1 were well on top against their 2nd team. Lancs 2nd two wins were hard fought with G. Jones beating D. Watmough – 17, 20, 19 and A. Burrough winning against M. Neary 15, – 13, 18.

VETS 2B:

Beds	4	Berks 4.	5.
Essex 2.	8	Hunts 2.	1
Essex 3.	7	Hunts 2.	2
Herts 3.	6	Norfolk 2.	3
N'thants 2.	1	Essex 3.	8

The 3 events for Norfolk 2 against Herts 3 were all earned by Les Rayment. He beat Brian Gale 18, – 16, 21 and Keith Hartridge – 12, 19, 22 – and also won the mens doubles 12, 20!

VETS 2C:

Berks 3.	3	Glos	6
Bucks 2.	4	Surrey 3.	5
Berks 1.	7	Glos	2
Herts 4.	6	Herefords	3
Wilts 3.	1	Wilts 2.	8

Glos started the day well with a 6-3 win over Berks 3 but later lost their first match, being convincingly beaten 7-2 by Berks 1. Wally Allanson and Syd Montgomery won all their singles and doubles events for Berks 1. And with Surrey 3 getting a good 5-4 win over Bucks 2 Berks must now be favourites for the title.

VETS 2D:

Hants 2.	6	Dorset 2.	3
Herts 2.	4	Sussex 4.	5
Sussex 3.	4	Somerset	5
Wilts	6	Berks 2.	3

With the Herts and Berks team both surprisingly beaten this Section now seems wide open. Somerset did well to get their first win on their visit to Haywards Heath to meet Sussex 3. With the score 4-4 Andy Seward beat Ted Cramer (Sx) 16 and 11 to give Somerset the win. For Wilts Brian Powell won his 2 singles and the mixed with Gwen Hazell and Mike Oxley also won his 2 singles in the defeat of Berks.

The Leeds County Championships 2

THE COUNTY TABLES at March 3rd, 1989

Compiled by Les Smith



Andy Wellman, Berks

SENIORS

Premier Division	P	W	L	F	A	P
Middlesex	7	6	1	45	18	12
Lancashire	7	6	1	43	20	12
Berkshire	7	4	3	32	31	8
Leicestershire	7	3	4	30	33	6
Derbyshire	7	3	4	28	35	6
Devonshire	7	3	4	24	39	6
Yorkshire	7	2	5	28	35	4
Suffolk	7	1	6	22	41	2

Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Essex	6	5	1	0	46	14	11
Yorkshire 2nd	6	3	1	2	36	24	7
Northumberland	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Warwickshire	6	3	1	2	26	34	7
Worcestershire	6	2	2	2	32	28	6
Cambridgeshire	6	2	2	2	30	30	6
Norfolk	6	1	0	5	21	39	2
Hertfordshire	6	1	0	5	17	43	2

Division 1B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Surrey	6	6	0	0	48	12	12
Kent	6	4	1	1	37	23	9
Sussex	6	3	2	1	39	21	8
Middlesex 2nd	6	3	1	2	34	26	7
Avon	6	3	0	3	29	31	6
Devonshire 2nd	6	2	0	4	30	30	4
Dorset	6	1	0	5	14	46	2
Somerset	6	0	0	6	9	51	0

Division 2A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Lancashire 2nd	5	5	0	0	41	9	10
Cheshire	5	4	1	0	35	15	9
Nottinghamshire	6	4	0	2	36	24	8
Leicestershire 2nd	5	3	0	2	31	19	6
Warwickshire 2nd	6	2	1	3	33	27	5
Cumbria	6	2	0	4	21	39	4
Cheshire 2nd	4	1	0	3	11	29	2
Clwyd	7	0	0	7	12	58	0

Division 2B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Hampshire	8	7	1	0	58	22	15
Cornwall 1st	6	5	0	1	48	12	10
Gloucestershire	7	4	1	2	42	28	9
Wiltshire	5	4	0	1	36	14	8
Herefordshire	7	3	1	3	37	33	7
Worcestershire 2nd	7	1	3	3	27	43	5
Avon 2nd	7	1	1	5	23	47	3
Cornwall 2nd	5	0	1	4	12	38	1
Dorset 2nd	6	0	0	6	7	53	0

Division 2C	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Lincolnshire	6	5	1	0	43	17	11
Northamptonshire	5	4	1	0	36	14	9
Bedfordshire 1st	5	3	1	1	28	22	7
Suffolk 2nd	6	3	0	3	29	31	6
Bedfordshire 2nd	6	2	1	3	28	32	5
Cambridgeshire 2nd	6	2	0	4	30	30	4
Hertfordshire 2nd	6	0	3	3	23	37	3
Huntingdonshire	6	0	1	5	13	47	1

Division 2D	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Essex 2nd	6	5	0	1	46	14	10
Essex 3rd	6	4	1	1	41	19	9
Sussex 2nd	6	4	1	1	36	24	9
Berkshire 2nd	6	4	0	2	38	32	8
Surrey 2nd	6	3	0	3	34	26	6
Oxfordshire	6	2	0	4	21	39	4
Kent 2nd	6	1	0	5	19	41	2
Buckinghamshire	6	0	0	6	15	45	0

JUNIORS

Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Derbyshire	3	3	0	0	20	10	6
Lancashire	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Essex	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Devonshire	3	0	2	1	13	17	2
Bedfordshire	3	0	1	2	10	20	1
Middlesex	3	0	0	3	9	21	0
Staffordshire	3	0	0	3	7	23	0

Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Yorkshire 2nd	5	4	1	0	39	11	9
Warwickshire	5	4	1	0	33	17	9
Lancashire 2nd	6	4	0	2	35	25	8
Lincolnshire	6	3	2	1	34	26	8
Nottinghamshire	6	2	0	4	29	31	4
Durham	6	1	2	3	28	32	4
Cheshire	6	2	0	4	24	36	4
Huntingdonshire	6	0	0	6	8	52	0

Division 1B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Kent	6	4	2	0	39	21	10
Sussex	6	4	1	1	35	25	9
Surrey	6	3	2	1	35	25	8
Berkshire	6	3	2	1	34	26	8
Hertfordshire	6	3	2	1	33	27	8
Avon	6	2	1	3	30	30	5
Buckinghamshire	6	0	0	6	20	40	0
Somerset	6	0	0	6	14	46	0

Division 2A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Northamptonshire	7	6	1	0	48	22	13
Leicestershire	7	4	0	3	34	36	8
Northumberland	4	3	1	0	27	13	7
Derbyshire 2nd	6	3	0	3	30	30	6
Lancashire 3rd	6	2	1	3	29	31	5
Warwickshire 2nd	6	2	1	3	29	31	5
Cumbria	5	1	1	3	22	28	3
Cheshire 2nd	5	1	1	3	21	29	3
Clwyd	6	1	0	5	20	40	2

Division 2B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Oxfordshire	6	5	1	0	47	13	11
Worcestershire	6	5	1	0	46	14	11
Hampshire	6	4	1	1	41	19	9
Middlesex 2nd	6	3	1	2	38	22	7
Cambridgeshire	6	3	1	2	30	30	7
Gloucestershire	6	2	1	3	30	30	5
Hertfordshire 2nd	7	2	0	5	30	40	4
Berkshire 2nd	7	1	0	6	16	54	2
Huntingdonshire 2nd	6	0	0	6	2	58	0

Division 2C	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Glamorgan	7	5	1	1	52	18	11
Gwent	5	4	1	0	34	16	9
Cornwall 1st	4	3	1	0	30	10	7
Devonshire 2nd	5	2	2	1	32	18	6
Dorset	8	2	2	4	38	42	6
Devonshire 3rd	5	2	1	2	27	23	5
Avon 2nd	6	2	1	3	23	37	5
Cornwall 2nd	4	0	1	3	7	33	1
Wiltshire	6	0	0	6	7	53	0

Division 2D	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Essex 2nd	7	6	1	0	55	15	13
Essex 3rd	7	5	2	0	51	19	12
Surrey 2nd	7	4	1	2	37	33	9
Suffolk 1st	7	4	0	3	41	29	8
Norfolk 1st	6	3	0	3	31	29	6
Kent 2nd	7	2	1	4	30	40	5
Norfolk 2nd	6	2	0	4	23	37	4
Sussex 2nd	6	1	1	4	19	41	3
Suffolk 2nd	7	0	0	7	13	57	0

THE VETERANS

Premier Division	P	W	L	F	A	P
Cheshire	3	3	0	20	7	6
Sussex	3	2	1	16	11	4
Kent	3	2	1	16	11	4
Surrey	3	2	1	15	12	4
Buckinghamshire	3	1	2	14	13	2
Lincolnshire	3	1	2	13	14	2
Yorkshire	3	1	2	11	16	2
Middlesex	3	0	3	3	24	0

Division 1A	P	W	L	F	A	P
Essex	6	6	0	45	9	12
Cheshire 2nd	6	5	1	36	18	10
Norfolk	6	4	2	31	23	8
Yorkshire 2nd	6	4	2	27	27	8
Worcestershire	6	3	3	29	25	6
Warwickshire	6	1	5	18	36	2
Northamptonshire	6	1	5	15	39	2
Leicestershire	6	0	6	15	39	0

Division 1B	P	W	L	F	A	P
Hertfordshire	6	5	1	37	17	10
Oxfordshire	6	4	2	29	25	8
Sussex 2nd	6	4	2	28	26	8
Middlesex 2nd	6	3	3	29	25	6
Dorset	6	3	3	27	27	6
Kent 2nd	6	2	4	23	31	4
Surrey 2nd	6	2	4	23	31	4
Hampshire	6	1	5	20	34	2

Division 2A	P	W	L	F	A	P
Lancashire 1st	6	6	0	44	10	12
Yorkshire 3rd	6	5	1	35	19	10
Nottinghamshire	6	4	2	32	22	8
Northumberland	6	3	3	31	23	6
Cheshire 3rd	6	3	3	26	28	6
Lancashire 2nd	6	2	4	19	35	4
Lincolnshire 2nd	6	1	5	18	36	2
Clwyd	6	0	6	11	43	0

Division 2B	P	W	L	F	A	P
Essex 2nd	7	7	0	60	3	14
Essex 3rd	7	6	1	45	18	12
Hertfordshire 3rd	7	5	2	38	25	10
Northamptonshire 2nd	7	4	3	26	37	8
Huntingdonshire 1st	6	3	3	26	28	6
Norfolk 2nd	7	2	5	28	35	4
Huntingdonshire 2nd	6	2	4	18	36	4
Berkshire 4th	7	1	6	17	46	2
Bedfordshire	6	0	6	12	42	0

Division 2C	P	W	L	F	A	P
Berkshire 1st	7	6	1	46	17	12
Gloucestershire	7	6	1	42	21	12
Buckinghamshire 2nd	7	5	2	44	19	10
Surrey 3rd	6	4	2	34	20	8
Hertfordshire 4th	7	4	3	30	33	8
Berkshire 3rd	7	2	5	29	34	4
Wiltshire 2nd	7	2	5	26	37	4
Herefordshire	7	1	6	16	47	2
Wiltshire 3rd	7	1	6	12	51	2

Division 2D	P	W	L	F	A	P
Wiltshire 1st	6	4	2	33	21	8
Hampshire 2nd	6	4	2	33	21	8
Hertfordshire 2nd	6	4	2	32	22	8
Berkshire 2nd	6	4	2	31	23	8
Dorset 2nd	6	3	3	24	30	6
Sussex 4th	6	3	3	24	30	6
Somerset	6	1	5	20	34	2

Counties 1

BERKSHIRE

Bob Adams

NEWBURY have had a high regard for Plymouth ever since they lost 4-5 in the 1987 Rose Bowl semi final. Therefore, when they were drawn away to Plymouth in the Regional Final, Mandy Sainsbury, Julie Norman and Jane Cohan were all too aware of the tough task on their hands. However a superb hat trick from Mandy, coupled with two fine victories from Julie against Carol Giles and Sue Butler gave Newbury a 5-2 success and the prospect of a home tie with Willesden in the Quarter final.

A similar fighting effort but with less happy result came the way of Reading Boys in the Regional final of the Carter Cup. Playing the Bristol team, consisting of the top three Avon County juniors, Reading's squad of Berkshire 1 and 3 juniors Martin Adams and Marc Priddle, plus Jeremy Willis from the County 2nd team, did well to fight their way to a final score of 4-5.

Although Marc played well, this was not to be his day - however all came good in the Scottish Provident Reading Closed when he appeared in no fewer than five finals, winning three of them. Jimmy Stokes and Jean Parker won the main singles events whilst Jimmy and Simon Rowland appeared from the past to grab the mens doubles. Gill Knightley teamed up with Mary Stafford to take the Ladies Doubles - a title which Mary first shared in 1956 and from which she appears to have been surprisingly absent since her last win in 1964. Quite a comeback.

Other winners were Dave Wise (Vets), Colin Dyke (Senior Vets), Malcolm Hayes and Taryn Napier Vallis (Mixed Doubles), Martin Adams (U-17 Boys and Boys Doubles with Marc Priddle), Nicola Cracknell (U-17, U-15 Girls and Girls Doubles with Karen Slatford). The titles for the younger age groups went to Gemma Schwartz, Marcus Horth, Denise Dempster and Jonathan Willis. Ben Johnson won the Reading Chronicle Trophy for best performance of the tournament after a series of impressive wins over several senior players and leading juniors, concluding his run by winning the Division 3 title.

Ben and his fellow youngsters from the Our Lady of Peace Club also made a welcome appearance at the Bracknell Closed Tournament. Ben won the Cadet Boys Singles and Doubles with John Felton, and the Cadet mixed with Gemma Schwartz, and gave Martin Adams one of his hardest matches of the weekend.

BEDFORDSHIRE

Michael Jarrett

IN PREVIOUS months I have written a rather depressing tale about the state of the game in Southern Bedfordshire. To redress the balance it is my pleasure to inform you of the success of Linslade Middle School.

A team of under 13 girls, Kirstie Haughran, Alex Southern, Sarah Williams and Natasha Perry, won through to the Regional Finals of the National School Team Table Tennis Championship.

It was the third year in succession that Linslade have represented Bedfordshire at this level. The two previous years ended in taking runners-up position in the Area Finals. This year was different thanks to an excellent all round performance by beating the school from Suffolk 5-3, especially pleasing as the score was 4-3 before the final game.

In the Regional Finals Linslade faced opposition from Surrey and Essex. The draw was not kind as Linslade had to beat the Surrey school before meeting Essex in the final. They did this in another 5-3 nail-biter. Unfortunately this was as far as Linslade progressed. Linslade lost 8-0 to the very strong Essex team but they played well and did manage to take a couple of sets.

Congratulations to all four girls and to Linslade for including Table Tennis in the indoor games curriculum instead of an extra circular activity.

Another team to experience success was Dunstable in the Rose Bowl. The squad of, Dawn Campbell, Julie Evans, Mary Jarrett and Lisa Robins have won through to the national quarter finals of the competition. On route to the last eight, the team defeated High Wycombe, had a walk-over against Leighton Buzzard and in a tense final match defeated Wembly and Harrow 5-2. The scoreline was particularly pleasing as both Julie and Mary defeated Rachel Knight who is currently ranked as Englands No. 30 woman.

The Luton and District League held its annual closed tournament recently. The day was well run as usual but lacked support from its members with entrants totalling only 58. Perhaps ITV's coverage of Man Utd v Tottenham had something to do with it!

Tournament Results

	Winner	Runner-up
Div 5 & 6 singles	J Clark	P Sabelli
doubles	P Sabelli	K Smith
Div 2, 3 & 4 singles	C Tai	D Kempson
	V Cooke	D Fensome
	S Griffiths	J Weston
Mixed Doubles	L Robins	J Eames
	P Edwards	P Eames

CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

IAN REED, of Millom Former Pupils, earned a county call following fine displays in the Barrow League, where he spoiled the unbeaten record of Tim Pachul, of division one leaders Ponderosa. Pachul himself declined an invitation to play for Cumbria.

Reed, who previously played for the county juniors, made his senior debut against Clwyd at Cleator Moor and gained two great victories to take the side to their second Division 2a Leeds County Championship win of the season.

Playing number three, Reed beat his Clywd counterpart Dave Morris in three games to level the match at 1-1 and then beat their number two Clive Parry in two straights in the final set of the day to make sure Cumbria won 6-4.

Cumbria names first: Stephen Temple beat Clive Parry 21-18, 25-23; beat Spencer Harris 21-17, 23-21. Roger Stewart lost to Harris 23-25, 21-17, 18-21; beat Morris 21-18, 21-19. Ian Reed beat Morris 21-14, 20-22, 21-11; beat Parry 21-15, 21-12. Stewart and Reed beat Harris and Parry 21-10, 21-14. Lynne Hadfield lost to Alison Evans 7-21, 9-21. Sandra Noble lost to Barbara Williams 10-21, 20-22. Hadfield and Noble lost to Williams and Evans 13-21, 10-21.

Barrow-in-Furness is maintaining its reputation for blood-ing promising youngsters. Kevin Hodgson is 23rd in the national cadet boys ranking list, Andrew Michie 31st and Justin Brunton 41st. In the cadet girls national ranking list, Caroline Watt is ninth and Carrier Lowes 19th.

Barrow pair Tony Dawson and Fiona Harris each won their singles in spectacular style when Cumbria juniors tackled their Northants' counterparts at Park View School in their home town, on February 4th.

Dawson also teamed up with fellow townee Kevin Hodgson to take the doubles. But their efforts were not enough for the side to overcome the visitors, who took the clash 7-3.

Cumbria names first: Kevin Hodgson lost to David Evans 7-21, 15-21; lost to Kieron Dabbs 11-21, 18-21. Tony Dawson lost to Dabbs 13-21, 16-21; beat Neil Atkinson 21-13, 21-11. Andrew Michie lost to Atkinson 21-14, 9-21, 8-21; lost to Evans 10-21, 21-17, 14-31. Hodgson and Dawson beat Dabbs and Evans 18-21, 24-22, 21-19. Fiona Harris beat Tracey Marmott 21-9, 21-18. Carrie Lowes lost to Sally Russell 21-19, 11-21, 21-23. Harris and Lowes lost to Marmott and Russell 20-22, 20-22.

DEVON

Val Heath

DEVON has been a-buzz with quality table tennis over the last month with some marvellous matches played both within and out of the County.

One unusual but welcomed occurrence was that of a centre of excellence held in Plymouth. Assisting Devon and Cornwall's most promising youngsters with much enthusiasm was Jackie Bellinger who for 4 days gave her time and we send her our thanks.

Thanks too must go to Adrian Wright who gave up his precious time during a working week to assist these youngsters in improving their techniques.

Lets hope this is the beginning of things to come as far as assisting Devon is concerned. With our abundance of talent top coaching seems a little sparse.

New faces

The recent Exeter Open Tournament drew 115 entries and U11 groups brought forth some new faces. Stuart Tweedie and Robert Sandford along with Lizzy May all did themselves justice.

These 3 youngsters, I also took pleasure in watching at the Devon Schools competition.

An incredible round-robin final in the U13 was watched with awe by many. All 3 boys, with many years yet to give played outstanding games and the sportsmanship between the 3 friends was a pleasure to watch.

Results

U11 Girls	Elizabeth Colquhoun	May	bt	Suzy
U11 Boys	Robert Sandford	bt	Chris Avent	
U13 Girls	Lynsey Heyward	bt	Lisa Morrish	
U13 Boys	Adrian Vincent	bt	David Heath	
	bt 3) Jonathan May			
U16 Girls	Helen Wright	bt	Rachel Sandford	
U16 Boys	Gregory Shipman	bt	John Shipman	
U19 Boys	Gareth Hale	bt	Alan McAlpine	

S. W regional finals - Stroud

Junior Girls
Helen Wright bt Sarah Pengeley 14, 19.

Cadet Boys

Adrian Vincent bt J. Hyatt 16, 16.

Junior G. Doubles

Helen Wright/Sarah Pengeley bt Clare Pengeley/Lynsey Heyward

Junior B Doubles

Gregory Bridgett/Alex Perry bt Hadley/Bettison

Restricted Boys

Adrian Vincent bt Simon Tang 18, 17.

Restricted Girls

Rachel Sandford bt Catherine Davies 18, 10

ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

IN THE February matches we were delighted to have Skylet Andrew in the Senior side as a useful deputy for Steve Dorking. The unlucky opponents were Herts who sunk without a trace.

Now we need to beat main rivals Yorks II on March 18th in order to achieve our goal of promotion to the Premier Division and can only hope that the call up of Skylet and Steve for the Commonwealth Championships does not affect our prospects. Come what may everybody in the County must be thrilled at their selection, and hearty congratulations are due.



Steve Dorking, Essex

The Junior second team travelled to the new Graham Spicer Centre at New Malden to take on nearest rivals Surrey II and come away with an excellent 7-3 win. Early wins for Stephen Crouch and John Blasco caused some tremors, but thereafter the greater experience told of our more elderly juniors, Allan Radford, Steven Rand, Tayo Rasanya, Rachel Reid and Nadine Barthee. Back in Essex we fielded separate third teams to take on Norfolk I and Norfolk II, and wins of 7-3 and 9-1 resulted. It was very pleasing to be able to give debuts to Ian Vine (Clacton) and to 12 years old Jenny Coleman (Brentwood) both of whom were unbeaten.

Later on in February we had the crunch match to decide the Championship of Junior Division 2D between Essex II and Essex III. This was unfortunately affected by the late but unavoidable withdrawals of our girls ranked 3, 4 and 5 and the 9, 10 and 15 girls had to fill in. Despite this a very competitive encounter took place, ending in a not entirely surprising draw. For the third team Neil Butcher won both his singles against higher ranked opponents but Allan Radford was the strong man for the second team with two singles victories, plus the doubles with Steven Rand.

In a Zone Final of the Carter Cup Brentwood went out 4-5 to

North Middlesex in a very nervy battle. Both teams had to make last minute changes with Brentwood possibly a shade weaker thereby, although that is arguable. Out went County players Keith Buers and Steven Rand, but in came England No. 11 Damian Holland and Essex cadet No. 4 Peter Worthington. Since Damian won all 3 and Peter most convincingly beat Herts No. 2 Morris Greenberg, one wonders if those missing could have done any better. The North Middlesex deputy was cadet Sam Henley, who probably decided the match when he beat Matthew Reid.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Peppard

ONE OF the sterling aspects of co-ordinating this monthly column in Gloucestershire is the tremendous amount of news and assistance that I get from all affiliated Leagues within our County.

For once I am not going to mention individual names for the very simple reason that there are so many of you, and I may be guilty of leaving someone out, but nevertheless "Thanks everybody".

At our coaching Secretary's invitation (Peter Cruwys), I travelled to Cirencester in February where we were joined by Graham Slack, Steve Cox of Cheltenham and Kevin Satchell from nearby Wiltshire, Peter was initially conducting a coaching session, his 3rd or 4th visit I believe, Kevin and Graham gave a singles exhibition to the youngsters present and I do not think that I would be exaggerating - by saying it "Held them all spellbound".

This was my first visit to Cirencester since they affiliated last summer, and apart from renewing old acquaintances with stalwarts like Bob Davis I also met the League's Chairman Mr Ken Brindle and Mrs Joyce Brown of the Cirencester Sports Council - the latter I suspect and her Committee were highly instrumental in obtaining considerable grant aid for the table tennis League.

At present Cirencester sport three Divisions and appear to be well on course to future table tennis success, they most certainly deserve it.

Schools

The Hon-Referee for this important Junior event - Mr Peter Cruwys and Mr Steve Taylor who is Secretary of the G.S.T.T.A will again be combining forces to run the championships at St Benedicts School in Cheltenham, I understand that there are eight events overall to be played.

The Cheltenham Council has purchased seven brand new

tables from ETTA and the school virtually becomes a sports centre after school hours.

Another Club in the County worthy of a mention and of considerable long standing are the Gordon League's new premises at Hempsted just outside Gloucester, much stress and strain has been imposed upon this club who lost their old playing premises in Bristol Road Glos due to road improvements, their present new premises and playing quarters greatly exceed all members expectancy.

Cheltenham

In a recent Midlands Veterans match - Cheltenham v Birmingham "C", the exuberant County Veteran Frank Jones lost his unbeaten singles record to Barry Hunt 13, -11, 18, at the time of writing Frank lies at No. 42 on the Vets Ranking list.

Meanwhile Alan Giles ranked at 83 and from Stroud is currently unbeaten in Veteran County matches so far this season - well done Alan.

HAMPSHIRE

David Cosway

WHAT a pleasure it is to write about the County First Team this season. Three wins over a week-end set them up for the final match against Gloucester. Firstly 10-0 victories over Dorset Seconds and Cornwall Two were straightforward wins, but the 6-4 victory over Cornwall was a great success. Graham Toole, Rhamish Bhalla and Mark Wilding all won a Singles set, while Graham and Mark combined for the Mens Doubles.

Sarah Hammond maintained her successful run with a Singles win, with Sarah Turner stepping in in place of the unavailable Cheryl Buttery also gave the County the bonus of another womens victory. So to the match against Gloucester with a draw being needed for the promotion spot up to the First Division.

Graham Toole and Mark Wilding each won a Singles, while Sarah Hammond and Sarah Turner winning their Singles and the Mixed Doubles also going Hampshires way. I must pay tribute to Sarah Turner in particular for stepping into this match at short notice when, for the umpteenth time, Cheryl Buttery was unavailable.

It is good to see someone putting the County first and also her Regional League Team who postponed a match to allow her to play must be congratulated. So the County gained the draw they needed and completed the most successful season the County has experienced for some time. In her

first season as Team Captain, Sarah Hammond has led by example, not only winning her own matches but also running her team in an admirable fashion.

On the Junior front, the County Team also finished with a flourish. The 6-4 win over Middlesex 'A' was due entirely to the boys with Jeff Giles and Mark Thorne unbeaten and combining for the Doubles and John Crouch also contributing a Singles victory. Against Hertfordshire Second Team the 7-3 victory was achieved despite conceding two games when they were forced to play a girl short. Again Jeff Giles and Mark Thorne won their two singles and the Boys Doubles, John Crouch contributed his Singles and Clare Woodham also won her Girls event. They finished the season with a 10-0 win over Berkshire.

The Veterans 'A' team had a mixed season. They have lost their last two matches going down to Oxford 4-5 with Ray Lush, Bob Cox, Ken Giles and Mary Barron each winning a Singles. Against Dorset 'A' they predictably went down 3-6 with Bob Cox winning both of his sets and Ken Giles and Ray Lush combining to win the doubles. The Veterans 'B' team lost 3-6 to Berkshire Seconds with Norman Stagg winning two and Maurice Shave one. They beat Dorset Seconds 6-3 with Norman Stagg again winning his two sets as did Graham Lynch.

HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood

BROTHERS Dave and Stuart Seaholme and Geoff Bax flew the flag for Watford when they won the Hertfordshire Veterans Inter-League Tournament on Sunday 19th February 1989 at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre.

Watford saw off last years champions Hemel Hempstead quite comfortably 6-1, but had a much tougher match with this year's runners-up Barnet, finally beating them 4-3.

Watford's 100% record was matched by Stuart Seaholme who finished with a personal 100%, his brother Dave had a 92%, whilst anti-spin specialist Geoff Bax ended up with 66%.

The trailblazing success story of Hemel Hempstead School's table tennis stars has come to an end. The School's under 13 boys team broke local sporting records by winning the Herts and East of England titles in their age of the Dunlop National Schools Team Championships.

On Sunday 19th February the fabulous five, Ameer Rasheed, Lee Birtchnell, Paul Reynolds, Roger Wu and Mark Davies com-

Counties 3

peted in the Southern England stage at Monks Hill Sports Centre, Croydon.

Sadly, the Hemel boys lost all their games, losing 7-1 to Bedford Modern, where Roger Wu won the single game for Hemel, 8-0 to Cunner House of Surrey and 8-0 to Peniel Academy of Essex.

Although the 'Fab Five' were heavily defeated, they can still hold their heads high because they came up against top class opposition, like Darren Blake of Cunner House, who is the National under 12 champion.

Also the class of Peniel Christian Academy, who are coached by Nicky Jarvis, and the skill of Bedford Modern.

But we still came away with two plusses, firstly Ameer Rasheed and Roger Wu, who on the day's showing were the No. 1 and 2 rankings, are both young enough to play again next year, secondly Roger Wu won first prize in the raffle, winning a large sports holdall.

Hertfordshire can now boast another eight Assistant Coaches following their final assessment held at the Hemel Hempstead School.

Ken Marchant of the Eastern Region and Gordon Oke from the Midlands travelled down to Hertfordshire to assess the hopeful eight. The good news for Hertfordshire is that they all passed with flying colours.

Hopefully, John Danson of Hoddesden, Trevor Moorhead and Ken Vile of Watford, Hiliary Glanville, Andrew Giles and Martin Livesey of St. Albans, Peter Mathews of Welwyn and Hatfield, and John Wood of Hemel Hempstead, will put their awards to good use and coach the children.

We also have two new County Umpires, Robin Harding of St. Albans, and John Wood of Hemel Hempstead, so watch-out you foul-servers!

HUNTINGDON

David Deller

IN THE latest round of Leeds County championship matches, Huntingdonshire seniors registered a 5-5 draw at Home to Hertfordshire seconds. In the match played at Peterborough Simon Pryke, Martin & Kevin Gladders each took a singles, whilst County ladies doubles holders Pauline Leake and Barbara Pace took that event in this match. A further doubles success for the Gladders brothers saw Hunts share the spoils.

Hunts Veterans first team of Alan Albon, Sid Burgess, Eddy Haslop and Christine Albon defeated Norfolk seconds 6-3 in their encounter at St. Neots.

Haslop won both singles, whilst the other three players each obtained a singles. The home county added the mixed doubles for the final result.

Hunts Veteran second team scored a bigger margin victory over the same Norfolk side with Jim Sizer and Ken Green taking two singles apiece. Alan Kirsop weighed in with one, whilst Shelley Holland won the ladies singles. Both doubles also going to the Hunts team.

The ever popular St. Neots Winter league has four highly contested divisions, two of these, the senior division and the veteran division two have now been completed. It was the first season for a veteran second division Final league tables show Wellingborough are clear winners of the senior division, whilst Kettering took the Veterans crown. Final tables . . .

Senior Division		Played	Points
Wellingborough		9	64
Bedford		9	54
St. Neots		9	49
Ely		9	48
Peterborough		9	40
Northampton		9	35
Hunts Central		9	34
R.A.F.		9	32
Kettering		9	30
Cambridge		9	19
Veterans Division Two		Played	Points
Kettering		8	60
North Herts 'B'		8	54
St. Neots 'B'		8	46
Northampton 'B'		8	40
Peterborough 'B'		8	31
Bedford 'B'		8	26
St. Neots 'C'		8	26
Wellingborough		8	25

St. Ives Table Tennis Club are set for their Seventh foreign exchange trip with Stadtallendorf of West Germany. The two towns twinned recently, with St. Ives club chairman being appointed as Chairman of the St. Ives town twinning committee.

LANCASHIRE

George R. Yates

SO NEAR and yet so far was the verdict after the second Leeds County Championships Premier Division weekend at Stantonbury where Lancashire came so close to becoming champions for the first time.

It all rested on the final match against Berkshire which, unfortunately, resulted in a 5-4 win to the opposition and on a count-back resulted in Middlesex taking the title.

Sean Gibson was a Red Rose absentee because of injury but all credit to Nigel Eckersley, Tony Taylor and Stephen Scowcroft, not forgetting Andrea Holt, who served the county proud.

Andrea had wins over Carol Giles (Dv), Karen Smith (Le), Mandy Sainsbury (Bk) and Julie Billington (Dy) to preserve a clean sheet in singles and with Taylor, in the mixed events, shared wins and losses 2-2.

Scowcroft, playing at No. 3, suffered but one loss, to Berkshire's Andy Wellman while Taylor finished 6-2 and Eckersley 3-5 the Eckersley/Scowcroft duo equating at 2 wins and 2 losses. And what of Eckersley and Taylor beating Bradley Billington!



Sean Gibson - dislocated arm

Sadly, because of internal refurbishments, the British Aerospace Lostock premises are not available to the Bolton League to continue with the Lancashire 2-Star Open this year. It should have been for the 34th year the tournament would have continued at Lostock but it could well be that the stand-down will be for one season only.

Compensation is afforded by the Preston League who are to run the Lancashire Closed at West View Leisure Centre in Preston on Saturday, April 15, starting at 9 a.m. with the following events: MS, WS, VS, BS, GS, MD and WD. Tournament organiser is Tony Rigby of 146 Margaret Road, Penwortham, Preston, PR1 9RU 'Phone: (0772) 745855. The prize fund is £225.

Lancashire and Cheshire League

Just one set of matches remain in the men's first division and all will depend on the outcome of those between Bolton and Stockport on March 14 and Blackburn and Liverpool on March 18. Just one set separates the Trotters from the Liverpoolians their most recent successes being Bolton's 7-3 win over Burnley and Liverpool's 8-2 success over Warrington. The table reads:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolton	6	3	3	0	39	21	9
Liverpool	6	4	1	1	38	22	9
Stockport	5	3	0	2	22	28	6
Warrington	6	3	0	3	26	34	6
Blackburn	5	1	3	1	29	21	5
Ellesmere Pt	5	2	1	2	24	26	5
Burnley	6	1	1	4	29	21	3
Oldham	5	0	1	4	19	31	1

In the women's first division Preston, the defending champions, are under threat from Liverpool who, against Preston earlier in the season, won 6-4 a success that is likely to give them the championship.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Tony Lillicrapp

AFTER being well and truly beaten by Northumberland in January, the Leicestershire Junior squad got back to their winning ways when they entertained Clwyd at Knighton Park Table Tennis Club in early February.

John Gayton maintained his 100% record in this match for Leicestershire with team mate Darren Bramhall also winning both of his singles rubbers, as the home side managed to squeeze home by a 6-4 scoreline.

This revival of fortunes was, however, short lived as in their next fixture at home to a strong Warwickshire 2 side they lost by the same scoreline as the Clwyd fixture with John Gayton losing his 100% record as he went down in both of his singles games against Gary Woodward and Stuart Taylor.

In the Leicester Junior League, Groby 1 hold a slender one point lead at the top of the table from Knighton Park 1, although the latter have a game in hand.

One defeat

Andrew Jarvis, who plays for Groby 1, leads the individual averages with one defeat from 44 games played in a league made up of eight local sides.

Fifty one school children are registered for the eight sides in a venture designed not only to stimulate interest in the game at an early enough age to allow them to reap the full benefits of good coaching, but also give them the early experience of cut and thrust of competitive play which will be so vital to them later on in their playing careers.

Back to the Leed's County Championships, where the Leicestershire Senior squad continue to experience mixed fortunes in their Division 2A campaign going down 4-6 at home recently to Cheshire.

At 0-5 down you would probably have obtained better odds on Bruno beating Tyson than Leicestershire salvaging a point from this game, but claw their way back they did bringing the scoreline to 4-5 with everything still to play for.

The revival ended there though, as Keith Fellows, after winning the first game 18 against W. Percival, lost the next two -20 and -17 thus giving the visitors the vital 10th game and with it, the match.

A magnificent effort by both John Iliffe and Eileen Shaler for Leicestershire in their last veterans Division 1A home fixture against Worcestershire was sadly for the home side at least, not enough to secure the points as the visitors played their way to a well deserved 5-4 win.

MIDDLESEX

Iris Moss

WE WON THE CUP! Our hearty congratulations go to our team of John Souter, Nigel Tyler, Graham Sandley, Colin Wilson and Lesley Keast (nee Tyler), ably backed by their non-playing Captains, Len Pilditch and Steve Keast, who managed to regain the Leeds County Championships Cup. After the first week-end we thought we might have to be satisfied with the runner-up position having lost to a very strong Lancashire team spearheaded by Sean Gibson, who won all his singles events over the entire week-end.

But unfortunately Sean Badly damaged his shoulder at the South of England and was unable to get fit again in time for the second Premier week-end.

As a result a very determined Berkshire side managed to beat Lancashire and our better games average put Middlesex at the top of the table. Our commiserations go to Lancashire as this really should have been their year, but the loss of your No. 1 player does not only mean that you lose matches you could have won, but also takes some of the fight out of the rest of the team.

The team spirit amongst our lads and lass is terrific and I understand that Graham Sandley was going round the previous week-end "psyching-up" our players and impressing on them the importance of playing their very best.

I think this is where Middlesex score. Although the team knew that winning the Cup depended on another County beating Lancashire, they still went all out to win their matches with the biggest possible margin in case the Division was decided on games average. As all the Middlesex Executive Committee consider that the County Championships are the most important event in the Calendar, we take great delight in our Premier team. Our other two Premier sides, Junior and Veterans, are not doing too well but we hope they will pick up the second half of the season. All three 2nd teams are holding their own, but not producing any outstanding results.

Our Closed Championships will have taken place at Aylestone School by the time this appears in print. Once again the entry, although sufficient to warrant running the event, is disappointing. We have 55 entries for the Junior and Cadet events, and 58 (including some of the Juniors) for the Senior events. With over 200 teams playing in Middlesex Leagues and a minimum of 3 players per team, we should get a larger entry from a potential of 600 plus. Once again I appeal to

Middlesex players to tell us WHY they do not enter the Closed Championships?

Admittedly we have, unfortunately, clashed with a VETTS Tournament which we did not know about when we fixed the date, but this cannot be the only reason for the small entry. If there is some reason why you have not entered please tell us. We cannot run an event to suit the players (which is what we would like to do) unless the players tell us what would suit them! My eternal plea is for better communications with Middlesex players but my pleas have fallen on deaf ears. Please prove me wrong before I retire - WRITE TO ME!

NORTHUMBERLAND

Aubrey Drapkin

OUR main hopes of success in the Leeds County Championships now lie with our juniors who are still unbeaten in Junior Division 2A. The three boys in the County side, Stephen Coverdale, Barry Forster and Phil Robson are having little difficulty in winning their sets in this division and are responsible for the team's results. Home wins have been recorded against Leicestershire and Lancashire thirds and in between they gained a creditable draw away to Northampton.

It could well be that come the end of the season it will be set difference that counts between ourselves and Northants. Our girls, unfortunately, are very inexperienced but young Diane Cartmell has managed a couple of wins from the number two spot.

The seniors have had mixed fortunes in their recent matches with a defeat away to Essex, a home win over Worcestershire and a home draw with Cambridgeshire. All three matches have been full of close sets and the sportsmanship of all of the players has been of the highest order.

The veterans have had an upturn in their fortunes and have had three successive wins - against Lincolnshire seconds, Lancashire seconds and Clwyd.

Blaydon Youth Club are still top of the Leeds Northern Regional League and must be favourites to win it. However, they lost their first point of the season when they were held to a draw by South West Durham.

In the ladies Regional League, Caron Guthrie and Christine Burke did well in the first session of the league and will go to Cleveland with high hopes when the second session is staged later in the season.

I'm pleased to report that the newly formed Cadet Division of the Northumberland League has progressed well and that three of the four sessions of the division

have now been completed. Blaydon Youth Club look, as expected, to be the likely winners but it is good to see the improvement being made by all of the youngsters.

The local tournaments are coming round again and the Northumberland Closed will this year be staged at the Wallsend Sports Centre thanks to the help of North Tyneside Council who are giving us a free venue. The tournament will again be sponsored by Tyne and Wear Office Supplies, who are part of the Wilding Group. It should be a good event with all of the top County players taking part. This year a team event has been included.

The Evening Chronicle Regional Tournament has now been fixed up and this will take place at Concordia Leisure Centre on 29th April.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Mike Tunningley

NOTTINGHAM are the new Inter-League Champions following their recent successes over Worksop, Mansfield and Newark Leagues. The annual tournament was held at the Sycamore Sports Centre, Nottingham and was well organized by Mr Brian Draycott. The Worksop League who have remained undefeated for the past two seasons, had hoped to retain the trophy which they won last season, but it was the Nottingham League who this year dictated play after defeating them by a comfortable 11-1 margin. The Notts team comprised of Tim Sheppard, Robert Yong, Junior Stoddart, Ruth Bentley, Peter Furneaux and Ron Bolton and following their early success over Worksop they completed wins over Newark (11-1) and Mansfield (10-2) to win the Inter League title.

Worksop's team of Mick Bartrop, Paul Davison, Paul Joyce, Gary Lee, Claire Oldman and Ann Wass drew 6-6 with both Newark and Mansfield.

The Worksop Table Tennis League held their annual Championships recently and 240 matches were completed on the day. The Open Singles Final will be contested by John Gazeley and Shaun Lee who both fought well to reach their first ever open final. Lee had to play exceptionally well in his semi final match against the England ranked cadet Nicola Deaton who he eventually defeated in three sets. The Second Division Singles final will be between Paul Joyce and Simon Hooley, two up and coming County Juniors while the Third Division encounter will feature Sarah Smith and namesake Paul Smith. Colin Deaton played very well to reach the Veterans Singles

Final where his opponent will be Mick Vesey of Carlton YC A, the current Division One league leaders.

On the league front Cricket Club A are just one point behind the league leaders while Abbey YC A have moved from bottom place at Christmas to third place at the end of February. Having lost their opening four fixtures the Abbey team of Colin Deaton, Nicola Deaton, Richard Baker and Rasool Mamdani have won five and drawn one of their last six matches, quite an impressive recovery.

Cricket Club B lead Division Two having won ten and drawn five and lost none but Genefax are hot on their heels in the promotion race lying just one point behind. Carlton YC G head Division Three thanks mainly to Matthew Turner who remains undefeated after twelve games.

In Nottingham, Mapperley Sports head the Premier League, although they recently dropped points in a draw with Sandfield, for whom John Holland kept his 100% record intact. Gotham, having used seven players so far this season are in third place with 7 wins and 5 defeats to their credit.

Paul Joyce made his debut for Notts Juniors in their latest fixture with Yorkshire 2nd and despite losing both his games he showed a lot of promise and potential. Yorkshire eventually won the match by a 7-3 margin with Paul Wood and Peter Furneaux each winning their singles.

OXFORDSHIRE

Steve Joyner

IN BOTH Banbury and Oxford the top sections of the domestic competitions have runaway leaders.

In Oxford Kidlington 'A' have already accumulated more points than Keith Hughes driving licence, however a real battle is on for second place. Favourites now are the exciting new Pressed Steel trio of Colin Lynes, Domic O'Flynn and Steve Joyner after a scintillating win over arch rivals Rutherford's 'A'.

Wiry Ian Mead played superbly for Rutherford's to collect a well deserved maximum but top county veteran Arthur Chilvers lost to both Joyner and O'Flynn.

The match score was hanging in the balance at 5-4 to Pressed Steel with the doubles left. Fortunately for the Banbury pair, Chilvers furious at his partners first error of the night slumped into an on table tantrum. The jovial Geordie never recovered from this major catastrophe and Pressed Steel clinched the match 6-4.

Relegation will probably claim some of Oxfords top heavy

Counties 5

weights. Pressed Steel B seem certain to retain three bi-annual slots in division 2 which will be a great shame as the merry men are a great asset to our association. Ian Arnolds text book approach is ideal for our younger players to model themselves on so as to keep abreast with modern techniques. The Tony twins of Wheller and May seem poised to join P.S.F.B as Vickings 'C' have been sky lifted to safety thanks to wild cat Bryon Johnson. In Banbury Bodicote 'A' seem set to retain the Division 1 title. Bodicote 'B' are favourites to pip Sanford for second place. The anchor position goes to Warmington but any one of a number of teams could take the plunge with them.

The county senior side played hosts to Buckinghamshire this month. Oxfordshire produced a fine team performance to win 6-4. Highlight of the day was Oxfordshire page 7 fella Pete Jones who produced a career best performance to beat 'The Super-Human' John Bradbury. Jones pulled out loop after loop while amazingly Bradbury still managed to smile and wave at the crowd as the pre-madona crept closer and closer to defeat.

Slender Eleanor and Steve Joyner both had good singles wins as Kathy Singleton and Carl Bushell both played in winning doubles pairings to clinch the match. Carl Bushell's best individual performance came after the match as he celebrated his 48th birthday in fine style.

Carl ducked, weaved and shimmed around the dance floor leaving numerous onlookers breathless. As the night lengthened so did the pace as Carl got the place rocking. Congratulations Carl!

STAFFORDSHIRE

Jack Chalkley

SEVERAL new names will appear on the county trophies this year as a result of County Closed Tournament clashing with the Cleveland 3-Star. Several of our top players have opted for the national event, leaving a number of the county titles 'up for grabs'. A strong entry at junior and cadet level makes up for a drop in entries at senior level and the opportunity presented to players who have been in the wings in past years should lead to some interesting contests. Andy Rich, runner-up for the men's title on five occasions in past years, is a contender although Mark Evans, who beat Rich in the 1982 final, must also fancy his chances. Although at the time of writing it is still a possibility that Craig Bakewell will defend his men's title, it is certain that a new name will take the women's title, most likely someone from the junior level.

I gather that Andrew Bellingham is returning to competitive table tennis. His friends couldn't persuade him to enter the Closed, but his intention is to play during the summer and to enter serious competition next season. Andrew was Staffs. No. 1 for about eight years prior to leaving the game three years ago and, who knows, his return may provide the impetus to re-enter a county side in the County Championships.

From the Potteries:- Burslem A, Kettler A and Bradwell A are seven points clear at the top of the Premier Division with Burslem in the lead by 2 points having only dropped one point. Craig Bakewell continues to keep his 100% record - a real achievement in such a competitive division - and Steve Slater (Kettler A) and Jill Harris (Bradwell) are doing well with only 3 defeats. Ivan Wain (Bradwell A) is surely having his best season ever with only 4 defeats in the top division. ICL A, Fenton D, ICL D, Boalloy and Norton J - all unbeaten - head the next five divisions respectively but the only other player with an unbeaten record is S Hulme (Norton K) down in Div. 6, which is headed by GEC (Kidsgrove).

From the Stafford league:- Defending champions were very much in evidence at the Matchpoint sponsored Stafford Closed Tournament. Rachel Roberts retained the women's singles and doubles (with Alison Taylor) and the mixed doubles (with Hugh Edwards) title and Colin Braxton took the men's title for a second year. Top cadet Richard Wilson retained the under-15 trophy and Nigel Tongue (under-21), John Taylor (veterans) and Stuart Mylrea and Nigel Tongue (men's doubles) were all successful in defending their titles.

May 7th has been chosen as the date for the Hard Bat Tournament, although at the time of writing only Wolverhampton, last year's winners, have confirmed their intention to enter a team.

SUSSEX

John Woodford

THE young men who are going to dominate the county scene in the nineties are now emerging. From the Crawley and Horsham area, Alan Cole, Scott Greenbrook and Tony Murrell are the three outstanding youngsters now beginning to win games that look beyond their experience.

All three are expected to be potential shockmakers at the all-Sussex championships sponsored by the Trustee Savings Bank. Tony Murrell managed to beat Grant Solder (Essex) recently, probably the best win of his career.

Sussex county championships teams in the senior divisions do not appear to be going either up or down this season. Surrey clearly do not belong anywhere except in the premier division, leaving counties like Sussex and Kent to fight it out again next season.



Peter Bartram

In the Leeds British League, Horsham Dolphins seem set to amass about £1,200 prize money when the top team finish second in Division 1 and the second team win Division 3 (South). For the second team, it has been Brighton top-spinner Peter Bartram who has been setting a wonderful pace, with something like 21 wins before he lost.

Dolphins, based at Broadbridge Heath have no sponsors and their venue is expensive, so they have to win the big prize money in order to stay alive next season. Credit must go however to stalwarts at the Dolphins - manager Keith Horton, the England No. 2 veteran, veterans Derek Elphick, Derek Bunday to name a few.

A quick look at the eastern extremity of Sussex - Dave Wilson's three daughters are going great guns in the ESTTA team events whilst Hastings itself are looking at Rosemary Rainton as the successor to the evergreen Sheila King, who I am told, is out most evenings of the week either playing table tennis, squash, badminton or lawn tennis.

SURREY

Terry Vance

CONGRATULATIONS to the Surrey senior squad on regaining their rightful place in the Premier Division. Let's hope that we can have our full Squad available for the Premier Weekends next season.

The Surrey Junior championships took place at the end of February and resulted in hat-tricks of wins for Darren Blake Miranda Markham; Graeme Connelley and Hannah Webber. There was also a hat-trick of runners-up for Jason Blake and Karen Ashley. It was nice to see Jeremy Krzystyniak back and I hope he has regained his enthusiasm for TT. Results:-

U12B Darren Blake bt Stephen Lampkin
U12G Rachel Forster bt Kim Coffey
U14B Darren Blake bt Stephen Crouch
U14G Miranda Markham bt Claire Ashley
U14BD Darren Blake/John Blasco bt Daniel Hacker/Stephen Crouch
U14GD Claire Ashley/Miranda Markham bt Katie Hutt/Sarah Kingsley
U17B Graeme Connelly bt Jason Blake
U17G Hannah Webber bt Karen Ashley
U17BD Jeremy Krzystyniak and Graeme Connelly bt Darren and Jason Blake
U17GD Hannah Webber and Miranda Markham bt Claire and Karen Ashley
U17XD Graeme Connelly and Hannah Webber bt Jason Blake and Karen Ashley

In the Sutton Championships the Youth Singles was the first Final for Stephen Emecz. Maybe the start of him emulating his father's mammoth list of trophies. Results:-

Open Singles E. Emecz bt R. Tanner
Open Doubles E. Emecz/L. Nicholls bt M. Pearson/R. Ellis
Restricted S. Thorn bt B. Newcombe
Consolation D. Collyer bt A. Thurling
Veterans E. Emecz bt M. Pearson
Youths N. Csillag bt S. Emecz

The Byfleet Championships saw many exciting finals with the closest being the Veterans'. Paul Thomas of New Haw Club had a good tournament winning 1 event and being Runner-up in one. Mens S. Homer bt N. Charles
Ladies J. Vass bt D. Chan
Veterans R. Fairhead bt P. Safranek
Doubles P. Morris/R. Fairhead bt P. Safranek/S. Homer
Mixed D. Patel/L. Slifkin bt D. Aplin/J. Vass
Div 2 C Slifkin bt S. Bater
Div 3 P. Thomas bt J. Penfold
Youths N. Keedy bt P. Thomas
Consolation D. Abrahams bt M. Barrett

In the Byfleet League as at 14/2/89 Byfleet LTC 'A' top Div 1 with N. Charles topping the averages. Div 2 is led by Byfleet LTC 'C' and the averages by J. Garland. In Div 3 New Haw 'E' lead with P. Thomas leading the averages.

In the Surrey Schools individual Championships the big shock came in the U15 Boys' when Darren Blake recorded his first ever tournament win over big brother Jason. Results:-

U11B Jonathan Down (Cumnor House)
U11G Danielle Crouch (Ravenscote)
U13B Darren Blake (Cumnor House)

WARWICKSHIRE

Geoff Taylor

I MUST apologise for there being no Warwickshire notes in last month's edition of the magazine. The cause was mainly due to involvement and commitments to the English junior closed and the VETTS Midland Masters tournament. Sandwiched between them I was in France for a European League match, so as you can see I was very heavily committed.

In my articles I try as much as I can to give our local leagues a write up but when I phone round it is amazing how many times I am told there is nothing happening in their leagues. Hopefully by this time next month the situation will have changed because by then most of them will have completed their closed tournaments and we should have all the results.

The county teams are still finding it difficult to get the right results but I am told by the selection committee that the players are still giving 100 per cent effort and that they are hopeful of improving the points tally by the end of the season.

Brian Lloyd out

It was with regret that I heard of the resignation of Birmingham league chairman Brian Lloyd, I am told he resigned for personal reasons. The good news for Warwickshire is that he is continuing as secretary for Warwickshire County Association. At the moment the chairmanship of Birmingham is being filled by the Deputy Chairman Jim Whitehead. I would like to wish both of them the best of luck.

Stan Lenton out

Also on the grapevine I hear that Stan Lenton is giving up the presidency of the Coventry League at the end of the season, a position he has held for many years. I am sure he will be asked to continue so we can only hope he has second thoughts.

One bright spot

RESULTS for the County Teams are still not in our favour. The men's first team are in a mid table position while the men's second team are languishing in the bottom half of division 2a. The one bright spot is that the junior first team is heading division 1a, but once again the second team are at the wrong end of the table. The big disappointment for us are the veterans for whom we had high hopes but unfortunately due to injuries and players unable to turn out when required we find ourselves holding up the rest of the teams in division 1a.

WORCESTER

Dave Roden

THE new County Mens Champion is Jeremy Duffield from Kidderminster, who beat surprise finalist Eric Hardman of the Dudley League 24-22, 21-19 in a splendid final match of open attacking table tennis, in the County Closed Championships. Sandra Roden (Dudley) retained her singles title, beating Worcester's Janet Hunt 21-8, 21-9 in the Ladies Final.

The unseeded Hardman beat Veteran Champion Ray Dixon in the first semi-final -22, 18, 15, while No. 2 seed Duffield beat Mark Roden, seeded 3, 9, -19, 17 in the other semi-final, Roden having knocked out last year's champion Steve Dunning 15 & 15 in round 3.



Mandy House

Sandra Roden was unbeaten throughout the tournament, retaining the Ladies Doubles with Mandy House, and winning the Mixed Doubles for the first time in partnership with Woodside team-mate Roy Norton.

Presentations were made by guest of honour Adrian Smith, Dudley League Chairman, with sponsorship by Kettler Sport (GB) Limited.

Full list of final results:-
Mens Singles - Duffield bt Hardman 22, 19.
Ladies Singles - Roden bt Hunt 8, 9
Mens Doubles - Mervyn Wood/Steve Dunning bt Ray Dixon/Paul Garner -14, 19, 17.
Ladies Doubles - Sandra Roden/Mandy House bt Linda Reid/Alison Westwood 15, -21, 12.
Mixed Doubles - Sandra Roden/Roy Norton bt Sue Meredith/Steve Dunning 12, 19.
Veteran Mens Singles - Ray Dixon bt Mervyn Wood 12, 14.
Veteran Ladies Singles - Linda Reid bt Janet Hunt 20, -20, 13.
Veteran Doubles - Roy Norton/Mervyn Wood bt Trevor Worton/John Stafford 16, -20, 6
Consolation Singles - Alex Westwood bt Brian Payton 13 & 14.

Congratulations go to the following players who have successfully completed coaching courses recently, run by Brian Selby from Kidderminster, and qualified as assistant coaches.

Ken Jukes, Ken Buckley, Hugh Morgan, Jim McClusky, Les Carroll, Gordon Bytheway, Mandy House, Helen Jones (all Kidderminster), Norman Taylor, Gavin Oseman, Gerald Foley, Pat Meredith (Malvern), Derek Close (Evesham), & Dave Purchase (Bromsgrove).

Don Evans (Bromsgrove) is upgraded from assistant to full coach.

On the Leeds County Championships scene, the Senior 1st team scored a convincing 9-1 win over Hertfordshire, following their 7-3 defeat in Northumberland, Keith Samuels preventing a white-wash. A pity he had to concede his first set by arriving late!

The Senior 2nd's won 7-3 at Dorset 2nd's following on their draw with Avon, Mark Brookes recording his first victory for the county in the Dorset match.

The Juniors beat Berkshire 2nd's 9-1 and Gloucs 6-4 to keep their promotion hopes very much alive, and the Veterans team featured in two 5-4 scorelines, winning at Leicestershire but losing to Norfolk, with new County Veterans Champion Ray Dixon unbeaten in both matches.

YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

REIGNING champions Harrogate are still undefeated in the Premier Division of the Yorkshire League, but they must wait for joint leaders Huddersfield and Northallerton to slip up if they are to retain the title for a further year.

Both the pacemakers have been strengthened this season with Michael O'Driscoll in the Huddersfield squad and Oremesby's British League man Malcolm Corking having thrown in his lot with the North Yorkshire side.

Both teams have yet to drop a point and this confrontation between them this month will be awaited with interest.

Sheffield (Ladies and Cadet Divisions) and Selby (Junior), champions all, are going well and could well be among the honours again, while other leaders prior to the final run-in are Bradford II (Div. 1), Bradford 3 (Div. 2), Northallerton III (Div. 3), Selby II (Div. 4), Sheffield (Vet. 1), Doncaster (Vet. 2) and Hull II (Vet. 3).

The top division of the Northallerton League is now a two horse race between Brockholme A (Stephen Cooper, Keith Bell and Michel Nisbet) and Appleton Wiske A (Malcolm Corking, Ian Plummer, Ian James and Steve Brunskill, the latter back in the game after a six month absence).

Bad news for the North Yorkshire town is that Barry Pearson is out of action for at least four weeks with an arm injury. This

will affect not only the town's chances in Vet. Div. 1 of the Yorkshire League but also the County's prospects in the Leeds County Championships.

Dewsbury's Rose Bowl final turned out to be a thriller with Battyeford A getting home 5-4 against Mirfield Parish A in the final game of the evening. Man of the match was Jimmy Thorn, unbeaten for the winners and including the higher ranked Barry Crossley and Paul Watson among his victims.

County Umpires' Secretary Ron Wilson, unhappy with the shortage of active umpires within Yorkshire, is willing to visit any League in a recruiting campaign. A journey to Hull has already paid dividends with Allen Barrett, the League's Tournament Sec., now a Probationary C.U. and, hopefully, others in the pipeline.

Mike Hanley, who is now putting his usual 100% effort as County and Regional Coaching Officer, recently brought together coaches from as far apart as Halifax, Hull and Sheffield, as well as Peter Taylor from North Lincolnshire, and Simon Town representing the Regional Sports Council.

In his usual forthright way, Mike threw the onus on his coaches to make things happen on their patch - "You are the coaches, I am only the administrator" - although let it be said that he himself is no mean coach.

Wide ranging discussion took place and, even at this early stage, there appeared to be a greater spirit of togetherness than has been evident for many years. At the instigation of some of the longer serving coaches an effort is to be made to revive the County's A and B squads on a trial basis towards the end of the season.

Now that all League Secretaries receive a free copy of T.T.N, have you heard the comment, particularly if he passes it round - 'Oh, he always 'pushes' X, Y and Z Leagues'?

HE doesn't - their local Press Officers do, and rightly so - its their job. Ask yourself 'When was YOUR League last featured in these notes'?

So here is a piece of advice to the recipients of those copies: Play a part in ensuring that your League gets the publicity which I am sure it deserves.

Apply a kick to your Press Officer where it hurts most - if you have no Press Officer, do the job yourself or delegate it to someone who has ten minutes a month to spare.

All that is needed is the weekly cuttings from your local paper, a copy of your League News Letter, or a few jottings out of your own head by the 20th of each month.

Then HE may be able to do something for YOUR League.

Frank wanted to play early

I HAVE been sent copies of a letter written by Mike Loveder with reference to moving a player in the draw to his (Mikes) detriment, and a memo from John Prean with reference to the letter and the schedule on Saturday.

The player Mike refers to was Frank Hams. He had in fact requested an early start, but the way it was written on his entry form read "as late as possible please". "2pm-ish group please." Unfortunately it was taken as written, the first part taken to refer to mens single and he was incorrectly given a late group, Frank wrote to me as soon as he received his acknowledgement form, pointing out the error and saying that he was unable to play at that time as he had a prior appointment. I did not have space in an earlier group to move him into at that time. Two days later I received a phone call from Russell Bates of Surrey, saying he was unable to attend, the committee decided that as the error was ours, and under the rule which states that genuine errors may be corrected I moved Frank to the space in the earlier group, rather than lose another player. The programmes were already printed by that time, it was not possible to alter these, but the wall draw sheets were.



Mike Loveder

Mike's letter presupposes that he would have beaten Frank Hams, had I left Frank in the original position in the draw he would have had to scratch through to fault of his own, so Mike still would not have got the ranking points, and Frank Hams would have had good reason to complain. I would refer Mike to the Rules governing the draw and to 4.5.4.2.1 in particular which states clearly that genuine errors in acceptance may be corrected.

I'm not going to reply to Mikes comparison of moving international players in a draw, as it bears no relation to this situation which is clearly covered by the

To answer John Preans comments about competitors having to wait several hours between games, this is regrettably correct, the schedule copied from last year worked well then, but this year the large increase in numbers stretched the waiting time too far.

With hindsight I can see a better way of dealing with this problem, my apologies to players who had such a long wait. Please come next year we have this problem sorted.

To come to John's second comment, that players went home without playing their matches due to the time they waited, I am aware of only one player who did this and he asked permission to do so as he was unwell. Had there been any others I would have had to report them for failing to fulfil their undertaking. I have not had to do so.

Having said all this I sympathise with the annoyance of players who expect to play a group of three and find one of their number has not turned up. More than a dozen failed to do so without letting anyone know. Players who just can't be bothered to turn up because it's "too early", "too late" do the game, a disservice. The two seeded players in the Doubles who couldn't get to a 09.40 game but managed to make the singles later in the day caused me some anger. The message I received was it was too early for them.

That I have got to sit here and write a letter about negative things saddens me. Instead of writing about a super tournament that was full of surprise wins - of superb table tennis - that was shown on Anglia Television - that ran on time - that put on a good show for the finals - that had a large audience who stayed on to the end - and from the applause thoroughly enjoyed the play. It was sad that John Prean could not stay to the end, missing the mens singles as they had to catch the ferry back, it was a class final.

D.J. MILLER
Referee Essex 3-star
16 Tomswood Road
Chigwell, Essex
IG7 5QS

Complaints

I received a number of complaints about the Saturday schedule which I passed on. As I was not there, I am hardly in a position to comment. I was present on Sunday and greatly enjoyed the event. There was a good spirit about the place. There was some great PR work. Even television had been attracted. This tournament thoroughly deserves to retain 3 Star status.

JOHN PREAN

Corrections for Iris

I WISH IRIS MOSS would get her facts right before putting pen to paper. In the Middlesex County Notes for February, Issue No 180, she says their Junior 2nd team "saw Worcestershire off 7-3". The result of the match was Middlesex 3 Worcestershire 7! (This was later amended to 8-2 in Worcs favour, since the Middlesex girls were allowed to play in the wrong order!)

She then goes on the report on Middlesex players performance in the Middlesex 3-Star Open Tournament, and says that "Lesley Keast lost to Sue Roden (Leicestershire)".

As far as I'm aware, my daughter hasn't changed her name from Sandra, and she hasn't been transferred to Leicestershire, she's still No. 1 for Worcestershire!

DAVE RODEN
55 Kingswood Rd,
Kingswinford,
West Midlands

Iris Replies

I can only offer my abject apologies to both Worcestershire and Sandra Roden. My only excuse is that I am getting old and careless! The match result was taken over the phone, and obviously I got it wrong. So far as Sandra is concerned, I don't know where I got the "Sue" from, but the Leicestershire came from the programme, which was also wrong. Once again, my apologies.

IRIS MOSS

Who should play the "crunch" match?

ON READING the Sussex notes of February, I was surprised to see you suggest the top men should be "pitted at the end of the match".

The order of play in Leeds British League matches was a topic of discussion last year which concluded that it would NOT be better for the top players to be playing 'dead rubbers' - a sensible conclusion I thought!

MIKE LOVEDER
16 Merton Hall Road,
Wimbledon,
London SW19 3PP.

Editor's note: The League committee have I believe, definitely made the wrong decision. The evidence to support this is that happily, an increasing large number of matches are finishing 5-3 or 4-4. Five of the six I have watched so far have carried one of those finishing score-lines. In all cases, the No. 4 players in each team have carried the pressure burden. Usually, it is too much for them - it is a task for the top players.

Queenie's television verdict . . .

GIVEN the chance to watch world class table tennis was a welcome extra gift for all who enjoy the game and what a super present it turned out to be! Beautifully presented it was colourful, slick and stylish. With a commentator second to none in our own Don Parker, whose great knowledge put over in such a way; it was helpful and enjoyable.

In the past I have often thought a bit more could have been done to make viewing more pleasant; giving us more insight into our great sport. But this time, thanks to Don, the 3 programmes were brought to viewers as grand entertainment.

The Chinese are always a joy to watch and so good humoured! How quickly the time sped by. I do hope that the generous helping we had at Christmas will whet the appetites of those in charge and they will be handing out more of the same. I have heard nothing but praise for this look into the 'World of Table Tennis' so Encore!

It was marvellous to see our team on the screen, playing their hearts out, and how lucky we are to have such fine talented players, all with their own style, and Class competitors. My whole hearted congratulations to all concerned in this project, and to Carl, Nicky, Desmond (M.B.E.) and Cookey who seems to be very photogenic these days, as is his lovely girlfriend!

A truly great adventure for all of us who love table tennis and those who play in it.

QUEENIE SMITH
4 Brooklyn Park
Widicombe Raleigh
Exmouth, Devon
EX8 3AZ

A host family wanted

I AM 17 years old. As a French teenager I would like to get in touch with a table tennis club and so I am looking for a host family to improve my English and to play table tennis, preferably during the month of July.

Write to:
Philippe Aubert Jussecourt.
Minecourt 51 340
Sargny S/ Saulx, France
I am looking forward to hearing from a family. Thank You Aubert

Editor's note: The problem with all exchange visits is assessing standards of play. Club teams going to France sometimes do not know if they are to face comparative beginners or people on the fringe of the national team.

Veterans great weekend

I AM sure I speak for all of us who were at the Midlands Master's Table Tennis Championships at Coventry last weekend.

All matches, whilst fiercely contested, are played in a most sporting manner, making us a credit to our sport. Over one hundred of us thoroughly enjoyed the Saturday evening banquet and all night disco, along with our chairman's "Funny" after dinner jokes (no more please Derek!)



Mike Watts

The huge success of our own tournament weekends is due to the hard working organising committee who seem to get little recognition for their efforts. Our thanks to you all, keep up the good work, and I look forward to seeing everybody at our next one.

JON GLEW
Berkshire

Some helpful comments on this magazine

TABLE TENNIS News, has it would seem, reached the crossroads. It certainly has improved, both in quality and content, but only so far as meeting the criteria of the magazines title. Our magazine is that, page after page of information, be it reports on county matches, internationals or competitions of any standing. Most of the news content relates to past events - interesting to read in certain doses, but do we need paragraph after paragraph of who beat who, particularly of lesser known players, whose achievements mean so much to so few.

I feel that the magazine should adopt a more educational approach. It is sometime since articles appeared from our national coaches, particularly Donald Parker, on coaching and the numerous methods of play.

We should all at some time be trying to improve our own game. This cannot be done by reading

match reports. *Table Tennis News* has a responsibility to educate people by publishing such articles that stimulate thought as to how such information can benefit their own game.

But why stop there? Let us have interviews with leading players on topics such as the equipment they use and why, what motivates them, how do they play certain types of players, how do they prepare mentally and physically. Give us reports and comments on types of blades and rubbers, why do they perform the way they do, how should you play with them and against them.

Precious pages

Where are these precious pages to be found to accommodate this new development? Two ways are possible; 1 Increase the number of pages and the price to £1; 2 Cut back on match reports - particularly the seven or so pages devoted to the Counties. Surely this is too much, as to most readers only their own county's news interests them - thus leaving six pages of little interest, and which are possibly not read.

This letter is not meant as a criticism of current style, only as an observation of the next state I think we should develop.

IAIN J. PERKS
15 Houseman Walk
Offmore Farm
Kidderminster
Worcs. DY10 3XL

Editor's note: If the ETTA Management Committee can be persuaded to invest some money, a more sophisticated magazine is possible. At the moment the budget is shoestring. Good, technical and coaching articles cost time and money. In depth interviews needs professional handling and that costs money.

Mike and visual aids

MY THANKS to Stuart Worrell (T.T. News, January) for alerting us all to the 'enormities' committed by Vlado Miko. I was deeply shocked to hear that this former European Champion and current National coach not only favours 'technical analysis of strokes' but gloatingly promotes it with 'some very appealing visual aids'. The agony caused to victims of this infamous form of torture can only be guessed at.

If Stuart will forgive a layman's response to his revelations, it might be aptly summarised by the use of that most popular of four-letter Ping-Pong expletives. Though, I appreciate, this may no longer be possible in Czechoslovakia!

JOHN HOLLAND
37 Norseway View Drive
Billericay
Essex

European Matters

MAY I add a little on recent "controversies" on European matters? Certainly there is no problem of communications. Such matters as eligibility for the Top 12 (confining this to players who are available for the Euro-Asia series) and advertising (in the arenas in which member countries stage their matches) are the result of majority decisions of member countries. To get changes will similarly require decisions by a majority of member countries. There is little George Yates and I can do until such meetings take place. We fully understand the respective view points.

I personally cannot see how the "Top 12" can live up to its name if players are excluded for reasons other than ability. Players will support the Euro-Asia if it *deserves* their support. Such matters as organisation, considerate treatment and prize money will enter into such considerations. I don't think it is satisfactory to exert pressures in other ways.

Des Douglas required a medical certificate in support of his inability to play in the Euro-Asia. If he had supplied this, I understand he would have been allowed the play in the European "Top 12" which followed. I do not regard that situation as satisfactory either, as medical certificates have been known to be issued to fit persons.

Carl missed out

Carl Prean also missed the recent Euro-Asia because he had a contract with his Club which had reached the German Cup Final which was played at the same time. To play in the Euro-Asia he would have had to break a Contract. He honoured this and so was not invited to the Top 12. Was he expected to break his contract? There was no other way in which he could have gone to Asia.

Serious implications

The question of advertising within our arenas has serious commercial implications for us. Lower division European League Matches involve us in major financial losses. It has to be remembered that away matches have to be financed and these produce no income to set against average travel costs of close to £1,000 per match. Clearly it is the duty of Management to consider whether such expense is justified and with this goes the duty to protect and maximise our own potential sources of income.

Mercifully, our team has now gained promotion to the European Super League and the problems will be less acute, because

greater income can be generated. However, we do expect to be masters in our own house, which includes full advertising rights.

We shall make both points to our European colleagues.

JOHN PREAN

Editor's note: No one knows better than the Chairman the value of initiating support before the voting takes place. Motions succeed where the ground has been prepared, by talking and writing to people. The Top-12 player ban and the ludicrous advertising penalty need to be opposed in force with prepared communication to all voting nations, including the seven votes that Britain can raise.

Was that Letter lost in post?

Dear Albert Shipley,

With reference to the telephone conversation I had with you a short while ago. I am putting my explanation in writing as requested.

I was aware a few weeks before the Top 12 was to be held that due to my work, I would be unable to attend.

I put pen to paper and sent the letter to the ETTA explaining the reason for me not participating. Obviously for various reasons it did not reach you. I can only apologise for that but in any case the letter was sent.



Joy Dean, England No. 4

Because I have been informed from various individuals that a short paragraph was included in TTN, requesting a good reason why I did not attend, I presume I am entitled to trust you to print my reply to the question even though, I feel I am under no obligation to answer to anyone.

I hope this will clear up everyone's great concern for me not attending the Top 12.

Best Wishes
JOY DEAN

THREE MORE LETTERS
ON PAGE 25

Dunlop Schools Team Championships

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Report by
DAVID LOMAS

Exciting finishes in team finals

THERE were some nail-biting finishes in the National Finals of the Dunlop National School Team Championships, which took place at Lea Green, Matlock.

No event was more closely-contested than the Girls' Under-11. Like all the other teams involved, Woodley Junior, Stockport, and Woodfield Junior, Wolverhampton, had qualified via county, area and regional competitions held during the season.

Both teams had drawn, 4-4, against St. Joseph's, Rotherhithe. They knew that another 4-4 result was on the cards and would mean a games ratio countback. Woodfield's No. 3, Kirsty Head, pulled her side back from the brink of defeat, winning 11-21, 21-19, 21-17 in the final set, making the score 5-3 and thus landing the West Midlands School's first title. A margin of two points relegated Woodley to third place.

Both senior (Under-19) titles were retained – but not without a struggle. Ifield Community College, Crawley, had mainly unbeaten No. 3, Keith Newell, to thank for their 4-4 result which nudged Selby College into second spot. Selby's No. 1, Craig Smith, capped a fine performance by beating Ifield's No. 1, Scott Greenbrook.

Kesteven & Grantham Girls made it three wins in a row. After stuttering to a 4-4 draw against debutantes, Worcester Sixth Form College, they brought in reserve, Catherine Challis, and then romped home, 7-1, against Peniel Academy, Brentwood. Peniel gained some consolation when they won the Girls' Under-13 event, with No. 1, Jennie Coleman, unbeaten.

Brave bid

Cumnor House's brave bid for a record four titles on the trot came unstuck in the Boys' Under-11, losing both matches, 3-5, with rivals, Yarlside, looking good for value for their 6-2 win over Holymead.

Pegged back

First-time appearances by Hellesdon High, Norwich and Salesian College, Farnborough (Boys' Under-16), and Thomas Peacocke, Rye, (Girls' Under-16) brought little reward, although Hellesdon pegged back winners, Parkview, to a 5-3 margin; Parkview No. 1, Jonathan Lowes, scored maximum wins. Uniquely, Thomas Peacocke had Wilson sisters, Lian, Natáhsa and Claudine in their quartet. Grove's impressive line-up provided them with



comfortable wins (Girls' Under-16) to chalk up the eleventh national title for the Market Drayton school.

Unbeaten

Darren Blake, Cumnor House's No. 1 player (Boys' Under-13), was unbeaten throughout all the stages of the Championships – since the campaign began in early October. He also claimed his fourth winners trophy – at the tender age of 12 – an achievement which was acknowledged by Darren's winning of the Boys "Best Performance Award". It was appropriate that Diccon Gray, the ETTA's newly-appointed Development Officer, presented the trophy which he himself had won jointly in 1980 when success in the Boys' Under-19 event had secured Diccon's sixth success with Millom School.

Girls award

Nicola Jones (Worcester Sixth Form College) received the Girls "Best Performance Award" from Linda Jarvis.

RESULTS

Boys' Under-19:

1. Ifield Community College, Crawley (West Sussex)			
2. Selby College (North Yorkshire)			
3. Prince William Upper, Oundle (Northamptonshire)			
Prince William	3	Selby	5
Ifield	8	Prince William	0
Selby	4	Ifield	4

Girls' Under-19

1. Kesteven & Grantham Girls (Lincolnshire)			
2. Worcester Sixth Form College (Hereford & Worcester)			
3. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)			
Peniel	4	Worcester	4
Worcester	4	Kesteven & Grantham	4
Kesteven & Grantham	7	Peniel	1

Boys' Under-16:

1. Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness (Cumbria)			
2. Hellesdon High, Norwich (Norfolk)			
3. Salesian College, Farnborough (Hampshire)			
Parkview	5	Salesian	3
Salesian	3	Hellesdon	5
Hellesdon	3	Parkview	5

Girls' Under-16

1. Grove, Market Drayton (Shropshire)			
2. Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness (Cumbria)			
3. Thomas Peacocke, Rye (East Sussex)			
Thomas Peacocke	3	Parkview	5
The Grove	8	Thomas Peacocke	0
Parkview	1	The Grove	7

Boys' Under-13

1. Cumnor House, Croydon (Surrey Metropolitan)			
2. Gosforth, Dronfield (Derbyshire)			
3. The Grove, Market Drayton (Shropshire)			
Gosforth	8	The Grove	0
The Grove	0	Cumnor House	8
Cumnor House	5	Gosforth	3

Girls' Under-13

1. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)			
2. Gosforth, Dronfield (Derbyshire)			
3. Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness (Cumbria)			
Brislington	6	Parkview	2
Parkview	1	Peniel	7
Peniel	6	Brislington	2

Boys' Under-11

1. Yarlside Primary, Barrow-in-Furness (Cumbria)			
2. Holymead Junior, Bristol (Avon)			
3. Cumnor House, Croydon (Surrey Metropolitan)			
Cumnor House	3	Holymead	5
Yarlside	5	Cumnor House	3
Holymead	2	Yarlside	6

Girls' Under-11

1. Woodfield Junior, Wolverhampton (West Midlands)			
2. St. Joseph's RC Primary, Rotherhithe (Inner London)			
3. Woodley Junior, Stockport (Greater Manchester)			
St. Joseph's	4	Woodley	4
Woodfield	4	St. Joseph's	4
Woodley	3	Woodfield	5



Boys' Under-19 winners, Ifield College, Crawley, with ESTTA President, Tom Matthews.

The Dunlop English Schools Individual Championships take place at Mansfield Leisure Centre on Saturday, April 29th.

Provisional dates for the 1989/90 season: Dunlop National School Team Championships: Area Finals Saturday/Sunday, 20/21 January; Regional Finals Sunday 18 February; National Finals Saturday 17 March. Dunlop English Schools Individual Championships Saturday 28 April

INFORMATION AVAILABLE

For information on ESTTA activities please write to: L. C. Henry, Engelberg, Badger Lane, Wolley Moor, Derby DE5 6FG

Another table tennis boost for Isle of Dogs

Second success for ranking tournament

by LAURI LAKEN, ETTA Club Coach

FOR the second year running BARCLAYS IN DOCKLANDS sponsored all the Junior Events in the local ISLE OF DOGS RANKING TOURNAMENT.

The picture shows Barclays representative CHRIS DAY with the number one ranked players Louise Butcher, Stacey Brown, Nicky Carter, Femi Yussoof and Glenn Cramer.

The JOHN LENANTON Trophy went to No. 1 Veteran Ron Weir for the second time and trophies in this category to Laurie Laken (No. 2) and Jimmy Mills (No. 3).

Although there was a slight drop in the number entering the Ranking Tournament in 1988, the George Green Table Tennis Club is experiencing a healthy season, with the inevitable promotion to Division One of its 'A' team in the Silvertown and District League. Club coaches Laurie Laken and John Hall have also been encouraged by the increased number of girls showing an interest in the sport.



Bearded Graham Webb, General Manager of the Daily Telegraph sponsored the Mens event, and is pictured with (left to right) Paul Runham No. 3, Alan Butcher No. 2 and Nicky Carter who took the mens title at 15 years of age

THE FINAL PLACINGS

Barclays also presented trophies to all the ranked players as follows:-

Under 17 Boys

1. Nicky Carter
2. Paul Runham
3. Chun Kwok
4. Femi Yussoof
5. Gary Mills

Cadet Boys

1. Femi Yussoof
2. Mark Runham
3. Gary Mills
4. Darren Mockus
5. Ian Hall
6. Glenn Cramer
7. Michael Hall

Under 11 Boys

1. Glenn Cramer
2. Darren Mockus
3. Ian Hall
4. Tristan Newman
5. Stephen Mills
6. Ricky Brown

Under 14 Girls

1. Stacey Brown
2. Lisa Butcher
3. Louise Butcher

Under 11 Girls

1. Louise Butcher
2. Sarah Holmes
3. Samantha Mills
4. Gemma Placey

SPONSORS

The Daily Telegraph sponsored the Men's event and the top lady on the Island, Glenys Oladinni won the Ducal Pine Cup, and Jill Newman was No. 2 for the second year running.



Darren wakes up Docklands

AS AN eleven year old watching Table Tennis on "Wake up London" Darren Mockus used his initiative and phoned them for details as to where to he could start up in the sport. The computer signalled - 'Try George Greens Sports Centre on the Isle of Dogs'

He persuaded his parents to drive him to the venue; and the Table Tennis Bug bit him!

Twelve months later he received the TEESPORT sponsored trophy for "the most promising newcomer" to the George Green Table Tennis Club. Presenting the Trophy to Darren, Club Coach Laurie Laken said that Darren exhibited qualities of natural ability, enthusiasm, hard work and commitment.

His achievements over the year included his being ranked number two in the local Isle of Dogs Ranking Tournament for Under 11's, and No. 5 in the Advanced Section of the Under 12's in the London Ranking Tournament. Darren rightly attributes his early success to the help given to him in training by his team mates at the Club.

Since receiving the Trophy, Darren has justified the choice by winning a local Sports Centre tournament in both the Under 14 Boys and the Under 17 Restricted singles events. He just failed by two points to get through his group in the LEEDS Youth Cup U14 event held at Woolwich in February. He is determined to do even better in 1989, and already has a place in the Grand Final of the London Ranking Tournament to be held in March.

Apart from his personal achievements it was noted that Darren has introduced six new members to the club.

Pictured at the Docklands event, the George Green Table Tennis Club A and B. teams: Back row: D. Mockus, J. Mills, G. Luff, J. Hall, L. Laken, P. Runham. Front row: L. Butcher, N. Carter, M. Runham and G. Mills.



Darren Mockus



Coach Laurie Laken

International flavour in women's new league

COACHING for women and girls seems to be breaking new ground all over the country and the inaugural matches in the Leeds British Women's League will take place at Burton-on-Trent on the week-end of April 15-16 and on the May 27-28 weekend at Milton Keynes.

Top women players from England, Scotland, Wales and France will be appearing.

The venue at Burton will be the Meadowside Leisure Centre and at Milton Keynes, the well-known Bletchley Leisure Centre.

Tickets will be available on the day for spectators at both venues. Butterfly tables, net and post sets, surrounds and scoring machines, and Schildkrot 3-star balls have been adopted for use in the league.

Northern Region Women's League

THE FIRST round of the new Northern Region Women's Club league proved to be a great success at Dunstan Activites Centre in Gateshead on Sunday, 29th January. Twenty-one teams took part, including women and girls from all parts of the Region. The second round will be held at Thornaby Pavilion in Cleveland on Sunday, 14th May.



Photograph: The ladies from the Rainbow Leisure Centre in Middlesbrough: left to right Judith Lawton, Brenda Lilley, Pauline Bateman, Brenda Stephenson, Rosa Simon and Freda Noonan.

Northern Region coaching rally

ON February 19th we held our Northern Region Women's Coaching Rally on 16 tables at Eston Leisure Centre in Middlesbrough. Alison Gordon was our Player/Coach and Bob Willey, ETTA Senior Coach and Assessor, stepped in for Sylvia Broadbent who was unable to attend at the last moment due to sickness. The Senior Coaches were assisted by Maureen Goosey of Hartlepool, Caron Mustard of Jarrow and myself.

Top Players

The Rally was very well supported, including the Region's top women players, youth leaders and a large number of youngsters, many of whom had never played table tennis before. Altogether 60 players took part, divided into two groups. Whilst one group were being coached by the women coaches, Bob Willey ran video, discussion and physical

fitness sessions. The day was concluded with match play in groups.

Those who had been emersed in table tennis for the whole day had a great time together and the English Champion, Alison Gordon, collected quite a fan club amongst the little girls.

Our thanks are extended to the ETTA and the Sports Council, Northern Region, for making this Coaching Rally possible.

Pam Richmond
Northern Region Coaching
Chairman

Women in Table Tennis contact

Jose Ransome
"Conifers"
Church Lane
Ormesby
Middlesbrough
Cleveland
Tel: 0642 322223 (h)
223333 (o)

Report by JOSE RANSOME



Andrea Holt the England No. 4 is getting heavily involved coaching in the north-west. The problem could be that coaching could adversely affect anyone's game who is aiming for the top.



Other Regional Women's Coaching Rallies

East Midlands, Uxbridge Community Centre in Burton, 12th February. Terry Gadsy reports that 17 players of varying standards attended . . . to be followed up by County rallies. Good support from the Regional Sports Council for the project.

West Midlands, Grove School, Market Drayton, 19th February. Jenny Heaton and Fiona Elliot ran a successful rally for 21 players, most of whom were complete beginners to the sport.

North West, Kingsway Leisure Centre, Widnes, Cheshire, Sunday 5th March.

Karen Tonge will be organising this Rally, with Jill Parker as the Senior Coach and Andrea Holt the Player/coach.

London & South East, Graham Spicer Institute, New Malden, Surrey, Easter Sunday, 27th March 10.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Gail McCulloch and Jane Barella in charge.

Southwestern at Bath Leisure Centre, date awaiting confirmation.

Eastern, Southern and Yorkshire/Humberside . . . where are you?

Encouragement from Bournemouth

I READ with great interest in the 'Table Tennis News' Jose Ransome's efforts to attract more women into table tennis.

In the 1930's every major league in the country had a Women's Division in the League, in many instances there were at least two divisions. This was the training ground for women's table tennis and the standard was so good that few women found it necessary to play in the Men's teams.

Until we return to this system there will be a dearth of women players and our lack of world class in the women's game will continue. So as usual it is up to the clubs to start the ball rolling and admit women beginners to their club. What a hope? One snag is that in the social evils of our time, women are scared to go out at night on their own and can only rely on some enthusiast escorting them or three or four women travelling together.

It is good to see that there are some signs of womens table tennis at Regional level, but in the main those competing are established players. What is needed is an influx of beginners all over the country.

How many clubs encourage women to join what is usually very much a men's club? Beginners are frowned upon and not made to feel welcome. One must admire the present women playing in men's teams. They have had to practically force their way into the teams, how they have reached that standard, goodness only knows, it certainly is in most cases without the assistance of men, until they reach a certain standard, then they are flooded with advice (good and bad).

What about the thousands of young girls and women who would like to play our game, but are complete beginners and will find it very difficult, in fact almost impossible, to find a club that will accept them.

So every major association in the country should start a coaching system especially for women, then maybe in the course of time women's teams would spring up and leagues formed throughout the country.

**HAROLD PEARCE
BOSCOMBE**

Video – A world beater

WHEN table tennis made its debut as an Olympic Sport this year it received its biggest boost since the World Championships were held in Birmingham in the mid-70s.

Media coverage was enormous far in excess of the world championships with millions of viewers throughout the world tuning in, many who had never seen the sport before.

Table tennis has grown in popularity and some say because of the Olympic Games now has the opportunity to become a major sport.

A lot has changed, the rules may be the same but the technology is far in advance of what it was ten years ago.

The game is faster and England players are now among the best in Europe; and much of the reason for that is the increasing use of the video camera.

If there has been one major change it must be the movement towards video filming, for at all major events cameras are very evident.

Often for recording matches purely for personal entertainment, more often than not by coaches to enable them to improve players performances.

Seeing your mistakes is far more effective than being told about them. Table tennis caters for lightning reflexes and the video camera can play a perfect role having the ability to freeze action and replay, time and time again.

Explanation helps but more and more coaches are turning to video as the perfect answer to a whole host of problems. Something that occurs in micro seconds is difficult to see let alone put it right. To a great extent video has solved that difficulty.

The Bergmann's, Barna's and Leach's learned the hard way by trial and error. Nowadays the Cooke's, Preen's and Gordon's have a massive advantage at their finger tips – literally.

But coaching is only one side of the growing video business. For table tennis buffs it is excellent for recording top matches which you can then watch time and time again in the comfort of your own home.

Major events, even local matches are perfect material for setting up a



Donald Parker, England

camera and letting the film roll.

One of the most popular figures at major events is Sid Fryer who sets up his camera at home and overseas and receives orders from all over the world (see his advert in the classified section).

Video was used extensively at the World Championships, Dortmund to analyse opponents's performances and then take the necessary action.

"Using video gives great tactical advantage," says England manager Donald Parker who has used video for the last five years to great effect.

"Being able to see your opposition in action can provide a tremendous boost to players who can see weaknesses and decide how to play before going to the table," he says.

But perfecting your own game is the ultimate advantage. "If you can see yourself doing something wrong, putting it right becomes easier. All the England squad have benefitted in this way."

But its to the coach that the video camera must become an important part of his equipment. If players can see within seconds what they are doing wrong, then the benefits must be very great whether advanced or beginner.

We shall be seeing more of the video camera in the coming months in all areas of the sport. By the time of the next Olympics Donald Parker and his team will be better prepared than ever to take on the world and one of the reasons for that will be his tried and trusted camera.

†For the record Donald's camera is a JVC Mark 3 VHS unit.

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TRADE ANNOUNCEMENT

Try before you buy

by MICHAEL BROWN

You may recall that some time ago I wrote a series of articles about Table Tennis equipment. This article is about a new exciting scheme (provided jointly by PATSUN and LENTEC) called TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY.

As you may have seen in our preview advertisements, we have already established a mail order service selling our predominately British made equipment. We offer quality, high technology tested range of blades and rubbers, backed by an extensive clothing collection, and what is more, we offer our products at competitive prices.

Our pricing policy is aimed at allowing all players the opportunity to obtain advanced equipment, at a price every one can afford.

So what exactly is the TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY scheme?

It is a back up for our policy providing quality equipment for everyone at every level.

It is a statement that we can improve your game given the chance; a way of saying "Here is a range of products which are offered with unbiased advice". After all, all the 'technical' data in the world can only be effective if it is correct.

At a TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY Centre, you have the chance to test the advice given to you and the chance to make up your mind about our equipment range.

But the most important part of all, is that you can try as many combinations of our rubbers and blades as you like and all without paying a penny. You can visit a centre as often as you like until you are sure you have made the right choice.

Whether you listen to our free technical advice or not, you are welcome to TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY.

Established centres, details of which are provided below, are returning encouraging signs that we are changing the prevailing attitudes about equipment that are all too often ill-conceived.

For instance, an interesting statistic is that a lot of players after trying our equipment at these centres are readily changing to our brands.

This seems to prove that like any 'new' brand, Patsun and Lenteq products are equal or in many cases even better performers than the established makes.

However, the monopolisation is there for all to see, leading to higher prices. With our products and our TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY centres the monopolisation can be, and is being broken.

When you buy a car, it can be test driven: a video recorder can be demonstrated, why not Table Tennis equipment.

Can you explain why, with so many products and so many years in the business, our competitors have not introduced a technical scheme like this one? The only reason I can see is that the foreign companies prefer to keep their technical information to themselves. Otherwise wouldn't we have spin speed and control tables based on more than player analysis.

As an average player myself, I never received advice that was anything but the result of playing tests, perhaps the better players would say they get technical advice from their sponsors, but our TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY centres are aimed at all levels of play and anyone from beginners upwards can benefit from the technical knowledge that these centres are based on.

For the cost of travelling expense, I am available to advise and demonstrate our equipment to coaches and players in areas that we have not yet had a chance to set up a centre.

One advantage of the centres is that you will be dealing with people who you will probably already know, each of the centres organisers is likely to be a local player, coach or stockist who is already involved and committed to the improvement of local Table Tennis.

He or she will pass on our technical facts about the range available at their particular centre with that information, the decision of which equipment suits your style of play best will be a lot easier for you to make.

"A harder sponge makes it easier to feel the ball contact, and gives 'crisper' rebound, but your spin potential is reduced."

Now you can prove this for your self!

Perhaps it's about time that players attitudes about the game were updated, and what better way than give you access to the technical information for yourselves, giving you the chance to make your own decisions, based on factual data.

We can provide you with information, that previously was unobtainable, about your choice of equipment, and then you can try it for yourself at one of our TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY centres and see what only deal in facts!

(Continued in next column)

MAILBOX – three more letters

A huge collection of books

IN APRIL 1984 you kindly published an article written by me called "Books on Table Tennis". In this article I described how I had established a collection of some 87 different books in the English language.

The collection has now grown to something approaching 200 different books in English and I believe it to be the largest collection of books on Table Tennis in English anywhere in the world.

However there are still some gaps to be filled and in particular if anyone has a copy of Victor Bernas "Table Tennis" of 1935 or "Table Tennis Tips" by George Koehnke of 1960 I would be delighted to buy them. Also any books of a pre war vintage would be of interest.

As a result of research into records of both the British Museum and the U.S. Library of Congress I have been able to prepare a 35 page bibliography listing all books on Table Tennis published in the English Language. I can arrange for photocopies if any reader would like a set, and the cost including postage will be £4.

I am always pleased to hear from anyone who would be prepared to buy, sell or exchange books on Table Tennis.

BARRY HAYWARD
34, Aldridge Rd
Streety.
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands

Autographed ball for sale

I HAVE a 'VILLA XXX' table tennis ball with E.T.T.A. official stamp on it for 1938/39 season (50-years old). The ball is autographed by G. V. Barna, R. Bergman, R. Vana, and L. Bellak, all ex-World Champions and all now deceased.

Perhaps some collector or any other interested person would like to make an offer for it?

RAY WILLIAMSON
'Boveda'
The Wold, Claverley
Nr. Wolverhampton

Plea from a village near Frome

PLEASE could you send me some information on table tennis clubs in the Frome area providing services for the beginner. I'm interested in the sport and the recent televising of the England vs China match encouraged me to do something.

It would help me greatly if any information is found, i.e. the average cost to join a club and how many times a week I should go?

PIERS POWELL
The Chimes
Leigh Street
Leigh-on-Mendip
Somerset.

Editor's note: I hope our friends in Somerset have been able to answer this appeal from a country area. It shows the power of the media, in this case, Channel 4 television.



At the South of England 3-star – mens doubles winners John Souter & Colin Wilson

LIST OF TRY-BEFORE-YOU-BUY CENTRE CONTACTS

Mr J Parker	0283 701591	Burton-on-Trent & district
Mrs P Pickles	0533 882679	Leicester & district
Mr R Etheridge	01 658 3132	Bromley & district
Mr L Saywell	0480 75178	St. Neots & district
Mr D Kinder	04575 67855	Manchester & district
Mr S Williams	0978 365411	Wrexham & district
Mssrs B&C Carmichael	03552 46537	Scotland
Mr H Feltham	0202 527348	Bournemouth & district
Mr B Mason	044 385 3181	Cardiff & district
Mr N Taylor	0684 574756	Worcester & district
Mr P Walker	0492 512768	Colwyn Bay & district

News from two regions

SOUTH WEST REGION NEWS

by ALF PEPPARD

AT THE Centre of Excellence sessions held at Plymouth eleven players from Devon and Cornwall attended and were given extensive coaching by former England No 3 Jackie Bellinger, Jackie kept the young squad interested and on their toes throughout the entire four days of intensive training and technical skills.

Jackie was assisted by Val Clack the SWR Coaching Chairperson and Adrian Wright.

Players in attendance were:- Jonathan May, Adrian Vincent, Gregory Bridgett, Helen Wright, Tina Sadler, Johnny Maggs, Stephen Barratt, John Shipman, Lindsey Hayward, Lisa Morrish and Rachel Sandford.

MAIN EVENTS

at The Leeds Youth Cup Regional Final's (Region "D") at Stroud on 18-2-89.

Cadet Boys Singles

Adrian Vincent (Plymouth) bt Jeremy Hyatt (Gloucester), 16, 16.

Girls

Rachel Boon (Launceston) bt Anna Cahill (Conner Downs), 14, 18.

Junior Boys Singles

Neil Bevan (Bude) bt Stephen Bettison (Nailsea), 8, 12.

Girls

Helen Wright (Plymouth) bt Sarah Pengelley (Paignton), 14, 10.

Junior Boys Doubles

G. Bridgett/A. Perry (Dv) bt D. Hadley/S. Bettison (Av), 18, -23, 17.

Girls

S. Pengelley/H. Wright(Dv) bt C. Pengelley/L. Hayward (Dv), 15, 13.

By the time S.W. Regional readers read this, Tom Honey for many decades the Hon/Secretary of the West Cornwall T.T. League will have packed his bags and left Cornwall, to take up residence in Girvan in far distant Ayrshire, Scotland.

In appreciation of his much valued services to table tennis in Cornwall I understand that the Cornish Authorities have laid on a Dinner for Tom at the Old Key House in Hayle, where (at the time of writing), some 50 or so guests are expected to wine - dine - and generally bid him goodbye.

It is highly possible that Scottish talent scouts have already made tentative approaches for Toms services, one thing is certain, he will indeed be greatly missed down Cornwall way and more so - their loss could well be Scotlands gain.

This humble scribe would just like to say, All the very best Tom - "North of the Border" it was a pleasure knowing you.



Jackie Bellinger coaching in the South West

rising star, John Shipman.

The next and final rounds at Bath Sport and Leisure Centre on Sunday 23rd April will determine final places, which could see a Bath team Champions richer by £200.

League Positions

	P	W	L	Pts
Bath	6	6	0	46
Bathwick Exhausts	7	5	2	39
Bathwick Tyres	6	5	1	35
Global (Plymouth)	6	4	2	35
Money Shop (Plymouth)	6	4	2	30
Stroud	7	2	5	28
Swindon 'A'	6	3	3	28
Swindon 'B'	6	2	4	23
Falmouth	6	0	6	11
Launceston	6	0	6	4

Bath, and Bathwick teams in the LEEDS Senior South West Table Tennis League hold positions one, two and three after fierce competition at Plymouth.

The Bath league side's victories over Money Shop (Plymouth) and Stroud, put them in pole position hotly pursued by Bathwick Exhausts and Bathwick Tyres after fine victories against Swindon, Falmouth, Launceston, and Swindon 'B'.

Bob Murray, Bath's colourful immigrant from the North, still holds a 100% record, although losing a game against Plymouth's



Alf Peppard



In the southwest region, Jeremy Hyatt, the No. 2 Gloucestershire junior is on the national ranking lists, junior and cadet.

LONDON & SOUTH EASTERN REGION

(MIDDLESEX, SUSSEX, KENT, SURREY AND ESSEX)

UNOFFICIAL RANKING LISTS.

Junior Boys

1. Grant Solder (Essex)
2. Brian Mileham (Kent)
3. Damian Holland (Essex)
4. Alan Cole (Sussex)
5. Graeme Connolly (Surrey)
6. Paul Carter (Surrey)
7. Simon Rockall (Middlesex)
8. Keith Buers (Essex)
9. Allan Radford (Essex)
10. Jason Blake (Surrey)
11. Matthew Reid (Essex)
12. Spencer Thompson (Kent)
13. Steven Rand (Essex)
14. John Blasco (Surrey)
15. Dov Katz (Middlesex)
16. Matthew King (Kent)
17. Christopher Sladden (Essex)
18. Darren Blake (Surrey)
19. David Baker (Middlesex)
20. Edward Hatley (Surrey)
21. Tayo Fasanya (Essex)
22. Richard Hyacinth (Middlesex)
23. Mark Williams (Middlesex)
24. Neil Butcher (Essex)
25. Stephen Crouch (Surrey)

15. Nicola Mundy (Sussex)
16. Ruth Cleminson (Essex)
17. Nadine Barthee (Essex)
18. Emise Kottasz (Middlesex)
19. Julie Rand (Essex)
20. Elizabeth Blanch (Middlesex)

Cadet Boys

1. John Blasco (Surrey)
2. Dov Katz (Middlesex)
3. Christopher Sladden (Essex)
4. Darren Blake (Middlesex)
5. David Baker (Middlesex)
6. Edward Hatley (Surrey)
7. Richard Hyacinth (Middlesex)
8. Stephen Crouch
9. Daniel Hacker (Surrey)
10. Mark Williams (Middlesex)
11. Ben Ware (Essex)
12. Sam Henley (Middlesex)
13. Peter Whealy (Essex)
14. Peter Worthington (Essex)
15. Ryan Savill (Essex)
16. Paul Thomas (Surrey)
17. Martin Hewitt (Kent)
18. Daniel Annenburg (Surrey)
19. Andrew Moir (Essex)
20. Wayne Mitchell (Essex)

Junior Girls

1. Sara Williams (Middlesex)
2. Alison Gower (Essex)
3. Linda Radford (Essex)
4. Tracey Cole (Sussex)
5. Kitti Kottasz (Middlesex)
6. Rebecca Fisher (Middlesex)
7. Lesley Hollingworth (Kent)
8. Hannah Webber (Surrey)
9. Karen Ashley (Surrey)
10. Miranda Markham (Surrey)
11. Lian Wilson (Sussex)
12. Tracey French (Essex)
13. Shelly Garlinge (Kent)
14. Rachel Reid (Essex)

Cadet Girls

1. Sara William (Middlesex)
2. Linda Radford (Essex)
3. Lesley Hollingworth (Kent)
4. Miranda Markham (Surrey)
5. Sarah Gardner (Essex)
6. Jennifer Coleman (Essex)
7. Claire Ashley (Surrey)
8. Georgina Matthews (Middlesex)
9. Laura Greenbury (Middlesex)
10. Nicola Duke (Kent)
11. Cathy Sibbald (Essex)
12. Shelley Ruocco (Essex)

ANNIVERSARY NOSTALGIA AT SOUTHAMPTON by David Cosway

THE Finals Night of the 50th Southampton Closed Tournament turned out to be a time for pure nostalgia. Invitations had gone out to all previous Singles winners, Tournament Secretaries and Life Members of the Association.

Of the winners, 12 women and 7 men who between them had won 57 Singles titles, turned up for the event. The star attraction in my mind was the lovely lady, Iris Enticott, who won the Womens Singles before I was born! Now living in retirement with her husband in Worthing, she won the event four years running before the war commencing with the 1935/36 season. Past Womens winners were well represented with Bennie Brown (1947 and 1951), Cordie Whitren (1948 and 1957), June Williams (1956, 1959 and 1963), Pat Warrior (1958), Pauline Soper (1960, 1961, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1970), Christine Davies (1962, 1969, 1973, 1974, 1975 and 1976), Jane Whitcher (1977 and 1978), Ann Longland (1979 and 1982), Serena Sinanin (1980 and 1981), Cheryl Buttery (1985) and Sarah Hammond (1987 and 1988). On the male side Don Cartridge (1956, 1958, 1961, 1963 and 1967), Trevor Smith (1966), Phil Brown (1970, 1971 and 1978), Chris Shetler (1972, 1973, 1980, 1981, 1983 and 1984), Terry Bruce (1974, 1985), Keith Summerfield (1975 and 1976) and Andy Ely (1986, 1987 and 1988) were all present.

In the main tournament the big

surprise was the exit in the Group matches of the winner of the Mens Singles for the past three years, Andy Ely (Alpha), beaten 2 straight by Graham Pointer (Wadhams). At the Quarter Final stage all matches were decided comfortably with Jeff Mitchell (Snows) beating Mark Thorne (4Ts) 13 and 11, Mark Bleakley (Sholing) beating Graham Pointer 16 and 5, Terry Bruce (Snows) beating Bill Moulding (Snows) 16 and 8 and Chris Shetler (Snows) beating John Roberts (Alpha) 15 and 11.

On the Finals night, the play fortunately matched the occasion. The proceedings started with two nail-biting Mens Singles semi-finals. Terry Bruce, who has just reached the magic 40, relived some of his epic encounters with Chris Shetler from the early 1970's when he survived a couple of match points before scraping through 9, -17, 22. Not to be outdone, newcomer Mark Bleakley won a fluctuating set against Jeff Mitchell 11, -12, 20. The final, while not producing the spectacle of the semi's, still had its moments. Bleakley, relying a great deal on his service, extended Bruce to a third game but was forced to give second best to a player who first won the event fifteen years ago, Terry eventually winning 15, -14, 15.

A very poor entry for the Womens Singles due partly to fixture clashes and players being injured resulted in Sarah Hammond (4Ts) and Cheryl Buttery

16/11, and the third 14/9 but, perhaps playing too ambitiously, lost both. Jeff Giles (Snows), son of County Coach Ken, thereby won his third title with some good controlled table tennis at -16, 19, 18. The Veterans Final was the most disappointing of the night. Don Cartridge (Alpha), the only person to have won the Junior, Senior and Veteran Singles titles, came out of retirement to enter the tournament and had a convincing 2 straight victory in the semi-final over current County Veteran Maurie Shave. The Final however was a complete clash of styles and the modern Veterans game of Graham Lynch (4Ts) convincingly won 9 and 7. In the two Doubles, Sarah Hammond and Tony Catt beat John Roberts and Cheryl Buttery in the Mixed 24,

-18, 16 while Bill Moulding and Terry Bruce beat Andy Ely and Tony Catt in the Mens 19 and 13. The Divisional Titles were won by:- Division 1 - Neil Adams (Polish Centre) Division 2 - Don Cartridge (Alpha) Division 3 - Martin Cheffey (Alpha) Division 4 - John Fox (Esso)

After the table tennis an excellent buffet was laid on and gave everyone the opportunity to recall on the past. Thanks are due to Brian Lamerton, the Tournament Secretary, not only for the normal running of the event but for the considerable work in organising the guests and reception for the Final. He was ably assisted by Harold Albery, who umpired the Finals with Peter Thorne and the Association Treasurer, John Fhithyan.

SALLY MARLING the surprise winner

by REA BALMFORD

THERE were surprise results in the Yorkshire Regional round of the Leeds Youth Cup held at Halifax and, although in the end, Mark Stephenson, top seed in the Junior Boys Singles, and Caroline Bentley, the only nationally ranked player in the Cadet Girls Singles, came through comfortably enough, the other two events produced shock winners.

Stephenson did not drop a game on his way to the title, but joint third seeds Graham Cook and Stephen Horsfield went out to Craig Smith and Gareth Jones respectively, with the latter taking the final spot which should have gone to Michael Auchterlonie, a late withdrawal.

With the Cadet Boys Andy Nicholls (S1) fell in straight sets to the steadily improving Robert Sharp (S3=) in the top semi-final, while at the opposite end of the draw the relatively unknown Bradley Stephenson, no relation of Mark, announced his arrival on the scene by dumping Mark Dawson (S2) before making his way to the final where Sharp got the verdict over three thrilling sets.

The top three seeds took their expected places in the last four of the Junior Girls Singles, where they were joined by 12 years old Sally Marling, who came through the group from which elder sister Samantha (S4) had to withdraw due to injury.

But then the mayhem began with Sally overturning Katie Goodall (2) in the semi and Ellen Meddings (1) in the final to emulate the feat achieved by Miss Meddings 12 months earlier when she qualified for the National Cadet Final by virtue of her ranking and then won through to the Junior final.

Interesting footnote to the Restricted events came at Cadet level where brother and sister Simon and Samantha James from unfashionable Bridlington shared the honours, with the parallel Junior titles going to Mark Farnill and Jayne Richardson.

JUNIOR EVENTS

Boys Singles:

Mark Stephenson (Halifax) bt Gareth Jones (Selby) 14, 20

Girls Singles:

Sally Marling (Hull) bt Ellen Meddings (Harrogate) -13, 17, 22

Boys Doubles:

Stephenson/Graham Cook (Pontefract) bt Karl Horsfield/Andy Nicholls (Selby) -19, 18, 17

Girls Doubles:

Meddings/Joanne Keighly (Bradford) bt Marling/Isla Balford (Hull) 10, 14

Restricted Boys Singles:

Mark Farnhill (Hull) bt Simon Beaumont (Halifax) 11, 9.

Restricted Girls Singles:

Jayne Richardson (Wakefield) bt Caroline Bentley (Bradford) 11, 8

CADET EVENTS

Boys Singles:

Robert Sharp (Northallerton) bt Bradley Stephenson (Bradford) 18, -18, 17

Girls Singles:

Bentley bt Angela Johnson (Hull) 12, 16

Restricted Boys Singles:

Simon James (Bridlington) bt Jeremy Hazlehurst (Harrogate) 19, -13, 17

Restricted Girls Singles:

Samantha James (Bridlington) bt Lyndsey Jenkins (Wakefield) -20, 17, 23



Losing finalist - Cheryl Buttery

(Snows) each having a 'bye' into the Final. While these two may have, in any event, contested the Final, it was unfortunate for such an occasion that more did not enter. Sarah won her third successive title against her nationally higher ranked opponent 19, -13, 12.

While the evening was mostly about the past, the Junior Final produced probably the best of the evening with some excellent table tennis from both players. Mark Thorne (4Ts), son of former Coach and international umpire Peter, won the first and had chances to win both the second, when he led

Hard work is Sweden's answer. . .

by a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT in SWEDEN

SWEDEN continues to dominate European table tennis and at times their star players make an impact against the Chinese and the Koreans. Proof came in New Delhi when Jan-Ove Waldner finished runner-up and also in Seoul at the Olympic Games when Erick Lindh was the only European to win a medal.

There are no miracles, at least not in top-level international sport. There is very much hard work behind every victory and every point won. This hard work is done by coaches and players at all levels.

All these matters, proofs of Sweden's dominance of the European table tennis scene, are no miracles since these do not exist. At least not in top-level international sports. There is hard work behind every victory and even every point won. And this hard work is done by coaches and players on all levels.



Jan-Ove Waldner

Sport has very old traditions in Sweden. Slightly exaggerated we could say that all Swedish people have been interested in sports since the Olympic summer Games were held in Stockholm.

Table tennis caught on in Sweden soon after World War I, and the Swedish association (SBTF) was founded as early as in 1926. Two years later Stockholm hosted the second World Championships in table tennis.

Started in thirties

The first real upsurge came during the thirties – years of economic crisis and mass unemployment all over the world. Out of the generation of "pioneers" emerged Tage Flisberg, becoming a link to the next generation. At the end of his long tenure, aged 37, he reached the final of the men's singles at the World Championships in London in 1954, only to go down 1-3 to Ichiro Oigimura, the current President of ITTF. Flisberg's success was of great importance to the future of Swedish table tennis: He became a kind of model to the young who succeeded him.



Jörgen Persson (Sweden)

Oigimura, too, was to play an important role in Swedish table tennis. SBTF soon discovered the Japanese's virtues and decided to charge him with the task of national coach and manager.

Once of the roots of the strength of Swedish table tennis is that it has never been afraid of trying new ideas, irrespective of their Swedish or foreign source.

Alex Ehrlich, now a French citizen and steady guest a major tournaments, also played an outstanding part in improving the status of table tennis by introducing new training methods, lively supported by Sweden's member of the board and later President of SBTF, Erik Extergren.

– We worked very hard to become an established sport and to get affiliated to the Swedish Sports Federation. Many sport officials, especially in the ranks of the military, considered table tennis a cellar sport – Extergren says.

The foremost of the young talents who succeeded Tage Flisberg was Hasse Alser. He won the first major international title for Sweden in 1962, wrapping up the men's singles and the mixed doubles (along with Inge Harst of FRG) at the European Championships of that year.

Soon, Kjell Johansson joined with him, winning the men's singles at his European Championships debut in the 1964 tournament, at the age of only 18! Hasse and Kjell had the Lion's share of the string of six EC triumphs in the team even, which did not end until 1976 in Prague.

Ever since then, young Swedes have featured among European

and world top players: Christer Johansson, Carl-Johan Bernhardt, Stellan Bengtsson (world champion in 1971), Ulf Thorsell, Ulf Carlsson, Mikael Appelgren, Ulf Bengtsson, Jan-Ove Waldner, Erik Lindh, Jörgen Persson and many more.

There are many explanations why Sweden has kept and even strengthened its supremacy as Europe's table tennis powerhouse.

The most important ones are:

- Fine training education;
- Purposeful concentration on many young coaches working with clubs and on regional level;
- Good premises and facilities.

Though far from an optimum, Swedish table tennis players can work under better circumstances than in other countries.

- An administrative organization based on voluntariness, where experience in sports, familiarity with club activities and working capacity are highly appreciated. Most people involved are unpaid workers but their direct expenses are paid for.

- Essential support by society as well as a benevolent attitude by trade and industry, which understand that sport success is good propaganda for all Sweden.

Virtually every little community is provided with a table tennis club for boys and girls who are interested in table tennis. These communities want the children to have a sensible pastime in their leisure hours. The clubs organize and oversee the trainings. The best children of every region are sent to training camps in all the 24 regions year after

year. The foremost in the youth competitions staged every year can enter national training camps, where the workouts take place under the auspices of Sweden's best trainers.

Called to camps

Players supposed to enter the international scene are called up to regular training camps during the year. Those who have clinched a place in the national team are given good training conditions – both in their clubs and under SBTF management.

The manager of the national team often summons experts to the training camps, discussing with them topics like psychology, physiology, meals, beverages etc.

The best players of the country are concentrated in a few places – the strongest clubs in Sweden: Stockholm (Sparvågen and Angby), Falkenberg (Falkenbergs BTK) and Malmö (Malmö FF).

One of the main pillars of Swedish table tennis is discipline. Players must train much and efficiently – and they also need to rest and to sleep enough, to eat various food and, in workouts, to invigorate their all-round abilities. Around Christmas time in every year, if only possible, the national team makes a trip to the south of Europe, resting there for a week.

The fierce rivalry at the top produces some disadvantages, too: For instance, none of the players who won the team event at the European Youth Championships in 1985 or 1986 has managed to enter the national A-team. Those players may certainly take part in major European tournaments now and then. Their chance to make international experience is, however, rather limited compared to that of players of other nations where the best players are not ranked among the top 20 in Europe.

No miracle

Well, there is no miracle behind the Swedish supremacy in Europe. The ladies' field seems quite different, however. Although the future looks bright, Sweden's female players are about as far from the European top as they have been for many years (except for Ann-Christin Hellman, Birgitta Radberg, Marie Lindblad).

Our work is being concentrated on defending at the European Championships in Gothenburg. Sweden cannot be satisfied with being the best in Europe – they try hard to become the best in the world!

A Tournament with a Difference

by BRIAN BURN

During my thirteen years in Saudi Arabia as coach of the King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals (K.F.U.P.M.) Table Tennis Team and at the age of forty, I was finally allowed to participate in an open table tennis championship in the Kingdom. Previously all tournaments had been for Saudi Nationals or by invitation to foreign teams.

The main sponsor of the tournament was The Arab News, the biggest selling English newspaper in the Kingdom and was hosted by King Saud University, Riyadh. The tournament took place from the 22nd to the 30th of December 1988. Unfortunately, organization of tournaments in Saudi Arabia is somewhat different to anywhere else in the world.

The team events were scheduled for the Arabic weekends (Thursday and Friday) of the 22nd and 23rd and the 29th and 30th of December while the individual events were to be played in the evenings from Sunday, the 25th December until Wednesday, the 28th of December. The Grand Finals of the Team Competition and Singles Event were to be on Friday, the 30th of December.

Due to coaching commitments at my university, I entered only the team events scheduled on the weekend dates. Teams were divided into four groups of four teams and the top two teams in each group went into a knockout competition in a pre-arranged schedule at the quarter final stage. By Friday evening of the first weekend the four semi-finalists would be known and they would play the semi-finals on the following Thursday and the final on the following Friday - or so we thought.

Airfare paid

The team I placed for was called Aba Al-Khail Engineers and this company kindly paid my airfare from Dhahran on the Persian Gulf. They also paid the airfare for Arcadio Morsequillo from Khamis Mushayt in southern Saudi Arabia. Arcadio was a former Philippine international player as was another member of the team, Tacky Santileces from Riyadh.

We won all our group matches but had to play the Thursday matches without the services of Tacky who was not allowed to leave his coaching commitments which incidentally, were situated only five miles down the road. The quarter final match on Friday evening was also a convincing victory.

While preparing for the departure to the airport, the tournament committee decided they would play the semi-finals on the Saturday evening and the final the following Friday. After hectic

telephone conversations to Dhahran, I managed to cover my coaching commitments for the Saturday which was Christmas Eve.

The semi-final pairings had not been thought out before the start of the tournament, so it was decided to draw the teams by lots late on the Friday evening. Saturdays semi-finals were therefore to commence at 6:00pm and would be between (1) Aba Al-Khail Engineers and King Khaled Eye Hospital and (2) Arab News Team and Egyptian Team.

We arrived at 6:30pm for the match only to find that neither the Arab News Team consisting of Saudi National Players or the Egyptian Team comprising of all ex-international players coaching in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were satisfied with the draw because they realized that our team would again be without Tacky Santileces due to work commitments and they felt they were now the two strongest teams and that there should be a redraw or a round-robin competition.

Incredible dispute

King Khaled obviously did not want a redraw. Incredibly the dispute continued for three hours and was only resolved by our opponents, King Khaled Eye Hospital and ourselves threatening to withdraw completely from the tournament. Fortunately with the help of three victories by "yours truly" we won 5-3 and finished at 11:45 pm. After a scramble to the airport for the 12:30 am flight, and not bothering to wait for the outcome of the other semi-final, I arrived in Dahran at 2:00 am, and jumped into bed for a few hours sleep before my own work commitments on Christmas Day at 7:30 am.

Suddenly the telephone rang, and my friend and teammate Syed Parwaiz Imam informed me that the organizers of the tournament were changing the final to Sunday night (Christmas Day) because the victorious Egyptian Team by a 5-4 margin, wanted to play before the singles competition. Needless to say, there was no chance of being able to return on a flight back to Riyadh and under protest we lost the match 5-3 with the now "released" Tacky winning all three sets. One of the group matches must have created some form of "modern" record. It

was between King Saud University and King Khaled Eye Hospital and lasted over six hours and spanned two "prayer calls", before the latter won by 5 sets to 4.

I hope that anyone who reads this article will never again complain about tournament organization in England!

Marathon

The singles competition turned into a marathon affair. Twelve groups of eleven players with every player playing each other. The top two players went forward into four groups of six and they all played each other, then the top two players from each group went into a knockout quarter final stage.

At the semi-final stage, the four players played each other. All players in the original groups were subdivided into further groups depending upon their finishing positions. I am quite sure that players in England would have loved to have played in this tournament as the winner of the top group won a Ford Tempa car valued at £9,000!

The second place prize was a return air-ticket to Mozambique. Third place prize won a stereo/

BRIAN BURN

was for a short time England's senior trainer-coach. He now writes from Saudi Arabia after 13 years in the Kingdom.

He writes: "I thought this article may be of interest to readers of Table Tennis News. I have never missed a publication of the magazine since 1976 when I left the U.K. and I would like to thank you for your excellent contribution to English Table Tennis."

video system and fourth place was a coloured television. Prizes were also awarded to the top players in each group they included air-tickets to Athens, Cairo, Karachi, Dubai and Bahrain.

For the record, Helmi Zahid, a former all Arab champion won the car, Saudi international, Bandar Al Omairi was second, Ahmen Dawlaty, six times Egyptian national champion was third and Saudi Arabian national champion, Mohammad Al Khudhair was fourth.

This is my first article in TTN in thirteen years and it may be the last on tournaments in Saudi Arabia unless they can dramatically improve on their organization. Oh! to be able to play in tournaments as well organised as the Cleveland Open or similar tournaments in the United Kingdom!

National Team Results

CARTER CUP

Zone 1
Wirral 3, Burnley 5
Sheffield 4, Burnley 5

Zone 2
Hull 9, Grimsby 0
Hull 8, Chesterfield 1
Ormesby 9, Stockton 0
Ormesby 5, Sunderland 4

Zone 3
Birmingham 5, Leicester 2
Wellingborough 1, Birmingham 5
Coventry 5, Amber Valley 4
Notts 5, Coventry 1
Notts 5, Grantham 0

Zone 4
Beccles 0, Ipswich 9
Lowestoft 9, Ipswich 0
Norwich 5, Peterborough 1

Zone 5
Milton Keynes 8, Oxford 1
Watford 6, High Wycombe 3
Watford w/o Bedford

Zone 7
Chelmsford 6, Harlow 3
Brentwood 5, Chelmsford 4

Zone 6
Crawley 9, Brighton 0
Eastbourne 2, Crawley 7
Hastings 5, Woolwich 1

Zone 8
Bristol 7, Newbury 0
Maidenhead 5, Aldershot 4
Reading 5, Plymouth 3

BROMFIELD TROPHY

Zone 1
Preston 8, Wirral 1
Preston 5, Sheffield 3

Zone 2
Hull 5, Grantham 2
Pontefract 5, Ormesby 0
Pontefract 6, Sunderland 0

Zone 3
Brentwood 8, Norwich 1
Chelmsford w/o Ipswich

Zone 4
North Middx 5, Aldershot 4
Maidenhead 5, Reading 4
Hastings 6, Maidenhead 3

TABLE TENNIS NEWS . . .

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Ormesby Cup and news from Wales

ORMESBY CUP RESULTS – ZONE FINALS

- Zone 1. Blackburn (Postal 1st) beat Potteries (Burslem ANC) 5-4
Zone 2. Stockton (ICI Cassels) now given w/o
Zone 3. Birmingham (Handsworth Victoria) beat Milton Keynes (ARW) 5-1
Zone 4. Ipswich (Britannica) beat Norwich (CEYMS) 5-3
Zone 5. Willesden (Apollo) beat Watford (Rickmansworth Police) 5-2.
Zone 6. Brighton (Pavilion) beat Portsmouth (Amity Gen 2) 5-2.
Zone 7. N Middlesex (Thorn Ellenborough) beat Ilford (St Marks) 5-2.
Zone 8. Bracknell (Kingfisher) beat Slough (Cippenham) 5-2.

North Wales Counties Tournament – 1988/89

by CHARLES BAYLISS

Chester based Simon Jones won the Mens Singles when he beat Justin Evans in two games 19, 19

In the Ladies Singles Justine Thomas had to go into a third game after she had won the first game 11. She then lost the second –5. and in a close fought third game just won through 19.

Don Hobbs from Anglesey took the Veteran Singles with a win over John Bowen after Hobbs had lost the first game he then came back to take the next two games and clinch the match.

Spencer Harris the Clwyd County player retained his Junior Title beating in the final Andrew Jones.

Natasha Williams retained her Cadet Singles title after she had lost the Junior and Ladies Singles finals, she also won the Ladies Doubles partnered with Justine Thomas.

Mens Singles: Simon Jones bt Justin Evans 19, 19.

Ladies Singles: Justine Thomas bt Natasha Williams. 11, –5, 19.

Veteran Singles: Don Hobbs bt John Bowen –17, 14, 10

Under 12 Singles: Paul Robertson bt Martin Hopwood 19, 17

Cadet Boys Singles: Paul Robertson bt Mathew Ferenee 18, 10

Cadet Girls Singles: Natasha Williams bt Meinir Davies 5, 11

Junior Boys Singles: Spencer Harris bt Andrew Jones 18, 16

Junior Girls Singles: Justine Thomas bt Natasha Williams 17, 17

Mens Doubles: Justin Evans/Paul Griffiths bt Ivor and Simon Jones 18, –19, 14

Ladies Doubles: Natasha Williams/Justine Thomas bt Chris Watkins/Joyce Jones 13, 12

Mixed Doubles: Paul Griffiths/Justine Thomas bt Justin Evans/Natasha Williams –14, 19, 23

Veteran Doubles: Arthur & Ivor Jones bt John Bowen/Barry Robertson 17, –19, 18

Junior Doubles: Andrew Jones/Spencer Harris bt Justine Thomas/Natasha Williams –9, 18, 15.

The Dulwich Championships

by JANICE SEABROOK

THE Mens Singles ran as expected until the semi-final stages, where the top two seeds departed. The defeat of Ray Munn (Lambeth) at the hands of his clubmate Farhat Rasul was always a possibility, but Everton Waite (Paragon) played the match of his life to remove Neville Miller (Lambeth) at 22-20 in the third.

Surprises

Unfortunately he could not sustain his form, losing two straight in the final. Surprise semi-finalists in the doubles were David Fraser and Stafford Thomas of Tulse Hill, removing 3rd seeded pair David Burns and Tony Morse of Irving on their first visit to the table.

They looked as though they were going to be finalists, leading

all the way against 2nd seeds Ray Munn and Rodney Farquarson (Lambeth), until the last two points.

The final was an entertaining affair, with top seeds Miller/Rasul, winning both the Veterans against Wally Lockey (Rosendale) and the Consolation against Rodney Farquarson.

Frightening

Top seeded junior Barry Cheer (17) of Tulse Hill was given the fright of his life before overcoming the very promising Michelle Ritter (13) in the semi-final, then more easily Allen Crowe in the final. Allen, however, triumphed in a very close Cadet final against Natasha Barham, who had earlier defeated Michelle in the Semis.

Ward wins Gwent crown

by STEPHEN GIBBS

THE Gwent Table Tennis Association crowned a new Champion at the Halex Gwent Championships when Newport's Steve Ward swept the board at Abersychan Leisure Centre on Sunday 12 February.

With defending Champion Brian Jeanes out of touch after nearly nine months out of the game the Gwent title was for the taking for any of the top seven seeds. On the day Ward proved to be the strongest contender as he demolished all but the very best of opposition. All eight seeds reached their appointed places in the quarter finals of the Halex sponsored tournament and it was here that Ward dismissed Herefordshire's best, Mike Owns 21-13, 21-16.

Brian Jeanes beat Andrew Penduck in two single figure games but the two engrossing quarter finals involved three of Ward's Doleq Carpets team mates. Jeremy Hobbs of Tredegar held a game and 11-4 lead over Glamorgan Champion Nick Williams before Williams fought back to win in three games. Griffithstown's Andrew Evans was also beaten in three games by the Northerner John Bult who plays for Tredegar.

The semi finals saw the fall of Brian Jeanes to Nick Williams who was now playing at the best of his form, while young Ward made short work of John Bult. The final between seventeen year old Ward and Nick Williams was one of the best finals that the Halex Gwent Closed has seen. Williams tried desperately to hold on in the first game but Ward was a clear 21-13 winner. Williams managed to cope with the left handed Ward's service game much better in the second game and just got home 21-19. In the deciding set the Newport Schoolboy forgot all inhibitions and following up his severe service he took his first Senior Gwent title with a 21-13 third set win.

The win for Steve Ward is not only a reward for his hard work but also heralds the arrival of a new era for Gwent Table Tennis with Ward emerging as the top young talent in the County with other juniors like Lee Thomas and David Buck quite close on his heels.

Ward also won the Junior Singles earlier in the day. He was the strong favourite in this division with David Buck and Lee Thomas fighting out the semi final for the dubious honour of meeting Ward in the junior final. Lee Thomas got the better of Buck but he was disappointed in the final as Ward whipped the Blaenavon youngster 21-11, 21-12.

Earlier in the day three smaller events were completed. Perhaps the most important of these was the newly organised Cadet Singles for players under fourteen years of age. The favourite was Rhys Morgan of Pontypool Leisure Centre. Morgan did not disappoint. He took the title in a Final game against Mark Evans of Newport. Evans looked a little overawed in the first game but he took Morgan to deuce points in the second set before the Eastern Valley cadet took the title.

In the Ladies Singles there was another strong favourite in Sian Evans from Newport. Her only serious challenge came from the Helps sisters. Julie Helps was dismissed at the semi final stage while sister Janet suffered a similar fate in a very one sided final.

A big question mark hangs over the head of five times Gwent Champion Brian Jeanes. Does he really want to play and can he regain his old form? He had the last word on Sunday when he won the Handicap Singles. He conceded outrageous points start to weaker players and still came out on top. He faced Jeremy Hobbs in the final. Hobbs having beaten Bult off three start now received four start of Jeanes but the Tredegar star looked quite jaded after a hard day's work and could never get to grip with Jeanes spin.



An extra large question mark hangs over the head of Brian Jeanes, five times champion of Gwent. Can he regain his old form after a year's suspension?

'Open' Singles

Semi Finals
Nick Williams bt Brian Jeanes 19, 16.
Steve Ward bt John Bult 12, 17

Final
Ward bt Williams 13, –19, 13

'Open' Doubles

Final
J. Bult/J. Hobbs bt B. Jeanes/M. Owens 11, 12

'Handicap' Singles

Final
Brian Jeanes bt Jeremy Hobbs (+4) 17, 19

Ladies Singles

Semi Finals
Sian Evans bt Julie Helps 17, 10
Janet Helps bt Claire Brettell 19, 8

Final
Evans bt Janet Helps 9, 7

Veterans Singles

Final
David Allen bt Lincoln Alford 16, 8

Junior Singles

Final
Steve Ward bt Lee Thomas 11, 12

Cadet Singles

Final
Rhys Morgan bt Mark Evans 6, 21

Coaching doubles; Cadets, junior Girls

More Strategy on doubles play

by TREVOR PARRY of Dorset

WHILE watching some not very impressive doubles play from our English pairings in Seoul, I was at a loss to find a reason why the pairings were selected with two right-handers and two left-handers, Des Douglas and Skylet Andrew.



Trevor Parry

A right and left handed combination makes just about the strongest formation, all other things being equal but two left-handers seldom succeed because service is always from the right hand court (the left-handers backhand) so it is relatively easy to pin both players on the backhand.

In fact the only way two left-handers can initiate a forehand attack is by taking position wide to the backhand side of the table virtually outside the sidelines making them very vulnerable even to a wide push to the forehand.

Insufficient thought is given to the consequences of serving backhand or forehand in doubles. In a recent County Junior Match I queried with a Two Star Diploma Coach of some status the advisability of an almost monopoly of forehand serves by a right hander playing with a left handed partner. His response was that he did not think it made much difference!

If the right-hander serves backhand it allows his left hand partner to adopt a much more central

control position and the service action takes the server away from the centre of the table leaving space for the left-hander to make the next shot.

With a forehand serve the service action takes the server right into the centre of the table and right across his partners line of vision unless the left-hander stands outside the table sidelines to the right.

In effect the two forehands are both wide on the wings of the table with the width of the two bodies on the inside.

The position is clearly much stronger with the two forehands together in the Centre with the bodies on the outside.

A backhand service in almost all cases gives a less obstructed view to ones partner and allows him to adopt a more central position for the crucial third ball shot.

A left-hander playing with a left handed partner for the most part is better serving backhand and moving towards the centre of the table with his partner taking up position well to the right.

The left-hander serving with a right hand partner provides the ideal control situation because he has the full choice of backhand or forehand serves, leaving his partner with a completely unobstructed control central position for the third ball shot.

A failure to grasp or even consider these fundamental principles results in the third ball at league, town and county level often played weakly in doubles.

WEST MIDLANDS REGION JUNIOR GIRLS LEAGUE

by Jenny Heaton

AFTER 28 matches, the final table showed that the match between Grove A and Smith & Nephew (Birmingham) on the final day was to be decisive. Grove A won this and went on to be unbeaten throughout.



Sarah and Elizabeth Creasy

Sarah and Liz Creasey played well throughout and Sarah was only beaten on one occasion and that was by Alison Ledwitch (Smith & Nephew).

Unfortunately Leckie were unable to field a team for the second time which means teams sitting out, but this did not spoil the enjoyment and experience gained by the younger teams, in particular.

We finished the last day with an individual competition played in groups and followed by a winners, 2nd, 3rd and 4th group. Every girl had at least 6 extra games.

Surprise winner of this event was Claire Marshall who played

well on the day to beat Liz Creasey and then Alison Ledwitch in the final group.

Ann Durnall (Wolverhampton Schools) commented on the value of both the league and individual tournament for her girls and hoped that another league would be organised for next season.

Final Positions

1. Grove A (M. Drayton)
2. Smith & Nephew (Birmingham)
3. Grove B
4. Lillington (Leamington)
5. Grove C
6. Wolverhampton Schools A
7. Wolverhampton Schools B
8. Leckie (Walsall)

Heart of England Cadet TT League

by BRIAN ASTON

AGAIN there was plenty of Table Tennis at the 4th session of the League at Kenilworth St. Nicholas School venue. Banbury 'A' still lead the table with Birmingham hot on their heels!

One of the crunch matches featured Leamington 'A' versus Birmingham. David Johnson from Leamington had a good win over Steve Meddings and followed up with a win against Jagjeet Seera. Ian Ferguson set Birmingham up with 3 singles victories plus the doubles to run out 7-3 winners

Walsall's Andrew Hassall had a good day, playing in three matches and remained unbeaten in all nine singles! Leighton Matthews (Coventry), Matthew Sims (Banbury) and Jan Ferguson (Birmingham) all maintained their 100% records.

HOW THEY STAND

	P	W	D	L	Pts.
Banbury 'A'	12	12	0	0	24
Birmingham	11	11	0	0	22
Leamington 'A'	12	9	1	2	19
B'ham Schools	11	8	0	3	16
Evesham	11	6	2	3	14
Swadlincote 'A'	12	7	0	5	14
Nuneaton	14	5	2	7	12
Coventry	11	5	1	5	11
Rugby	11	3	3	5	9
Banbury 'B'	11	4	1	6	9
Kidderminster	11	4	1	6	9
Leamington 'B'	11	2	1	8	5
Walsall	10	2	0	8	4
Swadlincote 'B'	12	1	1	8	3
Stratford-Upon-Avon	12	1	1	8	3

NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS from LEN PILDITCH

THE results of the Zone finals of the Carter Cup and the draw for the quarter and semi finals is as under

Zone 1 Burnley 5	v	Bradford 4
Zone 2 Ormesby 7	v	Hull 2
Zone 3 Notts 5	v	Birmingham 1
Zone 4 Lavesloft 3	v	Norwich 6
Zone 5 Milton Keynes 6	v	Watford 0
Zone 6 Crawley 9	v	Hastings 0
Zone 7 N Middlesex 5	v	Brentwood 4
Zone 8 Bristol 5	v	Reading 4

Draw for quarter finals

A) Ormesby	v	Burnley	} A v B
B) Milton Keynes	v	Notts	

C) Norwich	v	Crawley	} C v D
D) Bristol	v	N. Middlesex	

The results of the zone finals for the Bromfield Trophy and the draw for the

Semi Finals:

Zone 1 Birmingham	v	Bradford
Zone 2 Pontefract	v	Hull
Zone 3 Brentwood 5	v	Chelmsford 3
Zone 4 Plymouth w/o	v	Hastings

Semi-Finals draw

Pontefract	v	Birmingham
Brentwood	v	Plymouth

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WATCH THESE EVENTS:

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2
THE LEEDS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNIOR PREMIER WEEK-END

Stantonbury Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes
Saturday 2.30, Sunday 9.30, 2pm

SATURDAY, SUNDAY APRIL 8,9

ESSEX JUNIOR ★ ★ 2-STAR SELECT

Harlow Leisure Centre, Hammerskjold Rd, Harlow

Entry forms from: D. Miller, 16 Tomswood Road, Chigwell,
Essex IG7 5QS. Closing Date: 13th March

SATURDAY, SUNDAY APRIL 22, 23

YORKSHIRE JUNIOR 2-STAR SELECT

Northbridge Leisure Centre, Halifax
Saturday: Cadets - Sunday: Juniors

Entry forms from: Rea Balmford, 30 Glebe Road, Wawne, Hull
HU7 5XR. (Tel.: 0482 821279). Closing date: 28th March

SUNDAY, APRIL 30
THE THIRD

ENGLISH NATIONAL UNDER-11 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mansfield Leisure Centre, Chesterfield Road South
Mansfield

Entry Forms from: English Table Tennis Association, Queens-
bury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF.
(Tel.: 0424 722525) Closing date: Tuesday 4th April

SATURDAY MAY 6TH, SUNDAY MAY 7TH, 9am BOTH DAYS

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at The Mountbatten Centre, Portsmouth, Tel: 0705-69001

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SUNDAY MAY 14, 10.00

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MANSFIELD LEISURE CENTRE.

SAT & SUN. JUNE 3-4, 9 am

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Team Finals: Sat. 7pm. Indiv Finals: Sun. 5.30 pm