



Table Tennis News

No.176

OCTOBER 1988

90p



**John
Jaques**

1898

'Sole' major UK Table Maker

1988

'Seoul' major UK Table Maker

We are more visible, but . . .

IT IS beyond dispute that we are now much more "visible" – the Chairman's expression. The pre-season tour by the Swedish players was in the main successful, although the crowds of fans did not exactly fall over themselves to watch – hardly surprising in August.

Looking at the large list of major fixtures for the campaign, inflated by the Olympics and by the thirteen matches against China, there is danger of overkill. Those of us on the last tour appealed for at least one rest day. We have it, but we have all the extra matches. One well-known national sporting agency has already hinted that they regard such a high number of matches as a "circus".

The response by the fans to the forthcoming tour has been superb. To hear the crowd roar on the occasions when our players do well and at the "exhibition" matches at the end of the evening is proof that the Chinese artistes are fully appreciated. Having arranged two Chinese tours in 18 months, there is danger that the fans are not going to be easily attracted to events featuring only European players like the Leeds Masters planned for February at Preston.

At least there are two breaths of fresh air for the English Top 12 – a one-day event and back to 21 points. No-one else has to my knowledge, taken up the 11-points games – I think it is dead and buried.

Fatigue is one of the biggest problems for the professional players on the big tours. I understand that Don Parker, the England captain will rigidly enforce afternoon rest periods for the England squad on the Chinese tour. Otherwise, there is a danger than the fans watching the second half of the tour could be watching some jaded players in both teams.

Each time table tennis is featured on television major networks the boost we receive is immediately apparent. Squeezing in three sun-drenched weeks in the Spanish sunshine after the Swedish tour I met five different people from Britain who recalled seeing the England and Sweden match televised from Bletchley on August 19.

No doubt our sponsors Leeds Permanent Building Society are delighted at the television exposure before the start of the season. And now we have news that the preliminary England v China match at Aylesbury on October 16 will be canned for showing at Christmas – one of the peak viewing times of the year. If one or two more table tennis TV transmissions can be arranged for the second half of the season, we can be sure that a new record for the campaign will have been set.

However, the problem of stopping the decreasing membership is still with us. The very first report I have from the leagues on the number of registered players shows a small drop, but we need many more reports from annual meetings at league and county level to assess the situation.

JOHN WOODFORD

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★ COVER PICTURE

THREE of the four members of the British Olympic team – Alan Cooke, Carl Prean and Desmond Douglas also form the strongest English team of men for 30 years – since the days Richard Bergmann and Johnny Leach. Cooke, Prean and Douglas proved they are second only to Sweden in Europe, but the task of escaping from Division 1 of the European League must remain the prime target. ★

He certainly was "Mr Table Tennis"

by RABBI ANDREW GOLDSTEIN

LOOKING through some papers, I came across an old Table Tennis Magazine that had a fine tribute to Maurice Goldstein: "Who can now remember a table tennis world in which there was no Maurice Goldstein? Since the days of "cat's whiskers", the silent cinema, and when our game was still swaddling, Maurice has been with us. He became secretary of the Birmingham League some 35 years ago in succession to Marjorie Haydon (Adrian's sister, Ann's aunt). And he grew up as Birmingham grew into today's giant with between five and six thousand members.

He was an England trialist in the thirties; connected with the International Federation; with both pre-war and post-war county championships; a member of the National Executive and a multitude of other committees. He has organised more tournaments and international matches than any other single person is ever likely to do.

For 35 years Maurice Goldstein has strode quietly across a Himalayan range of achievement while lesser men have gone mountain-climbing on molehills. Men have come and men have gone but Maurice has gone on and on sacrificing himself to table tennis. Lord knows how he has done all that he has done. A bat supplanted his violin bow. His golf clubs (and handicap) faded out. The games came almost before family business. He has tired the nights with unceasing service."

That was written by Leslie Woollard in 1963 when Ian Harrison and Diane Rowe were England No. 1's (though I notice Ralph Gunnion there at No. 8). If Dad had organised more tournaments than anybody else in 1963 – just think of it 25 years later. I'm not sure Leslie Woollard got it right for I've been told he was secretary of the Birmingham & District Table Tennis Association in 1932 – the Warwickshire Association in 1937 – and a member of the National Executive from 1933.

Finest hour

He was made President of the English Table Tennis Association in 1973 and perhaps it was the World Championships in Birmingham in 1977 that was his finest hour. He was rightfully given the O.B.E. the following year.

Said Woollard – the game came almost before family business. It also came in many ways before his family – the sacrifice was his, but also ours – particularly our late mother who also contributed so much to his success.

Tonight at the Memorial Prayers I will recall some of his other achievements – his craftsmanship as a tailor – his cricket – his dancing – the Jewish Lads Brigade – but I know that most of

you are here to honour "Mr Table Tennis" as he became affectionately known. So once again I ask the family to wait a while.



Maurice Goldstein

How many stories you could all share and tell of his exploits! Maybe you could write them down and we could do a book in his honour. Like my brothers – our intimate involvement with table tennis was some years back – years of answering your phone calls, opening the door, stamping letters, taking trays of tea 2 flights up to the office – and cleaning trophies.

Lights out

I select 2 stories of silver cups in my recollection to encapsulate the man. The first when I was a boy – when the Midland Open was at the Old Friends Institute in Moseley Road. Play had to finish and Paddy O'Grady switched off the lights at 10 o'clock. We were allowed to complete the finals illegally behind blackened windows down in the gym. At last it was over and all the cleaning up needed to be done – as usual just Dad and I and a couple of other mugs! Letting ourselves out of the back door into the dark back streets, we walked right into the arms of a policeman. "Open your case sir". . . it was full of silver cups! I think Dad took me home before going on to the police station. And of course, there they knew him well – for often they visited our home in the wee small hours for tea and chat – for Dad

was always at work and the lights ever on.

And the last episode – the day, two months ago when we found him at Blenheim Road suffering the effects of strokes. Yet his car was loaded with trophies. That morning, partially or largely incapacitated, he had forced himself to get ready for yet another tournament in Coventry.

How he pushed himself through illness, tiredness – and pain! Stupid at times – selfish – but ever devoted to the game he loved.

How fitting that the last game of table tennis he played – I think – was in Watford to launch the English Vets Association. He partnered the late Ivor Montagu. They lost. Ivor could hardly see the table let alone the ball – but Dad could still hit a few. A fitting end – Ivor Montagu and Maurice Goldstein – one last game – now both are gone – and the game itself has lost two of its founding fathers.

And Maurice, the man. Shy – humble – honest – never seeking a favour – always doing favours for others – most unsociable – and yet when relaxed the most sociable of beings. Why did people keep inviting him when he rarely reciprocated? Why – even when he was at his most maddening – did his smile and twinkle in his eyes win you over? Why did his nurses in his last desperate two months, fall in love with him? How many meetings, how many club dinners, how many lifts did he ask you for? How many times did you have to push his car? How many times did he give you good advice or lend you a quid or two? How many trains did he miss, falling asleep often waking in Crewe not Birmingham? The miles he travelled – the games he watched – the league tables he compiled.

Never still

A man of restless energy, never still for long. In hospital they were worried that he didn't seem to sleep much – but we told them he never did. Holidays – in Hammy's cottage – meant a couple of nights sleep to catch up on the previous fortnight with an hour or so a night – then days spent digging and laying crazy paving and nights doing his books. The last thing he did in hospital on the last day before he slipped into unconsciousness was to Hoover the ward.

Leslie Woollard – 25 years ago – concluded his article with: "Nature must have framed

THIS TRIBUTE was delivered by Maurice's son Andrew at the funeral service on May 9 in Birmingham

Maurice to be a kingpin of English table tennis. His quality is rare. His service and quiet modesty unequalled. And as history staggers out of legend, he is still – bless him – with us yet."

Now Maurice Goldstein is no more – a legend in his lifetime, clearly – but let history record the story and the memory of a man who devoted much of his life – without ever seeking reward – to the game he loved. Just think of the pleasure and satisfaction his organisation gave – to countless men and women. Recall also the round shoulders – the humour – the smile in his eyes and on his lips – the warm personality. How devastating it is to be without him – may God grant us strength to carry on his work. It is our sadness to have lost him – thank God for having known him – and for the good influence he brought to all our lives.

New Distributor For Stiga

STIGA are pleased to announce that on 8th August 1988, Independent Marketing Services Ltd (IMS) took over the U.K. distribution of Stiga table tennis equipment. IMS are the sole distributors for Yamaha Sports and the Stiga range will compliment their current activities.

Stiga export to 65 countries and are acknowledged world wide as the No. 1 brand in the table tennis, it is worthwhile noting that Stiga is one of the few non-Korean equipment suppliers to the Olympic Games.

Specialists

Monty Wilson, Managing Director of IMS says "IMS is determined to put Stiga in its rightful place at the top of the U.K. market. We aim to provide specialist knowledge and quality service to the competition market along with a comprehensive dealer support package for the growing hobby market". IMS will be showing the complete range of Stiga products at the EXSL Exhibition on stand number 3024

THE REGULATION CHANGES

by George Yates

Clause 2 of the Regulations appertaining to the European League came under discussion at the BGM in Paris with the proposition of the Yugoslav Association being approved by 17 votes to 7 calling for:- "Each Association will register players in its team to the Hon. General Secretary before the first round up to 6 men players and up to 4 women players."

To date only Czechoslovakia have submitted their players names which are:- Men: Jindrich Pansky, Tomas Janci, Jiri Jauurek, Petr Javurek, Milan Grman and Miroslav Cecava Women: Marie Hrachova, Renata Kasalova, Alena Safarova and Miluse Kocova.

Hopefully before the first matches I will be in a position to list each Association's players in a subsequent issue of this magazine. Furthermore, host associations will have the right to play on two tables in the Super Division with an option for Division 1 to also adopt this system. On two tables the order would be:-

	Table 1	Table 2
1.	MS 1 v 2	MS 2 v 1
2.	MD	WS
3.	XD	
4.	MS*	
5.	MS*	

*If the score after the mixed doubles is 4-1 or 5-0 the last two men's singles may be played on two tables simultaneously. And, the third change to the Regulations calls for:- "Should the correct adopted equipment not be used, the Referee has the right to declare the match a walk-over to the away team."

October 12 should see the first matches under way with the Netherlands taking over from Hungary in the Super Division, and the demotees opposing England in Hungary for what should be the last all-important match in Division 1.

Super Division fixtures:-

Oct 12	France	V Netherlands
	Sweden	V Czechoslovakia
	F.R. Germany	V Bulgaria
	Yugoslavia	V Poland

George Yates continues as General Secretary of the European Table Tennis Union



Super Division fixtures continued — Division 1

Nov 2	Netherlands	V Bulgaria
8	F.R. Germany	V Czechoslovakia
9	Poland	V Sweden
	Yugoslavia	V France
Dec 10	Bulgaria	V Sweden
14	Netherlands	V F.R. Germany
	Czechoslovakia	V Yugoslavia
	France	V Poland
Jan 18	France	V Bulgaria
	Yugoslavia	V F.R. Germany
	Czechoslovakia	V Poland
19	Sweden	V Netherlands
Jan 25	Netherlands	V Czechoslovakia
	F.R. Germany	V France
	Sweden	V Yugoslavia
	Bulgaria	V Poland
Feb 15	Poland	V Netherlands
	Bulgaria	V Yugoslavia
	F.R. Germany	V Sweden
	France	V Czechoslovakia
Mar 8	Yugoslavia	V Netherlands
	Poland	V F.R. Germany
	Czechoslovakia	V Bulgaria
	Sweden	V France

DIVISION I

Oct 12	Hungary	V Switzerland
	England	V Finland (Bracknell)
	Austria	V Italy
15	Turkey	V Belgium
27	Italy	V Finland
Nov 10	Switzerland	V England (Winznau)
12	Belgium	V Hungary
	Austria	V Turkey
Dec 14	England	V Italy (Manchester)
	Finland	V Turkey
7	Austria	V Hungary
18	Belgium	V Switzerland
Jan 14	Turkey	V Switzerland
18	Italy	V Hungary
Jan 18/Feb 8	England	V Belgium (Leeds)
Jan 21	Finland	V Austria
25	Switzerland	V Finland
	Austria	V England (Salzburg)
28	Hungary	V Turkey
	Belgium	V Italy
Feb 14	England	V Turkey (Bexleyheath)
15	Italy	V Switzerland
18	Belgium	V Austria
	Hungary	V Finland
Mar 8	Switzerland	V Austria
8 or 15	Turkey	V Italy
8	Hungary	V England
11	Finland	V Belgium

The Division 3 matches are to be hosted by the Isle of Man (dates to be announced)

CALENDAR OF WORLD EVENTS from the ITTF . . .

Oct 7	Oct 14	1988 Bicentennial Australian Open Championships	AUS
Oct 12		European League matches begin	
Oct 16	Oct 23	World Championships for the Disabled	Seoul KOR
Oct 20	Oct 23	Romanian Open Championships	Cluj ROM
Oct 21	Oct 30	25th South America Championships	Montevideo URU
Oct 29	Nov 1	Italian Open Championships	Arezzo ITA
Nov 3	Nov 6	Sovetskaja Kultura Tournament	Moscow URS
Nov 17	Nov 20	Yugoslav Open Championships	Belgrade YUG
Nov 24	Nov 27	Stiga World Grand Prix finals	
Dec 1	Dec 4	French Open Championships	Nantes FRA
Dec 1	Dec 4	South American Clubs Championships	Montevideo URU
Dec 8	Dec 11	Stiga World Grand Prix Masters	

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

Carl clinched wild card

by TED WALLBUTTON, Chief Executive ETTA.

CARL PREAN the England Number 3 Table Tennis player from Ryde, Isle of Wight gained a wild card entry to the Seoul Olympics.

20 years old Prean had been in second reserve position after narrowly missing selection from the European qualifying tournament but ensured his entry by a series of giant killing results. After beating World Champion Jiang Jialiang (China) in the Leeds Euro-Asia Tournament in January he helped England to a silver medal in the European Championships during March. He was the most successful player in Paris, beating World Number 2 Jan Ove Waldner (Sweden) and top Europeans Andrei Mazunov (USSR) and Erik Lindh (Sweden).

A reminder

Prean gave a timely reminder to the Olympic selectors by beating the new European Champion Mikael Appelgren (Sweden) and Waldner, again, to win the ATSV Saarbrücken Jubilee Tournament.

The British squad for this inaugural table tennis appearance in the Olympics comprises 4 English players with Prean joining Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke and Skylet Andrew in Seoul.

Editor's note: In fact, to put it bluntly, it appears that Carl Prean played so well after the Karlsruhe Olympic trials that the ITTF had little option but include him in the Seoul party.



CARL PREAN, Isle of Wight our professional for Saarbrücken in the Bundesliga West Germany.

STOP PRESS

DESMOND DOUGLAS carried the British flag furthest in Seoul. After six wins in a row he lost to Erik Lindh and Jiang Jialiang, just failing to reach the last eight. Alan Cooke won five in a row but lost to Tibor Klampar.

Seoul reporting restricted

REPORTING world-class table tennis from abroad this season will include the world championships in Dortmund, West Germany for the regular trio of Richard Eaton (The Times, etc), John Woodford (Daily Telegraph) and Johnny Leach (News of the World).

But the Times and Telegraph reporters did NOT operate from Seoul. There are several reasons for this – one is that every sports journalist wants to be there; the places are allocated very carefully. Both Richard and I were offered places but for me the prices were sky-high and for Richard, his wife Anne is expecting the birth of his second child during the Olympics.

So it is anticipated that the table tennis news from Seoul will reach the British Press via the Reuter agency and other international agencies.

For this magazine, I have no doubt that chairman John Prean will be working hard at his typewriter when he gets back from Seoul to give us a more detailed version of table tennis's Olympic debut. JW.

BARCLAYS AND MARK RANDLE ON FORM

by Gordon Baker

THE first International Table Tennis Championships for employees of institutions offering banking services were promoted by the Isle of Man Table Tennis Association and held in Douglas from 4-6 May. The late withdrawal of teams from Malta and the Isle of Man somewhat reduced the International flavour but the remaining teams from England, Wales and Ireland provided a fiercely contested tournament which, undoubtedly will develop in future years.

The Team Championship, played on the European League format of 2 men and 1 woman, proved rather strenuous with 7 sessions of play over two days but produced some very tight matches, particularly at the cross-over stage, and some surprises.

Roy Copes from the Northern Bank of Ireland showed, in the very first session, no respect for personalities by inflicting a rare defeat upon Mark Randle of Barclays Bank whilst Sandra Roden representing the National Westminster Bank (Wales) indicated her intentions with a first session defeat of Suzanne Airey of the Midland Bank and continued in the second session with a convincing defeat of Helen Bardwell of Barclays. Also at this stage Graham Parr and Paul Rushton of National Westminster (England) produced a very good doubles win over the experienced pair of Geoff Davies and Chris Handshaw from Lloyds Bank whilst on an adjacent table Sandra Roden and Ian Ladbroke inflicted the only defeat on Andy Withers and Helen Bardwell of Barclays.

After the group matches and the first cross-over games, as expected Barclays and Lloyds emerged to contest the first two places. Geoff Davies opened Lloyds account with a good win over Mark Randle but Andy Withers levelled the scores with a convincing defeat of Chris Handshaw. In the critical ladies singles Helen Bardwell produced an outstanding display of attacking Table Tennis to defeat Kim Mudge and set Barclays on the way to the title with a final 6-1 scoreline. The final four team places were filled by Midland B, Leeds Permanent A, Leeds Permanent B and the Provincial Financial Trust.

The final day of the event saw some tremendous battles for the Individual titles and Barclays (cont in previous col)

(cont from next col)

adding to their collection of trophies. The Men's Singles title went to Mark Randle after a 21-14, 21-14 defeat of team mate Andy Withers but Gary Lewsey of the Midland surprised some before going out in the semi-finals to Withers. The closest final of the evening proved to be the ladies where Sandra Roden repeated her earlier defeat of Suzanne Airey after saving a match point in the second game to give the National Westminster and Wales its first title. Both Doubles titles went to Barclays with Randle and Withers defeating Davies and Handshaw in the Men's event and Helen Bardwell pairing with Andy Withers to defeat Geoff Davies and Kim Mudge in the Mixed Doubles.

Five bronze medals for England

by PAUL ELPHICK in Novi Sad

NOVI SAD, YUGOSLAVIA was the choice for the 31st European Youth Championships held over the period 30 July - 7 August. England's honours in searing heat were bronze medals won by the Junior Boys Team, Bradley Billington, Matthew Syed, Michael O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield and by Cornwall's top England Cadet, Neil Bevan in the Cadet Boys Singles.

JUNIOR BOYS TEAM EVENT

England's second stage draw could not have been better paired with Poland and the Netherlands - or it would appear so! Holland despatched Poland to the tune of 5-1 and England then thrashed the Poles 5-0, so it was a shoot out between England and Holland for a semi-final spot against the powerful top seeded Soviet Union.

England started splendidly Mike defeating the Dutch no 3 Danny Heister 21-17, 21-14, but then Matt suffered his first defeat at the hands of Bart VanHaren, the top Dutch player, 15 and 18. England fell 2-1 behind when Brad lost to Trinko Keen 19-19-16 and it was left to Matt to steady the ship with a comfortable two straight victory over Heister. The vital 5th game between Mike and Keen was a nailbiter with the Dutch lad emerging the winner 15-19 16 and the Dutch led 3-2. Certainly the tension on both benches and in the crowd was showing (the Dutch brought about 40 spectators who went into frenzies each time their team won a point).

Brad then came on to play Van Haren. Outclassed at 13 in the first Brad found some inspiration to take the 2nd 12. The third was another cliff hanger with both boys producing table tennis of the highest order with Brad hanging on for a crucial 18 in the 3rd victory to bring the scores level at 3-3. Matt cruised to a 15 and 12 win over Keen to set up England's semi final place - or so it seemed with Brad to play Heister. Heister had other ideas and won the first 12.

Nerves

Brad plucked up his play in the 2nd to lead 20-15 but a sudden attack of nerves and swashbuckling play from the Dutch lad brought the scores to deuce before winning the next 2 points to pull the scores to 4-4. It was a sudden death play off Mike versus Van Haren. By this time play on all other 19 tables had finished as our match stood centre stage. Mike played coolly to win the first at a tight 19 and then led all the way through the 2nd until Van Haren snatched the bronze medal from under our noses by winning it 18. How can you coach in circumstances like those? Paul Day



Matthew Syed

said and advised all he could and perhaps England were lucky to have Mike - probably the coolest of us all - at 4-4. The third was tight until 14-14 and Mike won 5 points in a row. To go 20-14 up Mike turned round to the bench and in a rare moment of emotion threw his fists up in the air, and a minute later, overjoyed the England team invaded the court to congratulate the hero of the hour, in a marathon and memorable match of 4 hours.

So England had at least a bronze medal and semi final tilt at the holders Soviet Union but the schedule probably denied England of a better coloured medal. At 8.30am next morning the three England heroes of the night before were back on the table for their tough semi final. Most of the lads had only had about 6 hours sleep certainly not enough before a European semi final - not only were they physically exhausted but also mentally too, and it definitely showed at the start of the Soviet match.

After the first 4 matches England had won just the 2 sets, Brad taking Dmitriy Mazunov to 15 in the third and Matt losing out at 17 in the third to the same player. In between Mike had been totally outplayed by Samuel Vardanian and Matt had lost to the Russian no 3 Dmitriy Gusev. At 4-0 down England looked dead and buried but Brad had other ideas. After losing the 1st 11 to Vardanian Brad turned on the style to win the 2nd 18 and a splendid 3rd game resulted in victory for the Derbyshire lad.

Even better followed as Mike pulled around his early morning lethargy to thrash Gusev 4 and 20 another splendid performance against the eventual Boys

Singles finalist. Matt then tackled Vardanian - who is one of the best players against chop in the Junior game. Despite some good play Matt lost the first 16 but found fine range, to easily win the 2nd 13. The 3rd was a brilliant display of powerful hitting and phenomenal retrieving. At 19-19 Matt returned 2 unbelievable hits from over the barriers and about 2 foot in the air to go 20-19 ahead. The whole England bench leapt from their seats to acclaim a memorable point but Vardanian found some incredible shots to snatch it from Matt at 22-20 leaving the final match score at 5-2 to the Soviets.

A bronze medal was a real credit to the team after the disastrous showing the year before in Athens. Team Captain Paul Day was superb - always encouraging, advising and calming in tense moments - and there were plenty of those.

JUNIOR GIRLS TEAM EVENT

England had only 2 matches in their opening group after the withdrawal of Portugal. England had to play Norway and the Soviet Union.

England defeated Norway 3-1 to qualify for the second stage with Andrea Holt winning both her singles with comparative ease. The only blemish on the scoresheet came when Julie Billington lost - 16 14 - 15 to the Norwegian no 1 Marianne Blikken.

The second match against the Soviets would determine who would qualify as group winners. The Soviets had brought an unknown quantity in Veronika Krestianinova, a chopper, who duly defeated Julie 16 and 13. Andrea levelled the scores when defeating Armine Makinjan 17, 20. The doubles proved to be decisive the Soviet pairing winning 14 and 23. Andrea then played Krestianinova, won the first 18 held 6 match points through deuce in the 2nd, lost it 26 and fell apart in the 3rd 14. England had finished 2nd but had qualified for the second stage.

Firstly England played the Czechs and were beaten 3-1. Andrea started off losing to Renata Chvatalova at 12 in the 3rd. Julie then played some of her best table tennis against the highly seeded Jaroslava Mihockova before succumbing again in the 3rd at 13. The girls



Andrea Holt

kept the match alive by winning the doubles and then Andrea tackled Mihockova but lost 16 and 19. Effectively England's chances were finished but West Germany still had to beat us to win the group. This they did but only narrowly, 3-2.

England began with a 3-1 defeat of Austria. Julie at last won a game much to the relief of not only her but all the England squad. The doubles again we lost but Andrea easily won her two games again. Our final match was against Sweden. We were piped 3-2 and finished 10th. Andrea won her two, the doubles was lost and Julie lost to Helen Gustavson 22-20 in the fifth game.

cont on page 24

RESULTS

JUNIOR BOYS TEAM EVENT (FIRST STAGE)

ENGLAND 5 FINLAND 0 - Billington bt Kontala 16.17 Syed b Paivaranta 16.15 O'Driscoll b Kauhanen 16.5 Billington b Paivaranta 19.21 O'Driscoll b Kontala 17.16

ENGLAND 5 CZECHOSLOVAKIA 2 - O'Driscoll b Mihocko 13.15 Syed b Vyborny 20.17 Billington lt Korbelt -17 -14 Syed b Mihocko 18.7 O'Driscoll lt Korbelt -13 18 -20 Billington b Vyborny -9 13 20 Syed b Korbelt -12 16 8

ENGLAND 5 WALES 0 - Oldfield b Buck 6.8 Billington b Harris 12.14 O'Driscoll b Thomas 9.15 Oldfield b Harris 14.15 O'Driscoll b Buck 8 -19 8

SECOND STAGE

ENGLAND 5 POLAND 0 - O'Driscoll b Dzuibanski 16.19 Syed b Kusinski 21.13 Billington b Kolodziejczyk 17 -14 16 Syed b Dzuibanski -12 9 16 O'Driscoll b Kolodziejczyk -18 13 14

ENGLAND 5 HOLLAND 4 - O'Driscoll b Heister 17.14 Syed lt Van Haren -15 -18 Billington lt Keen 19 -19 -16 Syed b Heister 15.12 O'Driscoll lt Keen -15 19 -16 Billington b Van Haren -13 12 18 Syed b Keen 15 12 Billington lt Heister -12 -20 O'Driscoll b Van Haren 19 -18 14

SEMI FINAL - ENGLAND 2 SOVIET UNION 5

Billington lt Mazunov -13 19 -15 Syed lt Gusev -11 -23 O'Driscoll lt Vardanian -12 -17 Syed lt Mazunov 19 -7 -17 Billington b Vardanian -11 18 19 O'Driscoll b Gusev 4 20 Syed lt Vardanian -16 13 -20



SIDE COURTSIDE

Compiled by

JOHN WOODFORD

Ping Pong Corner

Continuing the saga of the denigration of our Olympic sport by calling it "ping-pong" . . . Carmet Botin, Severiano Ballesteros's fiancée has spoken out on his hate of losing at sport.

The quote is: "He is very fair but he hates losing, even if its just a game of ping-pong."

Ping-pong is bad enough but the prefix "just" makes such a statement even more annoying to the point it would be nice to be able to say to these people "Are you aware that table tennis is an Olympic sport?"

A Chance Meeting

HAVING failed to meet Don and Jill Parker in Spain when we were all in the Alicante region for most of June and also failing to connect at the ETTA AGM at the Charing Cross Hotel, due to pressure of talking with many others, I was amazed to bump into Don and Paul Shirley in Lancashire.

The event was the British Open Golf Championship at Royal Lytham and St. Annes. The time was the first day before the rains came. There were 35,000 people present on the day, so the chances of meeting must have been thousands to one. Chatting behind the 16th green, we were eventually silenced by the stewards as Jack Nicklaus putted out!

Mason blasts lawn tennis stars . . .



The England no 5 from Bexhill

NICKY MASON, the England No. 5 from Bexhill took a firm grip on proceedings at the LTA Volkswagen Ratings Tournament at Hastings in July.

Quoting from reports in the "Hastings Observer" - "The greatest heroics came from Nicky Mason who more usually makes headlines with his table tennis prowess."

Fast reflexes

"Nicky started playing in the tournament in the first week. He immediately found his fast reflexes and flexible attacking game were well-suited to the fast

grass courts. Winning a match a day he defeated a whole succession of higher-ranked players, even the favourite Surrey's Nigel Pendrigh and powerful Mark Sands-Smith left the court red-faced in the semi-final, another Mason victim."

The final

In the final however, Mason finally went under 6-2, 6-3, to the higher-rated Shaun Murphy. It will be interesting to see Mason's new lawn tennis ranking and how many places he jumped up the ladder.

An update is needed

SURELY it is time on this forthcoming Chinese tour of England to try and get the BBC TV sports producers to remake the famous "100 Great Sporting Moments" of table tennis taken at Brighton in 1978 - the match between Teng Yi and Li Chenshi. It was shown again on July 18 at a prime time just following the British Open Golf final round.

I was courtside on that occasion along with many readers of the magazine. But it has been shown so many times that almost everybody interested in sport has seen it several times.

The courtside advertising was so limited ten years ago. Times have changed. Perhaps that is why the BBC keep using it. Lucky old Norwich Union.

Triple Honours For Reg!

Reg Snow, many years chairman of the Thames Insurance League received the ETTA Merit Award at this year's A.G.M., was made a Vice President of the Middlesex Association at their A.G.M. and in the Queen's Birthday Honours List received the Imperial Service Order.

What a collection in a couple of months?

FIERCE HOSTILITY IN THE MESS

READING "Bomber Command" by Max Hastings recently, I read of "fierce hostility by the old sweats in the sergeants' mess at table tennis."

It reminded me of the fact that many readers of ancient vintage started table tennis in the Services. It seems that new NCO's - aircrew recruits "who were foolish enough to take off their jackets to play table tennis were ruthlessly crushed for their impropriety". Max Hastings is the current editor of "The Daily Telegraph". JW.

A NEW GIANT

BRADFORD Unity TTC, a club with a remarkable record of success in the Northern Divisions has landed a new sponsor, the giant chemical company called BAYER, who have premises in 67 countries with a workforce of 173,000 in five continents.

The club, coached by Hans Soova will run under the Bayer Bradford flag.

Bayer spokesman Simon Dawe said, "We like to promote sport and youth."

Comment: To get a company of this dimension interested surely opens up the possibilities of much bigger involvement in table tennis.

TRAVELLING TO DORTMUND

RECENT activity by the IRA against service personnel on the continent and in West Germany, has made some British table tennis fans intending to travel to the world championships in Dortmund next year think again about travelling by road with British number plates.

Air travel will be a little more expensive, but sea and rail routes to Dortmund could well work out the best way to travel.

Although IRA attacks have been directed against cars with British forces plates, there could still be a threat to any vehicle bearing British plates.

BATH TO REPRESENT ENGLAND

BATHWICK Tyres are the English club who won the Leeds British League premier division. As a reward, they will represent England in the European Club Cup of Champions, an event run by the European Table Tennis Union.

The draw has been made. Bathwick have been drawn against club Levallois UTT. Alan Cooke's Swedish club Falkenberg Bordtennisklubb will represent Sweden. They have been drawn against the winners of Lokomotive Bratislava and Sporting Vilette Charlerio from Belgium.

Bathwick have a bye in the first round with Desmond Douglas obviously at No.1.

The progress continues

"I READ more about Table Tennis during this summer," wrote a friend, "than I used to all season." Certainly we have remained more visible than in the past.

The England-Sweden matches in August gave us a good start as we prepare for the new season. It was good to present the European Champions and our own top players in Swindon and Andover – possibly the first internationals played there. Milton Keynes is no stranger to top class table tennis. A splendid collaboration has emerged with the local Council which has brought much fine table tennis to the community and the spot has benefitted as a result of some rousing promotions.

The first match was televised on BBC Grandstand getting two good uninterrupted sports of about one hour in total with much good play. Ironically, we again lost 3-5 just as in Paris. This time we pulled back from 0-3 to 3-3 and we had every chance to win the remaining two matches. So it was again rather exciting with Table Tennis as the undoubted winner after a very good evening.

We played the remaining two matches on two tables, in part to give the players some useful pre-Olympic practice, but mainly to introduce our own spectators to two-table play which is the way all German League matches are played, often to very good crowds which we would love to have here rather more often. There is always something going on and, whilst they are knocking up on the other table or picking up the ball, you can watch the other. Having seen a number of Bundesliga Matches, I must confess I found their format enthralling – after the initial acclimatisation to something quite different.

The Swedes proved yet again a magnificent team, even without Waldner who had to stay at home with suspected glandular fever. Appelgren and Lindh were frequently quite breathtaking. Des played as well as ever and the younger players played better and better as the tour progressed.

The Olympics have brought well deserved and much needed recognition to the sport and together with this early Swedish Tour we had good spots on Television almost daily, at any rate in the South, featuring our players. TV AM carried a good item and News Programmes also showed some interest. I recall one highly encouraging period when we appeared for seven successive days in one shape or another or something went into the can for future use.

Soon after you read this the England – China matches will begin. Demand and interest was remarkable. That is why more than a dozen matches will be staged. It will be an excellent Chinese Team. If we can get a few good results, we shall be near our ambition of a world class team.

When you read this, the Table Tennis part of the Olympics will have ended. I hope it will all work out well and give the whole sport all over the world the lift it needs. I hope particularly that more of the world's players will participate next time, than 64 men and 48 women, which is our meagre ration in Seoul. President Ogimura and his team will be battling for that objective during the preparations for Barcelona. I hope we shall see a team event which is so much of table tennis tradition.

Unfair

We got the maximum number of permitted men to Seoul via the qualifying stages, but sadly no women and this was a blow to us, which we must rectify in time for Barcelona. Perhaps by then Europe will have evolved a better qualifying process than we had last time. This seemed to combine high expense with unfairness, a situation Sebastian Coe will find familiar. The allocation of places itself was unfair to Europe, where, for all the undoubted excellence of the top Asian countries, greater depth of excellence exists than anywhere else. However, Olympic Table Tennis is in an early stage. It can only go from strength to strength.

The higher profile and the increasing opportunities to see top class table tennis live and on TV will in time encourage more to take up the game in competition against very many other sports and declining numbers in some important age groups. Increased membership remains a No. 1 priority.

Our financial situation has continued to improve. The turn-round has been remarkable and in some ways spectacular. That hard decisions had to be made cannot be in doubt. The majority of our members supported what had to be done and the success to which we can now point is theirs more than ours.

Saga ending

The saga of our crumbling offices is due to end this autumn when our headquarters will move to a relatively modern building in Hastings and particularly after the former offices are repaired under our obligations in the lease. We earned enough money last year to cover the costs which will be in excess of £20,000 – probably more. When this is over, it will signal more firmly the arrival of better days.



Eric Lindh

No report of such generally encouraging trends can be complete without once again paying tribute to the support of the Leeds Permanent Building Society, not just financial, but moral, as well as in marketing matters. They have been tremendous.

I have done a great deal of travelling during the summer, visiting our members, renewing old friendships and beginning new ones. I have been impressed by the number of local initiatives, too numerous to mention here. Perhaps Ron Applegate's coaching scheme in Norwich with 150 youngsters does deserve a special mention. I know Donald Parker was impressed and delighted by this coaching initiative. It shows what can be done. All over the country I have found morale high and enthusiasm greater. All over the country the sport is held in much higher regard than it was a year or two ago. That is a good base on which to build.

Have a really good season.

John Prean

SOUTHERN REGION

CHAIRMAN AT ANDOVER

RAY Yates, Regional Chairman of the ETAs Southern Region attended the Annual Presentation Dinner Dance of the Andover League and presented trophies to the Winners of Divisions One, two and three and also to the winners of the League Championships.

The Open singles Champion was Malcolm Cummins who has won the title seven times since 1976 and is unbeaten in this event.

12 year old Jeremy Wilson recorded a hat-trick of titles winning the Cadet singles, Handicap singles and Handicap doubles with his brother, Ben. The League winners were: Div 1 Wherwell A, Div 2 Wolverdene B, Div 3 Hatherden B

RAY YATES, Regional Chairman, Southern Region, at the Andover league dinner where he presented trophies to Malcolm Cummins (right) seven times winner of the Andover Open title and unbeaten in that event since 1976.



APPROVED BALLS
The following makes of ball
have been licensed for play in
this country for the 1988-9
Season.

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

Calm Waters at Charing Cross

by **TED WALLBUTTON**, Chief Executive, ETTA

COMPARED with the 1987 Annual General Meeting, headlined by John Woodford as 'Prean Team Dodge the Bullets', the 1988 meeting was a much more controlled and calm affair. Same venue, mostly the same faces, but politics gave way to sport and table tennis was even mentioned on a few occasions. Saturday 9 July at the Charing Cross Hotel the sport took a good step forward to progressive unity.

The 100 members present stood for a moment's silence in memory of the late President, Maurice Goldstein OBE, whose quiet presence had controlled many previous AGM's, then the Agenda commenced with matters arising from his last such meeting.

As ever, the report of the Management Committee gave a great deal of opportunity for reviewing one of the most traumatic years ever experienced in the ETTA's long and chequered history. Mrs Jose Ransome raised a plea under the Development Department report for urgent steps to be taken to bring more women into Table Tennis and invited all interested members to attend a special Women in Sport Seminar during August.

John Jermyn (North Herts) echoed the overall sentiment by regretting the dearth of information from the Membership Committee, but was assured by the Chairman that several good ideas had been generated by the committee which were in the process of being actioned.

The vital and pivotal sponsorship of the sport by Leeds Permanent Building Society was praised by Eric Hill of Yorkshire who made the point that the Leeds County Championships appeared to be lagging financially behind the Leeds British League in support terms.

The Chief Executive assured him that both bodies were

regarded as being of equal, and prime importance and the differing sponsorship sums reflected the fact that the County Championships did not pay prize money.

The review of performance gave the opportunity for Peter Charters (Reading) to congratulate the England Team on their Silver Medal in the European Championships, although he felt that the Bronze Medal in the 1983 World Championships was of equal merit. Ken Muhr (Milton Keynes) thought that the number of student coaches and interest in coaching was falling and appealed for the reintroduction of National Coaches but Stuart Sneyd (Vice Chairman Coaching and Selection) refuted the argument and maintained that the new coaching structure was proving highly cost effective. Points were made, and re-made, but the Management Committee Report was unanimously adopted.

More peaceful

The Treasurer's report was certainly given a more peaceful reception than its predecessor, not surprisingly as he was able to report a small surplus for the year as opposed to the massive losses of 1986/87. No prior notice had been given of financial questions so the ensuing debate was short and uneventful although the Chairman warned about the risks of taking one swallow sitting as a

guarantee that summer had arrived and urged continued restraint, prudence and good management.

Following the successful carrying of 12 rule amendments the AGM was adjourned to allow a Special General Meeting to take place. The proposition considered was put on behalf of National Council and was intended to make it permissible for one person to manage two of the ETTA's department. Under the current rules a vacant department has to be managed by the Chairman if he is unable to find a suitable or acceptable Vice Chairman to fill the post and he explained to the SGM the difficulties and hindrances inherent in this. Arthur Upton (Lancashire) spoke against the proposition, his county apparently feeling that too much responsibility could be imposed on one person.

In spite of the Chairman's plea for the change to be made it was passed with a majority of almost 2500 votes but did not succeed as a two thirds majority was required to change the rule.

When the AGM was resumed a resolution rescinding the formation of ETTA Limited was passed, as it had been found that personal guarantors for any future debts would still be needed for the new body.



Ted Wallbutton

Thereafter the meeting turned to happier notes with the election of a new president and the presentation of awards. To great applause Johnny Leach MBE was unanimously elected President and was handed the chain of office. Johnny said how proud he was to accept such a great honour even if the pride was mingled with sadness at the loss of his predecessor.

The Honours Committee had also nominated two new Life Members, Mrs Doreen Stannard and Alan Ransome and AGM endorsed this high honour for two deserving and tireless workers for the sport. The announcement was also made of the Ivor Montagu Award to Les Wooding, the Victor Barna to Alan Cooke, the Leslie Forrest Memorial Award to Sussex's Dennis Reed and the Malcolm Scott Award to Les Smith.

The 1988 AGM lacked the drama and controversy of last year's 'Battle of Charing Cross' but the sport looks considerably less war torn than one year ago and the future outlook positively rosy.

BRISTOL 2-STAR OPEN-STORY LOST IN POSTAL STRIKE! RESULTS:

JUNIORS

Junior Boys Tom Cutler (Mi) b Wayne Kenton (Lan) 22,11
Junior Girls Katherine Goodall (Y) b Tracey Scott-Pawson (Do) 19, 19
Category 2 Mixed Singles Gregory Bridgett (Dv) b Tony Lansdown (K) 11, 22
Cadet Boys Martin Adams (Bk) b Spencer Thompson (K) 7, 18
Cadet Girls K. Goodall (Y) b Sarah Creasey (Sp) 15, 9
Under 12 Boys Andrew Nicholls (Y) b Gareth Davies (Av) 17, 11
Under 12 Girls Nicola Deaton (Dy) b Clare Pengelly (Dv) 12, 12

SENIORS

Mens Singles Dave Hannah (Sco) b Nicky Mason (Sy) 18, 19
Mens Doubles N. Mason (Sy) Sean Gibson (Lan)
Steve Dorking (E) b Glen Baker (Sy) 15,13
Womens Singles Jill Harris (ST) b Janet Smith (Sco) 18, 16
Women Doubles J. Harris (ST) J. Smith (Sco)
Sue Collier (Bk) b Sue Butler (Dv) 19, -13, 14
Veterans Singles Keith Horton (Sx) b Walter Allinson (Bk) 21, 17
Category 2 Mixed Singles Diccon Gray (Av) b Tony Sweet (Dv) 19, 23

JIM BECKLEY



VICE-chairman of the ETTA Public Relations Committee is in charge of the advertising for this magazine. This issue of TTN is carrying (by far) a record amount of advertising,

due mainly to Jim Beckley's efforts and possibly the fact that the advertisers are now appreciating the value of the magazine as a marketing asset. 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.

THE CONTACT ADDRESS

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

The Billingtons march on

by MIKE WATTS

BRADLEY and Julie Billington from Chesterfield produced a unique family double at the finals of the Leeds Youth Cup which were held at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre.

Bradley provided a late dash to the winning post coming from behind 16-12 in the third to just pip surprise package Chris Oldfield 21-18 in the final of the Junior Boys event, whilst just prior to this Julie was always in command against top seed Andrea Holt, despite losing the first from a winning position to edge home 21-17 in the third. Neil Bevan, top seed in the Cadet Boys event won a close encounter with second seed Brian Mileham to annexe the Cadet Boys event whilst appropriately a Leeds girl, Katie Goodall, was the winner of the Cadet Girls event, her final opponent being Helen Potts.

Lucky?

Earlier in the day, Bradley Billington had been lucky to progress beyond the groups as he crashed to Jonathan Taylor 21-11 in the third only for Taylor to lose to Jason Bamford 21-19 in the third leaving Bradley a second chance which he took convincingly beating Bamford two straight to go through on games average. At the semi final stage Billington was again extended before finally getting the better of Matthew Syed in the third whilst Chris Oldfield who had looked very sharp all day beat top seed and county team mate Michael O'Driscoll 21-19 in the third.



The big shock in the Junior Girls was Nicola McGrath beating second seed Claire Potts in the group and then taking Julie Billington to three games in the semi final.

Both Cadet Boys semi finals were reasonably easy for the winners although Brian Mileham did lose the first 21-9 to Gary Knights. The Cadet Girls semi finals were won two straight although earlier there were shocks with Maria Thornley losing in the groups to Sarah Williams and Helen Wright losing to Helen Potts. Whilst young Nicola Deaton took the eventual winner to a third game and could have won two straight.

Presentation of all awards was made by Mr. Steve Wilde from the Marketing Department of the Leeds Permanent Building Society headed by Stuart Sneyd, Vice Chairman Selection/Coaching.

THIS SEASON . . .

LAST season saw the introduction of a new event thanks to the generosity of Leeds Permanent Building Society who provided funds from their sponsorship of English table tennis to introduce the Leeds Youth Cup, designed to interest "grass roots" players to enter a national event.

The first year saw the nine Regional Coordinating committees organising the tournament at Regional level, with the winners of the four main events - Junior Boys and Girls Singles and Cadet Boys and Girls Singles going forward to a National Final at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre. Over 750 boys and girls entered the event in the first year and the aim this year is to DOUBLE that number.

Plans are already advanced for the coming year with the nine Regional tournaments scheduled to be played on either Saturday 18th February 1989 or Sunday 26th February 1989 with the finals of Saturday the 20th May 1989. One region - Southern - will play their tournament on Sunday 12th March 1989 at the Redbridge Sports Centre in Eastleigh, Hampshire.

Entry forms will be circulated shortly but if you are in any doubt as to where to obtain forms please contact Robert Sinclair at the ETTA Offices (Telephone 0424 433121) and he will either provide them for you or redirect your application to the correct Region.

Help us to double the entry this year by telling all your club members or classmates about the event. There are opportunities for all with Restricted events at Regional level for those who cannot expect to progress at the top level. The Association regard this as one of our major events and the weighting of the tournament (X4) at regional and national level reflects that importance.

Send off today - don't delay - the Leeds Youth Cup is here to stay.

RESULTS

Junior Boys Semi Finals

B. Billington bt M. Syed 15 - 19
16; C. Oldfield bt M. O'Driscoll - 19 20 19

Final

B. Billington bt C. Oldfield 20 - 16 18

Junior Girls Semi Finals

J. Billington bt N. McGrath 8 - 20 18; A. Holt bt D. Toole - 19 14 14

Final

J. Billington bt A. Holt - 20 15 17

Cadet Boys Semi Finals

N. Bevan bt D. Howarth 9 12; B. Mileham bt G. Knights - 9 11 16

Final

N. Bevan bt B. Mileham 17 19

Cadet Girls Semi Finals

K. Goodall bt S. Williams 20 19; H. Potts bt E. Meddings 20 19

Final

K. Goodall bt H. Potts 7 11



Mike Watts



Bradley Billington



Julie Billington

* RESULTS *

2nd Deutschland-Cup		Trier	21/22 May 1988
MS	SF Grubba (POL)	bt Guo Yuehua (CHN)	-15,11,16,16
	Kucharski (POL)	bt Mazunov (URS)	12,17,-9,14
	F Kucharski	bt Grubba	-16,18,8,18
WD	SF Wang Xiaoming (FRA)	bt Timofeeva (URS)	14,16,-15,8
	Guergueltcheva (BUL)	bt Yang Yanqun (CHN)	12,12,17
	F Guergueltcheva	bt Wang Xiaoming	8,10,17
MD	F Grubba/Kucharski	bt Primorac/Kalinic (YUG)	17,14
WD	F Guergueltcheva/Kloppenburg (BUL/HOL)	bt Timofeeva/Bolvari (URS/HUN)	-15,12,19

The Leeds national team winners

WILMOTT CUP



PLYMOUTH

J. M. ROSE BOWL



WOLVERHAMPTON

BROMFIELD TROPHY



PRESTON

CARTER CUP



NOTTINGHAM

Video – a wonderful coaching tool

by DONALD PARKER, the England captain

THE video camera is an excellent coaching aid and can be used in many different ways.

In the practise situation it can visually reinforce the coaches verbal feedback. What a player thinks he is doing and what he is actually doing can be totally different.

To be able to show this is of immense value and also to be able to show subsequent development helps the grooving in of a good technique.

With the England team I have found the best use is in the match situation. Firstly, players can watch themselves play and see whether they played a good tactical game, whether at any time they took the pressure off, whether they played any poor strokes and whether indeed they behaved in a sportsmanlike manner. Obviously there are other facets of the game that can be watched, but prior to a big match I have found some players can be helped psychologically and tactically by being able to watch their last encounters with their prospective opponents.

Secondly I am able to edit tapes and the players can have a copy of their matches in whatever foreign tournament. Obviously in my position as Team Manager/Coach I am very dependant on the England players personal coaches as it is vital that we all work along the same lines. The players' coaches and the players themselves watch the videos and I can then discuss with them what they have seen and we can mutually agree on a programme of practise and training.

Thirdly, during the team event at the Worlds or Europeans, we may have to play a team with whom we are not too familiar. Team events are played at the same time and therefore players are unable to observe their future opponents. With the video camera we simply film one of their matches and watch it in the evening while having a tactical discussion at the same time. This has indeed proved to be a great help particularly for observing service techniques.

Fourthly we obviously use the tapes on training camps so that prospective England players can see the demands of top level international play.

Finally, we do make these tapes available to enthusiasts at a very low cost. The first attempt at this was not as successful as current attempts as lessons have been learnt. A top quality master tape is used, second generation tapes only are sent out to purchasers and the camera is not on "Auto Focus" which caused "blurring". Obviously we are not talking about B.B.C. broadcasting standards, but for the price any enthusiast should be well satisfied. Mr. Sid Fryer is handling the distribution of these tapes and anyone interested should keep their eyes on Table Tennis News for what is available or indeed contact Sid direct at 8, Cleveland Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 8AY. Tel: 061-980-8110.



Donald Parker

DAVID HANNAH INJURY BLOW

DAVID HANNAH, newly-signed for Ashford in the Leeds British League premier division could be out for the whole of the season following a serious football injury to his right knee.

8th season for computer system "LENTEC" support continues

by **STUART SNEYD**

The "Lentec"/ETTA Computer Ranking Scheme has again been highly successful and will continue for 1988/89, its eighth season. For the start of the season, all points gained at the end of the 1987/88 season have been divided by two. The system will continue to be on a wins only basis with the calculation of points as follows:

EXPECTED WIN TABLE

POINTS DIFFERENCE	POINTS GAIN	
1 to 10	8	
11 to 30	7	
31 to 60	6	×
61 to 100	5	The
101 to 150	4	Weighting
151 to 210	3	Factor
211 to 280	2	
281 AND OVER	1	

UNEXPECTED WIN TABLE

POINTS DIFFERENCE	POINTS GAIN	
1 to 10	9	
11 to 30	10	
31 to 60	11	×
61 to 100	12	The
101 to 150	13	Weighting
151 to 210	14	Factor
211 to 280	15	
281 AND OVER	16	

When players are level on points at the time of playing a match, one point will be awarded to the winner to make the result an expected win.

WEIGHTING FACTORS

These are as follows:

SENIOR

2 Star Open Tournaments ×1

All County Championship and British League matches
European Club Cup
International Events - Category C ×2

3 Star Open tournaments
International Events - Category B
Commonwealth Championships ×4

English National Championships
European League and Selected Friendly International Matches
International Events - Category A ×5

European Championships
Euro/Asia Championships
World Championships
Olympic Games ×6

NOTE: The qualifying rounds of the English or Welsh Open will be ×3 whilst the main event will be ×5.

JUNIOR, CADET AND UNDER 12

2 Star Open Tournaments ×1

All County Championship matches ×2

International Events - Category C ×3

Leeds Youth Cup - Regional and Finals
Select Open tournaments
National Ranking Trials - knock out stage
International Events - Category B ×4

English National Championships
International events - Category A ×5

European Youth Championships ×6

NOTE: The qualifying rounds in the English Junior Open will be ×3 whilst the main event will be ×5.

VETERANS

2 Star Open tournaments ×1

All County Championship matches ×2

Regional Open tournaments ×3

3 Star Open tournaments
National Veteran Championships ×4

English National Championship ×5

GROUP EVENTS

Groups of three and four will be computed in the normal way, otherwise points per win will be awarded as follows:

Final Regional Junior and Cadet Ranking Trials - 3 points/win

National Junior and Cadet Ranking Trials - 10 points/win

National Top 12 - 30 points/win

European Top 12, Olympic Groups - 60 points/win

NOTE: Players exempt from Regional Junior and Cadet Ranking Trials will each receive a differential bonus of 21 points

BONUS POINTS

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, OLYMPIC GAMES

Winner - 1600 pts, Runner-Up - 800 pts, Losing Semi-Finalist - 400 pts, Losing Quarter-Finalist - 200 pts, Last 16 - 100 pts, Last 32 - 50 pts

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Winner - 800 pts, Runner-Up - 400 pts, Losing Semi-Finalist - 200 pts, Losing Quarter-Finalist - 100 pts, Last 16 - 50 pts, Last 32 - 25 pts

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS - CATEGORY A

Winner - 400 pts, Runner-up - 200 pts, Losing Semi-Finalist - 100 pts, Losing Quarter-Finalist - 50 pts, Last 16 - 25 pts

ENGLISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Winner - 200 pts, Runner-up - 100 pts, Losing Semi-Finalist - 50 pts, Losing Quarter-Finalist - 25 pts

3 STAR OPEN TOURNAMENTS, 'SELECT' OPEN TOURNAMENTS, NATIONAL JUNIOR AND CADET RANKING TRIALS (KO STAGES), INTERNATIONAL EVENTS - CATEGORY B, COMMONWEALTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, VETERANS AT 3 STAR OPENS

Winner - 100 pts, Runner-up - 50 pts, Losing Semi-Finalist - 25 pts, Losing Quarter-Finalist - 10 pts

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS - CATEGORY C, VETERAN REGIONAL OPENS

Winner - 50 pts, Runner-up - 25 pts, Losing Semi-Finalist - 10 pts

2 STAR OPEN TOURNAMENTS, VETERANS AT 2 STAR OPENS

Winner - 10 pts

EQUALITY

Where two or more players are level on points, ranking will be relative to their previous positions.

FOREIGN PLAYERS (including those from Home Countries)

Dummy positions, as determined by the National Team Manager, will be allocated on the computer lists as appropriate.

COMPLAINTS, QUERIES ETC

These should be made in writing and sent direct to: Ron Etheridge, 163a Eden Park Avenue, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3JW

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thanks are owing to Lenton (Holdings) Ltd and Stan Lenton in particular for the continued support of the "Lentec"/ETTA Computer Ranking Scheme

English trio upset Swedes

by JOHN WOODFORD at Bletchley, Swindon and Andover

DESMOND DOUGLAS, Carl Prean and Alan Cooke all landed two victories each to defeat Sweden 6-4 at the Andover Sports Centre on August 21st, an appropriate end to the tour, sponsored by the Leeds Permanent Building Society and without question a successful venture for the time of year.

In front of the TV cameras at Bletchley England struggled hard as they lost 5-3, at Swindon's Link Centre, they again almost forced a draw to finished losers by 8-6. The England's team persistence paid off and their stamina lasted as they finally up-ended Sweden at Andover in front of 300 people.

The late start and finish at Bletchley was unlucky for Alan Cooke. Having beaten Johan Falby all six previous meetings, no problems seemed to loom, but loom they did, the Stockholm youngster managed after a struggle to beat our England champion from Derbyshire. As the game was on first the early editions of the nations had nothing to write about except the Cooke defeat, but that is the way the Cookey crumbles!

However, by the time the teams reached Andover, tiredness was apparent, Jorgan Persson pulled out with a blistered toe and England were clearly in with a chance, although Persson did not impress throughout the two matches at Bletchley and Swindon.

Prean and Cooke both had difficulties finding their best shots in the first two clashes although Cooke beat Persson. It was at Andover all came right - Cooke fought like a demon at the table and at the back of the court to stop Mikael Appelgren whilst Prean had an astonishing scoreline to topple Lindh's unbeaten record - 20, 20, 20!

That one had chairman John Prean riveted to the scene, although he did not appear to be "bubbling like an electric kettle" as reported in the Sunday Times (Richard Eaton) that day!

Douglas lost to Lindh, but in the very last match of the day, our wonderman from Walsall, finally demolished Appelgren - Douglas had my vote for Man of the Tour for England, Erik Lindh for Sweden.

England 6, Sweden 4 Andover

C. Prean and A. Cooke 1 M. Appelgren and J. Falby -17, -15. N. Mason 1 Appelgren -17, -18. D. Douglas b Falby 12, 16. Prean b Lindh -20, 20, 20. Cooke b Appelgren 14, 17. Prean b Falby 8, 8. Douglas b Lindh -18, 7, -15. Cooke b Falby 20, 18. Mason 1 Lindh -17, 19, -12. Douglas b Appelgren 17, 14.

NEW BOND

There is no doubt that the tour has helped to cement a strong bond between table tennis players and the associations of England and Sweden. This situation has been helped by the fact that the Swedes see the England men's top trio as the strongest for 30 years, so any matches between England and Sweden provide the best possible match-play practice for all the players.

England 3, Sweden 5 Bletchley

Desmond Douglas, Nicky Mason and Alan Cooke all scored once for England in the opening match of the tour and it was Douglas who came within two points of forcing a draw in the final match of the night, losing 21-19 in the third game to Mikael Appelgren. The match finished at 11 p.m. too late for most of the national press to carry the result.

Nicky Mason who gained a place in the England tour party in the absence of Skylet Andrew in China, opened his account losing to Erik Lindh, but in the second half Mason displayed his fighting spirit with a great victory over the young Johan Falby 21-19, 21-19, helping to put England back to 3-3, after Sweden had gained a 3-0 lead. Alan Cooke who had earlier lost to Falby, returned to the table to overturn the 1986 European champion Jorgen Persson in a real thriller.

Carl Prean, hours before his 21st birthday showed flashes of brilliance, but at no time did he seem likely to sweep the floor with the Swedes as he did in Paris at the European Championships.

Summing up the match, the England players basically struggled in the early stages and came back smartly in the middle of the evening, but could not quite hold the advantage long enough to hold the Swedes to even scores at the end.

Scores: A. Cooke 1 J. Falby -15, 17, -15. N. Mason 1 E. Lindh -16, -12. C. Prean 1 M. Appelgren -8, -18. D. Douglas b J. Persson 9, -18, 15. Mason b Falby 19, 19. Cooke b Persson -22, 21, 17. Prean 1 Lindh -16, 17, -18. Douglas 1 Appelgren 22, -14, -19.



Alan Cooke beat Appelgren at Andover

England 6, Sweden 8 Swindon

Desmond Douglas is still just ahead of his young rivals - that was the feeling after watching Sweden beat England 8-6 at the Link Centre at Swindon.

Mikael Appelgren, enjoying a new lease of life after surprisingly regaining the European title in Paris last spring, was the most difficult player to beat on the tour and it fell to Desmond to unseat him and spoil his unbeaten record q 22-24, 21-17, 21-18.

Earlier, Carl Prean had tried to do the same thing. He crushed Appelgren in the first game 21-11, lost the second and started to build a lead in the third - all on Carl's 21st birthday!

It looked as though his 21st was going to be a day to remember, but finally Appelgren tightened his games and won 21-17.

Douglas and Nicky Mason gave England a super start with a doubles win against Appelgren and Falby and England improved their prospects when Alan Cooke recorded a badly needed

revenge win over Falby 21-13, 21-16. Cooke has now beaten Falby seven times in eight meetings.

History was made at Swindon when for the first time in an international match in England, two tables were used - one answer to the problem of late finishes - most fans do not want to sit on uncomfortable wooden seats for over four hours - remember, the seats where the VIPs sit are usually softer!

Scores: C. Prean and A. Cooke 1 J. Persson and E. Lindh -14, -22. D. Douglas and N. Mason b M. Appelgren and J. Falby -24, 18, 16. Cooke 1 Appelgren -9, -18; Douglas 1 Lindh -11, -18.

Prean b Falby 17, 17; Mason 1 Persson 22, -18, -11. Douglas b Persson 15, 15; Prean 1 Appelgren 11, -16, -17. Cooke b Falby 13, 16; Mason 1 Lindh -17, -14. Douglas b Appelgren -22, 17, 18; Prean 1 Persson -19, -21. Mason b Falby 15, 14; Cooke 1 Lindh -18, -10.

THE GATES

Attendances at the matches, estimates only - Bletchley 400, Swindon 400, Andover 300. We were lucky to get 300 at Andover - most people have got much more to do with their time on a Sunday evening, surely afternoon would have been a better idea?

A coach who makes champions

By JOHN WOODFORD

HANS SOOVA, the highly respected Yorkshire coach who came to England in 1951 from Estonia is the man most likely to produce the next English European junior champion, junior or senior – that is the view of many in Yorkshire.

His record is exceptional. He has coached 14 players who have played for England and I am told 13 have reached No. 1 spots on English ranking lists, 28 have become national champions.

Hans is head coach at the Yorkshire and Humberside Centre of Excellence at Farnley Park High School, Leeds. He said recently "at the centre I have a superb team of workers including coach Sylvia Broadbent – everything depends on team work" he added.

"Young table tennis players these days have many more and better facilities than when I first started after coming to England in 1951" he said, "sponsorship is very much better at all levels but the young players are nowhere near as dedicated as they were fifteen years ago".

Windows

Hans played table tennis in Bradford for fifteen years before he became a coach in 1967. In the early days he watched people playing table tennis through the windows at Bradford YMCA before he plucked up the courage to take part. Once he started to get involved he learnt English very quickly.

Refugee

Prior to arriving in England he was a refugee being moved from camp to camp by the international refugee organisations where he made his first bat from wood out of a Red Cross parcel!

Having made his first bat, he painted it black and the paint never dried – a bat with an unusual grip! In those far off days he never played with a new ball. He picked up the cracked ones and used sticky tape to patch them up! So much for our modern players painfully sorting their way through boxes of perfect balls before a match.

When he took table tennis lessons in Germany before coming to England the price was one cigarette for ten minutes and two cigarettes for half an hour.

How times have changed. Hans comments "I have spent so many hours playing and coaching table tennis, but it is the sport I love and it has been good to me."

Casual

Amongst a group of young Yorkshire players in the top branches of the England junior and cadet rankings are two stars to watch – Michael O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield. O'Driscoll from Mirfield was the player with his delightfully casual style who shocked his two top rivals Bradley Billington and Matthew Syed into defeat to win the Leeds Junior English Open at Bridlington in May – O'Driscoll I suspect has learnt a lot from Hans Soova.

Editor's note: "Table Tennis News" is indebted to the "Yorkshire Evening Post" for some help with this story which took up a half a page in that newspaper one evening last June.



Head Coach at Leeds
– Hans Soova



15,000 fans for China tour

RECORDS will certainly be broken when the 13-match tour by China starts before the BBC television cameras at Aylesbury Civic Centre on October 16. Six days later the show takes to the road for what can only be a gruelling 12 matches in thirteen days starting at Newcastle and finishing at Halifax on November 3.

The twelve centres to be visited are Newcastle, Bridlington, Manchester, Birmingham, Brentwood, Ipswich, Eastleigh, Folkestone, Eastbourne, Weston-super-Mare, Hinckley and Halifax.

Reports from the venues suggest that some may attract crowds of 2,000 fans – Folkestone who have the advantage of a professional organiser – are expecting that number and are flying the teams from Eastleigh early on the morning of October 30, to Lydd airport in Kent.

The England team is expected to be at full-strength with the Olympic four – Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Skylet Andrew, with the possibility of Nicky Mason and other top England players getting a game.

China will have (of course) as their leader and playing captain Chen Xinhua, now resident in Manchester, plus the world No. 7 Wang Hao and the current mixed doubles world champion Hui Jun. As TTN went to press, it was not known who will be in the China No. 4 berth.

POSTAL STRIKE

THE postal strike and its backwash has hindered the production of this first issue of TTN, printed for the first time by BELMONT PRESS of Northampton, whose co-operation has been first class. In addition to the strike and the new printer, three of the Hastings staff and myself grabbed the "slot" opportunity after the Swedish tour to take holidays in Spain – so four reasons why our new publication date of the list of the month was an almost impossible target to hit.

I regret that the record amount of advertising and the post strike has caused a number of contributions to be omitted – JW.





British League

Promoted by the English Table Tennis Association



Ormesby capture Chen Xinhua

by MIKE LOVEDER

NEW Premier Division challengers Ashford may have failed in their bid to recruit Alan Cooke (who is rumoured to have a price tag of £400 per match), but they now have four top 20 standard men having succeeded in recruiting Dave Hannah and Nicky Mason.

Alan Cooke left Ormesby to play in Sweden back in 1986 to replace the then World Champion Stellan Bengtsson at Falkenberg. Ormesby have since seen a considerable turnover in No 1 players. In 1986/87 they signed up John Hilton. On his departure they gained Scotland's Dave Hannah and this season they are reported to have achieved what is possibly their best signing to date in the form of the talented Chinaman Chen Xinhua. It seemed therefore a little ironic that one of the season's first fixtures was to be Ormesby vs Ashford, but I'm told that this has been postponed until 4 February.

Douglas retained

Des Douglas left Borussia Dusseldorf in 1984/85 after 7 years there. Since then he has spent two years with GKN and is now expected to sign up for a second season with Bathwick Tyres, with Kevin Satchell promoted to No 2 in the team. The transfer of Nicky Mason from Bath to Ashford could make the Avon team have to work harder than expected to retain the League championship.

Grove I have retained their top two players for a third season. Jimmy Stokes and John Souter may well be pleased that the transfer market has been busy and they may see themselves sneaking away with the title, having been the runners-up for the last two seasons. Support from Bradley Billington and Sean Gibson makes this one of the youngest fittest teams.

It does seem to me that the title chase may well be closer this season and there could be a few draws in prospect to keep things interesting to the end. Ashford were scheduled to entertain Bath on 18 September. Now I hear that this fixture will be played on 15 January 1989 to see a sparkling start to the New Year.

Following the withdrawal of Rotherham from the Premier, Tony Taylor is reported to have signed for Butterfly Cardiff, to replace Nigel Tyler and to team up with Carl Morgan. So the accents will not sound quite so Welsh in future!

Candidates

Three teams I see as relegation candidates at present are Armada 400, Chan Construction and Kingfisher Reading I (in alphabetical order!) Kingfisher Reading do not yet look like a Premier team although I'm told they are still recruiting. Nevertheless they could survive another season

....

BLAST FROM THE PAST

The newly-formed Division I South is shaping up into a tough area. Promotees C&L Ruislip look like favourites if they can hold their team together. At the time of writing they have Nigel Tyler, Andy Cunningham, John Taylor and Tony Stark. However it won't be easy if Dagenham FC have their way - now they ARE that minty bit stronger. In 1985 Dave Wells was No 1 for Ellenbro' in the Premier. I gather he has now returned from Holland and, having previously been among the top 6 in the country, it should not take him very long to reappear in our national rankings.

Another blast from the past comes to TSP Larkhall who have signed up Malcolm Sugden who I thought had prematurely retired from competitive play. They seem to have lost the unpredictable Ru Bole and I hear Percy Collino is getting itchy feet. If he transfers to Rejects I as rumoured it will have the effect of pushing Gary Spencer down to No 3 in the team under the new rules. Maybe he'll enter the occasional tournament to get ranked higher!

Team Ramlosa Essex have their



Max Crimmins

regular squad reranked and look likely to have their work cut out this season. Doleq Carpets, with two promotions in as many years, have recruited Mike Owens but they won't be quite the same without Brian Jeanes. Plymouth Bulldogs look solid and they have gained the talents of Gary Lambert at No 4. Horsham Dolphins lose Steve Holloway but have a healthy squad to challenge for the title honours.

The north

Division I North looks like a one-horse race from the registrations seen so far. Grove II could win this division barely raising a sweat! it does appear that the main battle is likely to be for the runner-up spot. Britannia Ipswich, City of Leeds and MBS St Neots all seem to be in with a chance although the outstanding registrations could reveal a great deal. Bradford Investments Unity had a good squad last season and another of similar strength could overturn most teams in this division. Grove II's stars could I suppose be forced to 'play up' in the event of any Grove I injuries and in this, perhaps unlikely, event the division could be opened up.



Mike Loveder

With Alison Gordon, Max Crimmins, Joey Kennedy and Kenny Jackson, Ashford II look set to run away with Division II South. More about this and other teams in the November issue. The Player of the Month awards, introduced in 1985, live on. Watch this space for 'Stars on Sundays'!



David Hannah

DAVID HANNAH, the undisputed Scottish champion lives in Surrey. Under new Scottish regulations he now has to travel to Scotland more frequently to play in the major Scottish TTA events. STOP PRESS: Hannah was seriously injured playing football in September is out of all sport until Christmas!



Schildkröt distributed by Butterfly



Leeds British League 2

SOME PROVISIONAL LEADING TEAM RANKINGS

Premier:
 Ashford D Hannah, N Mason, G Baker, S Dorking
 Grove I J Stokes, J Souter, B Billington, S Gibson
 B Cardiff T Taylor, C Morgan, A Griffiths, N Thomas
 K Reading A Wellman, D Barr +

Division I South:
 C&L Ruislip N Tyler, A Cunningham, J Taylor, T Stark
 Dagenham FC J Burleton, D Dodd, D Wells, R Jermyn
 Plymouth B's G Wilson, M Short, T Sweet, G Lambert
 Horsham D's A Dodd, P Smith, R Venner, P Elphick
 TSP Larkhall M Hammond, P Collino, D Harding, M Sugden
 T Ramlosa E J Dennison, I Attridge, R Darnell, S Gibbs
 Rejects I M O'Leary, G Spencer, R Beckham, P Harry
 Dq Carpets N Williams, M Owens, A Evans, S Ward

Division I North:
 City Leeds I Robertson, M Stead, R Whitely, S Turner
 Grove II G Sandley, S Mills, C Oldfield, M Green
 St Neots S Palmer, K Richardson, S Moore, M Harper
 Ruston ML P Vickers, L Neil, S Yallop, S Worrell
 Br Ipswich R Tanner, J Kitchener, P Logsdon, R King

BROE WITH CHEN AT ORMESBY



John Broe, the Scottish No.2 is a man who can raise his game to a high standard on occasions. Those occasions will need to be more frequent this season as he is the main support for Chen Xinhua in the Ormesby team in the premier division of the Leeds British League, although Ashford could be the favourites to win the title from Bathwick Tyres, led by Desmond Douglas. Ashford's acquisitions include Nicky Mason and David Mason and David Hannah. Mason has moved from Bath.

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The Leeds County Championships

More teams – 176 – than ever!

THE number of teams continue to increase. There are 10 more in the 1988/9 programme, bringing the total to 176! It is a healthy sign that the Junior Section is now the largest with 60 teams.

Lively discussion ensued at the Championships Conference concerning Avon's proposal that all matches be played in weekend sessions. It aroused keen interest and received a good measure of support. Associations were apprehensive of costs which might be involved and there was concern at the prospect of arranging 42 suitable and conveniently situated venues to provide for the 21 Divisions. The outcome of a vote did not bring about a change of Rule. But obviously there is more interest in playing over weekends at central venues. Since Conference some Associations have been exploring such possibilities for the coming season.

John Prean, Ted Wallbuton and myself encouraged Counties to give more publicity to improve the image of the Championships and secure more coverage for the sponsors. Ted Wallbuton will be glad to receive copies of Press cuttings.

Conference agreed re-numbering of Divisions so that First Divisions follow those of Premier status. It is hoped this will allow publication of more results in national Press and on Teletext, as was achieved for Senior Premier Division last season.



by DOUG MOSS

Final Leading Averages 1986/87 (Qualification – 4 matches plus at least 70% wins)

SENIOR PREMIER

	W	L	%
Alan Coke (Dy)	8	0	100
Bradley Billington (Dy)	13	1	93
Jimmy Stokes (Bk)	12	2	86
Chris Oldfield (Y)	10	3	77
Graham Sandley (Mi)	10	3	77
Steve Dorking (E)	10	4	71
John Souter (Mi)	10	4	71
Mandy Sainsbury (Bk)	7	0	100
Andre Holt (La)	4	0	100
Souter/Wilson (Mi)	6	1	86
Billington/Holland (Dy)	5	2	71

Cooke/J. Billington (Dy)	4	0	100
Stokes/Sainsbury (Bk)	6	1	86
Mills/Toole (Y)	3	1	75
SanJley/Tyler (Mi)	3	1	75

SENIOR 2A

Ian Robertson (Nd)	13	1	93
Mick Stead (Y)	12	2	86
Tony Taylor (Ch)	11	3	79
Phil Gunn (Wa)	9	3	75
John Kitchener (Sk)	9	3	75
Helen Lower (St)	6	0	100
Janet Deakin (Ch)	6	1	86
Nicola McGrath (La)	4	1	80
Palmer/Kitchener (Sk)	6	0	100
Gunn/Johnson (Wa)	4	1	80

Ladies Doubles – no qualifiers

SENIOR 2B

Kevin Satchell (Wi)	11	1	92
Paul Whiting (Dv)	11	1	92
Andy Dodd (E)	12	2	86
Paul Giles (Dv)	12	2	86
Phil Smith (Sx)	12	2	86
Ritchie Venner (E)	9	3	75
Helen Perrott (Av)	5	0	100
Claire Maisey (Wi)	4	0	100
Elaine Short (Dv)	6	1	86
Sarah Hammond (Ha)	5	1	83
Sally Weston (Sx)	4	1	80
Carol Giles (Dv)	5	2	71
Smith/Venner (Sx)	5	1	83
Giles/Short (Dv)	6	1	86
Buttery/Hammond (Ha)	3	1	75

SENIOR 3A

David Honor (Nk)	8	2	80
Dave Skerratt (Li)	8	2	80
Ian Gunn (Wa2)	6	2	75
Julie Mclean (Cu)	5	1	83
Karen Backhouse (Cu)	5	1	83
Julie Revill (Le)	3	1	75
Joanne Pickles (Le)	3	1	75
Gunn/Machin (Wa2)	3	1	75

Ladies Doubles – no qualifiers

SENIOR 3B

Tony Clayton (Do)	15	1	94
Haken Sigrell (Do)	15	1	94
Gary Wilson (Dv2)	9	1	90
Gary Lambert (Dv2)	7	1	88
John Bassett (Col)	8	2	80
Michael Owens (Hr)	12	4	75
Kevin Buddell (Dv2)	6	2	75
Esme Stevenson (Col)	6	0	100
Joyce Coop (dol)	4	0	100
Sue Butler (Dv2)	7	1	88

Cheryl Skevington (Dol)	6	1	86
Sara Wilson (So2)	4	1	80
Jane Wright (Dv2)	4	1	80
Mae Allen (Do2)	3	1	75
Cara Rowe (Col)	6	2	75
Clayton/Sigrell (Dol)	7	0	100
Williams/Bassett (Col)	4	1	80
Slack/Moreman (Gs)	3	1	75
Rowe/Stevenson (Col)	6	0	100
Dark/Wilson (So2)	5	0	100
Skevington/Coop (Dol)	4	0	100
Butler/Wright (Dv2)	4	1	80

SENIOR 3C

Mick Harper (Cal)	14	1	93
Kevin Richardson (Cal)	10	1	91
Martin Livermore (Ca2)	7	1	88
Graeme McKim (Np1)	12	2	86
Geoff Davies (Ca2)	8	2	80
Mark Dare (De2)	10	4	71
Helen Bardwell (Hu)	7	0	100
Maggie Pavitt (De2)	4	0	100
Hilary Finch (Cal)	6	1	86
Richardson/Harper (Cal)	5	0	100
McKim/Edmonds (Np1)	4	1	80
Miller/Gallo (Np2)	3	1	75
Pettitt/Finch (Cal)	7	0	100
Dimmock/Robins (Bdl)	6	1	86
Bardwell/Baldwin (Hu)	3	1	75

SENIOR 3D

Keith Samuels (He)	11	1	92
Percy Collino (Sy2)	7	1	88
John Taylor (He)	12	2	85
Wally Harding (Sy2)	8	2	80
David Allanson (Bk2)	10	3	77
Richard Bole (Sy2)	7	3	70
Mary Allan (Bk2)	7	0	100
Alison Boxall (He)	3	1	75
Carol Hewett (Sx2)	5	2	71
Samuels/Taylor (He)	4	0	100
King/Hewett (Sx2)	6	0	100

JUNIOR PREMIER

Michael O'Driscoll (Y)	14	0	100
Chris Oldfield (Y)	8	0	100
Mark Ward (Y)	13	1	93
Andrew Eden (La)	10	4	71
Leigh Jeffries (Wa)	10	4	71
Adrian Thorp (St)	10	4	71
Julie Billington (Sx)	6	1	86
Maria Thornley (La)	6	1	86
Debbie Toole (La)	6	1	86
Kate Gower (E)	5	2	71
Nicola McGrath (La)	5	2	71
Helen Wright (Dv)	5	2	71
O'Driscoll/Oldfield (Y)	4	0	100
White/Bridgett (Dv)	3	1	75
Billington/Deaton (Dy)	4	0	100
McGrath/Thornley (La)	6	1	86

JUNIOR 2A

Howard Whewell (La2)	13	1	93
Mark Stephenson (Y2)	11	1	92
Peter Bowler (Bd)	12	2	86
Colin Bowler (Bd)	12	2	86
Mark Beaumont (Bd)	11	3	79
Jason Williams (Li)	9	3	75
Sally Johnson (Li)	6	1	86
Joanne Keighley (Y2)	5	1	83
Ellen Meddings (Y2)	3	1	75

Helen Stephens (Li)	3	1	75
P Bowler/Beaumont (Bd)	5	2	71
Buckley/Beaumont (Bu)	3	1	75
Keighley/Meddings (Y2)	3	1	75

JUNIOR 2B

Tim Cutler (Mi)	14	0	100
Paul Carter (Sy)	11	1	92
Scott Greenbrook (Sx)	12	2	86
Alan Cole (Sx)	12	2	86
Brian Mileham (K)	10	3	77
Andrew Houghton (K)	9	3	75
Phil Smith (So)	9	3	75
Graeme Connolly (Sy)	7	3	70
Joanne Webber (So)	6	0	100
Sian Evans (Gn)	5	1	83
Sarah Williams (Mi)	5	1	83
Sarah Hollingsworth (K)	4	1	80
Linda Radford (E2)	3	1	75
Maria Williams (He)	5	2	71
Greenbrook/Cole (Sx)	6	1	86
Houghton/Mileham (K)	6	1	86
Smith/Fowler (So)	4	1	80
Ellward/Collier (Gn)	6	1	86
Fisher/Williams (Mi)	5	1	83

JUNIOR 3A

Ian Collier (Du)	11	1	92
Michael Curry (Nd)	10	2	83
Michael Roughley (Du)	10	2	83
Steven Riggison (Du)	10	2	83
Barry Foster (Nd)	8	2	80
Spencer Harris (Cw)	9	3	75
Chris Kinsey (Le)	9	3	75
Andrew Clark (He)	6	2	75
Nicola Deato (Dy2)	4	0	100
Natasha Williams (Cw)	5	1	83
Julie Foster (Dy2)	4	1	80
Alison Jones (Ch2)	3	1	75
Collier/Riggins (Du)	6	0	100
Forster/Deaton (Dy2)	3	1	75

JUNIOR 3B

Martin Adams (Bk)	12	0	100
Kieron Dabbs (Np)	13	1	93
Ian Bird (Np)	7	1	88
James Patterson (Nk)	8	2	80
Mark Banks (Bk)	9	3	75
Sally Hughes (Ox)	6	1	86
Dawn Barnett (Ox)	5	1	83
Lisa Crick (Bk)	5	1	83
Karen Slatford (Bk)	5	1	83
Louise Cracknell (Nk)	5	2	71
Rebecca Ledwith (Wa2)	5	2	71
Alison Taylor (Nk)	5	2	71
Poulter/Yates (Ox)	6	1	86
Adams/Banks (Bk)	3	1	75
Bird/Dabbs (Np)	3	1	75
Ledwith/Stych (Wa2)	7	0	100
Crick/Slatford (Bk)	4	1	80

JUNIOR 3C

Dale Saunders (Gs)	13	1	93
Paul Bickell (Do)	12	2	86
Steve Bettison (Av)	8	2	80
Richard Pratley (Wo)	11	3	79
Mark Bowden (Col)	9	3	75
Hywel Green (Av)	10	4	71
Jason Thompson (Wo)	10	4	71
David Hadley (Av)	7	3	70
Deborah Applin (Do)	6	0	100
Tracy Scott-Pawson (Do)	6	0	100
Jane McLean (Wo)	6	1	86
Clare Woodham (Ha)	3	1	75
Rachel Boon (Col)	5	2	71
Bettison/Hadley (Av)	4	0	100

Saunders/Stratford (Gs)	5	1	83
Smith/Bickell (D)	4	1	80
Plummer/Boon (Col)	4	1	80

JUNIOR 3D

Simon Rockall (Mi2)	14	0	100
Mark Green (K2)	12	0	100
Mark Priddle (Bk2)	11	1	92
Stephen Baggaley (Bu)	12	2	86
Matthew Greenwood (Bu)	8	2	80
Jason Blake (Sy2)	9	3	75
Anthony Lansdown (K2)	9	3	75
Gary Tendler (E3)	7	3	70
Carolyn Seaholme (He2)	6	0	100
Anna Watton (Bu)	6	0	100
Miranda Markham (Sy2)	4	1	80
Deborah Joseph (K2)	3	1	75
Rockall/Baker (Mi2)	6	1	86
Lansdown/Green (K2)	3	1	75

Girls Doubles – No qualifiers

VETERANS PREMIER

Roger Hampson (Ch)	14	0	100
Henry Buist (K)	12	2	86
Clive Morris (K)	11	3	79
Andy Meads (Sx)	6	2	75
Robin Stace (Sx)	10	4	71
Doreen Schofield (Ch)	7	0	100
Lesley Radford (E)	4	0	100
Mary Dignum (K)	6	1	86
Horton/Stace (Sx)	4	1	80
Battrick/Murray (E)	3	1	75
Shearer/Allison (Li)	5	2	71
Hampson/Schofield (Ch)	4	0	100
Morris/Dignum (K)	6	1	86

VETERANS 2A

Tony Hunt (Y)	10	0	100
Cleve Judson (Y)	13	1	93
Alf Saunders (Ng)	11	3	79
Alan Timewell (Ch2)	11	3	79
Terry Bache (Wa)	9	3	75
Tony Hipperson (Nk)	10	4	71
Carol Judson (Y)	6	1	86
Janet Hunt (Wo)	5	1	83
Myra Lypnykyj (Ch2)	3	1	75
Broughton/Hipperson (Nk)	5	2	71
Judson/Judson (Y)	6	1	86
Belcher/Lloyd (Wa)	3	1	75
Norton/Hunt (Wo)	3	1	75

VETERANS 2B

Derek Holman (Sy)	14	0	100
Tony Adams (K2)	6	2	80
Howard Davies (Do)	10	4	71
Keith Clark (K2)	7	3	70
Frank Hams (Sy)	7		

The Andrea Holt hat-trick

by MIKE WATTS

FOR the third successive year, Andrea Holt of Lancashire was the overall winner of the Junior Girls section of the Junior Top 12 on April 1-2 at the Stantonbury Leisure Centre and sponsored by the Borough of Milton Keynes.

In the Junior Girls, everything hinged on the match between Andrea and Julie Billington (Derbyshire) who is now back to something like her old form after missing most of the previous season with a wrist injury. Julie won the first game and led 20-18 in the second a win here would have given her the title.

Andrea however fought back magnificently to level the match and then took the third. Earlier Julie had also ruined the title aspirations of both Claire Potts (Cheshire) and Debbie Toole (Yorkshire). Andrea finished unbeaten having had to change her rubber when the Lentec 'Swing' was banned at the European Championships in Paris.

Favourite

In the corresponding Boys event, Michael O'Driscoll (Yorkshire) started favourite in the absence of Bradley Billington (in Belgium) and Matthew Syed. He did win the event, but was given a scare late on when, after winning his first nine games, he first lost to Neil Bevan (Cornwall) and then to Thomas Cutler (Middlesex) to leave him level with Neil Pickard (Norfolk) but winner on the fact that he beat Pickard. Pickard himself was involved in an amazing game with Adrian Thorp (Staffordshire) in Round 7.

The pressure

The first game was won comfortably by Pickard who then really turned on the pressure to lead 11-0 and then 16-2. Thorpe to his credit was not prepared to give up and began a tremendous fight back which finally saw him level at 19 all, and then amazingly take the next two points to bring off a remarkable win. Unfortunately for Thorpe, there was not to be a 'fairytale' ending as Pickard won a close third game and Thorpe finally had to settle for 5th place.

Unbeaten

Brian Mileham (Kent) was an unbeaten winner of Cadet Boys with ten straight wins although he was taken to 'deuce' in the third on two occasions on the second day. He finished with two games to spare over second placed Martin Adams (Berkshire). Katie Goodall (Yorkshire) won the Cadet Girls with only one loss but the surprise package was 11 year old Sally

Marling (Yorkshire) who finished second. Another 11 year old Nicola Deaton started brightly defeating top seed Helen Wright (Devon) in Round 1. This defeat was to prove costly for Miss Wright. With 9 rounds gone she was level with Miss Goodall but then lost two straight to Miss Goodall and Helen Potts to drop back into 5th place.

Controversy

Before the tournament started there was considerable controversy when two players Ellen Meddings (Yorkshire) and Gary Knights (Derbyshire) were told by Referee Len Pilditch that they could not play with Lentec rubbers. Knights immediately withdrew from the Cadet event but fortunately there was a vacancy in the Junior Boys and luckily Knights was the next on the list so he competed at that level.

Miss Meddings continued in the Junior Girls and, whilst she started badly, improved as the tournament went on to finish with 5 wins. The Top 12 was sponsored by the Borough of Milton Keynes without whose help the event would not have taken place.



Andrea Holt



Michael O'Driscoll

THE FINAL PLACINGS

Junior Boys

1. Michael O'Driscoll
2. Neil Pickard
3. Neil Bevan
4. Jonathan Taylor
5. Adrian Thorpe
6. Mark Ward
7. Tom Cutler
8. Leigh Jeffries
9. David Morris
10. Matthew Pernet
11. Grant Solder
12. Gary Knights

Junior Girls

- | | |
|---------------------|------|
| 1. Andrea Holt | 11-0 |
| 2. Julie Billington | 9-2 |
| 3. Claire Potts | 9-2 |
| 4. Debbie Toole | 8-3 |
| 5. Joanne Roberts | 7-4 |
| 6. Julie Norman | 6-5 |
| 7. Ellen Meddings | 5-6 |
| 8. Caroline Buckley | 4-7 |
| 9. Andrea Ambrose | 2-9 |
| 10. Alison Gower | 2-9 |
| 11. Kate Gower | 2-9 |
| 12. Karen Perkins | 1-10 |

EVENTS COMING UP . . . THIS NEW SEASON

8-9 Oct	Sussex 2-Star	30 Oct	England v China Folkestone
8-9 Oct	Grove 2-Star Junior	30 Oct	Senior Premier weekend
15-16 Oct	Yorkshire 3-Star	31 Oct	England v China Eastbourne
15-16 Oct	kent 2-Star Junior	1 Nov	England v China Weston-Super-Mare
15-16 Oct	English Top-12 Senior	2 Nov	England v China Hinckley
22 Oct	England v China Newcastle-on-Tyne	3 Nov	England v China Halifax
23 Oct	England v China Bridlington	5 Nov	Woodfield 1-star
22-23 Oct	Veterans, Eastern	5 Nov	South of England 2-star junior
24 Oct	England v China, Stalybridge, Manchester	12-13 Nov	Midlands 3-star
26 Oct	England v China Birmingham	19-20 Nov	Cleveland 2-star Select Junior
27 Oct	England v China Brentwood	26 Nov	Leeds County Championships
28 Oct	England v China Ipswich	27 Nov	Junior Premier weekend
29 Oct	England v China Eastleigh	3-4 Dec	Middlesex 3-star
29 Oct	Leeds County Championships	3-4 Dec	Halton 2-star junior

Counties 1

TO COUNTY NEWSMEN

THE new deadline is the first of the month for publication of the first of the following month. Typewritten, double-spaced copy on one side of the paper only is preferred. Copy-length-between 350-450 words plus pictures when available of the slightly less well-known players. TTN photo library has pictures in stock of all the top players, but none at all of some of the top county and Leeds British League players.

CORNWALL

Jeremy Williams

THE new season has opened in Cornwall with the news that the County's leading player Neil Bevan has won a bronze medal in the Cadet Boys section at the European Youth Championships at Novi Sad, Yugoslavia in August. A Cornish player performing well in Europe at any level still seems unthinkable but it is now reality and a fine end to Bevan's glittering career as a Cadet. Son of a Bude butcher, Neil Bevan hacked his way through some fine senior scalps last season and the Cornwall Association will be hoping that he will spearhead the County first team to second division status this season after so many near promotion misses. A host of players will be battling it out for places in the two County senior teams most of whom have been practising through the summer months in an effort to clinch promotion this season. One player that will be missing from the County squad this season will be Hayle's Ian James who has now moved to the North Yorkshire area to live. Ian has been in the County squad since the early seventies and his presence as one of the most committed Cornwall players ever will be sorely missed. However, on the plus side, Barry Cornelius (St. Austell) the old Cornwall favourite is now well back to his best and at 28 years of age is still young enough to figure in the County selectors plans after a lengthy absence. Another asset will be John Thorpe who has moved to Bude from Sussex.

On the Junior front, Cornwall have another good crop of youngsters coming through which is important now that Neil Bevan will be required for senior duty, his brother Andrew has progressed into the senior ranks and Mark Bawden (Launceston) has devoted his affections to cricket.

CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

AT the annual general meeting of Cumbria County Table Tennis Association, Julie McLean and Karen Backhouse were praised on topping the women's singles averages in Senior Division 3a of the Leeds County Championship.

They each played in all six of the county's matches, dropping only one set, leaving them with an 83 per cent average. Also, they won five out of six doubles partnerships for the county.

It was Cumbria's first season back in the senior flight after a year's absence and they performed creditably in finishing third from bottom of the seven-team division. They beat Worcestershire 2nd and drew with Cheshire 2nd. At one time Cumbria had looked destined for the wooden spoon, having lost successive matches against Warwickshire 2nd, Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Leicestershire 2nd.

Next season's Cumbria Closed will be at the South Lakeland Leisure Centre, Kendal, the usual venue, on March 5. The Cumbria Junior Open, normally at Carlisle, will be on either January 29 or February 5.

County officials were re-elected en bloc.- Chairman: Bob Gale; vice-chairman: Miss C. Rose; secretary: Colin Taylor; treasurer: Richard Johnstone; match secretary: John Taylor; assistant match secretary: Colin Taylor; tournament secretary: Richard Johnstone; assistant tournament secretary: K. Douglas; umpires secretary: Colin Taylor; auditor: Ron Rigg; Press secretary: Gordon Brown; coaching secretary: Eddie O'Hara.

The above will again form the management committee and sub-committees will comprise; Umpiring: Messrs O'Hara and Gale, team selection: Messrs O'Hara and John Taylor.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Peppard

ALTHOUGH not a player myself I always derive considerable pleasure in watching the Wimbledon fortnight on the box, was it pure imagination on my part this season or is Tennis going the same way as Table Tennis? It did appear to me that with a few exceptions some of the long and exciting rallies of yesteryear were distinctly missing, if this is so, then why? The answer in our sport is unquestionably clear for all to see, high tec commercialism i.e. bicycle - glue and funny rubbers all result in a certain degree of satisfaction for some players who's equipment appears to

make them better than they really are - BUT A TOTAL DEAD LOSS FOR THE POOR SPECTATOR.

After holding the position of County General - Secretary for yonks, Les Smith has taken over the somewhat arduous role of County Chairman, Leslie must surely hold the record in Gloucestershire for having just about done every job on the committee at one time or another, as Secretary he is succeeded by another Stroud Member - David Dean, for the past couple of seasons David has been highly instrumental in administration with "The Cotswold Junior National" and will make an excellent General Secretary.

Elected Officers - President, Mr L. C. T. Davis. Chairman & Nat/ Councillor, Mr L. J. Smith. Vice-Chairman, Mr F. Jones. Gen-Secretary, Mr D. Dean. Treasurer, Mr N. Symonds. Mins/Sec, Vacant at present. Umpires/Sec. Mr F. Jones. Gen/Team/Sec. Mr D. Wyatt. Coaching/Sec. Mr P. Cruwys. Publicity. Mr A. F. Pepperd.

Plus three representatives from each affiliated League in the County.

DERBYSHIRE

Martin Kinsella

Welcome to the 88/89 season

To all other counties a challenge - match this - Derbyshire Senior 1st Team - County Premier Division Champions - 7 matches played 7 matches won.

Alan Cooke - England Champion - Silver Medallist European Team Event - Olympic Qualifier Mens Singles England No. 2 - Individual League Medal Winner.

Bradley Billington - Semi Finalist English Closed Senior - England Junior Champion - Leeds Youth Cup Winner - England No 1 Junior, No 9 Senior.

Martin Kinsella - Irish Champion. Irelands most successful player in Open tournaments - 100% record against Irish opposition.

John Holland, Englands fastest rising top 100 man on the senior ranking list - started the season at 73 and finished at 23.

Julie Billington, Gold Medallist Team event English Junior Open - Now England No 1 Junior - Leeds Youth Cup Winner Girls Singles completing the Leeds double with Brind.

Nicole Deaton, Winner of 11 U12 open titles whilst still having another season in this age group England U11 schools Champion.

That was last season we are now looking forward to more of the same this season - so watch out! Remember you have been warned.

ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

SEASON 1988/1989 once more finds Essex unthinkable outside the Premier Division of the County Championships. Our once all conquering Veterans have also unaccountably slipped out of the top flight and both these teams will figure in the new Division 1 category. Phyllis Lauder is still in charge of the Vets but a new leader has emerged to take over the Seniors, namely Bill Wadling of Chelmsford, back on the Management Committee after too long away. Bill was General Secretary of the County soon after I started with the Juniors and in 1968 won the coveted Corti Woodcock Memorial Award. If anybody can revive the flagging fortunes of our Seniors, Bill is that person.

At our AGM in May we also welcomed back Ron Mackenzie, a former Senior Match Secretary, now Press and Publicity Officer. Ron and I have discussed the matter of this column and it was decided that I should continue.

Our Junior Squad has the unfortunate distinction of being the sole representatives of the County in a Premier Division. We are hoping to improve on last season's 4th spot and to present a challenge to Yorkshire. With Grant Solder, Damian Holland and Alison Gower still available, Linda Radford to come in, and a choice between Allan Radford, Steven Rand, and possibly Keith Buers for the No. 3 boy position, we should have a reasonably strong line-up.

Congratulations are definitely due to Grant Solder, firstly for rising to No. 6 in the August Ranking List, and secondly for being voted Essex Player of the year and receiving the Harry Walker Memorial Award. I should add that this Trophy is won on the votes of the players in the County and for a 15 year old to win it shows in what esteem Grant is held. Cliff and Linda Solder, his parents, have shown what sensible people they are by turning the trophy into a drinks tray. What a shame it will only be in the Solder household until May 1989!

On September 3rd/4th we are holding Junior Ranking Trials at our Headquarters, Peniel Academy, in Brentwood. Hopefully some new stars will emerge. I am very pleased to welcome onto our Junior Sub-Committee one of last season's juniors, Bradley Clutton, who is very enthusiastic and helpful. It is nice to see a young man wanting to be involved in this way after this own junior career has finished.

Counties 2

HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood

GREAT! Great! That was our Keith Hartridge from Welwyn and Hatfield, when he won the World Veteran Over 50 Consolation Men's Singles Gold Medal at Zagreb, Yugoslavia in June. Keith who was disappointed in being the only Hertfordshire player to be knocked out in the groups, was later over the moon and on top of the World, when he defeated Rolf Gros of Germany in the final in straight sets. In the semi-final he beat Englishman John Pratt from Buckinghamshire +18 in the third.

Winning this World Crown rounded-off a fabulous season for Keith, where he won both the Men's and Veteran's Singles titles in the Welwyn and Hatfield League's Closed Championships, as well as winning the Men's Doubles with Dave Wilson.

On top of these successes Keith's league team DeHaviland, consisting of Dave Wilson, Kevin Harber, Sid Tuvey and himself, won the Division 1 Trophy.

In last-eight

Other triumphant Hertfordshire players in Zagreb were Watford's Dave Seaholme, who was the top English player in the Over 40 Men's Singles event, reaching the 3rd round.

Whilst Barnet's Derek Somers reached the Quarter-Finals of the Men's Over 60 Doubles, in partnership with Ron Boulton of Nottinghamshire.

Meanwhile Sylvia Tyler of Cheshunt reached the last eight of the Over 50's Womens Doubles with Janet Hunt of Worcestershire.

Also flying the flag for Hertfordshire in Yugoslavia were Dave Wilson of Hatfield and Derek Caulder from Hemel Hempstead.

Meanwhile back home in England young Emma Hurling of Hemel Hempstead has become the Home International Girls Under 19 Singles Champion, in Birmingham.

Emma, who was playing for the first time in an England shirt, beat Bedfordshire's Kristina Cox in the final +14, +19. She also led England as the No.1 to victory, beating Scotland 9-1, Ireland 10-0, and Wales 8-2. The Herts and Beds Cup was won by Hiretech-Adeyfield from Hemel Hempstead, when they beat Bedford Modern 5-2.

It's the first season that the lads of Hiretech-Adeyfield, Tommy Cutler, Rob Liquorish and Glen Wilkes, have played together in the Herts/Beds Cup, which this coming season hopes to include teams from Bucks as well.



Keith Hartridge

HAMPSHIRE

David Cosway

QUITE a few changes on the Hampshire Committee from last season, some a little puzzling. The Chairman for the past few seasons, Basingstoke's Terry Duffield, did not signify to the AGM whether he wished to continue and did not turn up for the meeting. For the first time I can remember and not, I consider, a good thing, there was a vote for the Chairman's post. This was because Basingstoke had proposed Southampton's Ron Wilshere as Chairman and he was duly elected. Harold Albery continues as Secretary and National Councillor. Paul Wilding, who stepped in as Treasurer after the untimely death of Marjorie East, continues in this job. Doug Balchin adds to his many chores that of League Secretary after the resignation of Tony Catt. Mick Strode stays on as Umpires' Secretary and Brian Lamerton as Press Officer. After arriving in a blaze of glory, Graham Lynch departed under somewhat of a cloud after a short time in the office as Coaching Officer and a replacement has yet to be named. This really is a vital job and without the liaison of coaching in the County, only chaos can reign.

Tony Catt has also resigned as Captain of the County First Team and into the breach has come Sarah Hammond. Tammy Goss (nee Coupland) is to run the Junior County Team. How good it is to see young players, especially females, taking on these jobs. Far too many players take a lot out of the game at this level, but few are prepared to put something back into the game. Well done girls!! Bob Cox is to run the Veterans Team. After last season where Tony Catt was faced more with the problem of who was prepared to play rather than picking the strongest team, the second Senior Team has been dropped.

Diary Dates

Sunday 13th November, Inter-Town Junior block matches

Sunday 27th November, Hampshire Senior Closed Tournament

Sunday 8th January, Hampshire Junior Closed Tournament

Sunday 26th February, Inter-Town Junior block matches

All these matches will be played at Redbridge Sports Centre, Southampton.

Now, as they say, for the main event of the season. A further plug for the England versus China match to be staged by the Southampton Table Tennis Association at Fleming Park Sports Centre, Eastleigh on Saturday October 29th commencing at 7.30. Sponsored by local builders of quality houses, A&B Homes, who are hoping the Fleming Park Sports Centre capacity of 1,500 will be stretched. Tickets (priced at £4 and £5) can be obtained from Chris Sims, 'Woodbury', 2 Bakers Drive, Rownhams, Southampton.

KENT

David Davies

THE Kent trials were held at Gravesend. All the top players were present, and with 8 groups of 3 players the stage was set for some great T.T. All the top 8 seeds, seem to be progressing through except for Paul Amos who didn't seem to be fully into the swing of match sharpness and unfortunately met the in form, Brian Mileham who was out to justify his current form, and there was no stopping Brian who won through comfortably.



Andy Dodd

The best match of the day was the quarter final between John Burleton, and David Dodd, an excellent game with some great rallies, and John just coming through 20, 19. John then played Joe Kennedy who couldn't produce the form which he is capable of, and went down 15, 16. John's opponent in the final was Andy Dodd who had dispensed of Andrew Cunningham in the other semi-final. The final was excellent table tennis with both players producing some

brilliant shots, Andy finally running out the winner 17, 18, 16.

KENT TOP TEN

1. A Dodd
2. J. Burleton
3. A. Cunningham
4. J. Kennedy
5. D. Dodd
6. P. Cox
7. P. Rainford
8. M. Brown
9. B. Mileham
10. G. Spencer

LANCASHIRE

George R. Yates

HAVING taken over part way through last season as the County's Hon. Match Secretary, Betty Whiffield was the unanimous capacity for the 1988/89 season.

Betty is contactable c/o Delavan Ltd., Gorse Lane, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0RJ ('Phone: 051-424-6821') and her first communication of the season was issued on July 24 notifying league secretaries of the County Trials involving Cadets (Sept 3), Juniors (Sept 4), Seniors (Sept 10) and veterans (Sept 11) all at Sholver Hall Community Centre, Oldham with a £1 levy per player to cover administrative costs.

Joy Dean (nee Grundy) is still at No.4 followed by Andrea Holt (no longer a junior) at No.5 followed by Jean Parker (16), Nicola McGrath (41) and Brenda Buoye (58)

Top ranking juniors are Andrew Eden (7), Howard Whewell (8) and Darryl Sneyd (Oldham) while Maria Thornley is the highest ranked Lancastrian girl followed by Karen Richardson (25) and Barbara Smallwood (37). Only Matthew Coombe of Oldham appears in the cadet lists.

At the AGM in Warrington no change was effected in respect of officialdom with yours truly re-elected as President, Arthur E. Upton as Chairman, John Mc Kim as Hon. Gen. Sec. and Derek Hardman as Hon. Treasurer.

Oldham's Bob Johnson took over from Rochdale's Geoff Brown as an elected member with Brian Ingham and Peter Aspin being co-opted. First handbook of the new season to come into my hands was that of the Bury and District League, listing 31 member clubs as against 29 last season but with fewer teams and the loss of one division.

The Bolton Sports Federation League have gained one extra club, now 39, but have dropped one team from last season's 83. Handbooks from other member leagues would be much appreciated together with news of significance to include in future notes.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Tony Lillicrapp

WITH a certain amount of regret that I write my first article for *Table Tennis News* because it signals the retirement of my predecessor Terry Brown, both from the playing and administrative side of our game.

Terry, a tireless worker for both the Leicestershire League and Leicestershire Association for many years and one of the most capable scribes in *Table Tennis* has decided the time is ripe for a rest.

Decline

The gradual decline in interest in table tennis witnessed in recent seasons would at least in the Leicester League, appear to be slowing down with twelve full divisions, exactly the same as last season, scheduled for the forthcoming season. At the time of writing, I have no information from either the Hinckley or Loughborough leagues but my spies inform me that both of these leagues are expecting to be at about the same size as last season so perhaps the hoped for revival of local table tennis is on its way.

Titans

Arguably the most coveted title in Leicestershire, that of Leicester League division 1 champions, saw Thorn Lighting emerge triumphant from their season long battle against 86/87 champions Knighton Park, thus ensuring a new name will appear on the Golland Shield for the 87/88 season. These two titans of local table tennis went into their final match of the season, coincidentally, against each other, with Thorn needing to record at least 5 sets to secure the title and Knighton Park needing 6, it really was that close.

Park's most successful player Karen Smith was unavailable for this match so County number 2 Dave Gannon was brought in. Park ran up a 3-0 lead and looked on course to retain their title when the turning point in the match came. Trevor Kerry beat Dave Gannon, John Holland beat Martin Pickles and Lee Neill beat Phil Smith to bring the scores level.

Gannon and Pickles made the score 5-4 to Knighton Park and it was left to Kerry and Holland to pull the match out of the fire for Thorn by beating Gannon and Smith in the doubles.

It was a fantastic match to watch with few of the games going the way of the previous league encounter but Thorn won the division 1 title for the first time in their history and in doing so remained unbeaten throughout the season.

NORFOLK

Reg Hogg

Welcome back to the fold Cromer - a small league who dis-affiliated a couple of years ago. They are advertising for new teams and players so all those who kept playing in that league under false names for such teams as Fakenham 11 can now revert back to their proper names with no punishment. (all right J.V.?). The road blocks on the A.140 have been removed.

Neil Pickard going full time as T.T. player came as a surprise to us. He has decided to give it a try under a YTS scheme for two years. We all know that it is a very precarious occupation but his interest is there, the talent is there and by playing against the best in the land will find out whether he can make it. Good Luck. Phil Logsdon has returned to Norwich full time from university and should make an impact on the local scene. I hope to see him playing for the County as they have a difficult season having being promoted to the second division. He has also signed for the Britannia club of Ipswich in the first division British League.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Aubrey Drapkin

AS YOU can see I have taken over as contributor from Pauline Long who has undertaken this task successfully for many years. Pauline has taken over as County Match Secretary and I have added this column to my other publicity jobs. I am still very active in the local circles being Chairman of the County, writing on table tennis for the local newspaper and also having a regular Saturday afternoon spot on Radio Newcastle.

The future for the County looks very promising with quite a number of youngsters now making excellent progress. I am delighted for young Barry Forster who is presently holding top place in the National cadet rankings.

At an even younger age level Andrew Wilkinson, Oliver Court and Christ Dodd did us proud by winning the national under 12 knock out competition. We are still short of girl players but we are working on it.

The summer season, in which Gateshead Table Tennis Club won the summer league title, ended with a tournament at Blydon Youth Club. Over sixty players entered on a Sunday in August, not usually a time of year associated with tournaments, and Eddie Smith confirmed his top

seeding by taking the title. Clare Mouzon of Ashington won the ladies championship. Eight events were held and nearly 200 matches played during the course of the day.

The big event in October is, of course, the England versus China match which takes place on 22nd October at Eldon Square Recreation Centre in Newcastle to start the Chinese tour. This should be a great occasion for the region.

SURREY

Terry Vance

WELCOME to another season and I hope you all have an enjoyable one.

Surrey Championships

This year the Surrey Championships will be reverting to the old system of playing the Junior & Senior events on separate weekends. The senior Weekend is 14th and 15th January 1989 and the Junior Weekend is 25th and 26th February 1989. Both these events have a new Sponsor and a new venue so please make every effort to enter. Entry Forms and information from Gayle McCullough Tel. 04867 80549

Surrey County Teams

This year there will be 3 Veterans, 2 Senior and 2 Junior teams in the County Championships. The main venues will be Tweeddale School for the Seniors and Juniors and the Larkhall Club with Ashford TT Centre for the Veterans. Spectators are welcome at all these events and more details can be obtained from Mick Kercher 01-644 3408 or Margaret Jones 01-542 6878.

Again this year we are running these 2 Tournaments. The Junior event is at Monk's Hill Sports Centre, South Croydon on 5th and 6th November 1988. The Senior event is at Woking on the 21st and 22nd January 1989. Do come along to these events to see the best in the United Kingdom and maybe some foreign stars as well. Details and entry forms from Don Beasley 01-669 3755.

Graham Spicer Club

This Club is due to move into their new premises in the very near future after many delays and we wish them well in this very expensive venture.

Coaching

There is a Coaching day at Sutton on Sunday 16th October 1988 and also a Ranking Tournament on Sunday 30th October 1988. All Juniors are welcome to both events whatever their standard and you will be guaranteed 2 good days of coaching and tour-

namment play. Contact Jane Barella 01-399 3782 for details or see the local Press.

SUSSEX

Paul Elphick

THE only Sussex based British League team Horsham Dolphins will field two teams this season. Their first team, Phil Smith, Andy Dodd, Ritchie Venner and Paul Elphick will again be competing in the First Division (South) and the 2nd team comprising mainly of Sussex county players, Andy Walker, Tony Murrell, Peter Bartram, Paul Barry and one of the top ranked England Juniors Alan Cole who will play when not on tournament duty.

Sussex Champion Stephen Moore has again opted to play for Hertfordshire club St Neots instead of the Sussex based Horsham and he may well clock up several thousand miles during the course of the season as they have been in the First Division (North). At the time of press Horsham were trying to sign the former Sussex Champion Adrian Moore who has now finished his University courses and may well be living back in Sussex depending on his results - but as yet no outcome.



Phil Smith new Sussex No.1

Dolphins Manager Keith Horton is the new County Match Secretary succeeding the long reign of Denis Read. Sussex will have 2 Senior teams, 2 Junior and 4 Veterans for the coming season. A 3rd Senior team was rejected as last years top Juniors battle for Senior team places - whether for good or bad the outcome will be shown in the results this season.

The long service by Dennis Read as county match secretary made him the winner of the Leslie Forrest Memorial Trophy awarded annually for outstanding services to the sport. Dennis continues as vice-chairman of Sussex.

STAFFORDSHIRE

Jack Chalkley

Perhaps it is not surprising that, after the problems of last season, Staffordshire will not be entering a senior side in the County Championship. The failure to complete all our fixtures last season prompted the committee to write to our leading players asking for their views on the future of the side and whether they were prepared to commit themselves to be available to play for the County. We had only 2 replies. There was only one decision possible.

We believed that the lessening of interest in the County Championship was a general feature across the country but Derek Sherratt, who attended the Championship Conference this year, was surprised to learn that, in fact, interest was increasing and several counties were adding to their entries. We can only hope that a year or two out of the competition will lead to a rekindling of interest and that Staffordshire can once again take their place as one of the leading county sides.

The AGM back in June saw a number of changes on the committee. Arthur Thomas from Wolverhampton takes over as chairman and Dennis Butcher becomes coaching secretary. Derek Sherratt continues to carry the main burden as secretary and the remainder of the committee continue in the existing positions.

In the County League, both Walsall A and Walsall B achieved 100% records in capturing the top positions in Div.1 and Div.2 and their C team were prevented from making it a hat-trick of wins by an unbeaten Wolves C side which topped Div.3

Congestion

County League dates for the coming season are likely to be Oct.29, Nov.26, Jan.14, Feb.25 and Mar.18 with Dec.17, Feb.4 and Apr.15 as possible alternatives. The County Closed Tournament has been booked at Lilleshall for March 12th 1989 - a difficult choice because of the congestion of events at that time of year. It clashes with the Cleveland 3 star, but the alternative dates, apart from Easter, all clash with the British League or other events closer to home.

Craig Bakewell, who retained his county closed championship this year, achieved a remarkable record last season by winning all his matches in the Potteries Premier Division programme. He completed the full programme of matches and is the first player in the Potteries to achieve such an impressive record, surely an out-

standing performance bearing in mind the strength in depth of players in the Potteries League. Congratulations, Craig.

Finally, a reminder to all press secretaries within the County. News items which they wish to have included in this column should be sent or phoned to me well before the end of each month - tel. Stafford 822013

WARWICKSHIRE

Geoff Taylor
and
Neil Wheatley

THE end of last season was very traumatic for both the Birmingham and Warwickshire Associations with the death of Maurice Goldstein. Both associations were thrown into chaos. Maurice was both Mr Birmingham and Mr Warwickshire and everyone knew of the work he did but not many people knew the full extent of what the jobs entailed. However with the able help of Brian Lloyd and Veronica Jackson both of the associations have formulated new committees and I am sure it will be the start of a new era for them.

The County A.G.M. was held in July and new faces are to be seen on the committee. The officers for the coming season are President - Stan Lenton (Coventry), Chairman and National Councillor - Geoff Taylor (Coventry). General and Match Secretary - Brian Lloyd (Birmingham), Treasurer - Bob Montgomery (Coventry), Umpires Secretary - Mrs Dot Sheward (Birmingham), Competitions Secretary - Jim Whitehead (Birmingham), Coaching Officer - Don Richards (Coventry) and Coaching Secretary - Chris Leach (Birmingham). Senior teams to play in the County Championships this year will be much the same as last year, the exceptions being we have lost two of our leading juniors. They want to play at a higher level and with our junior team being relegated from the junior premier division the committee reluctantly agreed to their requests. This year we have two senior teams, two junior teams and a Vets team. Another disappointment we have had during the close season is that we have lost two of our International Umpires. John Devey and Tim Huc have decided to call it a day. Tim is hopefully going into the Ministry. We wish them all the best of luck in the future. On the plus side however we have gained two new County Umpires - Bob Montgomery and Reg Warnes and we also have another Three who have passed the written test paper. The county still need more umpires and test papers can be

obtained from Dot Sheward the umpires secretary.

Birmingham held their A.G.M. in July and the job of General Secretary is filled by Veronica Jackson (who was assistant to Maurice) and Brian Lloyd as well as being the Chairman has taken on some duties as part time administrator. Ralph Gunnion is the new President, this vacancy arose with the death of Dick Griffin during last season. This season Birmingham are forming a Youth League with age groups of under 12, under 14 and under 17 years, all matches will be played on Saturday afternoons at four venues in the city. A night league will also take place with all matches being played on one night, it will consist of 3 man teams and each match will consist of 7 sets - 6 singles and 1 doubles.

I hear the Leamington Association are hopeful of their new headquarters being completed and in use by the beginning of the season. They have purchased the old Leamington Boy's Club, the place has been gutted and its place will be two courts at which they can play their Town matches.

Warwickshire and Coventry President Stan Lenton has been in hospital to have an operation and after a post operative infection he now seems well on the way to recovery and beginning to pick up his business and table tennis commitments.

The Birmingham Association will be staging one of the Chinese tour matches on the 26th October at the Cocks Moor Leisure Centre in the city. Tickets are priced at £5.50 - £4.50 and £3.50 and are available from the organiser Brian Lloyd on Birmingham (021) 745 2360. It should be a splendid evening and we would like all members to support it.

Our teams ended the season with the usual mixed bag of results. The Senior A team's wins over Worcs and Cheshire in their last two matches enabled them to narrowly avoid relegation from Div. 2A. No. 1 Phil Gunn capped a memorable season with 2 wins in each match to give him a 9 win (out of 12) average. Barry Johnson, who celebrated his 50th appearance for the team, won 6 (out of 12) as did Mike Browne (out of 14).

The Senior B team were undefeated winners of Div 3A. Ian Gunn, Peter Machin, Fiona Sutton and Alison Ledwitch were the regular stars, with support from Peter Waite, Dhiru Parmar, Lester and Steve Bertie, Andy Hare, Dawn Bromley and Karen Groves.

Despite two wins on the second weekend at St. Neots, the Junior A Team lost their Premier Div. place. Leigh Jeffries, with 9 wins and 3 defeats, was outstanding whilst Rajindha Singh and Nicola Meddings won half their games.

WORCESTER

Dave Roden

THE Kidderminster League club team of Lol Sproston, John Thompson and Charlie Reen, representing Kidderminster 'B', proved too strong for the representative teams which the other affiliated leagues in Worcestershire were able to field, and emerged winners of the 1987/8 County League. This follows the trios success, as I.M.I. Kidderminster, in winning the club team event in the County Knock-out competition.

FINAL COUNTY TABLE

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Kidderminster						
B	6	6	0	42	12	6
Kidderminster						
A	6	4	2	36	18	4
Dudley	6	4	2	33	21	4
Malvern	6	4	2	32	22	4
Bromsgrove	6	2	4	25	29	2
Evesham	6	1	5	14	40	1
Worcester	6	0	6	7	47	0

Results are now to hand from the Dudley, Evesham and Kidderminster Leagues individual tournament finals nights (Bromsgrove, Malvern and Worcester tournaments reported in April County notes).

County 2nd team player Paul Garner won the Dudley leagues main event, the Open Singles, for the first time, with a 18; 15 defeat of Steve Horton.

Other results;

Open Doubles:

P. Garner/S. Horton bt Maurice Harris/Chris Robinson 12, 14.

Intermediate(U21) Singles:

Mark Roden bt Jason Thompson 21, 13.

Junior Singles:

J. Thompson bt Lee Horton 18,-14, 17.

Veteran Singles:

Ray Dixon W/O Mervyn Wood.

Restricted Singles:

Andy Hartland bt J. Thompson 11,-17, 15.

Restricted Doubles:

M. Harris/C. Robinson bt A. Hartland/Steve Hammon-14, 13, 21.

The Evesham League has a new Mens Champion, Doug Payne winning the title for the first time, defeating Bob Price-18, 16, 16.

Jill Stride defeated last years winner Jane McLean-13, 14, 18 to take the Ladies Singles title.

Mens Doubles

Steve Gough/Malcolm Macfarlane bt John Cockerton/Doug Payne 15,-18, 19.

cont. on Page 24

Counties 5

cont from Page 23

Veteran Ladies Singles

Jean Lewis bt Peggy Mytton 12, 9

Results from Kidderminster Finals Night:

Open Singles

Jeremy Duffield bt Steve Horton 11,-18, 14.

Ladies Singles

Alison Westwood bt Wendy Baggott.

Open Doubles

S. Horton/Lol Sproston bt J. Duffield/N. Savery 2-1.

Mixed Doubles

Mr & Mrs A. Westwood bt Mr & Mrs C. Baggott 2-1

Veteran Singles

John Stafford bt Charlie Reen 2-0.

Veteran Doubles

C. Reen/Ken Burton bt Trevor Worton/Tony Jephcott 2-0

Junior Singles

Phillip Reen bt Catherine Drage 2-1.

Restricted Singles

Rob Amphlett bt Dave Bell 2-0.

Finally, dates have been set for the two County Closed Tournaments. The Junior Tournament will be held on Sunday 4th December, at Worcester, and the Senior Tournament is scheduled for Sunday 19th February, at Quarry Bank, Dudley.

AS EVER these notes will comprise an amalgam of material from those events which were completed in the late stages of last season and information which has come to hand during the summer months.

First the sad news from SHEFFIELD, where I must report the deaths, late in the 87/88 season, of two men whose names became synonymous with table tennis in the steel city - John Hawker, for many years League secretary, and Jack Crooks, a fine coach and joint founder with Frank Lynch of the Albion (now Saint Albion) club.

So two hard workers in the cause of our sport pass on, and they will be missed by all those of us who had the privilege of knowing them.

Clayton Heights Trimda (Bradford) retained their Yorkshire Club Championship title after fighting back from 1-4 to overcome Huddersfield I.C.I. 5-4.

Ian Gomersall sparked off the recovery as he accounted for Bill Cratchley 26, 20 in the final two games after losing the first at 6! and then came the big one with Bob Shutt, who had already gone down to Geoff Brooke, toppling Michael O'Driscoll in straight sets.

From this point on there could be no mistake, and Gomersall and Alan Jones saw the BRADFORD

YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

side home with straight sets wins.

Doug Bartle, in his fourth final appearance, took the YORK MS title he has long coveted at 42 years of age with a victory over Mick Wadsworth; at HARROGATE Richard Whiteley beat holder Mick Emmerson, just back from New Zealand to take the singles honours and then added the MD with Cliff Twineham; and at Bridlington Hull based Ian Stones and Amanda Steeley added the MS and LS championships to the Division 1 and Division 2 crowns they had won earlier.

Young players took the honours at Selby with 15 year old Craig Smith ousting Chris Nicholls, one year his senior, in both MS and JBS to become the town's youngest ever senior champion. The pair then joined forces for the MD title.

Stephen Cooper took over the MS championship at NORTHALLERTON with victory over Ian Plummer, holder for the past two years, but some consolation for Plummer in the MD where, with Dave Blake, he beat Cooper - Richard Scruton, the defending champions (semi) and Keith Bell - Peter Sermon (final).

Other winners: YORK -

Maureen Gott (LS), Graham Hatfield - Tony Reed (MD), Gott - Marion Broadbent (LD), Reed - Gott (XD), Graham Elgie (JBS), Mick Wadsworth (VS). HARROGATE - N. Gilbert (JBS), P. Smith (CBS), C. Bateman (VS). SELBY - Sharon-Phillipson (LS), Karl Horsfield (CBS). NORTHALLERTON - Barry Pearson (VS) BRIDLINGTON - Andy Nichols - Michael James, at 8 years old! (MD) NORTHALLERTON, promoted from Division 2 of the Yorkshire League 12 months ago, went straight through Division 1 to earn promotion to the Premier section - an outstanding achievement, and I hear that next season they could be strengthened by Malcolm Corking from Stockton.

In the Premier HARROGATE retained their title when they beat BRADFORD in the final match to leave the West Yorkshire side again in the runners up spot, while also decided on the final game of the season was the Ladies Division, where SHEFFIELD pipped HULL.

Retained

WAKEFIELD retained their Veteran crown, SELBY and SHEFFIELD, winners of Cadet and Junior Divisions 12 months previously, changed places, Sheffield taking Cadet honours with a squad largely resident at Dronfield over the Derbyshire border.

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS - CONT FROM PAGE 5

CADET BOYS TEAM EVENT

It is fair to say that our Cadet Boys team of Neil Bevan and Brian Mileham excelled themselves by finishing 8th.

Put in a tough group with Yugoslavia, Rumania, Denmark, Finland and Italy, England finished 2nd behind Yugoslavia. We began with a 3-2 victory over Finland. Neil won 1, the vital doubles was also won and Brian went on at 2-2 to snatch victory. It was the same story against Denmark, 2-2 and once again Brian played inspirational table tennis to win. Now we faced the powerful Rumanians - or so we thought - as we brushed them aside 3-0! Our only loss occurred to the Yugoslavs who included the current European cadet champion Grujic. Neil beat the no 2 Ignjatovic and played very well losing 20 and 19 to Grujic.

England now needed to beat the Italians for a place in the 2nd stage. Neil won first but Brian lost to the Italian footballer Michel Altobelli impressionist, Aliberti. The doubles was won at 17 in the third and once again Brian produced the goods beating Mondello to send England into the

2nd stage and leaving the emotional Italians cursing.

The 2nd stage group was incredibly hard - West Germany, Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. We lost 3-1 to Germany, Neil beating the no 2 Porlowsky 15 in the 3rd but the German no 1 Torben Wosik was far too strong beating Brian 4, 8 and Neil 11 and 14 - Wosik went on to win the singles and remained unbeaten throughout the whole tournament. We then crashed 3-0 to the Soviet Union and lost by the same score to Czechoslovakia to finish bottom of the group and a play off for 7th/8th versus Sweden. By now the lads, heads had dropped somewhat and again we were beaten 3-0 to finish 8th. It was a good achievement to qualify from the first group but the 2nd stage teams were too powerful for our boys but they showed great character to keep going after such heavy defeats. All the England squad are still wondering if Brian Mileham has found his visa yet so he can leave Novi Sad - maybe he might be back for the new season!

JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES

Of our junior Boys Matthew Syed and Michael O'Driscoll

obtained seeded positions of 9 and 14 respectively after the Team Events.

Brad progressed to round 2 with a 16 - 14 17 defeat of the Finnish lad Juha Paivarinta whilst Chris hammered the Italian no 1 Antonio Morgante 14 and 13.

Round 2 saw the downfall of Chris to the seeded German Oliver Alke - 13 - 18. Chris' lack of competitive matchplay certainly showed but he did put up quite a fight against the strong German boy. More surprisingly it was curtains for Mike - the earlier tolls of the team events were a major factor when losing to the Czech Tomas Janasek 12 - 19 - 13. Brad had a comfortable victory 10 18 over Christian Schaus (Luxembourg). Matt was in action against the Dane Kim Hosberg and after some early difficulties won through 19 and 13.

Only two lads were left and it was Brad who caused a major shock in Round 3 with a superb victory over the fancied German Peter Franz, seed 6. From a first game thrashing of 13 Brad bounced back fighting with scores of 12 and 14 in the next 2 - a win which sent him through to the last 16. Matt had an easier task

disposing Samuli Kauhanen (Finland) 14, 13.

Downfall

In the last 16 Brad met his downfall losing out at 18 in the 3rd to the Soviet Smiyriov who appeared to be the Soviet ace up the sleeve - Brad had given his all whilst plagued by a reoccurring knee injury but could not quite grab a quarter final place. Matt played the 7th seed Patrik Torsell - Sweden - but after winning the first 16 Matt was jolted losing the 2nd 12. Matt never found his range in the 3rd as the Swede pushed and rolled giving Matt no spin to work off. Trailing 19-16 Matt found some unbelievable returns but still the score went to 20-18 before once again the Berkshire lad came back to deuce. The pattern followed until Matt suddenly led 23-22 and a cheap match point put the English boy in the quarters.

At this stage Matt tackled the favourite, Soviet Dmitri Mazunov. The Russian strolled to victory 15 and 8 being all too clever and powerful.

Flying start for women's boost

CYNICS who believe that to achieve a really significant increase in the participation of more women and girls is impossible suffered a setback to their theories at Milton Keynes on August 28.

Fifty-five delegates from all over the country and representing all facets of the sport, including National team players, Alison Gordon, Lisa Lomas and Fiona Elliot, attended a *Women in Table Tennis Seminar* at the Post Office Technical Training College.

The Seminar was opened by John Prean, the Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association, who confirmed his concern about the current state of the Women's game in England and pledged the support of the Management Committee in changing the situation around.

After the Keynote Address in which Michelle Hammond of the West Midlands Sports Council outlined the problems which face women when taking up sport in general and how the Sports Council's new initiative "Women in Sport" hoped to improve the situation during the next five years, presentations were made by table tennis experts covering the whole

aspect of the sport from marketing to gain mass participation by women, to preparing the elite players for international success.

Ted Wallbuton, the Chief Executive of the English Table Tennis Association, illustrated how women's participation had fallen by approximately 50% in the last ten years and suggested ways of attracting women and girls back into the sport. Liz Behnke, the Action Sport Development Officer from Milton Keynes, advised the delegates how their programmes might help to improve participation. Alan Ransome, the Deputy Chairman of the ETTA outlined the need for more meaningful competitions for women in table tennis.

The National Coach, Donald Parker, gave an exciting insight into what could be achieved at the elite end of the sport if special measures were taken to improve the opportunities for women.

Although only trained to play

table tennis, the National Champion and England No. 1, Alison Gordon, spoke eloquently about the difficulties she and the other leading women players face in attempting to reach their top potential whilst trying to exist financially. Alison was followed by Di Winmill, an International Umpire, who spoke encouragingly about the opportunities for women in officiating, provided they had the dedication and finance to support their own travel to international events.

England's top player during the last twenty years, Jill Hammersley Parker, is now contributing her experience to table tennis as the Women's National Coach. Jill stressed that having women involved in coaching is of paramount importance and made recommendations designed to increase the number of women coaches at the regional and local levels. Ann Durnall, a former teacher and member of the English Schools table Tennis Association, suggested that table tennis needs to be included on the curriculum at teacher training colleges so that all potential teachers are trained to handle the development of table tennis in schools. Sylvia Coombs, a member of the Veterans English Table Tennis Society, outlined how the VETTS competitions had encouraged more women over 40 back into the sport and suggested bringing the social aspect back into table tennis generally as the VETTS have done.

Stimulated into action, the men, women and youngsters at the seminar took part in intensive Workshop discussions which produced several positive recommendations.

The final Communique issued on behalf of the Seminar included the formation of a Five Year Development Plan, an intensive programme of promotion, changes in the competitive programme to provide more competition for women at their own level, establishing more places for women to play, women's representation at the national, regional, county and local level, exhibitions by the top women players to demonstrate that women can play table tennis to a high standard too, a change in the image of women's clothing to make the game more fashionable, and finally a move towards equal



Jose Ransome the organiser

prize money for women and girls to enable them to play and train full time in order to realize their full potential.

A Women's Steering Committee has been formed as part of the ETTA Development Committee. Their first task will be to get the Leeds Women's British League off the ground this season, and to arrange a meeting with the English Schools Table Tennis Association to look at ways of combining their efforts to attract more young girls into the sport.

The Seminar ended with an address by the Organiser, Jose Ransome, who thanked the English Table Tennis Association for funding the lunch, venue and travel expenses for delegates. Jose encouraged all the participants to go back to their regions, counties, leagues and clubs to convey the message that it is time for a new attitude and appreciation of the women's game. Now that the *women in table tennis campaign* had been officially launched, she hoped that the English Table Tennis Association could count on everyone's support to keep the momentum going.



Alison Gordon spoke for the players

On behalf of the delegates, Pat Archdale of Avon, thanked Jose for her initiative and hard work in getting the campaign underway. *A full report on the Seminar including individual presentations will be available from the ETTA by early October.*

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Picture Parade



Winners of the Schools Individual events: 1 to r: Garry Knights (ENG), Emma Hurling (ENG), Andrew Ball (ENG), Sally Marling (ENG), Grant Solder (ENG), Sarah Hurry (SCO)



England Schools victorious Senior Girls team; 1 to r: Martina Hicks, Jane McLean, Teresa Moore (NPC), Mr Jim Munn MBE (Director of Recreation & Community Services, Birmingham), Helen Stephens, Kristina Cox, Emma Hurling.



THE English Table Tennis Association honoured three of its best-known stalwarts at the annual meeting at the Charing Cross Hotel in London. Left to right, Johnny Leach MBE, was installed as President of the ETTA in succession to the late Maurice Goldstein OBE, Mrs Doreen Stannard, chairman of the Tournaments Committee for many years was made a Life Member in company with Alan Ransome, the Deputy Chairman of the ETTA who also received his Life Membership. Photography via Tees Sport and Jose Ransome's camera.

BEVAN THE VICTOR . . .



Neil Bevan, 14 from Bude being presented with the special trophy by Launceston League president Mr Brian Baker. Neil Bevan is the first Cornish player ever to win a national title – the English Cadet Championship. In Novi Sad in July Bevan won a bronze medal at the European Youth Championships with a singles semi-final appearance.

Picture –
RON CABLE PHOTOGRAPHY



GLENN OST is the popular non-playing captain of the Swedish National Team. He has made so many visits to England he is well-known to all the England squad and many others.

The new President by THE EDITOR

JOHNNY LEACH, MBE is the perfect successor to Maurice Goldstein as the President of the English Table Tennis Association. Working with Johnny for over twenty years at tournaments round the world, the only place where his beaming smile disappeared briefly was at the last world championships in new Delhi.

On the first day, Johnny left his briefcase at the airport and then it took him half a day to gain admission to his hotel! In the middle of the trip, he was far from well on the long journey to the Taj Mahal... but apart from those exceptional happenings, the Leach smile has opened many doors for many people inside and outside the sport.

He will be 66 in November. A true Cockney, he was actually born at Bow itself in 1922. He served five years in the RAF during the war as a radio operator and starting playing table tennis with his father on the kitchen table!

His first club, in 1939 was Romford YMCA and Romford was his first league.

During the war with the RAF in Ireland he "became dedicated to the sport, playing almost every day between duties, sometimes all night with Jack Carrington, Ron Crayden and Ronnie Hock"

On special leave in Dublin he

won the Irish Open going to trials for England. He was demobbed in 1946 and became the England No.1.

WORLD TITLES

He won the world singles championship at Stockholm in 1949 against Bo Vana in the final and in 1951 he did it again against Ivan Andreadis, becoming the only native-born person to win the world crown twice.

Johnny was a member of the England team who won the Swaythling Cup at Bucharest in 1953, a year after he won three titles at the USA Open. He represented England 150 times and was England captain and at one time sole selector, as is Don Parker today.

His column in the News of the World has been going strong for 35 years, although it does not always appear in some of the later editions.

Among his more recent jobs – he is connected with the TV



Johnny Leach, President

Coaching programme "Seeing Sport" one of ITV's longest-ever running programmes; he has been a table tennis TV commentator for many years.

He is president-elect of the Swaythling Club, president of the Essex TTA, vice-president of Middlesex TTA and is a consultant in the sports business owned by his two sons, Jeff and John.

The above facts were chosen at random from a number of others,

giving some idea of the sheer capacity for work to help our sport and others. He is also a former 9-handicap golfer and still plays on a regular basis.

With a combined career as a player of world class (before the Asians got their teeth into the sport) and a wonderful career as an administrator with so many hats, the Whole World of Table Tennis takes pleasure in congratulating Johnny Leach on his latest presidency in England.

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The schools international championships

ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

by DAVID LOMAS

Scotland's Sarah in a Hurry

ONLY a solitary win by Scotland's Sarah Hurry prevented England from taking all the honours at the Leeds Schools International Championships at Stockland Green Leisure Centre, Birmingham in July.

Sarah – Scotland's No.1. Junior and No.3. Senior – displayed her undoubted talent in successfully defending her Intermediate Girls title and in so doing winning her third Schools International crown, a record for a non-English player. She was unbeaten in the singles in the Championships and helped Scotland to second place in the Intermediate Girls team event.

But England won the six team events and the remaining five individual titles. The biggest challenge to their supremacy came in the Intermediate Boys team event. They faced a determined Irish bid for honours in the inter-goup play-off to decide first and second spot. Boosted by maximum wins from Neil Bevan and Graeme Connelly England edged to a 5-3 lead despite England No.1., Grant Solder, losing to Gary Neilson. Urged on by an enthusiastic crowd, Ireland took both doubles encounters to draw 5-5, only to discover that they failed to become the first team to end England's thirteen years dominance by virtue of an inferior games ratio of 11-13.

Wales – although no match for England – made a welcome return to the schools international scene and finished runners-up in both the Senior categories. Nos. 1 & 2 players, Steve Ward and Spencer Harris took the eye.

Teams from Iceland, the Isle of Man and Jersey found the going tough and were unable to get among the medals placings in the team stages of the championships.

Scottish Junior champion, Lorraine Anderson, shone for Scotland but couldn't prevent a 6-4 defeat by Ireland in the Senior Girls event; she was the only winner – against Kristina Cox – as England powered their way to a 9-1 win.

England's Cadet Boys 'B' team held Ireland to a 5-5 verdict but on this occasion Ireland eventually finished runners-up to England's 'A' team, 26-14 on games compared to 24-16. An unusual feature in this event was the encounter between brothers Jason and Darren Blake, with Jason edging home 21-18 in the third over 11yrs old Darren of the 'B' team.

Garry Knights of England 'A', who went on to win the Cadet Boys individual title on Sunday, lost 23-21 in the third to Ireland's John Bowe.

Making their debuts as non-

playing team captains were Fiona Elliot and Teresa Moore (East Sussex). Fiona's comment was that she much preferred playing, whilst Teresa was suffering from loss of voice but was able to whisper her appreciation of her Senior Girl's efforts.

There was plenty of interest in the Individual Championships which took place on Sunday. The format of a consolation event for players losing their first matches played proved popular and resulted in wins in the consolation competition for players from Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

In the Senior Boys event, John Bult (Humberside) lost in the second round to Martin Shields (Glasgow) 21-13, 26-28, 19-21. Shields then lost to Spencer Harris (Wales) and in an all-England final Andrew Ball of Wakefield added the international title to the Senior Boys category he won at Mansfield in the Dunlop English Schools Championships in April.

Emma Hurling had a most successful weekend, winning the Senior Girls event in straight games over team-mate Kristina Cox.

There was quite an international flavour in the Intermediate Boys event. Although England players, Grant Solder and Howard Whewell met in one semi-final, Scottish Junior No1 and Scottish Schools champion, Euan Walker (East Kilbride), and Ireland's Gary Neilson contested the other semi-final. Whewell registered a win over Graeme Connelly (Surrey County) in the quarter-final, surging back from an 11-19 deficit to win 21-19 in the third. Neilson won his way through to the final only to lose 19-21, 8-21 to Solder. Holder, Neil Bevan, crashed out to Walker in the quarter-final and looked jaded after a long season.

England's Samantha Marling recovered from a score of 7-16 and 15-20 down to win the first game 23-21 against Sarah Hurry but the Scottish lass improved to win 21-12, 21-7 and went on to win her other matches to retain her title with ease. Samantha's younger sister, Sally, only eleven-years old, showed herself to be a bright prospect in winning the 'roses' battle over Lancashire's Maria Thornley in the Cadet Girls final, having accounted for Karen Richardson (Oldham) in the semi-final, whilst Maria ousted Katherine Goodall (Leeds) in the other semi-final.

RESULTS

Team events:

Senior Girls

1. England 2. Wales 3. Ireland 4. Scotland
ENG 9 SCO 1; IRE 0 WALES 10; ENG 8 WALES 2; IRE 6 SCO 4; WALES 8 SCO 2; IRE 0 ENG 10.

England: Kristina Cox (Bd), Martina Hicks (Esx. Cty), Emma Hurling (He), Jane McLean (H&W), Helen Stephens (Li)
NPC: Teresa Moore (E. Sx).

Intermediate Girls

1. England 2. Scotland 3. Ireland 4. Iceland
ICE 0 ENG 10; SCO 6 IRE 4; ICE 0 IRE 10; ENG 8 SCO 2; ENG 10 IRE 0; ICE 4 SCO 6.

England: Andrea Ambrose (Sk), Caroline Buckley (Bd), Alison Ledwitch (WM), Samantha Marling (Hu), Joanna Roberts (W. Yrks)
NPC: Fiona Elliot (WM)

Intermediate Boys

1. England 2. Ireland 3. Scotland 4. Jersey 5. Iceland 6. Isle of Man
Group A: ENG 8 SCO 2; SCO 10; IoM 0; IoM 0 ENG 10.
Group B: IRE 10 JER 0; JER 6 ICE 4; ICE 0 IRE 10.

Inter-Group Play-off: ENG 5 IRE 5; SCO 7 JER 0; IoM 3 ICE 7.
England: Neil Bevan (Co), Paul Carter (Sy. Met), Graeme Connelly (Sy. Cty), Grant Solder (Esx. Met), Howard Whewell (La)
NPC: Paul Birch (Bd).

Cadet Boys

1. England A 2. Ireland 3. England B 4. Scotland 5. Jersey
ENG B 10 JER 0; SCO 1 IRE 9; ENG B 9 SCO 1; IRE 2 ENG A 8; ENG B 5 IRE 5; JER 0
ENG A 10; ENG B 0 ENG A 10; JER 0 SCO 10; IRE 10 JER 0; SCO 1 ENG A 9.

England A: Martin Adams (Bk), Jason Blake (Sy Met), Edward Hatley (Sy Cty), Garry Knights (St), Philip Robson (T&W)
NPC: Phil Burwell (WM)
England B: Darren Blake (Sy. Met), Justin Brunton (Cu), Ewan Finlayson (Av), Karl Horsfield (N. Yrks), Mark Williams (Mx)
NPC: Dennis Worrell (Li)

Senior Boys

1. England 2. Wales 3. Ireland 4. Scotland 5. Iceland 6. Isle of Man
Group A: ENG 10 ICE 0; ICE 0 IRE 10; IRE 0 ENG 10.
Group B: SCO 10 IoM 0; IoM 0 WALES 10; WALES 8 SCO 2.

Inter-Group Play-off: ENG 7 WALES 1; IRE 6 SCO 4; ICE 7 IoM 1.
England: Andrew Ball (W. Yks), Andrew Bevan (Co), John Bult (Hu), Scott Greenbrook (W.Sx), Matthew Pernet (Sy.Cty) NPC: Ian Marshall (Shp).

Individual Events

Senior Boys

1. Andrew Ball (ENG)
2. Matthew Pernet (ENG)
3. Scott Greenbrook (ENG) & Spencer Harris (WALES)
Consolation: David Buck (WALES) b Richard Fahey (IRE)

Senior Girls

1. Emma Hurling (ENG)
2. Kristina Cox (ENG)
3. Lorraine Anderson (SCO) & Justine Thomas (WALES)
Consolation: Cathy McMillan (IRE) b Lesley Reid (SCO)

Intermediate Boys

1. Grant Solder (ENG)
2. Gary Neilson (IRE)
3. Euan Walker (SCO) & Howard Whewell (ENG)
Consolation: Andrew Bruce (SCO) b James Harrop (JERSEY)

Intermediate Girls

1. Sarah Hurry (SCO)
2. Caroline Buckley (ENG)
3. Andrea Ambrose (ENG) & Joanna Roberts (ENG)
Consolation: Kelly O'Hara (IRE) b Grainne Redmond (IRE)

Cadet Boys

1. Garry Knights (ENG)
2. Martin Adams (ENG)
3. Jason Blake (ENG) & Philip Robson (ENG)
Consolation: Stewart Crawford (SCO) b Fraser Lewis (SCO)

Cadet Girls

1. Sally Marling (ENG)
2. Maria Thornley (ENG)
3. Katherine Goodall (ENG) & Karen Richardson (ENG)
Consolation: Amanda Cooke (IRE) b Julie Owen (IoM)

A Letter to the Chairman . . .

THANK YOU very much for the Table Tennis literature which you sent me via Stuart Sneyd. It is very interesting and your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

Table Tennis continues to flourish in Oldham, particularly amongst our juniors, who play with great enthusiasm and no mean ability.

Nine of them are ranked in the county list, out of fifteen, and all our junior teams have finished in first or second place in their divisions in the Lancashire and Cheshire League. Moreover, we have become the first league in the North West to be granted League Advanced Centre status and this we consider a great honour.

At the other end of the scale our Leeds British League side have had a most enjoyable and successful season in Division 3 North, without quite managing to gain the main honours.

We feel that here in Oldham, as nationally, things are looking up and we are expecting to make even more progress next season.

Thank you for the positive lead which you are setting.

GEOFF ASPINALL

General Sec

Oldham & District League

More news wanted from Middlesex . . .

I WROTE to your office on a subscription matter about this time last year. I took the opportunity to say what splendid magazine 'Table Tennis News' is. My only reservation was that Middlesex news was only rarely reported on and, mindful of the fact that Iris Moss had once apologised citing other pressures, I said I hoped that the '87/8 season would be better in that respect. I need hardly tell you that last season was worse; I doubt if there were two entries. After two years this situation has started to get to me. As soon as the magazine arrives I look to see if there is write-up and then get fairly steamed-up to find that yet again the affairs of a major table tennis county are unreported. Sometimes I glean something of what is going on from that enthusiast of the game, Alan Shepherd, who writes about neighbouring Essex but this is not very satisfactory is it?

Pleasure

I have come to realise that rather than bringing pleasure into my life 'Table Tennis News' is bringing me tension, frustration and hassle so why pay for what I

can get free in my workaday life! Unless, therefore, you are able to reassure me that Middlesex will be reported on a monthly basis next year I regret to say I shall not be renewing my subscription.

My son, Robert, played a number of tournaments in Middlesex last year and at one event he brought home a free Middlesex newsheet (monthly, I think) summarising many results and including some news items. I kept it meaning to forward it to you but unfortunately it has gone astray. As I remember it was published by the Middlesex T.T.A. and was written by a gentleman. He also seemed to be an enthusiast so perhaps he could be contacted and prevailed upon to provide a few notes for 'Table Tennis News'?

G. YARROW

104 Lowther Drive,
Enfield,
Middlesex, EN2 7JR

Editor's Note: I have long felt that relations between Middlesex and the ETTA need strengthening. All the Middlesex notes submitted in good time last season were published as far as I can recall and the same will apply this season - it is entirely up to the county to find someone with the time, I will find the space.

The Yugoslavs host the world vets

Having attended my first World Veterans Tournament, I would very much like to pass on my views.

Firstly the Yugoslav T.T. Hierarchy put on a first class show, the hospitality could not have been better, the sports hall had to be seen to be believed, sixty four tables on the go under one roof. The only hiccup, the failure of the computer on the last day made all games one and a half hours late. My own disappointment, not seeing a representative from the ETTA, other than the players, where were you Mike Watts and Johnny Leach?

R. Emerton
"Haywain"
7 Brook Drive,
Wickford, Essex.

SHORTER LETTERS

READERS' letters are always welcome, but not anonymous or libellous or too long. Up to about 350 words is ideal length. The Editor reserves the right to shorten letters in the normal editing processes.

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Village team event scores again

by JOHN MORRIS

THE weekend of July 11th/12th saw the PONTESBURY Village Club organise for the eighth season their very popular 4 aside team tournament for the SHROPSHIRE STAR SHIELDS with maximum entries in both the under 12 and 14 events. The playing format of 4 boys and/or girls playing 8 single on 2 tables for each match ensures the players have a very full day with each team playing 5 times in the day.

The under 12 event saw holders FELLOWS CRANLEIGH take group 1 from the local team, with HYDE and COVENTRY in 3rd and 4th spots, while group 2 was won by NORTH YORKSHIRE with GROVE B, LAUNCESTON, and ST. IVES in the minor placings. In the bottom of the draw, NORTH MIDDLESEX, held off GROVE A, PENIEL COLLEGE, ESSEX, and WREXHAM in group 3, while WOLVERHAMPTON piped WAKEFIELD, GLOUCESTER and GROVE C in the final group. The semi's saw the CRANLEIGH team, oust NORTH YORKS by 6-2, while NORTH MIDDX squeezed past WOLVERHAMPTON by 5-3. The all southern final saw the all conquering FELLOW'S CRANLEIGH, brilliantly led by CHRIS SLADDEN sweep through to a 6-2 win to retain the trophy for a second year. 3rd spot was taken by NORTH YORKSHIRE.

The Under 14 Favourites

MAIDENHEAD, pre-tournament favourites for the under 14 title, playing without their ENGLAND ranked MARK PRIDDLE, took group 1 from WOLVERHAMPTON, NORTH YORKSHIRE, and STROUD with CRANLEIGH taking group 2, after a desperate draw against COVENTRY with ST. IVES and WREXHAM 3rd and 4th. In group 3, WAKEFIELD led by No 1 girl KATE GOODALL were always in control from LAUNCESTON, PONTESBURY, and PENIEL COLLEGE. Finally NORTH MIDDX, just edged out GLOUCESTER by 5-3 from MILTON KEYNES AND HYDE. Player of the tournament CHRIS SLADDEN led CRANLEIGH to victory over MAIDENHEAD, in the first semi, while NORTH MIDDX's all round strength saw them to a 6-2 victory over WAKEFIELD, despite 2 fine wins for MISS GOODALL.

The final saw CRANLEIGH leap into a 3-0 lead, only to be pulled back to 3-3, with fighting performances from the LONDONERS. The last 2 singles were shared, but a very tense doubles broke the deadlock in favour of FELLOW'S CRANLEIGH, to complete a memorable double for captain WALLY READ in this very high quality tournament.

Local firm IMPERIAL ELECTRIC presented personality awards on both days. Winner at under 12 was WAKEFIELD'S LINDSEY JENKINS, with TIM DEWICK of GLOUCESTER taking the cadet award.

Note for your diary: The 1989 tournament is scheduled for SATURDAY/SUNDAY JUNE 10th/11th.

CARL'S 21st!

IT SEEMS only a short time since we journalists were writing about the "15-year-old Isle of Wight prodigy." Six years on what we sometimes call the Saarbrücken and Ryde professional is probably the most advanced technician in Europe and as Johnny Leach has said recently, a world ranking of 35 for Carl Prean is nonsense.

However, in the confusion of uncomputerised ranking lists, defeats can sometimes cost dearly and it seems that but for a handful of reverses by such players as Paul Haldan in Paris, Carl would be rated a dozen places higher.

However, as presentations were made to Carl at Swindon, by the ETTA, the Leeds, APA and the Press, the thought must have been in everyone's minds that this young man in company with Alan Cooke, represents total dedication to the sport. It not an impossible dream that one time in the next five years they could meet in the final of the mens singles for the European championships; meanwhile congratulations Carl on being 21 at the start of such a promising season. - JW.

£15,000 raised by Victoria Marathon



Skylet Andrew in action at Victoria

ENGLAND squad star Skylet Andrew took part in a 36-hour table tennis marathon, organised by Heron Property Corporation. It raised between £14,000 and £15,000 for Great Ormond Street Hospital. The event was held at Victoria Place, above Victoria Station, SW1 - Heron's newest addition to its shopping centre portfolio.

The marathon ran from 7 am on Thursday, 28 April to 7 pm on Friday, 29 April. Richard Noble - holder of the world landspeed record - gallantly picked up a bat for the cause. On Friday, Skylet Andrew - also joined in. He played with anything that came to hand, including a bucket and a tray.

The official team members were: Martin Wellsman - Heron Property Corporation, Andy Burnie - Heron Property Corporation Paul Clutton - Heron Property Corporation, Paul Hirst - Heron Property Corporation, Richard Horton - Manager of Boots (Victoria Place) and Chairman of Victoria Place Tenant's Association, Janice Neal - Representative from Great Ormond Street Hospital.

WOMEN IN THE LEAGUE

by Albert Shipley

FOLLOWING the success of the Women in Table Tennis seminar held last month in Milton Keynes, it has been agreed to initiate a Women's Division of the Leeds British League.

The format currently being discussed is teams of three women playing on two weekends, similar to the County Championships Premier Division. It is proposed that the first weekend would be the 15/16th April 1989 at the Woughton Leisure Centre, Rainbow Drive, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes, Bucks. The second weekend will be decided by a meeting of the Women's Committee.

Entry forms have been despatched to County and League Secretaries plus all exist-

ing British League Clubs and these must be returned to the ETTA office by Monday, 31st October.

The entry fees have been agreed as: Guarantee Fee normally £120 but waived for the first season. Entry Fee £65 per team. Player Registration Fee £7 per player

The Sports Council have dedicated the next two years to Women in Sport and it is important in this context that our sport should be seen to be supporting this initiative. The League will be sponsored by the Leeds Permanent Building Society who are the major sponsors of English table tennis with a £500,000 input over three years.

China International Open		Guangzhou	11/14 June 1988
MS	SF Teng Yi (CHN)	bt Persson J. (SWE)	-14,20,20,19
	Xu Zengcai (CHN)	bt Kucharski L. (POL)	12,16,18
	F Teng Yi	bt Xu Zengcai	17,-12,6,-13,22
WS	SF He Zhili (CHN)	bt Li Huifen (CHN)	-14,13,18,13
	Chai Po Wa (HKG)	bt Dai Lili (CHN)	-15,-17,15,14,16
	F He Zhili	bt Chai Po Wa	20,-15,19,12
MD	F Chen Longcan/ Wei Qingguang (CHN)	bt Waldner J-Ö/ Bengtsson U (SWE)	-19,14,14
WD	F Hoshino/Ishida (JPN)	bt Uchiyama/Kitsukawa (JPN)	24,16
MD	F Lin Zhigang/ Liu WeiP (CHN)	bt Xie Chaojie/ Chen Jing (CHN)	19,-21,10

Under 11 massive entry at Mansfield

English Under-11 entry tripled

DARREN BLAKE (Surrey) and SALLY MARLING (Yorkshire) are the new English Under 11 National Champions following their wins at Mansfield Leisure Centre. The experiment of following the Schools Individual finals at the same venue the day before paid dividends as the entry rose from 34 in 1987 to 96 – a tremendous increase.

by MIKE WATTS

Predictable

In the Boys event, the competition commenced with groups of four thereby guaranteeing every entrant four games. Predictably at this age group the top four seeds all reached the semi finals. At this stage top seed Darren Blake met Steven Meddings (Warwickshire) whom he beat in the 1987 final and beat him quite comfortably in the third.

Penultimate

In the second semi final, second seed David Heath (Devon) again fell at the penultimate hurdle, this time to Adrian Vincent also from Devon, 21-14 in the third.

Bounced back

In the final, the favourite took the first game easily, but Vincent bounced back to claim the second at 'deuce' before Blake won comfortably in the third to reclaim the title he won at Milton Keynes in 1987.

In the Girls event, the top two seeds SALLY MARLING and the last year's winner NICOLA DEATON (Derbyshire) dominated the competition both reaching the final without dropping a game. In fact in her three group games, Sally conceded only 17 points in 6 single games – an amazing result.

Emphatic win

Sally emerged the winner two straight and throughout the competition conceded only 55 points for an emphatic win.

Prizes were presented by Stuart Sneyd (Vice Chairman Selection/Coaching) and Donald Parker, England's National Team Manager and Director of Coaching. Following completion of the competition, Donald Parker assisted by English National Champion Alan Cooke, and other qualified coaches put on a coaching session for all the competitors with the two winners also playing in competition against Alan Cooke.



BOYS WINNERS left to right Steven Meddings (Warwick), David Heath (Devon), Adrian Vincent (Devon), Darren Blake (Surrey) with Stuart Sneyd, vice-chairman selection and coaching.



GIRLS WINNERS:- left to right, Lindsay Heywood (Devon), Claudine Wilson (Sussex), Nicola Deaton (Derby), Sally Marlin (Yorks) with Donald Parker, Director of Coaching.

GOODBYE CLAREMONT

In September 1972 the English Table Tennis Association moved from the C.C.P.R.'s offices in Park Crescent, Regents Park, London to 21 Claremont, Hastings. With five employees, the ETTA had become very cramped in their two rooms in Park Crescent and the then Chairman, Charles Wyles, a resident of Hastings, noticed that the Claremont premises owned by the Crown were available for rental and the balance of the 36 year lease was taken up. The four floors of Claremont provided a tremendous amount of space for the Association but even in 1972, the building was beginning to show signs of its Victorian age.

Now, almost exactly sixteen years later, the ETTA is moving from Claremont to offices at Queensbury House, Hastings, some 300 yards distant. The new offices are located on the total third floor of Queensbury House, a mid 1960's red brick and glass office building, situated right at the entrance to Hastings main line station. For the first time for many years, the Association will be able to operate with the miracle of central heating and the absence of an all pervading smell

HALLO QUEENSBURY

NEW ETTA OFFICES

THE NEW NUMBER
0424-722525

of dry rot and general dilapidation. The spectre of repairing the dilapidations to Claremont has been hanging over the Association for many years and the costs of putting the building into a state approved by the Crown Commissioners is liable to eat into the ETTA's cash flow by up to £30,000. The new offices at Queensbury House have, however, been totally refurbished by the outgoing tenants and will provide a very marked contrast in quality of accommodation to the old premises.



SOUTHERN REGION

The move took place towards the end of September and a valuable contribution towards fitting out the new offices is being provided by the 100 Club who are donating funds to cover the complete provision of the telecommunication services. The benefit of moving within Hastings was recognised by National Council, particularly in the retention of key members of staff such as General Secretary, Albert Shipley, who moved into Claremont in 1972 and Events Manager Mike Watts, Finance Officer Roy Stevens, and secretary Christine Wilkes, who have been with the Association for a total of fifty years. The ETTA will be seeking to maintain the quality of service to members during the disruption of the move and using the better facilities of the new offices to improve it in the future.

The address and telephone number of the new offices are as follows:

Third Floor
Queensbury House
Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex
TN34 1HF
Tel: 0424 722525

THE success of last seasons' pilot Regional league has been judged in the best possible way, with a considerable increase in entries. With no defaulters from last season Aylesbury, Maidenhead and Portsmouth together with a Second Generation team (rumoured to be a Ladies team) have joined last seasons 7 to ensure a second Mens division whilst Maidenhead are also newcomers to the Ladies league. The final event of last season, a cadet team tournament, was held at Frimley (courtesy of Bernard Rowley) on May day when the Berkshire boys of Martin Adams together with Nicky Bradfield and Oxfordshire's Sally Hughes and Dawn Barnett took the honours. Oxford (Gavin Yates & Martin Haycock) and Berkshire (Nicola Cracknell & Isabella Wallace) took the silver positions.

A Cadet league is planned for the coming season and there are high hopes for a veteran league; both events likely to be played on the 'block' system and the Christmas break is the likely timing for an under 12 competition.

Regional trials (junior) will take place at Southampton's Redbridge Sports Centre on Sunday October 23rd;

John Sooter's home win

SUBSCRIBE TO ALL THE PUBLICATIONS....

IF YOU want to keep up with what is happening and what is going to happen, it is essential to order a regular supply of the established publications, as there is so much more going on these days.

"Table Tennis News" is published eight times a year, annual subscription £8, that is the first priority for British fans. Orders to ETTA offices.

The ITTF now have two regular publications, "World Table Tennis", published at the moment twice yearly, cost £7.00 for four issues and also the ITTF Bulletin, £5.00 for eight issues. Orders for both of those to ITTF, 53, London Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Hastings.

EXCHANGE VISIT

A club situated in the Southern part of France wishes to arrange an exchange visit with a club in England. Anyone interested should write direct to: Mr. Marcel Boissac, Verlhaguet, 82000 MON- TAUBAN, France

Our Chief Executive goes West!

TED Wallbuton was amongst guests from 7 South Western counties who were invited to Pat & Bob Archdale's Keynsham home on the hottest day of the year for gourmet eating and an open forum on the sport that binds us together (writes Brian Lamerton).

For many, a first opportunity to meet Ted, and possibly for all in such a relaxed atmosphere. Comparison with Squash was an obvious topic together with that of our very heavy rule book - there was a definite two thirds majority present that day in favour of a considerable pruning exercise. Coaching, the Ladies scene and membership problems were all given a full airing. News & views of Ted's dealing with the Sports Council, the Media and the Commercial World were of particular interest and we all went our various ways confident that the sport is now in the hands of a very capable team.

SOUTER WINS GREATER LONDON

by Michael Close

OVER the week-end of 21st and 22nd May at the Picketts Lock Centre in North London were held the second new style Greater London Championships. In those days the top class players were ineligible to enter these Championships but now any genuine Londoner is eligible and the winners can really claim to be Champions of the Capital City.

Middlesex players dominated the scene and it was only in the boys events that they did not provide the Champions. In the JUNIOR BOYS Grant Solder (Essex) beat Jason Tendler (Essex) 19, 9; and in the CADET BOYS Jason Blake (Surrey) beat Mark Williams (Middlesex) 10, 20, 13. Other results were:-

MS: John Souter (Middlesex) beat Graham Sandley (Middlesex) 15, 12. The surprise in this event was the defeat of Colin Wilson (Middlesex) in the Quarter Final by Percy Collino, formerly of Middlesex but now of Surrey. Colin was the holder of the title having beaten John Souter in last year's final. MD: John Souter and Colin Wilson (Middlesex) beat Graham Sandley and Tony Stark (Middlesex) 10, 14, 20. LS: Lesley Tyler (Middlesex) retained her title, beating Jane Barella 5, 10. WD: Rachel Knight and Lesley Souter (Middlesex) beat Linda Clemett and Heather Payce-Drury 13, 13. JG: Rebecca Fisher (Middlesex) beat Sarah Williams (Middlesex) 20, 22.



John Souter

CG: Sarah Williams (Middlesex) retained her title, beating Emise Kotas (Middlesex) 12, 9, 16. VS: John Holland (Middlesex) beat Babs Adedayo (Middlesex) 15, 16.

With National Referee, Len Pidditch in charge and ably assisted by Tournament Referee, Doris Moors, everything went smoothly. The Tournament was organised by the City of Westminster, in conjunction with the Regional Co-ordinating Committee for London and South East. With an entry of over 280 and a Prize Fund of £2,000 this must surely be one of the most prestigious 'Closed' Tournaments held throughout the season. May it continue to help revive London Table Tennis.

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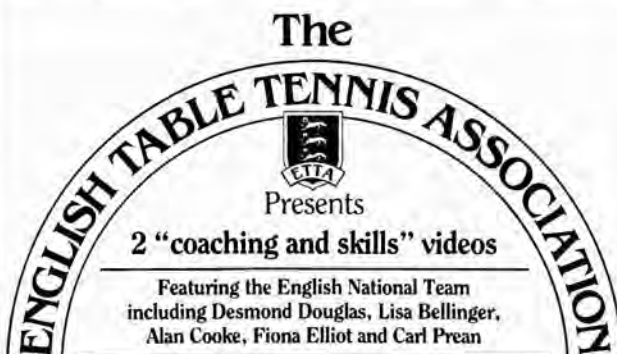
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Bill Vint wins Gold Award

THE WORLD CUP RESULTS



Final Placings		
Wuhan		
16/19 June 1988		
1. Grubba, Andrzej (POL)	9. Kucharski, Leszek (POL)	
2. Chen Longcan (CHN)	10. Kim Wan (KOR)	
3. Jiang Jialiang (CHN)	11. Saito, Kiyoshi (JPN)	
4. Xu Zengcai (CHN)	12. Kim Ki Taek (KOR)	
5. Persson, Jorgen (SWE)	13. Musa, Atanda (NGR)	
6. Waldner, J-Ö. (SWE)	14. Ng, Gideon Joe (CAN)	
7. Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR)	15. Bengtsson, Ulf (SWE)	
8. Liu Fuk Man (HKG)	16. Hoyama, Hugo (BRA)	

Stage 1

Group A

Ng G.J. (CAN)	bt	Miyazaki Y. (JPN)	-14,17,19
Liu Fuk Man (HKG)	bt	Ng G.J. (CAN)	7,19
Jiang Jialiang (CHN)	bt	Miyazaki Y. (JPN)	-19,18,19
Liu Fuk Man (HKG)	bt	Miyazaki Y. (JPN)	15,19
Kim Wan (KOR)	bt	Ng G.J. (CAN)	16,-17,18

Group B

Jiang Jialiang (CHN)	bt	Liu Fuk Man (HKG)	18,14
Kim Ki Taek (KOR)	bt	Hoyama H. (BRA)	10,13
Hoyama H. (BRA)	bt	Griffiths B. (NZL)	15,-18,11
Waldner J-Ö (SWE)	bt	Kim Ki Taek (KOR)	13,9
Kim Ki Taek (KOR)	bt	Griffiths B. (NZL)	13,16
Xu Zengcai (CHN)	bt	Hoyama H. (BRA)	12,14
Waldner J-Ö (SWE)	bt	Griffiths B. (NZL)	17,-25,13

Group C

Kucharski L. (POL)	bt	Bengtsson U. (SWE)	-16,20,19
Bengtsson U. (SWE)	bt	Lim Chin Leong (MAL)	17,20
Chen Longcan (CHN)	bt	Kucharski L. (POL)	18,11
Kucharski L. (POL)	bt	Lim Chin Leong (MAL)	8,15
Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR)	bt	Bengtsson U. (SWE)	17,15
Chen Longcan (CHN)	bt	Lim Chin Leong (MAL)	12,10

Group D

Persson J. (SWE)	bt	Musa A. (NGR)	19,-12,16
Musa A. (NGR)	bt	Eloi D. (FRA)	14,17
Grubba A. (POL)	bt	Persson J. (SWE)	10,16
Persson J. (SWE)	bt	Eloi D. (FRA)	19,18
Saito K. (JPN)	bt	Musa A. (NGR)	11,18
Grubba A. (POL)	bt	Eloi D. (FRA)	15,10

Final Stage

Quarter Finals

1-8 Jiang Jialiang	bt	Yoo Nam Kyu	-12,16,20,19
Chen Longcan	bt	Waldner J-Ö	19,-17,15,-12,16
Grubba A.	bt	Liu Fuk Man	14,13,16
Xu Zengcai	bt	Persson J.	8,25,-14,17

Semi Finals

1-4 Chen Longcan	bt	Jiang Jialiang	14,18,22
Grubba A.	bt	Xu Zengcai	17,16,13
5-8 Waldner J-Ö	bt	Yoo Nam Kyu	18,22
Persson J.	bt	Liu Fuk Man	14,15
9-12 Kim Wan	bt	Saito K.	20,-18,14
Kucharski L.	bt	Kim Ki Taek	-13,21,6

13 -			
16 Ng G.J.	bt	Bengtsson U.	16,14
Musa A.	bt	Hoyama H.	19,19

Finals

1-2 Grubba A.	bt	Chen Longcan	14,11,16
3-4 Jiang Jialiang	bt	Xu Zengcai	11,9
5-6 Persson J.	bt	Waldner J-Ö	16,14
7-8 Yoo Nam Kyu	bt	Liu Fuk Man	15,19
9-10 Kucharski L.	bt	Kim Wan	20,-19,18
11 -			
12 Saito K.	bt	Kim Ki Taek	14,17
13 -			
14 Musa A.	bt	Ng G.J.	13,8
15 -			
16 Bengtsson U.	bt	Hoyama H.	18,15

THE ITTF GOLD AWARD FOR MERIT

THE establishment of this award, to be given to those nominated by their Associations for a long period of service to table tennis, either nationally or internationally, was agreed by the Council in Riyadh last March. The Executive Committee has examined the first nominations and reports as follows:

The difficulty of making comparative assessments has led us to the decision that there should not be different grades, but only one. Nevertheless, in preparing the list of those to receive the award, we realised that there was one nominee whose service to his Association and to the ITTF over more than fifty years has been so outstanding that his name must appear at the head of the list.

The first ever ITTF Gold Award therefore goes to

A.K. "Bill" Vint, O.B.E.
of England

The other recipients in our first list are (in alphabetical order of Association):

Australia	Keith Bowler	Hungary	Gyorgy Lakatos
Bahrain	Sheikh Abdul-Rahman Bin Rashid	Ireland	Tibor Horvath
Brazil	Gilson de Magalhaes	Lebanon	Joe Veselsky
Canada	Boscoli	New Zealand	Spiro Abourjaily
China	Margaret Walden	Poland	Ken Wilkinson
Song Zhong	Chen Xian	Portugal	Felix Przybylski
Zhang Junhan		Saudi Arabia	Jerzy Dachowski
Czechoslovakia	Frantisek Hanek	Switzerland	Mario de Costa
	Pivec	Tunisia	Patricio Soliman
	Ernest Demetrovic	Turkey	Al-Jabhan
	Pavol Hajek		Jürg Vonaesch
England	Ron Crayden		Werner Schnyder
Germany FR	Rudolf Gruber		Cherif Hajem
			Ali Abali
			Danyal Ciper

OBITUARY

REG BEARD

by BRIAN DRAYCOTT

WE heard in July of the passing of our Life Vice President Reg Beard, who had been in failing health for a few years.

I first met Reg when I came to Nottingham in 1970 and went up to the YMCA to see who was playing Table Tennis in the city. He seemed to know everyone and always had time for a chat, no matter which division you played in. Always the gentleman, with a rolled umbrella and a shine on his shoes, his connections within the sport ranged from the south coast H.Q. via London to the strongholds of the Northeast.

He was especially encouraging to young players who looked like taking on responsibilities, and I know that Dave Fairholm spent many happy hours at Reg's place, no doubt putting the world and the sport to rights. Of late the Nottingham Association's "Table Talk" magazine and the Table Tennis News were his main link with the sport and with his passing we lose another voice from the "glorious past".

Our sympathies go to his niece, living in Nottingham, but I know that many people reading this will pause and think... "I knew Reg Beard, he was a good'un".

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STIGA WORLD GRAND PRIX

The 1987/88 Stiga World Grand Prix, comprising fourteen Open Championships throughout the world, began in Poland in October 1987 and ended in the United States in June 1988.

From the hundreds of players who took part the following are the leading points scorers:

Points		Points		
1	900 Lindh	* SWE	13 355 Mazunov	URS
2	885 Appelgren	* SWE	14 345 Karlsson	SWE
3	755 Kim Song Hui	* PRK	Lupulescu	YUG
4	705 Grubba	* POL	16 330 Primorac	YUG
5	675 Kucharski	* POL	Xu Zencai	CHN
6	670 Persson	* SWE	18 325 Saive	BEL
7	570 Gatien	* FRA	19 310 Rosenberg	URS
8	505 Waldner	SWE	20 305 Wang Hao	CHN
9	475 Bengtsson	SWE	21 295 Fetzner	FRG
	Chen Zhi Bin	* CHN	22 280 Chu Jong Chol	PRK
11	405 Teng Yi	* CHN	23 275 Mason	ENG
12	375 Miyazaki	* JPN	Watanabe	JPN

* qualifiers

The leading ten players in the list, with the proviso of no more than three players from one Association, will be invited to compete in the Grand Prix Final, with US\$50,000 prize money, to be held December 8-11 at a European venue to be announced, where they will be joined by two "wild card" entries.

RESULT OF CROSSWORD No. 11

1	L	2	S	3	I	4	U	5	B	6	A					
7	P	E	R	M	A	N	E	N	T	8	M	U	D	G	E	
	T	A	T	U		9	W	I	G							
10	T	H	E	L	E	E	D	S		11	E	L	L	E	R	Y
	E	T	R	U	S	D	E									
		12	B	O	L	E		13	A	T	T	R	I	D	G	E
	14	R		S	L											
15	S	O	C	I	E	T	Y		17	A	L	I	G	H	T	S
	L	G					19	D	I						E	
20	A	L	A	N	C	O	L	E		22	S	O	H	O		
	A	O	U	N	A	O								24	B	
25	S	W	O	R	D	S		26	M	A	R	K	W	A	R	D
	A	A	T	A	I	I	I									
27	L	Y	I	N	G		28	T	R	A	C	Y	C	O	L	E
	S	T														

Winner: Dolly Harmer, 162 Steppingstone Place, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. LU7 8PT

Runners-up: (1) David Seaholme, 12 Upper Hatch, Carpenders Park, Watford WD1 5AW

(2) Peter Capewell, 23 Firwood Road, Melton Mowbray Leics. LE13 1SA

(3) Michael Nisbet, 4 Abbots Way, Fairfield, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS19 7SR

CROSSWORD compiler Eric Hall wishes to thank all those who took the trouble to compete in the competitions. Eric is taking a well-earned break from compiling table tennis crosswords. TTN is indebted to him for his contributions to the magazine.

THE 1988



CHINA TOUR

ENGLAND v CHINA at TWELVE VENUES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Local Contact</i>
Saturday 22.10.88	Eldon Square Recreation Centre, Newcastle on Tyne	Ken Taylor 091 528 4211
Sunday 23.10.88	The Spa Royal Hall, Bridlington, East Yorks	Mike Hanley 0757 702282
Monday 24.10.88	Stalybridge Sports Centre, Cheshire	Chris Hope 061 380 8355 Ext. 3081
Wednesday 26.10.88	Cocks Moor Leisure Centre, Birmingham	Brian Lloyd 021 745 2360
Thursday 27.10.88	Bishops Hall Complex, Brentwood, Essex	Bob McLintock 0277 261111 Ext. 399
Friday 28.10.88	The Corn Exchange, Ipswich, Suffolk	Joyce Love 0473 217704
Saturday 29.10.88	Redbridge Sports Centre, Eastleigh, Southampton	David Cosway 0703 557294
Sunday 30.10.88	Folkestone Sports Centre, Folkestone, Kent	Mike Trim 0679 62011
Monday 31.10.88	The Sovereign Centre, Eastbourne, East Sussex	Derek Wilkinson 0323 31221
Tuesday 1.11.88	Hulton moor Leisure Centre Weston-Super Mare, Avon	Mike Lewis 0272 730788
Wednesday 2.11.88	The Hinckley Leisure Centre, Leicestershire	Mike Holt 0455 48043
Thursday 3.11.88	Northbridge Leisure Centre, Halifax	Mike Hanley 0757 702282



Photo - Neil Houghton

PLUS – A SPECIAL TELEVISION SPECTACULAR

A special TV spectacular being filmed by Channel 4. Sunday 16 October 1988 – Aylesbury Civic Hall, England play China in three, 2 a side, Davis Cup style matches.

Sessions:
10.30 am
2.30 pm
6.0 pm

Chen Xinhua and Fan Chang Mao in the exhibition after the match at Halifax, 1987.

A Successful club sponsorship . . .

by STAN DEAKIN

Editor's note: This is a story by a Potteries club treasurer who has been successful in winning a local sponsorship.

RELATIONS with certain outsiders began to warm up noticeably after an earlier communication with the ETTA. The J.C. publicity company made direct contact with us expressing an ambitious plan by the KETTLER (GB) Ltd company to single out for special attention (i.e. Sponsorship) a sport in the Midlands area.

We indicated to John Couzins directly that there was great potential for sponsorship in Table Tennis and proposed that we should send him details. A dossier outlining Club history, recent achievements, players profiles, officers, outlined sponsorship details and our potential worth to the sponsor was sent. *The interest for Table Tennis News readers is that*

our dossier was printed completely on an AMSTRAD PCW8256 home computer. We followed up our application with numerous telephone calls to John before establishing direct contact with KETTLER (GB) Ltd through their managing director Major J. Gillespie by phone. After a forty minute conversation we had convinced our potential sponsor of our strengths, perhaps weakness but most of all our sincerity. Such was the importance of this telephone call that it appeared an eternity at approximately 7.30p.m. we had secured a worthy club SPONSORSHIP. The rest is now up to the KETTLER WULSTANS table tennis club and the KETTLER SPORT team.

Along similar lines we had earlier approached the ANSELLS BREWERY in Staffordshire and are pleased to announce their support for table tennis by a sponsorship arrangement with us. Our slogan "Refreshment after Exercise" completely echoes our involvement with our sponsors and the teams playing in the Potteries & District League are the KETTLER-ANSELLS sides. We were delighted that Mr B. Parrish area sales manager for ANSELLS found time to meet us at our headquarters THE ARCHER public house in Wulstanton.

WATCH THESE EVENTS:

STAMCO TWO-STAR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS OF SUSSEX

Saturday & Sunday October 8 and 9

Hastings Sports Centre, Bohemia Road, Hastings, East Sussex Tel: 0424 722227

Provisional Playing Sessions

Saturday, 8th October, 1988. ALL SINGLES GROUPS
Sessions Commence: 9.00 a.m., 9.45 a.m., 10.30 a.m., 11.15 a.m., 12 noon, 12.45 p.m., 1.30 p.m., 2.15 p.m., 3.00 p.m., 5.00 p.m. Men's Doubles 6.00 p.m. Women's Singles.

Sunday, 9th October, 1988 9.00 a.m. Sharp – Men's Singles. 10.15 a.m. Women's Doubles. 11.30 a.m. Veterans' Singles. 1.30 p.m. Mixed Doubles.

FINALS – SUNDAY, 9th OCTOBER, 1988 commence 5.00 p.m. (including Men's Singles Semi's).
NO CHARGE PAYABLE BY COMPETITORS FOR ADMISSION TO VENUE. SEATS FOR FINALS SESSION £1.00

THE LEEDS INTERNATIONAL – EUROPEAN LEAGUE, DIV 1

ENGLAND

v

FINLAND

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at

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ENGLAND v CHINA 13-MATCH TOUR –

Commencing October 14 – Details on preceding page 40