



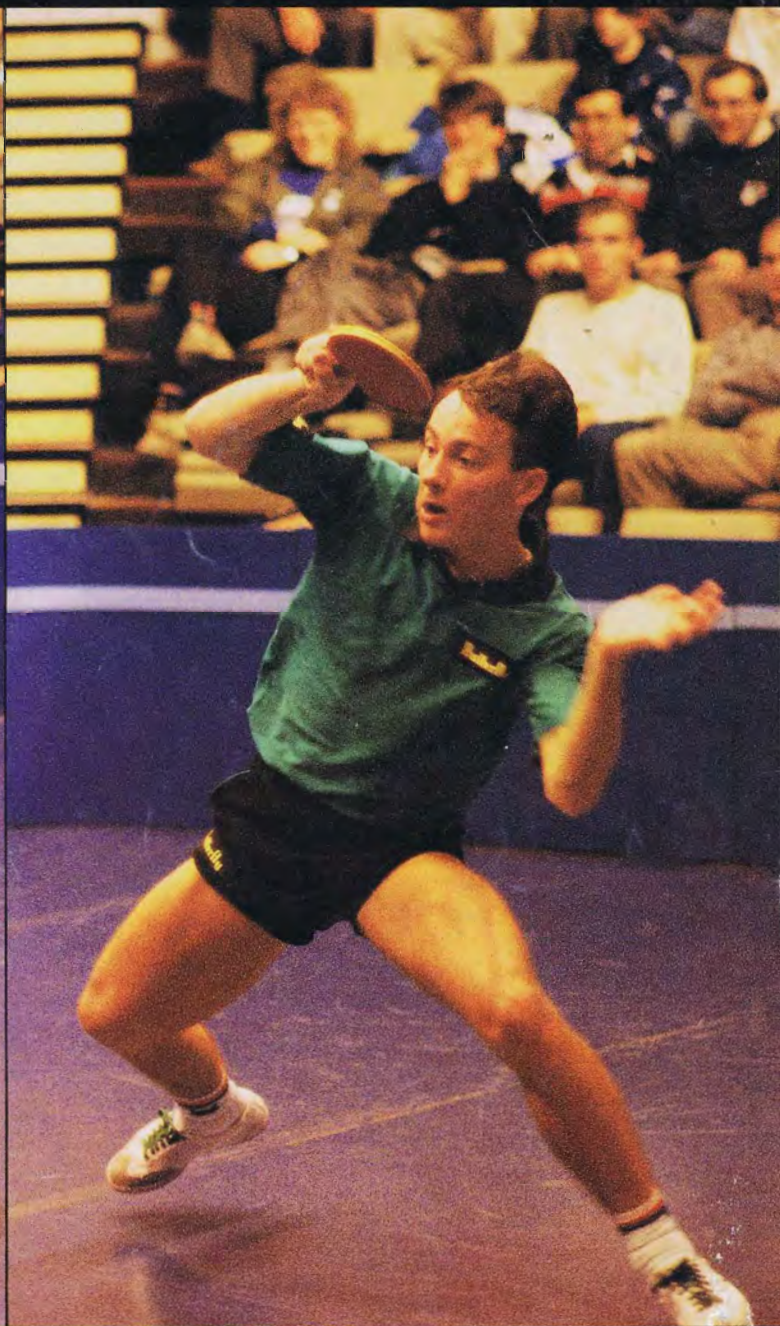
# Table Tennis News

No.178

DECEMBER 1988

90p

**See Chen and Cooke on Channel 4!**



**John  
Jaques**

**East and West  
Jaques is Best**



## Four-figure crowds four times . . .

THE 1988 tour of England by China that attracted around 12,000 spectators was the most successful ever staged in the history of the sport in England and probably the longest tour in the history of the racquet sports. Badminton have had a November tour by China containing five international matches.

Make no mistake, badminton and squash CAN attract large crowds. I watched the opening event of a season-long tour of the top badminton players at Brentford recently, sponsored by Railcard, when less than fifty paying punters sat in a venue prepared with 500 seats! Almost all sports are having problems attracting large crowds, so our thousand fans at Birmingham, Brentwood, Weston-super-Mare and Hinckley afforded a huge boost and almost recaptured the atmosphere of years ago when crowds of 5,000 watched China at Manchester and Wembley Pool overflowed for the European Championships.

But that was a long time ago. Things have changed. The whole pattern of leisure has changed. There is now such a wide and diverse pattern of sports and other activities for people to take part in and watch. Later this season when the three hours of Channel 4 television canned at Aylesbury is screened over the Christmas holiday period has made us even more "visible" it may be possible to see if we have made any progress in arresting the drop in affiliated players.

The national press attention we received on the tour was enormous in the serious newspapers including the attendance of top feature-writers and famous photographers. If we had been able to start more of the matches earlier it is certain that the popular press would have given us space, other than results.

The time has arrived when local organiser should be told that matches should start at the very latest at 7.15pm and at 7pm if humanly possible. Indisputable evidence came on the tour that we lost quantities of valuable space because matches in a number of cases finished around 11pm.

WITH membership the greatest problem facing the ETTA, the second is getting back in the Super Division of the European League at our fourth attempt. The progress now being shown by Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Skylet Andrew and Nicky Mason signals the fact that we have the men to do the job, we have the leadership and sole selection function expertly professionally managed by Don Parker. We have several worthy team captains willing to travel to Siberia on the foreign open trips, all we need is some advancement in the standard of our top women players.

It IS possible to escape from Division 1 with the men winning four out of five, but it would ease the pressure if we could win the women's singles or the mixed doubles. Perhaps we can win away to Hungary in three months time where the odds will be on the home team but Belgium and Austria are now looking dangerous.

**JOHN WOODFORD**



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

**Editor**  
JOHN WOODFORD

**Advertisements:**  
JIM BECKLEY  
Sports PR, PO Box 8,  
Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle,  
Cheshire SK8 7RG  
Tel: 061 488 4002

**Subscriptions and distribution:**  
Beth Davies,  
ETTA, Third Floor,  
Queensbury House, Havelock  
Rd, Hastings TN34 1HF.  
Tel: 0424 722525

**COPY DATE**  
January 1  
Issue 180, February 1989

Printed by:  
BELMONT PRESS LTD  
409 Harlestone Road  
Northampton  
NN5 6PB  
Tel: 0604 54341

## In this issue

	<i>Page</i>
Courtside	2
European League - George Yates	3
The 1988 China Tour - John Woodford	5,6,7
Young England in Siberia - Ian Marshall	8
The eclipse of Europe in Seoul - John Prean	9
The Leeds new Visa Card	11
The Leeds County Championships	12
Picture Parade	13,32
Any Questions in Hull - Rea Balmford	14
VETTS - Dennis Shawcross	15
The Leeds British League - Mike Loveder	16,17
News from the Counties	19-25
Mailbox	26
ITTF President Ochiro Ogimura interview - Dieter Hennig	28
40th World Championships, Dortmund	29
Grove School Junior Open - Ian Marshall	33
News from the Regions	34
A Tale of Roadside Chefs - Chris Wright	35
No medals for arenas in Britain - John Woodford	36
British Police team in Europe - Chris Jacob	37

★ **COVER PICTURE**

ALAN COOKE, (right) the England champion from Derbyshire was the top scorer for England on the China tour with 11 wins; CHEN ZHIBIN was the leading scorer for the tourists with 20 wins from 27 starts. ★



# SIDE COURTSIDE

Compiled by

JOHN WOODFORD

## Badminton has problems

WATCHING our closest rival sport badminton, found Richard Eaton and myself "courtside" at Brentford on the Chinese tour rest day. The event was the Railcards Grand Prix due to be held at various venues round the country on mid-week dates through to the end of February.

The leading British players Steve Baddeley, Darren Hall, Gillian Gowers are involved in all the matches with the players split into two teams. Make no mistake, badminton can attract four-figure crowds, but on this opening of the badminton tour 50 paying spectators only sat in the Fountain Leisure Centre main hall where seating had been provided for 500! We are reliably informed that as the tour progresses there will be big crowds at other venues, but it shows that other sports have similar problems to ours.

Badminton like table tennis, seeks national press publicity – as many events as possible mid-week and starting no later than 7pm. 7.30 starts are impossible situations – the newspapers and the agencies lose interest when early editions must have copy by 8 pm and final copy not later than 10pm.

One of the best example was at Birmingham where the 7pm start and only one game going to three saw journalists finish transmitting copy at 10.50pm. 7.30 starts and long three-game matches lead to finishes around 11pm and later. Huge amounts of publicity are lost.



Skylet Andrew – Picture Mike Loveder

## Unconfirmed Chinese wedding!

DID Skylet Andrew get married when he was in China a couple of months ago? What we do have evidence of is that he certainly met an attractive young Chinese lady who like most of the Chinese would like to come to Britain, and he met her parents.

### Sky the limit

But those who know "Sky" so well, know that the sky is the limit when it comes to jokes, so Courtside is not saying that he is now a married man, as the East London still rising star would not confirm or deny the wedding story that came from an independent Chinese source. At the moment it is an unconfirmed mystery!

## Dortmund? Book now!

FANS intending to watch the world championships in Germany should make their arrangements swiftly, possibly with the package tours as rover tickets for the whole event are almost sold out and 60 per cent of the tickets for single days are already gone.

West Germany has ten times the number of affiliated players that we have, so many of them are going to be taking time off in Dortmund so brush up your German, – auf wiedersehen!

## British Police team were robbed

SUCH a pity that Joy Dean (nee Grundy) was unable to join the British Police team on their recent continental tour reported on Page 37. She would have "collared" a pile of victims for sure. We understand she is now based at Ashford in Kent and is still ranked by the computer at No. 4 in England.

It seems that the British bobbies returned with the impression that not all the crime happens in Britain. Their transport vehicle was raided whilst unattended and later the premises they stayed in were also attended by thieves!

## Comedians at Folkestone

A LOCAL comedian was the MC at the Folkestone match on the Chinese so we expected a few puns. With Mike Watts prompting at his side, two super jokes emerged over the public address system both unintended – we were told at about 200 decibels that we were destined to watch the "Republic Peoples of China team" and that the captains were to exchange "pendants".

## THE ROY EVANS CITATION

CARDIFF's H. Roy Evans who was presented with an Olympic Order in Seoul for his role in getting table tennis into the full games programme, has now received the Official Citation. It reads:

### COMITÉ International Olympique

Mr. Roy EVANS from Great Britain

These games in Seoul are for us the occasion to herald the entry into the Olympic family of table tennis, with competitions being included in the programme for the first time. For you, Mr. Evans, President of the International Federation for 20 years and now Honorary President, this represents a personal triumph which honours you, as it is your constant efforts which have led to this recognition. Table tennis has always been a popular sport, it had its moment of glory as the sport of diplomacy, but you have succeeded in giving it the stature of an international competition sport.

And now it has joined the ranks of the other great sports. Now, during your first Olympic Games, we are pleased to pay tribute to the countless table tennis tournaments you have organized over the years, and to honour your qualities as an administrator and your sporting spirit.

On November 5th, Mr. Evans was in Lausanne at the 22nd Assembly of the International Sports Federation to be the first recipient of its Honorary Membership. He was a Council Member of the Assembly and president of the non-Olympic Federation from 1976 to 1983.

## EUROPEAN TABLE TENNIS UNION

Dec 1/4 French Open (Nantes) Grade 'A' Tournament  
Please note Netherlands Open (scheduled for Nov 24/27, 1988 in Hertogenbosch) has been CANCELLED.

Jan 4/15 4th EURO-ASIA TOURNAMENT (Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Hong Kong & Bangkok)

Jan 7/8 5th STIGA EUROPEAN JUNIOR TOP 12 (Wadenswil, nr Zurich, Switzerland)

Jan 20/22 Mediterranean Top 12 (Malta)

Feb 3/5 19th STIGA EUROPEAN SENIOR TOP 12 (Charleroi, Belgium)

Feb 10/11 Leeds Masters Invitation Tournament (Preston, England)

Feb 23/26 Czechoslovak Open (Ostrava) Grade 'A' Tournament

Mar 19/26 9th Commonwealth Championship (Cardiff, Wales)

Mar 29 to Apl 9 40th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Dortmund, Federal Republic of Germany)

# French shredded by Dutch

by George Yates

FIELDING a far different team than that which championed the Super Division of the European League last season France took a 6-1 hammering from the Netherlands at Wattlelos in their opening match of the season on Oct 12.

Patrick Chila, Olivier Marmurek and Wang Xiao Ming comprised the French team while the visitors called on the services of Henk van Spanje, Paul Haldan and Gerdie Keen with Patricia de Groot partnering Haldan in the mixed doubles. Only Wang Xiao Ming tasted success for France. Scores:

P. Chila 1 P. Haldan -19, -17; O. Marmurek 1 H.V. Spange -15, 11, -16; Wang b G. Keen 12, 13; China/Marmurek 1 Haldan/v. Spanje 16, -14, -20; Chila/Wang 1 Haldan de Groot -16, 17, -19; Chila 1 v. Spanje -13, -14; Marmurek 1 Haldan -15, 14, -18.

## Waldner Beaten

Meantime, at home to Czechoslovakia in Uddevalla, Sweden faltered but once when, in the penultimate set, Miroslav Cecava beat Jan-Ove Waldner. Scores:

J-O. Waldner b T. Janci 19, -19, 15; P. Karlsson b Cecava 15, -12, 17; M. Svensson b R. Kasalova 17, 17; E. Lindh/Waldner b Cecava/J. Javurek 18, -17, 19; Lindh/Svensson b Javurek/M. Hrachova 20, -17, 17; Waldner 1 Cecava -10, -8; Karlsson b Janci -19, 22, 20.



*DING YI is England's most dangerous stumbling block when we travel to Austria in January. He will almost certainly play in four of the seven games.*

In Hagan Federal Germany opened up their account with a 5-2 win over Bulgaria with Jörg Roskopf accounting for Mariano Lukov and Ivan Stoianov winning both his singles and the men's doubles in partnership with Steffan Fetzner. Scores:

G. Böhm b I. Stoianov 18, 7; J. Roskopf b M. Lukov 7, 15; O. Nemes bt D. Guergueltcheva 18, 16; Roskopf/S. Fetzner b Lukov/Stoianov 13, 17; Fetzner/Nemes 1 Lukov/Guergueltcheva -17, -13; Bohm 1 Lukov 12, -18, -18. Roskopf b Stoianov 16, 14.

In Division 1 England's runaway victory will be recorded elsewhere but Hungary also turned in a 7-0 result although no scores to hand as yet. In the only other match Austria beat Italy 6-1 in Perg where Stanislav Fraczyk dropped the home set in losing to Massimo Costantini. Scores:

Ding Yi b D. Napoli Gennaro 7, 16; S. Fraczyk 1 M. Constantini 16, -19, -12; E. Maier b G. Zampini -19, 18, 16; Ding Yi/P. Eckel b Constantini/Di Napoli 14, /11, 19; Ding Yi/Maier b Constantini/Zampini 14, 17; Ding Yi b Constantini 18, 15; Fraczyk b Di Napoli /18, 8, 16.

The Super Division match between Yugoslavia and Poland and the Division 1 encounter between Turkey and Belgium will take place at a later date, the former in conjunction with the



George Yates ETTU secretary

Yugoslav Open and the latter on Oct 22.

## Round Robin

The Division 3 round robin to be played in the Isle of Man will take place over the weekend of Feb 11/12, 1989. The Stiga World Grand Prix over the period Nov 24/27 will take place in Barcelona and the Finlandia Open on Dec 8/10, 1989 will be held in Helsinki. On March 1/4 the Federal German Open will be staged in Saarbrücken, in 1990 the Leeds English Open is scheduled for Jan 17/20 but not, I am told, in Brighton.

# England's Swiss roll . .

SWITZERLAND, promoted from Division 2 last season did not seem to be a particularly difficult target to hit (on paper) at Wenzau on November 10, but Johnny Leach warned in his column in the "News of the World" that they would not be a pushover like Finland in the first match and he was right.

Although England won 7-0, they had to fight most of the way. Originally the team was selected as Carl Prean, Skylet Andrew and Alison Gordon. Nicky Mason rushed out to boost the team and played an effective part in winning both the doubles matches. Mason was on a "high" after his totally astonishing win over Andrei Mazunov in Moscow a few days earlier, a success that even now to most people, except Nicky, seems a stunning occurrence.

However, back to Switzerland . . . Skylet found himself in deep waters on the opening match, he just scraped home 24-22 in the third against Thierry Miller, surviving a match point.



Carl Prean to the Rescue

Had it gone the other way, the home side, England could have been in deeper waters and struggling. Carl came to the rescue with a crushing 6, 11 win over Renold who is clearly not in Miller's class.

Alison Gordon gave England the 3-0 lead against the teenager Pascal Rommerskirken who was

on her debut and was beaten 12, 14.

The mens doubles was a real cliffhanger but Andrew and Mason scraped it -26, 12, 19. The Mixed went to three as well, but our pair got home 9 in the decider.

The two remaining singles saw Prean drop the middle game to Miller, but he got home 13 in the third, whilst Skylet wrapped up a gallant show by the Swiss 18, 11 over Renold, to keep England well on course for their fourth promotion bid.

Footnote: At the Italian Open Miller and Renold both beat German champion George Bohm!

## RESULTS

S. Andrew b T. Miller -19, 13, 22. C. Prean b S. Renold 6, 11. A. Gordon b P. Rommerskirken 12, 14. Andrew-N. Mason b Miller-Renold -24, 12, 19. Gordon-Mason b Renold-Rommerskirken 19, -23, 9. Prean b Miller 11, -19, 13. Andrew b Renold 18, 11.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

WINNERS of the English Top-12 tournament to be played on Monday, January 2nd at Clacton LC, will have played only eight games. Streamlining involved is that there will be two groups of six with the top two going through to the semi-finals. Finals at 5.30 pm.

ENGLAND captains when returning from abroad tournaments are being asked to communicate results immediately to the ETTA office. The media discovered the most stunning result of the season - Nicky Mason beating Andrei Mazunov (Europe No. 6) in Moscow - from Mason's mother Mrs Daphne Mason in Bexhill!

STOP PRESS: England's top men will be pitted in an invitation tournament at Brentwood on Friday, December 16 with £1,650 in the kitty. All should be present except Skylet Andrew.

# The longest and most successful tour

by JOHN WOODFORD at all thirteen venues



THERE is no doubt that it was a successful tour. There was never any doubt in my mind that it would be so, even though I voiced criticism of its length and stamina needed by the players in the October magazine. Chairman John Prean's strategy of bringing top-class table tennis to the masses will it is hoped, arrest the membership decline now being seen in some sports.

I personally travelled over 2,000 miles on the tour excluding the Channel 4 extravaganza at Aylesbury. On most of the tour the players seemed fresh although there was one stage where they were freely quoted by journalists as "jaded". That was strongly denied by Don Parker on behalf of the England squad. However after the jaded implications, the England team finished the tour looking quite sharp, although by that time the sequence of early draws had finished.

Around the country a number of people posed the question of how much effort the Chinese had to put in to beat our men? No-one in the corridors of power would think of saying anything but "the Chinese were in top gear all the time". My view is that for most of the time on court the Chinese had to fight pretty hard to win. Anyone watching from outside the sport would not in my view be able to detect any lack of competition - they seemed to play for every single point.

Just now and again, a slightly more ambitious shot would come from the Chinese bat and go off by just a millimetre.

Chen Zhibin was the player whose massive forehand shots delighted the crowds from Newcastle to Folkestone and back to Halifax. The speed of Hui Jun was breathtaking - he often raced after balls that were past him and still got them back - no wonder he is the world mixed doubles champion.

### Cooke on top

For England Alan Cooke headed the scoring list with eleven wins on the tour, with Carl Prean and Desmond Douglas not far behind. Sky-

let Andrew and Nicky Mason each scored three successes, with Sky finishing in astonishing style with a double in the last match at Halifax beating Chen and Fan.

Skylet rejoined the tour hot-foot from Arezzo in Italy where he left a trail of victims that included a prize scalp - Zoran Primorac the Yugoslav youngster who was a world doubles finalist in New Delhi. And Sky missed a match point against Andras Podpinka who reached the semi-finals. So, coming back to Halifax, Sky was brimming with confidence.

### How many fans?

There is quite a lot of difference between estimates of how many fans paid to see the tour matches. Mike Watts's figures will be based on tickets sold.

My "guesstimate" is that the total of non-payers was 2,000, those paying were around 10,000, a total of 12,000, an excellent figure in recent years, although Alan Ransome can recall 5,000 people watching the Chinese at Bell Vue, Manchester and I recall 10,000 at the finals of the European Championships at Wembley!

### Not for Des

We did not see the best of Desmond Douglas during his nine tour matches. Playing world-class daily never has been Des's scene. There was sparkle in his play, his reflex play was still sharp. He will however, make a tremendous No.3 to Carl Prean and Alan Cooke in the years ahead. I am prepared to forecast that if England manage to reach the promotion shoot-out away to Hungary in March then Cookie and Preano will be the front-line singles pair.



## All Shipshape Chinese Fashion

by Mike Lewis

IMAGINE! World Champions Brazil, coaching and playing Littletown A.F.C. or New Zealand's All Blacks taking on Puddleford Rugby Club!, Well, on Tuesday 18th October the entire Chinese team came to St. Georges Sports Hall, Bristol and did just that.

Twenty four lucky juniors, two seniors, eight coaches and the many spectators enjoying a memorable evening of coaching, demonstration and play, by what must be the most gentlemanly, polite,

patient and approachable Champions in the World of Sport.

It was an evening made possible by many people, from the Bristol League Management and its coaching secretary Norma Whittaker to Patsun Ltd. and Sun Life Assurance (Group Sponsors), Yes!, and even the local Chinese Take Away, who supplied our delicious evenings refreshments, a night to remember indeed.

To China's Ambassadors of Sport, we give you our thanks, you will always be welcome here.

# THE MEDIA

WE did extremely well with the "heavies" – The Times, Daily Telegraph, The Guardian, The Independent – we attracted the attention of the feature writers who served up huge pieces in addition the daily reports from the two journalists who followed the tour throughout, Richard Eaton and myself.

The feature writers involved in the large stories were Richard Jago (Guardian), Michael Calvin (Daily Telegraph) Mick Cleary (The Times). We also scored heavily with Big Pictures in these papers – among the well-known national photographers who came to visit the tour were Frank Baron (Guardian), Chris Cole (The Times) and Barry Beattie (Independent).

Apart from results, we were largely ignored by the popular national papers. I know the main reason because I spoke to several of them – late starts leading to late finishes up to 11 p.m.

On the television field, we did well with Channel 4 at Aylesbury – that will be seen over three one-hour spots over the Christmas period and several other local stations had cameras at the matches including TVS at Eastbourne – one of the telecasts I managed to see myself. It went out on an early evening peak-hour news programme for the south.

Other table tennis journalists involved were president Johnny Leach who also looked after the VIPs at five venues, whilst Ron Moseley (Press Association) appeared at Brentwood and Bryan Cutress (Exchange Telegraph) surfaced at Eastbourne.

## COOKE AND CHEN ZHIBIN THE TOP MEN



### By Mike Watts

ALAN Cooke was the top scorer for England with eleven wins and twelve defeats on the tour, including the Aylesbury meeting. Carl Prean chalked up seven wins and 11 defeats, whilst Des Douglas scored five wins. Skylet Andrew and Nicky Mason both registered three wins.

Chen Zhibin won 20 and lost 7, Hui Jun won 22 and lost 14 and Wang Zhen Yi won 19 and lost 11.

## THE LOCAL SPONSORS

APART from Aylesbury where The Leeds were the sponsors, the tour was supported by local sponsors too numerous to mention.

The sport is however extremely grateful for their support at all 12

venues – Newcastle, Bridlington, Stalybridge, Birmingham, Brentwood, Ipswich, Eastleigh, Folkestone, Eastbourne, Weston-super-Mare, Hinckley and Halifax.



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM EACH MONTH

### Newcastle (3-3)

One win each from Douglas, Cooke and Mason made an even start to the tour but pride of place went to Nicky Mason with his career best win over Hui Jun 18, –9, 15. England took a 3-1 lead before China recovered lost ground to draw.

### Bridlington (0-6)

The appearance here of local young hero Michael O'Driscoll was the main talking point. Who would not be nervous opening the match at the tender age of 17 against the world's most powerful nation? Michael only lost –18, –17 to Wang, before a last game situation saw Chen Zhibin making it much tougher for the Mirfield academic who lost –14, –11. China hit overdrive to win 6-0.

### Stalybridge (3-3)

Back to the draw syndrome here, but two sparkling successes for Alan Cooke over Wang and Hui Jun. Extrovert Skylet Andrew added a fun element to the match but the Chinese men did not see the funny side of Sky. He was still dealt with without a lot of trouble. England were trailing near the end and it was Des who staved off defeat 21, 16 against Wang.

### Birmingham (3-3)

One thousand fans packed the Cocks Moors Woods stadium watched Alan Cooke register his second maximum in a row against Chen Zhibin and Hui. England led 3-2 but the ebullient East Londoner lost his way and was taken apart in latter stages 19, 10 by Fan.

Desmond will never forget that he led Hui 20-17 in the third and then with net-balls galore lost 22-24. Maurice Goldstein would have been proud of the support from the Birmingham fans.

### Brentwood (3-3)

This match and everything going for it except a late start. A brand new leisure centre, a quite magnificent main hall, one thousand spectators, a PR man to facilitate the journalists, the debut of Carl Prean, a win for Skylet Andrew and a defeat for Cooke, revenge by Hui. And a morale-boosting 2-0 lead for England. But it all ended in yet another 3-3 stalemate.

### Ipswich (2-4)

The Corn Exchange does not hold too many happy memories for the England team. It was the scene of the 4-3 defeat by Hungary some four years back that relegated England in the European League. Carl Prean striking the ball hard, robustly opened with a win over Hui and England reached half-time 2-1 up when Cooke beat Fan. But China swiped back quickly to take the last three games to win yet again 4-2. A capacity crowd of around 600.

### Eastleigh (1-5)

One thousand fans saw England trying to fight off a 6-0 win by China at Fleming Park, a super venue. Only Carl Prean could stop the white-wash. In front of 60 fans from the Isle of Wight – nice of them to cross the water – England floundered but Prean stopped Hui at 21-19 in the third game of a thrilling contest.

### Folkestone (0-6)

England came so close to winning the first two matches that, had they gone to England, the end result might have been vastly different. The clash between Prean and Chen was one of the best on the tour. The attempt by a new promoter to preface the match with hours of coaching and showbiz was full of good intentions but on the day it was a total failure. The players felt they were a down-the-bill act on a music hall show.

### Eastbourne (2-4)

Like Folkestone, a smaller crowd, around 500 – unlike Folkestone the venue (not yet opened to the public) was plush, adjacent to a tropical pool. Carl Prean said he thought the playing conditions were perfect although he lost both to Hui and Chen. Douglas shredded Wang, a superb if strange result and Nicky Mason ended his day with his home crowd defeating Fan. Better promotion would have drawn another 200 fans.

### Weston-super-Mare (2-4)

Another magnificent new venue and one thousand fans from a large area of the south-west. Superb atmosphere but yet another defeat for England as Mason got a parting present – a fine win over Chen Zhibin. Right at the end after most of Fleet Street papers had gone to press in came Prean with a classic and enthralling victory over Wang. Full marks to Weston – you were super.

### Hinkley (2-4)

England's strongest team another magnificent arena and a one thousand crowd saw England go three down. Alan Cooke almost on home territory with the match AVS sponsored took Wang to a third game. In the second half England fought back as Cooke stopped Hui and Carl Prean pounded Fan to defeat 21-18 in the third ending with a storming backhand, but Des Douglas just failed to force the draw after losing a match point against Chen, losing 22-24.

### Halifax (2-4)

The final match at the well-known North Bridge LC was attended by over 500 and once again it ended 2-4. But surprise, surprise – Skylet Andrew having the best week of his life beat Fan and Chen, after heaving out Zoran Primorac at the Italian Open. Not so good for Cooke and Douglas but they were pleased to see Skylet living up to his name.

# China Tour 3



DESMOND DOUGLAS the popular England no.1



CHEN ZHIBIN was the most consistent tourist.

## RESULTS

### AYLESBURY

**MATCH 1 - ENGLAND 3, CHINA 3**  
 Cooke b Fan 7, 15  
 Prean b Wang 16, 18  
 Cooke 1 Wang -12, -15  
 Prean 1 Fan -21, 21, -18.

### MATCH 2 - ENGLAND 3, CHINA 3

Cooke b Chen Zhibin 13, 17  
 Douglas 1 Chen Xinhua -14, -19  
 Cooke b Hui Jun 18, 18  
 Douglas 1 Chen Zhibin -19, -18

### MATCH 3 ENGLAND 3, CHINA 3

Prean 1 Chen Zhibin -17, 15, -16  
 Douglas b Wang 19, 20  
 Prean b Hui Jun 8, -15, 15  
 Douglas 1 Fang -18, 14, -16

**PLAY-OFF (for Channel 4)**  
 Wang b Cooke 20, 18.

### NEWCASTLE

**ENGLAND 3, CHINA 3**  
 Douglas b Chen Zhibin -21, 20, 12  
 Cooke 1 Wang -18, 16  
 Mason b Hui Jun 18, -9, 15  
 Cooke b Fan 13, 15  
 Mason 1 Chen -9, 11  
 Douglas 1 Wang -15, -14

### BRIDLINGTON

**ENGLAND 0, CHINA 6**  
 Wang b O'Driscoll 19, 18  
 Hui b Cooke 11, -16, 20  
 Chen Zhibin b Douglas 16, 19  
 Wang b Cooke 12, 14  
 Fan b Douglas 12, 17  
 Chen b O'Driscoll 14, 11

### STALYBRIDGE

**ENGLAND 3, CHINA 3**  
 Douglas 1 Chen Zhibin -11, 23, -13  
 Cooke b Wang -16, 17, 15  
 Andrew 1 Fang -16, 14, -13  
 Cooke b Hui -12, 16, 14  
 Andrew 1 Chen -14, -14  
 Douglas b Wang 21, 16

### BIRMINGHAM

**ENGLAND 3, CHINA 3**  
 Douglas 1 Hui Jun 17, -15, -22  
 Cooke b Chen Zhibin 20, 16  
 Andrew 1 Wang Zhenyi -16, -19  
 Cooke b Hui 20, 16  
 Douglas b Chen 19, 22  
 Andrew 1 Fan -19, -10

### BRENTWOOD

**ENGLAND 3, CHINA 3**  
 Prean b Wang 17, 10  
 Cooke b Chen 16, 16  
 Andrew 1 Fan -18, -17  
 Cooke 1 Hui 13, -17, -11  
 Andrew b Wang 11, 14  
 Prean 1 Chen 18, -12, 14

### IPSWICH

**ENGLAND 2, CHINA 4**  
 Prean b Hui Jun 12, -19, 17  
 Mason 1 Chen Zhibin -11, -8  
 Cooke b Fan 21, 12  
 Prean 1 Chen -19, -13  
 Mason 1 Hui -13, -13  
 Cooke 1 Wang -11, 24, -15

### EASTLEIGH

**ENGLAND 1, CHINA 5**  
 Cooke 1 Wang -17, 16, -11  
 Prean 1 Chen Zhibin -17, -21  
 Mason 1 Hui -12, -13  
 Cooke 1 Chen -15, -16  
 Prean b Hui -16, 10, 19  
 Mason 1 Fan -19, -7

### FOLKESTONE

**ENGLAND 0, CHINA 6**  
 Douglas 1 Hui -17, 19, -20  
 Prean 1 Chen 22, -17, -20  
 Mason 1 Fan -11, -13  
 Douglas 1 Chen -18, -17  
 Prean 1 Wang -14, -13  
 Mason 1 Hui -16, -14

### EASTBOURNE

**ENGLAND 2, CHINA 4**  
 Mason 1 Chen -17, 13, -12  
 Prean 1 Hui -21, -15  
 Douglas b Wang 18, 9  
 Prean 1 Chen -17, 13, -12  
 Douglas 1 Hui 19, -16, -9  
 Mason b Fan -15, 19, -14

### WESTON-SUPER-MARE

**ENGLAND 2, CHINA 4**  
 Douglas 1 Fan -11, 15, -15  
 Mason b Chen 14, -10, 19  
 Prean 1 Hui -10, -16  
 Douglas 1 Chen -14, -12  
 Mason 1 Hui -10, -16  
 Prean b Wang 15, -16, 18

### HINCKLEY

**ENGLAND 2, CHINA 4**  
 Douglas 1 Hui -19, -11  
 Cooke 1 Wang 12, -11, -15  
 Prean 1 Chen Zhibin -10, -13  
 Cooke b Hui 17, 9  
 Prean b Fan -17, 20, 18  
 Douglas 1 Chen -16, 14, -22

### HALIFAX

**ENGLAND 2, CHINA 4**  
 Cooke 1 Chen -6, -12  
 Andrew b Fan -13, 11, 19  
 Douglas 1 Hui 12, -19, -16  
 Andrew b Chen 18, -15, 18  
 Douglas 1 Fan -18, -13  
 Cooke 1 Hui -21, -10

## TROJAN MIKE WATTS

NO person did more on the tour to help the smooth-running than ETTA Events Manager Mike Watts. He deserves a medal because he did everything expected of him and much more. He drove the Chinese team over a hundred miles a day, ferried them from hotels to venues, to restaurants and other commitments, sorted out their problems, did all the public address work at the matches except at Folkestone and then carried on taking the teams to Scotland and bringing them back to Heathrow. His trojan efforts, virtually non-stop for a fortnight, on call 24 hours day deserve special recognition. Footnote: His plans were to spend around two hours resting every afternoon - it seldom worked out that way because his hotel room telephone frequently disturbed his attempts at rest.

## Bribar Table Tennis

**New**

1 ELIZABETH WAY  
 HERNE BAY  
 KENT  
 CT6 6ER  
 Tel: (0227) 374776 24 hr

PLAY

**ADHOC**

**THE FIRST ANTI SPIN PIMPLES**

Please send me a copy of the Bribar 1988/89 Brochure

Please send me the latest Bribar Offer/Clearance leaflet

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone No.: .....

# Bradley in Siberian quarters

by Ian Marshall, an England captain

THE defeat of Japan by England's young trio of lions in the guise of Bradley Billington, Sean Gibson and Chris Oldfield, allied with the achievements of Billington in reaching the men's singles quarter final were the highlights of England's visit to Irkutsk in far off Siberia.

Jetlag, an alien diet, and a vast amount of travelling proved the major hazards for the young England group of Andrea Holt, Debbie Toole, Bradley Billington, Sean Gibson and Chris Oldfield, in a supposed Under 20 tournament which proved to be a full scale Olympic preparation for the teams from the Soviet Union with the age limit disregarded.

The journey proved gruelling – departure from Heathrow at 9.40 am on Tuesday morning; the loss of three hours and arrival at Moscow Sheremetsevo at 3.30 pm; a ninety minute journey across the Russian capital to Moscow Domodedovo in a suspension-less mini-bus, to be greeted by the news that the flight to Irkutsk would depart at 8.00 pm and take ten hours, with a further loss of five hours to make a total time difference of eight hours.

## Travel weary

Eventually, following stops at Novosibirsk and Bratsk the English team were welcomed at Irkutsk at 11.00 am local time and escorted to a coach for transport to the hotel. En route, the organiser cheerfully informed the travel-weary squad that both teams were due to play at 1.30 pm with the girls facing the Soviet Union for whom a certain Miss Popova would be on duty.

## No Sleep

It was to be Sean Gibson who summed up the feelings of the English team with the only phrase of the visit that the translator was unable to understand, as Lancastrian vernacular added to the spontaneous laughter of the England side who could not believe that they had to play at such a high level without a night's sleep.

Trials and tribulations overcome, both teams prepared to play at 3.00 pm and faced an impossible task as Andrea and Debbie, suffering dreadfully from fatigue, gave their best. They gave



Sean Gibson puzzled interpreter

a superb display, despite losing to Japan's Tomoko Ono and Noriko Oba 3-0, and suffering similar defeats at the hands of Russians, Elena Komrakova and Natalia Oschurko by the same margin, with the winners benefiting from the fact that they had arrived some five days earlier.

In similar vein, the boys were in no shape to play Russia whose trio of top Soviet players, Igor Podnosov, Igor Yegorov and Mulid Kushkhov, won 5-0. Gibson, the star turn, gave a remarkable display to extend Podnosov, the number 5 ranked man in the Soviet Union, to 22-20 in the third set – again the Russian had the advantage of having been in Irkutsk for several days.

An opening ceremony later, the boys returned to the fray to play Japan at 6.30 pm and gave a display which restored dented pride and revealed a character par excellence. A team badly in need of sleep, fought like the lions depicted on their navy shirts, and with wins by Gibson and Billington over Naomasa Tahara and Yuichi Ushitani, plus success for Oldfield over the latter, England succeeded by a 5-4 margin. The quick hitting of penholder Takeshi Ogasawara remained unbeaten on all three visits to the table despite the splendid Gibson extending the Japanese star to a tense third set.

## Not Settled

After a welcome night's sleep, the team was still not settled to Irkutsk time, and both doubles pairs fell at the opening hurdle. Sean and Bradley lost by the narrowest of margins to Russians Yeugueni Poloneyev and Andrei Kulkov, whilst Japan's Tomoko Ono and Noriko Oba ousted Debbie and Andrea.

Unquestionably, the England side had witnessed the toughest

of draws in the opening rounds but success was to follow in the singles as Bradley gained in confidence to reach the quarter final stage. He beat Russia's Yeugueni Svetlichini, Japan's Yuichi Ushitani and impressive Soviet junior Andrej Bondarev in straight sets to face twenty-six year old Fan Changmao, a member of China's World Championship winning team in 1987. The vast experience of the cheerful Asian star showed and a straight sets defeat was the order of the day. However, it was also to be the end of the road for Fan Changmao who withdrew in favour of younger colleague Wang Tao, the eventual conqueror of Andrei Mazunov in a five set final.

## Silenced Russians

Meanwhile, Andrea fought in splendid style, silencing the Russian crowd of some 600 to oust the home nation's Olga Likhter in five sets – the latter having reached the final of the cadet event in the European Youth Championships a year earlier, and obviously good against the defender. However, Andrea stuck to her task and combined excellent defence with fine topspin hitting from the forehand to gain success in a splendid match – alas, the end was to come at the hands of China's Guan Hua, who was to lose a thriller to Soviet star Fliura Bulatova at the semi final stage.

Defeats in the opening round for Sean, Chris and Debbie, with ace Soviet defender Shetin in the victor over Sean, whilst Yeugueni Poloneyev beat Chris at 21-19 in the fifth, and Debbie fell to Russia's Svetlana Raikaya in a hard fought encounter. However, the consolation event saw Sean give a splendid display to reach the final before losing in three to Japan's Naomasa Tahara, beating Korean Zon Son Chol and Vietnam's Le



Ian Marshall

Xuan Phong en route. Meanwhile, Chris accounted for Iran Thien Tam of Vietnam before falling to Tahara, whilst Debbie beat the impressive Russian Oschurko and Korean Ian Sun Hi before losing to eventual runner up from the Soviet Union, Elena Komrakova.

China swept the board in the singles events as Wang Tao beat Andrei Mazunov in the Men's and super defender, He Chianhong beat Fliura Bulatova to secure the Women's, and complete a double for China over the USSR. Meanwhile, the Men's Doubles went to Wang Tao and Wang Jianfeng over compatriots Li Jianmin and Fang Changmao.

The team event went to the Chinese duo, Guan Hua and He Chianhong, but in some strange gesture of goodwill, the Chinese men hardly seemed to try against the Russian trio of Mazunov, Rosenberg and Dvorak, who won 5-1, with Fan Changmao and Co. in jovial mood. A day later in the singles, all three Russians were well beaten by the Chinese stars in a gesture which left no one in any doubt as to who were the masters.

However, England appeared on the winner's rostrum as special prizes were awarded to Bradley Billington for being the best foreign player not to reach the semi final stage; and Debbie Toole, if the interpreter was right, for being the prettiest and most charming girl! The Russians were most pleased to see the English with yours truly giving two press conferences and an interview for Russian television.

The whole tournament was covered by television and over 600 people watched and cheered each day, with over 1000 watching the final. It was a major event for Irkutsk as the England squad signed endless autographs and made themselves a most popular squad of players.

**ORDER YOUR  
TABLE TENNIS NEWS  
MONTHLY FROM  
THE ETTA OFFICE**

# The eclipse of Europe

## – the Olympics, Part 2

WHAT went wrong for Europe? What went right? Lupulescu and Primorac repeated their doubles success of New Delhi, losing, as they did then, to Chen Longcan and Wei Quingguang in a very good final. Both had the ideal combination of right and left-hander. Chen was sharp and decisive over the table, Wei is a superb doubles player, performing a little further away from the table, almost entirely with his forehand loop, which is a model of consistency and his leg-work is tremendous. The Yugoslavs are very quick and highly motivated. No game is lost until the final handshake. They always think they can win.

Des Douglas and Skylet Andrew did very well. We thought their goose was cooked on the first day when they lost to the Austrians Ding Yi and Gottfried Baer, but they battled on and nearly made the last 8. It was that first day defeat which proved their undoing. Apart from that, they played well and would have deserved a quarter final place, nearly defying the odds of two left handers getting to that exalted stage. Cooke and Prean also played well, never better than when winning against Klampar and Kriston on Day 1, but it was a tough group.

### Bronze for Lindh

Apart from another Yugoslav medal, the bronze in the Ladies' Doubles, Erik Lindh alone brought home a bronze for Sweden and that was all for the European Champions. I thought the European cause was doomed from the beginning. I am not sure whether other Europeans had as rotten a journey as we did. We flew, packed like sardines for 20 or so hours with stops in Anchorage and Tokyo. This was preceded by three hours at London Airport and I forget how many at the other end through customs, security and accreditation. Millions were spent on the British Olympic effort, a pitance compared with some countries. All that money did not buy us a decent seat on the World's Favourite Airline, as 20 stone judo-players and many others crowded into seats designed for minimum bulk and maximum profits. There never was a chance to recover fully. At 6 every morning loudspeakers blared. It was never clear why, but I think drivers were called to their vehicles in the motor-pool. It was always very hot. The only time it rained was at a garden party at the British Embassy which was other wise very pleasant.

### Carl Lewis slept here

There was much to admire about the Olympic Village. Food was plentiful and generous, but often badly cooked. Stomach problems were minimal. Security was always with us, inevitably after Munich. It was the loud-speakers which were the real disaster. It seemed beyond the wit of man to silence these. The great Carl Lewis left the village after one day or, to be more accurate, one night. "I can't sleep here," he is reported to have said. The rest of us were less lucky. We never got on terms with the time difference. We never felt good.

### Endless Travel

We were allocated one and a half hours practice in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. As the hall was three quarters of an hour away, this meant three hours travel for two and half hours practice. The hall was steamy and smelly, too hot, too small. The bus rides were uncomfortable, though one admired the driver's dexterity in manoeuvring us through the traffic which was always thick. Queueing became a way of life – for food, for the endless security searches of one's bags, for the buses. The travel misfortunes did not end when the competition commenced. That venue, too, was three quarters of an hour away from the village.

### The schedule . . .

Play began at 9 in the morning and if you were unfortunate enough to be on the score card at that time, it meant getting up at 6 for the 7.15 bus. On a bad day you might play your last set at 8.30. The 9.15 bus would get you to the village at 10. Further food queues beckoned, followed by a late night. All this went on for nine continuous days, not all of which were quite so long. Six of these days were

devoted to a qualifying competition which was not unreasonably cold-shouldered by the media. That is why you waited so long before your TV set to see so little table tennis. Even the last three days were not a bundle of fun, as the middle one seemed to feature mainly doubles and place matches for positions 5 to 8. Our legislators often tell us that nobody watches the sport any more which is why we have to introduce numerous rule changes which nobody understands, which will make the sport more attractive. Certainly the scheduling was based on an assumption that nobody would turn up and that the main thing was to fill up the tables. However, 4 to 5,000 people turned up every day. Sadly, they often got pretty awful stuff. When we did get down to the star attractions, they were often played together, so that one could not watch most of them. The hall was very, very hot. Much devotion and stamina was needed to stay very long.

### Never mind the quality, feel the width . . .

Clearly this was the slogan in determining who would play. One understands the Olympic restriction on three players per country, but after that the process eluded me. There was poor Zsolt Kriston playing only in the doubles, whilst we had seven chances to see the Mauritius No. 2. Do spectators have no rights? Should we be surprised if they do not come? The ladies' situation seemed even more ludicrous. Each group of 6 had 2,3, even 4 players on view who had no chance here and would have been eliminated early in an English 2 Star tournament. "We compete," President Ogimura had told us, "not only against each other, but against other sports." Was that the way? No one wants to see an extension of the Euro-Asia events and other



John Prean

countries should be there, but should they be there in such numbers? Is it really such a pleasure and privilege to lose by large scores whilst all faces are turned away to watch another table? If only 48 women can be invited, why should not 40 be selected on the basis of world ranking lists and the rest by geographical considerations?

### No Team Event

Did we press enough to have a team event, so much part of table tennis tradition? Could we not have settled for a small affair in which only the world's 8 or 16 top nations took part, determined either by qualifying competition or by reference to the previous World Championships? This would not have been difficult. The Individual Events need not have been played in such huge groups, nor to 'best of 5', which system would have sufficed for the final stages. The team event could have been on a knock-out basis. Were we so delighted to be invited that we settled for second best? There *must* be a team event in Barcelona. Surely, if fencing and archery have one, so can we. We attracted excellent attendances. We proved that we were entitled to be there. Where we again failed was in the marketing of the sport. We shall no doubt have enthralling debates about banning long pimples soon after we arrive in Dortmund in the cause of making the sport more attractive. We shall then play all matches of the Last 16 at the same time, so that our spectators will see little more than one match out of eight. That, dear reader, is how we compete against other sports. At least we are getting to grips with this in England.

(cont on Page 11)

## Our sponsors new credit card

### CHAIRMAN ON THE OLYMPICS

(Cont. from Page 9)

#### A need for Change

Sadly, I must conclude that Seoul was an opportunity lost, that the International Federation is in need of change as much as our English one was two years ago. Too many cobwebs, too many links with a comfortable past still exist to compete with other sports, at any rate those which have kept up with modern life. Table Tennis did not emerge as a major INTERNATIONAL SPORT in Seoul. Often we were treated like Cinderella and often we behaved like Cinderella and settled for second best.

#### Confidence in the Future

For all that, my confidence in the future remains. We saw some excellent Table Tennis. The Europeans were not at their best. In a sport where differences are so small, you cannot win much when you are below par. The further you had travelled, the smaller your chances were. The Chinese did not do badly, as has sometimes been made out. They won two of the four gold medals and made a clean sweep of the ladies' singles. The South Koreans did superbly and their preparation was even better. They did not have to travel, either to Seoul or to the arena. They did not stay in the Village. They were not awakened at 6 in the morning as we were. They made home advantage tell. I do not blame them in the least. When you have the breaks, you use them. That is how the great titles are won. For Europe, which includes our own team, the handicap this time was too great. We needed a miracle. This was too much to expect. I have high hopes for Dortmund, for Europe and for England, but most of all for Table Tennis. Who wins is less important in the context of history than the quality of the Table Tennis, the memories of those who come. This time the Sport must look good, not in patches, but throughout.

## HOW TO HELP TABLE TENNIS, HELP A FAVOURITE CHARITY AND...

## HELP YOURSELF TOO!



THE Leeds have launched a new Visa Card with some outstanding benefits which make it particularly attractive to sportsmen and women in general and Table Tennis players in particular. Although it would be good sense for us all to support a major sponsor of our sport there are very real reasons why the Leeds Visa Card is a must!

The big difference with the Leeds Visa Card is that it is charity linked. For every new card taken out they pay £5 to one of three very deserving charities, selected by you. Thereafter, the Leeds will give 20p to the same charity for every £100 you spend, multiply that by the millions flowing through credit cards and you have a very worthwhile contribution. When you apply for your card you can opt for contributions to be made to the British Heart Foundation, Imperial Cancer Research Fund or Mencap, every one a deserving cause.

Apart from the charity aspect the card makes good business sense too. The current APR of 23.1% is very competitive and Visa is welcomed at more than 6 million establishments in over 160 countries. But there are even better reasons.

- \* If you pay for your travel with the Leeds Visa Card you have up to £50,000 free travel accident insurance.
- \* You can obtain a cash advance abroad from any bank showing the Visa sign.
- \* Over 1400 Barclaycard cash dispensers in the UK can deliver cash to you
- \* Or you can obtain a cash advance up to your credit limit from 482 Leeds branches.

With this issue of Table Tennis news there is an application for the Leeds Visa which carries a special Table Tennis reference. If you apply for the card on this form the analysis they carry out will show our sponsor just how much their involvement in the sport is appreciated.

There are many reasons for taking out a credit card and only you can make the decision. But helping your favourite sport and your favourite charity together does make a great deal of sense. How about it?



**DORTMUND 1989**

**NEW  
ETTA OFFICES**

**THE NEW  
NUMBER  
0424-  
722525**

### CALENDAR OF WORLD EVENTS from the ITTF . . .

Dec 1	Dec 4	French Open Championships	Nantes FRA
Dec 1	Dec 4	South American Clubs Championships	Montevideo URU
Dec 8	Dec 11	Stiga World Grand Prix Masters	Barcelona

#### 1989

Jan 4	Jan 15	4th Euro-Asia Tournament	MAL, SIN, HKG, THA
Jan 7	Jan 8	5th Stiga Europe Junior Top 12	Wadenswil SUI
Jan 20	Jan 22	Mediterranean Top 12	MLT
Feb		7th International Ten Days of Dawn Tournament	IRN
Feb 3	Feb 5	Stiga Europe Top 12	Charleroi BEL
Feb 23	Feb 26	Czechoslovak Open Championships	TCH
Mar 19	Mar 26	9th Commonwealth Championships	Cardiff WAL
<b>Mar 29</b>	<b>Apr 9</b>	<b>40TH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>Dortmund FRG</b>
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

## Gibson stars against Souter, Tyler

by DOUG MOSS

THE Burton-on-Trent Meadows Leisure Centre saw the first weekend session of the Senior Premier Div. Derbyshire, the current champions, were severely handicapped in not having the services of Alan Cooke and Bradley Billington. They paid the penalty losing two matches. Middlesex had a full team (John Souter, Nigel Tyler, Graham Sandley and Lesley Keast (nee Tyler) but were beaten 6-3 by Lancs! Lancs won their 3 matches, dropping only 8 events, and head the Table.



Nigel Tyler (Middlesex)

Sean Gibson (La) was the star of the weekend winning all his singles events including wins over John Souter and Nigel Tyler. Against Tyler the scores were -19, 17, 19! And Andrea Holt (La) won her singles without dropping a game and was also 100% successful in mixed doubles.

Chris Oldfield (Y) has a very good record at this event. He again played very well to win his 6 singles dropping only 1 game. It was good to see Mandy Sainsbury (Bk) back in action in these Championships. Mandy is another player with an excellent record which was maintained in singles and doubles.

There were some hard fought events in these matches. Andy Wellman (Bk) was involved in 2 of these - he beat Chris Rogers (Le) 20, -20, 20 and won against Stuart Palmer (Sk) -20, 19, 18.

### Whiting Wins

Promoted Devon did very well to win 2 matches - both 5-4 - against Yorks and Derbys. Paul Whiting was their most successful player winning 4 singles including a defeat of Steve Mills (Y). Suffolk found it hard going with their first experience at this level. But it is certainly noteworthy that Stuart Palmer/John Kitchener (Sk), a long standing doubles partnership, won their 3 doubles matches without dropping a game! They beat the Lancs pair and O'Driscoll/Oldfield (Y) mustered 12 and 10!

### The finale

We look to Milton Keynes (18/19 Feb) for the finale. Derbyshire now look very hard pressed to retain the title but they do have to play both Lancs and Middlesex. However Lancs must now be the favourites.

Results			
Derbys	6	Berks	3
Middx	8	Leics	1
Yorks	4	Devon	5
Suffolk	1	Lancs	8
Lancs	5	Yorks	4
Berks	5	Suffolk	4
Leics	6	Derbys	3
Devon	2	Middx	7
Berks	3	Leics	6
Devon	5	Derbys	4
Yorks	6	Suffolk	3
Middx	3	Lancs	6

### League Table

	W	L	F	A	Pts
Lancs	3	0	19	8	6
Middx	2	1	18	9	4
Leics	2	1	13	14	4
Devon	2	1	12	15	4
Yorks	1	2	14	13	2
Derbys	1	2	13	14	2
Berks	1	2	11	16	2
Suffolk	0	3	8	19	0

### SENR 1A:

Cambs	5	Essex	5
Warwicks	5	Worcs	5
Norfolk	4	Herts	6
Yorks 2	3	N'berland	7

Essex were no doubt surprised they had to struggle for a point against Cambs. The Cambs girls (Helen Bardwell and Yvette Hooks) won their 3 events and Keith Richardson had a great day beating Steve Dorking and David Charlery and only lost the doubles at -25 in third. Worcs came back from 3-5 to draw at Birmingham. Malcolm Green beat Adrian Dixon and in last vital event got home against Barry Johnson (Wk) at deuce in 3rd.

### SENR 1B:

Dorset	1	Surrey	9
Sussex	8	Avon 1	2
Middx 2	8	Devon 2	2
Somerset	2	Kent	8

Surrey already dominating this Div. Tracy Scott-Pawson (Do) got a 12 and 14 win over Debbie Simmonds (Sy). Kent were 1 lady short against Somerset and dropped 2 events.

### SENR 2A:

Cheshire	7	Cumbria	3
Notts	2	Lancs 2	8
Cheshire 2	4	Cumbria	6
Leics 2	10	Clwyd	0

Cumbria visited Ellesmere Port to play 2 matches and got a win over Cheshire 2. In the match v

Ches. 1 Stephen Temple (Cu) had a good win over Brian Johns -11, 20, 19. Robt Young (Ng) also got a good win over Andrew Eden (La) -19, 15, 15 but the only other event Notts won was the men's doubles against Eden/McEvoy 19, -12, 19.

### SENR 2B:

Hants	6	Wilts	4
Worcs 2	5	Herefords	5
Avon 2	3	Glos	7

Glos have made a very promising start. They dropped only the ladies' event against Avon. Ladies' events also significant for Hant against Wilts - Cheryl Buttery and Sarah Hammond were the successful players. Worcs/Hereford local derby ended in a draw. Mark Owen and Michael Owens (Hr) won their 5 events. Ken Walton (Wo) unlucky to lose both a singles and doubles at 19 in 3rd.

### SENR 2C:

Beds 1	7	Cambs 2	3
Lincs	8	Beds 2	2
Herts 2	2	Northants	8

Beds 1 followed up their good start to the season with a win over Cambs. Andy Withers was involved in the 3 Cambs wins.

### SENR 2D:

Essex 2	9	Oxfords	1
Surrey 2	4	Berks 2	6
Kent 2	0	Essex 3	10
Sussex 2	7	Buckx	3

A very good win for Berks over Surrey. The Berks ladies - M. Allan and T. Napier-Vallis got 3 vital wins. The Essex 3 team look formidable and gave Kent the "whitewash".

### JUNR 1A:

Hunts	0	Yorks 2	10
Durham	5	Lincs	5
Lincs	6	Hunts	4
Cheshire	3	Warwicks	7
Lancs 2	6	Notts	4

Lincs/Hunts met at St. Neots with the "home team" getting the win. St. Neots also the venue for Hunts when the strong Yorks team won all events. Warwicks win considerably helped by Alison Ledwitch and Kate Ryan winning their singles at 19 and 20 in 3rd!. Durham got a 3-0 start, led 5-3 but Lings fought well for a draw.

### JUNR 1B:

Berks 1	6	Avon 1	4
Surrey	8	Somerset	2
Kent	8	Sussex	2

Kent are going very well, although against Sussex. They got 3 wins at deuce in 3rd! Steve Bettison and David Hadley did well to win their 4 singles for Avon but that was the extent of the Avon success.

### JUNR 2A:

Ches 2	5	Cumbria	5
Derbys 2	5	Ches 2	5
Northants	7	Warwicks 2	3
Cumbria	3	Leics	7
Lancs 3	6	Clwyd	4

Cheshire 2 start with 2 drawn matches. Susie Sorrentino (Ch) made a good contribution with 4 wins. Northants/Warwicks a hard fought match. The home team got wins at 18 and 19 in 3rd for the 7-3 win.

### JUNR 2B:

Cambs	8	Berks 2	2
Oxfords	5	Middx 2	5

At 4-4 in Oxon/Middx match Dawn Barnett (Ox) just pipped Enise Kottasz 16, -19, 21 but then Bradley Matthews beat Martin Haycock to give Middlesex the win.

### JUNR 2C:

Devon 3	5	Dorset	5
Cornwall 1	10	Cornwall 2	0
Devon 2	5	Dorset	5
Cornwall 2	2	Dorset	8
Cornwall 1	7	Dorset	3
Glamorgan	4	Gwent	6

Five matches played at Launceston. Cornwall 1 came out with 2 goods wins. Rachel Boon, Anna Cahill and John Menzel were unbeaten. Gwent had a good 6-4 win over Glam. Stephen Ward and David Buck excelled winning 5 events.

### JUNR 2D:

Essex 3	5	Surrey 2	5
Norfolk 2	7	Kent 2	3
Sussex 2	1	Essex 2	9
Norfolk 1	8	Kent 2	2
Suffolk 1	8	Suffolk 2	2

Surrey 2 were 3-5 down when Miranda Markham raised hopes with a win against Nadine Barthee at deuce in 3rd. Edward Hartley then won at 18 in 3rd to earn the draw.

### VETS 1A:

Leics	3	Norfolk	6
Northants	1	Ches 2	8
Worcs	6	Warwicks	3

John Iliffe (Le) v Mick Broughton (Nk) was a tough game with John winning 20, -18, 24. Worcs on top in the local derby with Warwicks. Roy Norton and Adrian Dixon (Wo) won 4 singles. At 4-3 Norton got an important win -19, 24 - over Brian Belcher.

## Picture Parade 1

# ★ MASON'S MOSCOW MASSACRE ★

Victor –



Vanquished!



Two slim young men clashed in the third round of the mens singles at the Russian Open in Moscow. Earlier, Nicky Mason the England No.5 from Bexhill had missed a match point against Jean-Michel Saive (Belgium). Against the Europe No.6 Andrei Mazunov, Mason blazed away with his lethal counter-hitting to win 21-10, 21-13, 21-16. In the next round Mason lost to a Chinese player, but the win over Mazunov more or less brings Mason into the England Elite Five – those who can on their day beat top world class opposition.



Ansells Brewery is backing a Potteries club to help give table tennis a higher profile. Ansells area manager Barrie Parrish hands over a £300 cheque to Terry Dunn, chairman of Kettler Ansells, formerly the Trinity club, left to right Stan Deakin, club treasurer; Barrie Parrish; A Team player Stephen Slater; Terry Dunn, chairman and Joe Deakin, club secretary.



Finals night at Harrogate. The photo shows the Division 5 finalists with Mr Alan Sunman, the Leeds local branch manager who watched play during the day and presented the prizes with cups and medals and the new Leeds bat covers. Left to right, Paul Smith, Jeremy Hazelhurst, Geoff Scruton, Alan Sunman (The Leeds), John Hick, Geoff Turner.

# Chairmen in Hull –

## Any questions forum

by REA BALMFORD

GUESTS of honour at a Table Tennis 'Any Questions' Forum at the Centre Club at the Hull Royal Infirmary were ETTA Chairman John Prean and Yorkshire TTA, counterpart Eric Hill, with the panel completed by Hull Life President Abe Abrahamson and Chairman Steve Hopkins.

Under the sympathetic, but firm control of question master Dave Sergeant, all four panel members made a full contribution as they replied to a series of searching questions which produced some lively debate.

Finance figured prominently on the agenda, with value for money in respect of affiliation fees paid to the governing bodies of the sport a key issue.

All three chairmen pointed out that administration, coaching,

League and tournament competition were part of their responsibility, with Mr Prean adding that money received from members was a mere 12% contribution towards the national budget.

Both guests saw much merit in the suggestion that Associations be allowed to waive fees for the initial season in the case of new clubs with limited financial backing, as they agreed to take the idea back to their own bodies.

The difficulty of obtaining

playing venues, introduction of regional club leagues and local coaching schemes were all discussed before Mr Abrahamson, regretting the demise of the hard bat, brought up the thorny topic of standardisation of the bat.

This sparked off a very lively argument in which, while showing much sympathy for the Life President's point of view, Messrs Prean and Hill presented the other side of the picture.

Winding up the formal part of



Rea Balmford, journalist

the evening, John Prean felt that the 'get-together' had been a huge success and he closed by complimenting Hull, and particularly the Marketing Committee, on its excellent work and pleasing results in the field of sponsorship.

## WOMEN IN TABLE TENNIS

GET on board the British League! In response to the demand for more women's competitions, the Leeds Women's British League will be inaugurated during the 1988-89 season. So far, 20 applications have been received, a very encouraging start.

With sponsorship of £1,000 from the Leeds PBS the first round of 5 or 7 matches for each club team will be played over the weekend April 15-16 at a good central venue.

Teams will be three players each and whilst the fees may seem high at first glance, compared to the opportunity for four days high level intensive competition (two full weekends) it will actually be excellent value for money. Cost of entry £65, player registration £7 x 3 = £21 - £86, divided by 3, £28.66 each divided by 4 days' play = £7.16 per day, not that much different to open tournament fees but a great deal more guaranteed play. For those players who are not yet ready for British League competitions but would like more meaningful team



Jose Ransome the organiser

competition locally each region of the ETTA... and there are nine of them covering the whole country... will be planning regional women's club leagues if there is sufficient local interest, so contact your regional committee and ask what is happening in your area. Further information from ETTA office or Mike Lewis 0272-730788 or Jose Ransome 0642-322223.

### EVENTS COMING UP . . .

- 3-4 Dec Middlesex 3-star
- 3-4 Dec Halton 2-star junior
- 10-11 Dec Leeds English Junior Nationals, Coventry
- 10 Dec Swansea Open
- 14 Dec England v Italy, Manchester
- 17 Dec Grove Youth 2-star

### 1989

- 2 Jan Stiga Top 12, Clacton
- 7 Jan The Leeds County Championships
- 7-8 Jan Thameside Junior 2-star
- 14-15 Jan National Junior Ranking Trials
- 21-22 Jan ESTTA Team Area Finals
- 21 Jan Pontefract 1-star
- 28 Jan Yorkshire 2-star, Huddersfield
- 28-29 Jan Cotswold Junior 2-star Select

### 1989 HERE WE COME...

The Table Tennis News staff — JOHN WOODFORD (Editor), JIM BECKLEY (Advertising) and BETH DAVIES (Distribution) send Festive Greetings to all readers and contributors with hopes that 1989 is going to be another year to remember for the sport.

## Be sure not to miss the STIGA ENGLISH TOP 12 TOURNAMENT

★ at ★

**CLACTON LEISURE CENTRE**  
VISTA ROAD, CLACTON ON SEA, ESSEX

on

**MONDAY, JAN 2nd**

Starting at 11 a.m.

ALL of England's top players are expected to compete in this event: Including defending champions Carl Prean and Lisa Lomas. Players will be divided into two groups, with the top two going through to semi-finals.

**Admission: All Day Ticket Price £3**  
**ETTA Members £1 only**

# Henry Buist-Eastern Master

by DENNIS SHAWCROSS

SUPERBLY organised by Sue Accison, with 132 entrants, almost double that of last year and this is now a major event in the V.E.T.T.S. Calendar.

This year was dominated by Henry Buist (Kent), Henry taking three out of the four events entered and reaching the final of the fourth. Doreen Schofield (Cheshire) took the ladies over 40's singles after an expedite game of almost 40 minutes with Pat Bassano Yorks. Doreen and Pat met again in the over 40's doubles, Doreen again the victor with Connie Moran (Lincs) against Pat and Carol Jooson (Yorks).

It was good to see Lynda Reid

on the winning trial against Barbara Bayford (Sussex) in the ladies consolation.

## RESULTS

### Over 40's Mens Singles

Henry Buist (Kent) b Clive Morris (Kent)

### Over 50's Mens Singles

Henry Buist (Kent) b Matt Shearer (Lincs)

### Over 60's Mens Singles

Ron Etheridge (Kent) b Les D'Arcy (Yorks)

### Over 40's Ladies Singles

Doreen Schofield (Ches) b Pat Bassano (Yorks)

### Over 50's Ladies Singles

Joan Beadle (Kent) b Sylvia Tyler (Berks)

### Over 60's Ladies Singles

Joan Beadle (Kent) b Margaret Jones (Ches)

### Over 40's Mens Doubles

Keith Hurton (Sussex) and Robin Stace (Sussex) b Henry Buist (Kent) and Cleve Juason (Yorks)

### Over 50's Mens Doubles

Henry Buist (Kent) and Matt Shearer (Lincs) b Peter Jones and Len Browning (Yorks)

Over 60's Mens Doubles  
George Tsow (Yorks) and Len Browning (Yorks) b Ron Etheridge (Kent) and Les D'Arcy (Yorks)

### Ladies Over 40's Doubles

Connie Moran (Lincs) and Doreen Schofield (Ches) b Pat Bassano (Yorks) and Carol Judson (Yorks)

### Ladies Over 50's Doubles

Connie Moran (Lincs) and Pam Butcher (Kent) b Kath Fisher (Lincs) and Silvia Coombs (Bucks)

### Mixed Doubles

Robin Stace (Sussex) and Marion Garlinge (Kent) b Clive Morris (Kent) and Christine Basden (Berks)

### Mens Consolation

Phil Newton (Yorks) b Graham Brown (Sur)

### Ladies Consolation

Lynda Reid (Worc) b Barbara Bayford

24 MONTH PRICE FREEZE AT  
**TEES SPORT**



Send for a copy of our current catalogue where all prices are held from September 1987 to August 1989 plus our six page new product supplement. For the best service, quickest delivery and widest choice contact

**TEES SPORT**

Zetland Place, Middlesbrough  
Cleveland TS1 1HJ  
Tel: (0642) 217844/5 & 249000  
(24-hour Answering Service)  
Fax: (0642) 226000

## RANKINGS:

### DORSET

#### Veteran Men

1. Barry Hill
2. Howard Davies
3. Mike Toole
4. Trevor Smith
5. Dennis Joyce
6. Eric Buckley
7. Danny Allen
8. Cyril Bush
9. Dave Woodcock
10. Brian Bickell

#### Veteran Women

1. Joyce Coop
2. Jean Smith
3. Mae Allen
4. Dot Robins
5. Pat Baldwin

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

#### Senior Women

1. Judy Morley (G)
2. Jaquie Carver (G)
3. Karen Harvey (C)
4. Linda Probert (C)
5. Julie Taylor (C)
6. Julie Hogarth (G)
7. Heather Colwill (G)
8. Heather Fannin (G)
9. Alison Cox (C)
10. Helen Arnold (C)

#### Veterans

1. Frank Jones (G)
2. Alan Giles (S)
3. Roy Fowler (C)
4. John Fannin (G)
5. Peter Wood (G)
6. Roy Morley (G)
7. Don Sweeney (G)
8. Peter Slack (C)
9. Sam Ewens (C)
10. Mike Grey (C)

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



# British League

Promoted by the English Table Tennis Association



## Focus On First Four Fixtures

by Mike Loveder

LEAGUE tables are starting to take shape with the first four fixtures completed, by most teams, on Sunday 23 October. From results seen so far there are quite a few new faces and names emerging.

Tony Stark is making a name for himself in the Premier with Armada 4-0. On debut he beat Mark and Nigel Thomas although he could not prevent his team from going down 3-5 to Butterfly Cardiff. More recently Armada have recruited Ali Gordon from Ashford while Mike Hammond returns to TSP Larkhall after one match. Grove beat Chan Construction without Jimmy Stokes and Bayer Bradford without Bradley Billington. However they dropped a valuable point to Ashford although they were at full strength for the first time. Ashford were without the injured Dave Hannah but have Glenn Baker to thank for beating Billington and Stokes. Bradford lost 3-5 to Armada in an important fixture despite Michael O'Driscoll beating the Pauls, Whiting and Giles. Ali Gordon on Premier debut beat Bradford's No 4 by 10 & 7 but lost 25-27 in the 2nd to Martin Kinsella. Cardiff beat Chan 8-0 to make it look easy but concealed Tony Taylor's struggle to beat John Holland 23-21 in the 3rd. Alan Griffiths resurfaced at No 4 to take his two. It looks as if Des Douglas is recruiting for Bathwick Tyres in Korea as they were still to make a start in mid-October!

### Division 1 North

Stuart Richards led Grove II to a 5-3 win over Warwicks, beating Andy Rich and Adrian Dixon. However Dixon beat John Hilton 19 in the 3rd for a 5-3 win over Kettler Sport. Lee Neil starred for Ruston Marconi Lincoln with wins over Mick Harper and Keith Richardson for a 5-3 over MBS St Neots. It was Harper & Stuart Palmer who found John Kitchener in good form when Britannia Ipswich won 6-2. Grove's Chris Oldfield fared well at No 1 against RM Lincoln beating Stephen Yallop and Lee Neil comfortably. John Ellis seemed to be on equally good form with comfortable victories over Stuart Worrell and Derek Munt in the same match. Craig Bakewell prevented City of Leeds from whitewashing Burslem ANC with a useful win over Bennie Robertson and did the same against St Neots, beating Palmer. Grove beat Br Ipswich 6-2 in a match which could easily have resulted in a draw. Jonathan Taylor kept his cool to win 4 deuce games and beat Richard Tanner and Phil Logsdon. It will be interesting to see what happens to Grove II if they win this division as they cannot be promoted to the Premier.

### Division 1 South

Ritchie Venner must be regarded as the defenders nightmare as he beat Gordon Chapman and Frank Hams conceding a total of 35 pts on the day when Horsham Dolphins beat Larkhall 7-1. John Dennison and Richard Darnell did well to stay unbeaten as Team Ramlosa Essex beat Dagenham FC 5-3. Gary Wilson emerged unscathed against Doleq Carpets and Ramlosa but he was unable to prevent Plymouth Bulldogs dropping 3 pts. C&L Ruislip found resistance in the form of young Steve Ward when they met Doleq as he beat John Taylor and Andy Cunningham. However no-one has seriously threatened Nigel Tyler and Andy Wellman.

Dagenham sunk to Dolphins 3-5 but not without Richard Jermyn snatching two from Paul Elphick and Andy Dodd. Rejects recorded their 1st win at the expense of Percy Collino's former team Larkhall. Richard Beckham gained Man of the Match for 3rd-game victories over Frank Hams and Babs Adedayo. Rejects were crushed by Dagenham on a scoresheet showing Div 3 South! Andy Dodd recovered from his loss to Jermyn with two wins from the Bulldogs and aided Dolphins to a 5-3 victory with wins over Tony Sweet and Gary Wilson. The Devon side won 2 of their 3 games at deuce in the 3rd. Ruislip were merciless against a strengthened Larkhall. Mark Oakley beat Phil Cox for Larkhall's sole win. Ramlosa were held to a draw by Doleq as Dennison and Andrew Evans won.

### Division 2 North

Three ladies, assisted by Keith Sillitoe, earned a 6-2 win for Grove over Chan. Jill Harris, Helen Lower and Julie Billington won 5 of their 6. Vymura's Graham Clarke produced a good spell of hitting to give the single-figure treatment to Martin Pickles and Phil Smith when they

beat RM Leicester 7-1. He continued his winning ways against Geoff Davies and Gary Jordan of March for a 6-2 away win. Royal Mail Leicester have suffered two 3-5 losses at the hands of Ormesby, when Michael Nesbit beat Smith and Maurice Newman, and March when Davies secured two comfortable wins. The powerful Graeme McKim helped WC Wellingborough to demolish Chan. Andy Cockerill won two for Chan against Ormesby but his team lost 3-5. Helen Lower demonstrated she could be rated higher as she battled away for her two vital wins on Grove's 6-2 away win at Oldham. So, Ormesby take an early lead but have tougher fixtures to come soon.

### Division 2 South

Cheltenham Saracens flexed their muscles against Butterfly Cardiff II with Mark Owen leading the team to a 6-2 victory with wins over Paul Lewis and Trevor Manning. Dave Newman beat Tony Clayton when Chelmsford OC's swept aside any Jolliffe Poole challenge. Surprising to see Max Crimmins lose both his games to Cardiff in Ashford first fixture, but he sailed home against Poole. Neil Harris prevented Fellows Cranleigh from getting a point when he beat Martin Speight and Clive Carthy, the latter at deuce in the 3rd. However Dave Window was truly remarkable for Cranleigh despite them losing 1-7 to Ashford. He beat David Goode 22-20 in the 3rd and lost the 3rd to Kenny Jackson 23-25. Hakan Sigrell took two against VS Tonbridge to help Poole to their 1st win. Tonbridge crashed to Deptford Rams who, during September, had been struggling despite the inclusion of Phil Bradbury. Alex Facey played well to win his two against Saracens although his team could only salvage a draw. Against Chelmsford Facey lost 2 close games to Grant Solder and Dave Newman and his team went down 3-5. It was Pandus Ademakinwa who turned the match against Tonbridge with 2 determined wins. Trevor Manning 'entertained' for Cardiff as he led them to a 7-1 victory over Cranleigh with two comfortable wins. Youngsters Tom Cutler and Grant Solder found good form for Chelmsford to help give Saracens the whitewash treatment.

### Division 3 East

Keith Samuels stepped in at the last minute for Dunstable Pioneer vs Br Ipswich and led his team to a 5-3 victory with wins over Richard Hutchinson and Mark Donahue. But without Keith, Dunstable beat Levi's Westfield 6-2 largely thanks to two wins from Glen Wilkes. AHW (Bletchley) Comets fell 1-7 to Thorn Ellenborough but 6 games ended at 19 or deuce. Jonathan Proffitt beat Jon Bradbury 19, 19 and beat Phil Aspinall at deuce in the 3rd. Aspinall beat Lesley Keast 24-22 in the 3rd for AHW's sole win. A 5-3 win was gained by the Comets over City of Milton Keynes as Aspinall starred taking two from Martin Les & Viv McCarthy. To keep things fairly even Comets drew with Fellows Cranleigh as Robert Harman beat Jason Tendler 19 in the third in the 8th game. Ellenbro found more resistance in Cranleigh as Dave Solman secured excellent victories over Jon Proffitt and Dipak Topiwala. He probably spent the rest of the day counting ranking points! Thorn survived this setback winning 5-3 with Lesley Keast in a key role winning two close games against Jason Clark & Ian Harris. Richard Hutchinson did not have too much trouble with CMK's Ian Doughy and Mark Beaumont as he helped Ipswich to a 6-2 win. However he could not help much against Norwich Foxwood, losing to the two Stevensons. Ritchie Nelhams went down fighting in this match as he lost to Martin Stevenson 26-28, 20-22. Every game was won two-straight as Thorn stormed to a mammoth 7-1 win over Westfield while Dunstable, in contrast, won 3 games narrowly in the 3rd to secure their 5-3 win over CMK. It's looking tough at the top with 3 teams having won all of their first 3 matches.

### Division 3 North

Ian Collier helped Bribar-Byker to get off to a good start with 2 wins to beat Vymura International 6-2. Vymura's 2 were both won 24-22 in the 3rd. Chris Bryan starred in Seat Peterborough's whitewash of Crusaders Lincoln in a match which was declared as "a pleasure to referee". Steve George appeared to be quite ruthless in the Hartlepool People Centre 8-0 victory over Ormesby III. All games were won two-

# Leeds British League 2

straight, including his 4 & 8 win over Les Atkins. The Crusaders had a torrid time against Byker with 10 games ending at 19 or deuce. The 7th game was the winner as Paul Moore beat David Godbold 16-21, 29-27, 21-19. Lee Hewitt was on the right side of 3 deuce games to win his two. Liverpool's Andrew Eden led his team to a 6-2 victory over Birmingham SC with useful wins over Ivor Warner and Dhiru Parmar. Birmingham had previously w'washed Seat with the Pete Machin machine looking invincible. Brian Allison won Seat's only game when he beat John Hope of Vymura Int'l. Liverpool won 5-3 away to Crusaders in a close affair. Paul Hutchings led by example with his two. Max Holland won against Brendan Dunne and Warner only for Ormesby to lose 2-6 to Birmingham. This division could be the battle of pools - Liverpool and Hartlepool.

## Division 3 South

Man of the Match for TSP Larkhall II - Gordon Chapman won his two to lead his team to a 5-3 over Ashford although Matthew Boon and Neil Charles beat Connie Warren in the same match. Horsham Dolphins started well with 16-year old Alan Cole showing his worth. He took two from Larkhall during their 7-1 victory and he won one against Marley Ashford during their 6-2 win there but extended Steve Mills to 23-21 in the 2nd. Mills did not play against Ashford and Marley was narrowly defeated. Rejects II rapidly become the division's draw specialists, first of all against Gunnersbury Triangle for who Pete Harris saved the day with a 25-27, 21-17, 27-25 win over Chris Mundy; then against Pillinger Air when Scott Greenbrook mysteriously lost his form for the first time, but Steve Carpenter crushed Henry Buist; and more recently against the Dolphins as Paul Carter bagged a point in the last game of the day. Henry Buist won his two against Triangle but could not prevent a 3-5 defeat. Lambeth 4 Tops took Larkhall by storm as Farhat Rasul beat Chapman and Derek Holman. Lambeth won 6-2 despite the inclusion of England No 122, Frank Hams, playing at No 3 in the team.

## Division 3 West

Wally Allanson, although not quite the youngest player in the division, stood out with two wins for Kingfisher Reading against Leckie and against White Hart Launceston. Nice too, to see Terry Haley getting into his stride again. He was Man of the Match in Reading's 5-3 over Grove IV and could not have come any closer to winning 2 against WH Launceston when they drew. Sean Gaylard helped to clinch the draw for the visitors with his two wins. Amity Generation Fareham seem to be finding things tougher than they may have expected, first losing to Specsavers Barry with a good performance from David Chan and then they drew to Doleq Carpets despite a fine effort from Mark Wilding. Leckie's Dave Hanney made great efforts to stop the rot but could not prevent a 3-5 loss. Bathwick Tyres beat Launceston 5-3 despite a rare duck from Andy Creed. It was Chris Holley who led the way with wins over Jeremy Williams and Neil Bevan. Launceston did much better at Doleq largely thanks to two convincing wins from Bevan. Only Hanney could prevent a whitewash from Specsavers in an entertaining match. Grove IV found it tougher going too against Specsavers as 7 games were won under 10. Reserve David Kenefick conceded an average of only nine points per game!

## Premier:

Chan Cons	4-4	Armada 400
Ashford I	7-1	Armada 400
Bathwick T	5-3	B Cardiff
B Bradford	1-7	Chan Cons

## 1 North:

Burslem	2-6	Br Ipswich
Burslem	2-6	Grove II
Br Ipswich	4-4	Kettler Sp
City Leeds	4-4	St Neots
RM Lincoln	1-7	W Warwicks

## 1 South:

Dagenham	5-3	Larkhall I
Doleq Carp	3-5	Horsham D
Plymouth B	5-3	Rejects I
T Ramlosa	3-5	CL Ruislip

## 2 North:

Grove III	2-6	Vymura Int
Chan Cons	0-8	Leicester
Ormesby II	5-3	Oldham

## 2 South:

Chelmsford	7-1	B Cardiff
Cheltenham	6-2	Tonbridge

Deptford R	5-3	Ashford II
Joll Poole	5-3	F Cranleigh

## 3 East:

AHW Comets	5-3	Levi's Wfld
City of MK	2-6	F Cranleigh
Norwich Fx	5-3	Dunstable P
Thorn Elln	7-1	Br Ipswich

## 3 North:

Birmingham	5-3	Hartlepool
Liverpool	7-1	Vymura Intl
Ormesby 3	2-6	Cr Lincoln
Seat Peter	NK	Br Byker

## 3 South:

Pillinger	4-4	Marley Ash
Lambeth 4T	5-3	G Triangle
G Triangle	2-6	Horsham D
Pillinger	4-4	Lambeth 4T
Rejects II	6-2	Ashford III

## 3 West:

Bathwick T	4-4	AG Fareham
Doleq Carp	2-6	K Reading
Grove IV	3-5	Leckie
Launceston	3-5	Spec Barry



Richard Darnell  
Of Team Ramlosa, Essex.



First year as a veteran for Dave Solman, Fellows Cranleigh.



Tommy Cutler



League Writer  
Mike Loveder

## the LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE - TABLES



Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Grove	3	2	1	0	20	4	5
Butterfly Cardiff	4	2	0	2	18	14	4
Ashford	2	1	1	2	11	5	3
Armada 400	4	1	1	2	13	20	3
Chan Construction	4	1	1	2	11	21	3
Ormesby	1	1	0	0	6	2	2
Bathwick Tyres	1	1	0	0	5	3	2
Bayer Bradford	3	0	0	3	4	20	0

Division 1 (North)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Grove	4	4	0	0	22	10	8
Kettler Sport	4	2	1	1	20	12	5
City of Leeds	4	2	1	1	19	13	5
Britannia Ipswich	4	2	1	1	18	14	5
West Warwickshire	4	2	0	2	16	16	4
MBS St Neots	4	1	1	2	16	16	3
Ruston Marc Lincoln	4	1	0	3	11	21	2
Burslem ANC	4	0	0	4	6	26	0

Division 1 (South)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
C&L Ruislip	4	4	0	0	23	9	8
Horsham Dolphins	4	4	0	0	22	10	8
Team Ramlosa Essex	4	2	1	1	17	15	5
Dagenham FC	4	2	0	2	17	15	4
Plymouth Bulldogs	4	1	1	2	15	17	3
Rejects	4	1	0	3	14	18	2
Doleq Carpets	4	0	2	2	14	18	2
TSP Larkhall	4	0	0	4	6	26	0

Division 2 (North)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Ormesby	4	4	0	0	20	12	8
Vymura International	3	3	0	0	19	5	6
Well-con Wellingborough	2	2	0	0	15	1	4
March	3	2	0	1	13	11	4
Grove	4	2	0	2	17	15	4
Royal Mail Leicester	4	1	0	3	15	17	2
Oldham	4	0	0	4	27	25	0
Chan Construction	4	0	0	4	6	26	0

Division 2 (South)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Chelmsford OC's	4	4	0	0	26	6	8
Ashford	4	3	0	1	23	9	6
Deptford Rams	4	2	1	1	18	14	5
Cheltenham Saracens	4	2	1	1	16	16	5
Jolliffe Poole	4	2	0	2	13	19	4
Butterfly Cardiff	4	1	0	3	12	20	2
Victory Sp Tonbridge	4	1	0	3	12	20	2
Fellows Cranleigh	4	0	0	4	8	24	0

Division 3 (East)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Thorn Ellenborough	4	4	0	0	26	6	8
Norwich Foxwood	4	4	0	0	26	6	8
Dunstable Pioneer	4	3	0	1	19	11	6
AHW (Bletchley) Cts	4	2	1	1	15	17	5
Fellows Cranleigh	4	1	1	2	14	18	3
Britannia Ipswich	4	1	0	3	11	21	2
City of Milton Keynes	4	0	0	4	10	22	0
Levi's Westfield	4	0	0	4	7	25	0

Division 3 (North)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Liverpool	4	4	0	0	25	7	8
Birmingham SC	4	3	0	1	21	11	6
Hartlepool PC	3	2	0	1	17	7	4
Crusaders Lincoln	4	2	0	2	15	17	4
Vymura International	3	1	0	2	10	14	2
Bri-Bar Byker	3	1	0	2	10	14	2
Seat Peterborough	3	1	0	2	9	15	2
Ormesby	4	0	0	4	5	27	0

Division 3 (South)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Horsham Dolphins	4	3	1	0	23	9	7
Lambeth 4 Tops	4	3	1	0	20	12	7
Rejects	4	1	3	0	18	14	5
Pillinger Air Croydon	4	0	3	1	15	17	3
Gunnersbury Triangle	4	1	1	2	14	18	3
Ashford III	4	1	0	3	13	19	2
TSP Larkhall	3	1	0	2	8	16	2
Marley Ashford	3	0	1	2	9	15	1

Division 3 (West)	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Specsavers Barry	4	4	0	0	24	8	8
Kingfisher Reading	4	3	1	0	20	12	7
Amity Gen Fareham	4	1	2	1	16	16	4
Bathwick Tyres	2	1	1	0	9	7	3
W Hart Launceston	4	1	1	2	16	16	3
Leckie	4	1	0	3	11	21	2
Doleq Carpets	3	0	1	2	8	16	1
Grove	3	0	0	3	27	17	0

# Counties 1

## TO COUNTY NEWSMEN AND EVERYONE

THE energetic revival of English table tennis forecast and led by Chairman John Prean could be reflected in the record number of counties sending in their news contributions for this issue - 26 is a record for the past 3 years - JW.

## BEDFORDSHIRE

by Michael Jarrett

THE season is underway and Bedfordshire are running four teams; two seniors, a junior and a veteran. Pride of place must be given to our junior team who last year gained promotion to the Premier division with some excellent performances by Peter Bowler, Colin Bowler and Mark Beaumont. This again will be the nucleus of the team with the addition of Caroline Buckley and Hayley Beaumont. The committee was so pleased with the youngsters performances, that it held a special presentation evening to reward them for their efforts.

Unfortunately Bedfordshire do not boast a senior team to match the standard of the junior. Both senior sides compete in the 2C division. It is generally felt that it looks bad for County to have both in the lowest division and that efforts should be made to improve the status of our team. With this in mind and to make life easier for the team captains, we decided to make the bold move of only ranking those players who wanted to, and were available to play a full season. This may seem a sensible idea in terms of team spirit and continuity but already has been shown to have a flaw. It does not allow for players making returns to the game after periods of complete inactivity or disinterest. Sorry to those left off, please let us know!

The veterans play in division 2B and will enjoy another season of toil, effort and sweat. But they will do well to improve on last seasons lowly position especially bearing in mind we are losing a regular performer Lyn Jones to Canada for the next three years.

### Beds Top Men

1. Peter Bowler
2. Mike Levene
3. Keith McConnell
4. Gary Turner
5. Gavin Black

### Beds Top Women

1. Julie Eames
2. Lisa Robins

3. Mary Jarrett
4. Dawn Campbell
5. Barbara Peters

Back in the summer we held our AGM and the mainstays of the committee were re-elected. Mike Williams as Chairman, Gerald Hammond as Secretary and Dawn Campbell as Match Secretary. Gerald has now held an office on the committee for more years than we dare to admit, thanks Gerald.

The remainder of the committee is Dennis Rogers and myself. As a newcomer to the committee but not to the local table tennis scene I would like to express my appreciation to those three devotees, especially to Mike who who has recently voiced doubts about continuing.

## BERKSHIRE

Bob Adams

BERKSHIRE'S Kingfisher A, despite their disappointment at failing to attract a sponsor to support their leading players in the British League, nevertheless made a fine start to their efforts to take the title in the Premier Division of the Leeds Southern Region League when they trounced Purbrook 7-2 in their opening match.

Southern Region Chairman Ray Yates will be somewhat surprised to read this result - he was able to call into the Purbrook for the first half hour or so, and having seen Kingfisher go two matches down in straight sets probably thought that the more experienced Purbrook players were in for an easy afternoon. Claiming that two of their players hadn't picked up a bat for six months (now where have I heard that one before?) the Hampshire trio managed some close finishes but all in the wrong direction for them and in the end had to concede that the youthful opposition under captain Keith Hodder (at 18 years the old man of the side), with Martin Adams and Marc Priddle were the superior squad.

Berkshire took a fair number of the honours at the Junior Regional Trials at Southampton. Maidenhead's Nicky Bradfield, recent winner of both the Cadet singles and doubles titles at The Grove Two Star, deservedly picked for the England Cadet duo, and looking set for the No 1 ranking, won the Junior event.

Twelve year old Ben Johnson from Reading demonstrated the skills which Jim Stokes has been implanting in his young brain by taking the cadet top spot. Marcus Horth was unlucky just to miss qualifying for the National Trials by taking fourth place as was Maidenhead's Robert Dawson who was the only one during the day to beat Ben.

Gemma Schwartz (another of Jim's young proteges) won the Cadet girls event in convincing style and she will be joined by Lisa Crick who beat off her current County doubles partner Nicola Cracknell to give Berkshire a double representation by the fairer sex at the National Trials in January.

Since Nicky and Martin were respectively exempt from the Cadet and Junior Regional Trials this gives Berkshire either one or more representatives in each of the four sections at the Nationals - a record I suspect surpassed by very few other counties (I will check and report later).

A mention for yet another junior (yes, I do realise we have seniors in the County - perhaps someone will tell me what they are doing and I shall be happy to write about it), namely Jeremy Willis. Called up at short notice to make his debut for the County Junior First team, Jeremy pulled off a superb double to secure a 5-5 draw against a very strong and on form Hertfordshire squad. Without this our aim to win promotion to the Premier division would have already have been looking a bit sick, but with that draw, and a more recent win over Avon, hopes are still very much alive.

## CORNWALL

Jeremy Williams

WITH the season in Cornwall now well under way the county Selectors have issued a Cornwall Registration List of the leading players for selection purposes. The new list is as follows:

### Senior Men

1. Neil Bevan (Bude)
2. Jeremy Williams (Falmouth)
3. Ian James (Hayle)
4. Graham Reed (Falmouth)
5. John Bassett (St. Ives)
6. Andrew Bevan (Bude)
7. Malcolm Peters (Falmouth)
8. John Thorpe (Bude)
9. Martin Rowe (Holsworthy)
10. Mark James (Camborne)
11. Barry Cornelius (St. Austell)
12. Austin Chapman (Camborne)
13. Neville Reed (Falmouth)
14. Johnny Menzel (Camborne)
15. Steven Lobb (Redruth)

### Senior Women

1. Esme Stevenson (Bude)
2. Cara Rowe (Holsworthy)
3. Sheila Rapsey (Truro)
4. Alison Clemens (Camborne)
5. Gail Davey (Truro)
6. Barbara Rapsey (Truro)
7. Julie Menzel (Camborne)
8. Rachel Boon (Camborne)
9. Rachel Plummer (St. Ives)
10. Tracy Logg (Launceston)

### Junior Boys

1. Neil Bevan
2. Johnny Menzel
3. Neil Martin (St. Austell)
4. Johnny Maggs (Bude)

5. Matthew Rushton (Falmouth)
6. Mark Bowden (Launceston)
7. Steven Barrett (Bude)
8. Jonathan Pocock (Camborne)

### Junior Girls

1. Rachel Boon
2. Rachel Plummer
3. Tracy Logg
4. Anna Cahill (Camborne)
5. Avril Tucker (Launceston)
6. Alison Perkin (Launceston)

The first county matches of the new season were very encouraging with the senior first team untroubled in defeating Worcestershire II 9-1 and the second team attaining a useful 5-5 draw against the same opposition. The only loss for Cornwall I came from leading lady Esme Stevenson whose below par defeat brought to an end an amazing two year record.

A reasonable start also for White Hart Launceston in division 3 west of the Leeds British League with one win, one draw and one loss to date against quite stiff opposition. New signing Sean Gaylard from Plymouth has strengthened the team with 5 wins out of 6 so far but Launceston will have to chalk up a few more victories to clinch promotion this season.

The preliminary rounds of the South West Regional Trials were held at Launceston. Cornish youngsters met with a fair amount of success. Cornish qualifiers were:- Juniors - Neil Bevan (exempt), Johnny Menzel, Rachel Boon; Cadets - Steven Barrett, Jonathan Pocock, Nick Macey, Rachel Boon (exempt) and Anna Cahill.

In the first English under 12 team championships Launceston's team of Chris Register, Kevin Worth and Gary Worth won a very creditable bronze medal.



Pat Archdale

Finally and perhaps most importantly is the award made to Ernest James and Pat Archdale at the County Annual General Meeting on September 30th. Both were rewarded for their years of outstanding service to the Cornwall Association by being made Honorary Life Members, a position that is regarded as the highest award within the county structure.

# Counties 2

## DERBYSHIRE

Martin Kinsella

THE National Westminster Bank has agreed to sponsor the Nat-west Derby Junior select again. It is due to take place on 4/5 March 1989, thanks to the sterling work of Mike Payne and his band of helpers.

Derbyshire Junior II travelled to play Warwickshire Junior II and came away with a 6-4 win. Mention must be made of Stephen Thomas, Simon Hall and Catherine Pidgeon who all managed wins on their county debuts.

Finally, thanks must go to Brian Smith, a Derbyshire businessman and table tennis enthusiast who has agreed to provide deficit funding for any losses incurred by Derbyshire T.T.A. during the 88/89 season.



Julie Billington

The Derbyshire team of John Holland, Martin Kinsella, Stephen Yallop, Ivor Warner and Miss Julie Billington beat Berkshire 5-4, lost to Leicestershire 6-3 and Devon 5-4. Details next time.

## CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

AFTER a season's absence, Cumbria's juniors returned to the fold with a 5-5 draw against Cheshire in Division 3a of the Leeds County Championships at Runcorn.

Number one Kevin Hodgeson and number three Andrew Michie (both Barrow) each won two sets, while Hodgeson and number two Tony Dawson (Millom) won their doubles.

Cheshire names first: Peter Law beat Tony Dawson 23-21, 21-18; lost to Kevin Hodgeson 9-21, 13-21. Ian Eaton lost to Hodgeson 17-21, 19-21; lost to Andrew Michie 15-21, 21-17, 17-21. Neil Allen lost to Michie 20-22, 14-21; beat Dawson 21-9, 21-13. Cerie Tierney beat Fiona Harris 22-20, 21-19. Susia Sorrentino beat Carrie Lowes 21-14, 21-19. Lau and Eaton lost to Hodgeson and Dawson 23-25, 16-21. Tierney and Dorrentino beat Harris and Lowes 18-21, 21-18, 21-14.

Cumbria number one junior girl, Caroline Watt (Barrow) will not be available for county games because she has gone away for regular coaching. Hodgeson may

also be a loss in the near future for the same reason.

Number two junior boy Justin Brunton (Barrow) is not yet available for action, having been told by a specialist to rest an injured knee until after Christmas.

Current Cumbria County rankings - Senior mens 1, Stephen Temple (Carlisle); 2, John Backhouse (Barrow); 3, Roger Stewart (Carlisle); 4, Mark Temple (Carlisle); 5, Tim Pachul (Barrow); 6, Neil Yardley (Barrow); 7, Ian Reed (Millom); 8, Mark Nanson (Carlisle); 9, Bev Glenridding (Carlisle).

Senior women: 1, Julie McLean (Penrith); 2, Lynne Hedfield (Egremont); 3, Caroline Watt (Barrow); 4, Fiona Harris (Barrow); 5, Carrie Lowes (Barrow); 6, Paul Eddy (Barrow).

Junior boys: 1, Kevin Hodgeson (Barrow); 2, Justin Brunton (Barrow); 3, Tony Dawson (Millom); 4, Mike Harkness (Carlisle); 5, Andrew Michie (Barrow); 6, Mark Harrison (Carlisle); 7, Paul Dawson (Carlisle); 8, Philip Denham (Carlisle).

Junior girls: 1, Caroline Watt (Barrow); 2, Fiona Harris (Barrow); 3, Carrie Lowes (Barrow); 4, Paula Eddy (Barrow).

## DEVON

Val Heath

THIS last weekend I spent watching the Junior Regional Trials held in Launceston and watching really confirmed the thoughts of many throughout Devon in that we have some outstanding youngsters coming to the fore at present. The matches played were all of an incredibly high standard and youngsters who achieved the necessary places to get the National Finals were as follows:

In the Junior Girls Sarah Pengelley gained 2nd position and in the Junior Boys Gregory Bridgett went through in 1st place and Stephen Giles in 4th. All three Cadet boys places were taken by Devon lads, David Heath, Adrian Vincent and Johnathan May respectively. One young lady who did not achieve a place in the U17's but who is already through in the U14's really made us sit up and take note. Lynsey Heyward 11, took Somersets Tina Sadler to 3 in a very exciting match and she will be one to watch out for at the U14 finals in January.

To confirm selectors views as to the standard of the youngsters at present Devon have entered for the first time 3 Junior teams in the Leeds County Championships. In their first match Devon III playing Glamorgan found the older team too strong for them resulting in a 9-1 loss. Devon II playing the same team lost 4-6 but with only Simon James of II having played for county before the result was a

good one. Against Gwent Devon III lost 4-6 and Devon II drew 5 each. As the games progressed, the youngsters confidence grew and the selectors were very pleased with all their efforts. They were given a vote of confidence by the same teams being named to play Dorset.

It just leaves me now to send Devonshire wishes for a very Happy Christmas to all other counties. Have a safe and fun time.

## DORSET

Martin Hughes

THE senior first team went down 3-7 to Avon in the Leeds County Championships with Tony Clayton and Martin Hughes recording the only successes for Dorset in division 1B.

Clayton and Hughes had excellent victories over Welsh International Paul Lewis, whilst Tony Clayton picked up the other game by beating Chris Holley.

Whilst Tony Clayton could have been expected to put up a good performance against Lewis, it was an unexpected victory for Martin Hughes.

John Robinson, playing his first match since recovering from illness, was unable to find his form, and Tracey Scott-Pawson and Debbie Applin were not a match for the nationally ranked Avon ladies.

Barry Hill made his debut for Dorset senior seconds against Gloucestershire in division 2B, but he was unable to make any impression as the team went down 0-10.

Tony Clayton, representing Poole in the first round of the Wilmott Cup, once again showed the sort of form which made him a top England player during the 1970's, when he put together an excellent performance against last year's winners Plymouth.

Unfortunately it was still not enough to gain an overall victory for Poole, as they went down by three games to five.

Clayton's victories were against three players who are all ranked above him on the national computer list.

His best victory was over Paul Giles, who is currently in the top twenty, winning by 21-19, 22-20, with some tremendous attacking play.

Clayton also defeated Gary Wilson and Mike Short in straight sets, but Poole's other representatives, Terry Glennon and Martin Hughes, were outplayed and unable to add to Clayton's successes.

Scores:

Mike Short beat Terry Glennon 13,11  
Paul Giles beat Martin Hughes 9,11  
Gary Wilson lost Tony Clayton -7,-10

Paul Giles beat Terry Glennon 11,12  
Mike Short lost Tony Clayton -15,-16  
Gary Wilson beat Martin Hughes 16,11  
Paul Giles lost Tony Clayton -19,-20  
Gary Wilson beat Terry Glennon 9,8

### Senior Men

1. Tony Clayton
2. Hakan Sigrell
3. John Robinson
4. Terry Glennon
5. Martin Hughes
6. Martin Tate
7. Barry Hill
8. Martin Abbott
9. Chris Budden
10. Eric Buckley
11. Mike Hughes
12. Howard Davies
13. Mike Toole
14. Dave Sharples
15. Steve Davies

### Senior Women

1. Cheryl Skevington
2. Joyce Coop
3. Tracy Scott-Pawson
4. Debbie Applin
5. Samantha Scott-Pawson
6. Jean Smith
7. Sarah Thomas
8. Mae Allen
9. Samantha Dench
10. Dot Robins
11. Pat Baldwin

## ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

I MUST apologise to my readers both in Essex and neighbouring Middlesex for the absence of this column in the last edition due to my missing the new deadline.

Our junior trials duly took place and the publication of the ranking lists caused the usual furore. This is quite funny bearing in mind the view of certain people that all trials are pointless exercises. The lists are as follows:

Junior Boys: 1. Grant Solder; 2. Damian Holland; 3. Keith Buers; 4. Steven Rand; 5. Tayo Fasanya; 6. Allan Radford; 7. Gary Tendler; 8. Matthew Reid; 9. Chris Sladden; 10. Ian Vine; 11. Neil Butcher; 12. Paul Donegan; 13. Jonathan West; 14. Richard Butcher; 15. Andrew Foster; 16. Russel Thornton.

Junior Girls: 1. Alison Gower; 2. Linda Radford; 3. Ruth Cleminson; 4. Tracy French; 5. Nadine Barthee; 6. Rachel Reid; 7. Kelly Bennett; 8. Ann Faber; 9. Julie Rand; 10. Anna Weil; 11. Sarah Gardner; 12. Shelly Ruocco; 13. Cathy Sibbald; 14. Annette Oakman; 15. Jenny Coleman; 16. Tracy Pincombe.

Cadet Boys: 1. Chris Sladden; 2. Ben Ware; 3. Ryan Savill; 4. Peter Worthington; 5. Andrew Moir; 6. Wayne Mitchell; 7. Trevor Blackall; 8. Paul Shaw; 9. Steven Faber; 10. Paul Hudson; 11. Vincent Avery; 12. Andrew Taylor.

Cadet Girls: 1. Linda Radford; 2. Julie Rand; 3. Sarah Gardner; 4. Shelly Ruocco; 5. Cathy Sibbald; 6. Jenny Coleman.

(cont on facing page)

## Counties 3

(from page 20)

Under 12 Boys: 1. Paul Hudson; 2. Vincent Avery; 3. Edward Cook; 4. Wayne Smithies; 5. Daniel Yardy.

Under 12 Girls: 1. Shelley Ruocco; 2. Cathy Sibbald; 3. Jenny Coleman; 4. Claire Rowlands.

The County Championship matches have now started and our Senior men had the best possible start with a fine 8-2 win over Warwickshire, who must be one of the strongest sides in our Division. Congratulations to Steve Dorking, Des Charlery (fresh from his triumph in winning the Lambeth 2 Star) David Newman, Elaine Sayer and debutante Kim Gower. At long last the great Bobby Stevens has been persuaded to act as non playing captain of this team and, in my opinion, this is a giant step forward. It is early days yet, but we must all hope that we are going to make a speedy return to the Premier Division.

Our Veteran's team, including Stuart Gibbs and Peter and Lesley Radford also had a fine win over their Warwick's counterparts. I hear a rumour that one of our big stars of the not so distant past, non other than David Brown, might soon be joining these legendary names.

I was very disappointed to find that once more a big tournament had been allowed to clash with the first series of Junior county matches. I protested about this last season, but to no avail. I remember being told by a spokesman for the ETTA that it was nothing to do with them and that the County Championships Committee had a representative on the Calendar Working Party. Thereafter the ETTA washed its hands of the matter. Could I ask anybody who knows why this is allowed to happen to be so kind as to explain?

Despite having to make a series of last minute changes in our two teams, both secured victories; in fact the second team played simultaneous matches against Norfolk I and II and managed to win both 8-2.

## GLoucestershire

Alf Peppard

MANY of us in T.T. recognise that our sport over the past year is slowly but surely climbing back into focus, some members still find it extremely difficult to come to terms with this fact because mistakes still occur upon occasions here and there at all levels - National, County & Club wise.

Our sport must be viewed with a cautious approach rather than indignation to get the full recognition that it really deserves from a nation which isn't exactly team-

ing with lots of willing helpers or potential World Champions, the latter may come in time but I have a distinct feeling that time is still a long way away, our last World Singles Champion was our current President Johnny Leach MBE, the date of his victory season 1950-51, makes one think doesn't it?

The County Chairman Mr L.J. Smith welcomed two new members to the Committee, Ernest Pemberton representing Gloucester and Mrs Julia Barker was co-opted as our new minutes Secretary.

As the County appeared a little short on the ground for selectors - Mr Peter Wood of the Gloucester League would be approached.

Mr Jack Reeves last seasons County Chairman agreed to become the Organiser for next months "Cotswold Junior 2 Star Select" to be held in Gloucester at the Leisure Centre on the 28th and 29th of January respectively.

Mr Frank Jones - The Umpires Secretary, reported that Mrs Jill Smith and Craig Hayward of Cheltenham plus the County Gen/Secretary - Mr David Den were showing considerable interest in taking their County Examinations, since becoming the Umpire's Secretary, Mr Jones has done sterling work in this direction and is to be congratulated.

At a recent meeting it was felt that there should be more social events to encourage perhaps a more general get together of members within the auspices of the County in general.



Alf Peppard

The Writer wishes all readers of this magazine - A very happy Christmas and an equally happy and prosperous new year.

### Senior Men

1. Darren Griffin (G)
2. Dave Harvey (C)
3. Graham Slack (C)
4. Will Dawe (G)
5. Dale Saunders (G)
6. Dave Smith (G)
7. Sylvester Callum (G)
8. Guy Greening (C)
9. Frank Jones (G)
10. Alan Giles (S)

## ISLE OF WIGHT

Brian Lamerton

WITH the league entry up from 54 to 55 teams League Secretary' Pete Urry's immediate reward was, at the end of the first month, to see his Rockley 'B' side at the top of the first division. Pete and his team mates Mark Griffin and nephew Vaughan Urry are however realistic enough to know that they are probably only keeping it warm for the current champions and red hot favourites who occupy second place; the Sandown team of Ian Smith, Roger Hookey and Mike Turner.

Shanklin are in third spot with the newly promoted Sandown Boys Brigade showing up well at fourth. Paul Morton who was encouraged back into the game in the summer looks likely to lead Plessey to promotion from the second division and Cowes High School's fine crop of youngsters are again showing up well in the lower divisions. Sixteen youngsters entered the pre-season tournament for first year juniors with Clive Rice the winner seeing off the brothers Cooke in semi final and final.

The men are now champing at the bit waiting for their first Regional league match of the season but the girls have already taken the field and although losing, a 3 sets to 2 defeat by Aldershot was a much better start than in last seasons inaugural competition; Michelle Angus and Amanda Will represented the Island on this occasion.

Over Fifty of us crossed the Solent to see the England v China match of Eastleigh and whilst disappointed at the overall score we all made our presence felt when Carl won England's only game.

## HUNTINGDON

David Deller

TWO defeats and one gain is the record of both our county teams, and the St. Neots National league to date. In the latter M.B.S. St. Neots playing in the first division of the Leeds British League went down 3-5 to Ruston Marconi Lincoln 3-5 and to Britannia Ipswich 2-6, before knocking over Stoke 7-1. The local team of Stuart Palmer, Keith Richardson, Steve Moore and Mick Harper have been joined by Teresa Moore and Jackie Bellinger over the first two matches. Steve Moore has top score at present with four wins from his six games.

On the county front Hunts Seniors fell 2-8 to Bedfordshire, in a match which saw the welcome return after some ten years of Barbara Pace, who will certainly be a great asset on the county ladies

scene. Hunts Veterans first team of Len Saywell, Eddy Haslop, Barry Haggard and Shelly Holland were good 7-2 victors over Northamptonshire, whilst the Vets 2 side went down to their Northants counterparts 1-8.

St. Ives T.T.C. look forward to the fourth St. Ives Inter Club Team Tournament over the weekend of November 12th/13th at St. Ivo Recreation Centre. 72 club teams in age groups of under 12, cadets and juniors will compete in a tournament with over a thousand matches.

## HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood

HIGHLIGHT of the month of October was the opening games of the Junior Inter-League Competition at Barnet Table Tennis Centre, where last year's champions Barnets won all their matches.

Barnet's young stars are George Sanders, Darren Taylor, Morris Greenberg and Oliver Greenberg.

Close on the heels of Barnets are the talented Ian Black, Emma Hurling and Robert Dunbar, of Hemel Hempstead, who also won all their opening matches, but ended up with a slightly inferior games difference.

Watford's Junior team, who were runners-up last year managed only to win one of their four matches, despite an impressive 8 out of 9 wins by Robert Barrasso.

Hertfordshire juniors were in the news a couple of weeks earlier when they won their way through to the National Ranking Finals at the Eastern Regional Finals at St. Neots, Cambridgeshire.

Already through on their existing junior ranking status are Ian Black of St. Albans and Emma Hurling of Berkhamsted, and in the Cadet Girls section Sarah Seaholm of Watford.

Winning their places after St. Neots are Morris Greenberg and George Sanders of Barnet in the Junior section, as well as Sarah Seaholme and Rachel Sammuels of Cheshunt in the Junior Girls.

Hertfordshire Veterans had a sweet n' sour Saturday in the Leeds County Championships.

The Sweet was our 3rd team winning two games, when they beat Huntingdonshire 1st 5-4, then they overwhelmed Hunts. 2nd's 8-1.

Supplying the masterly touch for Herts. was Barnet's undefeated Brian Gale, Welwyn's Keith Hartridge, George Tyler of Cheshunt and St. Albans Gill White.

Our 1st and 2nd teams also won, beating Sussex 2nd 6-3, Hampshire 2nd 5-4, respectively.

Sadly our only loss was when the 4th team went down 2-7 to Surrey 3rds.

## LANCASHIRE

George R. Yates

WHAT a start to the Leeds County Championships programme for the Red Rose county in the first of the Premier Division weekends at Burton-on-Trent.

When last did we beat Middlesex which we did (6-3) together with the old enemy Yorkshire (5-4), the pipe opener being Suffolk (8-1). Step up for a bow Sean Gibson and Andrea Holt, who were both unbeaten, together with newcomer Tony Taylor (ex Cheshire) and Stephen Scowcroft – not forgetting Nigel Eckersley who lent support from the bench suffering from eye trouble. And last, but not least, Stan Clarke, that intrepid Liverpoolian and captain of the crew.



Tony Taylor

**PRESTON'S DIAMOND JUBILEE SEASON!** Founded in 1928 the Preston TTA celebrates 60 years of table tennis in Preston, and what better way than to have the ETTA stage the Leeds Masters in one of the finest venues in the north west namely Preston Guild Hall. The event will take place on Feb 10/11, 1989 when the best players in Europe will be on view.

Preston has already celebrated and it was left to the ladies of the Association who brought home the honours by winning the first division of the Lancs & Cheshire League and then went on to win the Leeds National Team Championships Bromfield Trophy competition. A great team effort by Nicola McGrath, Maria Thornley and Julie Clegg.

This season it has been the turn of Preston veterans Tony Rigby and Ray Ashley to bask in the limelight both enjoying clean sheets in the 9-0 swamping of Clwyd. But we hope matters will not stop there for Preston has a very successful coaching and training programme. Coach Tony Rigby runs sessions at the Clayton Green Leisure Centre and has done for a number of seasons.

He also runs a feeder squad with many of the players coming from his coaching classes. Just further down the road, in Leyland, Ian Holt runs coaching

classes as does Howard Fletcher at Tulketh High School with Dave Hewitt being involved with evening classes at Preston's West View Leisure Centre.

Preston is also to revive the Lancashire Closed for which Preston Borough Council donated the Preston Guild Trophy back in 1972 and plans are afoot for the next Preston Guild in 1992. It is anticipated that this season's Lancs Closed will take place in March next year with 16 tables in use at the West View Leisure Centre. A sub-committee has been formed comprising Tony Rigby, George Ressel, Bob Clark and General Secretary, Gerry Stokes.

The Association is also looking at ways it can elevate the sport by taking it into leisure centres for its league matches. A plan to introduce this will be formulated for next season, a formula Preston has been suggesting for the last two seasons. They now think it is time for action!

## LEICESTERSHIRE

Tony Lillicrap

THE annual Leicestershire Senior and Junior Inter-Towns Competition was staged recently with each of the locally affiliated leagues namely Leicester, Hinckley and Loughborough each entering two teams in each section.

In the Junior Competition Leicester I and Loughborough I easily topped their respective sections in the early round – robin matches and met in the final.

First blood in the final went to Loughborough when Paul Green beat Andrew Clark but John Gayton immediately put Leicester back on level terms when he beat Martin Balmbra. Leicester then took charge of the match by winning six out of the next seven games to emerge easy winners by a 7-2 scoreline with Paul Green the only Loughborough player to again 'trouble the scorer' when he beat Darren Bramhall.

Leicester II, Hinckley I, Hinckley II and Loughborough II finished the competition third, fourth, fifth and sixth respectively.

The final of the Senior Competition again brought together Leicester I and Loughborough I and what a dour struggle it turned out to be.

This competition, unlike the Junior, is played over six singles games with a nominated doubles game at the end as a decider if necessary and in this match it became necessary.

At three games all and after a lengthy discussion by both sides, Leicester nominated Mike James and Matthew Briggs to play the Loughborough duo of Roger Bailey and Neil Russell to decide

the destiny of the Mike Holt Trophy for 1988.

This game was as fiercely contested as the singles and in the deciding game of three Leicester, after being 13-7 and 15-10 in arrears, finally scraped home 21-19 to secure the match for Leicester.

Leicester II were third, Hinckley I were fourth, Loughborough II were fifth and Hinckley II were sixth overall.

Royal Mail Leicester narrowly lost their last Leeds British League match against Cambridge despite some determined play by the Leicester trio of Phil Smith, Maurice Newman and Martin Simpson and will be looking to gain their first points of the season in their next scheduled fixture against Chan Construction of Birmingham.

In the Hinckley League, Exclusive Kitchens have opened an 18 point lead over second placed Barwell Libs. A in the court'e Division 1 after only four games and have yet to drop a set.

Ashby Parva B lead Terrivision Division 2 also unbeaten after four games, whilst Ferry Pickering C are currently top of the Byron Roofing Division 3.

In the Leicester League the final of the Elbow Tankard Summer League Competition was another nail biting affair between Knighton Park and Loughborough Kingfishers.

At 10 games all a tie break was called for with honours again even in the first two play off games. It was then left for Kingfishers Tim Wilkins to do battle with Parks Brian Pearn to decide the match. Wilkins proved to be the steadier of the two players and took the deciding game 21-19 to leave Kingfishers winners by 12 games to 11.

## OXFORDSHIRE

Steve Joyner

UNFORTUNATELY this season has not got off to the start Oxfordshire was hoping for due to the sad death of Sid Belcher. Sid has been involved with table tennis since before the war, he was actively involved in coaching and the running of the county tournaments. He had held many positions on the Oxford committee, and at the time of his death was president of the association. Sid leaves a wife Margaret and four daughters. Sid will be sadly missed by everybody who knew him in Oxford.

On a happier note this season promises much for Oxfordshire table tennis, with our younger element bringing much needed national recognition. Gavin Yates has earned himself a respectable national junior ranking (96). Sally Hughes has moved up from cadet

to junior with immediate inclusion on the girls list. The most successful Oxfordshire player is Dawn Barnett who at 15 has already reached 26 in the junior list, she topped a successful last season, which included a tournament win in Leeds, with a call up to the national cadet squad.

This success should boost morale in a county which has lacked in drive for some seasons now. Oxford's best opportunity to make positive inroads lies with the county representative sides. The senior team played host to the strong Sussex II team. Although Sussex inflicted a 7-3 defeat on Oxford, a much improved attitude and atmosphere was present. Performance of the day came from Oxford's playboy Pete Jones, who played above himself to beat Sussex's 1 and 2 in close 3 game sets.

Karl Bushell gave his usual 100% and came close to victory twice. The two ladies, Eleanor Harrison and Cathy Singleton had a close doubles, as did Cathy in her singles, but it was nimble Eleanor's quick ability around the table that secured Oxford's third win of the night.

The veterans will be disappointed with their 8-1 defeat to Surrey, the only Oxford success coming from the mixed doubles combination of Bob House and Sue Gokgnor. Nat Richardson and Dave Harse also played well. The veterans will probably improve next time out with the return of quiet and modest Arthur Chilvers and team captain Alf Davies. The junior side were the most successful with a promising 8-2 win over Berks 11. Gavin Yates, M Haycock, D Barnett, L Shaw were all unbeaten, with a good performance from M Sims. The domestic competitions should provide an exciting season. Oxford's premier title should go to the Kidlington trio of P. Jones C. Morris and youngster C. Alcock.

Nalco will surely figure strongly, having strengthened their squad with the close season signing of Len Pratt in what has been rumoured to be a lucrative deal. The Banbury section has seen the biggest reshuffle with many players moving clubs, this has however meant that the top division has its youngest ever average age, which can only lead to success and stability in the future.

- |                    |        |         |
|--------------------|--------|---------|
| 1. Peter Jones     | Oxford | Senior  |
| 2. Karl Bushell    | Oxford | Senior  |
| 3. Clive Morris    | Oxford | Senior  |
| 4. Arthur Chilvers | Oxford | Veteran |
| 5. Nat Richardson  | Oxford | Veteran |
| 6. Stan Hahn       | Oxford | Veteran |
| 7. Alf Davies      | Oxford | Veteran |
| 8. Steve Joyner    | Oxford | Senior  |
| 9. Ian Mead        | Oxford | Senior  |
| 10. Paul Poulter   | Oxford | Senior  |
| 11. Tony May       | Oxford | Senior  |
| 12. Clive Alcock   | Oxford | Veteran |

## MIDDLESEX

Iris Moss

ENTRIES for the Middlesex 3-Star are coming in steadily, it looks as though we will once again reach our 300+ maximum entries. By the time this article appears in print, the Championships will be virtually upon us and I hope to get something into the January edition if I can get a bit of lee-way from the Editor.

Our Juniors did quite well in the Regional Trials with the following placings: Junior Boys: Simon Rockall 2; David Baker 7; Dov Katz 8. Cadet Boys: Richard Hyacinth 2; Mark Williams 3. Junior Girls: Rebecca Fisher 2; Georgina Matthews 3 (joint). Sara Williams was exempted from the Cadet Girls Regional Trials and goes direct into the Final Trials. So we can expect great things when our Junior 1st team play their first matches in the County Championships over the week-end of 26th/27th November. I understand that Sara is doing well in Tournaments, but unfortunately I was unable to get any specific information.



Graham Sandley

Our County Championships teams are having mixed fortunes. I have not got any details, but I understand that the 1st team won 2 and lost 1 of their matches over the Premier week-end on 29th/30th October. The only other results I have been advised of are that the Senior 2nd team lost their first match and the Veterans 2nd won theirs.

I was a bit upset by the letter from Mr. Yarrow in the October edition of Table Tennis News. I do not mind criticism (and in some respects he had a good point) but I do object to destructive criticism. The apathy among table tennis players in Middlesex is pathetic; they play their matches, some do a little coaching, and that is all. We cannot even get sufficient nominations for the Committee to fill all the vacancies – this is the third year that this has happened. It is about time that table tennis players realise that they have got to give as well as take and that if they want their sport to progress they must be prepared to undertake some of the administration of the game,

be it at Club, League or County level.

I was even more upset by the Editor's comment on Mr. Yarrow's letter that he considers that "relations between Middlesex and the ETTA need strengthening".

I doubt whether there is any County whose officers and members contribute more to the running of the ETTA than Middlesex do, but perhaps the "powers that be" do not appreciate that so many of the umpires, referees and organisers of ETTA events are Middlesex men and women!

Finally, one of our officers had what I hope was an interesting experience. Len Plditch went to Seoul as one of only two "foreign" umpires who were invited to officiate at the Paralympic Games. Unlike the Olympic Games, table tennis has never been included in the Paralympics, and Len has had 15 years experience of umpiring at the table tennis event of the International Stoke Mandeville Games and more recently of acting as Referee of the European Table Tennis Championships for the Disabled. I have no doubt that Ted Inge, who is Chairman of the British Wheelchair Table Tennis Association, will put an article in Table Tennis News about the event, but I will try to get Len to give his impressions of his trip in the next edition of Middlesex Notes.

## NORFOLK

Ray Hogg

SEEING in the October edition county page by Doug Moss that the juniors are now the biggest group with 60 teams, I looked back through my handbooks and an interesting statistic emerged i.e. since 1985/6 season Junior teams have increased by 10%, Senior teams have decreased by 8% and, surprise, surprise, Veteran teams have increased by no less than 30%. In the last four seasons Juniors show an increase of 7 teams, Seniors a loss of 5 teams, and the Veterans an increase of 13 teams.

We have a very busy weekend in Norwich with 2 Junior, 1 Senior and 1 Veteran teams all at home under one roof. Luckily we have the facility to house all these teams at one time particularly the Juniors as with drivers, parents and there must have been 30 people present. Norfolk Juniors won both matches v Kent. Our veteran 2nd team v Beds had a convincing win 8-1 in an entertaining match, not so one sided as it may seem by the score. The veterans started at 1 p.m. to let our Senior side play Herts at 4 p.m. so nobody got home to late. The seniors lost 4-6 despite the presence of Philip Logsdon and Neil

Pickard. They knew it was going to be tough in this division particularly for the ladies so we need our Richard Stevenson at 3 to survive. He is the star of our British league team, does wonders for and with the Juniors coaching, so what about helping out the Seniors?

Our new venture of East Anglian Veterans has attracted 5 teams from the east side of East Anglia. On the middle and West sides I hear there are many other teams organised. Could we not get together and make one County league for veterans? Whoever is organising this please contact me.

## NORTHUMBERLAND

Aubrey Drapkin

HIGHLIGHT of the season so far has been the England versus China match which was staged by the Newcastle Recreation department at Eldon Square. An audience of about 800 were treated to a fine display of table tennis and at one time looked as though they would be privileged to see an England win as the home county led 3-1. The Chinese, however, seemed to step up a gear to force a draw.

Another international is to be staged in the area with England meeting France at Dunston on 18th November at junior and cadet levels. The county has an interest here with Barry Forster having been selected for the England cadet boys team.

Barry has shown consistent form so far this season with a win in the East Yorkshire, and appearance in the cadet finals at Milton Keynes and the Kent Junior. He also reached the semi finals the Grove.

The County seniors started well in the Leeds County Championships with a 7-3 win over Norfolk but the veterans lost 4-5 at home to Notts. The junior fixtures are in chaos due to every one being linked with Cumbria juniors.

Unfortunately, all of the Northumberland League teams have been excluded from the National competitions this season. Entry forms were never received from the ETTA and when enquiries were made it was too late, the draw having been made. It does seem strange that no-one queried the non receipt of entries from a league that has supported these competitions for as long as anyone can remember.

Byker Newcastle have had mixed fortunes in the Leeds British League, losing away to Lincoln and Hartlepoons, beating Vymura at home and playing a draw at Peterborough.

In the Northern Regional League, Blydon Youth Club have

started well with wins in their first three matches against Glebe, South Durham and Carlisle.

A new division is to be formed by the Northumberland League for cadet players. It is hoped that this will be in operation by November.

## NORTHANTS

Dennis Millman

IT SEEMS strange that with the season in its infancy, a third set of county notes should be in the pipeline – but such is the march of time.

In the local leagues Well Connected are again well to the fore, but although they have already established a clear lead in Northampton, they are being strongly challenged by Higham Band in Wellingborough, while at Kettering they currently trail Team Electric, although with games in hand. A multiplicity of matches may yet prove the undoing of their astute team manager Chris Handshaw although such a talented squad could well come to his rescue as the season unfolds.

At County Championships level both the Seniors and Juniors have made excellent starts with Andy Edmonds impressing for the Firsts and young Sally Russell shining brightly for the younger brigade. Meanwhile the veterans fielding two sides for the first time are suffering mixed misfortunes, but should eventually improve on a modest opening.

The fortunes of our two Leeds British League sides could not contrast more strongly, with Well Connected carrying all before them but Levi's Westfield still to capture their true form.

This month has seen the launching of the 'Pennine Computer Ranking List' sponsored by Pennine Designer Packing and Display. Formally the County Performance List operated manually be Senior Match Secretary Gwil Evans, it is now able to include – subject to appropriate winning results – every affiliated player in the county and in the absence of any other ranking system it must become the yardstick by which all performances are measured.

In addition to Gwil, and his son David, much credit goes to computer expert Geoff Pedlar, and to Gerald Finney, the supremo of the Pennine Designer outfit. When asked why he was prepared to provide so much expensive equipment for such a project, Gerald replied, "Table Tennis has given me so much pleasure and so many rewards through the years that now it is time for me to put something back."

How healthy the game would become if all beneficiaries of our sport adopted a similar attitude!

## SHROPSHIRE

Ian Marshall

PONTESBURY duo John Lumley and Martin Williams took an early lead in the Shropshire Star First Division of the Shropshire County League matches in September ahead of Grove's young duo of Mark Turner and Spencer Harris. However the competition is wide open with father and son combination of Nigel and John Holding occupying third place whilst the duo of Les Morris and Martin Furber from Wrexham lead the Concorde Trophies Division Two.

Meanwhile the increasingly popular graded singles tournaments held every month at Grove School maintained their reputation of being hard fought events with Wrexham's ever reliable Alan Harris the winner of the H&E Scaffolding Grade A1 singles event ahead of clubmate Phil Jones whilst success for the home club came from Gail Ottolini over colleague Ian Hand in Grade A2 with the female progress maintained as the Movefast Grade A3 event went the way of Clare Hand over Telford's much improved Craig Strickley.

### Excellent Final

The Shrewsbury Roofing Grade B event saw further success for Pontesbury as the title went to Gareth Roberts over Grove's Adam Twiss with the county of Staffordshire featuring prominently in the Roofrite Grade C event as Karen Bakewell of the Potteries beat Stafford's Alison Taylor in an excellent final.



David Morris

The younger element dominated the R.J. Bratton Grade D event with Grove's potential defensive junior Tim Wright overcoming Potteries girl Ashley Griffiths whilst the skills of Grove's ever reliable Heidi Thurland saw success in the Talbot Hotel Grade E event over newcomer Mark Green of Evesham.

## SURREY

Terry Vance

CONGRATULATIONS to Gail McCulloch on her return to the County Team. She won her singles game after being 17-8 down in the 3rd. Unfortunately on the eve of the next County Match she broke her thumb ski-ing in Hampshire.

Maria Taylor-Woodward played her first game for the County against Berkshire. In this match when the score stood at 5-4 to Berkshire and 22-21 in the third game of the final set there was a controversial let service which eventually led to Berkshire winning the match 6-4.



Jane Barella

There was an unexpected loss in the Boys Doubles for Paul Carter and Graeme Connelly against Somerset but Hannah Webber and Karen Ashley made up for it by winning their first Girls' Doubles.

The 1st team won 9-1 at Dorset with Max Crimmins regaining some of his skill and expertise against Tony Clayton.

### Paralympics in Seoul

Congratulations to Debbie Jackson who represented Great Britain in the Table Tennis event and had to raise most of the cash from her own pocket.

### Surrey Tournaments

If anyone has any of the Trophies for these Tournaments or knows where they might possibly be please give me a ring on 01-390 4068. We appear to have misplaced several in the past few years.

The Closing date for the Surrey Senior Closed is December 21st and for the Junior Closed is February 8th 1989. The entry forms should have reached everyone by the time you receive this Publication but if you still require an entry form give me a ring. The new Venue for these events will be the Sutton Youth Centre.

### Coaching

At the last Coaching session there were 50 youngsters from the Sutton area who were ably helped by the usual Coaches with a guest appearance by Ron Wilde. The following weekend there were 40 at the Ranking Tournament divided into the 3 age groups.

## SUSSEX

John Woodford

PHIL SMITH and Ritchie Venner, both from Crawley, remain on top of the pile in the Sussex rankings, no signs yet of the renowned Moore brothers Stephen and Adrian fighting back. The pair of Crawley men and the brothers might not have their personal shoot-out until March 26 at Southwick at the TSB All-Sussex championships, an event due to take place on Easter Sunday and neatly sandwiched between the Commonwealth and World Championships.

Meanwhile, Smith and Venner have had some encouraging results in The Leeds British League, although not on November 6 when Horsham Dolphins were sunk 5-3 by the powerful Ramlosa team who have the luxury of former England No.2 Stuart Gibbs at No. 4.

On that occasion Venner was up-ended by Ian Attridge, whilst Smith went down to the under-rated Richard Darnell.



Alan Cole

The young Horsham Dolphins side are doing well in Division 3 (South), unbeaten and heading the table. In the last match Peter Bartram and Andy Walker were undefeated.

But my tip for the top is Alan Cole, recent semi-finalist at the South of England 2-star Open, although any successes by Cole could be matched by his Crawley team-mate Scott Greenbrook, three times the Sussex junior champion. Cole and Greenbrook are the young men I expect to see fighting for the top places in the Sussex senior rankings in the not too distant future.

In the Leeds county championships Sussex started with a draw against Kent and a win over Avon. Janet Smith made a successful Debut against Avon but Sussex champion Teresa Moore was upset by Helen Perrett.

## WARWICKSHIRE

Geoff Taylor

THE SEASON so far for our County teams has been a disaster. With two rounds of the County Championships played our four teams have 1 point between them to show for their efforts. The point we have won by our senior A team v Worcester. Warwickshire were leading 5-4 and 20-16 in the final set with games at 1-1, but they finally lost that set 22-20 and so tied the match at 5-5.

Hopefully, after these early season setbacks the teams will get their games together and we shall see better results.

The local leagues are in full swing but it is a little early in the season yet to be getting a clear picture of how they are shaping up. The one league who have been having a busy time is the Birmingham league. At the moment they have held a very successful England v China international match and preparations are well under way for the Midland Counties Three Star Tournament.

Congratulations must go to the league for the staging of the international match, special mention must go to league chairman Brian Lloyd who virtually organised the event single handed. Assistance was given by the city council.

The match was held at the Cocks Moors Leisure Centre and it was a virtual sell out. There was seating for 900 people and Brian said the attendance was between 850 to 870. The England team was local player Des Douglas, Alan Cooke and Skylet Andrew. The first set Des lost in 3 and although the rest of the sets were 2 straight all the games were close.

The player of the match was Alan Cooke who had 2 good wins and with Des winning one set the match result was 3-3. At the end of the match 2 of the Chinese players gave an exhibition match which very nicely rounded off a tremendous nights table tennis and the only complaints I heard was about the hardness of the seating. Among the invited guests and ETTA officials was the deputy mayor of Birmingham and 2 councillors, ETTA President Johnnie Leach, Mike Watts and the editor of TT News John Woodford.

After the match guests and officials were entertained to a Chinese meal by the Birmingham Chinese Community at a superb restaurant - Dynasty.

Entries for the Midland Counties Three Star Tournament are very high with a total entry of 275 players. In the singles we have 205 men and 56 women. The organisers are expecting two hectic days play.

## WILTSHIRE

Laurie Selby

A DETERMINED effort has been launched to boost the fortunes of the Wiltshire senior table tennis team in the Leeds County championships.

Last season was a big disappointment for the team who were demoted. But a big push is being made to restore their position in the higher league.

Spearheading the bid is county captain Bill Moulding and the county's coaching officer, Kevin Satchell.

Satchell, who is in the England top ten, said: "The county is trying to promote itself following the disaster of last season.

"In an attempt to do this, training sessions will be held throughout the winter for the top players."

Skipper Bill Moulding said: "Kevin has taken over as coaching officer and he is really prepared to help. We want to put the county's table tennis back on the map."

The first of the sessions, which was held at Calne, formed the basis of the county's senior ranking list.



Kevin Satchell

The new list is:

1 Kevin Satchell (West Wilts), 2 Terry Bruce (Salisbury), 3 Trevor Lloyd (West Wilts), 4 Bill Moulding (Salisbury), 5 Steve McBean (Swindon), 6 Raymond Powell (Swindon), 7 Kevin Edwards (West Wilts), 8 Ray Hughes (Swindon), 9 Jasvinder Singh (Swindon), 10 Steve Davies (Swindon).

Women: 1 Claire Maisey (Swindon), 2 Claire Hunter (Swindon), 3 Brenda Lee (Swindon), 4 Debbie Cleary (Swindon), 5 Julie Mills (Swindon), 6 Barbara Potter (Swindon).

National League player Nat Richardson went home with his car boot full of silver following the Swindon and District League presentations.

Nat, playing his first season in Swindon, won the Evening Advertiser Cup for the best averages in division one, and also won the divisional singles plus

trophies for being in the winning league team in a member of the Swindon team which won the county inter-club title.

The good old days returned for veteran table tennis player Ernie Howell in the Swindon Thamesdown League.

Ernie took the open singles and doubles title with Brian Powell and also picked up the trophy for being a member of the winning division 1 side.

It brought back memories of Ernie's heyday in the 1960s when he won five consecutive Swindon singles championships before being forced out of the game with a back injury.

Another veteran, John Nash, won the handicap singles.

Swindon table tennis player Debbie Cleary won the National Post Office singles championships at the National Sports Centre for Wales at Cardiff.

Debbie, who plays for the Northside club in the Swindon league, beat Julie Clegg (Preston) in the final.

It was a tough match with Julie taking the opening game 21-17 but Debbie hit back to take the next two 22-20, 21-14.

Debbie, who organises sports and recreation for the Post Office, last won the title seven years ago when she was representing Wales.

## WORCESTERSHIRE

Dave Roden

CONGRATULATIONS once again go to Lee Horton from the Dudley League. County No 1 at Junior & Cadet level, Lee was exempt from the Regional Cadet Trials at Market Drayton on October 22nd., which allowed him to play in the Junior event - result - played 9, won 9, a result which ensures Lee competing in the National Ranking Trials in January. Joining him will be his Bromley club-mate Jason Thompson, who finished second in the trials, winning 7 of 9 sets played.

Our two top ranked girls, Sarah Stone and Joanne Hill both competed in the Junior Trials, finishing 4th and 5th respectively, while 12 year-old Adam Burman finished 4th in the Cadet event just missing 3rd spot and an invite to the National Trials on games countback.

The first Leeds County Championship matches were played on 1st October. Worcs record - played 4, drawn 2, lost 2.

In Div 1A the Senior 1sts entertained Yorks 2nds and drew. With Malcolm Green unavailable and Sandra Roden injured, a point was welcome. Murray Jukes did well to win both his singles and the doubles with Trevor Washington, and Louise Davis, making

a rare appearance for the County, had a comfortable singles win and took the doubles with Mandy Mytton. No 3 man for Worcs was Jeremy Duffield.

The Seniors 2nds travelled to Cornwall to play both Cornish teams in Div 2B, Jane McLean, last years No 1 junior, making her Senior debut. The match against Cornwall 1sts was lost 9-1, Sue Meredith being our sole winner, but against Cornwall 2nds, Worcs drew. Sue Meredith and Jane McLean both won their singles and doubles, and Ken Walton won a singles and the doubles with Steve Horton. Other members of the Worcs teams were K. Chan and Mark Brookes.

The Vets lost 6-3 at Cheshire 2nds, with the ever dependable Janet Hunt winning her singles and the Mixed Doubles with Roy Norton. Roy also won one singles.

### Men

1. Murray Jukes (K)
2. Malcolm Green (T)
3. Trevor Washington (D)
4. Jeremy Duffield (K)
5. Ken Walton (D)
6. Paul Garner (D)
7. Steve Horton (D)
8. K. Chan (D)
9. Willie Ahearn (M)
10. Mark Brookes (D)
11. Ken LeMilliere (K)
12. Peter Baker (D)
13. Mark Fiddian (B)
14. David Pendry (K)

### Women

1. Sandra Roden (D)
2. Mandy Mytton (K)
3. Louise Davis (K)
4. Linda Reid (E)
5. Janet Hunt (W)
6. Sue Meredith (W)
7. Helen Pogmore (W)
8. Jane McLean (E)
9. Barbara Jukes (K)

D = Dudley  
E = Evesham  
K = Kidderminster  
T = Telford  
M = Malvern  
W = Worcester  
B = Bromsgrove

## YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

ENCOURAGING membership figures at NORTHALLERTON who, helped by the addition of three sides from the new R.A.F. base at Leeming, have increased their number of teams from 29 to 36 - approximately 25%!

Newcomers to the League are former England No. 1 Denis Neale, now 'mine host' in the North Yorkshire town, Malcolm Corcking, another man vastly experienced at top level, and Michael Nisbet, in addition to Ian James and Peter Eden, both of

whom have been out of the sport in recent years.

Sheffield has now acquired its own headquarters at the Abbeydale Park Sports Club, and it is already in use as a coaching centre and a base for the city's five Yorkshire League teams.

Original incumbents, Abbeydale T.T.C., remain in residence and they have been joined by the World of Sport Saint Albion club, which brings the number of teams operating out of the centre to nineteen.

Over at the other side of the city the Concord Sports Centre played hosts to the Chinese International squad and, with sponsorship from the City Council's Sports Development unit, chief coach Alan Lowe and organizer Alan Battye integrated the World Champions into a coaching evening which the 25 local youngsters who took part will long remember.



Denis Neale

The final Regional Junior Trials were held in Leeds, and no less than 25 of the County's players will participate in the National Trials with twelve young players coming through to join the 15 who qualify automatically by virtue of their computer ranking.

Katie Goodall and Sally Marling will compete at both Junior and Cadet level, with the full line up as follows:

Cadet Boys: Andrew Nicholls (Selby), Martin Dawson (Sheffield), Robert Sharp (Northallerton), Phillip Neal (Hull), Richard Smith (Huddersfield), Bradley Stephenson (Bradford).

Cadet Girls: Katie Goodall (Leeds), Sally Marling (Hull), Lyndsey Jenkins (Wakefield), Samantha James (Bridlington).

Junior Boys: Michael O'Driscoll (Huddersfield), Chris Oldfield (Sheffield), Michael Auchterlonie (Halifax), Mark Stephenson (Halifax), Stephen Horsfield (Sheffield), Chris Nicholls (Selby), Tim Pike (Wakefield), Karl Horsfield (Selby), Craig Smith (Selby).

Junior Girls: Debbie Toole (Normanton), Joanna Roberts (Leeds), Ellen Meddings (Harrogate), Katie Goodall (Leeds), Joanne Keighley (Bradford), Samantha Marling (Hull), Sally Marling (Hull), Jayne Richardson (Wakefield).

## Sportaid response amazement

FOLLOWING the Directive in the magazine to run events for Sportaid I was amazed to find no response from the surrounding leagues (as far as I know).

However, Peter and I upheld the event sponsored by the sports centre Linslade at Middle School. We organised two doubles drives (i.e. all doubles and different partners and opponents each round)

It brought together our friends, past, present and future league players with an age range of 65 years and raised £91 which we have donated to Sportaid.

DOLLY HARMER  
162 Steppingstone Place  
Leighton Buzzard  
Bedfordshire

## Just how important is "flagship"?

DERBYSHIRE are reigning County Premier Champions. The first County Championship weekend was held at Meadows Leisure Centre, Burton. Derbyshire defended their title in front of a home crowd, interest and anticipation were high, everyone concerned with Derbyshire table tennis is looking forward to another proud and memorable weekend.

### Not available

Then we are told that one Alan Cooke will not be available for the Premier weekend as he is playing against China. On the surface this appears to be a totally valid reason, until you consider that England are playing China on no fewer than 13 occasions over a 3 week period - then, questions spring to mind:

1 Why are there any England v China matches on Premier Weekends at all? - given that the County Championships are of "prime importance", (E. J. Wallbutton E.T.T.A AGM) both to the ETTA and to the sponsor, The Leeds.

2 If as it appears, China matches must clash with the Premier, why was Alan Cooke not excused duty for one or two crucial dates? He would still have had the other 11 or 12 matches to go at.

3 If being rested for a China match or two were to cost Alan Cooke financially, then why could this money not be made up in County Championship "appearance money"?

If all this were not enough we were then told that Bradley Billington would also not be available as he was going to the Italian Open to represent England.

Let's get this straight, I think Brad deserves his England cap and will go on to win many more, but couldn't Donald Parker have exercised a little discretion and sent Brad to one or all of the other Opens between now and Christmas? So enabling Brad to help defend the Premier title in front of a home crowd that was justifiably proud of all that Cookie and he have achieved.

### "Flagship"?

Finally, I would like to say that if the County Championship is indeed "the flagship of table tennis in England", as Mr Wallbutton assured us in a publicity letter dated 12 October, I would respectfully ask the Chief Executive to ensure that the England Supremo, Donald Parker, together with the Calendar Committee, kindly stop firing Exocet missiles at the "flagship" as she is already floundering and any more direct hits will sink her without trace!

MARTIN KINSELLA  
Derbyshire

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPLIES -

*SORRY Martin, but the villain of the piece was an overcrowded calendar. We had no choice but to place the Chinese Tour when we did given the 3 week hiatus caused by the Olympics. Local Match organisers insisted, quite rightly, that we use the valuable weekends for matches, to maximise audiences and give the best return to their sponsors.*



Ted Wallbutton

*We undertook to play 2 of our top 3 players in every match and as Carl was available for only 7 this meant that Desmond and Alan had to play 9 each. It proved impossible to schedule the tour without Alan playing on the premier weekend.*

*Foreign Opens also clash with the County Championships. If we had sent Matthew Syed or Sean Gibson to Italy instead of Bradley Billington would their counties not have cause to complain, or Skylet's, or Desmond's? England players are selected on merit and with their best interests in mind, perhaps you should ask them their views, as it is their choice to accept or reject selection.*

## Anti-sport teaching in Nottingham

NEWS media published on TV - Radio and the press quite often gets exaggerated out of all reasonable context.

An article that I read quite recently headlined. "Spare the Sports and spoil the child" might well indeed have been grossly exaggerated, personally I would like to think that it was - here are the facts.

At a certain Nottinghamshire Primary School there apparently exist teachers who never give marks or place children in order of merit, and more distressing still - WHERE ALL COMPETITIVE SPORT IS TOTALLY BANNED.

### No teams

There are no sports teams, and the school refuses to even enter inter-school competitions in Drama - Music - Art - Science or creative writing.

It appears that the basic ethos of the schools teaching is clearly that every child is equal, and that any outward yearning to be supreme is wrong, the entire curriculum of this school (always of course assuming that the report is true) SOUNDS LIKE A NIGHTMARISH PREPARATION FOR ULTIMATE REAL LIFE.

Increasingly over the last few

years, particularly in London, the myth has been perpetuated that competitive sports are "ELITIST", and that the talented child who strives to get on should get no more praise than His/Her idle dullard.

The high desire that prevails to be best in Table Tennis, or in any sport is a vital component in any potential champion - and don't we just need such high-fliers?

Youngsters today need hurdles to surmount, they require the need of challenge, not this wishy - washey brand of non-competitive teaching which well may be in its early stages but if pursued in time can only bring utter chaos to all whom adhere to its teaching.

ALF PEPPERD  
Gloucestershire

## Left-handers Please respond

I AM carrying out some research into left-handedness for a forthcoming book on the subject.

I would be interested to receive observations, positive or negative, anecdotes/cases histories from left handed table tennis players.

DIANE PAUL  
The Bell Suite, Mayfair Mansion,  
Mersey Road, Didsbury, Manchester M20 8PY

## LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE LEAGUE by George Yates

Liverpool, the reigning first division champions, took an early knock when, at home to Stockport, they were beaten 6-4 the Cheshire side then going on to defeat promotees Ellesmere Port 7-3, the latter having opened their account by holding Bolton to 1 5-all draw.

Division 1		TABLE				
		P	W	D	L	Pts
Liverpool	4 Stockport	6				
Ellesmere Pt	5 Bolton	5	2	2	0	4
Warrington	7 Burnley	3	2	1	1	3
Oldham	5 Blackburn	5	2	1	0	2
Stockport	7 Ellesmere Pt	3	2	0	2	2
Liverpool	7 Oldham	3	2	1	0	2
Burnley	5 Blackburn	5	2	0	1	1
Bolton	10 Warrington	0	2	0	1	1
			2	0	1	1

CALL IN TODAY TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT WITH



## STOP PRESS!

THE policy of the ETTA Management Committee masterminded by chairman John Preat of bringing top table tennis to the masses is likely to continue next season with at least one tour by foreign teams. Top of the list for preliminary negotiations is South Korea, Olympic champions.

## ITTF PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED IN SEOUL

# Barcelona will be better – Ogimura

by DIETER HENNIG

Mr Ogimura, did table tennis fulfil all its chances at its Olympic premiere?

**Ichiro Ogimura:** "Certainly not. We are considering a lot of improvements for Barcelona 1992 in order to present our sport to even greater advantage. On the road to Barcelona, we have set high expectations for the coming World Championships at Dortmund in 1989. But with these conclusions drawn, we might not forget that table tennis was part of the package of sports offered to North Korea by the IOC. This has made the organisational preparations for Seoul more difficult, for the hosts as well as for us, the responsible Federation."

However, you may well be satisfied with the attendance-figures. Hardly any other Olympic arena could boast as many spectators as table tennis.

**Ichiro Ogimura:** "Right, and that with up to three sessions daily! Unfortunately the capacity was only 5,000 seats! In the course of the preparations we had favoured a

bigger hall with a 10,000 capacity, but this was not possible. But equally encouraging as the great interest of the public was the interest of international celebrities."

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch even came twice.

**Ichiro Ogimura:** "Yes, accompanied by his wife. Both are real table tennis enthusiasts playing regularly at home. Princess Anne, is another example. She stayed on even after Desmond Douglas had finished his match. We cannot complain about VIPs missing. It certainly was an advantage that even after days everyone could still watch 'their' players . . ."

Is that a positive aspect of the group system in the preliminaries . . . ?

**Ichiro Ogimura:** "Yes, that's an aspect not to be underestimated. The media representatives from many parts of the world were able to report about 'their' table tennis for a longer time than with a k.o. system. This was good promotion for our sport."

The disadvantages cannot be overlooked, however: too many one-sided matches from the experts' point of view. This point must be considered carefully for Barcelona. Smaller groups might be a solution. But that, naturally, also depends on the number of competitors in 1992."

What is on your list of wishes for the IOC?

**Ichiro Ogimura:** "In Seoul, 64 men and 48 women could take part in the singles, we would like 128 each; and in addition to the doubles also a



Ichiro Ogimura  
Picture: Michael Maclaren

### PRESIDENT OGIMURA

Ichiro Ogimura, 55, has headed the International Table Tennis Federation ITTF since 1987. He won twelve World titles, three of those at Dortmund in 1959.

mixed tournament and team competitions. But this needs a lot of lobbying within the IOC! Not everything can be realised at once. The relative importance of table tennis within the Olympic sports family must constantly be improved."

And this goes along with an optimum presentation in every respect . . .

**Ichiro Ogimura:** "That's the main point. We are now in the Olympic limelight. A great chance, but against great competition, too. Our debut in Seoul was certainly not optimal, particularly from the TV point of view: the floor was too light, far from ideal camera positions. In that respect we are expecting new impetus from Dortmund."

Yellow table tennis balls are being considered again . . .

**Ichiro Ogimura:** "IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch himself favoured them strongly prior to Seoul – a sign how much he is committed to table tennis! But the majority on our committees considered the time for adjusting was too short. This should be no longer an argument for Barcelona . . ."

However, there are various possibilities for improvement which can be realised quickly."

## SEOUL OLYMPICS

### Men's Singles

1 Nam Kyu Yoo	KOR	17:21, 21:19, 21:11, 23:21
2 Ki Taik Kim	KOR	
3 Erik Lindh	SWE	14:21, 21:17, 21:17, 21:16
4 Tibor Klamper	HUN	
5 Jialiang Jian	CHN	21:12, 21:16, 21:17
6 Longcan Chen	CHN	
7 Jörgen Persson	SWE	21:15, 21:16, 21:17
8 Jan-Ove Waldner	SWE	

### Women's Singles

1 Jing Chen	CHN	21:17, 21:16, 21:23, 15:21, 21:15
2 Li Huifen	CHN	
3 Zhimin Jiao	CHN	21:18, 21:19, 21:17
4 Marie Hrachova	CSR	
5 Fliura Bulatowa	URS	21:16, 21:11, 22:20
6 Valentina Popova	URS	
7 Bettine Vriesekoop	HOL	21:19, 21:16, 25:23
8 Cha Ok Hong		

### Men's Doubles

1 Longcan Chen/Quingguang Wei	CHN	20:22, 21:8, 21:9
2 Ilija Lupulesku/Zoran Primorac	YUG	
3 Jae Hyung Ahn/Nam Kyu Yoo	KOR	21:13, 21:16
4 Ki Taik Kim/Wan Kim	KOR	
5 Jialiang Jiang/Zengcai Xu	CHN	21:7 21:12
6 Andrzej Grubba/Leszek Kucharski	POL	
7 Erik Lindh/Jörgen Persson	SWE	21/10, 21/14
8 Mikael Appelgren/Jan-Ove Waldner	SWE	

### Women's Doubles

1 Jung Hwa Hyun/Young Ja Yang	KOR	21:19, 16:21, 21:10
2 Jing Chen/Zhimin Jiao	CHN	
3 Jasna Fazlic/Gordana Perkucin	YUG	21:14, 11:21, 21:16
4 Mika Hoshino/Kiyomi Ishida	JPN	
5 Marie Hrachova/Renata Kasalova	CSR	21:10, 8:21, 21:19
6 Fliura Bulatowa/Elena Kowtun	URS	
7 M. Kloppenburg/B. Vriesekoop	HOL	21:18, 21:33, 21:17
8 Csilla Batorfi/Edit Urban	HUN	

**INTERVIEW  
CONCLUDED ON  
PAGE 31**

## Yorkshire cancellation · World Championships

### Yorkshire 3-Star Cancellation: THE FULL STORY

by REA BALMFORD

THE Yorkshire Table Tennis Association offer belated apologies to all those players who, over the years, have loyally supported the Yorkshire & Humberside 3★ Open Championships for the cancellation at very short notice of this season's event which was scheduled for October 15/16th at Halifax.

Basic cause of this cancellation was, of course, the postal disruption which, in England's largest county, where tournament officials – referee, secretary, organiser, treasurer, etc – are separated by distances of up to 100 miles, hit particularly hard.

#### No Post

In parts of the country, too, including my own area, there was no service for some time after the settlement at national level and, despite an unofficial extension of the closing date, the number of entries fell well below half of the 250 expected.

Finance has been quoted as a major reason behind the decision, but this was only a secondary consideration. With no sponsorship, the county had budgeted for a probable loss on the event and very much more to the point was the reputation which we in Yorkshire feel that we have established for 'running a tight ship'.

The possibility of accepting entries and fees on the day was discussed, but this would have affected scheduling, seeding, timing of finals and just about every other aspect of the tournament, and thus mitigated against the smooth running of the event.

This was the major point at issue and, following considerable heart searching, it was felt better to abort in ample time rather than risk running an event which would not measure up to the standards which, over the years, the Association has tried to set.

### THE COMMONWEALTH FINALS ...

CONTRARY to the information in some calendars the finals at Cardiff are on Easter Sunday, March 26, not on the previous day.

**APPROVED BALLS**  
The following makes of ball in 3-star and 2-star grades only have been licensed for play in this country for the 1988-9 Season.

- ★ Dunlop Premier Tournament
- ★ Halex Ultra
- ★ TSP
- ★ Nittaku
- ★ Schildkrot
- ★ Double Fish
- ★ Lion

## 40th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

### DORTMUND

- March 29 to April 4 – Teams
- April 5 – Rest Day
- April 6 to 9 – Individual Events



THE German Table Tennis Federation (DTTB) hosts the World Championships for the fourth time in 1989 after Berlin in 1930, Dortmund in 1959, and Munich in 1969. Dortmund is the venue for the second time.

The DTTB surpassed the mark of 700,000 members first in 1987. About 90,000 teams from about 9,700 clubs play regularly in the various championships.

Contrary to most sports association the DTTB can boast growing numbers of teenage members. One of the secrets for this success is the "mini tournaments" for children up to eleven years attracting almost 45,000 competitors last season. Only less than five per cent belonged to clubs previously!

Richard Von Weizsäcker, President of the Federal Republic of Germany, has taken over the patronage of the 1989 World Table Tennis Championships. The President is an enthusiastic table tennis player himself: a table has been set up in the attic of his official residence.

Two former top players have been heading the German Table Tennis Federation (DTTB) since 1981 and now head the Organising Committee: President Hans Wilhelm Gäb, World championship competitor in Dortmund in 1959, and Eberhard Schöler, World singles runner-up in Munich in 1969, who is responsible for the sporting field.

DTTB Vice President Hans Giesecke, member of the fourhead ITTF Executive committee, suffered two torn ligaments in his leg one day after his return from Seoul – at a championship match of his club Thedinghausen near Bremen. But he wants to be present at Dortmund at the beginning of November with his leg in plaster ...

The ticket sale for the World Table Tennis Championships in Dortmund surpassed even the most optimistic prognosis. More than 60 per cent of the tickets, the majority of them all-event tickets, have been sold for the eleven days of the event between March 29 and April 9, 1989.

However, tickets are still available for every single day, though no longer in all categories. Now the ticket sale for daily tickets has also started.

Tickets will only be sold for Hall 1 with a total capacity of 10,000 seats, where the matches will be played at only six tables in order to provide a real "Centre Court Atmosphere".

Entrance to Hall 4 with 24 tables and 4,000 seats is included in the tickets without extra pay.

Prices: all-event tickets from 155 to 235 DM; team competitions from 90 to 160 DM; individual events from 80 to 140 DM; daily tickets from 5 to 45 DM.

Good start into the World Championship season: The DTTB national squad won the first European League match in the Superdivision 5-2 versus Bulgaria at Hagen on October 12. The West Germans will now meet Czechoslovakia on November 9, again at home at Stadtallendorf in Hessa.

Come to Dortmund: More than 1100 years old, the City with its 580,000 citizens is the metropolis of the Ruhr District and of Westphalia. For a long time its image was marked by coal and steel, but more than 50 per cent of its city area consists of parks, park areas and woods. Dortmund is located only 60 km from the international airport of Düsseldorf and can be easily reached by four motorways ...

LAST BUT NOT LEAST: The World Table Tennis Championships are the "biggest indoor event of the world": Dortmund expects about 700 players and the same number of officials as well as 600 media representatives in 1989 ...

## THE LENTEC NATIONAL RANKING LIST

— in conjunction with the ETTA

Effective November 4th, 1988



### MEN

1. Douglas Desmond (Walsall)	2062
2. Cooke Alan (Chesterfield)	2017
3. Prean Carl (Ryde)	1689
4. Mason Nicky (Bexhill)	852
5. Andrew Skylet (Stratford)	841
6. Stokes Jimmy (Reading)	617
7. Souter John (Neasden)	583
8. Billington Bradley (Chesterfield)	527
9. Baker Glenn (Guildford)	521
10. Satchell Kevin (Melksham)	500
11. Gibson Sean (Chorley)	474
12. Dorking Steven (Hornchurch)	445
13. Syed Matthew (Reading)	435
14. Taylor Tony (Manchester)	435
15. Sandley Graham (Potters Bar)	433
16. Bradbury Phillip (Aylesbury)	427
17. Hilton John (Manchester)	420
18. Eckersley Nigel (Wilmslow)	418
19. Charley Desmond (Basildon)	405
20. Dixon Adrian (Wolverhampton)	403
21. O'Driscoll Michael (Mirfield)	395
22. Cunningham Andrew (Beckenham)	395
23. Smith Phillip (Horley)	390
24. Whiting Paul (Plymouth)	388
25. Venner Richard (Crawley)	385
26. Robertson Ian (Newcastle)	384
27. Giles Paul (Saltash)	377
28. Morgan Carl (Birmingham)	375
29. Smith Edward (Gosforth)	370
30. Wilson Colin (Waltham Cross)	368
31. Burleton John (Milton Keynes)	368
32. <b>Holland John</b> (Nottingham)	361
33. Wellman Andrew (Didcot)	356
34. Oldfield Christopher (Sheffield)	355
35. Wilson Gary (Plymouth)	351
36. Dodd Andrew (Charlton)	344
37. Stead Michael (Bradford)	337
38. Mills Steven (Ashford)	335
39. Short Michael (Yelverton)	335
40. Crimmins Max (Reading)	334
41. Rogers Christopher (Leicester)	331
42. Gunn Phillip (Birmingham)	324
43. Kennedy Joseph (East Ham)	322
44. Denison John (Brentwood)	322
45. Newman David (Maldon)	319
46. Collino Percy (Battersea)	317
47. Gannon David (Leicester)	316
48. Dodd David (Charlton)	316
49. Taylor John (Golders Green)	314
50. Hammond Michael (Tolworth)	313
51. Palmer Stuart (Brandon)	310
52. Moore Stephen (Bexhill)	308
53. Moore Adrian (Bexhill)	305
54. Richardson Keith (Cambridge)	303
55. Harding David (Carshalton)	300
56. Stark Antony (Barnet)	297
57. Clayton Antony (Lychett Maltravers)	297
58. Bakewell Craig (Stoke)	296
59. Slater Stephen (Stoke)	294
60. Scocroft Stephen (Manchester)	292
61. Darnell Richard (Brentwood)	290
62. Johnson Barry (Birmingham)	288
63. Jackson Kenny (Ashford)	288
64. Kitchener John (Ipswich)	287
65. Jukes Murray (Kidderminster)	285
66. Tanner Richard (Ipswich)	282
67. Allanson Walter (Shillingford)	281
68. Goode David (Hayes)	280
69. Sweet Anthony (Plymouth)	275
70. Neil Lee (Bristol)	269
71. Harper Michael (Biggleswade)	268

72. Attridge Ian (Essex)	268
73. Sayer Paul (Manor Park)	265
74. Solder Grant (Barking)	265
75. Elphic Paul (Haywards Heath)	264
76. Owens Michael (Leominster)	264
77. Rich Andrew (Wolverhampton)	263
78. Green Malcolm (Telford)	262
79. Bevan Neil (Bude)	261
80. Stevenson Richard (Norwich)	260
81. Jermyn Richard (Letchworth)	259
82. <b>Vickers Phillip</b> (Burwash)	258
83. Abbott Alexander (Hullbridge)	253
84. Samuels Keith (Arlesley)	253
85. Harvey David (Cheltenham)	252
86. Logsdon Phillip (Norwich)	252
87. Holley Christopher (Bath)	251
88. Sharpe Steven (Wakefield)	250
89. Sigrell Hakem (Bournemouth)	250
90. Davies Geoffrey (Brierhill)	248
91. Owen Mark (Hereford)	245
92. Johns Brian (Northwich)	242
93. Mokim Graham (Towcester)	242
94. Bole Rupert (Kingston)	240
95. Bhalla Ramesh (Guildford)	240
96. Cutler Thomas (Neasden)	238
97. Lambert Gary (Exmouth)	237
98. Topiwala Dipak (Edmondton)	237
99. Williams Jeremy (Falmouth)	234
100. Slack Graham (Cheltenham)	233
101. Toole Graham (Southampton)	227
102. Buist Henry (Orpington)	226
103. Proffitt Jonathan (Whetstone)	226
104. Griffin Darren (Gloucester)	224
105. Brown Michael (Birmingham)	223
106. Clarke G (Haslingdon)	223
107. Neale Denis (Redcar)	221
108. Dettmar Steven (Whitham)	220
109. Smith Phillip (Huncote)	220
110. Facey Junior (Deptford)	220
111. Beckham Richard (Rainham)	219
112. Corking Malcolm (Stockton)	218
113. Machin Peter (Birmingham)	215
114. Gibbs Stuart (Dagenham)	214
115. Worrell Stuart (Lincoln)	213
116. O'Leary Michael (Neasden)	212
117. Cox Phillip (Orpington)	212
118. Deakin Stanley (Stoke)	212
119. Whiteley Richard (Harrogate)	210
120. Gunn Ian (Birmingham)	207
121. Sadler Lee (Yeovil)	205
122. <b>Yallop Stephen</b> (Derby)	205
123. Washington Trevor (Kingswinford)	203
124. Luscombe Colin (Luton)	203
125. Randle Mark (Coventry)	203
126. Turner Steven (Preston)	202
127. Nurcott Peter (Canning Town)	201
128. Proffitt Simon (Barnet)	201
129. Jordan Gary (March)	201
130. King Russell (Lowestoft)	200
131. Munt Derek (Beverly)	200
132. Moreman Steven (Tewkesbury)	199
133. Brown Mark (Hildenborough)	199
134. Harris Neil (Oxford)	199
135. Barr David (Newbury)	198
136. Jonah Jerome (Wandsworth)	198
137. Hewitt Lee (Hull)	197
138. Taylor Jonathan (Denton)	197
139. Stevenson Martin (Norwich)	196
140. Levine Michael (Bushey)	194
141. Greenbrook Scott (Crawley)	193
142. Weatherby Ronald (Chard)	192
143. Vine Timothy (Cambridge)	192
144. Withers Andrew (Haverhill)	191

### WOMEN

1. Gordon Alison (Reading)	1044
2. Lomas Lisa (Dunstable)	796
3. Elliot Fiona (Wolverhampton)	715
4. Dean Joy (Preston)	514
5. Holt Andrea (Ramsbottom)	502
6. Sainsbury Mandy (Newbury)	463
7. Harris Jill (Walsall)	341
8. Giles Carol (Plymouth)	280
9. Shaw Joanne (Normanton)	257
10. Collier Susan (Maidenhead)	241
11. Bardwell Helen (Ware)	192
12. Lower Helen (Wolverhampton)	189
13. Potts Claire (Chester)	181
14. Billington Julie (Chesterfield)	175
15. Carey Melonie (Puriton)	174
16. Moore Teresa (Bexhill)	170
17. Parker Jean (Preston)	160
18. Roden Sandra (Dudley)	159
19. Short Elaine (Plymouth)	159
20. Toole Deborah (Normanton)	158
21. Smith Karen (Leicester)	145
22. Buttery Cheryl (Lincoln)	140
23. Perrott Helen (Keynsham)	135
24. Burrows Karen (Castleford)	134
25. Mudge Kim (Essex)	133
26. Simmonds Debbie (Virginia Water)	132
27. Blanch Gillian (Acton)	128
28. Houghton Juliet (Tonbridge)	127
29. Barella Jane (Surbiton)	127
30. Sayer Elaine (London)	120
31. Maisey Claire (Swindon)	119
32. <b>Hall Kerry</b> (Chesterfield)	116
33. Weston Sally (Horsham)	106
34. Radford Lesley (Upminster)	105
35. Radley Susan (Lincoln)	102
36. King Sheila (St. Leonards on Sea)	100
37. Butler Susan (Plymouth)	100
38. Harrison Lynne (Hemel Hempstead)	99
39. Boxall Alison (Cheshunt)	90
40. Clemett Linda (Wimbledon)	89
41. Airey Suzanne (Grantham)	88
42. Knight Rachel (Twickenham)	87
43. McGrath Nicola (Preston)	87
44. Popkiewicz Lesley (Purley)	83
45. <b>Hewitt Carol</b> (Brighton)	74
46. Dimmock Julie (Dunstable)	72
47. Plumridge Claire (Wycombe)	71
48. Deakin Janet (Warrington)	70
49. Radford Linda (Upminster)	68
50. Richmond Susan (Northallerton)	60
51. Peakman Sandra (Birmingham)	60
52. Cohen Michelle (Bristol)	52
53. Soothill Debbie (Carnforth)	58
54. Turner Sarah (Southampton)	58
55. Hammond Sarah (Southampton)	57
56. Hayden Lisa (Hotton)	55
57. Moran Constance (Grimsby)	54
58. Mouzon Claire (Ashington)	52
59. Buckley Caroline (Luton)	50
60. Gower Kate (Ingatstone)	49
61. Budey Brenda (Liverpool)	47
62. Cox Kristina (Rushden)	46
63. Culbertson Susan (Birmingham)	46
64. Kavanagh Hazel (Hull)	42
65. Buthrie Caren (Northumberland)	42
66. Davis Louise (Bridgenorth)	41
67. Hunt Janet (Worcester)	40

# The Ogimura Interview

**INTERVIEW  
CONTINUED FROM  
PAGE 28**

Does that mean for the 1989 World Championships in Dortmund...?

Ichiro Ogimura: "Yes. The most attractive pairings should not be scheduled for tables in the corner, but in mid-hall, for instance. And at least as of the semi-finals the referees should be heard via microphones; the players must be announced and presented to the audience. All this is very important for optimum effect - up to the victory ceremony which can be made more attractive and should proceed more quickly. In this respect we can learn a lot from others."

The comparison with tennis suggested itself at least in one respect. Though the matches for determining the bronze medals in table tennis brought additional excitement, the fourth-placed felt slighted...

Ichiro Ogimura: "The ITTF learned too late about the possibility of awarding two bronze medals."

Personally - and everybody will certainly believe that - I can well understand every player who made the semi-finals but then was not awarded a medal. I know only too well how many years of hard work are behind such an achievement. Therefore I regret the differing regulation, which should not be the case in 1992!"

There were even more discussions about the placing-matches down to eighth place, which also counted for the World rankings...

Ichiro Ogimura: "I do not appreciate the attempts to stage 'show matches'. Every athlete knew the regulations prior to Seoul. In a personal letter to each player I referred to the importance of his Olympic appearance."

I expect from a professional - and I think all players concerned are that - that he is fully aware of his role as an ambassador of his sport!

We stopped these regrettable slips right from the beginning. But I cannot enough stress how important I think is the personal attitude of our players!

About the sporting competition: Did the strong performance of the hosts come as a surprise?

Ichiro Ogimura: "No, for we experienced that already at the 1986 Asian Games. But I was surprised by the strong nerves of the Europeans, while China's men did not stand the pressure. However, this does not say anything at all for Dortmund..."

The International Table Tennis Federation may expect about 900,000 US dollars from TV revenues from Seoul...

Ichiro Ogimura: "One of our most important tasks will be to use this money for sporting development aid, especially in those continental federations with a lower standard of play. We shall send 'promotion teams' in order to improve the coaches' training, for instance."

It is my special wish that at the next Olympic tournament in 1992 the medal candidates come not only from Asia and Europe, but also from Africa or Latin America! There were the first good signs in Seoul. Thus it is not just wishful thinking for the future, and it

plays a very important role for the furthering of our sport!"

Main topic: referees (umpires)

Ichiro Ogimura: "Quite frankly: they only partly showed Olympic standard. They were better than at many previous tournaments, of course. There were no 'home referees', but the level of refereeing varied a lot. Some did not say anything when a player needed too many 'towel interruptions'. We must stay self-critical in this respect, too, and may not be satisfied with what we accomplished. Quality alone must be decisive for appointments. This is my honest appeal to our member associations before the coming World Championships!"

The ticket sales for Dortmund are encouraging and great atmosphere. I hope that the host players will be stimulated by this atmosphere as much as the Korean players in Seoul. For:

We want to and must present ourselves as attractively as possible in 1989, especially as a young Olympic sport!"

# CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

AT



**THE CATALOGUE THAT OFFERS YOU A CHOICE ....**

**.... OF ALL THE MAJOR TABLE TENNIS BRANDS!**

**WTSP**

**IMPERIAL**

**STIGA**

**DONIC**

**TIBHAR**

**NITTAKU**

**Butterfly**

**CHECK OUT THE SUPER "JANUARY SALE" .. SOON!**

# NEW CLEARANCE LINES AVAILABLE.. NOW!

**PLAYRITE SPORTS**

162 Chiltern Drive, Berrylands, Surbiton, Surrey  
KT5 8LS  
9 00am to 5 30pm Mon - Sat  
TEL: 01-399 7417 (24hr ansaphone)



**01-399 7417**

**ORDER BY PHONE  
WITH CONFIDENCE**

**AS SOON AS YOU PLACE YOUR ORDER BY PHONE YOUR GOODS ARE ON THEIR WAY ...**

# Out and about

CHESHIRE · SCOTLAND  
YORKSHIRE · WILTSHIRE · HAMPSHIRE  
and YUGOSLAVIA



THE Chinese Table Tennis Team stopped off at the Village Hyde during their on-going 12 match tournament against England. The team including world No. 7, Chen Xinhua and the reigning world mixed doubles champion Hui Jun, were playing against England's finest at various venues throughout the country. "We are especially pleased to have hosted the Chinese team," says Village Manager, Ulick Burke. "All of our new gym and leisure equipment was available for both teams to train with before the crucial match."



Janet Smith, No. 1 in Scotland and Sussex.

**Carl Prean  
almost on  
homeground**



Up for the cup . . . Bradley Billington, left, receives his trophy from Margaret Groombridge. Also pictured are runner-up Steve Dorking, right, and semi-finalists Glenn Baker and Paul Giles at the Wiltshire 2-star open.



Carl Prean warms up at the Fleming Park venue, Southampton with managing director of A. & B. Homes, Joe Bernardz.



Leeds British League team Bayer Bradford, left to right, Michael O'Driscoll, Mark Stephenson, Steve Sharpe, Martin Kinsella and manager Hans Soova.



English and foreign umpires abroad – on the Danube at the European Youth Championships at Novi Sad – in the company Len Pilditch (Middlesex) and Cheshire's Roger Vardon from Knutsford.

# Top seeds win at Market Drayton

## The H & E Scaffolding Grove School Junior Open

# Julie and Chris top-seeded winners

GROVE stars Julie Billington and Chris Oldfield duly merited their top seeded positions in the H & E Scaffolding Grove School Junior Open Championships held at Market Drayton with the Girls and Boys Singles titles going the way of the England Junior International duo.

It was the quick hitting of Miss Billington that sealed success in the Girls Singles, no opponent was allowed to settle and the Grove player emerged as champion without the loss of a set as Yorkshire's Joanna Roberts, as game as ever, fell in the final having beaten the impressive Welsh girl Natasha Williams at the penultimate stage whilst a determined Lisa Crick of Maidenhead had been the semifinal victim of Miss Billington.

On the male side Oldfield maintained his splendid early season form as he powered to success over clubmate Jonathan Taylor in a high class final with the smiling Yorkshireman in no mood for charity as Dunstable's talented Peter Bowler was ousted in the semifinals and a rapidly improving Stephen Hanks beaten one round earlier. Hanks was to be the only player to extend Oldfield to three sets but the Derbyshire boy found life in the third set a little too fierce and the Yorkshireman was the victor in style. Meanwhile the quiet Jonathan Taylor displayed a cool temperament and a splendid attitude to reach the final with utmost efficiency as Mark Stephenson (Halifax), Stephen Bettison (Nailsea) and Martin Adams (Ascot) were beaten by the Cheshire man in straight set matches.

their mark with Severine Thone ousting Devon's Lynsey Heyward in the semifinals of the Under 12 Girls Singles before losing to the most impressive Chesterfield starlet Nicola Deaton who had beaten the rapidly improving Michelle Martin of Burton-on-Trent in the semifinal.

Meanwhile on the male side Ludovic Leclerc and Rene Malin kept the Belgian flag flying in the Under 12 event with tournament winner Darren Blake of Croyden ousting the former at the penultimate stage and Steven Meddings of Sutton Coldfield remaining cool under pressure to beat Malin by the narrowest of margins at the same stage in a splendid match.

If there was to be an award for the player of the tournament then Maidenhead's Nicky Bradfield would have the strongest of claims, winner of the Cadet Boys Singles and Cadet Boys Doubles whilst ousting the talented Derbyshire fourth seeded Jason Bamford in the Junior Boys Singles prior to losing to the powerful Londoner Simon Rockall.

The splendid form of Bradfield was underlined in the Cadet Boys Singles event as the title was won without the loss of set with Chris Sladden (Southend) and Barry Forster (Whickham) beaten in the



Julie Billington top seeded winner

latter stages before the Berkshire lad defeated surprise Worcestershire package Lee Horton in the final, the latter having blocked to excellent effect, finding left-handed players to his liking as Devon's Alex Perry and Surrey's Edward Hatley were beaten in the quarters and semifinal stages.

London's Sara Williams gave a clinical performance to win the

Report by  
by IAN MARSHALL

Cadet Singles at the expense of namesake Natasha Williams of Prestatyn with the Welsh girl leaving a trail of English seeds in her wake as Nicola Deaton and Nicola Meddings were beaten in straight sets whilst Barrow's Caroline Watt proved the penultimate victim of the impressive Miss Williams.

## RESULTS

**In harness**  
The doubles was to see a further triumph for Oldfield in harness with Taylor who duly won the title for which they started favourites but life was made most difficult for the champions elect by the splendid white rose duo of Graham Cook and Mark Stephenson who extended the victors to a three set final. However there was to be no doubles for Julie Billington in harness with Chesterfield colleague Nicola Deaton as Chelsea based sisters Emese and Kitti Kottasz upset the formbook to win a semifinal thriller before running out of steam in the final against the London-Midland pairing of Sara Williams and Nicola Meddings who had won an equally tense semifinal against impressive Welsh duo Susan Lees and Natasha Williams.

The tournament was given an added dimension with the entry of players from the Province of Namur in southern Belgium and it was to be in the younger age groups that the Belgians made

J.B.S.	SF	C Oldfield (Y)	bt	P Bowler (Bd)	12, 18
	SF	J Taylor (Ch)	bt	M Adams (Bk)	14, 15
	F	C Oldfield	bt	J Taylor	14, 12
J.G.S.	SF	J Billington (Dy)	bt	L Crick (Bk)	18, 6
	SF	J Roberts (Y)	bt	N Williams (Clwyd)	18, 15
	F	J Billington	bt	J Roberts	11, 17
J.B.D.	SF	C Oldfield/J Taylor	bt	S Rockall (Mi)/C Smith (Y)	12, 16
	SF	G Cook (Y)/M Stephenson (Y)	bt	S Harris (Clwyd)/G Knights (St)	11, 15
	F	C Oldfield/J Taylor	bt	G Cook/M Stephenson	19, -8, 13
J.G.D.	SF	K Kottasz/E Kottasz (Mi)	bt	J Billington/N Deaton (Dy)	19, 23
	SF	N Meddings (Wa)/S Williams (Mi)	bt	S Lees/N Williams (Clwyd)	-16, 20, 15
	F	N Meddings/S Williams	bt	K Kottasz/E Kottasz	12, 11
C.B.S.	SF	N Bradfield (Bk)	bt	B Forster (N'land)	8, 15
	SF	L Horton (Wo)	bt	E Hatley (Sy)	-14, 19, 9
	F	N Bradfield	bt	L Horton	10, 18
C.G.S.	SF	S Williams	bt	C Watt (Cu)	8, 15
	SF	N Williams	bt	N Meddings	15, 16
	F	S Williams	bt	N Williams	7, 8
C.B.D.	SF	A Perry (Dv)/N Bradfield	bt	E Finlayson/G Davies (Av)	19, 15
	SF	C Sladden (E)/E Hatley	bt	R Powell/J Hyatt (Gl)	19, 10
	F	A Perry/N Bradfield	bt	C Sladden/E Hatley	13, 16
C.G.D.	SF	S Lees/N Williams	bt	C Hunt (Wo)/S Williams	19, -15, 16
	SF	N Deaton/N Meddings	bt	J Bickerton/J Foxhall (St)	17, 10
	F	N Deaton/N Meddings	bt	S Lees/N Williams	-19, 9, 17
U-12BS	SF	D Blake (Sy)	bt	L Leclerc (Belgium)	16, 16
	SF	S Meddings (Wa)	bt	R Malin (Belgium)	11, -18, 17
	F	D Blake	bt	S Meddings	17, 18
U-12GSSF	SF	N Deaton	bt	M Martin (St)	10, 15
	SF	S Thone (Belgium)	bt	L Heyward (Dv)	11, 8
	F	N Deaton	bt	S Thone	16, 10

## SOUTH WEST REGION NEWS

by ALF PEPPARD

THE following report was sent to me by Tom Honey (Secretary of the West Cornwall T.T.L.). Membership has fallen overall in our League's - Launceston down by 5 teams, Mid-Cornwall up 3, and West Cornwall down by 7 teams.

The Launceston League has had to discontinue its Novices Division through lack of entries. However, attendance at their "Table Tennis for All" League practise nights are still good. Many non-League fun players take full advantage of these sessions and also participate in the monthly Merit Table Competition but seem unprepared to commit themselves to a regular weekly organised match.

### Cornish 2 Star Junior Open

John Crocker (Organiser) and Tom Honey (Sec/Treasurer) have both resigned after running 8 very successful Tournaments, unfortunately, to date nobody has come forward to replace them and it seems doubtful if the Tournament will be held this season.

### Honours

Two new Life Members were elected at the County AGM recently. E. James and Pat Archdale. Ernest James was the first Cornish parent

to realise the benefits of entering his small children in Open Tournaments, many were not convinced that the expense could be justified but Ernest proved his point and set an example which was followed by a long line of Cornish players when Ian and Sharon won County titles and were selected for County teams.

Ernest's wife Beryl also played her part, acting as County Junior Team Secretary and catering for visiting teams - truly a magnificent Husband & Wife T.T. Combination. Mrs Pat Archdale, although 'NOT A CORNISH-MAN' and not resident in the County, has been a good friend of Cornish T.T. for many years.

As National Councillor from 1977 to 1988 and a member of the County Executive Committee, Pat has rarely missed a meeting, travelling down from Avon in all winds and weathers and at her own expense to report and take an active part in our affairs.

As County Umpires Secretary Pat attends most County matches and referees all Launceston's British League matches, she is the Referee for the Bude Junior Open and Assistant Referee for the Cornish Junior Open.

## Alan aids young ones



West Sussex coaching with Alan Hydes

JUST look who's our new table tennis teacher! Enthusiasm brims all over the faces of the girls and boys of Lyndhurst Middle School as they gather around for a lesson from Alan Hydes.

The Southern area coach has moved into the locality after an international career of 109 matches for England and is introducing the game to Lyndhurst and to Davison High School.

The former Yorkshire-based

star hopes to expand his activities here and he was engaged at Lyndhurst by assistant headmaster George Stedman, the Sussex junior team manager whose children David and Helen are the reigning Worthing League champions.

So now, Friday afternoon is table tennis afternoon at Lyndhurst and you can bet these children haven't been able to wait for today to arrive.

## SOUTHERN REGION

by BRIAN LAMERTON

AMITY Generation 2. (Fareham) got to a double winning start when the new season's Regional League commenced. Generation's first team won a thrilling local derby with Rownhams (Southampton) by the odd set in nine with evergreen Charlie Childs and Steve Reilly getting two apiece whilst Graham Pointer's brace for Rownhams kept the match alive. In the second division (Yes we now have two divisions!) Generation's second string which is two thirds last seasons runaway Ladies league winners in the two Sarahs, Turner and Hammond defeated Kingfisher 'B' by 6 sets to 3; the girls winning three between them and Phil Watson had a hat trick. Purbrook, newcomers to Division 1 started off well when Micky Sinanin and Mark Bleakley, both encouraged back to the game by

this competition put their team into a 2 love against Kingfisher 'A' but then the well known trio of Martin Adams (3), Keith Hodder and Mark Priddle (2 each) settled down to the conditions and took the match over. The one Ladies League match played this far produced a 3 sets to 2 victory for Aldershot's Jane Boswell and Sandra Simpson over Amanda Will and Michelle Angus of the Isle of Wight.

Congratulations to the following juniors who have qualified to appear in the Final National trials. Junior Boys; Nicky Bradfield (Be), Gavin Yates (Ox), Mathew Greenwood (Bu) Danny Baxter (Bu); Junior Girls; Sally Hughes (Ox), Anna Watton (Bu), Lisa Crick (Be); Cadet Boys; Ben Johnson (Be), Stephen Crouch (Ha) James Mason (Bu); Cadet Girls; Gemma Schwartz (Be), Ilsa Smit (Ox).

### The Leeds County Table Tennis Championships

VETS 1B:			VETS 2B:				
Herts	6	Sussex 2	3	Berks 4	1	Essex 3	8
Middx 2	6	Oxfords	3	Hunts 1	4	Herts 3	5
Essex	7	Yorks 2	2	Norfolk 2	8	Beds	1
Kent 2	4	Hants	5	Essex 2	9	Northants	2
Surrey 2	4	Dorset	5	Hunts 2	1	Herts 3	8
VETS 2A:			VETS 2C:				
Ches. 3	7	Lancs 2	2	Bucks 2	9	Wilts 3	0
Notts	4	Lancs 1	5	Herefords	0	Berks 3	9
Clwyd	3	Lincs 2	6	Surrey 3	7	Herts 4	2
Yorks 3	5	N'berland	4	Glos	8	Wilts 2	1

## WEST MIDLANDS REGION NEWS

THE Leeds West Midlands Regional Club League sees success for Shropshire with the enthusiastic Telford side Bryan and Knott the league leaders alongside Leckie of Walsall thanks to the consistency of Shropshire faithful Mike Beaman alongside the enthusiasm of major motivator Paul Harmer and the reliable support of Terry Jones, Ian Baker, Julian Wootton and Malcolm Langford. Grove's youngsters gain valuable experience at this level with the irrepressible twins Sarah and Liz Creasey causing headaches for more experienced players.

The use of central venues and an early finish seems an attractive formula for encouraging people to play table tennis as thriving competitions take place at Mary Webb School Pontesbury, the Grove in Market Drayton and at Lilleshall where the Telford Association are to be congratulated on their efforts to promote the sport; the aim to finish before 10.00pm and play matches on more than one table could well be a winning formula and see membership increase.

## WEST MIDLANDS GIRLS LEAGUE

by Jenny Heaton

EIGHT teams entered and the league got underway on 15th October at The Grove Table Tennis Club.

Closest games of the day involved last year's winners Smith & Nephew (Birmingham) and Grove teams. The outcome of these matches were 3-2 being decided by the doubles in both cases. Firstly Smith and Nephew took on Grove 'A', with Alison Ledwitch beating both the Creasey girls, but with the doubles going the other way 18 in the third, Grove "A" won 3-2.

Next Smith and Nephew faced Grove 'B' and this one was not decided until the final game. At 2 all Alison Ledwitch faced Claire Marshall and just managed to pull through 24-22 in the third.

The next series of matches will be played December 3rd and Grove 'A' look like favourites to win the league, although they still have tough matches to play against Grove 'B' and Lillington (Leamington).

# A tale of roadside Chefs – or how to stay hungry in one easy lesson

by CHRIS WRIGHT. ETTA Vice-chairman competitions

HERE follows a harrowing example of starved NPC's, parents, and juniors who are about to engage on a crusade to the unchartered wastes of the flatlands of Norfolk in a regionalised Junior 2nd (really 3rd) division match. To set the scene, Norfolk have two teams and Kent one in this local division.

The two counties agree that it's pretty silly for Kent to travel twice so we agree to take two second teams (you know, a first seconds and a second seconds, or something like that.) It's an ideal opportunity for us to blood new players after all, and that's what we use our seconds for. Bob Taylor (County Secretary) and myself (County Chairman) (pretty high powered stuff) are to be N.P.C.'s (you can't get the staff nowadays) and Bob uses his charm to persuade his boss to give us the loan of a thirteen seater mini-bus.

0810 hours. RT says good morning to said mini-bus at Tonbridge waits patiently for glow plugs to warm and sets off for his first pick-up of the day, me, wounded biceps triceps, and all from home in the peaceful setting of Crowborough. Thence back to Tonbridge to meet the first of our charges for the day, both coming up from the middle reaches of the county.

Next stop is Farnborough where three more, including one of the girls will be welcomed aboard. On arrival players are waiting and CW decides that the condemned men should eat a hearty breakfast before continuing to Dartford Tunnel to collect the remaining crew.

### Patience

So we order and we wait, and wait ... CW, who as everyone knows, is a paragon of patience, gets a little annoyed. Breakfast is cancelled and on rumbling tummies off we go to the Tunnel. Remainder are waiting and with all seats full and twenty minutes late forward to the wilds we go. RT has decided to travel via M25, A12, A140.

We pass by several red and white eating houses rumbling tummies by now reaching a crescendo threatening to outdo the diesel rattle of the engine, several pairs of legs are looking distinctly crossed, when, salvation, as we turn onto the A140 a sickly green and white building with an Irish sounding name greets us on our left and serves FOOD.

RT and CW decide that we've got forty five minutes. Anxious staff look first at this mass descending upon them, secondly their eyes dart fleetingly towards the exits (why do small parties

have this effect on "fast" food eating houses?) Anyway, as usual, the time elapsed exceeds the time allowed and we're late but comfortable. Next stop Norwich. We arrive, we play, we're conquered, we depart.

RT and CW consult on the homeward route and decide on the A11, M11, M25 and we'll stop on the way. CW knows this area fairly well and has pinpointed in his mind every possible funny hat and strange smiling creature in existence upon this highway. The first one sits by the side of the motor racing circuit at Snetterton but it's too close to Norwich so we drive on as the next one is only about 30 minutes south of Thetford. We arrive to a crowded car park and being quick-witted as all Kentish folk are we decide not to stop.

### Empty seats

RT turns the brute round, CW says next stop smiling creature 25 minutes down the A45. Reach smiling creature, looks hopeful, not many guests, lots of empty seats. Smiles transfer to attendant little faces, mouths water and we wait at the sign to be seated, and we wait, and wait ... Supervisor spots us after an age adds up quite quickly that we are not your average family. "How many are you?" he asks. "Thirteen," comes the confident reply. "Have you booked?" "No" we retort, hearts sinking. "You must book if there is more than twelve, I've only got two staff and myself on and we're only open in half the restaurant, but if you'd like to wait for ten minutes or so we'll try to fit you in".

At this time a more than usually observant junior points out a family over the far side who have not yet been served and are playing a game of cards. We decide that this is not a good omen and maybe we'll try the last funny hat before the M11, after all it's only 20 minutes down the road. On arrival scouting party of one boy sent to investigate, doesn't look hopeful. Scout reports back only eight spare seats. Needless to say, onward we travel.

CW informs attentive audience of a funny hat just outside Harlow off the M11 and says between rumbles that we'll try there if the run down is trouble-free. It is and

we do. It looks really hopeful, lots and lots of empty seats, enough car parking spaces to park several squadrons of Chieftan tanks and still lose the odd coach or ten. CW tells slightly-thinner-by-now group "Right, go in in small bunches of four or five and we're bound to be okay". First wave departs (moving faster than they had around a T.T. table earlier in the day). Second salvo disappears. RT and CW bring up the rear. Horror! First wave returning to report 'burst water pipe, no more eaters, closing up! Ah, says CW, I know of one more place to try, we go off the M25 at J28 and head towards Brentwood. A nice little Sir Charles's four star place with a coffee shop hides there.

### Limited charm

Onward, arrive at four pronged place, CW takes charge and goes off in search of coffee shop supervisor. Turns on his (by now) more limited charm and pleads for FOOD for 13 hungry people. Success. Group descends is fed and watered (one group of boys almost receiving more than they bargained for from one waitress).

### After midnight

CW pays bill (expensive) and journey continues. So some 350 miles later and well after midnight RT able to tuck Iveco in bed. Moral of sad stories? DON'T TAKE FULL MINI-BUS TO LITTLE RED AND WHITE HOUSES.



Chris Wright

## THE ABBOTTS by BOB CLARK

MEET Chorley Borough's star table tennis quintet – The Abbot family from Shaw Brow, Whittle-le-Woods. Seventeen-year-old Darren who has been a Chorley Table Tennis Club regular since his early teens, was joined at the start of this season by younger brother Kevin (15) and 13-year-old triplets Craig, Tracey and Julie.

The five youngsters have earned successes in a number of competitions since first learning the game at St John's Primary School, Whittle-le-Woods. Darren played until recently for Preston Juniors and has now been followed by brother Craig. All of the triplets are ranked in the Lancashire Cadets.

All five go for regular coaching with Tony Rigby at Clayton Green Sports Centre and they love the game.

## Grove go International

by IAN MARSHALL

MARKET Drayton's Grove Table Tennis Club continues to thrive in the small North Shropshire town and now boasts an international flavour added to its activities. Players from across the border in Wales have been regular supporters of Grove events but the distances grow.

In August Grove played in the Wenduine Open in Belgium, in October the club won their opening match in the ETTU Nancy Evans Cup with John Souter, Jimmy Stokes and Sean Gibson flying to Luxembourg to beat D. T. Schffleng 5-0 (on the same weekend a party of eight from Namur, Belgium were playing in the Grove School Junior Open).

However, the school half-term will no doubt prove the most hectic with a party of 49 players and supporters from St Chely d'Apcher in France joining a 19 strong party from D. T. Stroossen (Luxembourg) in a series of friendly matches, whilst on November 6th Grove face Postas Budapest from Hungary in Round 2 of the ETTU Nancy Evans Cup at Grove School.

# No medals for arenas in Britain

by THE EDITOR

TRAVELLING round England in the last 15 years I have visited more than 50 leisure and sports centres. Some of them are splendid establishments with an enormous range of facilities under cover.

In the past three years, I have seen and worked in quite exquisite venues in Tokyo, New Delhi, Yugoslavia, West Germany and most recently, Paris, arenas which can seat 2,000 - 20,000 people.

Built in 1983, the Palais Omnisports de Paris-Bercy on the banks of the Seine in south-east Paris can seat up to 17,000 people.

## Steel mass

Sports at international level which enjoy the facilities there include tennis, table tennis, volleyball, cycling, football, basketball, hockey and ice-hockey.

The ceiling area of the building is a mass of steel walkways and lighting equipment used principally when the hall is utilised for pop concerts. The sound system has to be heard to be believed.

The external appearance of the stadium is unique. Most of the walls are real grass, at a 45 degree angle. The question inevitably arises, how do they cut the grass? The answer is that they have special machines on rails.

## Cost trebled

The cost of the venue is said to be 30million US dollars and it trebled during the construction.

There was political conflict during the construction period. Jacques Chirac, the French prime minister, was alleged to have negotiated building contracts with those on his side of the political fence.

## Hideous

Despite its splendour the Bercy stadium has only one lift and that is in the part used mainly by staff and not the general public.

On the fifth level there are refreshment bars with no seats. No alcoholic drinks are available and there is no public restaurant.

The last world table tennis championships were held in February 1987 in New Delhi, where the only splendid buildings I saw in a fortnight were the Taj Mahal and the stadium in Delhi, the largest indoor arena in Asia.

## One lift

Most of these constructions look hideous on the outside but inside they are quite breathtaking.

Even the smaller cities seem to have fine sporting venues abroad. I visited Karlsruhe in West Germany in February for the table

tennis pre-Olympic trials and once again, the people living there were enjoying several fine stadiums.

Back in Britain in 1977 when England staged the world table tennis championship, 70 nations took part. The tournament was staged at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham where a special arena had to be constructed at enormous cost. The English Table Tennis Association took seven years to re-balance their books after carrying the financial burden.

## No change

The situation in England has not changed a great deal - racquet sports like badminton and table tennis have little to choose from when they search for a stadium to attract and seat comfortably even 10,000 people.

## Victoriana

The English choice is between the 40-year-old Wembley Arena or the Victorian Albert Hall in West London. There are multi-purpose sports centres almost everywhere where moveable seating can be placed for up to 1,200 people.

In my last 20 sporting assignments abroad, the events have taken place in superb stadiums, largely subsidised by government finance with crowds of up to 17,000 people.

## Old Wembley

In England or Britain it is a case of making ends meet with old stadiums or buildings like Wembley.

One of the most modern buildings within sight of the Eiffel Tower in Paris is the Palais de Omnisports at Bercy. It can seat up to 17,000 people and is used for many sports and for pop concerts.

BRITISH ARENAS  
WELL BEHIND  
THE TIMES . . .



Even in smaller cities like Karlsruhe, West Germany, there are several indoor stadiums like this one, the Europahalle which will seat 5,000 people. The player in action is Carl Prean from Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, the England number three and a potential European champion.



This weird looking stadium is the Indira Gandhi stadium in New Delhi. It housed the 1987 world table tennis championships and seats about 20,000 people, the largest indoor stadium in Asia. The tourist studying the city guide is Ron Crayden, a former England table tennis from Surrey.



# British police team in Europe tour

by CHRIS JACOB

THE British Police Table Tennis Team have just completed an enjoyable week tour of Europe. The idea of matches against the Dutch, German and French teams was discussed at last year's AGM. Chris Budden, our secretary, then got in contact with his counterparts in Europe and the idea suddenly became reality.

The teams of 8 men, 4 vets and 2 ladies were selected and arrangements made for the teams to meet at Harwich for sailing to the Hook of Holland. On arriving in Holland it soon became apparent that Chris had done a lot of work, and this was going to be different to most European tours, as we were met by a Police vehicle as soon as we got off the ferry, and were then taken straight through customs etc without being stopped. (Several people commented that they would like this arrangement on our return to England!)

We were then taken to a local youth hostel, where we were given several gifts in the bar. On the Sunday the first match against the Dutch Police started off just like a normal international match with the teams being led in, introduced and then the National Anthems being played.

This was a new experience for all of the party, with the exception of our two ex Scottish internationals, and most people had a lump in their throats. The teams selected were: Keith Rodger (3), John Hawkins (1) (our two ex internationals) and Chris Jacob (1), for the first team which won 6-4. Martin Speight (2), Greg Saville (0), Jim Craggs (1), Sue Anderson (1), and Linda Crawford (1), for the 2nd team, which drew 5-5, and Bill Ingram, Bob Mitcham and John Fryer winning 10-0 for the vets.

After the matches we were taken to a Dutch restaurant, where we all had to cook our own meat on small stoves. Unfortunately when we returned to the car park where our mini buses were, one of the windows had been smashed and several people had coats stolen. The thieves obviously were not table tennis players as all the players had left their table tennis bats and clothes on the bus and these were not taken. After this point Keith Rodger, who had had his expensive leather coat stolen, carried his table tennis bat with him every where he went.

With the assistance of the Dutch Police we managed to get the window repaired (at a huge discount) and continued our journey into Germany. In Germany we were put up at the Police H.Q. in Wuppertal in very good accommodation. During our first night in Germany, some of our party were introduced to Applecorn for the first time. The



British Police Team, back row:- Keith Rodger, Chris Jacob, Dave Newton, John Hawkins, Greg Saville, Chris Budden, Jim Craggs, Martin Speight.  
front row:- Linda Crawford, John Fryer, Bill Ingram, Allen Nicholls, Bob Mitchum, Sue Anderson.

game against the German Police did not appear to be so organised as the Dutch game. The first team of Keith Rodger (3), Dave Newton (2), John Hawkins (1) and Martin Speight (3) won 11-3. The second team of Chris Jacob (3), Jim Craggs (2), Chris Budden (2) and Bob Mitcham (2) won 10-4. The vets, Bill Ingram, Alan Nicholls and John Fryer won 10-0. The ladies, Sue Anderson (2) Linda Crawford (2) and guest player Jenny Budden won 6-4.

We were then taken out for a night tour of the Pubs in Desselendorf and were told by our hosts that we would lose to the German League team we were playing the next day. This made the players even more determined. The 1st team of Rodger (3), Newton (1), Jacob (2) and Speight (3) won 11-3. The 2nd team of Hawkins (2), Saville (2), Craggs (0) and Budden (2) fought out a hard 7-7 draw.

The vets team of Ingram; Nicholls, Mitcham and Fryer continued to sweep all before them winning 14-0 and the ladies, Anderson (3), Crawford (2) and Budden (0) again won 6-4.

The farewell party then went well into the early hours, which meant that most people did not get much sleep before the journey to France. Before leaving, we had to stop at a German shop for the party to stock up with bottles of Applecorn. All of our party were now in good spirits, (both on the table, where we were unbeaten and in the amount consumed!!).

seating capacity of over 1000, and as the match got nearer the seats began to fill up. We then noticed that people were queuing up to get the autograph of one of their players. Enquiries were made and it appeared the French team had several international players, including Patrick Renverse! As expected the first team of Rodger (2), Newton (0) and Jacob (1) lost 7-3. The second team of Hawkins (2), Saville (3) and Budden (2) did well to win 7-3.

So we lost our unbeaten record. Several of our party said it was due to the exhausting schedule we had, as all our hosts wanted to show us their sights, and we had trips on overhead railways, canals and cathedrals etc etc as well as the table tennis matches, receptions and farewell parties.

But I think we would have lost to the French, even if we had been fresh, our only hope would have been to break Renverse's leg!!

Still we did beat them at ten pin bowling. Another unfortunate incident was, that during the night a thief entered rooms whilst we were asleep and relieved some of our party of their money. Still it showed us that it is not only in England that we have thieves, as we had them in both Holland and France, thank goodness we were in Police accommodation in Germany. As a result of this tour all of these countries have been invited to return to England (and Scotland) and this has been accepted.

## NORTH WALES COUNTIES TTA

by C. T. BAYLISS

IN the Wrexham League Div. 1. Griflex have made an early start to their challenge for the title with three wins, however they are closely followed by Groves 'B' team and also Groves 'A'.

Griflex team are Brian Ellis, Barry Robertson and Martin Furber, and the Groves 'B' Hadyn Young, Neil James and Stuart Conway, and Groves 'A'. Justin Evans, Paul Griffiths and Paul Robertson.

### Locked at top

In Div. 2. both Telecoms 'A' and Wrexham Old Boys 'C' are locked at the top with 29 points each. The Telecoms side being Don Wragg, Colin and Stephen Jones and the Old Boys 'C' are Natasha Williams, Brian Wilson and Brian Hall.

The situation in Div. 3. are that Wrexham Social Club for the Disabled are so far leaders followed by new club Llandegla and Groves Junior 'B'.

On 8th October a special treat was had by everyone present at

the Flint Leisure Centre, when the touring Chinese players gave a most enjoyable feast of Table Tennis, they first played against a team which included Andrea Holt, Mark Hankey, Jonathan Taylor and Derek Schofield.

Afterward the visitors then demonstrated their skills with a series of singles and doubles games in which everyone was entertained by the exhibition which they presented.

### Send in news

The evening's Table Tennis was presented by Datsun who have now a factory on Deeside, special thanks should also go the Delyn Borough Council for their assistance in the arrangements.

With the new season now underway we are hoping that our Leagues in the North Wales area will send their news to me:

C. T. Bayliss,  
11 Crathie Place,  
Rhosddu,  
Wrexham.  
Tel. Wrexham 365562

# Cadets in Midlands and Midland League

## Heart of England Cadet TT League

by BRIAN ASTON

A RECORD number of 15 teams launched the 1st session of the league at Kenilworth. Birmingham are the early leaders with an undefeated team of Nicola and Steve Meddings and Ian Ferguson.

Four other teams with maximum wins were Leamington 'A', Swadlincote 'A', Banbury 'A' and Evesham.

Nuneaton and Rugby fought a draw, with Paul Blackman the only undefeated player for Rugby.

Birmingham Schools had a useful win over newcomers Stratford with a 9-1 success. Chris Taylor and Paul Du Cross winning three and Sam Barney two. Susan Clarke had a deuce win over Sam Barney for the consolation singles. The two Banbury sides had close games of 6-4. The 'B' side going down 4-6 against Rugby and the 'A' side defeating Coventry 6-4.

### RESULTS

Coventry 6	Leam B 4
Banbury A 10	Leam B 0
Swadlincote A 10	Leam B 0
Leam A 8	Walsall 2
Banbury B 0	Leam A 10
Swadlincote B 0	Leam A 10
Stratford 2	Evesham 8
B'ham Schools 9	Stratford 1
Nuneaton 3	Evesham 7
Nuneaton 5	Rugby 5

Swadlincote B 0	Rugby 10
Birmingham 10	Walsall 0
Birmingham 10	Banbury B 0
Banbury A 10	Kidderminster 0
Banbury B 4	Rugby 6
Banbury A 6	Coventry 4
Swadlincote A 7	Walsall 3
Swadlincote A 9	Kidderminster 1
Nuneaton 3	B'ham Schools 7
Birmingham 10	Kidderminster 0
Evesham 10	Swadlincote B 0

### Cadets Table

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Birmingham	3	3	0	0	6
Leamington A	3	3	0	0	6
Swadlincote A	3	3	0	0	6
Banbury A	3	3	0	0	6
Evesham	3	3	0	0	6
Rugby	3	2	1	0	5
Birmingham Schools	2	2	0	0	4
Coventry	2	1	0	1	2
Nuneaton	3	0	1	2	1
Walsall	3	0	0	3	0
Stratford	2	0	0	2	0
Banbury B	3	0	0	3	0
Kidderminster	3	0	0	3	0
Leamington B	3	0	0	3	0
Swadlincote B	3	0	0	3	0

## MIDLAND LEAGUE

by KEVIN SHAW

THE highly successful and popular Midland League will open its 1988/89 account for the first time with a three person committee, following the sad death of Maurice Goldstein, who founded the league and run it practically single-handed for close on fifty years. It is perhaps a fitting tribute to Maurice that a committee was formed to take over his duties.

This season sees 11 divisions: 3 Men's divisions, 3 Junior, 3 Veterans, 1 Women's and 1 Intermediate division.

Handling the affairs will be; Don Prichard (Chairman), Brian Lloyd (Secretary/Treasurer), Kevin Shaw (Fixture Secretary/Press Officer). John Barber decided to retire from the Press Officer's role due to ill health.

Kevin brings with him from the Potteries a fully computerised system that will be put into operation.

Last year's Men's Division 1 champions Gloucester open their account against Nottingham. Whilst newly promoted Gloucester 'B' and Dudley meet in their opening fixture.

Nuneaton and Chesterfield could emerge as favourites for the second division title, and they will meet in their first match. Last year's Division 3 champions Stafford visit Lincoln.



### FESTIVE SEASON REMINDER

PUBLISHING on time for the next issue of this magazine is obviously threatened by the Christmas and New Year holidays. But, it is possible that the printers can keep any delays to a minimum providing that our contributors send copy as quickly as possible. So, copy please before the normal deadlines when possible over the next two issues.



## GREAT NEWS FROM CHANNEL 4!

### THE LEEDS TESTS

## ENGLAND versus CHINA

from Aylesbury Civic Centre



<b>CHANNEL 4 WEDNESDAY 28th DECEMBER</b>	<b>12.00 noon – 1.00 pm</b>
<b>CHANNEL 4 THURSDAY 29th DECEMBER</b>	<b>12.00 noon – 1.00 pm</b>
<b>CHANNEL 4 FRIDAY 30th DECEMBER</b>	<b>12.00 noon – 1.00 pm</b>

\* 3 HOURS OF TOP CLASS, THRILLING TABLE TENNIS \*

\* 3 SEPARATE TEST MATCHES \*

\* FILMED BY "CHEERLEADER" WHO PRODUCED THE SUPERB \*  
LEEDS EURO-ASIA COVERAGE IN FEBRUARY 1988

*Most of your members will be on holiday after Christmas so please let them know about the Channel 4 coverage through your League Newsletter.*

**TUNE IN TO TABLE TENNIS!**

**TUNE IN TO CHANNEL 4**