



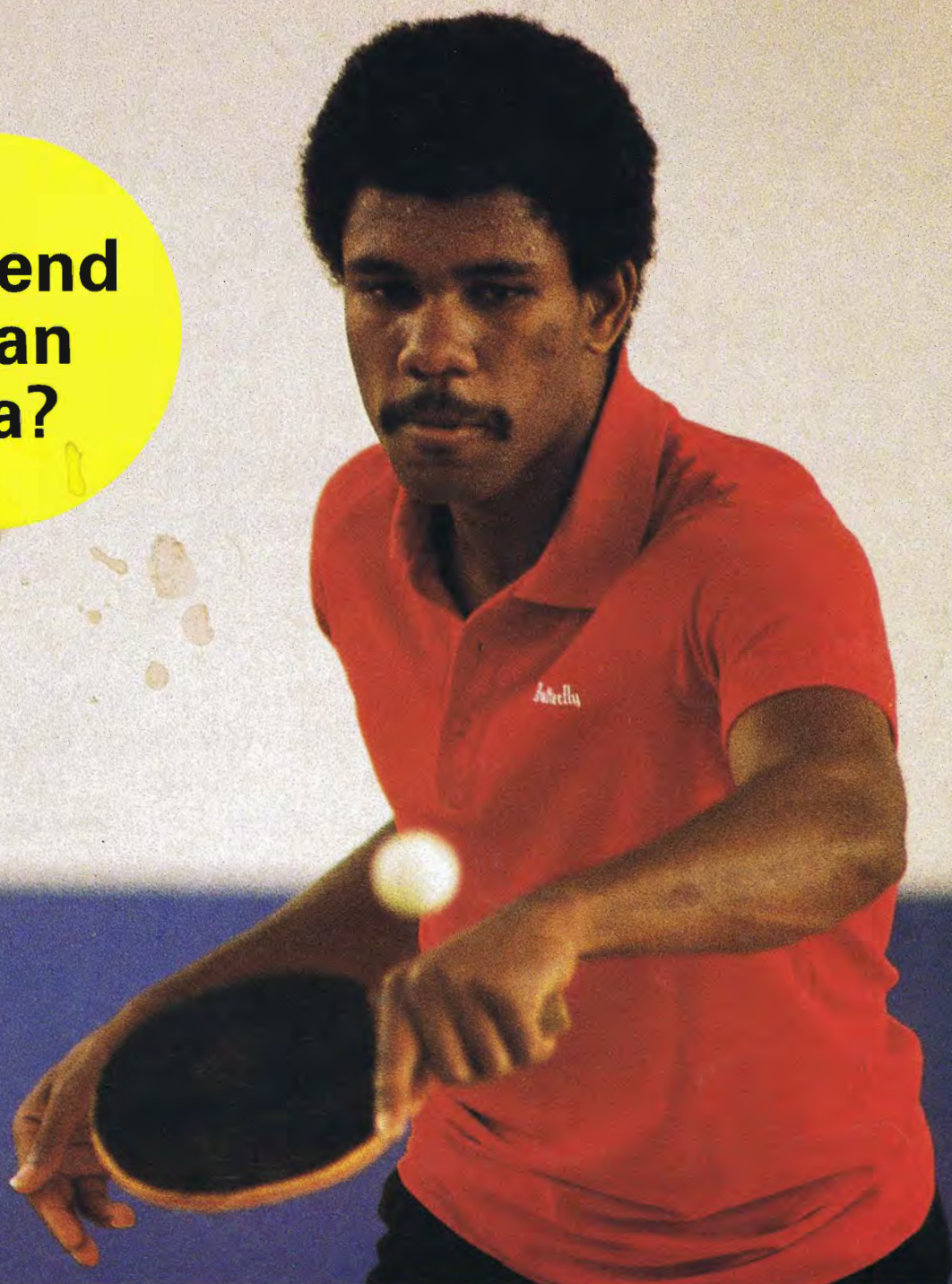
# *Table Tennis News*

No.179

JANUARY 1989

90p

**The end  
of an  
era?**



**John  
Jaques**

**England's longest serving No. 1's  
Desmond Douglas – 10 years  
Jaques tables – 91 years**

# The star continues to twinkle . . .

WHATEVER lies ahead in the second half of the season, the state of English table tennis in this week of January, looks much brighter than it did twelve months ago, when Desmond Douglas was banned from playing in the European Top-12 because he could or would not play against the visiting Asians.

Right now, our star from Walsall refuses to stop twinkling. He was best man in Seoul, he reached the semi-finals of the French Open, is a brilliant doubles partner against the best men in Europe and to my pleasant surprise he accepted the invitation to play for Europe in Asia and is now in the Far East, dazzling the Asian crowds with his flashing reflexes.

Also last year, we were recovering from a players boycott of the English Top-12 over controversial eleven points a game. Now, common sense has prevailed and we have a delightful piece of streamlining with normal scoring at Clacton and a one-day event, saving so much time and money and another valuable sponsorship by Stiga who are also picking up the bills at the European Top-12 in Charleroi, Belgium in a few weeks time.

Fast approaching we have seven days play at the Butterfly Commonwealth Championships in Cardiff starting on March 15, two days rest and its off to Dortmund for the World Championships. In both events we shall have at least five players capable of creating the most gigantic upsets on a par with Nicky Mason's astounding win against Andrei Mazunov in Moscow. We have never had that number of twinkling stars before, so let us hope we have some lucky points as well and we hit our promotion target in the European League, possibly the most important goal for England.



*Desmond Douglas  
the England No. 2*

### Sober editorials?

One of the interesting facets of editing this magazine is that you get information from all parts of the country, so do the ETTA of course, but they do not always reveal everything, who would expect them to? My editorials have been described as "sober", a comment I am happy with because it suggest realistic appraisal. I am also happy to report that the number of bright spots in the battle to halt declining membership has increased, but the current overall trend is a decrease of between five and six per cent, according to how far back the comparisons are taken.

**JOHN WOODFORD**



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

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**Advertisements:**  
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Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle,  
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Tel: 061 488 4002

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

**COPY DATE**  
February 1  
Issue 181, March 1989

Printed by:  
BELMONT PRESS LTD  
409 Harlestone Road  
Northampton Road  
Northampton  
NN5 6PB  
1989 1141

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### ★ COVER PICTURE

DESMOND DOUGLAS, the greatest English table tennis player some say since Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach and Victor Barna. Desmond was our best man in Seoul, our best man at the French Open. He has just lost his No. 1 position on the England ranking list, but who knows, he could come back!





# SIDE COURTSIDE

Compiled by

JOHN WOODFORD

## Come to Belgium in February...

CHARLEROI is a charming Belgian town some 40 miles south of Brussels. It is the Venue for the Stiga European Top-12 tournament on February 3,4,5 - so how about a trip for the England supporters, who we now know, will be able to watch Des Douglas try to regain his title he landed in 1986.

### Rapid service

The event is of course being run by the Belgian TTA - the Federation Royal Belge de Tennis de Table. I have been to Charleroi and seen the venue when I watched England carve up Belgium in the European League last season and I can assure fans who are thinking of travelling that it will be a comfortable ride on the Dover-Ostend ferry and then a rapid and regular train service down to Charleroi.

The venue is just within walking distance of the hall, the Complexe Sportif de la Garenne, unless the Belgians have moved the venue, of course.

With Carl Prean at No. 13 on the European list and going well, there is every chance that he also will be playing in the men's event at Charleroi.

## Chinese mix-up in Zagreb

LIKE every other organisation the European Table Tennis Union makes mistakes, few bigger than passing a rule that forces players to play in one tournament with a penalty that they cannot play in another, e.g. the Euro-Asia matches and the European Top-12, a matter that could result in a complaint of trade restriction by professional players, a view shared by Johnny Leach wearing his journalistic hat.



Donald Parker, England.

Another case arose recently where the ETTU representative displayed a stubborn attitude. In Zagreb at the Yugoslavian Open an obvious mistake occurred when the names of two Chinese players were mixed up - Wang Too and Wang Hao. Wang Too was seeded in error and as a result Alan Cooke was unseeded and Waldner was landed with three top players in his half!

Now, we all make mistakes, but this one appears so obvious that it should have been corrected immediately. Instead the English and Swedish captains had to pursue the matter non-stop until 30 hours later the tournament was re-drawn.

As Don Parker rightly says, "With professional players and livelihoods at stake, this type of attitude cannot prevail otherwise there could be a breakaway circuit."

Two examples of the ETTU pushing its luck, pushing around professionals as if, as they were in days gone by, mere amateurs.

## The latest on Chinese marriages

HUI JUN, one of the delightful bunch of players to represent China on the recent tour of England is to marry later this year.



Hui Jun

His bride a silver medallist in Seoul is another member of the Chinese national squad Li Huiifen holder of the English Open title, won under The Leeds sponsorship at the Brighton Centre, eleven months ago. Li is currently ranked No. 7 in the world and Hui No. 12.

In a conversation conducted through an interpreter in Manchester, journalists learned that Chen Xinhua's marriage plans to his Manchester-based fiancée have been put on ice.

The other surprise was that we saw no more of him on the tour after Stalybridge, where he did the exhibition. Bit of a mystery man is our Mr Chen, He is however, contracted to play for Butterfly Ormesby in the Leeds

British League in a number of key matches and alongside him are the leading Canadians Joe Ng and Horatio Pintea, plus David McIlroy and John Broe.



Chen Xinhua, Ormesby who beat Nicky Mason at Ashford.

## Nearly all in league

TTN writer Mike Loveder has recently taken the trouble to check the top 200 names on the computer rankings against the Leeds British League registrations.

The result shows that no less than 187 are registered in the league, comforting reading for those who campaigned for the league before its birth.

## WORLD TABLE TENNIS

THE ITTF magazine has been discontinued and will be replaced by two new publications - *Table Tennis Year* and *Table Tennis Digest* - details of which will be announced in due course. Subscribers to *Table Tennis World* will be offered options for using up their credit balance.

## SAMARANCH TROPHY

DETAILS will be announced later of a table tennis and handball tournament called the Samaranch Trophy to be played in Seoul on September 16th and 17th, 1989. China, Japan and several other Associations will participate in men's and women's events.

This preliminary announcement is to ensure that no other major tournaments are scheduled for this period.

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

### 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
Mar 29	Apr 9	40TH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	Dortmund FRG
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

# Syed victory over Gatien!

Report by  
**PAUL HEWITT**

BATHWICK TYRES Bath, the reigning Leeds British League champions, lost 5-4 after being forced into giving up home advantage, away in Paris against Levallois T.T. Club in the second round of the European Cup who included in their lineup the legendary Jaques Secretin.

This was the Tyres first venture into Europe and for the team, spearheaded by Desmond Douglas, it proved to be a very exciting encounter, with the Bath team recovering from 3-0 and 4-1 deficits to level at 4-4, only to go out of the competition 5-4, to a vastly more experienced team of players whose rankings were well above those of the visitors.

First game on saw Secretin call on all his experience to recover from a 8-1 third game deficit to win 21-18 against Kevin Satchell to put Levallois in front. The Tyres plight got worse when Douglas lost a very close and exciting three game affair with Jean-Phillippe Gatien, both ranked in Europes Top ten, in a game full of attack and explosive counter attack on both sides of the net.

Matthew Syed then brought his own inimitable style to the proceedings, using guile and cunning and tremendous speed around the table, he forced yet another three game affair out of the Home sides Chinese No.1 Lo Chuen Tsung, ranked in the worlds top twenty, only to lose and make the match score a rather depressing 3-0, though with a bit of luck it might have been the other way around.

### Tide turned

The tide was about to turn for the Tyres when Douglas took apart both Secretin and his reputation in straight games. This was achieved by totally dominating the table but temporarily the comeback was delayed, as Satchell still affected by the comeback of Secretin in his first game, was swept aside by Lo and his unorthodox attacks on both forehand and more especially the backhand wings.

Levallois must have thought the tie virtually won, when Gatien, already victor over Douglas, tried to blast Syed off the table, but Syed had other ideas. He dived to all parts of the arena retrieving virtually lost causes, took the first game at deuce, lost the second but took the third and surely his most prized scalp yet. The home side knew they now had a match on their hands.

Douglas against Lo was always going to be a tight affair and he took the first game. Des stepped



Desmond Douglas performed superbly in France. He beat Lo from China and crushed Secretin 14, 7, but Bath lost 5-4.

Picture - Mike Loveder

up a gear, being upset by Lo's time wasting tactics, and flew through the next two with consummate ease to stun the home crowd.

### His hero

Syed was back at the table to play his, and probably many other youngsters, boyhood hero, the great Jaques Secretin and what a game it was. Syed took the first at deuce and to set the seal on his finest performance to date took the second for a fine straight games win, levelling the matchscore at 4-4 with the time now gone midnight, after more than four hours of frantic activity. However the dream was not to be when Satchell, realising that the situation required the game of his life, found that the experience and power gap was too great to make up when facing Gatien, who took Levallois through to the quarter finals.

### Total contrast

The match as a whole was in total contrast to the build up which was full of aggravation and ill feeling, but on the day it was full of everything that is good in the game of table tennis, played



Matthew Syed is one of the best defenders in Europe. He beat the French ace Jean-Phillippe Gatien in France in the European cup, but are defenders threatened with extinction?

in fine conditions, with sportsmanship to the fore, and the hospitality was first rate both on and off the table. It must surely be a matter of much debate as to what might have been had the Tyres not been forced into giving up the precious home advantage, or even if one of the first three games had gone the other way.

### RESULTS

Kevin Satchell lost to Jaques Secretin 10-21, 21-18, 18-21, Desmond Douglas lost to Jean Phillippe Gatien 21-19, 19-21, 19-21. Matthew Syed lost to Lo Cheun Tsung 22-20, 12-21, 14-21, Douglas beat Secretin 14, 7, Satchell lost to Lo -5, -8, Syed beat Gatien 22, -15, 18, Douglas beat Lo 19-21, 8, 10, Syed beat Secretin 21, 17, Satchell lost to Gatien -10, -13.

### JIM BECKLEY

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

## DES DOUGLAS FOR ASIA!

FOLLOWING the fiasco eleven months ago when Desmond Douglas was some would say, outrageously banned from the European Top-12 because he would not play in the Euro-Asia matches in Europe, there is much better news this time.

He will fly out with the European team on Wednesday, January 2.

### The Top-12

Even better news - most of the European players do not like this Euro-Asia format which ideally should be bi-annually - is that Douglas for sure and Prean probably will be in the European Top-12 line-up at Charleroi, Belgium on February 3,4,5, an event that will be sponsored by Stiga.

## BRISTOL CLOSED Championships

- MS: B. Reeves (Nailsea) b. M. Childs (Allies)
- MD: B. Murry (Bristol Club) b. C. Elison (B.W.A)
- K. Phillip (Yate Ridge) b. M. Cohen (Knowl. Bris)
- WS: M. Carey (Allies) b. M. Cohen (Bristol Club)
- WD: M. Carey (Allies) b. S. Hewitt (C.E.G.B)
- D. Sandford (Allies) b. M. Cohen (Bristol Club)
- XD: M. Carey (Allies)/H. Dalton (Knowl and Bris) b. D. Sandford/M. Childs
- VS: R. Sewell (Allies) b. L. Upward
- VD: P. Dominey/R. Smith b. L. Upward/K. Merchant

### TABLE TENNIS NEWS . . .

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## Chinese tour: Huge successes everywhere

I SHALL never forget the background of the first Chinese Tour. The opportunity came soon after I had been elected. We were battling with quite horrifying problems, most of which mercifully we have solved. Our financial position was shatteringly bad. Nevertheless we took our chance and 8 great matches all over England resulted with packed houses and our only TV spot that season. It was a great shot in the arm for Table Tennis.

**The second Chinese Tour**  
When the chance came again, we did not hesitate. The Association was much healthier. We had achieved our own economic miracle. In no time at all 12 organisers came forward, eager and willing to organise one of the matches. There could have been many more. This time three hours of TV resulted and you saw the films on Channel 4 on the 28th, 29th and 30th December from 12 noon till 1 pm. It was great Table Tennis with quite a few surprises. The production company, Cheerleader, which made the memorable Euro-Asia films were again in action.

### Standing Room only

The tour matches themselves, with only one exception, were huge successes. Gates of over 1,000 were not exceptional. In some they were sitting in the aisles, in others there was standing room only, even total sell-outs. I saw seven of the matches and took home some marvellous memories. We only managed four draws and lost the other eight. The Chinese Team was very strong, but often our players were just as good. Our younger players again made advances in closing the gap between the world champions and ourselves. Most matches were excellent contests. In only a few were we conclusively beaten. We lit a lot of flames and started a lot of fires. We put table tennis on the map and took it to a lot of places where international table tennis had not been seen for many years. The local scene will benefit as it once did from those tours of the great Hungarians Barna, Bellak and Szabados in the thirties. There were many spots on local TV, including a 40 stroke rally which I did not see, but heard about, lots of interviews and for the first time some coverage on TV AM and a great deal on local radio.

Our three musketeers of journalism, Richard Eaton, John Woodford and our President Johnny Leach were again magnificent. The first two covered personally every match, a considerable tour de force and some great articles and pictures emerged.



Johnny Leach, MBE.

There was one match in which a number of things went wrong where some spectators expressed disappointment. I have had only happy comments in respect of the other eleven matches. May I ask those who felt they had a raw deal to get in touch with the office who will issue to them free passes in respect of our National Championships (sponsored by the Leeds) to be played in Portsmouth on the 6th and 7th May or our Open (date and venue not yet known) in January 1990. Both of these will be superlative events if all our best hopes are realized.

### The Membership Situation

When these notes were written, full statistics were not available to me. A count of the majority indicates a membership loss of over 3%, but certainly less than 4%. Last year it was just over the 6% and 8% we have had in the past. Only the trends offer some encouragement. The numbers still give cause for concern. A number of leagues have shown increases. Some have shown dramatic falls. I ask all

Leagues to put this subject high on their agendas. How to get new members, how to make them welcome is now an urgent priority. The image of the sport is now much better. It is seen and appreciated far more widely. The major national effort must be backed by a local one as well. A year or so I was gently taken to task. How did the undoubted success of the EuroAsia, for instance, help the membership crisis? So it is encouraging that the Middlesborough League has recorded an increase of 10% this season. No one will ever know the exact connection any more than commercial concerns know how effective all parts of their advertising are.

It was encouraging to learn of the marketing initiatives in Hull and the coaching ones in Norfolk. These are associations who are addressing themselves actively to the task of attracting new members. I learned with pleasure that four associations which disaffiliated in the past are coming back this season. Welcome back.

### Recharged Batteries

My own enthusiasm was greatly stimulated by the Chinese Tour, again meeting old friends and making new ones.

Those were wonderful days to be part of table tennis. It was a particular pleasure to meet Brian Thomas and his team from AVS in Hinckley. Brian sponsors Alan Cooke who has repaid him over the years by being a credit to the game. Brian also sponsored the match in Hinckley which was sold out for weeks ahead and provided a terrific evening.

### Super evening

How can Table Tennis fail with friends like this? In Southampton I met the local sponsor Joe Bernardez without whom the local association could not have staged the match. Joe is Chairman of A & B Homes who build much praised houses in the area. Again, thanks for a super evening.

### Missed the boat

I remember particularly the large contingent that came over from the Isle of Wight, especially those who quite deliberately missed the last boat not to miss the closing parts of the match and had to wait till 6 in the morning for the next. How can the game go wrong with devotion and enthusiasm like that? My thanks also to the many, many people who helped to make the matches such a success. I have not forgotten any of them. They are just too numerous to mention. Those were stirring days. May there be many more.

JOHN PREAN

## ENGLISH SCHOOLS TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

by David Lomas

SCHOOL teams which have fought their way through county qualifying competitions are set to compete in the national stages of the Dunlop National School Team Championships in January.

Twelve Area Finals are due to take place at venues throughout the country - from Plymouth in the South-West to Newcastle in the North East - during the weekend of January 21/22. The winners then go forward to one of three Regional Finals being staged on Sunday, February 19th, at Pontefract, Stroud and Croydon, with those winners competing in the National Finals at Lea Green, Matlock on Saturday, March 11th.

Cumnor House School, Croydon, are bidding to make it a record four consecutive wins in the Boys Under-11 event: they face a rare challenge from the East Sussex winners when they play at Sutton on January 22nd.

The ESTA is again organising an Easter coaching course at Lea Green, from March 28th-31st. The cost is £65. Further details and application forms are available from: Mr. P. H. Burwell, 58 Oaklands, Curdworth, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B76 9HD.

### South of England 2 Star Junior Open

# Mileham: nine "kills" in a row

by MICHAEL GREEN

ONCE AGAIN the Surrey Table Tennis Association used the excellent facilities at Monks Hill Sports Centre in South Croydon to provide the venue for the South of England 2 Star Junior Open over 5th & 6th November.

Over 250 competitors contested the ten events although many of the country's leading lights were absent.

It always seems that the Under 17 Boys' Singles event proves to be the most exciting and competitive. The top seed was Alan Cole from Sussex, but any one of the sixteen seeds had a realistic chance of success.

The two semi-finals were excellent entertainment, full of exciting top-spin rallies and plenty of aggression. Cole came up against the fast improving Brian Mileham from Margate and in a thunderous match the Kent man, seeded at eleven, triumphed 21-17 in the deciding game.

Second seed Damian Holland from Billericay in Essex faced Surrey's own Graeme Connolly in the other semi. Holland's reputation always increases the interest in

his matches but this time he channelled his energies in the right direction and in a highly entertaining and skilful match just managed to win through.

#### Better off

Ranked at eleven in England and being 19 places better off than his opponent, Holland ought to have had the advantage over Mileham but things didn't quite go to plan. He lost the first set easily. A stern lecture from his coach galvanised him in to success in the second. How would the decider go... At 15-10 up Damian appeared to be cruising. But his opponent decided to go for broke and proceeded to hit nine scorching winners in a row. It was tremendous stuff, and Brian Mileham held on to win 21-16 and become South of England champion.

The Girl's Under 17 final was another cliff-hanger. With second seed Linda Radford (E) losing early on to Sara Williams (Mi) seeds one and three contested the final.

#### Comfortable

Top seed Caroline Buckley (Bd) won the first set and looked comfortable in the second. However, Alison Gower from Ingatestone in Essex began to put her game together cutting out the unforced errors. Alison equalised the tie. The decider see-sawed between the two. Caroline began to forge ahead but Alison again played better when behind. She timed it beautifully and Alison Gower took the title 22-20 in the decider.

The only success to cheer for the home supporters came in the Under 12 Boys. Seeded at one, Croydon's own Darren Blake triumphed although Devon's Adrian Vincent had him under pressure in the final.

The event was sponsored by Ray Perrin Sports and Music Management who now look after the interests of Nicky Mason and Glen Baker. Mr Perrin presented the sponsorship cheque to Surrey President Ron Crayden during the Finals Session.



Brian Mileham

#### RESULTS

- U17BS: B. Mileham b D. Holland 12, -13, 16.  
U17GS: A. Gower b C. Buckley -14, 18, 20.  
U17BD: M. Greenwood and S. Rockall b Holland J. Giles 16, 16.  
U17GD: K. Kottasz and E. Kottasz b S. Seaholme and E. Hurling -10, 17, 13.  
U14BS: N. Bradfield b B. Forster 13, 18.  
U14GS: S. Williams b L. Radford 19, 17.  
U14BD: M. Williams and S. Henley b D. Baker and M. Hewitt -16, 14, 19.  
U14GD: L. Heyward and C. Pengeley b Radford and Seaholme 19, -18, 15.  
U12BS: D. Blake b A. Vincent 15, -20, 13.  
U12GS: N. Deaton b S. Ruocco 13, 11.

**ORDER YOUR  
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### Table Tennis News

Today, we draw a little nearer to our ideal of a free Magazine. From this issue all Chairmen and Treasurers of all our member leagues will receive a copy of all issues of Table Tennis News, Secretaries already receive these. All County Chairmen, Secretaries and Treasurers will join the list.

The Magazine is essential to our full enjoyment of the sport as a World Game and to our appreciation of the English game. Feel free to copy any part of the Magazine for your local Newsletter. This is good news not only for our members, but also for Advertisers. At a stroke we achieve a useful increase in our rising circulation and reach important voices in spending decisions. Most of these copies will have a long life, reaching others involved in the management of local associations. For the Magazine under the editorship of John Woodford it is another step forward, for the Association a little of the new income we have generated is filtering back to the grass roots and to those at local level to whom the game owes a lot. This is our way of keeping in closer touch, of thanking you for your efforts and all your hard work for the sport.

A happy New Year to all our Readers.

JOHN PREAN  
Chairman ETTA

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# Douglas: decade of brilliance

by RICHARD EATON OF *The Sunday Times*

SO Desmond Douglas survived as top dog by a whisker. Gossip has it that in the next rankings Alan Cooke may overhaul him. Des has ruled for a decade, with the exception of a brief spell in 1983 when Carl Prean headed him. So such a change would be an occasion for powerful mixed feelings.

Desmond is a great, great player with a unique style and a wonderful record for England. When he goes things won't ever be quite the same again. At the same time Cooke is one of the most impressive professionals I've seen in more than twenty years of reporting. His industry and dedication are outstanding. If anyone deserves to be the great man's successor it is he.

But there are other reasons for feeling ambivalent. The results that may be instrumental in bringing Douglas down are those from the series against China. Now I may be about to make myself unpopular but I am in no doubt that many of those results were not genuine.

### Mysterious

Indeed, I challenge any perceptive neutral observer of table tennis who carefully watched the Chinese throughout the series to deny that something was funny.

When Chen Zhibin, the man with the fastest forehand in the world according to England captain Donald Parker, mysteriously doesn't use it, then the situation is unreal. Or else, these were friendship matches.



Alan Cooke, new No. 1

There were many other oddities. Wang Zhenyi, with the big penholder forehand and Fan Yin Yong, with the big attack on

both wings, sometimes bizarrely backpedalled. Games the Chinese looked likely to win in two straight unexpectedly went the full distance. And the vast majority of the matches were conveniently settled by the final set.

### Honourable

Now I know it's easy to imagine things. I know too that most of the players spoke as though their victories were genuine and that Donald Parker thought so too. I sympathise. The English players mostly played extremely well. They have to train themselves to positive responses if they are to make the minimal improvements that will carry them to the top. Parker, a good and honourable captain, knows that friendship and factual results are difficult and damaging to try to disentangle, and that it is important for his players to convince themselves that the Chinese can be beaten. I believe it is. But not if the truth is obscured by a consensus of silence.

Some ask - why would the Chinese do it? The answers vary. On this tour the Chinese leader, Wang Yaguang, made it quite clear that friendship between nations was the prime purpose and that results were sometimes subservient to this aim. Close results are seen by the Chinese as aiding that.



Richard Eaton

Of course our culture can interpret that as a bit of an insult. Personally I have nothing against it, provided it is done well. On this tour it mostly was. The crowds liked it, the series was a big success, and the players took no exception to it. Indeed only one that I spoke to claimed to have noticed it. It is tempting for a journalist to overlook it too. But is it right that fundamental changes in the rankings be brought about by what happened? I doubt it.

## STOP PRESS

As TTN went to press Alan Cooke replaced Desmond Douglas as the new England No. 1!



### THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

are keen to hear from anyone who might be interested in taking over as **EDITOR of TABLE TENNIS NEWS** from next May when John Woodford will be retiring from the job. Obvious qualifications include some skills with the English language, some dedication to help the sport and something like 18 hours a week from Sept. to April inclusive. Knowledge of printing processes and writing would be advantages but instruction will be available on constructing the pages at what is known as the "paste-up" stage.

Please write to: Ted Wallbutton, Chief Executive,

**ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**  
3rd Floor

Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF

## STOP PRESS

SKYLET Andrew who aims to be No.1 on the England ranking list has reacted predictably with concern at his new one step lower position at No.5. Perhaps he is going to challenge decisions on what events should be included in the computer's calculations. Let us hope all concerned will remain cool. **SECOND STOP PRESS** - Sky is back to No. 4!



**DORTMUND 1989**

## CADETS - AN UNOFFICIAL EUROPEAN RANKING LIST

### BOYS

1. Samsunov Vladimir (Urs)
2. Tran Thierry (Fra)
3. Batorfi Zellian (Hun)
4. Gustavsson Henrik (Swe)
5. Closset Marc (Bel)
6. Varga Zoltan (Hun)
7. Tol Cristian (Rom)
8. Mondello Massimiliano (Ita)
9. Atkinson David (Lux)
10. Johnston David (Fra)
11. Durand Eric (Fra)
12. Gonzalez José (Esp)
13. Lasek Dariusz (Pol)
14. Unterreiner Alexander (Aut)
15. Giustinelli Mirko (Ita)
16. Teke Savas (Tur)
17. Buchberger Dieter (Aut)

### GIRLS

1. Tauschkanova Ekaterina (Urs)
2. Bondarenko Natalia (Urs)
3. Muller Melissa (Hol)
4. Cojaccaru Georgeta (Rom)
5. Negrisoni Laura (Ita)
6. Kuschtsch Oksana (Urs)
7. Pinter Ildiko (Hun)
8. GOODALL KATE (Eng)
9. Poliackova Zuzana (Tch)
10. Rozner Urszula (Pol)
11. MARLING SALLY (Eng)

**A glittering programme next month**

# A Galaxy of February Stars! Big Events for Leeds, Preston

by JOHN PREAN

FEBRUARY sees two major events. Commencing at 7pm on the 9th England meet Belgium in the Leeds European League Match at Leeds Town Hall. (Tickets can be purchased from Keith Shepherd, 24 Hillfoot Avenue, Pudsey, West Yorks LS28 7QN Telephone 0532 577591).

We had thought that the final match against Hungary would decide whether we would at last gain promotion to the Super-League. Then Belgium defeated Hungary 4-3 and this match will be 'Make or Break' for us. If we lose, our chances are negligible. If we win, we are entitled to the highest hopes. Apart from the countries mentioned, Austria with a strong Chinese player (Ding Yi) may prove a joker in the pack.



Andras Podpinka

The Belgians will be strong with two rising stars, Jean Michel Saive and the former Hungarian International Andras Podpinka. They will see to it that it is a tough as well as exciting match. A tremendous amount is at stake. For three years we lost one match per season (winning the other six) but that was enough to keep us down. A good crowd will make all the difference in a close match. Leeds Town Hall is an attractive venue, but the capacity is smaller than we are likely to need. Book early. Make sure of your seats. The sooner you make your move, the better the position you will occupy.

## The Leeds Masters

The LEEDS Masters begins on Friday 10th (starting time 7.00pm) with a number of group matches. These will be



Alan Cooke, the England champion and now the new No. 1

Photo: Neil Chadwick, Wigston, Leics.

concluded on Saturday morning, 11th February (beginning 10.30am) with the semi-finals and final in the early part of the afternoon, televised by BBC Grandstand.

We have assembled some excellent world-ranked players. Our own silver medal winning team from the last European Championships (in alphabetical order) Alan Cooke, Des Douglas and Carl Prean. From overseas will come the rising French star, Jean Philippe Gtien, who set the stadium alight during the European Championships, Andrei Mazunov, who was in the Final and was voted the Player of the Team Events, receiving the Joola Prize, Andrzej Grubba, the winner of the 1988 World Cup in

which he defeated all three Chinese players in straight games, probably the greatest European performance of the decade and finally the World's two greatest defenders of the last 10 years, Liang Ge Liang and Chen Xinhua.

The latter will not have far to travel as he now lives in Manchester. He was a semi-finalist in the last World Championships and a member of China's all conquering gold medal team. He is also a winner of an earlier World Cup. Liang now plays in the German Bundesliga and at 38 is still a great player. He, too, was a member of earlier Chinese World Champion Teams and a semi-finalist in the Singles in Birmingham when we staged the World Cham-

pionships in 1977. He is one of China's all-time greats, a legend. Each group (of 4) will therefore have a defender, a vanishing species. Both players can hit and loop, but they play most of their points some distance away from the table and are great to watch.

It will be a wonderful tournament. The improving financial fortunes of the Association and the sponsorship from the Leeds Permanent Building Society enable us to keep entry charges at ridiculous levels: £2 on Saturday, £1 on Friday. If you book a ticket for Saturday, you get in free on Friday.

## Low charges

The great cast of players and the low charges make a sell-out likely (as was often the case during the Chinese Tour of England). Again you are asked to book early and make sure of your tickets.

The venue is the magnificent Guild Hall in Preston. You will have seen many events on Television which were staged there, notably the U.K. Masters of Snooker, televised in November.



Andrzej Grubba

## Easy access

Preston is easy to get to. It is worth travelling a few miles for this. Tickets can be obtained either from the Guildhall Box Office, Lancaster Road, Preston PR1 1HT (Telephone 0772 58858) or the Association's Offices at Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF (Telephone 0424 722525).

# Mason ousts Andrei Mazunov!

by KEVIN SATCHELL in Moscow

MOSCOW was the venue for the Russian Open championship from 2nd-7th Nov. The England team of Nicky Mason, Matthew Syed, Sean Gibson, Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt was for the most part fighting hard, against a mixture of known and unknown Russian players, all trying to please their home supporters who appreciated a Russian win, but applauded whoever was victorious.

Early in the team event England were unlucky to draw a strong Belgian side in the mens event and an equally strong Rumanian side in the womens event.

A spirited fight by the men saw Mason lose 19 in the 3rd to Saive in the first match and Syed 18 in the 3rd to Gibson in the 2nd. After Gibson and Mason had lost the doubles the Belgians were somewhat flattered by a 3-0 scoreline.

In the Ladies match Lomas and Holt fought hard but were eased out by the Rumanians. Andrea played well to take the Romanian top player (Bedescu) to a 3rd set but in the end the Lancashire girl was just edged out.

After Syed lost his first Singles 19 in the 3rd against a Russian whose was full of very hard fore-hand an backhand loop drives, Gibson set the scene by beating his Russian in a tough match which Gibson eventually dominated.

The Egyptian he played next round went without troubling the



Nicky Mason, beat king of all the Russias!

Picture - Mike Loveder

scorer and so Boris Rosenburg now stood in his way. Rosenburg was shocked when Gibson took a 14-6 lead in the first game. But the home crowd delighted when he fought back to take the first game. Gibson again went storming off in the 2nd only to be caught again but this time took the 2nd at deuce. The Russian eventually

proved too strong and ran out the winner 3-1.

The stage was now set for the one and only Nicky Mason to produce one of his best performances. He eased through his first round Russian and next played very well to oust the European ranked Cabrera in the deciding game. Mason was now fully

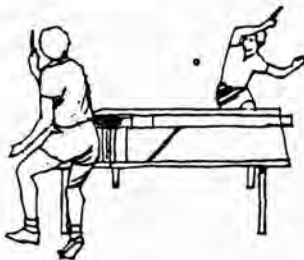


Kevin Satchell

charged up and came head to head with Mazunov the Russian No 1. Half an hour later Mason was saluting the applause of the crowd who had seen their top player demolished 3-0 in typical Mason style.

Mason eventually found himself the loser to the 18 year old Chinese Lin Zhigang who was awkward to say the least. However Mason could consider himself unlucky after leading 16-13 in the decider. A 1/4 final performance which the whole team was proud of.

Lisa Lomas narrowly lost out to a Russian 17 in the 5th after fighting hard and leading 2-1 in games, Andrea Holt won her first game against a Russian, but lost 3-1 in the second round.



Isle of Man Table Tennis Association

## Easter Festival of Sport

Sat & Sun 25th-26th March 1989



At least £500 in Prize Money



**Saturday Team Tournament** This event will be for teams of 2 (two) players, any age, group and sex. Full details are available on request.

**Sunday Open Tournament** of Men's singles & doubles, Women's singles & doubles, veterans over 40 and 50, mixed doubles, junior, Under 14 boys & girls, Under 17 & Under 21 mixed & Under 12.

*Transport available, if needed, to venue in Ballakermeen High School, Douglas.*

**Closing date for entries: 4th March 1989**

Age restrictions as at 31st July 1988

Maximum of 4 events may be entered plus team event.

*Enquiries for travel and accommodation should be addressed to:*

Karen Gibson, Festival of Sport,  
Isle of Man Department of Tourism,  
13 Victoria Street, Douglas, Isle of Man.  
Tel. 0624 - 74323

*Entry forms available from:*

Mrs. M. Mulhearn, "Burnbank",  
Main Road, Higher Foxdale,  
Isle of Man.  
Tel. 0624 - 71-795

# The Leeds County Championships 1

## Yorkshire juniors seem unbeatable

by DOUG MOSS

**JUNIOR PREMIER:** St. Neots again hosted this prime junior event. It is a popular venue with junior players. Yorkshire again indomitable – the team won the 3 matches and dropped only 5 events! The team was without Chris Oldfield but with Michael O'Driscoll, Michael Auchterlonie, Mark Stephenson, Debbie Toole and Joanne Roberts were never troubled. Derbyshire was also unbeaten and Lancs, the almost perpetual runners-up, dropped just 1 point. These top 3 teams meet in the second series.

Devon forced 2 draws – doing well to take the point off Lancs. Devon was 3-5 down when Helen Wright (Dv) beat Maria Thornley – 14, 21, 19! Chris White and Gregory Bridgett (Dv) had previously won the doubles 20, –22, 20. Gregory Bridgett then got the last vital event with a 16 in 3rd win over Darryl Sneyd. Devon did it again when 3-5 down against Bedfordshire. Bedfordshire were promotees – got 1 point – and have an easier programme in the final series. Middlesex, the other promotees, failed to earn a point but had to play 3 of the top 4 teams. Staffordshire, despite the introduction of Lee Jeffries and Nicola Meddings (both ex-Warwicks) were also pointless but they met the top 3 teams.

The tightest event of the series was the Simon Rockall (Mi) and Jason Bamford (Dy) clash which Simon won 18, –15, 24! Rebecca Fisher and Sarah Williams (Mi) had a good doubles win over Debbie Toole and Joanne Roberts (Y) – 23, 18, 20!

Of the boys O'Driscoll and Stephenson (Y) got 100% in singles and doubles and Andrew Eden (La) won all his singles events. The most successful girls were Julie Billington and Nicola Deaton (Dy) who also got 100% in singles and doubles. Debbie Toole and Joanne Roberts were unbeaten in singles and Sarah Pengeley (Dv) also did well to achieve 100%. Jason Bamford and Stephen Hanks (Dy) were wholly successful in doubles as were Barbara Smallwood and Maria Thornley (La).

### RESULTS

Essex	7	Middx	3
Derbys	7	Staffs	3
Lancs	5	Devon	5
Yorks	8	Beds	2
Devon	3	Essex	7
Beds	3	Lancs	7
Middx	4	Derbys	6
Staffs	1	Yorks	9
Staffs	1	Yorks	9
Yorks	8	Middx	2
Derbys	7	Essex	3
Lancs	7	Staffs	3
Devon	5	Beds	5

**VETERANS PREMIER:** The first series of matches were played at "Vymura", Hyde. Cheshire continue to dominate the Veterans scene. They were the only team to win 3 matches, including a defeat of Kent, their nearest rivals.

Promotees Surrey did very well

to win 2 matches, including a good win over Lincs. But they blotted their copybook when beaten 6-3 by Sussex, for whom Keith Horton had excellent wins over Derek Holman and Connie Warren. Sussex went on to beat Lincs. But results are certainly not predictable in this division. Yorkshire, the other promotees, had a hard initiation having to meet Cheshire and Kent. They got a good 6-3 win over Bucks and their programme in the second series gives good promise of continuing at Premier level. The team that suffered was Middlesex. They won 3 events in 3 matches!

In the vital Cheshire and Kent match Henry Buist (K) ended Roger Hampson's 2 year unbeaten record with a 16, 21 win. This was at a vital stage to bring the match score to 4-4. But Derek Schofield made certain of the Cheshire win beating Keith Clark (K) 13, 16. Kent had another exciting finish as the score also stood at 4-4 against Sussex. This time Kent got the win when Clive Morris beat Andy Meads (Sx) – 18, 19, 12.

There was only 1 player unbeaten in singles over the weekend – this was Brian Kean (Ch). Even Doreen Schofield (Ch) lost her 2 unbeaten records in the Champs when she lost to Pat Bassano (Y) 16, –15, –16. With Roger Hampson (Ch) also losing his record Brian Kean's performance for the champions was vital. There were some 100% doubles performances with Derek Holman and Connie Warren (Sy) being unscathed. Two mixed pairings – Paul Shirley and Kay Waters (Bu) and Brian Hill and Connie Moran (Li) – were also unbeaten.

Cheshire look firm favourites to retain the title but still have hard matches to play against Sussex, Surrey and Lincs.

### RESULTS

Ches	6	Yorks	3
Surrey	6	Bucks	3
Middx	2	Lincs	7
Sussex	4	Kent	5
Lincs	3	Surrey	6
Yorks	6	Bucks	3
Kent	4	Ches	5
Surrey	5	Sussex	6
Bucks	8	Middx	1
Yorks	2	Kent	7
Middx	0	Ches	9
Lincs	3	Sussex	6

### VETS 1A

Norfolk	3	Essex	6
Yorks 2.	6	Warwicks	3
Northants	2	Worcs	7

Mick Broughton involved in 3 good wins for Norfolk but Essex on top throughout. Keith Jones (Np) had some hard games in Worcs match. He beat Mervyn Wood 19, 27 and lost to Roy Norton 23, 15.

### VETS 1B:

Kent 2.	6	Middx 2.	3
Hants	2	Herts	7
Sussex 2.	7	Surrey 2.	2
Dorset	4	Oxon	5

Herts continue unbeaten but needed 3 wins at 19 in 3rd to beat Hants.

### VETS 2A:

N'berland	3	Ches 3.	6
Notts	7	Clwyd	2
Lancs 1.	7	Yorks 3.	2

Ches 3 and Lancs lead the way so their match on 7 Jan will be vital. Alf Saunders and Ron Bolton (Ng) won their 4 singles against Clwyd.

### VETS 2B:

Essex 2	9	Hunts 1.	0
Herts 3.	1	Essex 2.	8
Berks 4.	2	Norfolk 2.	7
Essex 3.	1	Hunts 1.	1
Northants 2.	5	Beds 1.	4

Essex 2 and 3 teams are the only unbeaten teams in this Div. – they meet in the next Round! Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire was a hard fought match. Beds led 3-1 but Northants got back to 4-4 and then John Baggat sealed it for the home team with a –19, 19, 16 win over Brian Bowron (Bd).

### VETS 2C:

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

Wilts recorded their first win – over visitors Berks 3. W. Willson made a valuable contribution with 2 singles wins – including the final event vital to the win. Neville and Pat Meredith got the 1 win when Herefords visited Glos. Liz Eyerer (Wi) was involved in 2 of the wins against Surrey. The mixed doubles was close with Liz and Alan Duke beating Sally Bicknell and Ron Wilde – 20, 14, 22!

### VETS 2D:

Berks 2.	6	Somerset	3
Sussex 3	1	Hants 2.	8
Herts 2.	5	Wiltshire 1.	4
Sussex 4.	8	Dorset 2.	1

Berks and Herts 2 are the unbeaten teams in this Div. But Herts were 2-0 down to Wilts so had a fight on their hands. Sylvia Tyler and Derek Holden were the most successful Herts players. Hants 2 looked clear winners but



Jonathan Taylor, Cheshire

against Sussex both doubles were tight with Maurice Shave and Ann Abrahams winning at 18 in 3rd – and Norman Stagg and Graham Lynch went closer with a 19 in 3rd win.

### SENR 2A:

Cumbria	1	Leics 2.	9
Clwyd	1	Lancs 2.	9
Warwicks 2.	5	Ches 1.	5

A well earned point for Warwicks – Ian Gunn and Pete Machin won 4 singles.

### SENR 2B:

Hereford	8	Dorset 2.	2
Cornwall 2	1	Glos	9
Hants	8	Avon 2.	2
Wilts	9	Worcs 2.	1

### SENR 2C:

Beds 1.	5	Herts 2.	5
Cambs 2.	9	Hunts	1
Beds 2.	3	Northants	7
Suffolk 2.	4	Lincs	6

### SENR 2D:

Berks 2.	5	Bucks	5
Essex 3.	3	Surrey 2.	7
Essex 2.	8	Sussex 2.	2
Oxford	6	Kent 2.	4

### JUNR 1A:

Yorks 2	10	Lincs	0
Ches.	6	Durham	4
Warwicks	6	Lancs 2.	4
Notts	9	Hunts 1.	1

### JUNR 1B:

Bucks	4	Berks	6
Somerset	3	Avon	7
Herts	5	Kent	5
Sussex	5	Surrey	5

Herts did well to take a point off Kent, who had easily won their previous matches. But Herts led 5-3 and Kent came back well to save a point.

### JUNR 2A:

Clwyd	2	Cumbria	8
Warwicks 2.	5	Lancs 2.	5
Clwyd	2	N'berland	8
Leics	6	Ches 2.	4

### JUNR 2B:

Middx 2.	9	Berks 2.	1
Middx 2.	3	Worcs	7
Berks 2.	3	Herts	7
Worcs	10	Cambs	0
Herts 2.	2	Worcs	8
Cambs	0	Oxon	10
Cambs	5	Glos	5
Hunts 2.	0	Herts 2.	10
Oxon	6	Hants	4
Hunts 2.	1	Hants	9
Hunts 2.	0	Glos	10

Barry Yates (Ox) initiated arrangements for teams to meet at central venues on 2/3 occasions during the season. The first series took place at Ashford T.T.C. when 11 matches were played on one day. At this stage Worcs is the only unbeaten team.

# The Leeds County Championships 2

## THE COUNTY TABLES at Dec 1st, 1988

Compiled by Les Smith



Claire Potts, Chester.

**SENIORS**

Premier Division	P	W	L	F	A	P
Lancashire	3	3	0	19	8	6
Middlesex	3	2	1	18	9	4
Leicestershire	3	2	1	13	14	4
Devonshire	3	2	1	12	15	4
Yorkshire	3	1	2	14	13	2
Derbyshire	3	1	2	13	14	2
Berkshire	3	1	2	11	16	2
Suffolk	3	0	3	8	19	0

Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Cambridgeshire	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Essex	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Northumberland	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Yorkshire 2nd	3	1	1	1	14	16	3
Warwickshire	3	1	1	1	13	17	3
Worcestershire	3	0	2	1	14	16	2
Hertfordshire	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Norfolk	3	0	0	3	10	20	0

Division 1B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Surrey	3	3	0	0	24	6	6
Kent	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
Middlesex 2nd	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Avon	3	2	0	1	17	13	4
Sussex	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Devonshire 2nd	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Dorset	3	0	0	3	6	24	0
Somerset	3	0	0	3	5	25	0

Division 2A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Lancashire 2nd	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Cheshire 1st	3	2	1	0	22	8	5
Leicestershire 2nd	3	2	0	1	21	9	4
Cheshire 2nd	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Nottinghamshire	2	1	0	1	9	11	2
Cumbria	3	1	0	2	10	20	2
Warwickshire 2nd	2	0	1	1	8	12	1
Clwyd	4	0	0	4	5	35	0

Division 2B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Gloucestershire	4	3	0	1	28	12	6
Hampshire	3	3	0	0	20	10	6
Cornwall	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Wiltshire	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Herefordshire	3	1	1	1	17	13	3
Worcestershire 2nd	4	0	2	2	12	28	2
Cornwall 2nd	2	0	1	1	6	14	1
Avon 2nd	3	0	0	3	8	22	0
Dorset 2nd	2	0	0	2	2	18	0

Division 2C	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Bedfordshire	3	2	1	0	18	12	5
Northamptonshire	2	2	0	0	15	5	4
Lincolnshire	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Cambridgeshire 2nd	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Suffolk 2nd	3	1	0	2	16	14	2
Bedfordshire 2nd	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Hertfordshire 2nd	3	0	1	2	9	21	1
Huntingdonshire	3	0	0	3	5	25	0

Division 2D	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Berkshire 2nd	3	3	0	0	19	11	6
Essex 2nd	3	2	0	1	21	9	4
Surrey 2nd	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Essex 3rd	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Sussex 2nd	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Oxfordshire	3	1	0	2	10	20	2
Kent 2nd	3	0	0	3	8	22	0
Buckinghamshire	3	0	0	3	8	22	0

**JUNIORS**

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

Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Yorkshire 2nd	3	3	0	0	27	3	6
Nottinghamshire	3	2	0	1	20	10	4
Warwickshire	2	2	0	0	13	7	4
Lincolnshire	3	1	1	1	11	19	3
Lancashire 2nd	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Cheshire	3	1	0	2	12	18	2
Durham	2	0	1	1	9	11	1
Huntingdonshire	3	0	0	3	5	25	0

Division 1B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Kent	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
Berkshire	3	2	1	0	17	13	5
Surrey	3	1	2	0	18	12	4
Hertfordshire	3	1	2	0	17	13	4
Avon	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Sussex	3	1	1	1	15	15	3
Buckinghamshire	3	0	0	3	9	21	0
Somerset	3	0	0	3	7	23	0

Division 2A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Northamptonshire	3	3	0	0	22	8	6
Leicestershire	3	3	0	0	19	11	6
Derbyshire 2nd	3	2	0	1	15	15	4
Lancashire 3rd	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Cumbria	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Northumberland	1	1	0	0	7	3	2
Cheshire 2nd	3	0	1	2	13	17	1
Warwickshire 2nd	3	0	1	2	12	18	1
Clwyd	4	0	0	4	10	30	0

Division 2B	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Oxfordshire	4	3	1	0	29	11	7
Worcestershire	3	3	0	0	26	4	6
Hertfordshire 2nd	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Gloucestershire	2	1	1	0	15	5	3
Middlesex 2nd	3	1	1	1	16	14	3
Cambridgeshire	4	1	1	2	13	27	3
Hampshire	2	1	0	1	13	7	2
Berkshire 2nd	4	0	0	4	8	32	0
Huntingdonshire 2nd	3	0	0	3	1	29	0

Division 2C	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Glamorgan	4	3	0	1	27	13	6
Dorset	7	2	2	3	35	35	6
Gwent	3	2	1	0	17	13	5
Cornwall 1st	2	2	0	0	17	3	4
Avon 2nd	1	1	0	0	6	4	2
Devonshire 2nd	3	0	2	1	14	16	2
Devonshire 3rd	3	0	1	2	10	20	1
Wiltshire	1	0	0	1	2	8	0
Cornwall 2nd	2	0	0	2	2	18	0

Division 2D	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Essex 2nd	4	4	0	0	34	6	8
Essex 3rd	3	2	1	0	24	6	5
Surrey 2nd	3	2	1	0	18	12	5
Norfolk 1st	3	2	0	1	19	11	4
Suffolk 1st	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Norfolk 2nd	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Kent 2nd	4	0	0	4	9	31	0
Sussex 2nd	3	0	0	3	6	24	0
Suffolk 2nd	4	0	0	4	6	34	0

**VETERANS**

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

Division 1A	P	W	L	F	A	P
Essex	3	3	0	22	5	6
Cheshire 2nd	2	2	0	14	4	4
Norfolk	3	2	1	16	11	4

Worcestershire	3	2	1	16	11	4
Yorkshire 2nd	3	2	1	14	13	4
Leicestershire	2	0	2	6	12	0
Warwickshire	3	0	3	6	21	0
Northamptonshire	3	0	3	5	22	0

Division 1B	P	W	L	F	A	P
Hertfordshire	3	3	0	19	8	6
Middlesex 2nd	3	2	1	16	11	4
Sussex 2nd	3	2	1	16	11	4
Kent 2nd	3	1	2	13	14	2
Dorset	3	1	2	12	15	2
Surrey 2nd	3	1	2	12	15	2
Oxfordshire	3	1	2	11	16	2
Hampshire	3	1	2	9	18	2

Division 2A	P	W	L	F	A	P
Lancashire 1st	3	3	0	21	6	6
Cheshire 3rd	3	3	0	19	8	6
Nottinghamshire	3	2	1	16	11	4
Yorkshire 3rd	3	2	1	14	13	4
Lincolnshire 2nd	3	1	2	12	15	2
Lancashire 2nd	3	2	1	10	17	2
Northumberland	3	0	3	11	16	0
Clwyd	3	0	3	5	22	0

Division 1B	P	W	L	F	A	P
Essex 2nd	4	4	0	35	1	8
Essex 3rd	3	3	0	20	7	6
Hertfordshire 3rd	4	3	1	22	14	6
Norfolk 2nd	3	2	1	17	10	4
Northamptonshire 2nd	4	2	2	15	21	4
Huntingdon 1st	4	1	3	12	24	2
Berkshire 4th	3	0	3	7	20	0
Bedfordshire	3	0	3	5	22	0
Huntingdonshire 2nd	2	0	2	2	16	0

Division 2C	P	W	L	F	A	P
Buckinghamshire 2nd	4	4	0	29	7	8
Gloucestershire	3	3	0	23	4	6
Berkshire 1st	4	3	1	27	9	6
Surrey 3rd	3	2	1	19	8	4
Berkshire 3rd	4	1	3	17	19	2
Wiltshire 2nd	3	1	2	10	17	2
Hertfordshire 4th	3	1	2	8	19	2
Wiltshire 3rd	4	1	3	7	29	2
Herefordshire	4	0	4	4	32	0

Division 2D	P	W	L	F	A	P
Berkshire 2nd	3	3	0	19	8	6
Hertfordshire 2nd	3	3	0	17	10	6
Hampshire 2nd	3	2	1	17	10	4
Sussex 4th	3	2	1	15	12	4
Wiltshire 1st	3	1	2	1	13	2
Dorset 2nd	3	1	2	10	17	2
Somerset	3	0	3	9	18	0
Sussex 3rd	3	0	3	7	20	0



# British League

Promoted by the English Table Tennis Association



## Ormesby's all-international bid

by MIKE LOVEDER

1989 sees leads being firmly established in most divisions. But the Premier is one exception as there has been little activity among the favourites. Even the 'Big Match', Grove vs Bath was postponed from November 6th until 26th. However, with Kevin Satchell at No 1, Bath pulled off a 5-3 over Butterfly Cardiff despite Alan Griffiths beating Chris Rogers and Colin Wilson.

Ormesby make news again as they recruit the top two Canadians Horatio Pintea and Joe Ng to support Chen Xinhua. This means that John Broe could find himself playing at No 4 in the team. As most of Ormesby's Premier games have been postponed people like Nigel Eckersley and David McLroy could find themselves playing for Ormesby II!

### Burslem battle on

St Neots slowed down the progress of Grove with a draw despite Chris Oldfield taking two comfortably. Jonathon Taylor lost 19 in the 3rd to Stuart Palmer and Stuart Richards lost to Keith Richardson by the same margin. David Morris beat Stephen Moore 16, -16, 19 to square the match at the halfway stage.

Challengers Britannia Ipswich drew against West Warwicks although John Kitchener beat Adrian Dixon and Barry Johnson. Phil Logsdon beat Andy Rich at 20 in the 3rd. City of Leeds move up a place with a massacre of Lincoln. Leeds beat Ruston Marconi Lincoln 8-0 but Bennie Robertson experienced difficulty with Stephen Yallop, scraping through -10, 12, 23. Pointless Burslem took 3 games from Kettler Sport with Craig Bakewell and Mark Evans beating Adrian Moore in 3 ends. Eddie Wilkes beat Stan Deakin in the last game of the day.

### Dolphins drowned in Ramlosa

TSP Larkhall's recruitment campaign is showing signs of paying off already as they secured a draw against a full-strength Plymouth Bulldogs to earn their first point. A rare duck from Dave Harding and John Payne enabled Plymouth to pinch a point. Doleq drew at Rejects and Richard Beckham registered a surprise win over Steve Ward who had beaten Paul Elphick and Ritchie Venner when Doleq lost 3-5 to Dolphins. A Wellmanless Ruislip beat Ramlosa 5-3 as John Taylor chopped off Ian Attridge 10 and 14 for a 5-1 lead. Richard Darnell took his two and beat Andy Cunningham 20, -28, 19.

Shock of the first half must be the Horsham Dolphins loss to Team Ramlosa Essex after leading 3-0. This takes any existing pressure off C&L Ruislip. Richard Darnell inflicted the most damage with wins over Paul Elphick and Andy Dodd. Relentless Ruislip



Julie Billington, Derby.

beat Dagenham 6-2, all games won 2-straight. Tony Penny beat Andy Cunningham and Richard Jermyn beat John Taylor for Dagenham's two consolation games.

### Ormesby knocked off

Well-Connected Wellingborough pasted Vymura 6-2. Andrea Holt lost two but Graham Clarke beat Graeme McKim. Adrian Pilgrim stood out for WCW beating Clarke and Derek Schofield. WCW beat RM Leicester by the same score and most noticeable was Andy Edmonds win over Maurice Newman -7, 10, 9. Vymura knocked Ormesby clean off the top of the division with a 6-2. Ormesby only just took their two from Mark Hankey who lost 19 and 17 in the third to Malcolm Corking and Stephen Cooper respectively.

Oldham beat Chan 7-1 with all the last 4 games being won in 3. Andy Cockerill beat Leigh Howard to prevent a whitewash. March beat Grove 7-1 with Maurice and Julie Billington a little short on their luck. Julie lost 19 in the third to Gary Jordan and Maurice 18 in the third to Geoff Davies.

### Chelmsford are challenging

Deptford Rams at full strength beat a depleted Ashford 5-3 at

Dulwich Baths. There being no Max Crimmins or Kenny Jackson it was left to Phil Bradbury to open with a 15 in the third win over David Goode. At 4-3 Rams' Pardus Ademakinwa beat Bill Brookman 16, -7, 8 having earlier lost to Sean Homer. Cardiff's Paul Lewis beat Tommy Cutler 18, 19 to stop a whitewash by Chelmsford. Grant Solder looked devastating winning 3 of his under 10.

Cheltenham Saracens held Ashford to a draw to demonstrate the repercussions of an injured Dave Hannah. Dave Barr was recruited and won one against Darren Griffin. The surprise for me was Neil Charles beating Graham Slack 17, 17. Dave Harvey beat Simon Griew 19 in the 3rd of the last game. Poole beat Cardiff to consolidate their mid-table position. Chelmsford OC's comprehensively denied Tonbridge of any victory with an 8-0 win. Chelmsford are rapidly becoming this divisions favourites as they open up a healthy lead at the top. Fellows Cranleigh lost 2-6 to Rams despite Paul Sayer and Mark Wicker beating Ray Tilling.

### Thorny problem for Foxwood

Norwich beat Dunstable 5-3 in a very close match in which the score could so easily have been reversed. Richard Stevenson gave Foxwood the edge while Rob Liguorish provided keen resistance winning his two. Since then Thorn Ellenborough crushed Dunstable 7-1 to put them out of the title race for the time being, although 2 games were gained at deuce in the 3rd and 2 at 16 in the 3rd. November 27 saw the climax of the first half with the top of the table clash between Ellenborough and Foxwood - details to appear in next issue!

At the other end CMK and Levi's Westfield battle it out for the bottom spot. CMK lost 0-8 to Foxwood and in this match Martyn Stevenson beat Barry White -20, 19, 5. Levi's lost 2-6 to Fel-



Mike Loveder

lows Cranleigh but Kieron Debbs took two from Jason Tendler and Dave Solman.

### Liverpool on top

Liverpool, Hartlepool and Birmingham continue their winning ways. Result of the month in this division must surely be Vymura's 8-0 over Ormesby to steer clear of the bottom spot. Among some contrasting games Steve Dobbins beat Max Holland 3 and 20. Pete Machin was out of luck for Birmingham during their 5-3 win over Crusaders Lincoln. He lost to Kev Rogerson -19, -21 and Lee Hewitt -19, 11, -20. Liverpool stay 2pts ahead with a 6-2 win over Bri-Bar Byker. Andrew Eden was untroubled by Dale Aitkenhead but suffered his first loss to Dave Godbold -17, 11, -17. However Liverpool's Paul Hutchins remains unbeaten.

### Marley on the move

Rejects moved up to 2nd place with 2 wins. They beat Ashford 6-2 in a match which was closer than the score suggests. They gained 3 games at 19 in the 3rd. Paul Carter contested 128pts against Simon Griew but won his two. Rejects also put TSP Larkhall bottom as Scott Greenbrook and Simon Phillips beat the England No 2 veteran Derek Holman on their way to a 5-3 win. Trevor Campbell was trounced by Babs Adedayo who had yet another new combination bat - but he lost -16, -15, to Simon Phillips! It will be interesting to see what happens if Rejects II earn promotion and Rejects I relegatio as both teams cannot play in Div 2 South . . .

Horsham Dolphins extended their lead for the time being with a 6-2 over Phillinger Air. Steve Davis and John Chamberlain lost

# Leeds British League 2

both their games; Martin Lowe beat Paul Barry but lost to Tony Murrell -16, 22, -19. Marley Ashford recorded their first win at the expense of Lambeth 4 Tops as Neville Miller lost in straight games to Phil Saxby and Andy Holstock.

## Barry still bubbling

Specsavers Barry extended their lead with a 6-2 over Doleq Carpets. Marc Simon beat David Buck 3, 11 but lost to Jeremy Hobbs -18, -13. Andrew Pen-duck beat Tony Healan 8, -17, 21 for Doleq's other win. Ramish Bhalla found his form for Fareham against Bath while Andy Creed kept the home team going. Bath led 4-2 before dropping a valuable point as Andrew Ely beat Gary Baldwin 23-21 in the 3rd in the last game of the day.

Fareham dealt a hefty 7-1 blow to Grove IV too. Keith Sillitoe stopped a whitewash with a -11, 12, 12 win over Hampshire's Graham Toole. Bath pulled off a 5-3 win over Reading despite two wins from Paul Savins. Avon No 3 Andy Creed found sufficient form for two comfortable victories over Terry Haley and Wally Allanson.

## RESULTS

**Premier:**

Grove	4 4	Bathwick T
Ormesby	7 1	Armada 400
Ashford	6 2	B Bradford
Bathwick T	6 2	Armada 400
Grove	6 2	B Cardiff
Ormesby	8 0	Chan Cons

**1 North:**

Burslem	2 6	Warwicks
Br Ipswich	7 1	RM Lincoln
Grove	5 3	City Leeds
St Neots	2 6	Kettler Sp

**1 South:**

Doleq C	4 4	Larkhall
Horsham D	4 4	C&L Ruislip
Ramlosa	3 5	Rejects
Plymouth B	4 4	Dagenham

**2 North:**

Grove	--	WC Wellingbro
Chan Cons	--	Vymura Int'1
Oldham	3 5	RM Leicester
Ormesby	2 6	March

**2 South:**

Chelmsford	2 6	Ashford
F Cranleigh	2 6	Cheltenham
Deptford R	6 2	Joll Poole
VS Tonbridge	4 4	B Cardiff

**3 East:**

AHW Comets	6 2	Dunstable P
F Cranleigh	4 4	Br Ipswich
L Westfield	4 4	City of MK
T Ellenbro	4 4	Norwich Fox

**3 North:**

Birmingham	4 4	Vymura Intl
Cr Lincoln	2 6	Hartlepool
Liverpool	8 0	Seat Peterb
Ormesby	0 8	B-Bar Byker

**3 South:**

G Triangle	--	Larkhall
Horsham D	6 2	Lambeth 4T
Pillinger Air	7 1	Ashford
Rejects	7 1	Marley Ash'



Chris Oldfield



Bradley Billington



Jonathan Taylor

**3 West:**

Bathwick T	5 3	Spec Barry
Doleq C	5 3	Leckie
K Reading	--	AG Fareham
WH Launceston	8 0	Grove

## Key Forthcoming Leeds British League Fixtures:

8 January: Bath v Ashford (Pr), Kettler v Warwicks (IN), St Neots v Ipswich (IN), Horsham v Dagenham (IS), Rejects v Larkhall (IS). 15 January: Ashford v Bath (Pr). 29 January: Ashford v Grove (Pr), Ormesby v Bath (Pr), Ipswich v Grove (IN), Plymouth v Horsham (IS). Further details from ETTA office.



Phil Smith  
Horsham Dolphins

## the LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE - TABLES



**Premier Division**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Grove	5	3	2	0	30	10	8
Ormesby	3	3	0	0	21	3	6
Ashford	3	2	1	0	19	5	5
Bath	3	2	1	0	15	9	5
Cardiff	5	2	0	3	20	20	4
Armada	6	1	1	4	16	32	3
Chan Con	6	1	1	4	11	37	3
Bradford	3	0	0	3	4	20	0

**Division 1 (North)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Grove	6	5	1	0	31	17	11
Kettler Sport	6	4	1	1	31	17	9
Ipswich	6	3	2	1	29	19	8
Leeds	6	3	1	2	30	18	7
West Warwickshire	6	3	1	2	26	22	7
St Neots	6	1	2	3	22	26	4
Lincoln	6	1	0	5	12	36	2
Burslem	6	0	0	6	11	37	0

**Division 1 (South)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Ruislip	6	5	1	0	33	15	11
Horsham	6	4	1	1	29	19	9
Ramlosa	6	3	1	2	25	23	7
Dagenham	6	2	1	3	23	25	5
Plymouth	6	1	3	2	23	25	5
Rejects	6	2	1	3	23	25	5
Doleq	6	0	4	2	22	26	4
Larkhall	6	0	2	4	14	34	2

**Division 2 (South)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Chelmsford	6	5	0	1	36	12	10
Ashford	6	4	1	1	33	15	9
Deptford	6	4	1	1	30	18	9
Cheltenham	6	3	2	1	26	22	8
Poole	6	3	0	3	21	27	6
Cardiff	6	1	1	4	18	30	3
Tonbridge	6	1	1	4	16	32	3
Cranleigh	6	0	0	6	12	36	0

**Division 2 (North)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Wellingbor	5	5	0	0	33	7	10
Vymura	5	4	0	1	27	13	8
March	6	4	0	2	28	20	8
Ormesby	6	4	0	2	24	24	8
Grove	5	2	0	3	18	22	4
Leicester	6	2	0	4	22	26	4
Oldham	6	1	0	5	17	31	2
Chan Con	5	0	0	5	7	33	0

**Division 3 (East)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Norwich	6	5	1	0	38	10	11
Ellenbro	6	5	1	0	37	11	11
Comets	6	4	1	1	26	22	9
Cranleigh	6	2	2	2	24	24	6
Dunstable	6	3	0	3	22	26	6
Ipswich	6	1	1	4	18	30	3
Milton Keynes	6	0	1	5	14	34	1
Westfield	6	0	1	5	13	35	1

**Division 3 (North)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Liverpool	6	6	0	0	39	9	12
Hartlepool	6	5	0	1	35	13	10
Birmingham	6	4	1	1	30	18	9
Vymura	6	2	1	3	24	24	5
Byker	6	2	1	3	24	24	5
Lincoln	6	2	0	4	20	28	4
Peterborough	6	1	1	4	15	33	3
Ormesby	6	0	0	6	5	43	0

**Division 3 (South)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Horsham	6	5	1	0	35	13	11
Rejects	6	3	3	0	30	18	9
Lambeth	6	3	1	2	25	23	7
Pillinger	6	1	3	2	24	24	5
Gunnersbury	5	2	1	2	20	20	5
M. Ashford	5	1	1	3	15	25	3
Larkhall	4	1	0	3	11	21	2
Ashford	6	1	0	5	16	32	2

**Division 3 (West)**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Barry	6	5	0	1	33	15	10
Launceston	6	3	1	2	29	19	7
Reading	5	3	1	1	24	16	7
Bath	4	3	1	0	19	13	7
Fareham	5	2	2	1	23	17	6
Doleq	5	1	1	3	15	25	3
Leckie	6	1	0	5	17	31	2
Grove	5	0	0	5	8	32	0

# It's Really Happening!

WITH 24 plus teams and the country's top female players all entered for the LEEDS WOMEN'S BRITISH LEAGUE which will be played over two weekends in April and May 1989, plans to set up a series of REGIONAL WOMEN'S COACHING RALLIES, and get negotiations underway for a WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL TOUR versus WEST GERMANY for the start of next season, I'm very happy to report that the WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN is really beginning to gain momentum!

### What's Happening . . . Regionally . . .

Regional Women's club Leagues in the Southern (2nd year), South Western, West Midlands (Cadet, Junior Girls plus Ladies), and Northern Regions to commence this season, plus the well established Cotswold Ladies League, Yorkshire Inter League and Lancashire/Cheshire Inter League still going strong.

### Networking!

The following women have been appointed as Regional Contacts for their Regions:

SOUTH WESTERN . . . Dina Sandford and Sue Lovell

EAST MIDLANDS . . . Susan Airey

GREAT LONDON & SOUTH EAST . . . Doris Moors and Jane Barella

NORTHERN . . . Caron Mustard

OTHER REGIONS . . . Please let us have your women's appointees as quickly as possible, if only to prove to John Preen that while we value the assistance from the men such as Mike Lewis (Women's British League organiser), women from all over the country are prepared to play their full part in this campaign.

To ensure a co-ordinated development throughout the Regions, a description of the responsibilities for these positions will be developed and circulated shortly. Nothing too difficult, but the opportunity to get involved in the campaign and do something for the women in the Region. As a result of the mood and response to the National Women's Seminar, I'm sure the interest is there.

In addition, there will be help from the top in the form of a Development Officer at the E.T.T.A. whose first priority will be Women in Table Tennis.

### What's Happening . . . Locally . . .

• BRIGHTON . . . Pauline Steel has a Ladies only group at Southwick Sports centre.

• HASTINGS . . . Wilson family hope to extend their group to other girls in addition to their three table tennis playing daughters and their mother.

• MARKET DRAYTON . . . Ian Marshall reports several mothers and other ladies enjoying social table tennis at the Grove School in addition to the regular coaching sessions

### Report by JOSE RANSOME

which involve many promising girls.

- BURTON . . . "Fitness and Fun with Table Tennis" is the theme for Terry Gadsby's 14 member women's social table tennis club at Meadowside Leisure Centre.
- BRADFORD . . . Sylvia Broadbent bringing along a ladies group in addition to coaching top juniors at the Leeds Centre of Excellence.
- SUNDERLAND . . . Women's Table Tennis Action Day at Crowtree Leisure Centre on 3rd December to launch the Women's Campaign in the Northern Region.
- SOUTH SHIELDS . . . Caron Mustard coaching girls in a girls only squad at Chuter Ede school.
- NEWCASTLE . . . Benny Robertson reports that girls outnumber the boys in his A.T.C. squad at Eldon Square on Wednesday evenings!
- HARTLEPOOL . . . Shirley Carruthers grooming some excellent young girl prospects at the People's Centre, and Maureen Goosey starting them young at the Fens Sports Club.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR AREA? Please let us have details for inclusion in future issues of Table Tennis News so that we can build up a directory of local women's initiatives.

IF THE ANSWER TO THE LAST QUESTION IS NOTHING! Would you like a contact or some help to get something started? Again, please get in touch.

### INSPIRATION

The stunning form now being shown by Alison Gordon in the Leeds British League should be an inspiration to those engaged in boosting the women's game. Alison's victims include Graham Sandley, Kevin Satchell and Chris Rogers.



Jose Ransome the organiser

## Alison's dynamic form by JOSE RANSOME

AFTER fifteen years in table tennis, winning championships at every level, ALISON GORDON of Reading has come into the new season with an even greater commitment to the sport and herself than ever before.

Already the winner of the Midland 3 Star against top opposition and . . . ranking points ahead of the list, she scored two fantastic wins in the Premier Division of the LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE on 27th November, winning the only two sets for Plymouth Armada against Bathwick Tyres . . . at the expense of no less players than Kevin Satchell and Chris Rogers . . . gaining BBC Ceefax coverage.

While Sunday afternoon may have been painful for Kevin and Chris (and John Broe and David Mellroy of Ormesby were very lucky to scrape through their matches against Alison at Ormesby the night before!) Alison's current form could be good news for England's European League chances. Keep up the commitment, Alison, and Good Luck!



Alison Gordon on the move

CONTACT FOR INFORMATION AND LOGO DESIGNS: Jose Ransome "Conifers", Church Lane, Ormesby, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS7 9AU, Tel: 0642-322223.

## NANCY EVANS EUROPEAN UNION CLUB CUP - GROVE OUT

THE END of the road for Grove in the European Union Nancy Evans club cup came at the hands of Postas Budapest at Grove School on Sunday November 6th when the Hungarians won a 5-3 thriller.

The match started badly for Grove with John Souter losing to the defensive skills of Josef Leinweber but Jimmy Stokes showed glimpses of his best form to beat Karoly Nemeth in straight sets, matters seemed to be taking a turn for the better as Bradley Billington led Josef Varga in the

second set having won the first but the man from Budapest recovered and Postas led once again.

The fighting spirit of John Souter was called upon and as always the Middlesex man responded to beat the current No. 2 Hungarian Nemeth whilst Billington returned to the fray to beat Leinweber giving Grove a 3-2 lead.

That was to be the last success with man of the match Varga proving a most difficult opponent beating both Stokes and Souter



## OUR LOGO COMPETITION

WANTED . . . a distinctive LOGO for our WOMEN IN TABLE TENNIS campaign. Submit your design by 15th February, 1989 for a chance to win an attractive BUTTERFLY SWEAT SHIRT, colour and size of your choice.

**NETTS SOUTHERN MASTERS**

# Victory for "new" veteran – Gibbs

THE second of the Regional Opens happened over the weekend of the 19th/20th November, 1988 when the NETTS Southern Masters sponsored by the Hilton Hotels group took place at the Andover Sports Centre.

A new and popular name emerged from the Over 40 Mens Singles field when "new VET" Stuart Gibbs from Essex captured the David Jones Memorial Trophy beating top seed Derek Holman from Surrey in the final. Earlier Gibbs had been taken close by Clive Morris from Kent winning in the third.

**Pat's final victim**

In the Over 40 Womens Singles Pat Bassano (Yorkshire) was the winner. Her final victim being Gill Knightley (Berkshire). In the Quarter Final Mrs Bassano put out the top seed and favourite Doreen Schofield 21-13 in the third.

The Over 50 Mens Singles went to Matt Sheader (Lincs). His final opponent being Mervyn Wood (Worcestershire) and Connie Moran also from Lincs won the Over 50 Womens Singles beating another Worcestershire player Janet Hunt.

The tournament attracted entry of 175.

**RESULTS**

**Over 40 Mens Singles**

- SF S. Gibbs (Essex) bt. G. Chapman (Surrey) 18, 19.
- D. Holman (Surrey) bt. C. Warren (Surrey) 19, 11.
- F S. Gibbs (Essex) bt. D. Holman (Surrey) –13, 14, 19.

**Over 40 Womens Singles**

- SF P. Bassano (Yorks) bt. J. Coop (Dorset) –12, 12, 12.
- G. Knightly (Berks) bt. M. Garlinge (Kent) 16, 20.
- F P. Bassano (Yorks) bt. G. Knightly (Berks) 11, 15.

**Over 50 Mens Singles**

- F M. Sheader (Lincs) bt. M. Wood (Worcs) 8, 17.

**Over 50 Womens Singles**

- F C. Moran (Lincs) bt. J. Hunt (Worcs) 16, 17.

**Over 60 Mens Singles**

- F R. Etheridge (Kent) bt. A. Hartshorn (Lancs) 16, 9.

**Over 60 Womens Singles**

- Winner: J. Beadle (Kent)

**Over 40 Doubles (Men)**

- F K. Horton/R. Stace (Sussex) bt R. Bhalla (Hants)/J. White (Kent) 12, 14.

**Over 40 Doubles (Women)**

- F D. Schofield (Chesh)/C. Moran (Lincs) bt. C. Judson/P. Bassano (Yorks) 11, –18, 17.

**Mixed Doubles**

- F D. Schofield (Chesh)/J. Hunt (Worcs) bt. D. Holman (Surrey)/M. Dignum (Kent) 16, –19, 17.

**Over 50 Mens Doubles**

- F M. Sheader (Lincs)/K. Powell (Chesh) bt. M. Watts (Kent)/A. Rowden (Sussex) 13, 12.



**Mike Watts**

**Over 50 Womens Doubles**

- F C. Moran (Lincs)/P. Butcher (Kent) bt. S. Coombs (Bucks)/K. Fisher (Lincs) 16, 16.

**Over 60 Mens Doubles**

- F R. Etheridge (Kent)/A. Hartshorn (Lancs) bt. J. Husband (Bucks)/A. Gould (Lancs) 5, 9.

**Over 60 Womens Doubles**

- F J. Beadle (Kent)/M. Jones (Chesh) bt. J. Rodwell/E. Fletcher (Norfolk) 14, –19, 15.



**Mens Restricted Singles**

- F E. Herrity (Bucks) bt. T. Smith (Dorset) 11, 15.

**Womens Restricted Singles**

- F B. Bayford (Sussex) bt. E. Shaler (Leics) 16, –16, 12.

# England VETTS lose 6-4 in West Germany

VETTS took another huge step in the development of Veterans table tennis over the weekend of the 11th/13th November, when a representative team journeyed to Germany to take on the German Veterans Team Champions of 1986 and 1987 TTC 31 Heiligenhaus who are a thriving club in the Ruhr and already have strong twin town activities with Basildon in Essex.

The party accompanied by myself left Dover on the Thursday night travelling by car via Ostend.

The party reached the town which is quite close to Essen just before lunchtime on the Friday and after a quick lunch retired for the afternoon before spending two hours training at the club before being entertained to an excellent meal in the "Altstat" in Dusseldorf. After visiting Essen on Saturday morning the match took place at the TTC 31 Heiligenhaus club on the Saturday afternoon.

The home team included at least one ex international Horst Langer who played in the Ian Harrison era and Achim Wolff who once came to England and won the annual Pontins Holiday camp tournament. VETTS team was Henry Buist (Kent), Matt Sheader (Lincs) Connie Warren (Surrey) and Derek Schofield the VETTS Chairman from Cheshire.



England and German veterans met near Essen. The home side won 6-4 (left to right) Achim Wolff, Kurt Marx, Henry Buist, Derek Schofield, Horst Langer, Mat Sheader, Werner Geisler, Connie Warren.

The match consisted of two doubles and eight singles and began on two tables with the doubles. Derek Schofield and Matt Sheader gave the VETTS a great start beating Langer and Wolff the home number one pair but Henry Buist and Connie Warren failed to get to grips with the varying and often unorthodox styles of their opponents Werner Geisler and Kurt Marx and went down two straight.

TTC 31 then went 3-1 up with the first two singles with Langer just getting the better of Sheader and Wolff beating Schofield comfortably two straight. However back came VETTS to level the score at 3-3 with a two straight win by Buist over Geisler coming back from 19-13 down in the first and 13-7 down in the second and then a win by Warren over Marx 22-20 in the third after breaking his bat in the second and borrowing one from home skipper Achim Wolff.

In the second round of singles, Langer and Geisler pushed Heiligenhaus into a 5-3 lead and although Schofield narrowed that to 5-4, Wolff beat Warren (with a second borrowed bat) to make the final score TTC 31 6 VETTS (England) 4. The evening was spent in a local restaurant with upwards of fifty local players and officials from the town. After the farewells the party left on Sunday morning to return home having arranged to reciprocate the hospitality in England next year.

Full scores (VETTS names first):

Schofield/Sheader	bt	Langer/Wolff	–18, 17, 16
Buist/Warren	lt	Geisler/Marx	–16, –19
Sheader	lt	Langer	–19, 17, –15
Schofield	lt	Wolff	–15, –11
Buist	bt	Geisler	20, 16
Warren	bt	Marx	15, –13, 20
Buist	lt	Langer	–14, –10
Sheader	lt	Geisler	–19, –16
Schofield	bt	Marx	–13, 12, 13
Warren	lt	Wolff	–7, –16

## BERKSHIRE

Bob Adams

GRAHAM KENDALL, editor of the Reading Newsletter, has announced that he is about to enter the "Eddie Shah" league of news publishing. Those inside the Reading League will know that Graham already produces a first class newsheet with contributions from many members, so we are all eagerly awaiting the new effort.

Glancing through the current edition one item caught my eye – apparently Roger Woolven-Allen (Reading Secretary) has been watching the England Ladies squad in practice, and for some peculiar reason (his words) finds them MUCH more interesting to watch than their male counterparts!

I shall make no comment, although I might have if it had been the other way round. Elsewhere in the Newsletter Pete Slatford has the encouraging news to report that 5 Junior Schools in Reading are running beginners sessions and that they will be taking part in the Reading Closed Championships in February. Bracknell League have also got their first coaching scheme for a number of years off the ground with a dozen youngsters turning up for the first session so it should not be long before Bracknell are again able to enter junior teams in the various Inter town tournaments held in Berkshire.

Pete Slatford gets a double mention as a result of taking his squad of Reading Juniors to the Maidenhead Inter Town Invitation Tournament on 27 November at Altwood School in which 6 towns as far apart as Milton Keynes and Didcot took part. This tournament, ably run by Mick Mitcham, usually results in the coveted "Stan Roper" trophy being carried off by Maidenhead themselves, but this time Reading came near to sweeping the board, with wins in 4 out of the 5 events. Admittedly, the girls only scraped home in a countback against Didcot, and might have seen Maidenhead a good deal closer to Reading in the overall points total had the former not been without their top 2 players, Lisa Crick and Nicky Bradfield, the latter injured after an extremely busy playing schedule including his recent triumphant England Cadet debut in the Cleveland International Select. Also at Cleveland, a number of goods wins for Nicola Cracknell, including one over the Welsh Junior No. 2, gained her numerous points which should send her sailing up the rankings.

Having successfully avoided each other in the opening rounds of the Carter Cup, good wins by Reading over Plymouth, and Maidenhead over Aldershot sees

them drawn against each other in round 2. With the Berkshire Inter-town coming up in early December, Reading and Maidenhead will have found themselves facing each other 3 times in about the same number of weeks. They'll be sick of the sight of each other!

Finally, on the County scene, Berkshire juniors remain unbeaten, with a draw and 2 (narrow) wins. The last of these, against Bucks, saw Martin O'Donovan give a splendid performance in his debut for the first team, in which he gave players of greater experience and status a really tough time.

## BEDFORDSHIRE

Michael Jarrett

IT IS sad to report that interest in Table Tennis in Bedfordshire is apparently waning. This is especially disappointing considering the injection of cash and impetus that the Leeds sponsorship has provided.

Bedfordshire has four leagues and in three this downward trend is obvious. None more so than in the Luton and District League. One has only to compare the number of teams competing now to seven years ago. In 1981/82 season Luton boasted 9 divisions of 12 teams. This year the tally has dropped to 6 including many gaps reducing the total number of teams from 108 to 62.



Jackie Bellinger

This statistic is worrying in itself but what is perhaps more concerning is the lack of top players competing in the local leagues and the absence of juniors coming through. This lack of juniors is probably due to schools reluctance to treat table tennis as a major sport, the closure of many youth clubs, the medias presentation of other sports and Bedfordshires lack of a Table Tennis centre.

As for the top players it seems as if there are only a limited number of 'quality' players willing to play the local leagues. The Leighton Buzzard League is now totally stripped of any County ranked senior men. Dunstable has an elite Premier Division but comprises of just 5! Where as Lutons Division 1 has 8. As there is a reduced number of matches

in a season many players are registering in more than one local league. This causes numerous clashes of dates, therefore cancellations and in turn leads to dissatisfaction and disinterest. The remainder of the top players are choosing the league across the border which offers competition of a consistently high standard and a season sufficiently long to satisfy.

Bearing this in mind, could time be approaching when a Premier Division is formed from the amalgamation of the Luton and Dunstable top divisions or even from all three Leagues in Southern Bedfordshire?

Having got down from my soap box I'd like to mention the opening few weeks of League action. In the minute Dunstable Premier it is difficult to see the title ending up any where except AHW or Delco Products. Again in Luton Division 1 Delco look set to continue their reign. Its in Leighton Buzzard where its difficult to predict an outcome and therefore represents the most interesting top division albeit for the wrong reasons. Brooklands and Wingrave are possibly favourites.

## DEVON

Val Heath

THE Leeds County Championships at present seem to be the venues for some excellent matches as far as Devon are concerned. At both Premier and Junior levels some marvellous wins have been achieved with one of the most impressive being Gary Wilson's (47) win over Michael O'Driscoll (28) by 21-18, 21-13 in the match against Yorkshire so gaining a win for Devon 5 games to 4.

Our match versus Derbyshire too brought forth some super games and the 2nd win of the weekend. In the 3rd match versus Middlesex we were not so lucky losing 2-7, although Carol Giles (8) and Paul Whiting (19) must be congratulated on their wins over Lesley Keast and Graham Sandley (14).

Our Juniors too are excelling themselves. Devons 2nd and 3rd Junior teams entertained Dorset and after many hard fought contests (13 out of 20 went to 3 games) both teams finally drew 5-5 with their visitors.

On the tournament scene some good wins too are being gained with both age groups! Paul Whiting playing in the Midland Counties Senior 3\* had an impressive win against Chris Oldfield (England Junior No 2) whilst in the South of England Junior 2\* Lynsey Heyward and Clare Pengelley won the Cadet doubles beating Linda Radford and Sarah Seaholme in the final.

## CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

CUMBRIA won one and lost one in a double header with Cheshire first and second in the Leeds County Championships at Ellesmere Port.

Number one Stephen Temple (Carlisle) won two in the first team match and one in the other.

His brother Mark, playing number three in the second team clash, had two fine victories in sets that went to three games.

Whitehaven debutant Lynne Hadfield helped skipper Julie McLean to a women's doubles triumph in the match against the Wheatshaf reserves.

Cheshire 7, Cumbria 3 (Cheshire names first): Brian Jones beat John Backhouse 21-13, 21-9; lost to Stephen Temple 21-11, 20-22, 19-21. Wayne Percival lost to Stephen Temple 16-21, 21-14, 12-21; beat Roger Stewart 21-17, 24-22. Rob Bevan beat Roger Stewart 22-20, 21-16; beat John Backhouse 21-13, 21-11. Jones and Percival beat Temple and Stewart 21-14, 21-19. Julie Hope lost to Julie Mclean 6-21, 8-21. Ann Greenough beat Lynne Hadfield 21-5, 21-13. Hope and Greenough beat McLean and Hadfield 21-17, 21-14.

Cheshire 2nd 4, Cumbria 6 (Cheshire names first): Simon Jones lost to Roger Stewart 21-19, 18-21, 18-21; beat Stephen Temple 21-17, 21-12. Ray Jackson lost to Stephen Temple 9-21, 18-21; beat Mark Temple 23-21, 16-21, 21-18. Nigel Rafferty lost to Mark Temple 12-21, 21-14, 13-21; lost to Roger Stewart 13-21, 15-21. Simon Jones and Ray Jackson beat Roger Stewart and Stephen Temple 21-15, 21-11. Debbie Bevan beat Lynne Hadfield 21-10, 21-9. Beverley Parkes lost to Julie McLean 4-21, 10-21. Bevan and Parkes lost to McLean and Hadfield 7-21, 17-21.

At Millom School, Cumbria lost 7-3 to Leicestershire with all the home triumphs being recorded by the girls. Number one Carrie Lowes and her Barrow colleague Paula Eddy each won their singles and formed a successful doubles partnership.

Cumbria 3, Leicestershire 7 (Cumbria names first): Tony Dawson lost to John Gayton 18-21, 11-21; lost to Andrew Clark 17-21, 10-21. Mike Harkness lost to Clark 7-21, 12-21; lost to Darren Bramhall 15-21, 11-21. Andrew Michie lost to Bramhall 8-21, 13-21; lost to John Gayton 21-18, 20-21, 16-21. Dawson and Harkness lost to Gayton and Bramhall 10-21, 16-21. Carrie Lowes beat Helen Griffiths 21-8, 21-17. Paula Eddy beat Rachel Griffiths 21-15, 21-10. Lowes and Eddy beat Griffiths and Griffiths 21-13, 21-15.

## ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

PRIDE of place this month must go to our Junior President Squad, which brought back victories over Middlesex and Devonshire from its trip to St Neots for the first week-end of matches. The omens could not have been worse, however, as news reached us minutes before play commenced that our No. 1 girl, Alison Gower was seriously ill, and had been taken to hospital.

Our emergency replacement was 13 year old Sarah Gardner, the County No 11, who had yet to play in our third team! She was soon in action when she amazingly went close to toppling Sara Williams (-21, -21). Grant Solder, Damian Holland, Keith Buers, Allan Radford and Linda Radford clinched the two victories, Grant, Keith and Linda being unbeaten. Linda's wins over Becky Fisher and Helen Wright were her first ever against them. Quite unbelievably, Linda and Sarah beat Helen Wright/Sarah Pengelly in the Devonshire match. Unfortunately we lost 3-7 to Derbyshire, home of the Billingtons. We particularly do not like Jason Bamford, who beat both Damian and Grant!



Grant Solder

I am happy to say that I found out, on returning to London, that Alison was recovering from what appears to have been some sort of viral attack, and we all hope that we will be seeing her back playing again very soon.

All 17 Essex leagues have entered the Essex Inter-League Competition, which commenced in November. A total of 132 teams are competing in the 6 sections. The biggest entry is from Chelmsford, with 13 teams, and their Match Secretaries Bill Wadling (Seniors) Joe Wigley (Juniors) and Malcolm Jacobs (Veterans) will be kept very busy, it seems. Shirley Moon, the capable South-end Match Secretary, will be even busier as she is master-minding all 12 teams entered by her league!

Competitions Secretary Roy Franklin says that it is going to be very difficult to pick out any winners at this stage, but that last

season's champions Dagenham (Men and Juniors) Chelmsford (Ladies and Mixed) and Brentwood (Veterans) must again be in contention. The Cadet champions Harlow are unfortunately not defending their title, which may well go to Dagenham or Brentwood.

I was at the Kent Junior at Margate and am delighted to record some good Essex results. Linda Radford played with tremendous guts to come from an impossible position and beat Claire Pengelly (Devon) by -19, 10, 18 so winning the Cadet Girls, her first ever Open title.

Grant Solder outclassed his field to take the Junior Boys crown and with Damian Holland beat another Essex pair in Steven Rand and Allan Radford to take the Junior Boys Doubles. Other good results noted were unranked Julie Rand beating Tracey Cole (Sussex) who is No 24 in England.

Paul Hudson, our best under 12 player, beating John Blasco (Surrey), Sarah Gardner beating Tamar Connolly (Lancs) and Jenny Coleman beating Lindsey Heyward (Devon). Jenny also won the Under 12 event.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Peppard

THE big news this month of course is the recent Gloucestershire County (Closed) Championships which again were held at "The Cheltenham Indoor Cricket Club's premises", in Cheltenham on 20/11/88.

The Tournament was a great success, overall there were 113 entries, made up as follows, 58 Juniors (A very very good entry) and 55 Seniors - plus 3 Senior entries from the newly affiliated Cirencester and District League, where upon perhaps they could have done better?

The great surprise of the entire Championships was the shock defeat of the No. 1 seed Darren Griffin, Darren a former Champion was beaten -19, 19, -7 by 17 year old Forest Player Dale Saunders in only the third round, that victory put Saunders into the quarter finals, where upon he lost -15, -13, to Steve Moreman, in the other half of the semi finals - Dave Harvey the 38 year old defending Champion beat Graham Slack - in the Final Harvey successfully defended his title by beating Steve Moreman -17, -16.

In the Ladies Singles semi finals the defending champion Judy Morley lost to Heather Colwill, the latter went on to win the ladies singles when she beat the County ranked No. 2 Jaqui Carver 19, -16, 16, this is the first time that Miss Colwill has ever won the

County Ladies Singles, and is to be congratulated.

Steve Moreman and Graham Slack successfully defended their Mens Doubles title by beating Frank Jones and Darren Griffin 13, 19, in the Final.

The Ladies Doubles went to Jaqui Carver and Julie Hogarth who beat Judy Morley and Heather Colwill in the final. The Veterans Singles was for the 2nd year retained by Frank Jones of the Gloucester League who (same as last year) beat Strouds Alan Giles 15, 15, in the final. Phil Hatherall beat Mrs Judy Taylor 17, 18, in the final of the minor singles.

### Junior Events

Boys Under 12, James Rudd beat Simon Bavin 14, -14, 8. Girls Under 12, Beth Walker beat Clare Peebles 9, 8. Boys Under 14, Tim Dewick beat Leigh Nelves 13, 14. Girls Under 14, Elaine Bassett beat Beth Walker -12, 15, 21. Boys Under 17, Richard Moore beat David Fannin 17, -18, 17. Girls Under 17, Alison Cox beat Heather Fannin 16, 19.

L. Simpson/T. Fannin beat M. Oliver/R. Freeman 17, 16.

Mrs Judy Morley last years County Ladies Singles Champion announced her official retirement from all competitive T.T. participation due to previous injuries sustained over quite a long period of time.

Mrs Morley has been an active County Player for several years and has also played for the Strollers Club in the 2nd Division of the Gloucester City League, she will be well remembered also in the Stroud and District League under her maiden name of Judy Day.

In 1973 she married former English International Player Roy Morley and at present they live at Hempstead just outside the City.

Judy and Roy have two sons - Paul and Roy Junior, both of whom play in the Gloucester League, Judys other table tennis triumphs are:

Gloucester Ladies Singles: 1974 and 1988.

County Closed Ladies Singles: 1974 and 1987.

## HAMPSHIRE

David Cosway

MY apologies for the non-appearance of my report for the last two months but I have been involved in the Southampton leg of the England versus China Road Show! Although the gate of between 600 and 650 fans enabled the Southampton Association to make a small profit, I consider we were let down, especially by local fans, as we could have accommodated double that number.

However I feel the match went smoothly and that my fellow Organising Committee members, as unpaid amateurs, compared very favourably with the professionals involved and, I think, did the Association proud.

The Hampshire County teams have started the season in a much better manner than in recent years. The first Senior Team, ably lead by Sarah Hammond, and including Graham Toole, Mark Wilding, Rhamish Bhalla and Cheryl Buttery have won their three opening matches. A considerable improvement on recent years. In the recent Junior matches the County team of Jeff Giles, John Crouch, Richard Hatley, Clare Woodham and Elizabeth Shoebrook comfortably beat Hunts by 9-1, but with Edward Connell replacing Richard Hatley, they went down in a close match to Oxford by 4-6. Unfortunately the girls lost all their games against Oxford, but both Jeff Giles and John Crouch won their two singles.

Jeff Giles, had a notable win against the highly ranked Gavin Yates by 20, -20, 19. I am told this set was a very encouraging standard and showed how justly Jeff has earned his own National Computer Ranking. The Veterans 'A' team lost heavily 2-7 to both Middlesex and Hertfordshire, but beat Kent 2nds by 5-4. Ray Lush, Bob Cox and Ken Giles have played regularly in this team but a different lady has represented the County in each match. The Veterans 'B' Team had a good 8-1 win over Sussex 3, a 5-4 win over Wiltshire, but went down by 4-5 to Herts 2nds.

A notable new event in the County is the Inter-Town Cadets League, the first group session of which was recently played and resulted in Bournemouth, Aldershot and Gosport/Fareham each winning their first two matches. It will be interesting to see the results in the second half. In the Junior Division One Inter-Town League, Aldershot 'A' and Gosport and Fareham each won their opening sets in the group matches, while Bournemouth 'A' were surprisingly held to a draw by Southampton 'A'. In the Second Division Andover head the League with two wins after the first set of group matches with Aldershot 'B' winning their only match. Again all is to play for in the second half matches.

The main event recently has been the Hampshire Closed Tournament. Again there was a clash of fixtures between the National/Regional League date and this event. Although I can see that it is a very congested fixture list, dates have to be fixed well in advance. I really do feel that this type of clash can be avoided if the involved parties liaise.

## HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood



Ian Black and Emma Hurling are the Herts junior champions.  
Photo by John Wood.

IAN BLACK of St. Albans and Emma Hurling of Hemel Hempstead once again outshone the other young stars as they retained their Under 17 titles, at the Hertfordshire Junior closed tournament, held on Sunday 27 November at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre.

Black who still has another year to go as a junior beat George Sanders of Barnet, and will probably win it again next year and create a record. Meanwhile Hurling, who is playing her last season as a junior, and hadn't played for three weeks due to a broken finger on her playing hand, an injury she received whilst playing hockey at school, won in style beating her friend Sarah Seaholme in the final.

A new name will appear on the Under 12 winners trophy this year, that of Ameer Rasheed from Hemel Hempstead, who beat Stephen Taylor of Barnet in the final, where both lads showed enough natural talent to promise good things for the future.

Suprise of the tournament was in the Boys Doubles final where St. Alban's Kevin Harber and Barnet's George Sanders, beat the favourites, Ian Black and Morris Greenberg of Barnet, in straight sets.

Emma Hurling paired-up with the Under 14 singles winner Sarah Seaholme, to take the Girls Doubles title, beating Talya Greenberg of Barnet and Rachel Samuls from Cheshunt.

Results: Boys U.17 I. Black beat G. Sanders 11, 19; Boys U.14 K. Flowerday beat M. Seaborne 12,

17; U.12 A. Rasheed beat S. Taylor -11, 17, 13; Girls U.17 E. Hurling beat S. Seaholme 15,16; Girls U.14 S. Seaholme beat T. Greenberg 14, 18; Girls U.12 C. Harber beat L. Moorhead; Boys Doubles: K. Harber and G. Sanders beat I. Black and M. Greenberg 15, 17; Girls Doubles: E. Hurling and S. Seaholme beat T. Greenberg and R. Samuels 11, -17, 14; Mixed Doubles: E. Hurling and K. Harber beat S. Seaholme and G. Sanders -19, 20, 12.

Meanwhile on the Junior Inter-league scene Barnet and Hemel Hempstead are undefeated with Barnet just in front on games differences.

Whilst Watford are in the lead in the Veteran Inter-League tournament.

In the Senior Inter-league section champions Hemel Hempstead remain undefeated, despite Rob Liquorish having to pull out of the last match after briefly tasting the sweet smell of success to host a perfume party.

His place was admirably taken by veteran John Wood who scented victory playing his part as his team beat Welwyn and Hatfield 5-2.

Hemel's stars were Glen Wilkes and Jackie North who were both undefeated.

Favourite for the Senior title Barnet, who fielded the county No.2 and 3 John Taylor and Richard Russell plus the talented Maria Williams, played superbly beating Welwyn and Hatfield 6-1, Watford 5-2, and Hemel Hempstead II 7-0.

## LANCASHIRE

George R. Yates

NOT to be outshone by Oldham in the field of coaching Peter Smith, the Coaching Secretary of the Nelson and District League, has written to extol the virtues of coaching affairs in the district of Pendle - witch country for those who don't know it!

For the past four years a hard working team of coaches have steadily been developing players of all ages, but mainly juniors, and building a relationship with schools to create a degree of continuity.

Most of the training is done at the league's HQ, Ball Grove TTC, but additional sessions are also held at two other league clubs, namely Temple St and Brierfield, the regular coaches being Messrs. G. Wood, J. Atkinson, D. Southwell, A. Hartshorn, K. Wilkinson and Peter Smith himself.

Recently we have obtained the services of former England coach Peter Simpson for the advanced sessions and his wealth of knowledge and experience is much appreciated in putting Pendle more forcefully on the map.

Currently Nelson have a senior men's and women's team in the Lancashire and Cheshire League together with two junior and a veterans team and all are more than holding their own.

I am indebted to Geoff Aspinall, the Publicity Officer for Oldham's Leeds British League team, operating in Division 2 (North), whose programme notes must rate second to none. Geoff pays credit to George Smith, their very generous sponsor of G.K. Smith Insurance Consultants Ltd., of New Moston, Manchester and to Jack Crossley and the committee of the Delph Club for allowing the Oldham team the use of their excellent facilities.

Thanks are also expressed to Jean Aspinall for her hard work with refreshments, to Stan Clarke and Marjorie Riddle for giving up their valuable time in officiating, to Murray Corbin for his photographic wizardry, to Peter Aspin, the team manager, and to all members of the Oldham and District League for their continued support and encouragement.

Tim Malkin heads the team averages being 100% the main support coming from Nick Mooney, Howard Whewell, Norman Thewlis, Wayne Renton and the Leigh brothers, Andy and Howard.

On the county front additional registrations to the veteran ranks are those of Derek Watmough (Bolton), Alan Chase (Liverpool) and Bob Johnson (Oldham) the latter being in charge of the vets.

## LEICESTERSHIRE

Tony Lillicrapp

THE first Leeds County Championships Weekend of the season held at Burton on Trent on 29th and 30th October proved to be a reasonably rewarding two days for the County First Team recording wins over Derbyshire and Berkshire.

The weekend started off badly, however, as a strong Middlesex side easily beat the Leicestershire squad consisting of Chris Rogers, Phil Smith, Dave Gannon and Karen Smith 8 games to 1 with Dave Gannon being the only local man to trouble the scorer when he beat Middlesex No. 1 John Souter 21/11 in the third after going down 21/9 in the first.

In the next match against Derbyshire Martin Pickles was chosen to replace Phil Smith in the singles and responded with a fine win over Martin Kinsella who had previously beaten Chris Rogers 15 and 10. Leicestershire ran out 6-3 winners of this match.

Sunday brought a clash against one of the weaker sides in the Premier Division Berkshire, and Phil Smith was reinstated in the Leicestershire side at the expense of Martin Pickles.

Leicester raced to a 3-0 lead before Phil and Karen Smith were beaten in the mixed doubles. Phil Smith, however, sealed the match for Leicester with his seventh game win over Berkshire No. 2 Dave Barr, which put Leicester into a winning 5-2 lead. Although Chris Rogers then lost to Andy Wellman in the battle of the No. 1's, the final scoreline showed Leicester as 6-3 winners. At the end of this first weekend Lancashire were top of the table, unbeaten from three games, followed by Middlesex, Leicestershire and Devon, all with two wins out of three.

Unfortunately, Suffolk never managed to gain a point and will no doubt be very pleased to see a change of opponents in the next Premier Weekend.

### Senior Division 2A

At the time of writing this report only two results have been received. In the first match against Lancashire II, Leicestershire II were crushed 8-2 with Maurice Newman being the only Leicester player to win a singles game when he beat Howard Whenell in the final game of the afternoon. Prior to this Tracey Clark and Joanne Pickles had won the Ladies doubles for Leicester. The second match against Clwyd brought a total reversal of fortunes as Leicestershire ran out easy 10-0 winners, with only two of the

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nine games going to a decider. Both of these involved Clwyd's Spencer Harris who was the only opponent to seriously extend either Keith Fellows or Maurice Newman. Harris was, in fact, desperately unlucky going down 21-18 in the third, having won the second 27-25.

Junior 2A only two matches to report on and again the first one was against Lancashire. This match went the opposite way the clash between the Senior Squads of the two counties with Leicestershire eventually emerging as the winners, but by a fairly close margin.



Karen Smith (Leicester) at present No. 21 on the England womens' rankings list is still one of the most powerful women in the Midlands.

John Gayton, Darren Bramhall and Andrew Clark eased Leicestershire into a 3-0 lead but the doubles games proved to be Leicestershire's achilles heel as they lost first the women's and then the men's to put Lancashire back in the match. The two ladies singles games also went to Lancashire with both Lisa Hobday and Louise Parsons both having off days for Leicestershire. The remaining three mens singles were all won by Leicestershire to give the home side a 6-4 victory.

### Tiring journey

Cumbria away provided the next opposition for the Junior side and despite a long tiring journey to Millom the same mens squad of Gayton, Bramhall and Clark were quickly into the groove and put Leicestershire into a 3-0 lead.

Helen and Rachel Griffiths were beaten by the Cumbrian duo of Carrie Lowes and Paula Eddy in the Ladies doubles, but this was quickly countered by a Gayton/Bramhall win in the Mens doubles. The last three mens singles went Leicestershire way for the away side to finish 7-3 winners, and leaving Clark, Bramhall and Gayton still unbeaten in singles after two matches.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Mike Tunningley

FOLLOWING last seasons highly successful matches, the Worksop and District Table Tennis League started the current seasons events by retaining the Champions v Champions Trophy in the annual fixture with the Retford Table Tennis League. The 8-4 winning margin shows the strength in depth which Worksop enjoy these days, especially after putting out a depleted team through various reasons. Successes came for the following Worksop players:- Paul Davison, Mark Rothwell, David Hamilton, Jason McCarthy and Paul Joyce, John Gazeley and Andrew Lee, Mick Bartrop, (2) and Mike Hargreaves. Ratfords successful players were Robbie Whate, Chris Hudson and Chris Raynor, Ken Alvey, and Gary Adlington and Mike Nocivelli.

### East Midland Regional Trials

Robert Yong of Nottingham was the star of the East Midland Regional Trials which were held at the Sycamore Sports Centre Nottingham during October, Yong remained undefeated after nine matches and this gave him the honour of going forward to the National Trials at a later date.

Placings. Junior Boys: 1. Robert Yong, 2. L Robinson, 3. K Dabbs, 4. M Davis, 5. J Gayton, 6. P Bramhall, 7. S Thomas, 8. S Shaw, 9. A Clarke, 10. P Furneaux.

Junior Girls: 1. J Baxter, 2. C May, 3. H Simms, 4. T Marriott, 5. N Skinner, 6. S Smith, 7. R Hall, 8. M Leary.

Cadet Boys: 1. M King, 2. T Roe, 3. J Boulton, 4. P Padgett, 5. J Dean, 6. D Stokes, 7. D Langley, 8. J Wheatley, 9. S McIntyre, 10. A Windmill.

Cadet Girls: 1. A Durrands, 2. C Chalis, 3. S Russell, 4. S Smith, 5. C Pidgeon, 6. N Massingham, 7. V Frith, 8. R Hall, 9. L Parsons, 10. L Blake.

The County Juniors lost their second Leeds County Championship fixture to Lancashire II by a narrow 6-4 margin. With Robert Yong opting to play for the Seniors Notts brought in Gary Lee of Worksop for his county debut. The four successful Notts players were Peter Furneaux (2), Paul Wood (1) and Furneaux and Wood in the doubles.

The Vets travelled to Northumberland for their opening fixture and came away with a hard earned 5-4 victory. Wins for Notts came from Alf Saunders, Dave Inkley and Ron Bolton while Pat Hammond won the ladies singles before teaming up with Inkley to win the all important mixed doubles match.

The battle for the Worksop Summer League title between Carlton Youth Club I and Abbey

Youth Club D resulted in the Carlton team winning by the closest ever margin of 0.19 of a decimal point. Abbey D however took the set league title.

### Guigno wins

Sycamore won the Nottingham Summer League title for the second successive year with Gedling finishing as runners up. The individual title went to Tony Guigno with Adam Ellis finishing as runner-up. Congratulations are in order for Alf Saunders the anchorman in the Nottingham and Notts County Veteran teams who recently completed a total of 250 representative matches for Nottingham. Conrad (Junior) Stoddart is also to be added to the list of honours after achieving his 50th match for Nottingham.

Local players John Holland, Bradley Billington and Hon Choi of Retford were invited to play the Chinese National team when they visited the Victoria Leisure Centre on October 11th. The spectators were given a treat they will remember for a long time when the Chinese impressed with their undoubted skills, speed, agility and humour. They put on an excellent display and thanks must go to the Notts Leisure Services and their Sports Development Committee for their kind support.

## OXFORDSHIRE

Steve Joyner

THE latest Oxford ranking list, as expected saw the top five places remain the same as last year, Peter Jones retains his number one status with Karl Bushell and Clive Morris closely behind. The most noticeable change this tie round is the inclusion of the highly talented and vein Paul Poulter. Paul's hard work through the junior coaching scheme coupled with his immense fitness have not only earned him his top ten ranking but also a place in the county senior team. The success that Paul is now enjoying is just reward for a youngster who is one of the rare breed of top players who always displays impeccable table manners and great respect to all his opponents.

### Agile Eleanor

Again this month the Oxford representative sides have been active. The senior team travelled south to Essex where they found the home team in a non charitable mood. Oxfords only success coming from agile Eleanor Harrison in her ladies singles. The senior teams next match however proved to be a much more successful event with the Oxford five recording a well earned 6-4 victory over Kent 11. Peter Jones continued his unbeaten run with two

more impressive victories, Clive Morris notched a good win against the ever hairy Neil Harris. Kathy Singleton and Eleanor Harrison then converted Pete and Clives hard work into a victory.

### Valuable points

The juniors this month were battling it out for qualification into the national ranking trails. Qualifications paves the way to haul valuable ranking points and hence ever increasing national recognition. Sally Hughes who managed to take time out from her busy romantic schedule emerged as the most successful Oxford player. Sally finished top of her group with seven wins out of seven including a victory over team mate and old rival Dawn Barnett. Unfortunately for Oxford Dawn just missed out on qualification with her four victories leaving her in fourth place behind Anna Watton (Bucks) and Lisa Crick (Berks). Lucy Shaw of Oxford also did herself credit with two wins leaving her in seventh position. In the junior boys section quaint Gavin Yates showed him improving confidence and ability by loosing just the one game to the eventual winner Nicky Bradfield (Berks), Gavin also qualified in second place along with Matthew Greenwood (Bucks) and Danny Baxter (Bucks).

### Desperate

Banbury cadet Matthew Sims was desperately unlucky not to qualify after finishing joint third with Jason Mason (Bucks) only to miss out by virtue of the fact that Jason beat Matthew.

### Oxford Ranks

#### Men

1. Peter Jones
2. Karl Bushell
3. Clive Morris
4. Arthur Chilvers
5. Nat Richardson
6. Stan Hahn
7. Alf Davies
8. Steve Joyner
9. Ian Mead
10. Paul Poulter
11. Tony May
12. Clive Alcock
13. Paul Mabutt
14. Gerry Collins
15. Dave Harse

## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



DORTMUND 1989

## NORTHUMBERLAND

*Aubrey Drapkin*

A NEW division of the Northumberland league has been formed for cadet players and I am delighted that 20 teams of youngsters have entered. The standard ranges from little over beginners up to the top cadet in the country, Barry Forster. There will be four sessions of play during the season, all at a central venue. The first session has already been held and was extremely successful.

The county had a big interest in the friendly junior and cadet internationals recently held at Dunston Activities Centre when Barry Forster made his debut for England Cadets. Unfortunately the French, who were due to play England at both junior and cadet levels, pulled out of the cadet match but Scotland came over the border with their junior sides to take on the English Cadets.

The Scottish girls were too strong for the young English girls but the English boys got the better of their older Scottish opponents after trailing 0-2. Nicky Bradfield and Forster took the doubles, Nicky won his next singles leaving Barry to play the decider in front of his home crowd. To their delight he won a cliff hanger to give England a 3-2 win.

The French juniors were no match for England and both matches were won with scores of 5-0 in each case.

Northumberland had mixed fortunes in the latest Leeds County Championships matches with the seniors losing 4-6 to Warwickshire in a match that lasted no less than four hours, the juniors winning 8-2 away to Clwyd and the veterans going down 3-6 to Cheshire thirds.

The county is to organise the first session of a new Northern Regional Womens League and this will be held at Dunston Activities Centre on Sunday 29th January.

## STAFFORDSHIRE

*Jack Chalkley*

HAVING missed out on last month's notes, I must, rather belatedly, express on behalf of his many friends and colleagues in Staffordshire our sadness at the passing of Maurice Goldstein. Maurice was one of the founder members of the Staffordshire Association - along with Roy Colclough and the late Malcolm Scott - and, as with so many others in the table tennis fraternity, we owe a great deal to the tireless efforts of an outstanding man.

Russel Hadley, one of the top players - in both skill and popu-

larity - in the Stafford league for many years, underwent a liver transplant at the Adam Brooks Hospital, Cambridge on August 22, and I am pleased to say he has made a complete recovery.

He is out and about and watching some local table tennis and hopes to get back to the table soon after Christmas. Russell comes from a family well-known in Staffordshire table tennis circles. His father, Wilf, played in both the Stafford and Wolverhampton leagues before his untimely death a few years ago.



*Jill Harris, Staffordshire.*

He was the Stafford veterans' champion on at least one occasion. Russell's sister, Stephanie, reached county ranking standard, having won the cadet girls' title in '78 and '79 and the junior title in '81. She still plays in the Stafford league. As evidence of the high regard in which Russell is held, a local fund-raising effort realised the remarkable total of £1700. Club-mates at the Trades and Labour club held a sponsored table tennis event, a raffle run by table tennis friends at GEC St. Leonards raised £250, local leagues in both Stafford and Stone chipped in and Stafford league's sponsors, Matchpoint Sport and Leisure also contributed.

Mention of Stafford and Stone prompts a reference to the Stafford-Stone Tournament, quite a unique event in table tennis. The two towns are about 7 miles apart. Although within the same borough, they have each run their separate leagues for many years and there is no intention to amalgamate, even in those days when takeovers are the 'in' thing. They are both over-shadowed by Wolverhampton in the south and the Potteries in the north, with several players playing in more than one league. The Stafford-Stone Tournament is designed to involve players of all standards right down through the divisions.

Each league selects 32 players from all levels - based principally on each league's handicap list - to form eight graded teams, each to play 12 matches, singles and doubles, against its opposite number. The event celebrated its 21st this year. Stafford have won it on 12 occasions with one drawn, but Stone are catching up fast,

having won it last year with the previous year drawn. They retained the trophy this year with a convincing 53-43 scoreline, and Stafford will have to look to its laurels if they are to keep their overall lead. In the earlier years, the competitions was based on a Knock-out system which slightly favoured the larger, Stafford league but the new style gives a better balance to the competition.

Ron Harvey, who has been involved with the Stafford-Stone Tournament since its inception, is retiring as Stone secretary this year after 25 years of service. Stone will be hard put to find a successor to Ron, who not only puts in a lot of time coaching locally but is also their county representative, at which level he has also been involved with coaching administration for many years, currently as chairman of the coaching committee. Ron has 2 or 3 years to go before he retires so he will be around the table tennis scene for a while yet, but I know he and his wife, Margaret, hope to move to the south-west when the time comes.

In the Potteries league, Craig Bakewell is continuing where he left off last season, maintaining his 100% record with little sign of losing it in his current form. His team, Burslem ANC A, for whom Eddie Wilkes also has a clean sheet, will be pushed hard by both Kettler Ansells and Bradwell A, with Jill Harris still unbeaten for the latter. All three teams remain unbeaten after 9 matches so the crunch matches are still to come. Greg Hallam and Ivan Wain (both Bradwell), Mark Evans (Burslem) and Stephen Slater (Kettler) have only lost one apiece, but it must be added that only Slater has played in the full quota of matches.

Congratulations to eleven year old, Vicky Fox, a member of the Burslem club, on winning the girls' under-12 event at the Clywd Open.

## SHROPSHIRE

*Ian Marshall*

THE Pontesbury duo of John Lumley and Martin Williams maintained their unbeaten record to win the first division of the county league sponsored by the Shropshire Star at Grove School on November 20th to conclude the first session of play.

The victory was well deserved by the Pontesbury men with success in the final session of play over Grove's young duo of Richard Sutton and David Marshall and Pontesbury colleagues Colin Sayce and Jonathan Day.

Meanwhile a splendid unbeaten effort by Alan Harris steered Wrexham into second

place with the crucial match being a 3-1 defeat of Grove I duo Spencer Harris and Mark Turner to push the Market Drayton outfit into third place.

It was to be the rapidly improving skills of Craig Strickley in harness with the experience of Graham Samuel that captured the Concorde Trophies Division Two title ahead of Wrexham's Les Morris and Danny Harris with Tracey Nigh and Simon Edwards of Grove III in third place. The crucial matches proving to be the defeat of Grove III by the Telford pair by a 3-1 margin with experience crucial as Samuel remained unbeaten.

The every popular Grove School Graded singles monthly tournament saw success in the H and E Scaffolding Grade A2 event for newcomer to Market Drayton James Evans beating Evesham's Colin Green in a splendid final whilst the counterpart A1 event saw junior talent come to the fore as Spencer Harris of Grove beat Potteries rising star Neil Savage in a splendid encounter.



*Keith Sillitoe, Shropshire.*

Roofing Grade B title went to David Johnson over town colleague Christopher Haynes. The ever reliable Potteries contingent were not to be outdone as Dylan Griffiths beat Pontesbury's young Robert Rowson to win the Roofrite Grade C event and young Lyndsey Foxall captured the R.S. Bratton Building Contractors Grade D event ahead of colleague Helen Butcher.

Meanwhile the Talbot Hotel Grade E event proved as hard fought as ever with Grove's Ben Barry the winner over Potteries youngster Nicola Butcher with the impressive Grove youngsters Simon Woods and Paul Garratt the semi-final victims.

At national level Grove continue to be involved in thrilling matches in the Premier Division with draws against Ashford and Bathwick Tyres keeping the supporters alive whilst the Market Drayton club's run in the Nancy Evans Cup came to an end at the hands of Postas Budapest with the Hungarians winning a 5-3 thriller in Market Drayton.

## Counties 6

### SUSSEX

John Woodford

RITCHIE VENNER, son of the former Surrey and England player Harry Venner is front-runner for the title "Sussex Player of the Year".

Within a week, the Crawley, No. 2 on the Sussex rankings, put on a hat-trick of success that suggests he is becoming "second to none" more and more.

Surrey fielded Russian giant-killer Nicky Mason, Glenn Baker and Max Crimmins against Sussex in the Leeds County Championships, a side that Sussex found much too hot handle, although Venner stopped Crimmins and we only lost 7-3.

The next day at Broadbridge Heath LC, Venner struck again with a double over Leeds British leaders Rušlip, as he toppled Andy Wellman, the man who won the Sussex title when studying at Sussex University.



Ritchie Venner

The triple came the next weekend when Venner retained the West Sussex title with Phil Smith absent. Highly unusual - no women in that event, most of them were at the clashing Southern Masters, leaving too few others to make it worthwhile, regretfully, a sign of the times.

With everything more expensive, equipment, venues (therefore the cost of running events) there is a tendency for only those with either chances of winning or gaining computer points to enter tournaments.

### SURREY

Terry Vance

THAMES VALLEY LEAGUE Division 2 has MMB I at the top with 47 points followed by Elmbridge 2 on 44 points. Score cards are still arriving late and thus leading to an untrue picture in the League table. After the ninth week of matches the averages are led by John Garland with Norman Sugarhood in close pursuit. Thanks to John Fairweather for sending a very comprehensive computer print out.

Wandsworth League has 36 teams divided into 6 divisions of

6 teams. In the 1st Division Earlsfield are still top as they have been for many seasons. Lambeth are 2nd at the moment but things could easily change the other 4 teams are all within 6 points of Lambeth. Top of the averages is S. Holloway followed by S. Campbell.

In Division 2 Goldshore A lead Crescent by 2 points followed 1 point behind by Club 24. Top of the averages is G. Psorakis who is leading R. Bolton. Thanks to John Llewellyn for this information.

The Sutton League is 40 seasons old this year but they are not celebrating until the 50th anniversary. I remember the 25th anniversary or was it the 21st, anyhow I did enjoy the Dinner dance so it was probably felt that I needed more than 15 years to recover from the alcoholic haze.

The Goldshore Table Tennis Club have just opened their new premises in Spencer Park. They aim to provide courses and coaching for members as well as non-members. For information on this new club contact John Llewellyn, 10 Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, London SW3 5QZ or Telephone 01-351 5584.

Further to Ken Woodard's letter in the November issue I visited him and collected his magazines to update my collection. He is now playing in the Croydon League and has been playing continuous TT since 1938. During this summer of 1988 he hurt his knee playing tennis and has decided to give up TT at the age of 82 to concentrate on tennis.

### SUFFOLK

Grenville Scoulding

SUFFOLK started the new County Junior Championship with two teams in Division 2D. Suffolk 1 travelled to Dartford to play Kent 2 while Suffolk 2 met a very strong Essex side.

The first team's match proved to be a great success, Suffolk winning 7-3 in sets. Mark Dawson (Lowestoft) won both his games, while brothers Adam and Richard Cole (Lowestoft) both won one and lost one.

Janet Scoulding (Bury) and Emma Corbett (Lowestoft) both won their games, but lost when paired up for the doubles. The boy's doubles was won to complete the scoring.

Dawson's match with Danny Illing was the highlight of the afternoon, the Lowestoft boy winning 21-15, 17-21, 23-25.

Suffolk 2 had a baptism of fire against a very strong Essex side, losing 10-0. As hard as they tried, they just lacked the experience at this level.

The highlight of the afternoon was Stuart Wadsworth's fighting

performance against Gary Tandler before losing 25-23, 16-21, 8-21.

Wadsworth, of Ipswich, was joined by Paul McGerty (Hendon), Toby Lowe (Bury St. Edmunds), Suzanne Burdett (Ipswich) and Sonja Smith (Ipswich).

When the Suffolk table tennis Junior County second side faced the mighty first team the top flight took the honours with an 8-2 scoreline.

Adam Cole (Lowestoft) won both his sets quite comfortably, beating Graham Watts (Stowmarket) and Toby Lowe (Bury St. Edmunds). Mark Dawson (Lowestoft) recorded a two-straight win over Stuart Wadsworth (Ipswich) but surprisingly lost to Watts in three. Richard Cole easily despatched an unwell Lowe in two straight but had to draw on all his experience in a tight tussle with Wadsworth.

In the doubles event the first team girls of Janet Scoulding (Bury St. Edmunds) and Emma Corbett (Lowestoft) comfortably beat the second team pairing of Suzanne Burdett (Ipswich) and Sonja Smith (Ipswich).

Janet also recorded a win over Suzanne in the singles. However Emma had a bit of a fright in her singles against an in-form Sonja, losing the first at 11 and clawing back to take the second at deuce. In the third, Emma gained in confidence and gradually forged ahead to take it at 11.

### WARWICKSHIRE

Geoff Taylor

IN THIS day and age to get sponsorship is an achievement and in Warwickshire this season we have been fortunate to have found a sponsor who not only helps with equipment and cash but is also a participant and a self confessed table tennis "nut". Gordon Andrews whose firm G.B. Andrews and Company Income Tax Consultants has supplied the County Teams with shirts and has also given financial help for the upkeep of the teams.

Gordon is also in the process of becoming a County Umpire, he has passed the written paper and has only the practical test to do. Gordon has played table tennis for a number of years in the Birmingham, Stratford on Avon and Evesham leagues and although he has not made the top grade as a player his commitment has always been to be a winner and a good sportsman. One of his other main loves is cricket and during the benefit year of Geoff Humpage the Warwickshire cricketer he toured the West Indies with a Geoff Humpage Select team.

Another off shoot of his keenness is that one of his clients, a Dave Ismay who is a local comedian runs a company Vel Ray Arts and the company sponsor the Birmingham based British League Team - West Warwicks.

The Coventry League are trying to set up a coaching course for beginners, it is proving difficult even to find players who have ever held a bat. The Coventry schools league was once a thriving concern but now there is very little signs of any competitive activity taking place in the city schools.

The Coventry schools championships used to be held annually and was always a top class event but unfortunately even this has ceased to exist.

Coventry league secretary Jack Elliott is trying to get the Coventry City council involved but the stumbling block as always is cash. The council are not prepared to help out financially or even with the help of premises.

### WORCESTER

Dave Roden

Two rounds of Leeds County Championships matches have been played since my last notes. On 29th October, Worcs 1st's and Veterans both met Warwickshire teams. The 1st team match in Div 1A ended 5-5, following some superb games.

Murray Jukes beat Phil Gunn 17, 20 in the opening set, but Barry Johnson cancelled this out with a 19 in the third win over Trevor Washington. Malcolm Green restored Worcs lead with a 15, 14 defeat of Adrian Dixon, but the Warks ladies Sandra Peakman and Sue Culbertson beat Sandra Roden and Louise Davis in the doubles to make it 2-2.



Sandra Roden

Jukes and Green beat Dixon and Gunn 7, 15, but Gunn then beat Washington 14, 18 for 3-3.

Culbertson beat Davies and Dixon beat Jukes in three to give Warks a 5-3 lead. Sandra Roden then beat Sandra Peakman two straight and Malcolm Green scored a superb 14, -16, 20 win over Johnson in the final set, recovering from 16-20 down in the third game to tie the match.

The Veterans match with Warwickshire resulted in a 6-3 victory, with Roy Norton and Ray Dixon both winning their two singles,

## Counties 7

Worcester: Cont.  
from Page 24

Mervyn Wood won one singles and Janet Hunt her singles. The County 2nd team match with Herefordshire also ended 5-5; Sue Meredith and Jane McLean won the three ladies games.

November 26th was the date for the next round of matches. Worcs 1sts entertained the strong Essex team, and lost 6-4 following a 1½ hour delay in starting due to extreme travel problems experienced by the visitors.

Sandra Roden and Mandy House won their 3 sets against Elaine Sayer and Kate Gower all two straight and Malcolm Green beat Dave Newman 20, 17, but Steve Dorking and Des Charley proved a bit too strong for Worcs on this occasion.

The Veterans team however, scored a good 7-2 victory at Northamptonshire. Mervyn Wood lost one singles, but Roy Norton, Kay Dixon and Janet Hunt were all unbeaten in singles, Northants winning the mixed doubles.

The Senior 2nd team lost 9-1 at Wiltshire, with captain Ken Walton being our sole winner with a victory over Trevor Lloyd.

On the tournament scene, Worcs players picked up several trophies in the recent Woodfield 1 Star Tournament. Sandra Roden was runner-up to Helen Lower in the Ladies Singles and joined

Helen for victory in the Doubles Final, beating Doreen Scofield and Connie Moran.

Lee Horton won the Cadet Boys event for the 2nd year running, beating Steven Meddings in the final.

The Junior Boys Singles saw Thompson finish runner-up to top seed Hanks, while the Junior Girls Doubles Final was a real cliff-hanger, Sara Stone and Paula Hughes doing well to reach the final, only to lose 16, -17, 22 to winners Nicola Meddings and Michelle Martin.

### YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

WITH news from around the county very much at a premium – British Telecom must be making serious losses on their operation in Yorkshire! – my thoughts turned to a recent meeting of the Hull Association at which information was exchanged with an official of the disabled sports organization with a view to offering greater opportunities to the physically handicapped enthusiast.

The recent visit of Bradford's David Hope to the Paralympics in Seoul came to mind, Phil Rogers of Hull, a 'regular' in the top divisions of the local League and now making his way in Veteran Division 3 of the Yorkshire League and, of course, Yorkshire

Management Committee member Clive Warley, a former Chairman of the York Association.

Many players on the tournament circuit will know 'umpire extraordinary' Clive, a familiar figure in the blue uniform, bustling to the table at various northern events, but how many know that the naturally left handed Clive is a feared opponent, playing RIGHT handed in the middle divisions of the York League.



Chris Oldfield suffered a shock defeat at Coventry by Andrew Eden, 17, 12.

And behind this simple fact is a story of great bravery and determination by a man who spent much of the first 15 years of his life in hospitals. Born paralysed from the waist down, and with his hands joined to his legs, those with less courage than Clive would have given up any ideas of participation in sporting activity.

Using a stick, held in the left hand, to balance he taught himself to play table tennis right

handed, playing his early table tennis in school in North Yorkshire, where he was born, before joining the York League after moving to the Minster city to work in 1957.

Although realizing that he would never reach the top as a player, Clive felt that he could nevertheless contribute much to the sport which he had come to love, and took up umpiring, qualifying as a County Umpire at the age of 19.

After a quarter of a century on the Committee of the York Association, during which time he was presented with the West Yorkshire Trophy, awarded to the player or official contributing most to York table tennis, Clive resigned after co-ordinating the League's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, but still serves ex-officio on a number of sub-committees.

Now also a representative on the County Association, a very active umpire and, above all still playing for Fulford Road W.M.C., the club of which he is the secretary, Clive's determination and dedication – a true Tyke, he would call it Yorkshire 'grit' – is an example to all.

Which brings me back to my introduction. When the Hull League first began to look at providing better facilities for their disabled players, who was the first to offer advice and help – yes, of course, Clive.



DEBBIE TOOLE, from Normanton, Yorkshire lost in the final of the Leeds Junior National Championships at Coventry to the No. 1 Julie Billington of Derbyshire.

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## Coaching is still not healthy?

I AM full of admiration for coaches like Hans Soova (Table Tennis News, October 1988), whose record in producing top players is truly exceptional. (I wish I could do the same in Milton Keynes!). Like John Preat, I too am impressed by Ron Applegates coaching scheme in Norwich with 150 youngsters. But these success stories should not delude us into believing that coaching in England is in a generally healthy state. It is not.

In public relation and morale boosting terms the air of optimism that now pervades Table Tennis is understandable, even laudable. And there has been much to celebrate; the Leeds Sponsorship, the Swedish and Chinese tours, Table Tennis on T.V. and at the Olympics, the continuing expansion of the British League, the Women in Table Tennis movement etc. Yes, our sport does have a higher profile. Marketing has been a resounding success.

But pause to reflect. Contrary to information seemingly attributed to Jim Beckley in 'Sport and Leisure' (October), the ETTA is not experiencing a massive increase in membership. John Woodford's October Table Tennis News editorial reminds us that membership is declining still, though at a slightly slower rate.

An instant surplus of new members over those 'retiring' was unlikely, but at least the decline should have by now, flattened out. Why hasn't it? Malcolm Allsop gets to the crux of the matter when in his November 'Newsletter' editorial he writes, "Membership in local leagues greatly depends upon the enthusiasm of workers at local level." Too true.

I take issue when he goes on to say, "and the National Association can only assist them by providing the platform upon which they can build their membership." The ETTA can provide more. The ETTA can provide practical support.

What is so wrong about the present strategy is the scant regard to helping localities, already lacking in workers and activity, to accommodate those newly enthused by the excellent publicity. The best advertisement in the world is useless if the product is not available and accessible to potential customers. Which take me back to coaching.

One very good way of making table tennis available to people, of bringing them into the game, is to provide coaching. By coaching, I

do not mean teaching in a rigidly structured way only, but facilitating participation and learning, giving instruction as appropriate. Despite the impression given by management, there is not nearly enough effective coaching going on.

It is most upsetting that precisely when the ETTA could and should have been providing real support to fieldworker coaches, not through the tokenism of the one-off regional coach visits but through the services of full time national coaches with well defined and targetted developmental briefs, the possibility of such support was taken away.

I have highlighted the imbalance between marketing and development; in particular the most unfortunate relegation in the role of coaching at the very time it should have played a big part in translating today's publicity into tomorrow's players.

A resetting of priorities and reallocations of resources is urgently required. The ETTA should work swiftly towards employing a team of staff coaches, charged with building up grass roots activity. Whatever funds become available, those in power do not seem to have the slightest intention of following this course of action. Obstacles are still put in the way of a former dedicated and skilled employee who wishes to make his contribution.

Some progress will be made. We should be grateful that we still do have the Hans Soovas and Ron Applegates of this world, and many unsung heroes besides, working to develop table tennis at local level. Unfortunately, too few to satisfy the potential demand. I fear that another opportunity to massively increase participation will be lost, Remember 1977?

**KEN MUHR**

### CHAIRMAN'S REPLY

KEN Muhr's theories are based on a number of wrong assumptions. We DID employ more full-time staff coaches, which appears to be what he advocates, for a number of years. During that period membership losses were greater than they are now. Four out of five member leagues generally did not avail themselves of the FREE coaching visit. It is likely that the majority of our members never saw a staff coach. The cost per coach (including overheads) was £20,000 per annum and our Chief Executive worked out that each hour spent ON THE TABLE cost us £20. The cost of the scheme was so high that it brought us to the verge of bankruptcy. A loss of £50,000 could hardly be ignored. Most of this was due to over-staffing.

Necessity proved to be the mother of invention and a far bet-

ter coaching scheme has emerged. Great credit is due to Vice-Chairman Stuart Sneyd, Donald and Jill Parker for achieving this. Costs are lower, much lower. The Scheme is based on part-time coaches, the kind who have been responsible for most of our best players and most development at the grass roots.

Whilst I am Chairman, there will be neither overspending nor overstaffing. The role of the volunteer will be of extreme importance. What Ken suggests can be achieved by democratic means. The employment of four staff coaches will cost £80,00 and will require an increase in affiliation fees of 83%. If he can persuade the membership that this is a good idea, I wish him luck. You will also need a new chairman.

**JOHN PREAN**

*Editor's Note: I feel that I have again been fair to Ken Muhr presenting his arguments. The basic points seem very familiar and the Chairman's reply is the view which seems to have been accepted by a huge majority - four full-time coaches was a luxury that pushed the ETTA to the brink of financial disaster. Both sides of the debate having been put, the "vote" seems to have gone to the Establishment, so the correspondence on the general strategy of coaching is concluded except for viable new ideas.*

## Image problem

I HAVE much sympathy with Pat Wales' letter ("Last Straw - Ping-Pong on Television - TT News November). I have recently written to both the Editor of the Financial Times and Sebastian Coe, as Vice-Chairman of the Sports Council, on this topic. I apologise to our readers for the name dropping!

I agree that the ping-pong term presents us with an image problem and is disliked by most of our members. We see Table Tennis as a riveting international sport, not as a parlour game. Nevertheless large numbers are involved in the latter and we have to find some of our future members from these ranks and convert them to the more dynamic game we play or try to.

TV commentators are not unkind. They do not know the difference between Table Tennis and Ping Pong and therefore use what appears to them the snappier term.

I hope that Pat feels that my team and I have tried to project a good image of the sport to the wider public and that we have carried our message to far more people via the national press and TV than was the case before my election. The sport market place is a very competitive and crowded one and the battle continues.

**JOHN PREAN**

## The Belgian "casual" Tournaments

FOLLOWING your invitation to comment, I would say that I have no doubt that Mr. Twiss's account of the Wenduine Tournament is accurate, and that it is typical of events of this nature in Belgium. I was only present for the latter stages when I umpired a few matches.

It is clearly stated in the entry form that losing players will be required to umpire the next match at that table. This is common practice in Belgium. Presumably this can be justified under International Reg. 4.1.2.4. Failing to accept this obligation makes the player liable to two weeks suspension from Inter-Club matches! Open tournaments are organised under license from the Belgian Federation, by clubs, and the financial returns are vital for their continued existence. These events are very popular, especially those at the coast in the summer. The event at Ostend in August, 1987, had 1,400 entries, and was played on some 30 tables - there could never be sufficient umpires to staff all of them.

This is the first season when official umpires have been obligatory for the latter stages of Series A tournaments - I had been agitating for this for several years.

From my experience in England (and Belgium), I cannot recall a match controlled by a losing competitor being accurately administered as regards the legality of services!

The harassed officials at the control table certainly have no time to inspect competitors' bats.

I make no effort to justify the "casual" system, but give some background to its evolution. Mention is made of payment to umpires. This involves a small sum of out-of-pocket expenses, plus travel costs of BF 7 per Km (National level) or BF 5 per Km (Provincial level), which is paid to the car driver, who is expected to bring other umpires with him. If this well established concession was withdrawn the system would collapse. Many umpires still play regularly, and are thus often unavailable when their services are required.

When I started training umpires in Brabant (1983/84) we were only 4 in number, now, despite some transferred and others who have given up the number has risen to 23.

Few other provinces make a serious attempt to give basic training. It is only some three years that a reliable French ver-

(cont on Page 27)

# Mailbox and Hampshire

cont. from Page 26

sion of the Laws & Regs has been available. National exams have only existed for three seasons, and these are only theoretical tests. Many able officials have to devote their limited free time to National administration. The Belgian Federation office boasts only one full time and one part-time paid employees.

The prize money for top tournaments is sufficiently interesting for good players to accept many indiscretions, and lower down

the line nobody wants to know anyway! I push DIPLOMATICALLY for improvement - my Belgian colleagues are very kind to me! There are many good intentions, limited opportunities, but no sense of urgency. Much more could be said - things are improving - but slowly.

DEREK TYLER  
International Umpire  
President de la Commission de  
Controle des Arbitres pour la  
F.R.B.T.T.

## Order of play in the groups at the Cleveland open . . .

I AM sure that my friends in Cleveland will not take it amiss if I draw attention to the unhappiness felt by some players and their coaches at the Cleveland Junior Select Tournament as to the way in which the groups were structured. Normally if A, B and C are the competitors in descending order of strength and A duly beats B in the first set, one would expect the loser (B) to play C next, thus leaving the group open to be decided in Set No 3.

However, at Cleveland, it was the rule that A played C second,

the latter coming on completely cold to play A who not only was likely to be ranked competitor but who was also nicely warmed up. If A won, and he was likely to do it in these circumstances, B v C as the third set was of no interest to anybody.

Could Cleveland make a note to adjust their system to make everybody happy?

ALAN SHEPHERD

Flat 6,  
32 Green Road,  
Southgate, N 14

## HAMPSHIRE CHAMPIONSHIPS

On this occasion it was the National League matches which were postponed to enable, their players to take part in the main event of the Hampshire season.

In the Mens Singles much went according to form in the early group matches although John Roberts, going through a 'purple patch' ousted Graham Outrim in the groups and then knocked out No. 4 seed Tony Duffield in the next round. In the quarter finals, No. 1 seed, Graham Toole beat Andy Ely, John Roberts beat Norman Stagg, No. 3 seed, Mark Wilding beat Tony Catt and Rhamish Bhalla, No. 2 seed, beat Jeff Mitchell. At the semi stage, Graham Toole lost the opening game to John Roberts at 16, won the next at 7 and from 8-10 at the

change in the third game went through to win 21-12 taking the lat 9 points.

Mark Wilding beat Rhamish Bhalla 14 and 20. In the Final it was a question of defa vue for the game went exactly the same as the 1986 final. Mark won the first comfortably at 12, lost the second at 16 and lead all through the third, only to be pipped at 19.

I felt Graham was not at his best, make more mistakes than usual but showing his normal fighting qualities to come back to justify his No. 1 ranking.

In the Womens Singles, Cheryl Buttery and Sarah Hammond, the No. 1 and 2 seeds, comfortably came through the groups. Sarah was wel down in the first game, having difficulty with Cheryl's

service and lacking consistency in her attacking strokes. A few loose shots from Cheryl however in the middle of this game enabled Sarah to catch up and lead 21-20 only for Cheryl to win the next 3 points.

The secong game followed the same pattern, but this time Sarah lead 20-18 and stretching for a wide show she dropped her bat and lost the point to make it 20-19. At this stage playing the next point the bat came apart in her hand and she again lost the point to level the game at 20 all. Unfortunately, using a borrowed bat, she lost the next two points to

give Cheryl the Championship. In the Mens Doubles the two Singles winners, Graham Toole and Mark Wilding comfortably beat Tony Duffield and Steve Riley 11 and 10. Similarly in the Ladies Doubles the two Singles winners, Sarah Hammond and Cheryl Buttery teamed up to beat Sarah Turner and Tina Caws 20 and 12. John Roberts joined Cheryl Buttery in the Mixed Doubles to give Cheryl her third title when they beat Tony Catt and Sarah Hammond 18 and 20. In the Veterans Mens Singles Graham Lynnh beat Ken Giles 19 and 14.

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## We are off to Wales in the Spring

# BUTTERFLY 9th COMMONWEALTH CHAMPIONSHIPS – CARDIFF, 1989

## England's five titles to defend



by THE EDITOR

THE COMMONWEALTH Championships have not surfaced since 1985, when on the Isle of Man, England took five titles including singles wins by Desmond Douglas and Karen Witt!

It is too early to speculate with any accuracy how many nations will compete at the National Sports Centre of Wales in Cardiff from March 19-26 but a large entry is expected as all the teams will be going to the world championships that start three days later in Dortmund.

Present information is that the tournament will be run by the Welsh TTA and masterminded by Roy and Nancy Evans, so the usual high-calibre Welsh hospitality should be anticipated. Which reminds me, whatever happened to the Welsh Open? No doubt, Roy Evans will be delighted to tell us it is on the calendar for 1991?



The Cardiff-based ever-greens Nancy and Roy Evans will be in charge of the Commonwealth Championships.

In the past four years, several Commonwealth countries have acquired professional coaches, some Chinese, which also reminds us that Hongkong are certain to provide some of the strongest opposition for England whose chance of success with five men coming up with results of world-beating stature, cannot be much brighter.



Desmond Douglas, the Commonwealth mens singles champion, Isle of man, 1985.

## The Countdown to Dortmund

by ALAN FLETCHER

WITH just two months to go to the World Table-Tennis Championships in the Westfalenhallen, Dortmund, between 29th March and 9th April, 1988, preparations are going well.

Advance ticket sales are very pleasing and, with the help of ISL Marketing GmbH (an Exclusive Sports – Marketing Agency), table-tennis in Germany is enjoying a high profile. In terms of participation, recent figures suggest that table-tennis is the fifth most popular sport in the world and the seventh most popular in Germany.

Certainly, there is a realistic chance that about 80 teams will compete, that there will be over 2,000 competitors, officials, journalists etc and that 100,000 spectators will be present.

The team events will take place during the first week and, after a free day on April 5th, the individual events begin. Hall 1 will be the focal point; it will contain 6 tables and accommodate 10,000 spectators – a 'Centre Court' atmosphere is anticipated. Additionally, Hall 4 will contain about 22 tables and accommodate 4,000 spectators. A training hall and a sports exhibition are also part of the complex.

*Editor's note: Alan Fletcher, the former England international has worked in West Germany as a schoolmaster for several years. He will be one of the "hosts" at the championships. He attended in November a three-day "school" for would-be attaches and hostesses. Alan will be working for the Deutscher Tisch-Tennis Bund at Dortmund.*

## EVENTS COMING UP . . .

2 Jan	Stiga Top 12, Clacton
7 Jan	The Leeds County Championships
7-8 Jan	Tameside 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
4 Feb	The Leeds County Championships
5 Feb	The Leeds British League
5 Feb	North Bournemouth 1-star
8 Feb	European League, England v Belgium, Leeds
10-11 Feb	The Leeds Masters, Preston
14 Feb	European League, England v Turkey, Bexleyheath
18 Feb	The Leeds County Championships
18 Feb	The Leeds Youth Cup Regionals
18-19 Feb	The Leeds County Championships, Senior Premier
25 Feb	The Leeds County Championships
25 Feb	Selby Junior 1-star
26 Feb	The Leeds British League
4-5 Mar	VETTS Western, Swindon
4-5 Mar	Derby Junior 2-star Select

## OCEANIA RANKING LIST

### Men:

1. Barry Griffiths (NZL)
2. Gary Haberl (AUS)
3. Peter Jackson (NZL)
4. Eddie Kasser (AUS)
5. Malcolm Darroch (NZL)
6. Alois Rosario (AUS)
7. Raoul Rainouard (NC)
8. Gary Traill (NZL)
9. Yannick Utia (FP)
10. Brad Peel (AUS)

### Women:

1. Kerri Tepper (Aus)
2. Wendy Hughes (AUS)
3. Nadia Bisiach (AUS)
4. Christine Little (NZL)
5. Vanessa Balfour (NZL)
6. Chantal Koleon (FP)
7. Fabienne Babin (NC)
8. Marina Mathieu (NC)
9. Sarah Munday (NZL)
10. Karine Babin (NC)

## MIDLAND COUNTIES THREE-STAR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Cooke wins, shock for Mason

NATIONAL rankings went true to form as the number one seeds in both the Men's and Women's singles reached their allotted places in the finals and then went on to take the titles and winners cheques. For the second year the tournament was held at the Cocks Moors Woods Leisure Centre, a venue which is second to none in Birmingham.

A record 205 players played in the Mens singles and a total of 56 contested the womens event.

Top seed Alan Cooke reached the semi final with very little difficulty. In the same half No. 3 seed Jimmy Stokes reached the quarter final before losing to Matthew Syed in straight games. In the semi-final Alan won the first game 23-21 and then Matthew fought back to take the second game 23-21, the third game was an anti-climax as Alan stormed through to win 21-11.

The bottom half of the draw saw No. 2 seed Nicky Mason lose to the Scottish player John Broe who in turn lost to Bradley Billington in the quarter final. No 4 seed John Souter had a more difficult draw, but playing some great table tennis he reached the semi-final in which once again it took some great play to beat Bradley Billington in the third game and secure his place in the final.

The final was won in straight sets by Alan Cooke, the first game

John only managed to win 9 points, the second game was an entirely different story, John was matching Alan point but finally succumbed 21-19.

The Womens singles was a story of the 4 top seeds winning through to the semi-finals in which top seed Alison Gordon beat No 3 seed Fiona Elliott and the No 2 seed Lisa Lomas beat the No 4 seed Joy Grundy. The final was a hard fought match with Alison finally getting the better of Lisa 21-16 in the third game.

The Men's doubles saw No. 1 seeds Bradley Billington and Sean Gibson fall at the first hurdle to Carl Morgan and Adrian Dixon who in turn fell to the southern partnership of Glenn Baker and Max Crimmins in the semi-final. The bottom half saw the No. 2 seeds John Souter and Colin Wilson play to the semi-final before losing out to Phil Bradbury and Graham Sandley. The final turned out to be a straight games win for Phillip and Graham.

### RESULTS

#### Mens Singles

##### Quarter finals

A Cooke (Dy) bt. P Bradbury (Bu) 11, 8.  
M Syed (Bk) bt. J Stokes (Bk) 16, 15.  
B Billington (Dy) bt. J Broe (Sco) 16, 16.  
J Souter (Mx) bt G Baker (Sy) 16, 20.

##### Semi finals

A Cooke bt M Syed 21, -21, 11.  
J Souter bt. B Billington 18, -15, 15.

##### Final

A Cooke bt. J Souter 9, 19.

#### Womens Singles

##### Quarter finals

A Gordon (Bk) bt. A Holt (La) 18, 14.  
F Elliott (St) bt. J Harris (St) 9, 6.  
J Grundy (La) bt. J Shaw (Y) 10, 12.  
L Lomas (Bd) bt. M Sainsbury (Bk) 15, 16.

##### Semi finals

A Gordon bt. F Elliott 17, -17, 15.  
L Lomas bt. J Grundy 15, 16.

##### Final

A Gordon bt. L Lomas -14, 15, 16.

#### Mens doubles

##### Semi finals

P Bradbury (Bu)/G Sandley (Mx) bt. G Baker (Sy)/M Crimmins (Bk) 20, 11.  
S Dorking (E)/J Stokes (Bk) bt. J Broe (Sco)/N Mason (Sx) -20, 11, 21.

##### Final

S Dorking/J Stokes bt. P Bradbury/G Sandley 17, 13.

#### Womens doubles

##### Semi finals

L Lomas (Bd)/F Elliott (St) bt. A Holt (La)/J Shaw (Y) 6, 14.  
A Gordon (Bk)/M Sainsbury (Bk) bt. S Collier (Bk)/J Harris (St) 24, 15.

##### Final

L Lomas/F Elliott bt. A Gordon/M Sainsbury 15, 12.

#### Veterans singles

##### Semi finals

J Hilton (La) bt. A Isaacs (St) 18, -20, 17.  
A Meads (Sx) bt. T Campbell (E) 18, 16.

##### Final

J Hilton bt. A Meads 17, 19.

#### Mens restricted singles

##### Semi finals

M Harper (Ca) bt R Tanner (Sk) 19, 18.  
G Solder (E) bt. J Taylor (E) -11, 18, 9.

##### Final

G Solder bt. M Harper 19, -12, 17.

#### Womens restricted singles

##### Semi finals

H Lower (St) bt. C Butterfly (Li) 19, 11.  
J Billington (Dy) bt S Roden (St) 16, 17.

##### Final

H Lower bt. J Billington -13, 17, 19.

## MIDDLESEX 3-STAR OPEN TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Five-star win for Billington

IT IS a pity that, through no fault of Middlesex or the ETTA, the Middlesex 3-Star Open Table Tennis Championships always seem to clash with an International event. We have to book Picketts Lock 2 years in advance and with the International Calendar being issued shortly before the beginning of the season, there is nothing we can do to prevent the apparently inevitable clash.

This year the French Open clashed with us, so once again the selected England players were missing from our event. Nevertheless the loyalty of our "regulars" ensured that we had a bumper entry with virtually everyone who was available coming to Picketts Lock.

The only slight "fly in the ointment" was that our hall had been re-decorated and a new floor laid without anyone thinking of telling us! But after one or two comments from players, the change was accepted without serious complaint.

With 52 Groups of 4 Men, 15 Groups of Women, and 2 sessions of Qualifying Men's Doubles, the Saturday was hectic and very hard working for our umpires who worked a 13-hour day, but all went smoothly and we finished at a reasonable time.

On the Sunday, the serious business began. Unfortunately two of our seeds in the Men's Singles failed to arrive, but as it

was one from each half, it did not seriously affect the draw. But the title of "giant killer" of the event must go to Michael O'Driscoll of Yorkshire who, although No.1 on the Junior Ranking List, is only 28 on the Senior List. I have a feeling that he will be going up a few places on the next list.

On his way to the Final, Michael eliminated Adrian Dixon (Warwicks), Chris Oldfield (Yorks), Nigel Tyler (Wales), Phillip Bradbury (Bucks) and in a thrilling Semi-Final, Jimmy Stokes (Berks), all of whom, except Oldfield, have higher ranking. We can expect great things of that young man!

One of the most exciting matches I saw part of was that between Jimmy Stokes and Peter Jackson of New Zealand. The match contained every shot in the book and Jimmy only just managed to beat Peter 26-24 in the third. The crowd round the table and the applause at the end showed how much it was appreci-

ated. Both the Semi-Finals was good, hard-fought matches with Michael O'Driscoll beating Jimmy Stokes, and Bradley Billington (Derbyshire) stopping John Souter (Middlesex). The

#### New Name

Final resulted in yet another new name on our Roll of Honour, that of Bradley Billington.

The Women's Singles went according to Ranking with the 4 top seeds coming through to the Semi-Finals and Joy Dean (Lancs) beating Mandy Sainsbury (Berks) in the Final.

#### Russell Grant!

Our Reception and Finals were attended by our new President, Mr. Russell Grant, the ETTA President, Mr. Johnny Leach, the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Enfield, and Mr. T. Limna, Chief Executive of the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority.

I would like to express our appreciation for the financial

by IRIS MOSS

assistance given to us by Stiga UK Ltd and the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority.

### RESULTS

#### MS Semi-Finals:

M. O'Driscoll (Yorks) beat J. Stokes (Berks), 14, -16, 19.  
B. Billington (Derbys) beat J. Souter (Middlesex) 18, 21.  
Billington beat O'Driscoll -26, 13, 16.

#### WS Semi-Finals:

Joy Grundy (Lancs) beat Carol Giles (Devon) 11, 17.  
Mandy Sainsbury (Berks) beat Jill Harris (Staffs) -12, 10, 18.

#### Final:

Joy Grundy beat Mandy Sainsbury 19, -14, 21.

#### MD Final:

Billington and S. Gibson (Lancs) beat Souter and C. Wilson (Middlesex) 18, 20.

#### WD Final:

Sue Collier (Berks) and Jill Harris beat Joy Grundy and Jean Parker (Lancs) 19, 20.

#### Veterans' Singles:

##### Final:

J. Hilton (Lancs) beat M. Shearer (Lincs) -18, 14, 13.

## The south-east gets under way

### LONDON & SOUTH EAST REGION

by THE EDITOR



Chris Rogers the Leicester leading player was recently beaten in the Leeds British League by the England champion Alison Gordon.



Mandy House is the Worcester No. 2 to Sandra Roden. Mandy, daughter of well known veteran John Mytton was recently married, so that is why she is Mandy House.

IT WAS almost like a re-union when the two regions had their combined meeting under the stands at Crystal Palace on December 2. It was an interesting gathering – the meeting attracted 12 members include the new chairman ETTA vice-chairman Chris Wright.

The region(s) have of course been plagued in recent months by the David Fairholm affair and there was a resolve amongst the members to emerge from that conflict and go on with the Major Task – getting more people playing the game, for goodness sake!

To add spice to the occasion, Michael Close represented Middlesex, Brian Spicer did the minutes, Bernard Rowley surfaced again with his peppery but usually accurate comments and Gail McCulloch (Woking) spoke well on the necessity of the ETTA giving good standing to the London Ranking tournament, bearing in mind that they are a sub-committee of the RCC and unconnected (now) with The Big Row. The committee endorsed the recommendation for Good Standing. There can be little doubt that if the ETTA refuse, the clouds will return.

Another unanimous move was, also prickly. As the regions number two, not one

and many more players are close to the top of the junior and cadet rankings it is currently unfair that London and S.E. are only allocated singles places in events like the Leeds Youth and the select junior tournaments. In terms of population alone, let alone achievement, there is a huge imbalance and lot of injustice said the region to the ETTA power corridors via the new chairman Chris Wright, who chaired the meeting calmly but left the Palace looking very thoughtful about his messages he will be taking to the Management Committee.



Chris Wright from Tunbridge Wells, Kent is the ETTA Vice-chairman (Competitions) and has also taken up the Chair at the London and South-East Region Committee.

## DAVID EVANS MENCAP VICTOR

Report by

MIKE LOVEDER

## New bats from Kettler

THE three star Grand Prix bat spearheads a new table tennis accessory range introduced by Kettler (GB) and endorsed by top ladies star Fiona Elliot.

With a five ply blade, 2.5mm sandwich sponge insert and shaped handle, the Grand Prix bat is one of three models in the range approved by the International Table Tennis Federation. The others are the two star Supermatch which has a concave handle and 2mm sponge insert, and the one star Jet with straight handle.

The company's Flash, Break and Combi bats, ideal for school, home or youth club play, are similar to the ITTF approved models in that they also have five ply blades. Both the Break and Combi feature sponge inserts and flared handles. All the bats are presented in a pvc Cover.

All six bats offer superb playing characteristics of spin, speed and control.

Bat covers are available in three colours, navy blue and red, with white and black lettering respectively, and in silver with navy blue lettering.

One, two and three star balls are also included in the range. These are in boxes of three with the carton colour coded to denote star rating (one star – green, two star – blue and three star – red).

Net sets include the Vario (TT16) and Hobby (TT17), while a TT18 presentation pack includes two Kettler branded bats, three balls and net set.



THE SEVENTH Annual London Region table tennis championships for mentally handicapped were staged on Wednesday 23 November at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre. Organised by the UKSAPMH (UK Sports Association for People with Mental Handicap) in conjunction with Clive Oakman Table Tennis, the tournament was opened by Mrs Wood, the Deputy mayor of Bromley.

244 Matches were contested on 26 tables between 10.30am and 4.30pm. London was divided into two halves, North and South and 19 London boroughs were represented from Brent to Bromley. For the benefit of those who were eliminated early on there was a coaching clinic run by David Fairholm, Peter Apotheker and Surrey junior Graham Connolly. Competitors with familiar looking names included Cook, Mason, McQueen, Clayton, Taylor and Walker!

The Mens Singles favourite and winner of the mini-olympics in Cleethorpes in September, David Evans (Redbridge), cruised to the North London final in which he beat Peter Judge (Havering) 20, 18. The South London MS final was won by Michael Salter (Sutton) 6, 10 against Peter Green (Croydon). The Womens Singles S. London final was comfortably won by Brenda Addis (Sutton) 8, 3 against Cheryl Norman (Croydon) and the N London final saw Lesley Fowler (Newham) triumph 19, 13 over Caroline Dines (Westminster).

The London finals were all fairly one-sided with the exception of the mens doubles which went to the full three games. The small army of umpires enjoyed their day at a tournament of players who spent most, if not all, of the day quite happy, winning or losing.

### RESULTS

MS: D Evans (Redbridge) b M Salter (Sutton) 7, 17;  
WS: B Addis (Sutton) b L Fowler (Newham) 6, 7;  
XD: Baikie/Addis b Mason/Fowler 10, 5;  
WD: Clayton/Ewinson (Havering) b Turner/Chitty (Merton) 8, 8;  
MD: Salter/Hayter b Judge/Hurst (Havering) –23, 18, 14.

# Coaching in Ancient Olympia

by STUART WORRELL

ALTHOUGH we have just completed the 1988 Seoul Olympics, extensive plans are already underway to completion in Athens, Greece, one of five countries running for the candidacy of the 1996 Olympic Games. It will be 100 years since the first official games in ancient Olympia, Greece, hence their claim to staging what they term "the golden Olympics".

As Table Tennis is now an official Olympic sport it is important that it is carefully catered for in the future Olympic games. The Hellenic TTA in conjunction with the ITTF play a large role in this responsibility. As a result the H.T.T.A. and the International Olympic Academy staged a five day seminar in ancient Olympia at which 16 countries were represented, including Kuwait, Iraq, France, Ireland, Cyprus, Italy, Sri Lanka, Bulgaria, etc., Mr. Ken Marchant and myself appearing on behalf of England.

We arrived in Athens the flight gratefully funded by the N.C.F. and on the following day were taken to the beautiful and historic town of ancient Olympia. The seminar was opened by the I.O.A. President, Mr. Nikos Filaretos who spoke of the Olympic ideal and the concept of physical strength, spiritual form and artistic creativity.

Mr. Jiafu Zhuane, a previous National Coach in China for 29 years of the penhold players spoke of China's great success being due to the quality of its coaching system. Its system seems to pay great attention to its intermediate players and involves them in many national Training Camps. From a very young age pure technical aspects are the main concern and must keep in line with the modern game. Other countries styles are analysed and individual youngsters are coached to directly combat such styles, hence providing a range of players to draw upon when in opposition to a particular style. This fits in closely with the World Team Championships where Chinese selection depends purely upon opposition, as well as mental and physical condition and recent performance. He also stated how styles taught are dependent upon size, build, reactions etc., and how all training is done with the encouragement of aggression and a high competitive factor. Players styles are continually monitored for change so as to prevent them drifting, the picture he gave being that Chinese players are coached down a narrow path and do not veer from it!

Ichiro Ogimura, the ITTF President, and extremely intellectual,

knowledgeable yet friendly and generous man attracted much admiration throughout his stay. He spoke of the 134 associations world-wide and how he had visited more than 80 over the last year. The game of Table Tennis has many competitors therefore we must prove ourself of being worthy of consideration, the Coach has many responsibilities towards this and must therefore have the resources to cope, the coaching system of an Association being an essential provider. His aims were directed at a greater number of countries competing in World Championships, more activity of officials, coaches, players, umpires, spectators, media, sponsors and facility owners within each Association. He talked of social conduct, competitiveness, awards and image of the game, including clothes design. The ITTF is obviously working hard to make our game more appealing and discussing new projects such as a bigger, lighter and slower ball which is more visible and small pimple rubber which reduced spin quantity etc.

Finally, he discussed the production of coaching videos and other audio visual material, and also a travelling panel of T.T. educationalists and players available for use in Associations which need help. He made it clear he is devoted to the job and he is obviously very active in leading the I.T.T.F.

Kjell Johanson of Sweden who resigned from playing in 1977 after winning 10 European and 4 World titles worked for two years as a National Coach, spoke of how he believed coaches to be the key to Sweden's success. Swedish Table Tennis is divided into four regions, then into 24 districts in which exists over 1000 T.T. clubs. There are approximately 200 National level tournaments per year and Sweden presently has two T.T. High Schools, one in Falkenburg the other in Lycksele, a concept which began in the early seventies. Falkenburg is probably the most successful, as it works closely with the famous Falkenburg B.T.K. Club and is known for such names as Bengtsson, Carlsson, Lindh and Persson.

Each school has approximately 12 to 20, both male and female, in

each year, between the ages 15-18, all preselected by the Education Committee of the S.T.T.A. One week includes two spells of T.T. in the daytime and four, spells of T.T. in the evening, each spell lasting approximately two to five hours. Johanson also spoke on Swedish National Training Camps which bear great resemblance to our own.

Next Mr. Radivoj Hudetz, one of Yugoslavia's National Trainers, spoke at length on the biochemical and technical principles of T.T. stressing stroke technique, materials and individual natural qualities, such as build and anticipation, all determine quality of playing outcome. He continued by showing how centre of gravity moment of inertia, base etc. need to be biomechanically good in order to product good strokes.

A study he provided showed the breakdown of Surbek's forehand revealing how the ball is hit at the centre of the transitory period (where the bat travels at its fastest, yet straightest period). We are all aware of concepts such as peak bounce, Mr. Hudetz's lecture brought to light many principles on which such facts are based.

Finally, Vlado Miko of Czechoslovakia, twice European Champion in Mens and Mixed Doubles is now a National Coach of his country which has over 67,000 people actively playing with

approximately 3000 clubs spread over 12 regional areas. The National Team is trained in two separate places Ostrava and Dratislava brought together only for major events. Last year there were 67 Nationals Training days, each player possesses an individual training programme recorded in a log book which includes technical, tactical, physical and psychological elements which varies in construction throughout the year.

On the coaching side there are 4 levels of coaches from D to A, A level coaches having to study at University in the production of a thesis and are few and far between. One very interesting part of Miko's lecture was a showing of their National Coaching video which visualised stroke play, technical analysis of strokes, using some very appealing visual aids, psychological factors, physical preparation and tactical breakdown of points, the only disappointing thing being that that was in Czechoslovakian!

It is very difficult to condense a weeks discussions into such a small number of words, however I hope that what I have written is of as much interest and help to any reader as the lectures were to me. The whole week was a tremendous success and I am sure that if Athens gains rights to hold the 'Golden Olympics' Table Tennis would be in extremely secure hands.

## LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE LEAGUE

by George Yates

DESPITE being held to a draw by both Ellesmere Port and Blackburn in away fixtures Bolton still head the men's first division but four teams now boast 4 pts from three matches.

Liverpool, the title holders, following their home defeat at the hands of Stockport, have subsequently beaten Oldham (7-3) and Ellesmere Port (6-4) while Stockport blotted their copy book when beaten 7-3 at home to Warrington whose Terry Turner claimed the scalps of Roger Hampson, Mark Hankey and Jonathan Taylor! Current table:-

Preston, the defending champions of the women's first division met with a setback to retaining their title when beaten 6-4 at home to Liverpool whose Brenda Buoe collected a treble in beating Nicola McGrath, Maria Thornley and Julie Clegg. Justine Thomas lost only to Miss Thornley and Paula French beat Miss Clegg. Table:-

	P	W	D	L	Pts		P	W	D	L	Pts
Bolton	3	1	2	0	4	Preston	3	2	0	1	4
Liverpool	3	2	0	1	4	Liverpool	2	2	0	0	4
Stockport	3	2	0	1	4	Crewe	3	1	1	1	3
Warrington	3	2	0	1	4	Warrington	1	1	0	0	2
Blackburn	3	0	3	0	3	Oldham	3	1	0	2	2
Burnley	3	1	1	1	3	Stockport	3	1	0	2	2
Ellesmere Port	3	0	1	2	1	Ellesmere Port	2	1	0	1	2
Oldham	3	0	1	2	1	Macclesfield	3	0	1	2	1

# Chinese team at Perth



SCOTLAND'S most prestigious table tennis event in ten years lived up to expectations when China again proved their world dominance in the Leeds Challenge at Bell's Sports Centre, Perth.

With players from eight nations converging on Perth, the British contingent were by no means disgraced in their attempts to stave off the fierce opposition in this inaugural invitation tournament sponsored by Leeds Permanent Building Society.

The Scottish challenge in the men's event was thwarted at the knockout stage with the loss of Ian Stokes, David McLroy and Scotland's No 1 John Broe (Glasgow) who was unable to match Hui Jun of China and went down on a spirited fight losing 21/14, 21/11 so extinguishing chances of honours for Scotland's men.

England's Desmond Douglas (Walsall) provided the only early challenge to the predictable Chinese dominance. Douglas sailed through to the semi-finals where

he too met Hui Jun but failed to come to terms with the fast top-spin style of the world No 9 and lost in three games 20/22, 21/19, 12/21. Hui went on to take the Leeds Challenge men's trophy with a convincing 21/13, 21/17 victory over fellow countrymen Chen Zhibin.

Falkirk girl, Carole Dalrymple, carried the torch for Scotland winning her way through to the ladies semi-final where, despite rousing support from the home crowd, she lost in two games to Denmark's Charlotte Polk 16/21, 19/21.

Adriani Doumeni (Greece) met Polk in the final but played a nervous game and was no match for the 25 year old Danish No 1 who took the Leeds Challenge ladies' trophy 13/21, 17/21.



At the Leeds Challenge at Perth. The winners Charlotte Polk (Denmark) and Hui Jun (China) with their trophies, presented by Mrs Wendy Cunningham (the Leeds Permanent Building Society), supported by Mr Brian Christie, STTA Chairman. Hui Jun was assessed as the second strongest player on the tour and is the world mixed doubles champion. Picture: Michael McLaren, Edinburgh.

## RESULTS

### Men

#### Quarter-finals

Chen Xinhua (Chn) bt. L. Hauth (Den) 11, 15.  
Chen Zhibin (Chn) bt. Fan Yin Yong (Chn) 12, 13.  
D. Douglas (Eng) bt. J. Harkamp (Den) 14, 20.  
Hui Jun (Chn) bt. Wang Zhenyi (Chn) 13, 17.

#### Semi-finals

Chen Zhibin (Chn) bt. Chen Xinhua (Chn) 15, 16.  
Hui Jun (Chn) bt. D. Douglas (Eng) 20, -19, 12.

#### Final

Hui Jun (Chn) bt. Chen Zhibin (Chn) 13, 17.

### Women

#### Quarter-finals

M. Blikken (Nor) bt. N. Williams (Wal) 20, 15.  
A. Doumeni (Gre) bt. J. Smith (Sco) 15, 17.  
C. Dalrymple (Sco) bt. D. Danoula (Gre) 8, -19, 19.  
C. Polk (Den) bt. L. Keast (Wal) 13, 15.

#### Semi-finals

A. Doumeni (Gre) bt. M. Blikken (Nor) 12, -19, 24.  
C. Polk (Den) bt. C. Dalrymple (Sco) 16, 19.

#### Final

Charlotte Polk bt. Adriani Doumeni (Gre) 10, 17.

## ★ TWO SCOTTISH TOURNAMENTS ★

### Edinburgh Junior & Cadet Open, Meadowbank

JBS: E. Walker bt. D. Niven -18, 18, 14  
JES: S. Hurry bt. J. Hook 11, 14  
CBS: 1. S. Crawford, 2. F. Lewis, 3. D. Winslow  
CES: 1. P. Sloan, 2. S. Wilson

### North of Scotland Open, Aberdeen

MS: J. Broe bt. D. McLroy 13, 19  
WS: C. Dalrymple bt. E. McLroy 10, 11  
JB: S. Grassick bt. K. McKellar 16, 18  
CB: D. Tait bt. C. Cormack 17, 17

# Erratic form by Scots so far

FORM amongst the top Scottish players has been somewhat erratic this season. After topping the September Senior Assessment event John Broe suffered successive defeats by David McLroy in the MIDLAND and MEADOWBANK OPENS, but John prevented David making it 'three in a row' by winning the NORTH OF SCOTLAND OPEN on Nov 20.

Janet Smith has been showing good form in the ladies events, winning the MEADOWBANK OPEN, when Carole Dalrymple was away playing for her Norwegian club, and then defeated Carole in the final of the MIDLAND OPEN on October 23. This was Carole's first defeat by a Scot since November 1981!

### Bouncy Carole

Carole bounced back by winning the NORTH OF SCOTLAND OPEN from Eleanor McLroy, when Janet did not venture north.

Outside Scotland Scottish players have been performing with credit. Sarah won three titles - Under 17, Under 21 and Ladies Singles in the ULSTER OPEN and reached the final of the Junior Girls in the CLEVELAND JUNIOR OPEN and John Broe defeated Nicky Mason in the MIDLAND 3\*.

### Hannah bulletin

The latest news of DAVID HANNAH is that his leg is now out of plaster and he is slowly regaining his mobility, however, despite regular physiotherapy it

will still be some time before we can expect to see him back.

### Meadowbank Open, Edinburgh

MS: D. McLroy bt. J. Broe 17, -15, 9.  
WS: J. Smith bt. S. Hurry 10, 18.  
MD: D. McLroy/I. McLean bt. I. Stokes/G. Clancey 16, 17.  
WD: S. Hurry/L. Hood won final group  
XD: J. Broe/J. Smith bt. B. Wright/S. Hurry 10, 19

### Midland Open, Dundee

MS: D. McLroy bt. J. Broe 9, 18.  
WS: J. Smith bt. C. Dalrymple 17, 16  
JS: E. Walker bt. A. Bruce 13, -19, 13  
JG: S. Harry bt. J. Hook 12, 9  
CB: S. Crawford bt. F. Lewis 13, 14

## SCOTLAND

BY DENIS GEORGE

### Scotland v. China, Dumfries

A prestige event was held in Dumfries by the enterprising Dumfries Table Tennis Club. The Chinese players, at the end of a strenuous U.K. tour were still able to produce some scintillating table tennis which enthralled the capacity crowd. They were, of course, too good for the Scots and won 6-0.

### Results

John Broe 1, Wang Zhenyi -14, -9  
David McLroy 1, Fan Yin Yong -12, -13  
Ian McLean 1, Hui Jun -12, -12  
Gordon Glancey 1, Chen Zhibin -15, -4  
John Broe 1, Fna Ying Yong -10, 18, -16  
David McLroy 1, Wang Zhenyi -13, -10  
SCOTLAND 0, CHINA 6

# Out and about

- SHROPSHIRE
- SURREY
- PERTH

Here comes Darren!



Darren Blake of South Croydon is the very young man who Surrey fans will be hoping is the new Desmond Douglas. Darren is the No. 5 on the England cadets list.

## THE GROVE TEAM



Grove, Market Drayton are arguably the strongest of the contenders for The Leeds British League title. The club also has one of the best photographers in English table tennis – Geoff Twiss who took this and many others for this magazine. The Grove 1 team, left to right – John Souter, Graham Sandley, Bradley Billington, Steve Mills and Jimmy Stokes.

Charlotte Denmark winner



Ray Perrin is becoming an important name in the South, sponsoring tournaments and managing players. The Wimbledon businessman is pictured here at the South of England 2-star junior with two of the winning players Linda Radford and Sarah Williams, and two assistants (hostesses) Eileen Hubbard (Left) and on the right Joanne Dallison.



Charlotte Polk of Denmark was the popular singles winner at the Leeds Perth Challenge event in Scotland. Brian Webster (Dundee) was the photographer.

## Harozi double over Cooke, Prean

by DON PARKER

THE 23rd Yugoslavian International Open Championships were held in Zagreb between the 17th and 20th November. The entry was extremely strong with ten of the top twelve teams in the world represented.

In the Team events the England men's team of Cooke and Prean were a little disappointing in that after despatching very comfortably with Turkey, they lost to Hungary 3-1. The hero for the Hungarians was Zsolt Harozi who won both his singles and doubles with Nemeth, the latter being the game that would have won the match for England and stood at 19-19 in the third. Such is the margin between success and failure.

The girls, represented by Lomas and Elliot, put up a solid performance against the Austrians, winning 3-0 and then came up against the 4th seeded Dutch team. Here we saw a good all round team performance with both girls beating De Groot and combining to win the doubles. Miriam Kloppenburg proved to be slightly too strong but nevertheless an excellent victory for our girls. In the quarter-final the Bulgarian Guergelcheva played very well with good back-up from her much improved team mate, Vitcheva, beat our girls 3-1.

Cooke and Prean combined quite well in the doubles, beating the highly-rated Japanese choppers Matsushita and Shibutani before losing narrowly in the quarter-finals to Waldner and the new young Swede on the scene, Peter Karlsson. Lomas and Elliot put up a resilient fight against the Rumanians, Badescu and Lahr, before losing in the third. In a makeshift partnership, Alison Gordon and Alena Saforova of Czechoslovakia reached the quarter-finals before finding the North Koreans a little too powerful, Li Bun Hui being the winner of the televised Leeds Euro/Asia tournament in Cleveland.

In the women's singles our girls all found themselves with very tough draws. Lomas lost in the second round 3-1 to the Chinese player Geo Lijuan, while Elliot lost to Erlman of Sweden, also 3-1. Gordon, whose trip to Yugoslavia was sponsored by Linda Farrow Sunglasses, put up an excellent performance against the European No.3, Badescu, before losing narrowly in the fifth game.

### ETTU Stubborn

In the men's singles, when the draw was released the unranked Chinese player Wang Tao had been seeded by mistake, his name of course very similar to the World No.9, Wang Hao. In effect what this meant was that Alan

Cooke just missed out on being seeded and Waldner's half of the draw had three of the top four players.

Despite early protests by the Swedish Coach and myself, nothing was done by the incredibly stubborn ETTU representative, despite being clearly in the wrong.

### Attitude

With professional players and livelihoods at stake, this type of attitude must not be allowed to prevail otherwise we will very soon have a breakaway circuit.

In the end, after the matter was pursued relentlessly, there was a re-draw at 20.00 the evening before the event started, 30 hours after the initial verbal protest and 10 hours after the protest was put in writing.

### Impressive

Having beaten Saive in the Olympics, Cooke unfortunately could not repeat this success and lost in a very entertaining match 3-1. Andrew progressed very impressively to the third round before losing to the highly ranked Lupulescu. A useful lead frittered away in the first resulting in a 21-19 defeat, victory in the first game could have changed the whole match.

Prean reached the last sixteen, his seeded position, before losing three close games to Kim Song Hui.



Linda Lomas, the England No. 2 from Bedfordshire



Fiona Elliot

## RESULTS

### Team Event Men

v Turkey 3 - 0  
Cooke beat Erduran 10, 14  
Prean beat Erbil 4, 12  
CP/AC beat Erduran/Erbil 7, 17  
v Hungary 1 - 3  
Prean beat Nemeth 18, 15  
Cooke lost to Harozi - 17, j17  
AC/CP lost to Harozi/Nemeth 19, -19, -19  
Prean lost to Harozi -13, -19

### Team Event Women

v Austria 3 - 0  
Lomas beat Fichtinger -17, 15, 6  
Elliot beat Maier 15, -20, 17  
LL/FE beat Maier/Fichtinger -20, 16, 20  
v Holland 3 - 2  
Elliot lost to Kloppenburg 17, -8, -8  
Lomas beat de Groot 17, 8  
FE/LL beat Kloppenburg/de Groot 10, -16, 18  
Lomas lost to Kloppenburg -20, -5  
Elliot beat de Groot 9, 16

### Team Event Women

v Bulgaria 1 - 3  
Elliot lost to Guergelcheva -14, -15  
Lomas beat Vitcheva 21, -20, 23  
FE/LL lost to Guergelcheva/Vitcheva -19, -14  
Lomas lost to Guergelcheva -11, -15

### Women's Singles

Round 1 F Elliot v Erlman 16, -20, -16, -16  
A Gordon v Stanimirov 7, 7, 7  
Round 2 L Lomas v Gao Lijuan -9, -15, 19, -17  
A Gordon v Badescu 14, -15, -17, 18, -13

### Men's Singles

Round 1 S Andrew v Skierski 19, 14, 15  
Round 2 C Prean v Van Haren 14, 14, 14  
S Andrew v Toma 11, 16, 19  
A Cooke v Saive -17, 11, -17, -13  
Round 3 S Andrew v Lupulescu -19, -16, 15, -14  
C Prean v Knezevi 19, 18, 12  
Round 4 C Prean v Kim Song Hui -16, -20, -19

### Finals

**Men's Team event**  
North Korea beat Yugoslavia 3-1

**Women's Team Event**  
China beat Bulgaria 3-0

**Men's Singles final**  
Waldner v D Mazunov -14, -22, 19, -15

**Women's Singles final**  
Li Bun Hui (PRK) v Chen Zihe (Chn) 19, 13, 18

**Mixed Doubles Final**  
Wang Tao/Liu Wei (Chn) v Yu Shen Tong/Chen Zihe 14, -15, 19

**Men's Doubles final**  
Waldner/Karlsson v Lupulescu/Primorac -18, -17

**Women's Doubles final**  
Li Bun Hui/Cho Jong Hui (PRK) v Yu Sun Bok/Kim Hye Yong (PRK) 17, 19



Don Parker



Jean-Paul Sane



Carl Prean

# Primorac loses to Skylet

by JILL PARKER

THE Italian International Championships were held in Arrezzo. The tournament was not as strong as I would have liked to have seen but there were some excellent matches to be seen over the four day tournament.

In the team event, the girls represented by Alison Gordon and Fiona Elliot had an easy 3-0 victory over Italy B, who fielded their cadet team. Yugoslavia were their next opponents, where our girls fought very hard, but unfortunately lost 3-2. Alison won her two singles 2-0 and with Fiona were unlucky not to win the doubles, losing 20-22 in the third. Had they won that match, they would have gone on to play China in the semi-finals.



### First open

Skylet Andrew and Bradley Billington, who was playing in his first international open, faced Italy A in the first round. Skylet played extremely well to beat Constantini 2-0, then it was the turn of Bradley to play against Italy's No.1 Nannoni. What I felt won Bradley the game was his superb off the bounce backhands

Skylet Andrew on form in Italy.



Jill Parker

down the line, which on many an occasion completely out-manoeuvred Nannoni. They lost the doubles 2-0 and then it was the turn of the experienced Skylet to play against Nannoni, to whom he lost 2-0. With the match score at 2-2, Bradley was up against Constantini. He won the first 21-11 but experience shone through and Constantini took the next two games, 21-7, 21-9. A very pleasing performance by Bradley.

In the individual events, the girls had some success. Fiona played against Strusse of West Germany and won quite convincingly 16, 18, 17. She then went on to play Zampini of Italy and lost a close fought match 19 in the fifth game. Alison had a bye first round and then played Fazekas of Hungary, whom she beat 3-2. A very fast and exciting game, with Alison playing the best I have seen her for a long time. I believe, playing against the men in the Leeds British League has sharpened her up and she is a lot quicker moving around the table. In the third round, her opponent was Gao Jun from China. Again some excellent table tennis by Alison. She had chances in the fourth game, having won the first two, but eventually lost 13 in the fifth. A tremendous effort by Alison.

In the first round of the men's singles Bradley played Varga of Hungary. He won the first two games 19, 19, serving and following up with some tremendous shots. He was up in the fourth game but lost it at deuce and I felt this upset him for the fifth game, which he lost 21-11.

Skylet had a bye first round and then a second round walk-over. He then played Eloi the up and coming player from France, whom he beat 3-0 and then played extremely well against Primorac, who he beat 3-1. The practise and training Skylet had in China appears to be paying off. In the quarter-finals, Skylet played Podpinka of Belgium (previously of Hungary) in a close fought encounter. Two games to one ahead, Skylet had match point in the fourth game, but lost it deuce. He then went on to lose the fifth, 17. You can imagine, Skylet was devastated.

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# European League

## Hungary defeated

ANDRAS Podpinka, the ex-Hungarian was the man who set the Division 1 promotion battle alight, when playing for Belgium. His wins over Zsolt Harczy, gave Belgium an amazing 4-3 win, severely denting Hungarian hopes, possibly helping England.

One thing is certain, at the end of March there will be three very disappointed countries who have failed to win promotion. Let us hope they will be Hungary, Belgium and Austria.

Jean-Michelle Saive also saved Belgium with cracking successes against Harczy and Kriston. The other vital Belgian shock was the mixed - a win by Saive and Els Billen over Harczy and Csilla Batorfi 18, -19, 17.

Division 1			
Hungary	7	Switzerland	0
England	7	Finland	0
Turkey	2	Belgium	5
Austria	6	Italy	1
Switzerland	0	England	7
Belgium	4	Hungary	3
Italy	3	Finland	4
Austria	6	Turkey	1
Finland	4	Turkey	3

### ENGLAND ON TOP

#### European League Results

##### Super Division

France	1	Netherlands	6
Sweden	6	Czechoslovakia	1
F.R. Germany	5	Bulgaria	2
Yugoslavia	2	Poland	5
Netherlands	4	Bulgaria	3
Poland	2	Sweden	5
Yugoslavia	6	France	1
F.R. Germany	5	Czechoslovakia	5

##### Super Division

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	2	2	0	11	3	2
F.R. Germany	2	2	0	10	4	2
Netherlands	2	2	0	10	4	2
Yugoslavia	2	1	1	8	6	1
Poland	2	1	1	7	7	1
Bulgaria	2	0	2	5	9	0
Czechoslovakia	2	0	2	3	11	0
France	2	0	2	2	12	0

##### Division 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
ENGLAND	2	2	0	14	0	2
Austria	2	2	0	12	2	2
Belgium	2	2	0	9	5	2
Finland	3	2	1	8	13	2
Hungary	2	1	1	10	4	1
Italy	2	0	2	4	10	0
Turkey	3	0	3	6	15	0
Switzerland	2	0	2	0	14	0

##### Division 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
DENMARK	4	4	0	26	2	4
Norway	4	3	1	22	6	3
Spain	3	3	0	18	3	3
Luxembourg	4	2	2	17	11	2
Wales	4	2	2	10	18	2
Scotland	4	1	3	10	18	1
Greece	4	0	4	2	26	0
Iceland	3	0	3	0	21	0

## Powerful Denmark

by DENIS GEORGE

ALL eight countries in Division 2 of the EUROPEAN LEAGUE came to Perth to contest the first of the three 'partial round-robins' of the 1988/89 competition.

DENMARK, demoted from Division 1 at the end of last season, were clearly the strongest team and seem destined for a quick return to the higher division. They had no difficulty in winning the four matches they played, dropping only the mixed doubles against Scotland and Wales when they gave a game to their weaker players.

NORWAY also won their four matches but had a very close run 4-3 win in their first match against Wales when an in form Nigel Tyler won both his singles and Lesley Keast beat Marianne Blikken. Scotland also took 2 off Norway with Carole Dalrymple beating Blikken and John Broe beating Kenneth Strom.

SCOTLAND'S only success was against Luxembourg 5-2, with the visitor's successes coming only after the Scots had established a winning 4-0 lead.

SPAIN, who are playing all their matches home or away in accordance with the original fix-

ture list, only played Scotland and won 5-2, R. Casares losing to John Broe and Broe and Janet Smith won the Mixed Doubles against Jose-Maria Pales and Barbara Lippens.

### RESULTS

Denmark 7, Iceland 0.  
Wales 3, Norway 4.  
Luxembourg 2, Scotland 5.  
Scotland 2, Norway 5.  
Iceland 0, Luxembourg 7.  
Greece 0, Denmark 7.  
Wales 5, Luxembourg 2.  
Denmark 6, Scotland 1.  
Greece 0, Norway 7.  
Greece 1, Luxembourg 6.  
Iceland 0, Norway 7.  
Denmark 6, Wales 1.  
Scotland 2, Spain 5.

#### Division 2

	P	W	L	P
Denmark	4	4	0	4
Norway	4	4	0	4
Spain	3	3	0	3
Luxembourg	4	2	2	2
Scotland	4	1	3	1
Wales	4	1	3	1
Iceland	3	0	3	0
Greece	4	0	4	0

## OBITUARY

### SAM EWENS

by ALF PEPPARD

IT IS with great regret that I report the very sudden death of Sam Ewens who died of a massive heart attack whilst playing table tennis on the night of 7th November 88. Sam was 64 and had only lost his wife very recently, obviously this had hit him very badly.

He had not felt like playing for quite a while but was persuaded to start again and this was his first and tragically last match ever.

Sam originated from Somerset and came to Gloucestershire in the early 1960's, for many years he played in the Gloucester City League for Rudford, then moving to Winchcombe he became part and parcel of the Cheltenham League. Not many people know this but he was in his younger days - "A fully qualified Light Aircraft Pilot", and yet his son Andrew told me - that Sam never passed his driving test.

A very friendly man, very proud of his number 9 Veterans Ranking in the Country, Sam died I suspect, doing the thing he loved best - playing table tennis - we shall miss him.

## THE LEEDS NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS ORMESBY CUP 1st ROUND

ZONE 1: Blackburn v Warrington W/O to Blackburn.

Preston beat Burnley 5-2.

ZONE 2: No matches.

ZONE 3: Birmingham beat Grantham 6-0.

ZONE 4: Ipswich v Colchester W/O to Ipswich.

Braintree beat Sudbury 6-3

ZONE 5: Watford beat London Civil Service 6-3

Willesden beat High Wycombe 5-2

ZONE 6: Crawley v Portsmouth W/O to Portsmouth

ZONE 7: Waltham Forest v Brentwood W/O to Waltham Forest

Ilford v Thames Insurance W/O to Ilford

North Middlesex beat Romford 5-0

ZONE 8: Maidenhead v Bracknell W/O to Bracknell.

Slough beat Reading 5-2.

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## SOUTH WEST REGION NEWS

by ALF PEPPARD

STEVE MOREMAN at the time of writing ranked 132 recently defended his "United Kingdom Post Office National Singles Title, at the National Sports Centre for Wales in Cardiff.

Steve hails from Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire beat Stuart Gibbs of Dagenham 20, 18.

I am informed that this win guarantee's Steve the opportunity to go forward to represent Great Britain against other European Nations at Malmo in Sweden at a later date.

In the same Championships - Lawrence Symonds of Gloucester partnered Steve Moreman as far as the semi finals in the mens doubles event.

News from Bath - courtesy of Mike Hawkins: The Bath Association recently received the resignation of one of its most hard working Committee Members Ray Screen, Ray was Coaching Schools Liason Officer and excelled at getting table tennis introduced at some local Bath Schools, we all wish Ray good luck, as a Civil Servant he may be posted to the London area.

A recent new School coaching venue has started, with the help of Chris Hulbert and Roy Trevitt.

Mayfield "A" team of Bob Murray, Paul Etherington, Mike Childs and Trevor Lloyd have started well in their bid to retain the Premier Division, and the question seems to be - who will be the runners-up?

Paul Hewitt, the Leeds National League Manager, with League Secretary Eric Wynn, look set to jump into the Premier next campaign.

The League programme is operating very smoothly, Marcus Berry has been receiving very few postponements, and the first round cup competitions have been completed.

Gordon Holly will be calling a meeting to finalise details for the Bath (closed) championships in February at the Sports Centre.

#### Cotswold Junior 2 Star (Select)

This very popular Tournament now in its 12th year takes place on January 28th and 29th respectively - at the Gloucester Leisure Centre.

The Organiser for this year is - Mr M. J. Reeves, Referee Mr L. J. Smith, and Deputy Referee's are Tim Harris and Dave Nipper.

# Results, results, results

## WORLD GRAND PRIX MASTERS

### EUROPEANS STOP CHINESE

ERIK LINDH won the World Grand Prix Masters in Barcelona, halting Jan-Ove Waldner in the final. Mikael Appelgren defeated world champion Jiang Jiali in the quarters and Grubba did extremely well to beat Chen Zhibin also in the quarters.

#### Quarter-finals:

M Appelgren (Sweden) bt Jiang Jiali (China) 21-14, 21-17, 21-17; E Lindh (Sweden) bt J Roskopf (W Germany) 21-17, 21-15, 21-14; A Grubba (Poland) bt Chen Zhi Bin (China) 21-16, 21-18, 8-21, 21-11; J-O Waldner (Sweden) bt J-M Saive (Belgium) 21-17, 16-21, 21-18, 21-8

#### Semi-finals:

Lindh bt Appelgren 21-16, 14-21, 21-12, 21-14; Waldner bt Grubba 7-21, 21-18, 16-21, 21-16, 22-20. 3rd place play off: Appelgren bt Grubba 22-20, 9-21, 21-17.

#### Final:

Lindh bt Waldner 21-10, 21-23, 21-17, 21-13.

## WOODFIELD 1-STAR

by M F LEACH

### BAKEWELL BEATS SEED

THE number 1 seed for the second season running Phil Gunn was beaten in a very good final by Craig Bakewell, who had to overcome a very strong challenge by Simon Jones from Cheshire who had knocked out Andy Rich the number 2 seed. There also who a good performance from A Walker who had travelled all the way from Sussex to beat the number 4 seed Mike Browne only to lose in the semi final to Phil Gunn.

#### Womens Singles

With the number 1 seed failing to turn up, this left the way clear for Sandra Roden to reach the final where she lost to the number 2 seed Helen Lower 2 straight, in fact Helen failed to drop a game on the way to her second Woodfield Women Singles Championship in succession after winning the Girls title in 1986.

#### Mens Doubles

The unseeded old stagers Dereck Schofield and Mat Shearer used all their experience in reaching the final where they went on to beat the number two seeds Eddie Wilks and Craig Bakewell in straight sets who had beaten last years winners Steve Dunning and Trevor Washington on their way to the final.

#### Womens Doubles

Again in this event years of experience told when Doreen Schofield and Connie Moran knocked out the number two seeds Mandy House (nee Mytton) and Sandra Peakman before falling to number 1 seeds Helen Lower and Sandra Roden in the final.

#### Veteran Singles

It is nice to see so many women veterans entering this year - 5 out of a total entry of 13. However the event ran true to form with only the Number 3 seed Mervyn Wood failing to reach the semi finals. In the end the number 1 seed Mat Shearer confirmed his ranking and overcame Dereck Schofield in a very good final.

#### JUNIORS

##### Boys Singles

With 3 out of 4 seeds reaching the semi final the event ran true to form, the only seed to fall by the wayside being Jatinder Branch the home club player who fell to Michael Rose the Oxfordshire number 5 junior. Jason Thompson made the favourite, Stephen Hanks from Derbyshire, fight for the title by winning the first game 23-21 but Stephen showed his greater experience by comfortably winning the remaining game 5 and 12.

##### Girls Singles

The surprise was the defeat by the number 1 seed Alison Ledwith by her sister Rebecca in the second round but she was no match for her local rival Nicola Meddings who won the final comfortably 2 straight.

##### Cadet Boys

In a very well supported event the final for the second successive season was between Lee Horton and Stephen Meddings with again the title going to the older player Lee.

##### Cadet Girls

Nicola Meddings completed a very successful day by collecting her third title when she easily beat Zoe Buchanan who just managed to edge out Michelle Martin in the semi final 24-22 in the third game.

## RESULTS

#### Senior Scores

##### Mens Singles

##### Semis

P. Gunn bt. A. Walker 18, 16

C. Bakewell bt. S. Jones 16, 15

##### Final

C. Bakewell bt. P. Gunn -10, 22, 15

##### Womens Singles

##### Semis

S. Roden bt. S. Culbertson 13, 9

H. Lower bt. S. Peakman 15, 8

##### Final

H. Lower bt. S. Roden 14, 13

##### Final

D. Schofield/M. Shearer bt.

E. Wilkes/C. Bakewell 18, 15

## ITALIAN OPEN RESULTS

#### Mens Singles

##### Fourth Round

Roskopf Jorg (Frg) b. Stoianov Ivanov

(Bul) Per Assenza

Kalinic Zoran (Jug) b. Slevin Colum

(Irl) -12, -12, 15, 15, 17

Andrew Skylet (Eng) b. Primorac

Zoran (Jug) 17, 15, -19, 15

Podpinka Andras (Bel) b. Carlsson Ulf

(Swe) -12, 11, 15, 20

Karlsson Peter (Swe) b. Lupulesku Ilija

(Jug) 16, 17, -8, 17

Xie Chaojie (Chn) b. Haldan Paul (Hol)

14, -15, 17, 16

Saive Jean-Michel (Bel) b. Bengtsson

Ulf (Swe) 23, 16, 4

Ding Yi (Aut) b. Valasti Pasi (Fin) Per

Assenza

##### Quarter finals

Roskopf Jorg (Frg) b. Kalinic Zoran

(Jug) 19, -20, 12, 9

Podpinka Andras (Bel) b. Andrew

Skylet (Eng) 14, -15, -17, 22, 17

Karlsson Peter (Swe) b. Xie Chaojie

(Chn) 17, 12, 17

Ding Yi (Aut) b. Saive Jean-Michel

(Bel) 13, 17, -14, 9

##### Semifinals

Roskopf Jorg (Frg) b. Podpinka

Andras (Bel) 18, -18, 15, -16, 12

Ding Yi (Aut) b. Karlsson Peter (Swe)

16, 17, 19

##### Final

Roskopf Jorg (Frg) b. Ding Yi (Aut) 17,

-15, -18, 15, 21

##### Women's Singles

##### Third Round

Qiao Hong (Chn) b. Batorfi Csila

(Hun) 12, 13, 11

Perkucin Gordana (Jug) b. Zampini

Giorgia (Ita) -19, 9, 21, 13

Ding Yaping (Chn) b. Cords Jin Sook

(Frg) 15, 15, 12

Kloppenburg Mirjam (Hol) b. Svensson

Marie (Swe) -18, 13, -18, 13, 8

Hu Xiaoxin (Chn) b. Urban Edit (Hun)

18, 7, 14

Grefberg Sonja (Fin) b. Bohning Ilka

(Frg) -19, 17, 23, -18, 18

Gao Jun (Chn) b. Gordon Alison (Eng)

-18, -19, 8, 18, 13

Nemes Olga (Frg) b. Svensson Asa

(Swe) 16, 12, 16

##### Quarter finals

Qiao Hong (Chn) b. Perkucin Gordana

(Jug) 17, 13, 12

Ding Yaping (Chn) b. Kloppenburg

Mirjam (Hol) -21, 14, 9, 9

Hu Xiaoxin (Chn) b. Grefberg Sonja

(Fin) Per Assenza

Gao Jun (Chn) b. Nemes Olga (Frg) 19,

12, 17

##### Semifinals

Qiao Hong (Chn) b. Ding Yaping

(Chn) 17, -17, -16, 12, 8

Hu Xiaoxin (Chn) b. Gao Jun (Chn) 14,

-16, -20, 19, 16

##### Final

Hu Xiaoxin (Chn) b. Qiao Hong (Chn)

14, 13, -5, 17.

##### Final

S. Roden/H. Lower bt. D. Schofield/

C. Moran 9, 14

##### Junior Scores

##### Boys Singles Final

S. Hanks bt. J. Thompson -21, 5, 12

##### Girls Singles Final

N. Meddings bt. R. Ledwith 10, 13

##### Boys Doubles Final

L. Horton/J. Thompson bt.

J. Brainch/S. Hawks 19, -14, 19

##### Girls Doubles Final

N. Meddings/M. Martin bt.

P. Hughes/S. Stone 16, -17, 22

##### Cadet Boys Final

L. Horton bt. S. Meddings 18, 15

##### Cadet Girls Final

N. Meddings bt. Z. Buchanan 11, 10

## NORTH WALES COUNTIES TTA

by C. T. BAYLISS

### Clwyd Junior Open at Deeside Leisure Centre, Queensferry.

#### Under 12 Boys Singles

##### Final

Ian Eaton bt. Kevin Edge 21-11, 21-11

#### Cadet Boys Singles

##### Final

Lee Horton bt. Steven Gill 21-18, 15-21, 21-17

#### Junior Boys Singles

##### Final

Andrew Eden bt. Jason Thompson 21-15, 21-9

#### Under 12 Girls Singles

##### Final

Vicky Fox bt. Helen Griffiths 21-11, 21-12

#### Cadet Girls Singles

##### Final

Susan Lees bt. Julie Bickerton 14-21, 21-16, 21-17

#### Junior Girls Singles

##### Final

Sally Hughes bt. Liz Creasey 15-21, 21-19, 21-17

#### Junior Boys Doubles

##### Final

Spencer Harris/Andrew Eden bt. Lee Horton/Jason Thompson 21-19, 22-20

#### Junior Girls Doubles

##### Final

Liz Creasey/Sarah Creasey bt. Laura Collier/Denise Elward 21-13, 24-22

#### Compensation

Success for Wrexham players with Spencer Harris winning the Junior Boys Doubles to partly compensate for his defeat in the Singles Partnered with Andrew Eden who had previously won the Junior Boys Singles they beat in the final Lee Horton and Jason Thompson.

Susan Lees after she had lost her first game -14 came back to win her next two games 16 and 17 to beat Julie Bickerton to take the Cadet Girls Singles title.

#### The Leeds

##### Counties Championships

In matches in which the Clwyd Counties teams have so far been involved in this season have not been very successful with Clwyd losing their matches.

#### Senior Division TWO/A at Hope

Clwyd 0, Lost to Cheshire 10. Clwyd team was: Clive Parry, Dave Morris, Spencer Harris, Barbara Williams and Joyce Jones.

# Training Camp and more results

## Chichester Training Camp for England Chen Xinhua on South Coast

by NEIL HOUGHTON

NOW in its second year, the England Team's Fitness Training Camp at Chichester took on an exciting new dimension. Held at Bishop Otter College in August, a West Sussex Institute of Higher Education establishment, this also played a part in the Great Britain Team's Olympic preparation. Tony Morris was again the organising host, with Tudor Hale of the Sports Physiology Department putting in the physical aspect. As always, Table Tennis itself was necessary and took up the time when the players were not taken out for the Sports Science testing, usually playing about five hours per day. The main perpetrator of this was our own guru, Donald Parker.



Alan Cooke at a TV interview.

Picture: Neil Houghton.

Apart from the usual public exhibition on the Wednesday, some evening recreation and a few well-earned trips out, the team worked hard at the Table Tennis, sweated over the treadmill for VO<sub>2</sub> max tests and blood lactate measurements and put their brains into Tony Morris's psychological investigations. This year he tried some personality tests which ultimately may find out just what makes people achieve success at concentrating on a little white ball instead of being mortal! More importantly, it could guide the Honorary Sports Psychologist to the England Team into an even more helpful position as we achieve higher levels of play in Europe and the World. Television became interested this year, Regional TV and TV AM both sending film crews looking for pre-Olympic interviews and information on Sports Science and the Chichester course.

The inclusion of THE GREAT BRITAIN TEAM, hopefully to be repeated in 1992, was further boosted by the powerful persona of World No. 7 Chen Xinhua, our naturalising 'Manchester Lad'. A few words of English from Xinhua (his 'first' name) would have replaced a lot of gesticulation with speedier organisation but his assistance in Olympic preparation was spearheaded by an understanding of Table Tennis and coaching that had his bat speaking volumes!

With his brilliant touch it was superlative to see him, not yet fully practiced, chop a ball that had Des and Cookie working hard to lift it, or even push it at times! Not only this, but his topspin was far more of a stroke than most defenders - not just a point winner but a true attacker's loop with consistency and power. Topspin alone could win most of his matches for Ormesby!

It would be too early for some of the psychology and laboratory work to have an effect on Britain's Olympic prospects this time round, but who knows what we may learn for the future?

## \* RESULTS \*

31st European Youth Championships Novi Sad 30 Jul/7 Aug 1988

Team Competition (26 Associations participating)

Junior Boys: 1. URS 2. ROM 3. FRG 4. ENG 5. TCH 6. SWE 7. HUN 8. HOL

Junior Girls: 1. YUG 2. ROM 3. HUN 4. FRG 5. TCH 6. URS 7. HOL 8. POL

Cadet Boys: 1. FRG 2. FRA 3. URS 4. YUG 5. TCH 6. HUN 7. SWE 8. ENG

Cadet Girls: 1. HUN 2. URS 3. ROM 4. TCH 5. FRA 6. POL 7. ITA 8. HOL

Individual Competition

JBS	F	Korbel P.	(TCH)	bt	Gusev D.	(URS)	12,19
JGS	F	Badescu O.	(ROM)	bt	Krestaninova V.	(URS)	18,-15,16
JBD	F	Mazunov D./		bt	Franz P./		
		Gusev D.	(URS)		Alke O.	(FRG)	14,16
JGD	F	Wirth G./		bt	Wirth V./		
		Hegedus A.	(HUN)		Praedel C.	(HUN/FRG)	7,-15,13
JXD	F	Creanga C./		bt	Revisz R.		
		Badescu O.	(ROM)		Bogoslov M.	(ROM)	12,10
CBS	F	Wosik T.	(FRG)	bt	Grujic S.	(YUG)	-19,11,19
CGS	F	Ellö V.	(HUN)	bt	Rakos A.	(HUN)	11,18
CBD	F	Samsonov V./		bt	Greil K.A./		
		Averkin A.	(URS)		Jepsen R.	(FRG/DEN)	14,16
CGD	F	Ellö V./		bt	Rakos A./		
		Toth K.	(HUN)		Fichtinger P.	(HUN/AUT)	14,15
CXD	F	Samsonov V./		bt	Csölle S./		
		Kuschitch O.	(URS)		Vachovcova A.	(TCH)	-19,18,8

US Open Championships

Miami Beach

22/26 June 1988

Corrections to Results in Bulletin 203

MS SF	Appelgren M.	(SWE)	bt	Primorac Z.	(YUG)	-18,11-13,13,18
	Gatien J.P.	(FRA)	bt	Kano C.	(BRA)	19,13,-20,-10,14
	F Gatien J.P.		bt	Appelgren M.	(SWE)	10,14,-10,-20,18
MD	F Lupulescu I./		bt	Chen Zhibin/		
	Primorac Z.	(YUG)		Hui Jun	(CHN)	20,18
XD	F Chen Zhibin/		bt	Hui Jun		
	Chen Zhihe	(CHN)		Xu Jin	(CHN)	-19,19,15

8th Pyongyang International Tournament Pyongyang 2/9 August 1988

Men's Team: 1. PRK (1) 6 v. 2. CHN 5 v. 3. URS 4 v. 4. TCH 3 v.

5. PRK (2) 2 v. 6. POL 1 v. 7. BUL 0 v.

Women's Team: 1. PRK (1) 6 v. 2. CHN 5 v. 3. PRK (2) 4 v. 4. URS 3 v.

5. TCH 2 v. 6. POL 1 v. 7. BUL 0 v.

MS SF	Mazunov A.	(URS)	bt	Chu Jong Chol	(PRK)	16,-11,15,16
	Kim Song Hui	(PRK)	bt	Ma Wenge	(CHN)	-17,19,19,-19,23
	F Mazunov A.	(URS)	bt	Kim Song Hui	(PRK)	-18,20,18,-15,19
WS SF	Li Bun Hui	(PRK)	bt	Han Hye Song	(PRK)	14,12,7
	Chen Zhihe	(CHN)	bt	Gao Lijuan	(CHN)	8,14,16
	F Chen Zhihe	(CHN)	bt	Li Bun Hui	(PRK)	25,17,15
MD	F Ma Wenge/		bt	Janci T./		
	Wang Tao	(CHN)		Javurek P.	(TCH)	7,16
WD	F Li Bun Hui/		bt	Chen Zhihe/		
	Yu Sun Bok	(PRK)		Dai Yong	(CHN)	18,19
XD	F Kim Song Hui/		bt	Li Gun Sang/		
	Li Bun Hui	(PRK)		Han Hye Song	(PRK)	15,-17,15

Irkutsk International Tournament Irkutsk 17/21 August 1988

Men's Team: F URS (1) bt CHN 5-1 Women's Team: F CHN bt URS (2) 3-1

MS SF Mazunov A (URS) bt Wang Jianfeng (CHN) 11,18,-17,10

Wang Tao (CHN) bt Fan Changmao (CHN) w.o.

F Wang Tao (CHN) bt Mazunov A. (URS) 3-1

WS SF Bulatova F. (URS) bt Guan Hua (CHN) 18,-16,12,15

He Qianggong (CHN) bt An Hui Suk (PRK) 10,-11,-16,19,19

F He Qianggong (CHN) bt Bulatova F. (URS) 3-1

## LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE LEAGUE

Could be Oldham's turn to win the Junior Div. 1 title currently held by Barrow who, in their first match, were beaten 6-4 by Burnley whose Howard Whewell won three, Duncan Preston and Darren Aggett one each and the doubles. Subsequently, without the services of Whewell the East Lancs team were seen off 10-0 by Preston's Stuart Thorp, Ron Pennington and Rod Manwaring. Table:-

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Preston	3	2	0	1	4
Barrow	3	2	0	1	4
Oldham	2	2	0	0	4
Hyde	1	1	0	0	2
Wirral	3	1	0	2	2
Burnley	2	1	0	1	2
Southport	2	0	0	2	0
Macclesfield	2	0	0	2	0

In the Vets Div. 1 Stockport head the table with maximum points from three matches followed by Preston who dropped a valuable point when held to a draw by Bolton whose Clive Heap beat Ray Ashley, Tony Rigby and Mike Sibley.

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# WATCH THESE EVENTS:

 <p><b>THE LEEDS INTERNATIONAL EUROPEAN LEAGUE</b>  <b>THURS FEB 9 ENGLAND</b>  <b>v BELGIUM</b>          at the LEEDS TOWN HALL, CALVERLEY STREET          at 7pm  <b>Adults: £3</b>  <b>Children, OAPs: £2</b></p>	 <p><b>FRI FEB 10 SAT FEB 11</b>  <b>THE LEEDS MASTERS</b>          AN INTERNATIONAL ★★ LINE UP INCLUDING TWO CHINESE STARS ★★★  <b>at THE GUILD HALL CENTRE, PRESTON, LANCASHIRE.</b>  <i>Friday 10th February</i>          7.00 pm Opening Ceremony          7.15 pm Group Matches on two tables  <i>Saturday 11th February</i>          10.30 am Final Group Matches          1.30 pm Semi Finals begin          3.30 pm Final          £1.00 (Friday night only)          £2.00 (covering Friday night and all day Saturday)</p>	 <p><b>THE LEEDS INTERNATIONAL EUROPEAN LEAGUE</b>  <b>THURS FEB 14 ENGLAND</b>  <b>v TURKEY</b>          at CROOK LOG SPORTS CENTRE, BRAMPTON ROAD, BEXLEYHEATH, KENT          at 7pm  <b>Adults: £4</b> <b>Children, OAPs: £2</b></p>
<p>★★★  <b>JAN 21 and 22</b>  <b>SOUTH OF ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>          Woking Leisure Centre</p>	<p>★★★  <b>FEB 11 and 12</b>  <b>ESSEX 3-STAR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>          Harlow Leisure Centre</p>	<p>★★★  <b>MAR 11 and 12</b>  <b>CLEVELAND 3-STAR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>          Thornaby Pavilion, Middlesborough</p>

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