



# *Table Tennis News*

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Now England's only  
major table maker

**John  
Jaques**

## From Despair to Triumph in 24 days

TWENTY-FOUR days has seen much happen in the lives of our National Squad — on the 26th of October we lost our Super Division match in Sheffield against the Netherlands after holding an early 2 - 0 advantage. Our lead was gradually whittled away by a Dutch team whom we expected to defeat but it was not to be and John Prean's full account of that match appears on page 10 of this Issue.

### Team Triumph in Hungary

England men's team finally made the breakthrough they have been threatening for the last two seasons when they defeated the Yugoslav trio of Lupulescu, Primorac and Kalinic 3-0 in the final of the Hungarian Open. Jill Hammersley-Parker took over the mantle of team manager on this occasion and she guided the English Squad of Cooke, Douglas, Prean and Syed to victories over Czechoslovakia (3 - 2), China (3 - 2), Japan (3 - 0) at the semi final stage and then to final victory. This was then followed by Carl losing to Lupulescu in the Mens final and Des reaching the last eight of the same event. A full report of these outstanding achievements will appear in the January Issue of Table Tennis News.

### Finally to Manchester

Have you ordered your tickets yet? If not turn to the centre spread for further information on how to obtain your tickets. It promises to be the greatest Open of recent times with both Europe's and Asia's finest players on view — an added attraction could be the possible clash of the German World Doubles champions and the Chinese Olympic champions.

### Thanks...

May I through this Editorial column thank all who have written in offering me their good wishes and in some cases praise and constructive criticism for my efforts over the first two issues. It is much appreciated. May I in return offer my thanks to Ted Wallbutton and the Head Office staff for their effort in producing November's issue while I was taking a break in Tenerife.

**ALAN PICKARD**



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ALAN PICKARD

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★ **COVER  
PICTURE**

**PARKER'S PAIRS PROBLEM:** Two consecutive defeats in the men's doubles of European League matches have each resulted in 3-4 losses for England. A doubles victory could have won the matches against both Poland and Netherlands. Can England captain Donald Parker afford to continue with last season's dynamic doubles duo, Carl Prean and Alan Cooke? (Photo: Ceri Breeze)

★

# on Topics of the Moment... the 'Leeds English Open', the World Team Cup and the end of the Leeds Sponsorship

I LOOK forward with immense anticipation to the next "Leeds English Open", because it will break new ground and provide a particularly good deal for spectators. All our efforts have been directed towards this. We expect the world's best players. An innovation which has aroused world wide interest is that of playing the TEAM event on the last day. It will assume very great importance as a result. Instead of the previous, almost apologetic ritual of playing it on the first day (unnoticed and half forgotten), it will now provide a rousing final on the final day, a Sunday on which our members will be able to come in great numbers.

### Televised by Grandstand...

The Finals of the Individual Events will be televised as usual in the afternoon of Saturday, but, instead of finishing at that time as in the past, the TEAM event will begin and we see it as a major promotion in its own right. The world champions, Sweden and China, will be there as well as most other leading countries. Make a note of the date (January 4th to 7th) and the place (Bowlers, Old Trafford, Manchester). We have negotiated good rates with an excellent hotel. For those out of town, why not make this a short holiday? Contact our office for details.

### England Men in World Team Cup...

It was good to receive confirmation that our men had qualified for this event. The bad news is that WE had hoped to stage this. Instead, it will take place in Japan. Never was a place more hard but richly reserved. Our men battled it out in Dortmund through a number of meaningless matches to finish with 4 victories and 9th place, having failed to reach the Quarter Finals. It must have been tempting to "save themselves for the singles" and to take it easy in the matches for places 9 to 16 (not the most riveting of a lifetime). By virtue of their dedication, our men won a place in this new event.

### Protests

I have written elsewhere about the absurd playing system

adopted without prior trial, let alone success. Many have joined me in these protests. 3 players will contest a maximum of 5 matches, hardly a true test. It could all end in three. The same officials who once complained about matches and rallies being too short now seem to have decided that everything is too long. Everything is too long, if you don't enjoy it. It seems to be a problem of international Table Tennis that there are many decision-makers who do not really enjoy the game, preferring the law-making and the social sides. I noted with some surprise officials (with votes, making speeches) whose country did not have a team competing. It explains a good deal.

### Raw Deal for English Women...

Whilst I entertain high hopes of medals for our men, I am sad that our Women's Team will not be there. They achieved a creditable 10th place in Dortmund and therefore deserve to be one of the 12 teams which make up the field. Sadly, this will not be the case. The place, to which they are entitled, will go to a lower placed country from a privileged continent. I cannot imagine a greater injustice. We shall press for change, together with like-minded nations.

### The Leeds

You will have read that our sponsorship agreement with the Leeds ends this season. A more detailed announcement appears in another part of this issue. The Leeds were, as I have often said, a splendid partner, and our collaboration enabled



us to do many things, which, without them, would not have been possible. Others we were able to do better. In a recent meeting, Norman Thompson (Head of Corporate Communications) acknowledged both the success of the sport and what we had put in. Sponsorships have a certain life, company objectives change, new ideas emerge, other forms of communication, of advertising will be tried. Such are the facts of life. I have been asked how this will affect the Association. Our Chief Executive will be looking for new sponsors and a great deal of work has been done. He is talking to interested parties. The sport has a lot to offer, far more than in the past.

### If the worst comes to the worst...

Sponsorship, as I have often said, does not represent a gift of pound notes. It helps us to stage events, and to do certain things. Some events cannot be staged without a sponsor. Some can. Both our Chinese Tours could have taken place without any national sponsorship. Both would have shown a surplus. Both took top table tennis to the regions, often to towns which had never staged an international match. Many days of media interest followed.



In any forward planning one must look at both the best and worst scenarios. In the latter case the ETTA will still survive and excellent events will continue to take place. The service to our members will remain the same.

### The sport stronger...

Some income, that is generated now, will be missed. It will be the duty of Management to reduce some expenses. We have to live within our income. The sport will go on. We shall build on the foundations of our success over the last three years. I am sad that the Leeds will not be with us next season, that they will miss benefits of the sport's continuing success in which they have played such a big part. The sport is infinitely stronger than when they first joined us. They deserve our thanks, our admiration.

We intend to make this the best and biggest 'Open' yet, and that will be one very real way of thanking them — a 'Leeds Open' to remember.

See you there.



# OLGA — PUSSYCAT

by JOHN WOODFORD

OLGA NEMES first blossomed into prominence in the European scene at the Thornaby Pavilion, Cleveland six years ago — at the age of 14 she shocked, surprised and delighted most fans by winning the European Top-12 Women's crown. Her most recent appearance was in England on the women's tour by West Germany when she won all six games, two each at Wolverhampton, Brentwood and Cirencester.

Before that initial success, her father Josef Nemes, at home in Rumania, had installed into Olga "Work and not give up", words attributed to Thomas Carlyle, former rector of the University of Edinburgh, when he took office in 1866.

Known as "Olgica — Pussycat" by her friends, her strict father often called her back when she wanted to play with her classmates. He told her that in a socialistic state success can only be reached by merciless efforts. That sounds like excellent advice that can be given at team conferences, even in the West.

She won the Europe Top-12 in February 1983. In October in that year she took an amazing decision for a 15-year-old — defecting to West Germany.

At the Swiss Open that year she separated from her team, with little more than the clothes she wore, and went with her friend Judith Borbely to Baden-Wurtemberg. Judith's husband Rudolph Stumper managed the young Rumanian "pussycat", but she later moved to ATSV Saarbrücken into the hands of Georg Rebmann, the man whose promises to mastermind the financial side of the 1989 Europe v Asia series collapsed whilst the German team was at Brentwood on October 4th.

## Lonely

For a time she was lonely in a two-room apartment in Saarbrücken under the strict coaching of Stellan Bengtsson. She became No. 1 in Europe and No. 5 in the world with only four Chinese ladies in front of her. Everything looked good until she fell ill with a "metabolic derangement" that stopped her playing table tennis completely and prevented her playing in the 1987 World Championships in New Delhi. That might have been a blessing in disguise as even people 100 per cent fit returned from India with medical problems, some serious.

Since 1987, however, things have improved for Olga. Her family also came to live in Germany later in 1987, her father Josef, mother also Olga and her sister Tunda. The family became re-united, helping her towards more successes such as winning again the European Top-12 title in Belgium last year,



although "she did play well" so she said at the time.

## Exodus

During the times described above, there has been an exodus of Rumanian table tennis stars to Federal Germany. Georg Bohm, now the German No. 1, has been there for some years, more recently the Rumanian national champion, Andreas Fejer, became established in Germany, and now we hear that Otulia Badescu, No. 5 in Europe, is also due to arrive in Frankfurt soon — probably before this story appears in print!

## Pre-dawn chat

On a mini-bus at 4.30 a.m. is probably the worst time of day or night to interview a player. That was the situation on October 5th last as ETTA Events Manager, Jenny Hughes, drove the West German team back from Cirencester to Birmingham International "Flughaven".

Olga is a demure young lady, a little shy until you get to know her. She speaks rather better German than English. She told me before she nodded off to sleep "I have thoroughly enjoyed the tour. It was a chance to get my revenge on Alison Gordon for her win against me in Dortmund. This time I was able to beat her twice, although the first time the scores were close." (19,19).

No. 2, but first I have to try and retain my European Top-12 title in Hannover."

She concluded "The hospitality in England has been very good. I

"In Dortmund, in front of thousands of German fans, I must admit I was a little nervous. The pressure of being on TV and being interviewed so often by TV, radio and the Press was hard to bear. However, Alison played well in Dortmund and deserved to beat me."

"Since then" she continued "I think I have improved my game and I am a lot fitter. When I first arrived in Germany I was very young and felt lonely, but when my Rumanian team-mates began to arrive, things got better and better. Now, I feel at home in Germany, especially as my parents are there as well."

"My next target is to win the European title in Gothenburg next April, where I hope I shall be seeded

would like to thank all the table tennis officials from the ETTA and especially the local English people at Wolverhampton, Brentwood and Cirencester, who made all the team so welcome."

It was 6.am. and still pitch dark as Olga dozed off in the mini-bus speeding to Birmingham airport. Any dreams that Olga may have had could have been of winning the European title in Gothenburg. Her skills on the table, hard-hitting on both wings and the ability to show no emotion as she wins or loses points, her experience at the age of 20, all add up to a very determined young lady, determined to carry on the long tradition of Rumania as a powerful table tennis nation, even playing under a Western bloc flag.

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## European Affairs

by GEORGE R. YATES

AWAY TO the Netherlands in Veenendaal on October 10th Sweden went down to their second successive defeat when beaten 4-3, placing the former and defending champions at the foot of the table, being the only country without a point!

All rested on the final set with the match score standing at 3-all when Danny Heister brought the house down in beating Thomas von Scheele 21-14, 10-21, 22-20!

**Scores:-**  
P. Haldan bt T. von Scheele 12, -22, 15;  
D. Heister lost to P. Karlsson -17, -13;  
M. Kloppenburg bt M. Svensson 10, 17;  
Haldan/G. Bakker Jnr lost to Karlsson/von Scheele 14, -9, -19;  
Heister/Kloppenburg bt von Scheele/Svensson 18, 10;  
Haldan lost to Karlsson -21, 13, -20;  
Heister bt von Scheele 14, -10, 20.

On the same night, in St. Avold, France brought off a tremendous win in front of 1,000 spectators, when they accounted for Federal Germany 5-2 with Jean-Philippe Gatien winning both his singles and sharing a mixed doubles success with Wang Xiao Ming.

**Scores:-**  
J.P. Gatien bt J. Roskopf 20, -13, 21;  
O. Marmurek bt S. Fetzner 19, 17;

Wang Xiao Ming bt O. Nemes 14, -15, 19;  
Gatien/Marmurek lost to Roskopf/Fetzner -15, -11;  
Gatien/Wang Xiao Ming bt Roskopf/K. Nolten 11, 12;  
Gatien bt Fetzner 15, 15;  
Marmurek lost to Roskopf 15, -14, -15.

Recovering from their 7-0 defeat by Federal Germany in their opening match, Yugoslavia just made 4-3 against Czechoslovakia when, in the final set Ilija Lupulescu beat Tomas Janci.

**Scores:-**  
Z. Primorac bt T. Janci -18, 18, 18;  
I. Lupulescu bt P. Korbel 19, -14, 15;  
F. Isanovic lost to A. Safarova -13, -15;  
Lupulescu/Primorac bt Korbel/J. Javurek 14, 21;  
Lupulescu/Isanovic lost to Javurek/Safarova -18, 15, -15;  
Primorac lost to Korbel 16, -14, -19;  
Lupulescu bt Janci 19, 14.

### 17th European Championships, Goteborg, Sweden April 8/16, 1990

In response to my circular appertaining to the playing format to be used in Goteborg for the men's team event, the overwhelming response was for a continuation of the old Swaythling Cup system and NOT the new format as to be used in the Chiba City World Championships. The BGM will be held on FRIDAY, April 13th 1990.

#### ETTU Vice-President

Following the resignation of Mrs. Ella Zeller-Constantinescu from her position as ETTU Vice-President and ITTF Council member for Europe, a decision had to be taken at the recent Management Committee meeting in Vienna to fill the vacancy, as per rule of the Vice-Presidency.

Mr. Jerzy Dachowski of Poland, as the longest serving member of the Management Committee, was duly elected by unanimous vote, his term of office being until the Goteborg BGM, at which meeting an election must take place to fill the European vacancy, for one year, on the ITTF Council, and, thereafter, an election must take place for six members to serve for a further two years.

#### BGM suggestions for the Agenda (Rule Amendments etc)

Referring to the letter sent to all Associations by Dr. Vladimir Palecek dated 14.9.89, suggestions for the agenda of the Congress (BGM) shall be sent to the Hon. General Secretary not later than 2 months prior to the Congress and not 3 months as written by Dr. Palecek. The ETTU has set up a small

committee to scrutinise proposals submitted for consideration at the BGM prior to the despatch of the agenda.

#### Fax Machines

Please note that fax machines have been installed at the homes of the ETTU President, Mihovil Kapetanovic (38-11-458289) and Andre Damman, the Chairman of the Classification Committee (32-2-245 23 13). All Associations who have installed such machines are requested to so advise me with the relevant number.

#### Handbook Amendments

**BELGIUM** — Change of Secretary to Edgar Wullen, rue de Virelles 105, B-6460 Chimay, Belgium. 'Phone: (0) 60.21.17.22 Fax: 32-60-214069.

**ITALY** — Change of President to Cesare Sagrestani c/o Italian TTF.

**SCOTLAND** — Change of Office to 2 Manor Street, Falkirk, Scotland FK1 1NH  
'Phone: 031-324-611116.

**WALES** — Change of Secretary to Stephen Gibbs, 31 Maes-y-Celyn, Griffithstown, Pontypool, Gwent, Wales NP4 5DG  
(Phones: 4955-56112 (H) 6333-66711 Ext. 51 (B))

#### Cancellations

Due to the lack of television coverage and financial problems appertaining thereto, the 5th EURO/ASIA Series, scheduled for December 1989 has had to be cancelled, and the cancellation of the European Junior Masters scheduled for October 15th 1989 is also announced by the sponsors JOOLA. Again TV is the problem although a new date is being investigated.

### EUROPEAN TABLE TENNIS UNION

## Stiga Euro Top 12 January 19/21, 1990 in Hannover, W. Germany

DUE TO the cancellation of the Euro/Asia tournament scheduled for December 1989, it has been decided that the invitees (as indicated above the line in the June 1989 classification lists) will not now be applicable.

A new classification list will be issued in early December, following the Hungarian Open, and from that list the top twelve men and women will be duly invited to participate in the Stiga Top 12 in Hannover.

Because of the cancellation of the Euro/Asia tournament, which was scheduled for much earlier in the season than hitherto, it was then felt that the June '89 classifications had to be used in order to give sufficient notice to players for both the Euro/Asia and the Stiga Top 12 events. But now following the Euro/Asia cancellation a more up-to-date list is considered to be warranted.

### EUROPEAN LEAGUE SUPER DIVISION

#### Results:

SWE 2 ENG 5 | HOL 4 SWE 3 | TCH 4 HOL 3 | POL 4 ENG 3  
POL 4 FRA 3 | YUG 4 TCH 3 | FRG 7 YUG 0 | FRA 5 FRG 2

#### TABLE

	P	W	L	FA	PTS
POLAND	2	2	0	86	2
F.R. Germany	2	1	1	95	1
England	2	1	1	86	1
France	2	1	1	86	1
Czechoslovakia	2	1	1	77	1
Netherlands	2	1	1	77	1
Yugoslavia	2	1	1	410	1
Sweden	2	0	2	59	0

#### Division 1

BUL 5 DEN 2 | AUT 6 DEN 1 | TUR 1 AUT 6 | HUN 1 BEL 6  
HUN 6 ITA 1 | ITA 3 TUR 4 | BEL 7 FIN 0

Finland -v- Bulgaria being played 4.12.89.

	P	W	L	FA	PTS
BELGIUM	2	2	0	131	2
Austria	2	2	0	122	2
Bulgaria	1	1	0	52	1
Hungary	2	1	1	77	1
Turkey	2	1	1	59	1
Italy	2	0	2	410	0
Finland	1	0	1	07	0
Denmark	2	0	2	311	0

## Soviet sensations !

by RICHARD EATON and JOHN WOODFORD in Worthing, Bexleyheath, Bletchley & Bolton

ENGLAND scored an excellent and unexpected 3-0 success (with one drawn) against the Soviet Union, the world bronze medallists, in November. The game of table tennis also scored, achieving another 50 minutes' television on BBC Grandstand. The whole tour suggested that both the men's squad and the sport's promotion are developing nicely.

Even though the talented visitors were at something less than their best, it was particularly encouraging for captain Donald Parker to learn that he has fully six men capable of beating Andrei Mazunov the Soviet number one.

### Worthing

The mood was set at Worthing where England surprised most people by winning 5-1. The first encounter was one of the best, and it ended with a taste of revenge. Just four days before, Dmitrij Mazunov, the younger brother, had beaten Carl Prean in the semi-finals of the Austrian Open before going on to take the title.

This time Dmitrij led 11-6, at which point Prean stared quizzically at the ceiling, and questioned what the noise was. He then professionally got on with the job, and by the time the buzzing, from an extractor fan, had been turned off, he was already attacking well with forehand loops and counter hits.

Prean also used little chop-blocks, pushes and flicks on the backhand to contain Mazunov, and switches of direction to keep his opponent's booming backhand out of it. A spectacular loop-to-loop rally at 14-14 which Prean won seemed to alter the psychology of the match and, despite a slight recovery by Mazunov just before the end, the Isle of Wight man kept his nose in front thereafter to win 21-16, 21-17.

Nicky Mason put England 2-0 up by repeating the best win of his career — a straight games win over Andrei Mazunov last season in Moscow. This time it was a little harder, requiring the Sussex man to save a game point with a brave forehand flick against the serve at 21-22, before winning 24-22, 21-12.

In retrospect, that was one of the most crucial moments of the series. After it Andrei crumbled badly. Had the Soviet number one taken that point he might well have beaten Mason, made the score 1-1 and given the visitors heart to make a fight of it.

Instead Alan Cooke was too quick for Andrei, and although Mason lost to Dmitrij, both Cooke and Prean were too consistently aggressive for the 17-year-old Maksim Shmyrev.

### Bexleyheath

The televised match at Bexleyheath saw England win 4-2. There were nearly 700 spectators, and

Cooke helped provide some spectacular lob-and-smash rallies, which gave TV what it needed, but for those not seeing edited highlights, the table tennis was only intermittently excellent. If only the spectators had made more noise! Why are British crowds so reserved?

England were able to choose the order they wanted, which was to get Prean against Andrei and Cooke against Dmitrij on early. These were thought to be the more favourable pairings, and so it proved. With young Shmyrev still learning about international table tennis and losing to both Prean and Desmond Douglas, England had a 4-0 winning lead quite quickly.

The only halting moments as the English bandwagon rattled on were when Prean missed four match points in the second game against Andrei. He reasserted himself to win 21-8, 22-24, 21-13. The England number 2 thus ended his involvement in the tour with four wins out of four, which followed his successes in the European League and the Austrian Open. All this increased speculation he might not be number 2 much longer.

Cooke and Douglas lost the dead matches against Andrei and Dmitrij respectively, which thankfully gave a more respectable scoreline with which to promote the remaining two matches.

### Bletchley

Desmond Douglas saved England from defeat at Bletchley Leisure Centre with a splendid display of power, spin and reflex action that had Andrei Mazunov floundering. The Moscow ace went under 13, 12. Des finished the match with a flashing backhand of breathtaking speed and precision.

Michael O'Driscoll did not deserve to lose both his games. Donald Parker said after the match that he thought the young man from Sheffield played extremely well. Against his close European rival, Maksim Shmyrev, O'Driscoll only just lost -19, 20, -19. The young Russian made a special effort as he faced his fellow teenager and it paid off.

Cooke commenced the match with a fine duel to defeat Dmitrij

Masunov 18, 9. O'Driscoll, always looking comfortably in his class, lost his two games but sandwiched in between was Douglas's gem against Andrei. Douglas followed up again to make certain that England could not lose the tour when he defeated Shmyrev 18, 14. Had Desmond lost and Alan Cooke lost the last game, as he did, to Andrei Mazunov, then possibly the Soviets would have won the match and possibly the tour, so it proved to be a rescue act by the Walsall professional, who is playing such delightful table tennis.

The presence of the Stantonbury Brass Band was a delight and a real plus for the local organisers David Hildreth (BMK) and Les Wooding. There ought to be more music at matches, especially live and of this quality.

### Bolton

And so the tour ended on the second floor of the plush Bolton Town Hall, where amongst the marble columns, in a beautiful auditorium, we saw the best, liveliest audience, and we heard the rich, baritone voice of the M.C. George Yates, coaxing England, now with their tails up to slam the Soviets 5-1.

## RESULTS

### WORTHING

C. Prean b D. Mazunov 16, 17.  
N. Mason b A. Mazunov 22, 12.  
A. Cooke b M. Shmyrev 17, 12.  
Mason l D. Mazunov 22, -13, -11,  
Cooke b. A. Mazunov 18, 14.  
Prean b Shmyrev 15, 15.

### BEXLEYHEATH

Douglas b Shmyrev 15, 15.  
Prean b A. Mazunov 8, -22, 13.  
Cooke b D. Mazunov 14, 20.  
Prean b Shmyrev 18, 16.  
Cooke l A. Mazunov 13, -17, -16.  
Douglas l D. Mazunov -14, -17.

### BLETCHLEY

Cooke b D. Mazunov 18, 9.  
M. O'Driscoll l Shmyrev -19,  
20, -19.  
Douglas b A. Mazunov 13, 12.  
O'Driscoll l D. Mazunov -17, 15,  
-14.  
Douglas b Shmyrev 18, 14.  
Cooke l A. Mazunov 15, -11, 15.

### BOLTON

M. Syed b A. Mazunov 19, -11, 15.  
Cooke b Shmyrev 17, -23, 16.  
S. Andrew l D. Mazunov -15,  
14, -17.  
Syed b Shmyrev 16, -14, 18.  
Cooke b D. Mazunov 12, 17.  
Andrew b A. Mazunov 12, 17.

Summary...	P	W	L
Prean	4	4	0
Syed	2	2	0
Cooke	6	4	2
Douglas	4	3	1
Andrew	2	1	1
Mason	2	1	1
O'Driscoll	2	0	2



MATTHEW SYED, 19 from Reading, Berkshire, always a spectacular player, excelled all previous performances at Bolton, returning balls from the seating and driving with the power and accuracy of an attacking player.

Star of the show was Matthew Syed. His manager Ray Perrin would have been proud of him as he returned two balls from outside the court, something we normally

associate with Chinese exhibitions of bygone days and still repeated on BBC television in "Great Sporting Moments".

Continued on next page

## Russian Tour 2

Continued from previous page

Although the top six England men on the tour all beat Andrei Mazunov — his thoughts in Lancashire could have been more about meeting up with his friend Andrea Holt — Syed secured the best win of his career against the Soviet champion.

But it was not only the retrieving that the 500 crowd roared on, it was the sheer brilliance of Syed's attack! There is no doubt that if he can attack more often he could beat anyone — but then we often say this about class defenders. The difference with Syed is that his attacking armoury is more powerful than most defenders.

Cooke had a struggle to beat Maksim Shmyrev, 16 in the third game, proof that this youngster could also go a long way. Skylet Andrew delighted the fans once again, although he lost to Dmitrij -15, 14, -17, right at the end, when the presses were rolling at Wapping (nearly 11 p.m.) Sky stepped up to one of his best efforts to finish the tour by beating Andrei Mazunov, although Cooke had secured another triumph in the penultimate game against Dmitrij. Four days later our man from Chesterfield beat China's Zhu Hong Ding in Budapest!



Carl Prean: Unbeaten on the Tour at Worthing and Bexleyheath

### Kent Rats ?

The Crest Hotel at the Black Prince Interchange, Bexleyheath is a well-appointed establishment, with a number of rooms on the ground floor. The four journalists, Eaton and Woodford, were accommodated with a shared cavity wall that concealed a couple of gnawing rodents!

The two tired writers lost two hours sleep as the nocturnal creatures chewed away until 2am! As a result, the journalists missed breakfast waking at 9.15am. As George Yates would say "Complaints have been made", but so far no response!

## Tour Verdict

Another successful tour venture for the ETTA Management Committee's policy of running as many attractive tours as possible. This has, we are told, been one factor in an increase in trade sales of equipment in the UK to rise by over 30 per cent.

The crowds varied in size and response — around 400 at Worthing and Bletchley, 700 for the television match at Bexleyheath and close to 500 at Bolton Town Hall, the match that proved to be an exciting climax, with the most responsive crowd and for some, a surprising result.

The Russian trio were at times over-awed, and did not often show us their best shots. Although the Mazunovs have gained a lot of experience on court on big occasions they were naturally uneasy when surrounded by Lord Mayors and other local dignitaries and were usually first to leave the receptions.

Once again, two groups of local organisers were allowed to start at 7.30 p.m. As a result, there were considerable losses of space in the earlier editions of the "heavies" and no real coverage in the popular press. Even the six-game matches need to start at 7 p.m., 7.15 p.m. at the latest. Two matches finished around 11 p.m., including Bolton that started at 7 p.m. How can six games take four hours? Too many formalities and too many players bouncing the ball on the floor and the table before serving.

### The Parker Quote

England captain Donald Parker said after the tour ended at Bolton "It has been a most successful tour for England. The top six men on the England list have all beaten Andrei Mazunov, that is a terrific performance and shows strength in depth."



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# World Cup Report

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Waldner up and down

by a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE World Champion produced a lack lustre display in Nairobi — 15th out of 16 in the World Cup. He was reported as having lost interest after a couple of early setbacks, but you can't keep a good man down: A week later he won the IOC President's Cup in Seoul, Olympic Champion Yoo Nam Kyu was almost equally inconsistent: 9th in Nairobi — 2nd in Seoul.

### Brazilian Japanese...

Claudio Kano, a Japanese from Brazil impressed in the World Cup, defeating Yoo and the Nigerian Champion A. Musa and later L. Kurcharski (Poland). He finished 6th. No Japanese from Japan were present in the event!

### Saive impressive...

The young Belgian again showed excellent form with early wins against Waldner and Kucharski. He finished 4th.

The selection for these events must be as mysterious as Waldner's form. There were, understandably, a lot of refusals. The World Cup has never caught on as a major event despite its title. Too many players who should not be there have robbed it of its appeal. The standard I.T.T.F. reply is that the developing nations must be encouraged.

### Why call it the World Cup

And for women!

## RESULTS

### World Cup 10 Final Placings Nairobi 5/9 September 1989

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Ma Wenge (CHN)          | 9. Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR)      |
| 2. Andrzej Grubba (POL)    | 10. Kim Taek Soo (KOR)    |
| 3. Mikael Appelgren (SWE)  | 11. Jorgen Persson (SWE)  |
| 4. Jean-Michel Saive (BEL) | 12. John Onifade (USA)    |
| 5. Georg Böhm (FRG)        | 13. Atanda Musa (NGR)     |
| 6. Claudio Kano (BRA)      | 14. Barry Griffiths (NZL) |
| 7. Leszek Kucharski (POL)  | 15. Jan-Ove Waldner (SWE) |
| 8. Yu Shentong (CHN)       | 16. N. Carvalho (KEN)     |

### Stage 1 Group A

- |                     |    |                    |     |
|---------------------|----|--------------------|-----|
| J-M. Saive (BEL)    | bt | L. Kucharski (POL) | 2-0 |
| J-M. Saive (BEL)    | bt | J. Onifade (USA)   | 2-0 |
| J-M. Saive (BEL)    | bt | J-O. Waldner (SWE) | 2-0 |
| L. Kucharski (POL)  | bt | J. Onifade (USA)   | 2-0 |
| L. Kurcharski (POL) | bt | J-O. Waldner (SWE) | 2-1 |
| J. Onifade (USA)    | bt | J-O. Waldner (SWE) | 2-0 |

### Group B

- |                   |    |                   |     |
|-------------------|----|-------------------|-----|
| Yu Shentong (CHN) | bt | C. Kano (BRA)     | 2-1 |
| Yu Shentong (CHN) | bt | Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR) | 2-0 |
| C. Kano (BRA)     | bt | Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR) | 2-0 |
| C. Kano (BRA)     | bt | A. Musa (NGR)     | 2-0 |
| Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR) | bt | A. Musa (NGR)     | 2-0 |
| A. Musa (NGR)     | bt | Yu Shentong (CHN) | 2-0 |

### Group C

- |                    |    |                    |     |
|--------------------|----|--------------------|-----|
| A. Grubba (POL)    | bt | G. Böhm (FRG)      | 2-1 |
| A. Grubba (POL)    | bt | Kim Taek Soo (KOR) | 2-0 |
| A. Grubba (POL)    | bt | B. Griffiths (NZL) | 2-0 |
| G. Böhm (FRG)      | bt | Kim Taek Soo (KOR) | 2-0 |
| G. Böhm (FRG)      | bt | B. Griffiths (NZL) | 2-0 |
| Kim Taek Soo (KOR) | bt | B. Griffiths (NZL) | 2-0 |

### Group D

- |                    |    |                   |     |
|--------------------|----|-------------------|-----|
| M. Appelgren (SWE) | bt | Ma Wenge (CHN)    | 2-0 |
| M. Appelgren (SWE) | bt | J. Persson (SWE)  | 2-0 |
| M. Appelgren (SWE) | bt | N. Carvalho (KEN) | 2-0 |
| Ma Wenge (CHN)     | bt | J. Persson (SWE)  | 2-0 |
| Ma Wenge (CHN)     | bt | N. Carvalho (KEN) | 2-0 |
| J. Persson (SWE)   | bt | N. Carvalho (KEN) | 2-0 |

### Final Stage

#### Quarter Finals

- |       |              |    |              |     |
|-------|--------------|----|--------------|-----|
| 1 - 8 | J-M. Saive   | bt | G. Böhm      | 3-2 |
|       | Ma Wenge     | bt | Yu Shentong  | 3-1 |
|       | A. Grubba    | bt | C. Kano      | 3-2 |
|       | M. Appelgren | bt | L. Kucharski | 3-0 |

#### Semi Finals

- |         |              |    |              |     |
|---------|--------------|----|--------------|-----|
| 1 - 4   | Ma Wenge     | bt | J-M. Saive   | 3-0 |
|         | A. Grubba    | bt | M. Appelgren | 3-0 |
| 5 - 8   | G. Böhm      | bt | Yu Shentong  | 2-0 |
|         | C. Kano      | bt | L. Kucharski | 2-0 |
| 9 - 12  | Kim Taek Soo | bt | J. Persson   | 2-0 |
|         | Yoo Nam Kyu  | bt | J. Onifade   | 2-0 |
| 13 - 16 | A. Musa      | bt | J-O. Waldner | 2-0 |
|         | B. Griffiths | bt | N. Carvalho  | 2-1 |

#### Finals

- |         |              |    |              |     |
|---------|--------------|----|--------------|-----|
| 1 - 2   | Ma Wenge     | bt | A. Grubba    | 3-2 |
| 3 - 4   | M. Appelgren | bt | J-M. Saive   | 2-0 |
| 5 - 6   | G. Böhm      | bt | C. Kano      | 2-0 |
| 7 - 8   | L. Kucharski | bt | Yu Shentong  | 2-0 |
| 9 - 10  | Yoo Nam Kyu  | bt | Kim Taek Soo | 2-1 |
| 11 - 12 | J. Persson   | bt | J. Onifade   | 2-1 |
| 13 - 14 | A. Musa      | bt | B. Griffiths | 2-1 |
| 15 - 16 | J-O. Waldner | bt | N. Carvalho  | 2-0 |

### IOC President's Cup Seoul

15/17 September 1989

#### Final Placings

- |              |                          |                         |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Men</b>   | 1. Jan-Ove Waldner (SWE) | 5. Wu Wen-Chia (TPE)    |
|              | 2. Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR)     | 6. Andrei Mazunov (URS) |
|              | 3. Chen Zhibin (CHN)     | 7. Zoran Primorac (YUG) |
|              | 4. Kiyoshi Saito (JPN)   | 8. Kim Taek Soo (KOR)   |
| <b>Women</b> | 1. Hyun Jung Hwa (KOR)   | 5. Chai Po Wa (HKG)     |
|              | 2. Csilla Batorfi (HUN)  | 6. Jasna Fazlic (YUG)   |
|              | 3. Qiao Hong (CHN)       | 7. Alena Safarova (TCH) |
|              | 4. Hong Soon Hwa (KOR)   | 8. Rika Satoh (JPN)     |

#### Semi Finals

- |               |                     |    |                     |                  |
|---------------|---------------------|----|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>Men</b>    | Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR)   | bt | Chen Zhibin (CHN)   | 18,-17,19,17     |
|               | J-O Waldner (SWE)   | bt | K. Saito (JPN)      | 22,19,-14,18     |
|               | Wu Wen-Chia (TPE)   | bt | Z. Primorac (YUG)   | 9, 19            |
|               | A. Mazunov (URS)    | bt | Kim Taek Soo (KOR)  | 12,12            |
| <b>Women</b>  | Hyun Jung Hwa (KOR) | bt | Qiao Hong (CHN)     | -18,15,-18,16,14 |
|               | C. Batorfi (HUN)    | bt | Hong Soon Hwa (KOR) | 20,13,15         |
|               | Chai Po Wa (HKG)    | bt | R. Satoh (JPN)      | 12,16            |
|               | J. Fazlic (YUG)     | bt | A. Safarova (TCH)   | 16,14            |
| <b>Finals</b> |                     |    |                     |                  |
| <b>Men</b>    | J-O Waldner (SWE)   | bt | Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR)   | 20,-9,18,20      |
|               | Chen Zhibin (CHN)   | bt | K. Saito (JPN)      | 19,-21,10        |
|               | Wu Wen-Chia (TPE)   | bt | A. Mazunov (URS)    | 14,19            |
|               | Z. Primorac (YUG)   | bt | Kim Taek Soo (KOR)  | 9,-12,20         |
| <b>Women</b>  | Hyun Jung Hwa (KOR) | bt | C. Batorfi (HUN)    | -19,-19,12,19,18 |
|               | Qiao Hong (CHN)     | bt | Hong Soon Hwa (KOR) | 19,12,9          |
|               | Chai Po Wa (HKG)    | bt | J. Fazlic (YUG)     | 11,-18,10        |
|               | A. Safarova (TCH)   | bt | R. Satoh (JPN)      | 17,18            |

## MACARTNEY & DOWIE CLASSIC

FOR THE second year running we are pleased to announce the 1989 Macartney and Dowie Table Tennis Classic which will be held at Peniel Academy Sports Hall, 49 Coxtie Green Road, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood, Essex, on Thursday 21st December 1989 at 6.45pm.

As last year, 6 of the major English players will be competing for a total prize money of £850. Invitations have been issued and accepted by Alan Cooke, Carl Prean, Desmond Douglas, Nicky Mason, Matthew Syed and Steve Dorking. The format will be 2 groups of 3 with 2 semi finals and a final. The President of the ETTA, J. A. Leach MBE and the Chairman, John Prean will be attending the event.

The event will generate intense interest as it will be the first encounter between the players concerned subsequent to the November ranking lists.

Macartney and Dowie Financial Services is an independent registered broker committed to the furtherance of sports sponsorship particularly in relationship to table tennis and golf.

For further information and tickets please contact either Alison Mason or Peter Linnecar on 0277 372996 or 0277 374042 (evenings). Admission £5.

# Skylet injury blow in Posnan

THIS EVENT took place immediately after our European League match between October 19th and 22nd. We had a six hour bus journey from Czestochova to Poznan on 18th October. The hotel we stayed in was the worst I have experienced on the international circuit and the organisation of the tournament would also rank very low.

Unfortunately, Skylet Andrew had to withdraw from the tournament with a suspected hair-line fracture of his left thumb which was caused by hitting the table during a stroke. This meant that Alan Cooke had no partner for the team event. However, our girls did well to reach the semi-finals. Firstly they beat the Germans, followed by the Yugoslavs, only to lose very narrowly to the Czechs.

In the singles Alan was stretched by Nemeth but unfortunately found Saive in very good form in the last sixteen. Both the girls, Alison Gordon and Lisa Lomas, reached the last sixteen only to lose to the two Hungarians, Wirth and Batorfi. Alan and Alison played very well in the mixed doubles and

had a very good chance to win in the final against Wang and Gatién.

The Swedish team were present with their strongest players. However, they found the going tough. Lindh and Persson were beaten 3-0 by the Belgian team, Saive and Cabrerra, who then went on to beat Poland 3-1 with Saive beating both Grubba and Kucharski. In the singles Saive beat Waldner, Javurek beat Appelgren and in fact had a match point against Persson in the semi-final.

Wang (France) was the star of the women's events, winning three of the four gold medals and in fact having a match point in the women's doubles final.



Skylet Andrew forced to withdraw with suspected fractured thumb.

## ENGLISH RESULTS

### Women's team event

v Germany — Won 3 - 0  
Gordon v Ludewigs 10,11  
Lomas v Praedel 14,-10,19  
Gordon/Lomas v Ludewigs/  
Praedel 12,14

v Yugoslavia Won 3 - 0  
Gordon v Schirokonja -19,18,21  
Lomas v Harca 8,19  
Gordon/Lomas v Schirokonja/  
Harca 13,-15,8

Semi-Final v Czechoslovakia  
Lost 0 - 3  
Lomas v Kocova -16,-20  
Gordon v Kasalova 15,-20,-20  
Lomas/Gordon v Kocova/  
Kasalova -17,-19

### Women's singles

First Round:  
Lomas v Moretti 14,9,17  
2nd Round:  
Lomas v Schikoronja 12,15,19  
Gordon v Ciozsu -17,13,-24,6,15  
3rd Round:  
Lomas v Batorfi -14,-11,-14  
Gordon v Wirth -13,-21,-15

### Men's singles

1st Round:  
Cooke v Fraczyk 14,17,10  
2nd Round:  
Cooke v Nemeth 17,-18,15,-14,20  
3rd Round:  
Cooke v Saive 18,-7,-15,-9

### Women's doubles

2nd Round:  
Lomas/Gordon v Toelhoj/  
Bastman 19,12

### 3rd Round:

Lomas/Gordon v Urban/Meyer  
-18,-19

### Mixed doubles

2nd Round:  
Cooke/Gordon v Szafranek/  
Januszzyk 17,11  
3rd Round:  
Cooke/Gordon v Nemeth/Wirth  
19,19  
4th Round:  
Cooke/Gordon v  
Korbel/Kressova 17,-9,17  
Semi-final:  
Cooke/Gordon v Marmurek/  
Coubat -14,14,18

## FINAL RESULTS

### Team Events:

**Men:**  
Belgium beat Poland 3 - 1  
**Women:**  
France beat Czechoslovakia 3 - 1

### Men's singles:

Persson (SWE) beat Grubba  
(POL) 14,-14,16,21

### Women's singles:

Wang Xiao (FRA) beat Wirth  
(HUN) 10,13,19

### Women's doubles:

Badescu/Bogoslav (ROM) beat  
Gergeltcheva (BUL)/Wang Xiao  
(FRA) 15,-19,24

### Men's doubles:

Grubba(POL)/Gatién(FRA) beat  
Waldner/Appelgren(SWE)  
-20,17,22

### Mixed doubles:

Gatién/Wang Xiao (FRA) beat  
Cooke/Gordon (ENG) -16,15,8

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## Defeat in Sheffield

by JOHN PREAN

"A WEEK is a long time in Politics" said Mr. Wilson. In Sheffield on October 26th we could only agree that it was also a long time in Table Tennis.

Our team had opened the season in tantalisingly good style, defeating Sweden 5-2; surely even title hopes were not out of order? In a little over a week that scenario looked sick and relegation looked more likely! We lost 4-3 to Poland, arguably our most awkward opponents, especially away from home, and then by the same score at home to Holland. Over 600 had packed into Sheffield's Concord Centre for our first European Super League Match in four years. It had taken a long time to get out of the lower section.

### Haldan, transformed by glue...

The match began so well. Alan Cooke at last opened his singles account with a convincing win against last season's European Junior Top 12 winner, Danny Heister. Carl Preat kept up his good Superleague form against the Dutch No. 1 Paul Haldan, a player transformed by 'glue'. He was once rather soft, though with beautiful sweeping strokes, like a "survivor from a bygone age" as I once commented on him. With glue, his strokes have infinitely more power and he hits quite hard. Preat played him extremely well with only minor aberrations in the second game which he lost. England led 2-0 and everything was going well.

### The Dutch level...

From then on most things began to go wrong. Lisa Lomas lost to Miriam Kloppenberg, demonstrating again that the basis of defence must be absolute mastery of the bread and butter game, and Lisa, to be frank, made too many errors which her opponent had not forced on her. 9-9 in the second game offered some hope, but these were quickly dashed at 12-21 and Lisa's hits were also going astray in an unhappy finale.

Cooke and Preat played what was probably their worst doubles in a long partnership and the score of -11, and -9 tells the story. They were no match on the day for Haldan and the gangling left handed giant Gerard Bakker (6'5" and still growing!). The match was level. 2-2!

Preat and Alison Gordon had won both their Mixed Doubles in this season's European campaign. So their defeat (-17 and -18) came as



Carl Preat - his two wins in vain

a nasty surprise. They did not enjoy the best of luck, but I have also seen them play better. Again the Dutch giant dominated with his long reach and left hand — an enormous advantage in doubles. The Dutch girl played extremely well. The match was beginning to go horribly wrong after its promising start.

### No repeat of triumph in Norwich...

3-2 down, we still lived in hopes. Surely Cooke could and would repeat his triumph against Haldan in Norwich two years earlier. Here, too, we lost the match, but it was Cooke who had won two (and Douglas who had lost two!). However, it was not to be, as Haldan swept to victory by 16 and 14. From a good start (7-2), Cooke went 7-11 down and he never saw daylight again that evening. Haldan, to be fair, again played well, especially the set pieces, looping the loop and backhand to backhand.

4-2 down, the match was lost. Preat, with only pride to play for, defeated Heister in straight games to make the scoreline look better. It was good to see how many spectators remained in their seats to watch this dead rubber.

### The margin between victory and defeat remains very fine...

Where do we go from here? England must win two of the remaining four to be safe from relegation. Only one more win would almost certainly send us down into the lower divisions. There the mixture

of high travel costs and low gates provides a dismal prospect. I remain confident that, with reasonable luck and preparation, we can avoid the big drop and give our supporters some good evenings. I think we must now devote all the resources we can to that task. It has to be the absolute priority. Everything else will be a bonus and a pleasant surprise.

I am sure Cooke will regain his form. My confidence in him is undiminished. I have seen him play brilliantly in two successive Chinese Tours. The doubles are a problem. In this competition if you lose the two doubles, you have to win the remaining singles 4-1, which is a mountain in this company. It is essential that we win at least one doubles. It is unfortunately not an exaggeration that the 'Mixed' are a neglected art in this country. Our last good pair were Des Douglas and Linda Howard. It is now a matter of survival to produce better doubles play. The alternative is only

agony, if you want to play in the European League.

I do not overlook that one more win each night would have given us the section leadership with full points. England on top of the Superleague — that would have been really something! Neither do I overlook how near we came to that lofty spot. It is therefore not a time for exaggerated hopes or despair, but one to contemplate both the downside potential as well as upside which is colossal.

### RESULTS

Cooke - Heister 17, 15  
 Preat - Haldan 15, -18, 12  
 Lomas - Kloppenberg -14, -12  
 Cook/Preat - Haldan/Bakker - 11, -9  
 Preat/Gordon - Bakker/Kloppenberg -17, -18.  
 Cooke - Haldan -16, -14  
 Preat - Heister 12, 19  
 ENGLAND 3 HOLLAND 4

### LENTEC Computer Ranking Scheme Amended Weightings for Veterans Events

1. English National Championships	x5
2. National Veterans Society Championships	x4
3. Regional Veterans Tournaments	x3
4. 3 Star Open tournaments	x3
All County Matches	x2
5. 2 Star Open tournaments	x1

#### BONUS POINTS

These will be allocated as follows:

Event No. as above	1	2	3/4	5
Winner	200	150	100	10
Runner Up	100	75	50	
Losing Semi Finalist	50	25	25	
Losing quarter finalist	25	10	10	

## Swedish Cadet Tour

# First ever Cadet Tour

THE English and Swedish cadet teams met at Luton on Friday, 20th October for a two day training camp. The English team selected was Alex Perry, Edward Hatley, Chris Sladden, Darren Blake, Nicola Deaton, Sally Marling (withdrew due to injury), Clare Pengelly and Michelle Martin. The Swedish team consisted of their top three Cadet boys and girls of which No.1 boy, Fredrik Hakansson competed in last year's European Youth Championships.

From Luton it was on to Croydon to compete in the South of England Junior 2 Star event. The only player to reach the latter stages of the singles was Nicola Deaton, losing in the semi-final to Alison Gower in an excellently fought match. In the doubles, the pairing of Simon Angel and Mattias Steinberg (Sweden) reached the final before falling to Alan Cole and Paul Carter. In the girls' doubles final the Swedish pair of Sofia Johansson and Caroline Dietham beat Nicola Deaton and Michelle Martin.

The finals finished at 8.30pm and that night we travelled to Norwich for the first match of the tour. We arrived at 12.30 all quite exhausted and welcomed the sight of a bed. Norwich Sports Village was the venue for this match. It was scheduled for a 4pm start and a practise session from 1pm. The format of the matches for both boys and girls was three versus three, all play all, played on two tables.

The boys did not have a very good start, losing convincingly 9 - 0 whereas the girls won a close fought match 5 - 4.

The next day we were up bright and early and on the road to Grove School, Market Drayton, where we hoped to improve our results. We arrived at 2pm and with the match scheduled to start at 6pm it gave us plenty of time to rest and prepare ourselves for the second match. We had plenty of support as there was a National Training Camp here.

This time the boys' mental attitude was better and they went on the table actually believing they could win, whereas at Norwich there was the feeling that they accepted that the Swedes were too good.

The results were much improved with some extremely good games in both the boys and the girls matches. We lost the boys match 3-6 but our girls won 7-2.



by JACKIE BELLINGER

This put the girls 2 - 0 up and the boys 2 - 0 down in the series.

From there we travelled the next morning to Peniel Academy, Brentwood. Fortunately the M1 and M25 were kind to us and we did not experience any of the common motorway jams, arriving as scheduled at 1pm in time for lunch.

Unfortunately this time the boys were unable to perform quite as well as at the Grove, losing 7 - 2, and the girls won a very closely fought contest, with Nicola Deaton taking us to victory at 4 - 4.

This tour, which was the first hopefully of many, was extremely successful and valuable to our players. We travelled a lot of miles

and it tested each player's mental and physical ability. It was noticeable how the Swedish boys fought for every point, no matter what the score, whereas our players had lapses of concentration and sometimes lost the belief that they could win.

Chris Sladden and Darren Blake both played well on their England debut and Darren scored two good wins over Mattias Steinberg. Alex Perry played well at Grove; however, his form at the other matches was inconsistent. Ed Hatley, after an unsure start at Norwich, played well at Grove and Brentwood, beating Mattias Steinberg and Simon Angel. The boys would have learned a great deal from these matches against a very good Swedish team.

In the girls matches, Clare Pengelly had a tremendous tour, only losing one match. The Swedes had immense problems reading the pimples but it was her ability to pick off any weak balls with a forehand smash that won her the matches. Nicola Deaton won 6 from 9, a good performance. At times Nicola found it hard to mentally psyche herself up. However, in the important matches, i.e. 4 - 4 at Norwich and 4 - 4 at Brentwood, she showed her experience and determination to pull off convincing wins with some excellent table tennis. Michelle Martin played much better at Grove and Brentwood after getting over the 'first match nerves'. WELL DONE GIRLS!

I would like to thank the following for helping to make a successful tour:

Bill Todd - Norwich  
Ian Marshall - Grove  
Esther Coleman - Peniel  
Don Beesley - South of England  
Mike Pantin - For driving the minibus miles!

*The English and Swedish Cadet Squads (photo courtesy of Mike Fleet)*





# British League

Promoted by the English Table Tennis Association



## Whitewash Weekend

by MIKE LOVEDER

FOUR 8-0 results were recorded in the Premier in mid October. Grove beat Ellenborough with Chris Oldfield twice extended to 3 games and Graham Sandley stretched Bradley Billington to 17 in the third. Tony Stark did well to take 19 points from Des Douglas in their first game.

Ormesby were more comfortable against Butterfly Cardiff with just two games going to three and no-one winning more than 12 points a game against Chen Xinhua. Dulwich Rams were without Phil Bradbury against Bathwick Tyres and Alex Facey stood in to take Chris Rogers to 21-23 in the third of the last game. Des Charlery did well to take the first game from Matthew Syed but he eventually lost 19, -13, -11. Kettler Sport completed the whitewash weekend over Armada 400 in a match which was closer than the score suggests. Paul Whiting lost to John Hilton at 19 in the third and Gary Lambert was perhaps a little unlucky to lose to Craig Bakewell 20, -18, -24. Adrian Moore was in brilliant form, never conceding more than 11 points against Paul Whiting or Mike Short.

### In for a penny...

Further south TSP Larkhall again lost 3-5, this time to Ashford. Dave Harding opened with a win over Max Crimmins but later lost 4 & 10 to Kenny Jackson. Joey Kennedy beat Mike Hammond but lost to John Payne. Neil Charles finished off with a win over Brian Garroway. Steve Ward won two for Colley Toyota as they lost 3-5 to Chelmsford OC's. Tony Penny came in at No.4 to beat John Bult and Mike Owens with two deuce games.

Five games went to three as Horsham Dolphins and Britannia AC shared the points. Andy Cunningham stood out for Dolphins with wins over John Kitchener and Russell King. Surprise of the match was two losses by Andy Dodd, with the second of these being a 17, -16, -20 to Ritchie Nelhams. Team Peniel knocked Rejects off the top of the

Cambridge recorded their first win of the season at the expense of Oldham in Division 2 North.



Chris Oldfield

table with a fairly convincing 6-2 scoreline. Lisa Lomas was outstanding and John Holland had relatively little trouble winning his two. Richard Darnell lost to Scott Greenbrook 17, -18, -19 and beat Mike O'Leary 24, -14, 20. Gary Spencer beat Ian Attridge for some consolation.

By mid October Grove III had a narrow lead at the top of Division 2 Midland with three teams just one point behind. Grove beat Launceston 6-2 with Steve Slater just edging out Neil Bevan. RM Leicester recorded their third draw and gave hope to VPM Mazda for whom Tony Healan was on form. George Evans took two too. Bath scraped a win over Birmingham with Eddie Kasser winning two in three and Diccon Gray punished Lester Bertie to finish with a flurry. The Saracens' progress was set back by Burslem who scraped a win largely courtesy of two good wins from Mark Evans.

Martyn Livermore took a vital two for the first time to help tip the balance. Norwich Foxwood beat Chan Construction by a very comfortable 7-1. The result between Vymura & Liverpool was a 6-2 home win with Andrea Holt 'man' of the match!

### Pilgrims progress

Well Connected Menswear were clobbered by Grove II in Division 1 North with John Burleton losing to both Alison Gordon and Jonathan Taylor at deuce in the third. Adrian Pilgrim made little impact on an in-form Malcolm Green, but he recovered to beat Stuart Richards at 18 in the third for WCM's sole win. Chan Construction upset the form book by beating St Neots by the same margin. Stuart Palmer recorded the latter's only win against Ian Gunn. Richard Jermyn beat Palmer and

Steve Moore in the same match. Bayer Bradford chalked up a long-awaited win against Ruston Marconi Lincoln. Stuart Worrell beat Malcolm Darroch at 20 in the third and later Dave Skerratt beat Mark Stephenson at 19 in the third to put Lincoln 3-1 ahead. Dave Gannon reversed the trend as Bradford rattled off the next 3 games to lead 4-3, this left Jason Bamford to beat Dave Skerratt which he did 14 & 19. West Warwickshire beat City of Leeds 5-3 with two useful wins from Adrian Dixon. Kevin Beadsley beat Andy Rich and Phil Gunn to provide the most resistance.

### Tonbridge victory

In Division 2 South Victory Sports Tonbridge inflicted a surprise 6-2 win over Ellenborough with three games won closely in the third — two by Neil Harris and a useful win by Mark Brown over Dipak Topiwala. Fellows Cranleigh crunched TSP Larkhall II 7-1 with two comfortable wins from Ian Denton who is still little known in the south. Concord Flash scraped a 5-3 win over Horsham Dolphins with James Oyekunle playing well to beat Paul Barry and Andy Walker in straight games. Rejects II won a closely contested match against Jolliffe Poole. Jerome Jonah beat Tony Clayton narrowly but lost to John Robinson by the rather odd scores of -3, 6, -16!

Led by Keith Rodger, Seat Peterborough opened a lead in Division 3 East by thrashing Levi Westfield in 2¼ hours. Peter Bowler led Milton Keynes to a 5-3 victory over Brentwood although Lisa Hayden beat Mark Beaumont. Crusaders Lincoln held Fellows Cranleigh to a draw largely thanks to Ashley Hodgson. Mark Wicker lost his opening game to Paul Moore 21-19, 14-21, 30-32. Team Peniel left Britannia AC at the bottom with a 5-3 win which could have easily been a draw.

Humberside Andro flexed their muscles in Division 3 North against Telford's Tigers. Although an 8-0 the last two games were won at 19 in the third by the two Lees — Hewitt & Robinson. Vymura raced to an easy 8-0 over the Blaydon Racers with Fred Short just managing one end from Paul Collins. Steve Cooper carried Ormesby to a 5-3



Schildkröt distributed by Butterfly





# British League

Promoted by the English Table Tennis Association



win against Bribar Blaydon, beating Ian Collier and Dave Godbold. John Crawford's hard-fought two for SEE SW Durham was insufficient to prevent a 3-5 defeat at the hands of Concorde Huddersfield. Steve Brailsford took two for the latter.

## Rams 'buried'

Gunnersbury Triangle shocked Division 3 South with an emphatic 7-1 win over Dulwich Rams II. Clive Carthy beat David Goode to prevent a whitewash. Fareham beat Rejects III by the same score as the latter continue to struggle to get their act together. However despite the absence of any great victories, 12 year-old Darren Blake gained the Man of the Match nomination with his "unruffled and cool tem-

perament". In this match Selwyn Walmsley beat Graham Toole in the second game. Harlesden lost 1-7 to Marley Ashford with Sam Lewis beating Brian Mileham in the opening game for the one. Pillinger Air Croydon beat a not-so-strong Lambeth 4 Tops again by the same score and here Farhat Rasul did the honours against Martin Lowe but he was unable to contain Phil Cox.

Finally to Division 3 West where Gregory Bridgett helped Bude Surfers to a draw with Grove IV for their first point. Colley Toyota scraped a 5-3 win over Kingfisher Reading where Andrew Penduck's 15, -17, 24 win over Tony Duffield and a comfortable win over Paul Savins seemed significant. Thorns suffered a 2-6 setback by Bath III despite a maximum from Eric

Hardman. AHW Comets stayed at the top with a 7-1 over Leckie although five games went to three. Adrian Thorpe beat Keith Samuels for bottom-placed Leckie's consolation and Phil Aspinall just beat Adrian Thorpe -22, 21, 17.

## Stop Press

Highlights from the end of October fixtures include — Ormesby I's games average further reduced with their 5-3 win over Ellenborough I. With the one exception of their match with Armada, Butterfly Cardiff continue to lose every match 0-8, this time to a Bradburyless Dulwich Rams. In the first divisions Rejects plunge into 4th place with a further defeat as Horsham Dolphins start to move

away from the bottom. Team Peniel who seem strengthened by the regular inclusion of Lisa Lomas, move up to challenge the leaders Ashford. Britannia continue to struggle. Grove II go to the top as Well Connected Menswear beat St Neots. Further down the League Burslem beat Bath II, Concord Flash crunch Ellenborough II and th latter tumble into 5th place. The clash of the 'new' towns saw Seat Peterborough beat City of Milton Keynes 6-2. Ormesby III drew with Huddersfield. Lambeth 4 Tops dive down to 6th place with a bad run and Fareham move up to challenge Dulwich Rams. Colley Toyota II inflict the first loss on the AHW Comets and go top of Division 3 West as a result.

## RESULTS

## LEAGUE TABLES AS AT 1ST NOVEMBER

Due to lack of space Division 1 & 2 Tables not included as they appeared in the November Issue.

### PREMIER DIVISION -

Cardiff	0	8	Ormesby
Bath	8	0	Dulwich
Armada	0	8	Kettler
Grove	8	0	Ellenbro
Dulwich	8	0	Cardiff
Grove	8	0	Armada
Kettler	0	8	Bath
Ellenbro	3	5	Ormesby

### DIV 1 SOUTH

Horsham	4	4	Britannia
Peniel	6	2	Rejects
Ashford	5	3	Larkhall
Colley T	3	5	Chelmsford
Rejects	3	5	Horsham
Colley T	3	5	Ashford
Larkhall	2	6	Peniel
Britannia	3	5	Chelmsford

### DIV 1 NORTH

Leeds	3	5	Warwicks
Chan Con	7	1	St Neots
Lincoln	3	5	Bradford
Grove	7	1	WCM'wear
St Neots	7	1	Leeds
Grove	7	1	Lincoln
Bradford	5	3	Chan Con
WCM'wear	5	3	St Neots

### DIV 2 NORTH

Vymura	6	2	Liverpool
Cambridge	6	2	Oldham
Norwich	7	1	Chan Con
Norwich	7	1	Cambridge
Oldham	1	7	Vymura
Chan Con			Ormesby

### DIV 2 MIDLAND

Launceston	2	6	Grove
Birmingham	3	5	Bath
Cheltenham	3	5	Burslem
VPM Mazda	4	4	Leicester
Birmingham	5	3	Launceston
VPM Mazda	4	4	Cheltenham
Burslem	5	3	Bath
Leicester			Grove

### DIV 2 SOUTH

Horsham	3	5	Concord
J Poole	3	5	Rejects
Cranleigh	7	1	Larkhall
Tonbridge	6	2	Ellenbro
Rejects	6	2	Horsham
Tonbridge	3	5	Cranleigh
Larkhall			J Poole
Ellenbro	2	6	Concord

### DIV 3 NORTH

Bribar	3	5	Ormesby
Vymura	8	0	Blaydon
Humberside	8	0	Tigers
Durham	3	5	Huddersfield
Blaydon	3	5	Bribar
Durham	1	7	Humberside
Tigers	2	6	Vymura
Huddersfield	4	4	Ormesby

### DIV 3 EAST

CM Keynes	5	3	Brentwood
Westfield	0	8	Peterbro
Cranleigh	4	4	Lincoln
Britannia	2	6	Peniel
Peterbro	6	2	CM Keynes
Britannia	2	6	Cranleigh
Lincoln	6	2	Westfield
Peniel	1	7	Brentwood

### DIV 3 SOUTH

Triangle	7	1	Dulwich
Fareham	7	1	Rejects
Pillinger	7	1	Lambeth
Harlesden	1	7	Marley
Rejects	3	5	Triangle
Harlesden			Pillinger
Lambeth	2	6	Fareham
Dulwich	5	3	Marley

### DIV 3 WEST

Bude	4	4	Grove
Thorns	2	6	Bath
Comets	7	1	Leckie
Colley T	5	3	Reading
Thorns	5	3	Bude
Colley T	6	2	Comets
Leckie	3	5	Bath
Reading	4	4	Grove

### Premier

	P	W	D	L	For	Agt	Pts
Grove I	6	6	0	0	45	3	12
Bathwick I	6	5	0	1	42	6	10
Ormesby I	6	5	0	1	35	13	10
Dulwich Rams	6	4	0	2	26	22	8
Kettler Sport	6	2	0	4	17	31	4
Ellenborough	6	1	0	5	18	30	2
B'fly Cardiff	6	1	0	5	6	42	2
Armada 400	6	0	0	6	3	45	0

### Division 3 East:

Peterborough	6	6	0	0	39	9	12
Brentwood	6	4	0	2	30	18	8
C M Keynes	6	3	1	2	24	24	7
Team Peniel	6	3	0	3	23	25	6
F Cranleigh	6	2	1	3	24	24	5
L Westfield	6	2	1	3	18	30	5
Crus Lincoln	6	1	2	3	20	28	4
Britannia AC	6	0	1	5	14	34	1

### Division 3 North:

Humberside A	5	5	0	0	36	4	10
Ormesby III	6	3	2	1	27	21	8
Huddersfield	5	2	2	1	22	18	8
Vymura Int.	6	3	1	2	26	22	7
BB Blaydon	5	3	0	2	22	18	6
SEE SW Durham	5	1	1	3	13	27	3
Blaydon YCR	6	1	0	5	15	33	2
Telford Tig	6	0	2	4	15	33	2

### Division 3 South:

Dulwich Rams	6	5	0	1	31	17	10
AG Fareham	6	4	1	1	30	18	9
PA Croydon	5	3	1	1	26	14	7
Gunnersbury	6	3	0	3	27	21	6
M Ashford	6	3	0	3	24	24	6
Lambeth 4T	6	3	0	3	22	26	6
Harlesden	5	1	0	4	11	29	2
Rejects III	6	0	0	6	13	35	0

### Division 3 West:

Colley Toyota	6	4	2	0	32	16	10
AHW Comets	6	4	1	1	31	17	9
Grove IV	6	2	4	0	29	19	8
Bath III	6	4	0	2	26	22	8
K Reading	6	3	1	2	26	22	7
Thorns	6	2	1	3	19	29	5
Bude Surfers	6	0	1	5	17	31	1
Leckie	6	0	0	6	12	36	0

## New Chairman for ESTTA

by DAVID LOMAS

THE COUNTY qualifying competitions to determine winners to go forward to the Area Finals of the Dunlop National School Team Championships are well under way.

Details of the winning school teams — eight events for boys and girls, ranging from Under-11 to Under-19 — must be in the hands of the Competition Secretary by no later than December 10th.

The Area Finals take place on Saturday/Sunday, January 20/21, 1990, with the winning 4-a-side teams going through to the Regional Finals on Sunday, February 18th and thence to the National Finals at Lea Green, Matlock, Derbyshire on Saturday, March 17th.

For more information re the Dunlop National School Team Championships, please contact Geoff Gardiner, 36 Froom Street, Chorley, Lancs PR6 OAN (02572 64873).

Unfortunately, some gremlins crept into the ESTTA columns in the October issue. The newly-elected Chairman of the Association is John Blackband. John is Head of House and teaches mathematics at Hill Top High School, West Bromwich — an 11-16 Comprehensive school.

John is fully involved in all levels and spheres of table tennis. He is Chairman of the West Midlands Schools' TTA, National Councillor

for Staffordshire and a member of the ETTA's Membership Committee. He also holds a number of appointments locally and is a qualified County Umpire and ETTA League Coach. He first became involved with the ESTTA Executive Council in 1972.

The ESTTA are again organising a Coaching Course during the Easter holidays. It takes place at Lea Green, Matlock, from April 17th to April 20th., 1990. There are 40 places for pupils at schools affiliated to the ESTTA and concentrating on the 11-15 age group. Pupils should be below Centre of Excellence standard. The cost is £65. For application forms and more information, please contact Bob Wood at 4 Maurice Grove, Blackpool, Lancs FY2 0QH, or telephone him on 0253 57163.

The 16th annual Schools International Championships will be hosted by the Isle of Man Schools' Table Tennis Association. The Championships will be promoted jointly by them and the ESTTA. The Leeds Permanent Building Society will be the major sponsors. The venue is Ballakermeen High



John Blackband — new Chairman of E.S.T.T.A.

School, Douglas. The dates are Friday/Saturday/Sunday, July 6/7/8, 1990. The ESTTA have accepted an invitation to take part.

Neil Dorney, from Tyne & Wear, has been co-opted on to the ESTTA Executive Council. Ann Durnall (Wolverhampton) and Phil Burwell (Sutton Coldfield) have retired from the Council: we owe these two Midlanders our thanks for their considerable efforts over many years.

ESTTA Honorary General Secretary, Chuck Henry, is back at

school after a spell in hospital, and we are delighted that he is in good shape. Please don't confuse the inimitable Chuck with the "phantom" Mr. L.C. Berry in last month's edition. Details re the ESTTA (including copies of the handbook at £1.20, including postage) can, in fact, be obtained from Mr. L.C. Henry, "Engelberg", Badger Lane, Woolley Moor, Derby DE5 6FG.

## Dockland's Darren has a setback

by LAURIE LAKEN

ISLE OF Dogs Cadet Darren Mockus broke his leg on a skiing holiday in France earlier in the year, and has spent three long months plastered! On one occasion however, he discarded his crutches and was seen hopping around at the end of a table at the George Green Sports Centre trying at least to keep his eye in. His worried coach jokingly comments that 'Darren's footwork was bad enough without this set back'. He believes however that Darren has the insight to see that it will take a lot of hard training and determination to get back to the form that gained him the Teesport award for the 'most promising newcomer' in 1988.

Courageously, Darren entered the Junior Event in the City of London 2 Star Tournament at the beginning of the season. He will need to summon both physical and mental strength to cope with what will be a real testing time in his Table Tennis career. George Green's Team Manager John Hall has registered Darren for his second season with the Silvertown and District League, indicating a confidence in the youngster's resilience to bounce back to his former standard. Good luck Darren, we look forward to seeing you about on the circuit.

THE NEW LONDON ARENA on the Isle of Dogs which has the capacity to seat some 12,000 spectators, staged a SUPASPORTS '89 event which presented young people with the unique opportunity to practice and train on eight tables, five days a week throughout the whole of August under the supervision of ETTA Club Coach Peter Apothekar, who organised the Dunlop Skills Award Scheme. If this becomes a regular feature of the London ARENA Table Tennis should experience a major boost in the London Area.



# Leeds to terminate Contract

## The Leeds not to renew Table Tennis Contract

THE SPONSORSHIP deal between the Leeds Permanent Building Society and the English Table Tennis Association is not to be renewed at the end of the current three-year contract.

"The move is being made for sound business reasons", says Leeds's head of corporate communications Norman Thompson. "When we embarked on the sponsorship it met all the objectives we were looking for at that time. But the Leeds is now a vastly different organisation — and we are operating in a totally different marketplace".

The support given to table tennis through the Leeds sponsorship has enabled the sport to climb back to a position of strength.

"We are pleased to have been part of the dramatic growth of interest in table tennis at all levels in recent years", comments Thompson. "The Leeds was able to help with grassroots development, and we have seen the sport flourish in terms of both public and media interest".

ETTA Chairman, John Prean, said "the Leeds proved a splendid partner. We are deeply grateful to them. They share the credit for the great advance of the sport in the last 2 years".

"Our objectives too, have changed, and we part the best of friends. English table tennis is poised for another quantum leap. We shall make an important announcement in the next few weeks".

The sponsorship has run from 1st September 1987, covering all aspects of the game from junior events to major international competitions. During this time the England team has been promoted back to the prestigious European Super Division.

Leeds Permanent will continue its sponsorship programme as scheduled throughout the 1989-90 season.

John Prean comments on this decision on page 2.

### ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION Application for Entry Forms

Please tick the appropriate boxes for each entry form required. Please return form with stamped, addressed envelope (one for each entry form required) to:

English Table Tennis Association  
Queensbury House  
Havelock Road,  
HASTINGS  
East Sussex TN34 1HF

the Leeds English Open  
4-7/1/90

the Leeds  
Youth Cup Regional Finals  
14/2/90 (State which region)

The Fourth  
National Under 11 Championships  
29/4/90 (MANSFIELD)

the Leeds National Championships  
5-6/5/90 (Venue to be advised)

the Leeds English Junior Open  
2-3/6/90 (BRIDLINGTON)

TICK BOX	NUMBER REQUIRED
<input type="checkbox"/>	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

## The Complete Player

by MIKE LOVEDER

FROM TIME to time it is interesting to browse through back-copies of Table Tennis News. Thumbing my way through the November 1985 issue I came across an interesting article by Albert Shipley reporting from the 555 World Cup in Foshan, South China.

A number of our players today seem to be a little embarrassed at the lack of impact they make on a game when they are playing against Chen Xinhua. Since coming to England and playing for Ormesby in the Leeds British League he has demolished most of our top players. However, a little background investigation, for the benefit of those not too well up on recent history, will reveal that this is no disgrace.

In the 1985 World Cup Chen Xinhua cruised through Group C and then in the first stage beat Sweden's Waldner -18, 16, 13, -21, 19. From then on he got better (!) beating the then World No. 2 Chen Longcan 15, 16, 17. In the final he beat Andrzej Grubba, No. 6 in the world at that time, by the scores of 16, 15, 11.



A question I have recently heard is "When will he become eligible to play for England?"! One could perhaps reasonably expect him to be bored to death playing here in 1989 as we have only two players who seem likely to trouble him at present — Des Douglas and Carl Prean. Nevertheless if we can keep him interested until he becomes eligible for England we would have an almost invincible team in theory. After all if oriental players can represent other European countries then why shouldn't one represent ours?

### Expensive losses?

ALAN COOKE seems to be going "off the boil" so far this season and he may well struggle to retain his No 1 England ranking. In contrast Carl Prean seems to be rapidly moving towards the top spot with a series of useful (and some 'unexpected')

wins on the European circuit. Carl has excelled for England in the Super Division of the European League with exceptional wins against Sweden, Poland and Holland. Unfortunately Alan could not manage the "expected" win against Paul Haldan of Holland and this could prove to be an expensive loss.

In Austria Carl Prean increased his chances of taking the No 1 England slot while Alan Cooke was losing to Nicky Mason in the Leeds British League. Carl reached the semi-finals of the Austrian Open losing to the eventual winner Dmitrij Mazunov who currently looks more promising than his brother Andrei. Carl beat the European No.11, Yugoslavia's Zoran Primorac, "Austria's" Ding Yi — the European No 10, and (again) beat Leszek Kucharski, the European No 6 from Poland. In a word: "Brilliant!" — well played Carl.

There is always a lot of pressure on the England No 1 and Alan Cooke has my sympathy as he has to try to live up to countless expectations. But perhaps the pressure could be temporarily relieved...



## More matches played on Group Basis

by DOUG MOSS

WE HAVE now had the second round of matches and, due to the initiative of Match Secretaries, have seen more being played on a group basis. This time 8 matches were played at Ellenborough Club, 6 at Bath Sports Centre and 5 at Plymouth League H.Q. I am sure these arrangements were appreciated by players. Please note that comments on the Championships are available on the British Telecom Table Tennis Information Line (0898 884418), as advertised in this Magazine.

### SENIOR 1A:

Cambs	5	5	N'berland
Yorks	9	1	Warwicks
Lincs	4	6	Worcs
Suffolk	6	4	Lancs 2

Cambs were 4-2 up against N'berland. At this stage Helen Gipp (Ca) narrowly lost to Mary Allan 21,-13,-21 and then Keith Richardson suffered a similar fate losing to Ian Robertson -18, 20, -19! Finally Cambs had to settle for a draw. Yorks team included Michael O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield and won the first 9 events. Phil Gunn got the one event for Warwicks with a win over Mick Stead.

### SENIOR 1B:

Cornwall	4	6	Avon
Hants	5	5	Essex 2
Avon	5	5	Sussex
Kent	6	4	Cornwall
Devon 2	4	6	Middx 2
Sussex	8	2	Kent
Essex 2	4	6	Devon 2
Middx 2	8	2	Hants

Cyril Whiting (Dv) was instrumental in matches being played at 3 different venues during the season. Lewis Mitchell, Middx 2nd team captain, arranged the first series at Ellenborough Club. Bringing the 8 teams together brought about a tremendous atmosphere and there were first rate matches. Of the 8 played 2 were drawn and 4 decided at 6-4.

There was a hard fought match between Hants and Essex 2nd — 2 of the promoted teams. Essex came back from 3-5 down to get a draw. Avon v Sussex was another exciting match. From 2-4 down Avon took the next 3 events, including a win by Michelle Cohen over Teresa Moore 18, -24, 22! Ritchie Venner (Sx) then beat Diccon Gray to earn a draw. It was a surprise to see Kent, runners-up last season, lose to Sussex by an 8-2 margin. Cornwall, on promotion, fought well but lost both matches 4-6, although Jeremy Williams won his 2 singles events against Avon. Essex 2nd lost 4-6 to Devon 2nd but in this match Kate Gower had a great win over Sue Butler (Dv), who was unbeaten last season, 19, -10, 21!

Middx 2nd was the only team to win both matches, and Tom Cutler (Mi) was the only man to win all 4 singles, one of these over Gary Lambert (Dv) -21, 17, 20!

### SENIOR 2A:

Cheshire	10	0	Leics 2
Notts	9	1	Cumbria

Cheshire got off to a great start in their first match of the season. Notts overwhelmed Cumbria with Julie McLean getting their only success.

### SENIOR 2B:

Avon 2	2	8	Dorset
Glos	6	4	Wilts
Dorset	5	5	Glos
Worcs 2	4	6	Somerset
Avon 2	1	9	Glos
Avon 2	4	6	Wilts
Wilts	6	4	Dorset

Six matches were played at Bath Sports Centre. No team got full points. Interesting that Glos beat Wilts 6-4, Glos drew with Dorset and Wilts beat Dorset 6-4. Graham Slack (Gs) was influential in the defeat of Wilts by winning his 3 events — he also won 2 singles in the drawn match with Dorset. Dorset came from 2-4 down against Glos to level the scores and earn a draw. Tony Clayton won both his singles in this match. Kevin Satchell played in 2 matches and won his events convincingly. The Worcs 2/ Somerset clash was a hard fought match. Eric Hardman was introduced to the Worcs 2 team and started with a good win over Lee Sadler and Steve Horton followed up with -13, 15, 22 win over Brian Reeves, the third game decided on expedite. Somerset came back to lead 4-3 when Ken Walton (Wo) beat Lee Sadler -10, 20, 19. Melanie Carey and Ron Weatherby then sealed the match in Somerset's favour.

### SENIOR 2C:

Hunts	1	9	Norfolk
Beds	7	3	Herts

Both Beds and Norfolk were playing their first match of the season and both got resounding wins. The Beds/Herts clash had some close matches — John Taylor (He) beat Peter Bowler at 15 in the

3rd game and in the doubles Taylor/ Keith Samuels beat Peter Bowler/Mike Levene 12, -22, 18. Julie Eames and Lisa Robins made a valuable contribution for Beds in winning their 3 events.

### SENIOR 2D:

Kent 2	5	5	Surrey 2
Sussex 2	5	5	Essex 3
Oxfords	4	6	Berks 2



Kevin Satchell

In Kent/Surrey match the match score was 3-3, then 4-4 when G McCulloch (Sy) won her ladies singles -19, -17, 16. Neil Harris secured a point for Kent in beating Percy Collino -17, 13, 18. There was a similar situation in the Oxford/Berks match but Lisa Crick and Nick Bradfield won their singles to give Berks the win.

### SENIOR 3A:

Staffs	9	1	Cheshire 2
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Staffs had a very clear win in their first match after a break last season. Staffs had a very strong team with players who have featured in much higher Divisions. The one Cheshire win was surprising as Helen Lower and Nicola Meddings won their singles convincingly but lost the doubles to Jill Schofield/Anne Greenhough -19, -15.

### SENIOR 3B:

Devon 3	3	7	Bucks
Herts 2	0	10	Glam
Cornwall 2	2	8	Devon 3
Dorset 2	2	8	Hants 2
Bucks	10	0	Cornwall 2

Five matches were played at Plymouth League HQ. Bucks, who were demoted, have already had a 10-0 win and, with 2 more convincing wins, look to be the strongest team in this Division. With John Burleton and Graeme McKim at Nos. 1 and 2 this looks very much like a team to restore the fortunes of Buckinghamshire.

### JUNIOR 1A:

Durham	6	3	Notts
Lanc's 2	4	6	Essex 2
N'berland	3	7	Yorks 2

Notts fought hard for the events they won against Durham. Gary Pestka (Ng) won at 19 in 3rd, Simon Hooley at 18 in 3rd and Sarah Smith won her singles 20, 18. N'berland met Yorks 2, last season's champions, and put up a good fight. Barry Forster (Nd) lost to Craig Smith 17, -17, -18 and Mark Cavender suffered a similar fate against Martin Vickers.

### JUNIOR 1B:

Berks	7	3	Sussex
Middx	8	2	Avon
Herts	9	2	Cornwall
Oxon	4	6	Surrey

The doubles events were a feature in the Berks/Sussex match. Sussex girls Lian and Natasha Wilson took their doubles 18, -22, 22 and Martin Adams/Nicky Bradfield won the boys doubles 15, -19, 20! Middx continue with convincing wins in a bid to regain Premier Div status.

### JUNIOR 2A:

Clwyd 1	6	4	Derbys 2
Warwicks 2	9	1	Leics
Clwyd 2	4	6	Lancs 3
Ches 1	6	4	Ches 2

Clwyd got a narrow win over Derbys with their girls — Natasha Williams and Susan Lees successful in their 3 events. Andrew Jones won the final event against David Purdy 16, -11, 21 to clinch the win for Clwyd.

# The Leeds County Championships 2

## JUNIOR 2B:

Glos	10	0	Northants 2
Bucks	3	7	Worcs
Wilts	1	9	Berks 2

Glos, with a maximum win, already look favourites to win this Div. Berks 2 also had a convincing win. The closest match was the boys doubles when Kasif Subhan/Martin O'Donovan beat Alex Collar/Stuart Fry -17, 17, 23.

## JUNIOR 2C:

Glam	9	1	Cornwall 2
Hants 2	1	9	Devon 3
Gwent	5	5	Devon 3
Glam	7	3	Dorset
Devon 2	8	2	Gwent
Somerset	7	3	Dorset
Hants	5	5	Somerset
Devon 2	9	1	Cornwall 2

The 8 teams met at Eggbuckland School, Devon. Devon 3 fought very well to get the draw against Gwent. Steven Taylor (Dv) won a singles at 19 in 3rd game and Lisa Merrish won her singles at 22 in 3rd. Even then Devon were 3-5 down but Rachel Sandford and Steven Taylor got the point for Devon with 2 straight games wins.

## JUNIOR 2D:

Surrey 2	4	6	Kent 2
Suffolk 1	6	4	Norfolk 1
Surrey 3	2	8	Kent 2
Essex 3	4	6	Middx 2
Suffolk 1	7	3	Norfolk 2
Sussex 2	4	6	Suffolk 2

Kent 2 got 2 wins on their visit to New Malden. The Suffolk 1/Norfolk 1 match was a close contest and with the score 5-4 Adam Cole beat Andrew Hawes 20 and 23 for Suffolk to get 2 points.

## VETS 1A:

Lincs	8	1	Warwicks
Worcs	6	3	Norfolk
Lancs	7	2	Essex 2
Ches 2	8	1	Yorks 1

Lancs and Essex 2, the 2 promoted teams, met and Lancs made sure of the points winning the first 5 events. The mixed doubles was very close with Norman Thewliss/Mabel Neary beating Derek Wood/Shirley Carroll 16, -11, 22.

## VETS 1B:

Kent 2	5	4	Oxfords
Wilts	5	4	Berks
Middx	9	0	Surrey 2
Glos	8	1	Sussex 2

A hard match between Kent/Oxfords. 7 events went to a decider and 3 concluded at 19 and 22 in the 3rd game. Each player had at least one win and no player was unbeaten. P. Beck (K) won the final event against Arthur Chilvers 9, -17, 16.

## VETS 2A:

Clwyd	3	6	N'berland
Yorks 3	8	1	Ches 3

## VETS 2B:

Essex 3	6	3	Leics
Hunts 1	5	4	Notts

## VETS 2C:

Surrey 3	.....2	7	Bucks 2
Herefords	....1	8	Northants
Wilts 2	.....1	8	Middx 2nd

## VETS 2D:

Dorset	.....5	4	Hants
Somerset	....2	7	Sussex 3

## VETS 3A:

Herts 3	.....6	3	Hunts 2
Herts 4	.....1	8	Berks 3

Herts followed up with another 6-3 win. Keith Hartridge was in good form with 2 singles wins. Hunts made a slow start and were

0-4 down. The situation improved when Sid Burgess/Brian Spitalhouse (Hu) won the doubles. Spitalhouse later beat Brian Gale 25 and 17 and, in the last event, Alan Kirsoe (Hu) beat George Tyler 14, -22, 22!

## VETS 3B:

Hants 2	.....5	4	Dorset 2
---------	--------	---	----------

A close match this with match scores level at 2-2, 3-3, 4-4. Ray Lush convincingly won the final event to give Hants 2 a win in their first match of the season. Ray Lush and R. Cox (Ha) won their 5 events.

## The 'Faro Open' in sunny Portugal

by PAUL GILES

ARMED WITH bats, sunglasses and swimming costumes, Paul Giles, Paul Whiting, Carol Giles and manager Debbie Whiting left Devon for the Faro Open on 19th October 1989 at 8 am. Unfortunately, due to some incorrect information given to us at Heathrow, we missed the connecting flight at Lisbon and eventually arrived at Faro at around 12 midnight.

We were shown the gymnasium on Saturday and it was a far cry from the old tables with sunlight coming through the windows as we had been led to believe. The gymnasium was as good as any 3 Star tournament venue in this country.

We duly arrived at the tournament on Sunday and found that none of the English players had been seeded. Looking at the draw, Paul Whiting had to play Chen Shincau in the last sixteen; surely no relation to another well known Chen, we thought? Unfortunately, this Chen seemed to play the same way as our own and Paul soon found himself up against a very good player, and although determined throughout, he lost by 2 games to O. Paul Giles also fought his way to the last 16, where he met the Portuguese No. 3, Paulo Remandez. In a

closely-fought battle, Remandez, with the help of the whole of the Portuguese crowd, ran out the winner by 2 games to 0.

Carol Giles was now our last hope, and in the quarter finals she met the Portuguese No. 1. This was by far the best women's game of the day and Carol was unlucky to lose at 17 in the third, when victory would almost certainly have brought her the title.

It seems that Portugal appears to be going the same way as a lot of other smaller European countries, with the top three or four men, and one woman, being quite a lot better than the rest.

However, a fantastic time was had by all and the Portuguese people made us all very welcome indeed.



## Visionary Enterprise for London Table Tennis

CAMDEN'S new table tennis centre which is sponsored by the local firm of Sunglass Manufacturers (Linda Farrow) opened recently with its first Cadet team competing against teams representing the Dagenham and Brentwood Leagues.

Linda Farrow's young team (11 to 14 year olds) acquitted itself well with a 6-3 victory over Brentwood and lost a hard fought match by the same margin against a Dagenham side which included top ranked Cadet players.

The new centre is well equipped with eight tables and is situated in the basement of the

new Prudential building at 250 Euston Road.

The aim of the club and its sponsor is to encourage youth participation in this fast growing sport and to provide top class facilities and coaching for the youth of Camden.

Alison Gordon, England's number one woman player, will be attending the club on 26th

## Learner MC's Listen to Albert

by JOHN WOODFORD

AT EUROPEAN League matches in Germany, and occasionally at other places in Europe, journalists have become perplexed by the tendency of MC's to launch a major speech just prior to the teams entering the arena.

Nothing is more offputting for players, all keyed-up than to be kept waiting in a draughty corridor waiting whilst the MC goes on and on about the teams, the officials and the sponsors.

This sort of thing is in Britain, kept until the reception after the match when everyone is normally much more relaxed. Abroad of course, there is normally the one hour time difference — they are one hour ahead — an hour that is precious indeed to journalists anxious not to miss the early editions of the daily newspapers.

Sponsors are of course, very important and they deserve a mention to the crowd, so the answer is that during the match, whilst players are knocking up, there is no reason why the "commercials" cannot be delivered by the MC. This is a policy followed by the ETTA's doyen of MC's Albert Shipley.

You can therefore imagine my concern at Cirencester when MC Peter Cruwys decided to spend ten minutes on his introduction to the match with everyone poised for action and me on a 8 pm. deadline.

Local chief organiser Mike Lewis did not realise that Mr. Cruwys was set to deliver an oration, so once underway, little could be done. It is however, something worth noting for organisers of European League matches.

# The Blunders of Dortmund

by JOHN PREAN

THE WORLD Championships of 1989 were, in many respects, an enormously impressive event. Sadly, one speaks only in relative terms, because the event is now so big as to be unmanageable. The urge to let in all and sundry produces a boy scout rally type of gathering, rather than one based on international excellence. To that problem the ITTF Congress did not, and probably will never address itself. The small nations are now in the majority and, each two years, new ones arrive. All that is required is a small fee, and from then on they are as influential as China and Russia, to name only two of the larger nations. Perhaps more influential, because between them they have more votes. England, which, as President Ogimura likes to remind us, has given the sport of table tennis to the world, is one of many minor powers, our chances in Dortmund ruined by inconsiderate scheduling, and in Luxembourg (European Youth Championships) by some of our players having to share the same bed. One wonders whether China would be given such treatment.

### Disenchantment with the View...

The more one contemplates the international scene, the more disenchantment one feels with the view. However, Dortmund saw a much greater blunder than the various indignities to which we were subjected. The ITTF Congress voted against the old Swaythling Cup format, which had served the sport so well for more than half a century, and had produced so many deathless epics. Instead of playing to 5, men's team matches will be played to 3. If the match goes to the limit, the former produced 9 singles. Now it will produce 4 singles and 1 doubles. It can be over at 3-0 and that can take as little as half an hour of actual play, a little longer in certain situations, such as disputes with umpires (as in the Final in Dortmund).

### Half Hour Finals?

Officials have expressed the view that matches now take too long, and to some extent one can feel some sympathy with this view. We have advanced the idea, for instance, that group matches should only go to 6 singles, a method we have tried out over more than 20 international matches against China, and one that has proven itself on the table. We felt that Finals and Semi-Finals could and should continue to be played in the traditional way. We saw no tragedy in the big events taking, say, 4 hours. On the contrary, we saw this as a good thing. We saw no reason why these could not be scheduled to take place on a Saturday or Sunday and why they could not begin in the afternoon. Snooker, which enjoys television audiences which we, and our German friends can only dream about, stages its World Championship Final over two days. The Final of the French Open tennis will take 4 to 6 hours, if it is a real contest. That is only one match between two players. A Swaythling Cup Match

consists of 9 matches between 3 players per side, in other words rather more variety. A big occasion will produce its own momentum and charm. It should not be sold short by being too short. The paying customer does not want to pay several pounds for half an hour's play.

Flawed as I think the theory of shorter matches is, what was introduced in the end seemed to me the most total nonsense in playing terms as well. I do not see how this can satisfy anyone other than officials anxious not to miss the next dinner or lunch as a result of having to watch some unwelcome table tennis.

### Sorry Rossi...

A great deal has been written, particularly in Germany, about the tactical concepts. It has to be noted, that two players play a doubles match, and thereafter these two are allowed only one singles. It is the third player, unused in doubles, who plays two singles. It follows that Roskopf, who is Germany's best player, and also one half of the world championship winning doubles (with Fetzner) will either have to drop out of the doubles, which in itself is absurd, or that he will only be able to play in the singles. The Germans will then have to find another doubles combination, having to discard the world champions. The Yugoslavs, with Lupulescu and Primorac, have similar problems.

In addition, there is the matter of defensive players, whom, after the Tokyo blunders (which virtually wiped them out), we want to encourage. Someone has discovered that spectators like them. The problem is that, with red/black bats, they have become an almost extinct species. None could be observed among all the Olympic men, but in Dortmund a few surfaced yet again, a credit to the human spirit which tries to overcome impossible odds.

However, if a defender is included in the threesome, then surely he cannot play in the doubles, as a

defender and an attacker are hardly a winning combination. Will the captain risk a defender in two singles? Not very often, one thinks, in view of the risks involved.

### World Team Cup... a long way to go to play doubles...

Then there is the World Team Cup. Though much talked about for years, it was the ETTA which was the catalyst in getting this staged. The ITTF liked the idea so much they decided to stage the event themselves. This they are now doing, but in this new playing order. Since the early stages produce groups of four and since the bottom two in these groups will be eliminated, it may well happen that players will play in only three doubles after travelling half way round the world. It has to be noted also that **THEIR** prize money will not equal the cost of air fares. Similarly, there will be time differences, jet lag and acclimatisation problems which will take the Europeans out of commission for quite a long time. The event is, needless to say, being staged in Japan. Europe seems to have lost the big events in addition to losing all the votes. The two are connected.

I can only eye with bitterness what has been done to the World Cup project after we handed our plans to the ITTF Executive Committee.

### Wasted days, dramatic consequences

The old category system was an earlier casualty. In effect, this divided the nations into three divisions based on ability. No one has thought it unfair, that Doncaster Rovers can only play Manchester United if they reach the first division. In Table Tennis the Doncasters have more votes than the Manchesters and so it comes about that Ecuador can now play England (if they turn up, which in Dortmund

they did not) and Liechtenstein can play China (if the draw so dictates). The first two days are wasted, whilst endless and meaningless matches are being played out. Sometimes dramatic consequences may emerge. The German women lost in an early group and then could only play for places 9-16 and the French men lost 5-4 to Holland and so suffered a similar fate. One set ruined the whole event for them. Nemes and Gatien could only be seen in humble company from then on.

### Europe eclipsed...

Under the old system, nations divided into groups of 8 and there was much to play for. I cannot understand to this day the wanton destruction of something that worked well. One assumes that the smaller nations wanted a place in the sun to which their play did not entitle them.

The new playing system, one assumes, was decided before the event, before the ITTF Congress. There was very little debate. European delegates told me they did not speak against this half-baked idea because they thought it had no chance of success. It showed how wrong you can be. It marked and confirmed the eclipse of Europe as a power within the ITTF.

Whether Europe can or will be satisfied with this state of affairs remains to be seen. It has its own divisions and seldom speaks with one voice, but equally it can develop perfectly viable programmes without the rest of the world and a player need not leave Europe to enjoy the best of competition and events. Europe puts more into the sport than at present it gets from it. We do not object to that, but I do not enjoy the present spectacle of voting alliances riding roughshod over us. It makes divisions and rebellions inevitable at some as yet undefined future date.

# The Leeds English Open 1

## Bowlers Trafford Park Manchester Thurs 4th — Sun 7th January 1990

### SCHEDULE AND PRICING

DATE	SESSION TIMING	MATCH DETAILS	PRICING (inc. VAT) PER DAY	DISCOUNTS * Party Discounts ** Childrens/ *** Students/ Senior Citizens
THURS 4 JAN	9.30 — 22.00 (approx)	INDIVIDUAL EVENT 1st & 2nd Rounds	£1.00	Nil
FRI 5 JAN	9.30 — 22.00 (approx) Morn./Aft. Evening	INDIVIDUAL EVENT 3rd Round Quarter Finals	£2.00	50p
SAT 6 JAN	9.30 — NOON 13.30 — 16.30 (approx)	INDIVIDUAL EVENT Semi-Finals FINALS Women's & Men's singles Women's & Men's doubles Mixed doubles	£4.00	£1.00
	9.30 — NOON 18.30 — 11.00 (approx)	INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMP Qualifying Rounds Last 16 teams		
SUN 7 JAN	9.30 — NOON 13.00 — 17.00 18.00 — 22.00 (approx)	INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMP Quarter Finals Semi-Finals FINALS	£4.00	£1.00

PLEASE NOTE: Season Tickets — including Finals — Adults £7.50 — Children/Students/Senior Citizens £4.00. Tickets are issued for the full day's play and give access to all courts. Due to the unpredictable length of matches all timings are approximate — please check with venue before attendance if timing is critical.

\* Party Discounts may be deducted from the STANDARD PRICE of each ticket purchased for a party of 12 persons or more on Advance Bookings only.

\*\* Discounts apply to each ticket purchased for a Child (under 16 years), Students (with a Student's Union Card) or Senior Citizens (with Pension Book).

### HOW TO GET THERE

**BY ROAD:** From M56 follow the M5103 Princess Parkway, taking the M63 (junction 9) North/Leeds turn off, stay on M63 until the Trafford Park (junction 4) exit.

From M62 follow the M63 southbound to junction 4, taking the Trafford Park exit.

At the traffic island follow Trafford Park & indoor cricket & bowls signs (A5081 Parkway) until the next island, turning 1st left into Ashburton Road and left again at the Daily Telegraph offices, Bowlers is straight ahead.

(N.B. RAC signs will give directions to Bowlers from all major roads)

**RAIL:** After arrival at Manchester Piccadilly Station head for the nearby City Centre where a special English Open shuttle service will run on the hour everyhour to Bowlers.

**AIR:** From Manchester International Airport take the City Centre shuttle service and then pick up the special English Open transport to Bowlers.

for their sports facilities, squash, gym, aerobics and dance studios, and make the perfect centre for your Open visit.

Fully inclusive rates of £16 per night in a twin or £22 in a single room are available to English Open ticket holders. Details from Paula Anderson, The Village, George Street, off Bury New Road, Sedgeley Park, Prestwich, Manchester. Telephone: 061-798 8905.

### BOOKING INSTRUCTIONS

Send completed application form, self addressed stamped envelope and remittance to either:

The Leeds English Open Box Office Bowlers Leisure Centre, Longbridge Road, Trafford Park, Manchester M17 1SN Telephone: 061-873 7388

(Credit Cards: Bookings may be made on major credit cards by telephoning the Bowlers Box Office. A postage and package fee of 35p per transaction will be made.)

OR

English Table Tennis Association Queensbury House, Havelock Rd. Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF Telephone: 0424-722525.

(Cheques and Postal Orders: Made payable to 'The English Table Tennis Association' and crossed 'A/C payee only'.)

### WHERE TO STAY

The ETTA have set up a special accommodation package with the luxurious Village Hotels, all of which are within easy driving distance of Bowlers. The three hotels in the Group are renowned

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Selling tickets for the Leeds English Open Championships can earn you valuable funds for your club or league and win a brand new, top quality table.

Here is how it works —

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If you buy 12 or more tickets for the Leeds English Open on 5th, 6th or 7th January you will receive a discount of 25% off the gross price. So why not take orders from your team, club, league or friends at the very reasonable recommended prices and put the discount you receive straight into your organisation's funds? All you do is to send the order form with this magazine, plus a cheque for the NETT amount to the ETTA. You will make money and also see the finest table tennis in the world.

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\*\*\* THIS IS WHAT YOU DO! \*\*\*

Please make sure that you send one form only, clearly marked "FREE TABLE" at the top of the booking form, complete with the name of your affiliated organisation to: ETTA, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF to arrive before 1 January 1990.

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I wish to pay by Access/Barclaycard Visa/Leeds Visa (delete where appropriate)

My Card Number is  Date of Expiry

I enclose cheque/postal order for the total cost plus a stamped addressed envelope £

#### BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

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ADDRESS

POSTCODE

DAYTIME TEL. NO.

SIGNATURE  DATE

## The Leeds English Open 2

# The World's best in a brand new format

by ALAN RANSOME — E.T.T.A. Deputy Chairman and Vice Chairman, Marketing and Promotions

THE LEEDS English Open has attracted the best table tennis players from both Europe and Asia including the World Champions Sweden and former holders, China. They will play using a brand new format devised for television and to give British Table Tennis fans their best chance so far to visit "the Open".

The 1990 Open is to be played at Bowlers Leisure Centre, Trafford Park, Manchester, from 4th to 7th January. It is being supported by the Manchester Olympic Bid Committee who have encouraged the ETTA to bring the most prestigious event of the year to Bowlers to help with their quest to host the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Manchester.

We anticipate that the Swedes will bring the majority of the players who brought the Swaythling Cup back to Europe and expect that World Champion Jan-Ove Waldner, World No.2 Jorgen Persson and European Champion Mikael Appelgren will all be included. The Chinese have already announced what is now regarded as their strongest team for Manchester being Olympic Doubles Champions Chen Longcan and Wei Quinguang plus semi finalist in the Dortmund World Championships Yu Shentong. Many other overseas stars are expected including Andrzej Grubba and Leszek Kucharski from Poland and Leeds Masters champion Jean Philippe Gatien of France, World Doubles champions Jorg Roskopf and Steffen Fetzner of Federal Germany.

For the women's events the Japanese entry will include Mika Hoshino. The top Europeans expected are Olga Nemes from Federal Germany, Wang Xiaoming from France plus Csilla Batorfi of Hungary.

The England squad will of course be at full strength with Alan Cooke, Carl Prean and Desmond Douglas included in the men's team, Alison Gordon and Lisa Lomas will be amongst the women.

Another strong domestic entry will be the former Chinese champion Chen Xinhua now living in Huddersfield and heading the Leeds British League averages for this season.

The main effect of the unique new format will be that the vast majority of the best matches will be played on either Friday evening, Saturday or Sunday so that more British table tennis supporters can be there. At previous Opens play began daytime Wednesday and finished with the Saturday afternoon final, dictating that most table tennis fans needed to take days away from work to see the action.

BBC Grandstand will show the finals of the individual events on



Above: Chen Longcan  
Top right: Fetzner  
Bottom right: Waldner

Saturday afternoon and this has been made possible by playing singles and doubles first from Thursday to Saturday and switching the International Team event which produces most of the best matches from a spectators point of view to after the individual event. The Team matches will take place during Saturday and Sunday. The last 16 will be played after the individual finals on Saturday evening whilst the exciting quarter finals, semi finals and finals will be played throughout Sunday.

For the enjoyment of the spectators and to maximise publicity for our sport, referee Doug Young is working very closely with the ETTA Marketing and Promotions Department to produce the best possible playing schedule. This will ensure almost continuous top class matches being staged on tables adjoined by spectator seating throughout the four brilliant days.

To cater for the spectator who needs overnight accommodation a special package rate has been agreed with the luxurious Village Hotel Group for as little as £16 per person bed and breakfast per night. Write or telephone the ETTA Head Office for details.

Car parking at the Bowlers Centre is both free and plentiful. Bowlers is located just five minutes away from the M63 motorway off Junction 4. Directions to Bowlers

will be RAC signposted from the motorway.

We are working hard to ensure that the Leeds English Open will be the best so far. We have attracted the top players and have taken great care to ensure that the schedule suits players, television, press and spectators alike. What we need now is the spectators. A full house would be marvellous. Support from you, the table tennis fans, will give the

event atmosphere and in turn will give our sport a magnificent Championship and another major boost.



## Chen Rules at Halifax

by REA BALMFORD

AFTER MISSING out on the Yorkshire and Humberside 3 Star twelve months ago as a result of the disruption caused by the postal dispute, senior table tennis came back to the North Bridge Leisure Centre at Halifax with a bang when over 250 entries were received for the 1989 event.

With support from not only old friends in Calderdale Leisure Services and Butterfly T.T. (U.K.) Ltd, but also from West Yorkshire Grants and National Power, the Yorkshire Association were able to put on a spectacular event.

The top four England men and the top two ladies were all missing, but this enhanced, rather than detracted from the keen competition and, although two of the overseas entrants did not materialize — Australian Eddie Kaser because of business commitments and Nigerian No.1 lady Kuburat Owolabi, who found that British Rail had withdrawn her intended train — the International flavour was very much there in the person of Chen Xin Hua.

### Surprises galore

The Chinese star, now an 'honorary Yorkshireman' based in Huddersfield, was a comfortable winner of both Mens Singles and, in tandem with Nicky Mason, Mens Doubles but, in the build up to the finals there was a spicing of surprise results which kept the tournament buzzing.

First of the seeds to take his leave was Kevin Satchell (5=), who fell in Round 2 to Welshman Steve Ward, and he was followed in the next round by John Hilton, shown the door by the ever-improving John Holland.

Ward and Holland both met their match in the last 16 with Chris Oldfield and Bradley Billington the men to go through; at the same stage Oldfield's colleague Michael O'Driscoll took a hand in the giant-killing as he removed Surrey based Scot David Hannah; and a word of praise must go to Avon's Paul Lewis who caused another Scot, second seeded John Broe, plenty of problems before he came through 14, -15, 13.

### Billington ousts Syed

Things continued to happen in the quarters — out went Broe, a straight sets victim of Oldfield, and Matthew Syed, who shared the third seeded place with Chen, lost a 19, 19 nailbiter to old rival Billington (5=).

The shocks looked set to continue when Oldfield took the first from Billington in the semi-final, but the Derbyshire boy fought back to earn a final place opposite

Chen who, while the rest of the field were carving each other apart, had sailed through without the loss of a game.

And the pattern was to be maintained in the final with the former World Championship man dishing out the same treatment to Billington as he claimed the £200 winner's cheque with the loss of only 24 points.

In the Ladies Singles the shocks were by no means so obvious, with three of the four seeds coming into their allotted semi-final places and Debbie Toole, on home ground, taking the place vacated by Owolabi.

### Juliet Houghton causes upset

But upsets there were, with Janet Smith, another southern based Scot, going out to Juliet Houghton, who had played her way through a group containing top juniors Katie Goodall and Linda Radford, while the unseeded Miss Toole's 21, 18 success over Julie Billington (5=) took her into the last eight.

Nevertheless Andrea Holt (2) and Fiona Elliot (1) duly took their final places with the Lancashire lass reversing the ranking positions with a hard fought 18, 19 victory.

Both Singles winners added the Doubles title, Chen in partnership with Mason and Miss Holt with her defeated opponent, with the outstanding achievements in these events being the victories of the scratch pairing of Graham Sandley/Tony Stark over Billington/Sean Gibson and O'Driscoll/Oldfield over Syed/Glen Baker, while in the Ladies event Houghton/Joanne Shaw ousted Toole/Billington before going out to the eventual winners.

Two cracking Mens semi-finals both went the distance before Chen/Mason lined up against the Scottish team of Hannah/Broe and got the verdict at 15,20.

### Colin Wilson's welcome return

The evergreen John Hilton was the Veteran winner in a thoroughly enjoyable final against hard-hitting 'new' Vet, Michael Short, while Colin Wilson, making a welcome return to Yorkshire after a long absence, claimed the Class 2 honours against Grant Solder the youngster who was the hero of the East Yorkshire Junior two weeks previously.



Bradley Billington

## RESULTS

### MENS SINGLES

Quarter Finals: Chen Xin Hua (China) bt Steve Dorking (E) 10,13

Nicky Mason (Sy) bt Michael O'Driscoll (Y) 20,16

Bradley Billington (Dy) bt Matthew Syed (Bk) 19,19

Chris Oldfield (Y) bt John Broe (SCO) 13,18

Semi Finals: Chen bt Mason 15, 8  
Billington bt Oldfield -10, 16, 17.

Final: Chen bt Billington 10,14.

### LADIES SINGLES

Semi Finals: Andrea Holt (La) bt Debbie Toole (Y) 18,14

Fiona Elliot (St) bt Jill Harris (St) 13,8.

Final: Holt bt Elliot 18,19.

### MENS DOUBLES

Chen/Mason bt Oldfield/O'Driscoll -21,14,16  
Broe/David Hannah (SCO) bt Tony Stark/Graham Sandley (Mi) 19,-18,14.

Final: Chen/Mason bt Broe/Hannah 15,20.

### LADIES DOUBLES

Semi Finals: Elliot/Holt bt Juliet Houghton (K)/Joanne Shaw (Y) 17,16

Harris/Janet Smith (SCO) bt Julie Billington (Dy)/Toole - 17,20,13.

Final: Elliot/Holt bt Harris/Smith -14,15,10.

### VETERAN SINGLES

Final: John Hilton (La) bt Michael Short (Dv) 13,21

### CLASS 2 MIXED SINGLES

Final: Colin Wilson (Mi) bt Grant Solder (E) 20,18.

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## How to run a Tournament

by I. BODGIT

I AM often asked for a few tips on how to run a tournament, so here for your benefit are a few hints to help your tournament go as successfully as mine do.

### General Principles

Tournaments would be a pleasure to run if it wasn't for the players or the spectators. But let's be realistic; this is like saying the Railways would be a fine place to work in if it wasn't for the passengers, or the NHS if it wasn't for the patients and so on. Nevertheless, keep firmly in mind that you are running the tournament for the Committee; the players and spectators are unavoidable adjuncts you have to put up with. When things become really hairy, as they always will, try to be philosophical and remember that the distasteful object before you in shirt and shorts, bat in hand, is a necessary evil to be soothed whenever practicable. Spectators you can be as rude as you like to. Now for a few problem areas.

### Groups

These days 'Groups' are all the rage, so I am afraid you will have to go along with this fad. It gives the dud player a couple of games for his money instead of being got rid of quickly and clearing the hall. But there it is, you are stuck with it; and all because a looney idea that Joe Bloggs has as much right to a day's play as Desmond Douglas or Alison Gordon.

Groups of three are what I recommend, one to go through. Disregard any daft suggestions that the top eight or sixteen players be excluded from the groups. If you did that, Bloggs and co. would be coming through to the second stage, and as I said before you want to get rid of them as soon as possible.

Another thing about Groups. Don't waste your time trying to avoid two top players and one dud in a Group. Teach the silly so-and-so a lesson; he won't be so keen to enter next year I can tell you. And of course it provides a good laugh watching him being wiped up twice.

### Start Times

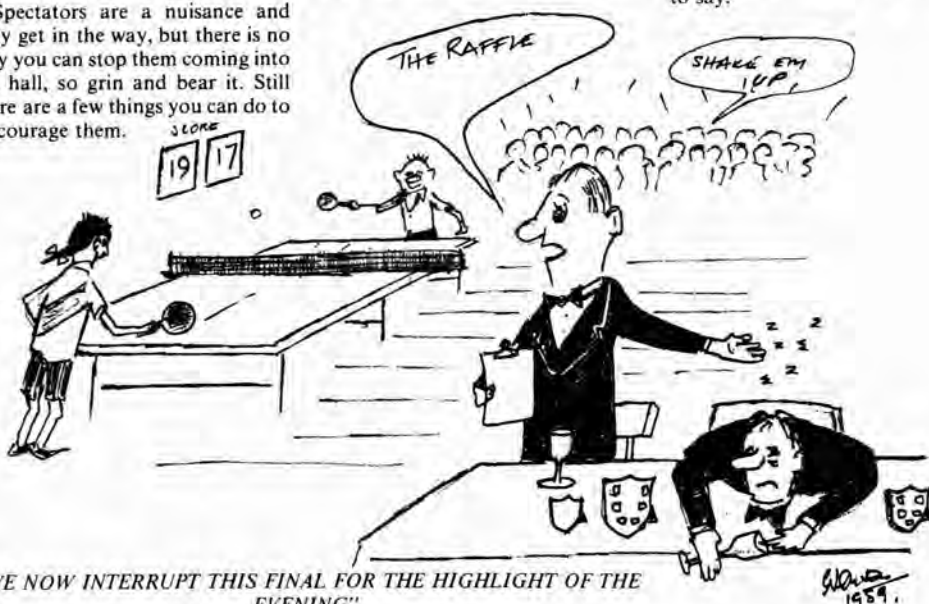
Make it clear that all competitors must report by 9am. This imposes a necessary discipline from the outset. Needless to say you will have to deal with the odd malcontent who will complain that his or her match isn't scheduled till 4pm. Try your best to be tolerant with people like them, suggest they umpire a few games to pass the time. That usually gets rid of them.

Do try to get the show on the road by, say, 10.30. Otherwise you will have problems later in the day

when you may have to cancel some events. It is very disappointing how abusive and ill-mannered people can become if they find they have waited all day for an event that is scrubbed.

### Spectators

Spectators are a nuisance and only get in the way, but there is no way you can stop them coming into the hall, so grin and bear it. Still there are a few things you can do to discourage them.



"WE NOW INTERRUPT THIS FINAL FOR THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING"

1. Put all the best matches on the most inaccessible tables.
2. Put all the quarter-finals on at the same time.
3. For the 'Finals', leave all the tables up, and as above, play both semi-finals at the same time on inaccessible tables.
4. Do not have score-boards.
5. Use umpires with inaudible voices.

### Paying Spectators

These can be a real pain in the neck as they seem to think their couple of quid entitles them to be lords of the manor. With a little care, however, you can keep these down to a minimum with a few of the following:

1. Arrange big gaps in the playing schedule so that, for example, someone paying to watch an afternoon session finds that there are no matches timed between 1pm and 5pm. Any complaints — and there will always be the troublemaker — just snarl "Where do you think you are? Wimbledon?"
2. If it is a tournament running over several days, try to arrange the best matches at the most awkward times possible. For example 5.30 in the evening rather than 7pm when all and sundry can get there.

3. As explained before, put all the quarter-finals on at once so that people are trying to look in four places at once. Also, if you have followed my advice at 2 above, all these games will be over by the time the proletariat arrive at 7.
4. Try to get narrow benches with no backs.
5. Make refreshment facilities as gruesome as possible.

### The Raffle

Well this is what it's all about! The raffle is obligatory, as any fool will tell you; its got to be the high spot of the tournament. It has

manner befitting the occasion, I announce:

- the prize (full description e.g. make of sherry, dry medium or sweet etc.)
- the name and address of the donor of the prize.
- the name and address of the lucky winner.
- the name and status of the person who has drawn each ticket.

As I said earlier, I live up all this with a constant barrage of witticisms. Space prevents me giving you examples, but believe me you would fall about if I told you them. Sometimes I can't get the words out for laughing myself at what I am going to say.

always amazed me that Wimbledon, that supposed mecca of perfection, doesn't run a raffle. Just imagine the excitement it would cause: say half-way through the men's final, announcing the draw for the raffle. Fergie or Di could, in their gracious majesty, draw out the winning tickets, while Boris Becker and John McEnroe look smilingly on. Yes, in my humble way, I think I could teach the high and mighty Wimbledon organisers a thing or two.

Needless to say I always conduct the raffle draw myself. If I may permit myself a little pat on the back, I believe my witty quips on the names and addresses of the donors and lucky winners have coloured up many a grey tournament.

The best time to conduct the draw is about half-way through the men's or women's semi-finals. Just call a 'Let' (ignore all abuse from the contestants — they will always try to make out that the score was 20-20 in the third) and announce the draw.

There is a complete change in the tempo of the evening, as people ferret around for their tickets and I take my place on the rostrum with the spotlight on me. In a jovial

The last tournament I organised there were a magnificent 21 prizes donated. As I announced "This is the last. A bag of Liqueurice Allsorts" a great spontaneous cheer of appreciation went up. I can tell you, it's little moments like this that reassure you that, despite all evidence to the contrary, you are doing a good job. Yes, a very happy occasion, spoilt only by the loutish behaviour of the semi-finalists who had draped themselves across the tables, bats on chests, pretending to be dead.

### Conclusion

Well, that's about all I have to say. I hope I have given you some food for thought. It's not as difficult as it seems, and if you follow up my tips you could be just as good a tournament organiser as I am myself. Hard to believe I know, but it can be done. Meantime some of you will no doubt have recognised the hand of Bodgit at work behind many of last season's tournaments. For more of the same, write to me: I Bodgit, Presentation Officer, Drudgerly Tournaments, Erewhyna.

On this section would subscribers please keep their articles down to 200 words or less to allow all Counties an equal space per issue.

Please keep forwarding your photos (black and white) of local personalities.

## BERKSHIRE

Bob Adams

THE COUNTY ranking Committee produced few surprises in the latest Mens list, bringing in Matt Syed at No. 1, pushing Jimmy Stokes down to No. 2 and just about everyone else in the first 8 places with the exception of Dave Reeves who holds on to No. 4 by virtue of Dave Barr's drop from 3 to 5. Andy Wellman is now No. 3, whilst Graham Kemp and Keith Hodder disappear from the top 10 allowing Bob Davis to stay put and Martin Adams to come in at No. 9. Wally Allanson, Paul Savins and Clive Payne drop one place to No's. 6, 7, 8 respectively.

The opposite appears in the Ladies section, with Mandy Sainsbury's retirement from the County scene allowing Sue Collier into top spot, but the return of Julie Norman at No. 2 stops the rest moving up. Gill Knightley (3) holds off the challenge of Lisa Crick (4) and Nicola Cracknell (5). The Junior Boys look much as last year with top three Martin Adams, Nicky Bradfield and Marc Priddle as before, but with Kashif Subhan moving up six places to No 4, and a similar dramatic improvement by Marcus Horth who leaps from 11 to 5.

The continuing interchange between Lisa Crick and Nicola Cracknell continues in the Junior Girls, now with Lisa on top. Isabel Walker and Gemma Schwartz move up to No's. 3 and 4, whilst sister Kerry snaps at Gemma's heels at No. 5. The Veteran Men look a good deal different from last year with the exception of top two Wally Allanson and Sid Montgomery. Nicky Heaps reappears on the County list at No. 3 followed by Eddie Herrity, with Dave Wise moving up two places to No. 5. Gill Knightley continues to top the Veteran Ladies list, followed in order by Christine Basden, Pam Spooner, Jean Gloster and Liz Whittaker.

Some superb performances in open tournaments have been flowing from the bats of Berkshire juniors this season — the Grove 2 star being the most noteworthy. Pride of place goes to Lisa Crick and Marcus Horth. Lisa followed up her end of 88 season selection for England Schools with a win in the Junior Girls — her first 2-star title, whilst Marcus triumphed in the Cadet Boys. Just to show that Berkshire players are prepared to share their talents with those from other counties, Martin Adams combined with fellow Kingfisher Matthew Greenwood (Bucks) to win the Boys

Doubles. Gemma Schwartz teamed up with Talya Greenberg (Herts) and Marcus Horth got together with Peter Hayward (Gloucs) to reach the finals of the two Cadet events. That means that in a tournament open to players from all over England, five of the eight finals featured Berkshire players.

Can any other county beat that?

## CORNWALL

Jeremy Williams

WITH THE new season now getting underway, table tennis in Cornwall has entered something of a new era. A higher level of table tennis for Cornish players to compete in has been needed now for many years, but winning championships has often just eluded Cornwall. This season things are different. The Senior first team have been promoted to division 1B of the Leeds County Championships after being runners up in division 2B last season. The Junior first team have also been promoted after a superb win of the division 2C championship last season.

The British League set up in Cornwall has scaled new heights. White Hart Launceston have been promoted to division 2 Midland after a good 1988/89 season, and now a second team has been submitted in division 3 West, thus giving opportunity to more Cornish youngsters to play at a higher level. Full marks to Peter and Sheila Hancock for their sterling efforts. Unfortunately fortunes have not been so favourable on the playing side of things. The Duchy's leading player young Neil Bevan has upgraded his game superbly over the summer months, and is now the hottest player on the junior circuit. He now boasts a 100% average after four British League sessions. To date, however, the rest of the team have yet to find such good form, and Launceston remain firmly at the bottom of the table.

There were a couple of important domestic events that took place at the tail end of last season due to congestion of events, and these missed my last report. Firstly, the Cornwall Closed Championships held at Penzance attracted a fair all round entry, particularly in the Men's events. There were also a few upsets. The main shock occurred in the final of the Intermediate (under 21) singles when holder Neil Bevan was beaten by Graham Reed who was playing like a man possessed. There were long quick fire exchanges between the two players in

a high quality set which was probably the best of the day. Cornish enigma John Bassett, seeded at four in the Men's singles, failed to contain the spin and composure of Bude's John Thorpe in the other surprise of the day. Bassett, fast approaching his fiftieth birthday, must have been content with his days work though. He collected the Men's Doubles title and he also collected a few more grey hairs after defeating old rival Roger Jacobs in the Veteran's final, by the skin of his teeth. The Junior events were dominated by players from Bude and Camborne with the rivalry between the two towns being all too evident. Bude dominated the boy's sections whilst Camborne dominated the girl's events.

### Final Results

MS: N. Bevan (Bude) bt J. Williams (Falmouth) 19, -19, 9.  
 WS: E. Stevenson (Bude) bt R. Boon (Camborne) 11, 16.  
 IS: G. Reed (Falmouth) bt N. Bevan 16, 12.  
 MD: J. Williams/J. Bassett (St. Ives) bt. N. Bevan/A. Bevan 18, -17, 17.  
 LD: E. Stevenson/S. James (Hayle) bt R. Boon/A. Cahill (Camborne) 19, 17.  
 XD: J. Williams/E. Stevenson bt R. Jacobs/B. Jacobs (Truro) 9, 18.  
 VS: J. Bassett bt R. Jacobs 11, -7, 19.  
 JBS: N. Bevan bt J. Menzel (Camborne) 14, 20.  
 JGS: R. Boon bt A. Cahill 16, 17.  
 CBS: S. Barrett (Bude) bt J. Pocock (Camborne) 14, 18.  
 CGS: R. Boon bt A. Cahill 13, 14.  
 U12BS: C. Register (Launceston) bt K. Worth (Launceston) 17, -17, 18.  
 U12GS: H. Warden-Lovell (Falmouth) overall winner.  
 JD: J. Menzel/N. Martin (St. Austell) bt N. Bevan/J. Maggs (Bude) -17, 20, 19.

The Cornish Inter Town event was well supported this year despite the intense heat at the Bude Leisure Centre during the heatwave. However, despite a few upsets, the expected final battle between Falmouth and Bude came to fruition. Bude's team of Neil Bevan, John Thorpe and Andrew Bevan finally broke Falmouth's five year unbeaten record with their full strength team of Jeremy Williams, Graham Reed and Malcolm Peters beaten 4-2. Thorpe turned out to be Bude's trump card beating both Reed and Peters.

Finally, congratulations to Fred Ingram of Truro. Not only has Fred passed his umpires test and attained his blue blazer, but he has also succeeded Roger Jacobs as our new County Secretary. Keep up the good work Fred.

## CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

ALTHOUGH showing plenty of endeavour and some good individual displays, Cumbria started the Leeds County Championship Division 2a campaign with two defeats. Following a 7-3 home reverse against Warwickshire 2nds at Whitehaven Sports Centre, Cumbria lost 9-1 to Nottinghamshire at Sycamore Sports Centre, Nottingham.

Cumbria's only winner on that occasion was their captain, Carlisle schoolteacher Julie McLean. Making a return to county competition for the first time in eight years was former junior star Bella Edwards, formerly Bella Gray, of Millom.

Set scores in the Notts match were (Nottinghamshire names first):

J. Ellis bt Stephen Temple 21-10, 21-13; bt Ian Reed 21-9, 21-16. T. Sheppard bt Reed 21-17, 21-16; bt Mark Temple 21-11, 21-18; C. Stoddart bt Mark Temple 19-21, 21-16, 21-14. Ellis and Stoddart bt Reed and Stephen Temple 22-20, 21-12. Ruth Bentley lost to Julie McLean 9-21, 18-21. A Brettall bt Bella Edwards 21-10, 21-11. Bentley and T. Butler bt McLean and Edwards 19-21, 21-12, 21-16.

## Danny Blair Obituary

IN DERBYSHIRE we learned with deep sadness of the passing of Danny Blair.

Danny was involved with table tennis for many years and was a tireless worker on the county committee, being President until ill health forced his retirement about 2 years ago.

He retained an interest in the sport to the end and will be remembered for his cheerfulness and dedication. He was an inspiration to all, a friend and a gentleman.

Our thoughts go out to his widow and family.

RAY HARRISON  
Chairman Derbyshire T.T.A.

## ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

SINCE THE last issue, our junior players have taken part in the Regional Ranking Trials. The format was astonishing, as I hinted in my October Notes. In the preliminary trials our players spent fourteen hours at a totally unacceptable venue, while 12 players in each category were reduced to 8. Then everybody turned to what, thank goodness, was the excellent Graham Spicer Institute at New Malden,

Surrey, for the 8 players to be further reduced to 3 or 4. I can only express the hope that next season this farce is not repeated by those responsible for organising the Trials. On the bright side, I am pleased to say that seven of our nominated players qualified for the National Trials at Lilleshall in January 1990, namely Keith Buers, Matthew Reid and Gary Tendler (junior boys), Nadine Barthee (junior girls) Ryan Savill and Vincent Avery (cadet boys) and Cathie Sibbald (cadet girls). We will actually have 13 representatives at Lilleshall, since Grant Solder, Alison Gower, Linda Radford, Paul Hudson, Chris Sladden and Jennie Coleman were exempted from the Regional Trials due to their nationally ranked positions. James Oyekunle has been dummy ranked No. 5 junior boy due to his Nigerian birthplace.

Our County teams have now played their opening matches, although the three Premier Division squads have yet to start their programmes. The senior third team (whose members were not very senior, since junior Alison Gower and the unlikely senior Damian Holland were included!) kicked off with a 10-0 win over Oxfordshire. Their manager is that very youthful veteran, Stuart Gibbs. In their second outing this team drew 5-5 with the strong Sussex outfit, Damian Holland winning both his singles, Jason Tendler beating Tony Murrell and Ruth Cleminson contributing two wins.

The senior second team played a weekend against Devon II, and Hampshire, but things did not go too well and only one point was obtained from the draw with Hants.

The junior third team has beaten Kent and lost to Middlesex. In this team, we are going to give chances to our younger players and Ben Ware, Wayne Mitchell, Ryan Savill, Jenny Coleman, Sarah Gardner and Julie Rand have so far appeared. We were also delighted to play a friendly match against Kent, fielding Paul Hudson, Colin Law, Richard Lawrence, Cathie Sibbald and Annette Oakman, and intend to repeat this experiment when we have to play the two sides of Norfolk and Surrey.

Our junior second team made the long journey to Oldham for their opening fixture against Lancs, and returned with a 6-4 victory, although we did do our level best to avoid winning, having led 5-1! Even in the last set Gary Tendler steered himself into the position of being down 3 match points before a final flourish gained him and Essex the spoils. Matthew Reid was unbeaten and accordingly named "man of the match".

## The Chairman responds

Alan Shepherd's criticisms of the Regional Ranking Trials are valid and Regional Chairman Laurie Darnell and I accept the need to do better. A fuller letter has been sent to Alan direct.

John Prean

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Peppard

THE LEEDS Sponsorship deal with the ETTA, which began on September 1st 1987, and I understand now terminates on August 31st 1990, has proved a great financial shot in the arm for English Table Tennis. I guess we all knew that it was for a three year period — but many of us hoped that it would be extended further — unfortunately it appears that that is not to be.

ETTA Chairman, John Prean is quoted as having said "The Leeds has proved a splendid partner, and we are deeply grateful to them — they share the credit for the great advance of our sport in the last two years".

Reading these words, I just wonder how many run of the mill League T.T. players throughout the entire Country really appreciate what "The Leeds" has done for us? I'll end upon this subject by just saying one thing — it's helped keep your affiliation fees down considerably.

Bob Davis assures me that our newest affiliated League, Cirencester, still continues to flourish with enthusiasm for the sport, and with added membership also.

It appears that Cirencester have bagged two more teams from "OVER THE BORDER"; Yes, Wiltshire, they are the "Cartnell Youth Centre" and "Linolight Sports & Social Club". It appears that these clubs previously lacked playing facilities, which Cirencester found themselves well able to provide. This certainly is a feather in Cirencester's cap — as in other parts of Gloucester there is positive evidence of Membership on the wane.

**Cotswold Ladies:** Julie Taylor, Captain of the Cotswold Ladies, informs me that to date of writing, they have only played one match — that was against Birmingham "B", and the result was an 8-2 win for Cheltenham's Linda Probert, Ros Ross and of course Julie Taylor. I understand that the League consists of the following teams — Oxford, Witney, Swindon "B", Evesham, Cheltenham and Birmingham — GO TO IT GIRLS?

I've said it before — and at the risk of boring everyone once again, I'll say it again, nearly all our Leagues have a well edited "Newsletter". Cheltenham's Gail Smith has been producing "Net & Edge" for yonks, good for her — and long

may she continue to do so. John Bunn, Stroud's Chairman edits "The Stroud Pointmaker", with gusto and relish, and wait for it — a new editor is about to appear upon the scene for Gloucester City. He's Keith Simpson, who just happens to be the Assistant Secretary and Magazine Editor of the large Rudford Club — NEVER HEARD OF HIM — DID I HEAR SOMEONE SAY? MY FRIENDS YOU MOST CERTAINLY WILL.

The County Closed Championships will again be held in Cheltenham — the date — 26th of November. At the time of writing, it is possible that the Junior events MAY take place on some other day — last year we did finish up rather late at night by playing all events on the same day.

I shall, this month, refrain from reporting "Leeds County Matches" and "The Leeds British League". I feel that as both get very good coverage, that unless anything of really outstanding importance happens, it's best left to the experts who do it so well each month.

That's it for this month readers — may I, in conclusion, wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a bright and equally prosperous new year.

## HAMPSHIRE

Brian Lamerton

ANOTHER scribe — probably temporary; both myself as press officer, and my very good friend David Cosway, who has written this column longer than either of us care to remember, have taken a lot of stick because two magazines have been issued and no Hampshire notes have appeared. Well, there are many reasons; here are some of them:-

1. With ten member associations, Hampshire are one of the biggest counties in the country, but not a whisper of any item of news from any one of them.

2. Seven leagues are run by Hampshire — the cadets don't start until 12th November, the juniors not until 10th December! and of nine matches in other leagues, which should have been played by 21st October, league secretary Doug Balchin was able to give me four results only a couple of days ago.

3. After considerable controversy, Hampshire entered 6 teams in the County Championship — 4 of these take to the table for the first time as I write these notes on October 28th — my last possible time to meet the Editor's deadline. How do other press officers feel about this pen-

## "A TABLE FOR TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY?"



### "CERTAINLY, SIR"

Could you ask for better service? £250, inclusive of VAT, buys you a brand new top quality table from a leading manufacturer. Delivered direct to your door.

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### ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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chant for playing these matches in groups? — in my mind, a league is something which is spread throughout a season, not something which you try to get over with as cosily as possible, which as a very strong side-issue, reduces the number of opportunities to gain media attention with the even stronger side issue of pushing sponsors names.

Food for thought! Apart from press reports, I have a regular fortnightly radio spot on Ocean Sound (the B.B.C. kicked me out after 17 years without a word of thanks) and with the foregoing much in mind, Friday mornings sees office work take a back seat as I desperately seek something to talk about. Thank goodness for Amity Generation, their Leeds British league team, their two Southern Regional leagues teams and their effervescent leader Charlie Childs — but the first two of these items find coverage elsewhere in this magazine. On the regional league scene, it is pleasing to see Merton from Bournemouth added to this season's entrants — thus, through the region, further evidence that Bournemouth remains adhered to Hampshire.

The second senior team are not playing on the group system (although this didn't suit some other counties) as after a lot of discussion, this team was set up with the express intention of providing continuing county experience for last season's two outstanding juniors, Jeff Giles and Mark Thorne. In the first match, against Herts 2 Thornton was outstanding and won twice, as did another newcomer, Portsmouth champion Mark Bleakley — that was the total of Hampshire success as they went down 6 - 4.

Despite considerable business in the transfer market during the close season, it is the story as before in the Southampton premier division, with Snows 'A' and Snows 'B' already outstripping the others — after each had won 4 out of 4 they met with the 'B's' winning by 6 sets to 4; a result which left nobody at this early point in the season with a 100% individual record.

September 89 ranking list — leading players;

Mens: 1. Graham Toole, 2. Ramesh Bhalla, 3. Mark Wilding, 4. Mark Bleakley, 5. Jeff Giles, 6. Micki Sinanan.

Ladies: 1. Sarah Hammond, 2. Sarah Turner, 3. Kathy Ridgard, 4. Barbara Savage, 5. Clare Woodham, 6. Tina Caws.

Boys: 1. Richard Hatley, 2. Mark Shutler, 3. John Crouch, 4. Kevin Macken, 5. Tony Reynolds, 6. Mark Duffey.

Girls: 1. Clare Woodham, 2. Tina Caws, 3. Caroline Newling-Ward, 4. Alison Griggs, 5. Heidi Wheaton, 6. Caroline Cook.

Veteran Men: 1. Norman Stagg, 2. Graham Outrim, 3. Graham Lynch, 4. Mauri Shave, 5. Bob Cox, 6. Ray Lush.

Veteran Ladies: 1. Christine Davies, 2. Ann Abraham, 3. Mary Barron, 4. Avril Waters, 5. Beryl Duffield (Nobody else prepared to admit to the age of 40!)

So, remember, if you want to see Hampshire notes continued David Cosway is the name, 19 Rockleigh Drive, Ashurst Bridge, Totton, Southampton the address, 0703-663595 is the number; in the unlikely event that you can't find David try me on 0489-781266.

*STOP PRESS! October 28th. Wins for senior 2 and Veteran 2; a draw for Senior 1 and Junior 1 (all the way to Plymouth for a group meeting and only one match played!) defeats for the rest; I was hoping for a star of the day but we'll give it to the Senior 2nds — an 8 sets to 2 thumping of neighbours Dorset; Jeff Giles, Mark Thorne, Mark Bleakley, Kathy Ridgard and Barbara Savage.*

## HUNTS

David Deller

IN THE latest round of Leeds County championship matches only Hunts Veterans firsts came through winners. Playing against Nottinghamshire, they scored a close 5-4 win. Jim Sizer was in good form to record both singles wins plus a doubles gain with Eddy Haslop, who with Gus Albon, won one singles apiece.

The Veterans second team went down 3-6 to Hertfordshire 3 in a match lasting around three and a half hours with a number going the distance. Alan Kirsop and Brian Spittlehouse took a singles each, with the latter partnering Sid Burgess for a doubles win.

Hunts seniors are finding it tough, after finishing bottom of division 2C last term, they have started with two heavy defeats. After failing to take a game against Hertfordshire, the match against Norfolk produced just a solitary point, as Ian Windle on senior debut took a good singles win beating Norfolk's David Honor.

M.B.S. St. Neots are challenging well in division one North of the Leeds British League. In their latest fixture they defeated the City of Leeds 7-1 with Mick Harper, Keith Richardson and Steve Moore unbeaten, whilst Stuart Palmer took the remaining singles.

A fine start by all three member leagues in the senior section of the St. Neots Winter League, with Hunts Central (Philip Cole, Ian Windle and Simon Pryke) beating Bedford and Northampton 8-1. St. Neots (David Hyde, Jimmy Walsh and Andrew Hillyard) defeating Kettering 8-1 and Ely 6-3, whilst not to be outdone, Peterborough knocked over Cambridge 8-1 and scored a narrow 5-4 win over Bedford.

## LANCASHIRE

George R Yates

AT THE North West Regional Trials held at Sholver Hall Community Centre, Oldham on Sunday, October 15th, Nelson's Jason Lee came out top with an unblemished record winning all his seven sets without ever being taken to a third game decider.

Bury's Robin Faulkner was the runner-up losing only to Lee, third place being captured by Darryl Meredith of Oldham, who also figured prominently in the cadet boys trials winning all his six sets to top the pole.

The latter trial proved to be a field day for the Oldham League representatives, with Matthew Coombe and Christopher Whitehead finishing second and third to complete a memorable treble.

In the junior boys trial Ron Pennington of Preston finished seventh and, in the cadet boys trial, Andrew Halford came in at No. 6. Only two Red Rose players figured in the junior girls trial, but it was Oldham's Karen Richardson who came out on top with Joanne Wooldridge of Preston finishing fifth. Like Lee in the boys trial, Karen kept a clean sheet in winning her five sets all 2-straight.

Lancashire had no representative in the cadet girls trial, which four lasses from Cheshire contested and won was by Emma Fletcher. The lack of girls is concerning the Lancs Officials, but at senior level our congratulations must go to Andrea Holt of Ramsbottom who, in the Yorkshire/Humberside 3-Star Open at Halifax on October 22nd, took her first 3-Star title by winning the women's singles event with a final victory over Fiona Elliot.

## LEICESTERSHIRE

Tony Lillicrapp

SIX WEEKS into the new season, and results and information from the member leagues of our association is sparse. Non-existent to be precise as far as Leicester and Loughborough are concerned, and it was with grateful thanks I received this week a copy of the Hinckley League's monthly epistle 'The Loop'.

It seems that this year Hinckley celebrates its 20th anniversary as a league, having started up in 1969 under the guidance of Mike Hunt, John Illiffe and Ernie McLiesh.

Twenty years on John is still a top flight player, Mike is still involved in the administrative side of our game, and only Ernie seems to have all but disappeared from the scene. May they all prosper for many years to come.

There have been one or two changes within the Hinckley league since the end of last season. Mike Holt has stepped down as chairman and has been replaced, if that is the right word, by John Illiffe, and Andy Gatherer has been succeeded as editor of 'Loop' by Ian Lawrence. 'Loop', under Andy's guidance had, and I hope I offend no one by saying, a light hearted somewhat cavalier style in the way it reported the league news and results. Whilst in Ian's first edition, I denote what appears to be a more conservative down to earth approach. Each style has its merits, and I am sure under Ian 'Loop' will continue to thrive.

Going on to results from the Hinckley league, Exclusive Kit-chens look set again to dominate Division one, albeit having lost their unbeaten tag to second place



Left to right, Derek Burrows Centre Manager, Brian Clayton a director of Sunshine Windows Stalybridge, and Joe Beadle Manager of Droylsden Table Tennis Club.

## Counties 4

Market-Bosworth 'A', whilst in Division 2 Ashby Parva 'C' and Stoney Stanton 'B' have already opened up a 13 and 10 point gap respectively over third placed Westfield 'B'. Market Bosworth are healthily placed in Division 3 with their 'B' and 'D' sides in first and second place with unbeaten R.K.M. Photos in third place.

In the County Championships, Maurice Newman led Leicestershire II to a fine 6-4 victory against Nottinghamshire B in their opening Division 2A fixture of the season, with five wins over John Ellis and Conrad Stoddart. Unfortunately, the juniors did not fare so well against Cheshire, being thrashed 9-1. It took until the sixth rubber of the afternoon for Leicester to get on the score sheet, when Dean Langley just managed to get the better of Mark Newns beating him 21/18 in the final game of three. This put Leicestershire 1-5 down and after that we never looked like winning another game. Cheer up though juniors, they can't all be as strong as Cheshire — can they?

## MIDDLESEX

Iris Moss

ENTRIES FOR the Middlesex 3-Star Championships are coming in nicely, but by the time this article is read, entries will have closed. I was pleased to see that the ETTA had a change of heart over qualifying rounds counting for computer ranking points, as it gives a little more incentive to our faithful players. If you have not entered the Championships, how about coming along to the Finals? They will be played at 5.30pm on Sunday 10th December. All arrangements for the Middlesex Closed Championships have now been finalised. The Junior event will, as already mentioned, take place on 13th and 14th January, 1990 and the Senior event has now been confirmed for 3rd and 4th March, both at Ashford Table Tennis Club. Players selected to play in the County matches over the second week-end will be excused playing in the groups, so there is no excuse not to enter. Please make this a bumper year for entries to our Closed Championships.

I have not had any news on results of County matches, nor any reports on good performances by our players in Open events. One of these days I will get my lines of communication established so that I can report on matters of interest!

Our Ranking Lists for Juniors and Cadets have now been published, and are as follows:

### Junior Boys:

1. D. Baker; 2. D. Katz; 3. Richard Hyacinth; 4. M. Williams; 5. B. Matthews; 6. D. Abrahams; 7. S. Henley; 8. Robert Hyacinth; 9. J. Chin; 10. J. Spackling; 11. S. Zeffert; 12. R.

Weare 13. T. Woodward; 14. R. Pankhania; 15. I. Wilson; 16. R. Parmar.

### Junior Girls

1. S. Williams; 2. E. Kottasz; 3. E. Blanch; 4. L. Jackson; 5. G. Matthews; 6. D. Chan; 7. J. Jablon; 8. S. McHale; 9. J. Weare; 10. C. O'Leary; 11. J. Budd; 12. P. McMahon;

### Cadet Boys

1. Richard Hyacinth; 2. S. Zeffert; 3. J. Henley; 4. R. Wear; 5. R. Parmar; 6. R. Church; 7. T. Omid; 8. A. Green; 9. R. Sprackling; 10. S. Jablon.

### Cadet Girls

1. D. Chan; 2. J. Weare; 3. C. O'Leary.

## NORFOLK

Ray Hogg

NORWICH FOXWOOD club staged the first of the cadet international matches, England v Sweden, and I was going along to see the action. As usual, I ended up umpiring some of the matches, which was a blessing in disguise as I had a ring-side seat. Nothing against our lads, but I must say that these Swedish 12 year olds took my breath away — if they can play like that at that age what are they going to be like at 18. There were some shots played that certainly are not in any coaching manual. From these lads must come a future world champion. On the

next table, our cadet girls traded game for game with the Swedish girls, with the diminutive Nicola Deaton covering miles and miles in the quest for points. Results - Boys: Sweden 9, England 0. Girls: Sweden 4, England 5. From one extreme to another, the veteran content of our leagues seems to be increasing all the time. Gone are the days when the bat was hung up at say 35. I have just heard this week that Chuck Hewitt and Jim Defty from Lynn, and Derek Wortley and Terry Darby from Norwich, join the club early next year. I will have to raise again the possibility of joining together the two separate veteran leagues in the County i.e. East Anglian and North Norfolk. John Pringle has passed his written um-



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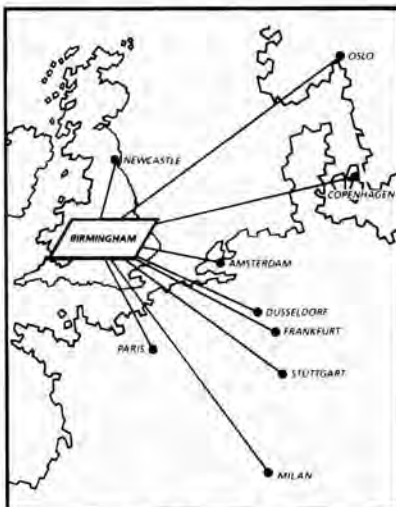
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pire paper and now waits for the hard part — the practical, which should be at the County Championships. Chuck Hewitt is attempting the written paper in connection with his coaching diploma. I have plenty of forms should anyone else feel inclined.

## NORTHANTS

Dennis Millman

A MODEST start to the Leeds County Championship season has been enlivened by the form of the Veteran Firsts, who have won both their opening matches, with Keith Jones unbeaten in both singles and doubles.

The five remaining sides have so far failed to register a win between them, although there have been some impressive performances from Ian Hawes, Kieron Dabbs, Joyce Porter and Phil Snelling.

In the Leeds British League, Well Connected Menswear, strengthened by the inclusion of John Burleton, have made a promising start in Division One North, while Levi's Westfield, with Bryn Tyler and Steve Hanks added to the squad, have fallen away after an excellent opening to the campaign.

In the local leagues, Well Connected Higham Band, an amalgam of Well Connected and Higham Band Club, continue to dominate, with a squad comprising Graeme McKim, Andy Edmonds, Chris Handshaw, Andy Trott, Richard Elliott and Steve Brown. However, by virtue of having played an extra game, Team Electric A lead the field in Kettering with Ian Hawes, Steve West and Steve Kendall as regulars, and John Moloney and John Palmer in reserve.

The Pennine Computer Ranking system has certainly brought about a change of emphasis locally, with many players now turning out in two or three leagues, but this sometimes leads to major fluctuations in team strengths from week to week — a situation that must be attended to as soon as possible. Overall, however, the increase of player registrations and the new faces appearing in long established sides can only be good for the game.

Many players have returned to the fold recently, with former County No. 1 lady, Anne Vickers (nee Wallis) just in time to replace her sister Mandy, who is now enjoying life in Canada. This season, Anne has begun to recover some real form, and a similar marked improvement has been noted in the play of Highfield's David Evans and Oundle's Julian Marshall.

Finally, congratulations to Phil Snelling, for becoming the first serving County Chairman in recent memory to make a winning debut in the Leeds County Championships.

## OXFORD

Steve Joyner

BY NOW the season is well underway. As in every year, all the local leagues have a fair amount of reorganisation. The Oxford League has seen various players and teams call it a day. One sad loss is the termination of one of Oxford's best-loved teams, Pressed Steel Fisher B. The split was inevitable, when team comedian, Alan Evans, had to leave the area to promote his new novel "How to win Friends and Influence People". Alan's charm and winning smiles will be missed throughout the playing season. Fortunately, however, Tony Wilkes and stylist Ian Arnold, have managed to inject some much needed youth to Arthur Chivers Rutherfords. On a happier note, I am pleased to report the successful extradition of top Oxford Star, Peter Jones, to Australia. A celebration attended by all those players that will benefit in the new ranking list due to Pete's departure was held in July at Kidlington Police Station. The party was erotic, with Eleanor Harrison pulling on her resources amongst other things in a characteristic attempt to try and lower the standard of the event to it's lowest possible form. To the great relief of the partying contingent, Eleanor refrained from taking part in the unusual type of entertainment she had managed to erect! On a serious note, Pete will leave a large hole (as would Eleanor) as he was one of the few players that managed to bring a touch of class to the Table Tennis circuit in the county. Pete was always successful, but never unpopular, and I would like to wish him every success in Australia. Oxford's senior team were somewhat depleted for the first county game of the season. Steve Joyner was absent on important social duties, whilst Clive Morris was still mourning the departure of team mate Pete Jones. Carl Bushell's arm injury that he sustained nine years ago, whilst playing his second sport, bridge, unfortunately reoccurred during his recent defeat by Arthur Chilvers. This meant that Andrew Packford

could make his first team debut. Andrew and the team provided a typical Oxford performance narrowly missing out in a close fought contest. The eventual honours going to Essex by the smallest of margins 10-0. The Veterans county team were also hit by injury, with power player Alf Davies still recovering from the wrist problem he picked up in that unfortunate incident in Manhattens night club late last Saturday night. Unfortunately for Alf, his injury has already cost him his team valuable points when he had to withdraw from a recent match with Stan Hann. The match was hanging in the balance at 20-5 to Stan in the third set when Alf found the pain too much and eventually withdrew.

If Alf's injury persists for much longer there will be some fierce competition for his county shirt. Banbury's Colin Mortimer must be favourite, now that he has eventually admitted to reaching the Veteran status, congratulations Colin.

Finally, this is my first report of the new season, and some of you will now be aware of the style that the reports are presented. So I would like to take this opportunity to say to all those people I have offended, tough! and to those that I have not — I WILL.

## SURREY

Terry Vance

WHO IS the smartest county in the County Championships? Thanks to the sponsorship by Playrite Sports, I believe that we are. Our new corporate colours look terrific with all 7 County teams kitted out. Hopefully a picture next month.

### Surrey Junior Ranking List Boys

U17: P. Carter, J. Blake, D. Blake  
U12: M. Love, J. Furner, L. Tulsiani  
U11: J. Furner, L. Tulsiani, S. Shah  
U10: S. Shah, S. Khinji, P. Turville



Three promising young ladies from Surrey — left to right: Karen Ashley, Danielle Crouch and Claire Ashley

### Girls

U17: H. Webber, M. Markham, K. Ashley  
U16: M. Markham, K. Ashley, C. Ashley  
U15: M. Markham, C. Ashley, R. Forster  
U14: R. Forster, D. Crouch, S. Kingsley  
U13: R. Forster, D. Crouch, S. Hall  
U12: D. Crouch, L. Larn, K. Wells  
U11: K. Wells, A. McNamara, S. Lane  
U10: A. McNamara, L. Singh, C. Furner

At the City of London Tournament, Jane Barella won Class 2 Singles, Edward Hatley retained the Kirklees title he won last season, and Rachel Forster nearly scored an upset in the round of County Matches against Andrea Hopkinson.

### South of England 2 Star

The Championships was a personal success for Paul Carter, who won the U17 Singles and Doubles titles. It was the first time he had beaten Martin Adams, having lost to him the previous week. Stephen Lampkin exceeded all expectations by reaching the semi-finals of the U12 event.

Edward Hatley is starting the season well, having lost only one of the tournaments he has entered.

### County Championships

Paul McNamara nearly sprang a surprise against a very overconfident Danny Ritter of Kent, just losing at deuce in the 3rd. Elsewhere, on a weekend when 7 Juniors and 7 Seniors were unavailable, Gail McCulloch played and won her annual outing for the 2nd team, for whom Mike Hammond was undefeated in the drawn match against Kent.

### Surrey Junior Tournament

The entry was down on last year due to a clash with a local Schools tournament. The Referee organised the finish very well, with 1 player involved in 8 of the last 9 matches! This caused the tournament to overrun by an hour, finishing at 6.30pm. There were calls for the Referee to be replaced for next year, but as yet there are no volunteers. The Referee was somebody called T. Vance.

### Results

U12 Boys: S. Lamkin bt J. Furner  
U12 Girls: D. Crouch bt W. Hutchinson  
U14 Boys: D. Blake bt S. Lamkin  
U14 Girls: R. Forster bt D. Crouch  
U17 Boys: J. Blake bt D. Blake  
U17 Girls: H. Webber bt C. Ashley (3rd time in succession for Hannah)  
U14 Boys Doubles: D. Blake/S. Lamkin bt D. Dyer/J. Wakefield  
U14 Girls Doubles: R. Forster/D. Crouch bt L. Singh/S. Lane  
U17 Boys Doubles: J. Blake/D. Blake bt D. Dyer/J. Wakefield

U17 Girls Doubles: H. Webber/M. Markham bt K. Ashley/C. Ashley  
Mixed Doubles: J. Blake/K. Ashley bt D. Blake/M. Markham

## Thames Valley League

Division 2 has started, and with 4 weeks gone Lorraine Garbet heads the averages followed by Ian Moran. Graham Spicer 5 head the division by 5 points from MMB1.

## SUSSEX

John Woodford

RITCHIE VENNER (Crawley) the reigning Sussex champion, and Adrian Moore (Bexhill), the losing finalist, are providing a double spearhead for Sussex in the Leeds County championships strong enough to stop most opposition teams.

In the first day of the very welcome format that allows three teams to meet at a central venue, Sussex lashed old rivals Kent 8-2, but could only draw 5-5 with Avon. Adrian Moore's victims were the two "Andies" from Kent, Dodd and Cunningham, both of whom play for Horsham Dolphins in the Leeds British League.

Stephen Moore, the new players' representative on the National Council, also beat Cunningham, who has so far only produced one super performance for Dolphins, who signed him from Ruislip. Against Kent, Sussex found themselves up against two former Sussex players, veteran Margaret Dignum, an "evergreen" formerly from Hastings, and the young player, Julie Lawrence, formerly from Bexhill.

Sussex players, Teresa Moore and Sally Weston, had no trouble against the Kent ladies, but the Sussex pair came to grief against Michelle Cohen and Helen Perrett for Avon, but in that match Venner rescued Sussex as he stopped Diccon Gray, the ETTA Development Officer and Paul Lewis, prominent in or on the fringes of the Welsh national squad.

Meanwhile, Horsham Dolphins heaved themselves off the bottom with a 5-3 win over Rejects at Wallington, with Venner and Dodd both unbeaten and a vital win from Phil Smith, who has returned to table tennis after a break that could have been long-lasting.

Sussex Open champion, Andy Meads, the Crawley schoolmaster, who gave everybody some lessons when he won the Sussex Open at Hastings, ran out of steam at the Sussex Towns veterans tournament, when he lost in the final to "the gentle Giant" Keith Horton, who retained his title.

Mrs. Pat Wales organised the event, and decided not to play in the singles. This was a wise decision as she saved enough energy to create

two major shocks in the mixed doubles. With Chris Hatton (Worthing) they knocked out Meads and Pat Pearce in the semi-finals and Horton and Pauline Steel in the final.

On the junior front, Alan Cole, Tracey Cole and Paul Ciccheli qualified for the national (regional) trials, but Alan suffered a surprise defeat playing for Dolphins seconds — he lost to Paul Carter.

Producing cadets worthy of national recognition is the Arundel TTC in West Sussex, under veteran coach Pat Ginnaw. Sarah Stedman is the main product so far. She and Joanna Bush-Harris (Brighton) are, we are told, in the England Under-12 squad.

All eyes are on Janet Smith, the Sussex senior champion, and Scotland No. 2, who has spent four weeks in Tokyo under Butterfly wings. She is finding some difficulty fitting in her commitments for Scotland, with the full Sussex programme — her absence for Sussex against Avon may have cost Sussex a valuable point, but Rome wasn't built in a day.

## WORCESTERSHIRE

Dave Roden

THE FIRST two rounds of County Championship matches have been played since my last notes, with the senior 2nds the only team without a point. With County No. 1 Murray Jukes and Junior No. 2 Jason Thompson both unavailable for the first matches on 30th September, our junior and two senior teams all suffered 6-4 defeats.

The 1st team lost at home to Suffolk, and the 2nds lost away to Gloucs, with Sue Meredith and debutant Sarah Stone both unbeaten. The Juniors also lost to Gloucs, Catherine Drage, Paula Hughes, Craig Ward and Edward Nixon, all making their debuts for the County, but the Veterans team recovered from 1-4 down to beat Essex 2nds 5-4, Mervyn Wood winning both his singles for Worcs.

The second round of matches had Jukes and Thompson back in action, with better results. The 1st team travelled to Lincolnshire and won 6-4, with Jukes, Malcolm Green, Trevor Washington, Sandra Roden and Linda Reid all contributing to the win.

The 2nds again lost 6-4 to Somerset, while the Juniors beat Bucks 7-3 at Milton Keynes, Jason Thompson celebrating his return by winning both his singles, the girls again winning their three sets.

The Veterans maintained their unbeaten record with a hard-earned 6-3 defeat of visitors Norfolk, in a splendid match at Bromley. Janet Hunt, Ray Dixon, Roy Norton and Mervyn Wood all winning a singles each and taking both doubles.

In the Regional Junior Trials at Market Drayton on 15th October, Lee Horton was unbeaten in winning the Junior event, with Jason Thompson finishing third. Both players will now go forward to the National Trials in January. Well done both.

A brief analysis of the six leagues affiliated to Worcestershire shows an overall increase of thirteen teams from last year.

Bromsgrove league show an increase from 20 to 28 teams, their youth policy paying dividends by the formation of a new Youth Division.

Dudley increase from 46 to 49 teams and gain a fifth division.

Worcester league increase from 44 to 47 teams.

Kidderminster and Evesham show no change, with 45 and 22 teams respectively, but the Malvern league drop from 35 to 34 teams.

## YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

GOOD NEWS for Yorkshire last month was that two former County stars, Melody Hill and Kevin Beadley, have made themselves available for the Leeds County Championships competition.

Melody (nee Ludi) - take note, Ray Endean (Mailbox, October), with rather more time now available to her, has had several games with her Bradford club site, Clayton Heights, and made a successful return to top level play against Warwickshire in her home city.

Kevin has found his T.T. very much restricted by his responsibilities as a fireman in Halifax, but he is now back in the game and showed that he has lost little of his ability with two titles in last season's Yorkshire 2\* Graded Championships.

County and Regional trials held at the Leeds centre at Farnley Park High School saw nearly 100 hopefuls participate in the four events, which ran like a well oiled machine under the skilled guidance of Richard Hudson, who, in only his second season on Committee, has proved a real asset, particularly in the junior field.

Although a very limited number could make the grade all the way to the National trials, all enjoyed plenty of good class T.T. and will almost certainly have had their appetite whetted for more competitive play.

The 12 players already through to the Nationals by virtue of their high placing in the ranking lists, were finally joined by Darren Lindley (Huddersfield), Mark Smith (Bradford) and ten year old Michael James (Bridlington) — Cadet Boys; Lyndsey Jenkins and Rachel Grindrod (Wakefield) — Cadet Girls; Martin Vickers, Philip Chapman (Bradford), Craig Smith and Karl Horsfield (Selby) — Junior Boys;

### AN APOLOGY

THE EXCELLENT cartoons which appeared on pages 15 and 32 of our November issue were the work of Simon Golding. Our apologies for not making this clear and giving credit where due.

and Caroline Bentley (Bradford), Debbie Newman (Selby) and Jayne Richardson (Wakefield) — Junior Girls.

Congratulations to Sheffield for the first class staging of the England v Netherlands match at the Concorde Sports Centre. What a pity the enthusiastic crowd — I estimate between 7 and 800 — did not see an England victory!

But let us hope that it will not be too long before top T.T. is again staged in the steel city, next time with a more favourable result.

### Harrogate Jubilee

Harrogate general secretary Geoff Scruton — good to see him back on the umpiring circuit — draws my attention to his Association's Diamond Jubilee season, and nobody is in a better position than he to help organize the celebrations.

Geoff has served the League in almost every office since he joined in 1954, including ten years as Chairman from 1957 to 1967, while wife Nancy has also been very much involved.

It is Nancy who has made all the arrangements for a Grand Dinner at the Granby Hotel, with Cyril Villiers, Regional Director of the Yorkshire & Humberside Sports Council, as the guest speaker.

A number of other events are in the pipeline, among them a 'hard bat' tournament, while the League have also involved themselves very much with a tournament for the disabled of the town.

There is still a link with the early days in Norman Lusher, who first played in 1935, and is still an extremely difficult man to beat.

And what a good example Norman sets — the entry in the Harrogate Handbook — 'Division 4 Doubles — N. Lusher and J. Hazlehurst' may not raise any eyebrows, but Norman, whose age shall remain a mystery, is intensely proud to be teaming up with young England ranked cadet Jeremy, whom he has helped along the road in his open Wanderers club.

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## Junior Training Policy

FOLLOWING the European Youth Championships in Luxembourg, a meeting took place between myself and the three non-playing England captains, Jackie Bellinger, Jenny Heaton and Paul Day.

The main point to come out of the discussions was that we have to make sure that our top players have the necessary skills, techniques, physical fitness and tactical awareness to compete at the highest level. It was felt that maybe we had been spreading ourselves too thinly and that in future, we should concentrate on smaller squads.

It was with this in mind that I have appointed four coaches:

Junior Boys ... Ian Marshall  
Junior Girls ... Jenny Heaton  
Cadet Boys ... Ian Robertson  
Cadet Girls ... Jackie Bellinger

These coaches have been asked to work with a comparatively small number of players and help them develop the necessary skills to win at international level. Each coach in conjunction with myself has or will

be planning shortly, a training programme for the year which will of course have to be passed by the E.T.T.A. Management Committee because of the financial implications. The training of these squads will be financed by the E.T.T.A.

Last season, we had some excellent training sessions at the Grove School. These will continue, however, they will now be organised by the Grove Table Tennis Club and operate on a self-financing basis. These camps will provide 4-5 hours quality practise and coaching for players who cannot receive this attention at home or indeed be used to supplement their home-based training. Clearly, this sort of training is excellent preparation for any players hoping to make the England Training Camps



and the England Team.

When selecting England Teams, clearly results are the most crucial factor, however, obviously there would seem little point in wasting money on players who clearly are not going to develop a game that has a chance of international success. England camps will be about developing a game to give the best possible chance of international success. Players who therefore choose not to attend England camps may have their future selec-

tion brought into doubt. Obviously, players invited on England camps, will constantly be reviewed by myself and the respective coach. Ultimately, what we are all looking for is international success and the players who can bring this about.



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## S W Durham sponsorship

# SEE Sponsorship of S W Durham TTC

TWO WEEKS prior to the beginning of the Leeds British League, 3rd Division North newcomers, South West Durham TTC, were given a massive boost by the agreement of a sponsorship deal with Knaresborough based Stephens Electrical Engineers. The team are now widely known as SEE, and the distinctive jade coloured track-suits will be seen at various events in the North.



Gary Webstell

SEE, formerly known as Derek Stephens (Electrical Contractors) Ltd. are one of the region's leading companies, with a turnover in excess of £1.2 million, consisting of contracts varying in size throughout the UK. Managing Director, Mr. Steve Barker, says "SEE are also active in other areas of the sporting world, and we are particularly pleased to be associated with such an ambitious and forward looking club, and sincerely hope that together SEE/S.W.DURHAM will present a successful and formidable partnership".

The 1989/90 campaign is a case of testing the water says Team Manager Keith Wilson, "With a squad made up from the best of the local league players, we will need a season to assess the strength of the division, and the type of players that will be needed if we are going to be successful. The support of SEE is a tremendous boost to not only our

Trevor Di Martino



John Crawford

club, but to Table Tennis in general. If we, in the forgotten outposts in the North East, can generate such enthusiasm from industry and commerce in our sport, then so can other clubs".

Although, having made a quiet start on the table, SEE have gained impressive media coverage by virtue of a weekly newspaper in the North. On the administrative side, the officials of SEE take a lot of time and trouble to ensure that each match is individually prepared for, in terms of presentation, which is in keeping with the ideals of the league. A match programme is provided at each game and contains many features ranging from comments on the problems of the game and notes on visiting teams, to local news and the popular antics of the unknown player in the TT players Diary page.

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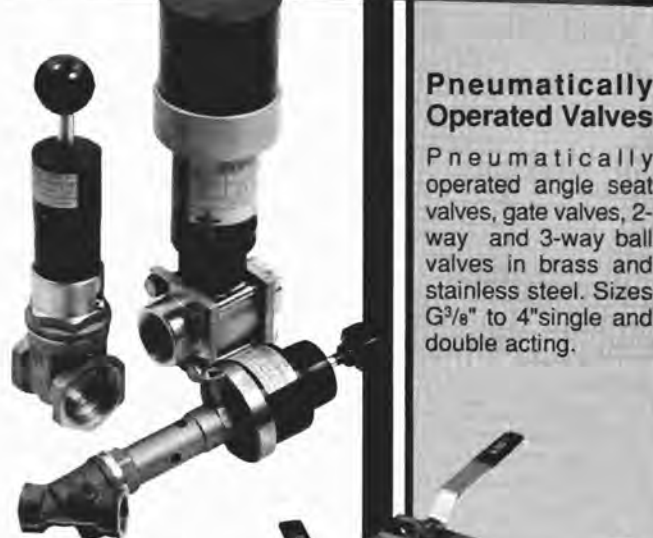
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## Southern Region

by BRIAN LAMERTON

THE THIRD season of the regional league has started promisingly, and after only two matches, nobody of the 17 teams covering three divisions has maximum points, and no individual who has played in two matches has a 100% individual record.

Purbrook are early Premier division leaders, Graham Lynch, having transferred from Amity Generation to join Bob Cox and Micki Sinanan — Amity Generation 'B' whose regular team includes the two Sarahs, Hammond & Turner lead division 1, and Kingfishers Taryn Napier-Vallis and Chris Basden appear to have got a grip on the ladies division.

Following the recent regional junior trials, the following will go

forward to the Nationals:-

Cadet Boys: Marcus Horth (Berks); Kevin Macken (Hants); Neil Bigrave (Bucks).

Cadet Girls: Gemma Schwartz (Berks); Ilse Arnold (Oxon).

Junior Boys: Gavin Yates (Oxon); Marc Priddle (Berks); Martin Haycock (Oxon); Denny Baxter (Bucks).

Junior Girls: Dawn Barnett (Oxon); Esther Baggaley (Bucks).



This picture shows thirteen year old Natasha Williams who has represented Wales at Cadet, Junior and Senior level being presented with her trophy as Sports Personality of the year at Wrexham Victoria Youth Club Old Members and Friends Association, by Charles Bayliss. Also present in the photograph are Mrs Kay Thomas, Brian Hall, Russell Thomas, Roy Williams and Herbert Owen.

## Isle of Wight

by BRIAN LAMERTON

AS THE southernmost county in the country, winter comes late to the Isle of Wight, and only two weeks league fixtures have been completed to date, but not without surprises. Champions, and many times past winners, Sandown, haven't won a match! In fairness, they have had injury problems, but this hasn't stopped them in the past, especially as Roger Hookey has turned in a maximum — full credit to Newport Vics who held them and to Wroxall who thumped 'em. I wrote in this column a year ago that the Rookley team of Paul Morton, Mark Mitchell and Peter Urry fancied themselves — well they didn't make it in 88-89, but they are the early leaders for 89-90.

Outstanding individual performance so far is that of 18 year old Mathew Hobley, who, having moved direct from Newport Vics 4th division team to their 1st division, has won 5 out of 6. The same record incidentally as that of Carl, with whom Mathew practised during the summer in the European League — watch this space!

From success to tragedy — another young Vics player Graham Chiverton recently met an untimely death in a car accident — a good all round sportsman, Graham will be sadly missed by a wide circle of friends, and our condolences, perhaps a bit belatedly, go to his family through this magazine.

We have not had the best of starts in the Southern regional league — two defeats for both mens and ladies teams — but each team has obtained one point; a win apiece for Roger Hookey, Mathew Hobley and Joe Daly against Chippenham 'A' and a singles and doubles win, in

partnership with Heather Wykes, for debutant Maureen Hewison against OLUP.

The National Vice-Chairman for coaching, Stuart Sneyd, came to the Island in the summer for a coaching rally, which was well attended, enjoyed and set a platform for the future. For the first time a number of our youngsters travelled to the mainland for the regional trials — we didn't set the world alight but they knew we were there.

Our usual pre-season tournament for first year juniors attracted an entry of 20, and after four keenly contested groups Adam Crews of Cowes High School emerged as the final winner.

I was not at the last National Council meeting, a change of date clashing with a planned 7 days in the sun, but I understand that John announced that he was prepared to stand for another season as National Chairman, and that must be good news for all of us.

## A Table of Tables

by JACK REEVES

PULLING INTO an AGIP Service Station, whilst driving down the Rhône valley, we wandered off into the adjacent woods, and, to our surprise, stumbled on clearings in which had been built concrete table tennis tables (net and all), painted green/white, and which were apparently impervious to the weather and vandals. Ideal, unless you defended a la Bergmann, when elbows may get 'barked'. With bats always at the ready, I was soon struggling at 11-17, but just starting to find the edges, when my wife spotted some French 'Robin Hoods' taking more than a passing interest in our hub caps. Match abandoned.

Other activities were provided in those woods. One, I remember, a large concrete monstrosity up which lads were practising rock climbing. But what a good idea for development of our game at picnic sites. Do, as I've done, and suggest it to your local Forestry Commission.

And now, on the 'B' side. The saga of a table, who's name I wouldn't deign to mention. It was six years since we last visited a Spanish hotel at Palamos, but, sure enough, the table tennis table was

still alongside the pool. Alas, it had not weathered well. Victim of a quick hose down every morn, and then the sun and wind had had their wicked way. Shortened shredded wheat sides, a dappled, dimpled top, so that when the ball bounced it took off at a tangent. Just a case of 'who serves wins'.

I must say, that the Hotel manager wore a very puzzled frown when I wrote in his Visitors Book in best pidgin Spanish — "When next I return, I'm bringing an axe to 'divide' that 'mesa de beule'."

## Lancashire & Cheshire League

SIXTEEN LEAGUES are to contest the Norman Cook Memorial Trophy won last season by Liverpool. Draw for the first round with handicaps in brackets is:-

Liverpool (scr) v Stockport (scr)  
Farnworth (3) v Blackburn  
Burnley v Hyndburn (4)  
Glossop (3) v Oldham

Blackpool v Wirral (3)  
Mid-Cheshire (scr) v Wigan (scr)  
Lytham St. Annes v Preston (3)

Liverpool Business Houses (4) v Bolton

Ties were due for completion by Saturday November 25th.

In Division 1 of the L & C League, Bolton, without the services of Stephen Scowcroft and David Carse, went down 6-4 to Warrington, whose Terry Turner had a treble supported by two wins for Peter Flint and Aussie Peter Lander against two successes for Mark Gibson — elder brother of Sean — and one for Nigel Hallows.

Liverpool, the defending champions of the women's first division, were held to a 5-5 draw by Warrington, the Liverpoolians only having two players in Brenda Buoeoy and Paula French, who both lost to Caroline Hemmings.

## South West Regional News

by ALF PEPPARD

TOO LATE for November's issue, the third in the series of "Women in Sport" and subsequent T.T. International matches — England v Federal West Germany — despite the fact that at Cirencester we lost 0-6, from a spectator aspect the S.W. Region certainly did us proud.

I'm sure that all these three matches in the series will get adequate coverage, how indeed could they fail with John Woodford being around to cover them. But one thing I must mention, arriving at the Cotswold Sports Centre at around 3pm. those two rascals — Mike Lewis and Clive Oakman certainly had me fooled for a few moments, both implying that I was required to manually operate Clive's electronic scorer. Now never having seen the thing before, I fell for this gag, Hook — Line and Sinkers, yes, indeed for a few moments they certainly wound me up.

My grateful thanks to Jill Hammersley-Parker MBE, for obliging me with a BBC Radio Interview just prior to the final match in the series at Cirencester.

Val Clack our SWR — ETTA Senior Coach is organising coaches courses for Student Coaches, Teachers, Sports Leaders and Youth Leaders on the 18th and 19th November, at the Herod Park Way School, Moreton Road in Swindon. I understand that there will be a mixture of theory and practical work involved, and that all participants should be equipped for personal note-taking so make sure your pencils are well sharpened.

I duly noted in the October issue of this magazine, that a former Gloucester colleague, who has attained table tennis fame — not quite sure about fortune? — as Staff's former Chairman, and long-standing County Press Officer namely, Jack Chalkley, is now moving to Somerset. I can only say that

Staffordshire's great loss could easily be Somerset's and the South West Region's ultimate gain. Welcome once again to the West Country Jack, and as Joey Boswell (of Bread) would say — "Greetings".

And finally, may I draw the attention of S.W. Regional readers

to the high inputs of work both before and after put into the England v. Federal West Germany International at Cirencester by Mike Lewis, our Regional Chairman, and Bob Davis, Cirencester's local administrator.



Antony Fung, the owner of Lion International is seen here along with Ted Wallbuton, chief executive of the ETTA and Alan Hydes of Lion Sport (UK) Ltd at the recent EXSL exhibition at Olympia. They met to finalise an agreement for the exclusive use of the Lion ball for all our centres of excellence for a two year period. Lion International produce almost six million bats a year and are the largest manufacturers in the world.

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### A MESSAGE FROM MALCOLM FRANCIS

I wish all readers and customers of Express Sports a Happy Christmas and with my prices, I'm sure they will have a prosperous New Year.  
Malcolm



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# Grove Junior Open

## Lisa's triumph in 3 set thriller

by IAN MARSHALL

PLAYERS FROM Grove Table Tennis Club enjoyed a most successful weekend in the H&E Scaffolding Grove School Junior Open Championships held at Market Drayton over the weekend of October 7th and 8th with the talented Leigh Jeffries spearheading the home success by clinching the boys' singles title at the expense of clubmate Gary Knights in a splendidly fought three set final.

A player of unquestioned talent, Jeffries reached the final without the loss of a set beating clubmate Howard Whewell at the penultimate stage whilst Garry Knights had to dig deep into resources of character to beat Reading's Marc Priddle and Plymouth's Gregory Bridgett before accounting for Martin Adams of Ascot in the semi-final. The final was to see Jeffries' only excursion to three sets as Knights' improving strength of character extended the top seed to an exciting three set duel with the topspin play of Jeffries the crucial factor in the result.

However, in the girls' singles final the Grove banner was to be lowered as the talented young lady from Berkshire Lisa Crick outthit Market Drayton schoolgirl Sarah Creasey to clinch a well-deserved title. The event proved an excellent contest with not a quarter asked nor given as a series of cut and thrust matches saw Lisa Crick beat Grove's Michelle Martin in a three set thriller before ousting the sporting Dawn Barnett of Oxford in the semi-finals. Meanwhile Sarah Creasey defeated club-mate Nicola Meddings and Devonian Helen Wright in superb matches before Miss Crick ended her progress.

The doubles events saw a reversal of fortunes as top seeded Grove pair Leigh Jeffries and Garry Knights were beaten by the excellent Berkshire pairing of Martin Adams and Matthew Greenwood in the closest of finals whilst on the distaff side Grove duo Michelle Martin and Nicola Meddings ousted top seeds Lisa Crick and Nicola Cracknell before the increasingly successful duo of Sarah and Elizabeth Creasey halted their progress in a straight sets final.

Further success followed for the home club in the Under 12 boys' singles where proceedings were dominated by the outstanding Steven Meddings who accounted for the game Kevin Doyle in the final. Meanwhile the boy from Sutton Coldfield came within an ace of a double as Surrey youngster Mark Horth saved match points before clinching the cadet title by the narrowest of margins in a hard fought three set encounter. It was a splendid performance by the unseeded Horth who ousted second seeded Jonathan May in the quarter



Winner of U12 Boys singles, Steven Meddings

finals whilst top seed Adrian Vincent fell to Meddings at the penultimate stage. Furthermore it was nearly a double for Horth who in harness with Stroud's Peter Hayward lost by the closest of margins to Camborne's David Menzel and Jonathan Pocock in the final, the latter having disposed of luckless top seeds May and Vincent in the semi-finals.

However, the Grove banner was to fly once again in the Cadet Girls' events where Michelle Martin gained gold over clubmate Tracey Garratt with Wolverhampton's rapidly improving Sarah Brabazon and the much travelled Devonian Anna Cahill the losing semi finalists. Meanwhile further success came for the top two seeds as they teamed to win the cadet girls doubles but not before the excellent pairing of Reading's Gemma Schwartz and London's Talya Greenberg extended the champions elect to the tenets of three sets in a splendidly fought final.

Meanwhile, contested in similar vein was the Under 12 girls' singles where the rapidly improving girl from Burslem in the Potteries, Vicky Fox, overcame Arundel's Sarah Steadman in a hard hitting final with both girls confident in using entertaining attacking play.

An excellent tournament contested in the right spirit with all matches finished by 8.30pm on

Saturday and 6.30pm on Sunday, well done to Penny and Bill Pigram as secretary and organiser and to Tony Chatwin the genial referee.

## RESULTS

### Junior Boys' Singles:

*Semi Finals:* Leigh Jeffries (Grove) bt Howard Whewell (Grove) 16, 19; Garry Knights (Grove) bt Martin Adams (Reading) 16, 14.

*Final:* Jeffries bt Knights -18, 16, 17.

### Junior Girls' Singles:

*Semi Finals:* Lisa Crick (M'head) bt Dawn Barnett (Oxf) 18, 14; Sarah Creasey (Grove) bt Helen Wright (Devon) 16, 17.

*Final:* Crick bt Creasey 17, 16

### Junior Boys' Doubles

*Semi Finals:* Jeffries/Knights bt Howard Whewell (Grove)/Ray Powell (Glouc) 9, 19; Martin Adams/Matthew Greenwood (Read'g) bt Darren Howarth/Spenser Harris (Grove) 17, 19.

*Final:* Adams/Greenwood bt Jeffries/Knights 18, -19, 23.

### Junior Girls' Doubles

*Semi Finals:* Nicola Meddings/Michelle Martin (Grove) bt Lisa Crick/Nicola Cracknell (Read'g) 20, 21;

Creasey/Creasey bt Joanne Groves (Sheldon) /Tracey Marriott (Kett'g) 13, 13.

*Final:* Creasey/Creasey bt Meddings/Martin 13, 10.

### Cadet Girls' Singles

*Semi Finals:* Michelle Martin (Grove) bt Sarah Brabazon (Wolv) 14, 16; Tracey Garratt (Grove) bt Anna Cahill (Connor D) 20, 7.

*Final:* Martin bt Garratt 16, 15.

### Cadet Boys' Singles

*Semi Finals:* Steven Meddings (Grove) bt Adrian Vincent (Pl'mth) 16, 19; Mark Horth (Cam'ley) bt Richard Tilley (B on T) 19, 11.

*Final:* Horth bt Meddings 16, -14, 21.

### Cadet Girls' Doubles

*Final:* Martin/Garratt bt Talya Greenberg(Lon)/Gemma Schwartz (Read'g) 19, -18, 17.

### Cadet Boys' Doubles

*Final:* David Menzel/Jonathan Pocock (Camborne) bt Horth/Peter Hayward (Stroud) -16, 14, 19.

### U-12 Boys' Singles

*Final:* Steven Meddings (Grove) bt Kevin Doyle (Arundel) 14, 13.

### U-12 Girls' Singles

*Final:* Vicky Fox (Potteries) bt Sarah Steadman (Arundel) 19, 16.

*Top: Tracey Garrett and Michelle Martin, and bottom from left to right - Nicola Meddings, Michelle Martin, Sarah Creasey and Elizabeth Creasey (All photos by Geoff Twiss)*



## Exhibition Table Tennis Acclaim and Criticism

ON THE 18th September last, I attended Clive Oakman's promotion of the "Classic" table tennis exhibition between Secretin and Purkart, and the so-called challenge match between Cooke & Douglas at Harlow.

Clive's promotion, in my opinion, was quite outstanding, extremely well presented and it was an absolute privilege to have seen the Frenchmen live in action. They were hilarious and magnificent. Every table tennis player should go out of their way to see them — it's almost an artform so beautiful was it to watch.

In stark contrast was the show put on by our so called two best players. If this indeed was supposed to be a challenge match, why did they both not then play as if they meant to win? Both Alan and Des looked as if they really could not have cared less.

Frankly, if they were both supposed to have been playing for £2,000 over the week's promotion, the obvious thing would have been to have agreed to have split the money and put on an "exhibition match" with some rallies in it. In the four games they played that evening, there was only one point remotely approaching anything like a rally, the rest of the points were absolute drivel. In truth, their "challenge" match was just the sort of match to ensure that table tennis would never be put on television ever again. It was the poison to kill off table tennis for good. Maybe they had agreed to split the money, and had decided, because of this "why bother to put on any semblance of a proper match" — it sure appeared like that even if they had not intended it to be so. I don't know what their other matches were like during their tour, but if their other matches were anything like the match at Harlow, British Table Tennis is not as good as we all think.

In fact, the following evening, I attended a North Middlesex Premier Division League Match, where every one of the night's matches were better and more exciting than the match between Alan and Des. I hope they find this letter strong enough to both feel that in the future they reconsider how they project these matches in their play for the good of the game as well as their pocket. In fact, maybe they ought to have seen the "challenge" tennis match between McEnroe and Edberg at Docklands Arena recently for the concept of a "challenge" match where there are spectators. I rest my case with the words 'Vive la France' — the French certainly showed how an exhibition, or even challenge match, should be played.

Finally, I would take up the result of the England Sweden match, which Clive and the media made great play of. In fact, Clive interviewed Alan after his "match" with Des. Yes, on the surface it was a reasonable result for England, but let's face it, Sweden did only field their possibly third best team. Had Carl and Alan beaten say Waldner and Persson, or Appelgren or Bengtsson, yes, then lets have some drum beating, but they frankly beat a team they always had at least a 50/50 chance of beating, and in any case were not the real world champions.

I'm not saying this to knock our players even more, but simply trying to get things in perspective.

STUART GREENBERG  
7 Willenhall Avenue  
New Barnet  
Herts EN5 1JN

## Double Dutch performance by England

ON October 26th I made the trip to Sheffield, to see my fellow Dutchmen play England in the Super League.

Even though Holland had beaten England on several occasions in the past, there was no doubt about who was the favourite. Even in my most optimistic dreams I couldn't see Holland get away with victory. And after the opening two men's singles, my last hopes were buried.

Then however, came three astonishing matches.

The fact that Kloppenberg won her women's singles against Lomas wasn't astonishing at all. But astonishing it was to see Alison Gordon left on the bench, for she has a positive record (5-1) against Kloppenberg. Nobody will argue about Cooke and Preat playing men's doubles for England. This experienced pair have had many good wins in the past. In record time however, these two were swept away by Haldan and Bakker: totally lacking any experience. Suddenly, I could dig up my hopes again. After this unexpected setback, England should still have wrapped things up, and Dutch coach Jan Vlieg must have thought he wore the wrong glasses when the two mixed doubles pairs walked out for their knock-up.

Instead of seeing Cooke and Gordon behind the table, Jan Vlieg saw them sitting on the bench. A week before, they were losing finalists in the Polish Open! "Thanks very much" said Vlieg, and another point was added to the Dutch total. Well, in the end Holland got that decisive fourth point, and the impossible proved possible.

Now English people are said to be very friendly. But I didn't know it went as far as giving opponents a helping hand...

(No authorship received)  
presumably Dutch (Editor)

## Football — the Prime Reason...

IN November's Sussex Notes written by John Woodford I was quoted as saying that I hoped the Sussex selectors would not pick Alan Cole for the Senior teams due to his opting out of Junior County Matches this season. These comments were made at a County Management Council Meeting. John quotes the reasons for Alan opting out because he wanted to concentrate on tournaments and British League. John seems to have forgotten the most relevant reason which caused me to make my remarks. It was reported that Alan wished to play football on Saturdays, a decision that he is quite entitled to make and one that no one can quarrel with, but my point being that the Senior selectors should take that decision into consideration when selecting Senior county teams.

It is well known that John likes a good story, but perhaps John was too interested in the final results of the Ryder Cup on his personal radio than noting down all the facts in this discussion.

KEITH JACKSON  
Sussex County Inter-League  
Secretary

## Letter received by an equipment supplier recently after lighthearted letter sent to customer reminding him that Invoice was outstanding

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 27/9/89 (no ref), and it is with total abhorrence that I read its contents. Is this your normal business procedure? Not only that but the amount, £44.09, for a small piece of wood with the tiniest layer of rubber on. I don't mind telling you that if this is the kind of quality of today's workmanship then bring back slavery, at least they produced quality, knowing if they didn't, they wouldn't eat. Have you eaten recently? I take point in your invoice on three matters.

1). All round blade — Not so, there is a bit sticking out of it, I admit it makes holding the bat easier, but that's not the point.  
2). Double Happiness — Not so, I wasn't the slightest bit happy.

3). Glue and make up — Not so, there was no (and I checked the package thoroughly) Glue or make up in with the bat. I was particularly looking forward to the make up.

Therefore, I conclude that I have a good case against paying the most unacceptable 9 pence added on, (obviously afterwards) at the end.

Please find enclosed cheque (Rubber) reluctantly made payable to yourselves.

MR. N. S. HOUSEAGO  
6 Tilney Road  
East Tuddenham  
Dereham, Norfolk

## Europe v Asia Crash

THE CANCELLATION of this year's Europe v Asia tournament, due to be held in cities all over Europe, highlights once again how unwise it is to run this event every year. Once every two years would be right.

It is most unpopular with the players of both continents. They do not like being rushed from place to place night after night. Invariably the visiting team is below par physically and mentally and even the home teams have complained of fatigue.

On this occasion, the central figure in the financial disaster area is Georg Rebmann, of the Saarbrücken club, the club that once "employed" Desmond Douglas and Carl Preat. It is beyond question that Herr Rebmann assured the ETTU that he had negotiated deals both with West German TV and the Saarland government to cover the events in Germany.

The fact that the arrangements with Mr. Rebmann fell through the trapdoor shows again, that the ETTU should not have relied on this gentleman's assurance that all was well, without first making absolutely certain that the money was on the table.

JOHN WOODFORD

## ANNOUNCEMENT

MEMBERS ARE asked to note that North Cyprus is not affiliated to the ITTF. Therefore, they should not play there, as to do so would be a breach of both ITTF and ETTA rules. All members contemplating playing in a foreign country are advised to ring Albert Shipley at our Hastings Office to obtain the relevant advice.

## The South of England 2-Star Junior Open

by MICHAEL GREEN

THE NOTICEABLE drop in temperature and the falling leaves are a daunting prospect to many as they herald the approach of winter.

For the table tennis enthusiast the one compensation is the introduction of a new season. The Surrey Committee started proceedings in the usual way by staging the South of England 2 Star Junior Tournament and once again chose the excellent facilities of Monks Hill Sports Centre in Croydon as the venue over the weekend of 21st/22nd October.

As always, the event not only attracted an enormous number of competitors but also produced a dramatic and breathtaking spectacle.

This year, the tournament had an international flavour too. Of the 270 competitors six were from Sweden and what a dynamic lot they were.

The Swedish team was comprised of the country's Under-14 squad. Due to a previously arranged training camp, they were not able to play in the U-14 events on Saturday but they made up for it on Sunday with a dazzling performance of verbi-osity and enthusiasm in the Under-17 Doubles Competitions.

Although losing their final, pride of place must go to Simon Angel and Mattias Stenberg both only thirteen who put up an amazing display against Paul Carter (Sy) & Alan Cole (Sx). The tiny Swedes moved like lightning, urging each other on with squeals of encouragement. It was entertaining stuff and the English lads very nearly let the young Swedes in.

The Swedish girls went one better by winning their Doubles final. Caroline Diethelm & Sofia Johansson totally swamped Nicola Deaton (Dy) & Michelle Martin (St) with a combination of power and subtlety.

The Swedes did not do so well in the singles. This should be considered as praise of their teamwork rather than criticism of their individual performances and it should not be forgotten that they were Cadets (U-14) playing in the U-17 events.

The Doubles Champions faced each other in the Junior Boys' Final. As it turned out, there was to be triumph for the home supporters as in a fast flowing tussle Coulsdon's Paul Carter just overcame Crawley's Alan Cole. These two know each other's game so well. They seemed to be able to predict each shot and this contributed to some breathtaking topspin rallies

The organising committee were fortunate in obtaining joint sponsorship for the event. On the one hand, there is the continued support of the Lambeth Building Society and on the other a new supporter in Carpenter & Co (Solicitors) whose senior partner, Noel Carpenter, has been an ambassador of table tennis for many years.



Paul Carter, winner Junior Boys event. Left to right - Joanne Dallison (Assistant Organiser), Noel Carpenter (from joint sponsors Carpenter & Co) Colin Dudley Mead, Mayor of Croydon, Paul Carter, Mrs Mead (Mayoress) and Eileen Hubbard (Assistant Organiser)



Sara Williams, winner of the Girls Singles, with Noel Carpenter of Carpenter & Co, solicitors, joint sponsors. (photos by Mike Fleet)

with the advantage swinging between the two. On this sort of form, Paul's England ranking of 20 looks wrong and is probably due to him playing in Senior tournaments rather than junior.

Alison Gower (E) failed to retain her Singles title. Hillingdon's Sara Williams was too powerful and won impressively two straight.

### RESULTS

#### U-17 Boys' Singles

Paul Carter (Sy) bt Alan Cole (Sx) -17,13,18

#### U-17 Girls' Singles

Sarah Williams (Mi) bt Alison Gower (E) 17,14

#### U-17 Boys' Doubles

Paul Carter (Sy)/Alan Cole (Sx) bt Simon Angel (SWE)/Mattias Stenberg (SWE) 15,-17,18

#### U-17 Girls' Doubles

Caroline Diethelm (SWE)/Sofia Johansson (SWE) bt Nicola Deaton (Dy)/Michelle Martin (St) 12,14

#### U-14 Boys' Singles

David Heath (Sx) bt Steven Meddings (Wo) 15,16

#### U-14 Girls' Singles

Jennifer Coleman (E) bt Diana Chan (Sy) 18,19

#### U-14 Boys' Doubles

Adrian Vincent (Dv)/Jonathan May (Dv) bt Ryan Saville (E)/Gareth Davies (Av) 18,13

#### U-14 Girls' Doubles

Gemma Schwartz (Bk)/Sally Russell (Np) bt Vicky Fox (St)/Lynsey Heyward (Dv) 9,-19,13

#### U-12 Boys' Singles

Steven Meddings (Wo) bt Vincent Avery (E) -21,10,5

#### U-12 Girls' Singles

Shelley Ruocco (E) bt Sarah Stedman (Sx) 9,14

## Grove Training Camps

Our attention has been drawn to the Training Camps described as "E.T.T.A. Junior/ Youth Training Camps (Feeder Squad)".

We wish to point out that these camps have no official status.

It was stated that "Failure to attend may result in players NOT being considered for selection for England Teams", That statement is incorrect.

These camps are a private initiative and it is entirely the players' and parents' decision whether to attend or not.

English Table Tennis Association

## WATCH THESE EVENTS:

### ESSEX JUNIOR 2 STAR SELECT

Saturday/Sunday 16th/17th December 1989  
at The Harrow Lodge Sports Centre, Harrow Lodge Park,  
Hornchurch, Essex Tel: 04024 48099

Organiser: Dave Miller Tel: 01 504 4855

### COTSWOLD JUNIOR 2 STAR SELECT

Saturday/Sunday 3rd/4th February 1990  
at Gloucester Leisure Centre, Bruton Way, Gloucester  
Box Office: Tel: 0452 306 788

Organiser: Mr. M. Reeves Tel: 0452 713840

### NATIONAL JUNIOR AND CADET RANKING TRIALS

Saturday 6th January 1990: Junior Boys and Cadet Girls  
Sunday 7th January 1990: Junior Girls and Cadet Boys  
at Lilleshall Hall National Sports Centre, Nr. Newport, Shrops  
Organiser: Mike Hanley Tel: 0757 702282

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**WATCH THESE EVENTS:**



(For further details see centre pages)

**ENGLISH OPEN**

Thursday 4th January to Sunday 7th January 1990  
 at Bowlers Leisure Centre, Trafford Park, Manchester

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THE OPEN SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Thursday: Individual Events - early rounds. Friday: Individual Events - later rounds  
 Saturday: Individual Events, Semi Final and Final. International Team Competition  
 Sunday: International Team Competition, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals & Final

Tickets from: English Table Tennis Association Tel: 0424 722525 or Bowlers Tel: 061 873 7388

**STIGA TOP 12**

Saturday 30th December 1989 Commencing at 11.00am  
 Featuring England's Top Players at Clacton Leisure Centre, Vista Road Recreation Ground, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex  
 Tickets (including programme): Adults £3.00 Children/OAP's £2.00  
 Available from: Clacton Leisure Centre Tel: 0255 429647 and Peter White, Clacton League Tel: 0255 425292

**CHINA TOUR**

See Top Chinese players against England on Tuesday 9th January 1990 at 7.15pm at Orton Bushfields Sports Centre, Peterborough, Cambs Tel: 0733 234018  
 Tickets available from:  
 Venue or Julian Tee Tel: 0733 322796 or Peterborough Table Tennis Centre, Rock Road, Peterborough

**CHINA TOUR**

See Top Chinese players against England on Wednesday 10th January 1990 commencing at 7.30pm at The Spa Royal Hall, South Marine Drive, Bridlington, East Yorkshire  
 Tickets available from:  
 Box Office Tel: 0262 678258

**CHINA TOUR**

See Top Chinese players against England on Thursday 11th January 1990 commencing at 7.00pm at Gateshead Leisure Centre, Alexandra Road, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear  
 Tickets available from:  
 The Centre Tel: 091 477 3939

**EUROPEAN SUPER LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL - England v Czechoslovakia**

on Tuesday 13th February, 1990 at Bude Haven Sports Centre, Bude, Cornwall  
 Admission Charge: (including programme) Adults £4.00 Children/OAP's £2.50  
 Tickets available from: Peter Hancock Tel: 0566 3625  
 "Coming up: England v Fed. Germany on Tues. 6th March 1990 at Crook Log Sports Centre, Bexleyheath."



**COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Senior Premier Weekend  
 Sat/Sun 20th/21st January 1990  
 at Stantonbury Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes  
 Sat: Session 1 and 2/ Sun: Session 3  
 Participants: Middx, Leics, Lancs, Surrey, Berks, Derby, Essex, Devon. Contact: ETTA Office Tel: 0424 722525



**BRITISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TOP OF THE TABLE FIXTURES**

on Sunday 28th January 1990 - 2.30pm  
 at Grove School, Stafford Street, Market Drayton, Shrops.  
 Grove 1 v Ormesby 1 Contact: Ian Marshall Tel: 0630 3602

**CLEVELAND 5 STAR and BUTTERFLY INTERNATIONAL TEAM EVENT**

Saturday/Sunday 13th/14th January, 1990 at Thornaby Pavilion, Allensway, Thornaby, Cleveland Tel: 0642 760971  
 Organiser: Alan Ransom Tel: 0642 223333

**MIDDLESEX 3 STAR**

Saturday/Sunday 9th/10th December 1989  
 at Picketts Lock Centre, Picketts Lock Lane, Edmonton, London N.9 Tel: 01 203 4756  
 Organiser: Miss Iris Moss Tel: 01 203 4476

**BURMAH WILTSHIRE 3 STAR**

Saturday/Sunday 10th/11th February, 1990  
 at Link Centre, Whitehill Way, Westleagh, Swindon, Wilts  
 Tel: 0793 871212 Organiser: Bill Willson Tel: 0793 536498  
 Please note Closing Date 5 Jan - not 26 Jan as previously stated.