



Table Tennis News

No. 199

May/June 1991 £1



Commonwealth Champions
NEW RALLY AND GRAND PRIX TABLES
FROM JAQUES...
Send for Details

**John
Jaques**



TABLE TENNIS NEWS
 May/June 1991 – Issue 199
 The official magazine of The
 English Table Tennis Association

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Front page: Michael O'Driscoll
 and Chris Oldfield the new
 Commonwealth Men's Doubles
 Champions.
 (Photograph by John F.A.Wood)

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Editor's Note

Marvellous, we won lots of medals in Nairobi and put up a good show in Chiba, but most of all we turned up and competed to the best of our ability.

Our men's team won gold in Nairobi, but our two youngest lads stole the show in Africa, with Chris Oldfield and Michael O'Driscoll winning gold in the Men's Doubles, beat the reigning champions Nicky Mason and Skylet Andrew, in the final.

Little Nicola Deaton deserves a mention, because she really flew the flag for England winning three bronze medals in her very first Commonwealth Games.

In the Worlds at Chiba City, life proved a little tougher for the England team, with the very best on display, but Alan Cooke pulled off a remarkable victory over Sweden's Michael Appelgren, in the 1st round of the Men's Singles.

New World Champion Jorgen Persson and runner-up Jan Ove Waldner proved that the Chinese are not invincible by reaching the final for the second time, proving that there is light at the end of the tunnel for other European players, including ourselves.

But in the Women's singles the Chinese really do seem untouchable, with tiny Deng Yaping, the new world champion, who is only 4 ft 4 ins. tall, standing head and shoulders above the rest.

Meanwhile back on the home front, I visited two tournaments for this issue, the Barclays Essex 5 Star and the BP Essex Junior Select and enjoyed them both immensely, especially the hospitality provided by Frances Wayland.

As this is the last issue that retiring Chairman John Preatn will be writing his 'In my View' column, I would like to thank him on behalf of Table Tennis News, for his past services to the sport that we all love.

John's typewriter won't be gathering dust just yet though, because he will probably be a regular correspondent to 'Mailbox' and supplier of information for 'Newsdesk'.

This is also the last issue that David Lomas will be writing for the 'School Report' column, on behalf of ESTTA.

So I would like to thank David for the many years that he has spent, supplying copy to Table Tennis News.

Next season starts earlier with an August/September edition, so don't forget that the copy deadline is 15th July.

Also, please don't forget to send in your annual subscription to Bethan at Hastings, before you go on holiday! An order form appears opposite page 21.

Have a good summer

John F. A. Wood

Cooke off to Sweden

ALAN COOKE marked his 25th birthday by clinching a lucrative contract with the Swedish club Malmo. Next season he will be living in Sweden and returning for a few events.

NFD Grove (Market Drayton) will be sorry to lose him, he is sorry to leave Grove, but the lure of playing in Sweden is understandably too great at a vital stage of his professional career. Like Carl Prean, Chen Xinhua, Nicky Mason and Skylet Andrew — professionals must operate where the conditions are right and the money is best.

His new team-mate will be Ulf Bengtsson, Thomas von Scheele and Goran Wrana, all members of the Swedish national squad. Alan will play in the No.1. position for Malmo, a sure sign that they rate him highly and that he can justify such a high spot.

Most of this present campaign, Alan has looked an increasingly powerful player. His athletic style, fearsome top-spin and general determination has been clear for all to see. It started in November when he played so well in Lyons to reach the quarters at the French Open. A slight lapse at Stourbridge but another cracking show at Brentwood when he managed to overpower in the last two or three minutes of the final the stop-seeded Prean.

He commented recently, "I was very happy at Grove and may one day return to them, but this was an offer I could not refuse."

Walk-Overs

At least 7 nations were reported as not having turned up for their matches in the recent World Championships in Chiba, Japan. All presumably sent entry forms and were allocated places in the draw. The letters W.O. (walk-over) appeared again and again in press reports.

The I.T.T.F. have been making huge efforts to improve the image of the game: Blue Tables, Orange Balls, Brick-red floors, Ball boys, White shirts, etc. What good will all that do, if nations do not turn up?

It has been said that most were too poor to be able to afford the air fares to Japan, but surely not too poor to afford a postage stamp saying that they could not come?

The following footnote appeared in *The Times* on 13/5/91:

An unfortunate result from the men's team event in the world table tennis championships currently taking place in Chiba, Japan: "Group D United States w.o. (walk-over) Kuwait"

In the March issue of TTN we published a short item from one of our correspondents which stated that Ken Lyons was a Joola agent. Mr. Lyons would like us to point out that he is not connected with that company in any way whatsoever.



Alan Cooke, the new Malmo player

Another Baby Chen

JEANETTE CHEN has conjured up a second son for Xinhua — on Sunday, March 24 at Rotherham, Liang is the name, mother, baby and father are doing well.

Presumably, the baby's name Liang has connections with the former world champion Liang Ke Liang, one of China's best players in the seventies and a team-mate for some ten years in the Chinese national squad with Chen Xinhua.

Essex 5 Star

A brother for Tamar did however bring an acute baby-sitting problem on the week-end of the Barclays 5-star Essex Open at Brentwood that resulted in Chen not being able to make the journey to the disappointment of the organisers and the sponsors.

The Chen's normal baby-sitter was on holiday, so the expected battle in Round 3 between Chen and Carl Prean did not happen. Chen's new ranking at No.5 should prevent this sort of clash in the early stages of tournaments next season.

Silver Lining

Every cloud has a silver lining? Maybe not every one, but the Essex sponsors Barclays Bank clinched a bonus when the Chen pull-out gave them space on Oracle TV Teletext before the organisers knew what was happening.

The Oracle story came from the Press Association agency preview for the tournament.

Five Star status

At the ETTA Management Committee Meeting held in April it was decided the following tournaments would be given 5 star status for the 1991/92 season.

Wiltshire, Essex, Cleveland, M & G Classic (Peniel Academy)



Harry Spraggs

Harry's final!

HARRY SPRAGGS, International umpire and referee made his farewell International appearance at a top world event in Chiba. He was given the most important assignment in the world — in charge of the mens singles final between Jorgen Persson and Jan-Ove Waldner.

It was believed that the choice of the popular Hampshire-based umpire was because of his retirement under the 60-limit clause and also in recognition of England's unique position of the country that gave the sport to the world.

Harry is a table tennis addict, some would say fanatic. He plays four nights a week in various leagues and spends many week-ends umpiring. He is possibly the best known face amongst the bluecoats in England and as a novice he won the Scrabble tournament on the 13-hour flight back from Tokyo to London!

Scoop

For Saarbrücken's astute manager, Georg Rebmann the signing of Jorgen Persson represented the scoop of the season once Persson became the 1991 World Champion. Persson had had a disappointing

season by his own high standards. He was defeated in the ETTU Cup by Chen Shibin, last season's No.1 for Saarbrücken, which gave the German Club a 5-4 victory over Sweden's Champions, Malmo. There were many who advised Rebmann to retain the mercurial but inconsistent Chinese star. Persson and Rebmann gave their answer in Chiba and Rebmann now has the crowd pleaser he needs. He also has the best player in the world.

With Carl Prean at No.2, and Andras Podpinka, this will be a hard team to beat.

European Ranking...

We are often asked who compiles the European Ranking Lists, which now play an important part in the English 'Halex' Ranking System.

There is a committee of which Mr. Andre Damman is Chairman. The members are (in alphabetical order) Alexander Beljakov (Soviet Union), Claude Bergeret (France and former international), Hans Bolena (Austria, a former English Open Veterans Champion), Zlatko Cordas (Coach to the German Team, former Yugoslav international), Dusan Osmanagic (former coach to the Yugoslav Team) Glenn Osth (former coach to Sweden's all conquering side, including world title 1989) and Ferenc Sido (many times world champion, mainly in the hard bat era). There is not an Englishman in sight. We cannot recall when there was.

Farewell Harry

THE Ashton Table Tennis League is mourning the loss of its president, Mr Harry Renshaw, who died on Friday, 23rd March 1991 age 77.

Mr. Renshaw was the first official Ashton table tennis champion, in 1934, and went on to win the prize a record five times. He was the mainstay of the great Ashton inter-league teams of the 1940s and 50s and, at his peak, was selected for Lancashire, the first Ashton player to be so honoured.

He later played for Cheshire and was the first ever chairman of the CTFA and later, their President. Mr Renshaw was the first life member of the Ashton League, and was created President in 1976.

His greatest honour however, was his involvement with the great Ashton Table Tennis League exhibition at Albion School, Ashton, in February, 1937; when he had the distinction of playing against the then world champion, G. Victor Barna.

A Smooth transition

The Association's AGM on the 6th July will be my last day as Chairman. My successor was, of course, elected in March. The time between is one in which he and his team are able to prepare for office, whilst the business of the Association continues. The transition will be a smooth one.

The election is now behind us. It is right, if the democratic process is to mean anything, that all issues and credentials should be fully and publicly examined. It may be examined also whether we are best served by annual elections or whether a new chairman should not be given a two-year-term, as is the case in the ITTF and ETTU and some countries.

My time has been one of very substantial progress and change. There was too much wrong to consider another era of inactivity and decline. We were too close to bankruptcy contrary to what sections of the press thought good copy. It was a period of success which could not have been achieved without substantial unity and harmony. By exaggerating minor problems and ignoring major achievements, all too often an opposite impression was created. This was unfair to those who had accomplished so much and ultimately bad for the sport.

The Association Suffers

Constructive criticism is good and healthy. The trend I have noted for some years, of personalising issues into "personality conflicts" is very bad for the sport. It will not encourage the young to join our ranks. It will unfailingly produce a bad press and it will revolt potential sponsors. Too often incompetents have blamed 'personality conflicts' for their failures and blunders. Often they ended as accusers when they should have been at the other end.

It should never be forgotten that the Chairman of the Association speaks for the Sport and therefore he must have our support, no matter how we have may voted in elections. These columns provide ample opportunity to state what is right and what is thought to be wrong. It should not spill over into personalities. Grievances should not be carried to the national press, where often they will not be understood or be well presented, not least because of space limitations. I can



John Prean

reveal that we have lost substantial sponsorship deals, when members have unburdened themselves to the press with real or imagined grievances and made the sport look bad. One sponsor, on the eve of a very big deal, told me: "If you cannot control your own members, I cannot support you." A very large sum was lost. A tiny minority had managed to do enormous harm. It was not I, the intended victim, who suffered: It was the Association and the Sport.

My successor will never have to endure this from me.

Our Children

Despite a few "black spots" I do not want to give the impression that I have had anything other than encouragement and support. Sadly, criticism was usually found in these columns, whilst support was usually in private letters, which I received in very great numbers. You may know that I had intended to step down a year earlier. The letters of support and friendship I then received decided me to soldier on for another year. They outnumbered the critical kind by more than 30 to 1.

The majority of our members wants to see the sport progress, so that, as I have often put it, our children may have the fun we have had from this great game. They do not see our sport as a platform for the mean in spirit, whose main aim seems to be to look for the

worst in people and their motives. That does not mean we cannot argue about the great issues of the day, but it should be a civilised activity. The aim should be to win the debate, not to portray the holder of opposite views as a villain.

No praise too great

Throughout my time I was flanked by a strong and enthusiastic team for whom no praise could be too great.

I was pleased to see Stuart Sneyd receive such a large number of votes to become deputy chairman. I brought him into my team when he was little known nationally. He was very much associated with the new policies, indeed stood in the front line in the re-organisation of the coaching scheme. He took a lot of flak then. His huge victory in the elections is a renewed vindication of our policies and he will remain in charge of Coaching.

Malcolm Allsop was quite splendid as Vice-Chairman in charge of Administration, a large dept. which needed much of his time when so much was changing and indeed needed to be changed. He always was a quiet man and so never got the credit he deserved. It is good to be able to put the record straight.

Richard Scruton, whom I only brought in at the beginning of the 1990/91 season, was quite excellent. He was a first rate V/C (Competitions). I continue to see him as a future Chairman of the Association. At 37 he has much time on his side.

The season sees two new events, first a week-end for Under 10 and Under 12 age groups, secondly one for the Under 18 and Under 21 ages. The former will create interest earlier and help bring younger people into the game and perhaps stars of tomorrow whom otherwise other sport might have captured. The latter will provide competition that spans the gap between junior and senior stages and perhaps spawn other events all over the country in due time.

I wrote about Jim Beckley last time when he stepped down as Editor to TT News. He now steps down as V/C of Publicity and P. R, where he did an excellent job.

My nomination of Kevin Satchell, then only 28, as V/C Selection caused much surprise, but that soon changed to admiration as he got down to the job. The dept. is not without problems. Discipline



Malcolm Allsop

and team spirit I thought often disappointing. The junior scene, in European, in success terms was worrying, though

healthy in participation terms. At senior level we are not a world power despite occasional very good performances. Kevin needed three years to put everything right and he had only one. I wish he had been given the time and I think some remarkable results would have been achieved. His time will come.

Alan Ransome was V/C of Marketing, which post I originated and I at once offered this to him. We worked well and harmoniously together in marketing matters and the Association benefitted as a result. We staged many fine events, produced excellent media and spectator occasions and often good income and



Richard Scruton

profits. What we did not need was the personalising of the election by others.

The future

I was sad to see so few members of our successful team retained. They deserved better, but that is now history. The Association must go on. It has never been healthier. The balance sheet has never approached its present strength. There is much to build on. That is what we must concentrate on now.



NATIONAL COACHING SCHEME Coaching Education Weekends

Lilleshall National Sports Centre
(Shropshire)
28th/29th/30th June 1991

Peniel Academy
(Essex)
2nd/3rd/4th August 1991

Commencing at 2pm on the Friday and concluding at 5pm on the Sunday, these weekends offer all the course work necessary (including National Coaching Foundation Requirements) for qualification to ETTA Coach level.

Cost - £45 (excluding accommodation)

Application Forms available from:

The Coaching Administrator
ETTA
Queensbury House
Havelock Road
Hastings
East Sussex TN34 1HF
Tel: 0424 722525



Kevin Satchell

PAID COACHING

**Coach required for
BBC TT Club
St Brides Institute London EC4
Contact Maureen Lown
Tel: 081 758 8658 (b)
081 641 4319 (h)**

Team titles retained in Nairobi

England and Hong Kong retained their men's and women's team titles at the Trust Bank Commonwealth Championships in the Moi International Sports Centre and in both finals it was India who took the count.

Despite being beaten 5-3 by Canada in the first stage groupings and 5-4 by Nigeria in the second England's men came through the back door to claim the gold medals with a final 5-1 victory over India.

Two easy openers resulting in 5-0 wins over Tanzania and the Isle of Man lulled the Englishmen into a false sense of security especially after establishing a 2-0 lead over Canada in the final Stage 1 match when Chris Oldfield beat Gideon Joe Ng and Skylet Andrew accounted for Horatio Pintea.

But thereafter the tide turned as two successes for Canada's Chinese immigrant, Johny Huang, and one for Ng put England's backs on the ropes from which they bounced back to take the sixth set when Nicky Mason brought about a second defeat for Pintea. Subsequently the Canadians wrapped it up with wins for Huang over Andrew and the point of no return came with Ng's narrow defeat of Mason -20, 9 and 20.

England's second defeat in Stage 2 followed their 5-0 dismissal of Scotland and was inflicted by Nigeria when a 4-1 lead was squandered with dual successes for Andrew and Oldfield and a blank return for Michael O'Driscoll!

In the Stage 3 crossover match against Canada the previous defeat was avenged with a 5-4 triumph in which both Oldfield and Mason won twice and Andrew beat Pintea for a second time — this from being 4-3 down!

In the counterpart women's event England's two teeny boppers, Nicola Deaton and Sally Marling, found themselves going it alone with Alison Gordon, afflicted by a stomach bug, only providing token support. But how well the two 14-year-olds performed in causing eyebrows to be raised in defeating both Uganda and Northern Ireland 3-0 and Australia 3-2 thanks to two wins for Nicola and the doubles in combine with Sally who lost to both Jenny Langridge and Kathy Gould.

Alison returned to the fray for the second stage matches and with Sally skated to a 3-0 success against Wales in the initial encounter but thereafter fell to India 3-0 and to Hong Kong by the same margin in the third stage crossover. And again it was defeat when playing for positions 3/4 when beaten 3-1 by Canada with Alison our only winner against Helene Bedard. Julie Barton accounted for both Alison and Sally and, with Marianne Domonkos, also won the doubles 20 and 19.



Pictured above is Mens Singles winner Johny Huang of Canada, and below is Women's Singles winner Chai Po Wa of Hong Kong



Both team finals were one-sided affairs with England deflating India 5-1, the one loss being Kamlesh Mahta's victory over Mason, but Hong Kong's two very strong women had matters very much their own way against India in their final.

Gold for the Tykes

Skylet Andrew was the only Englishman to reach the semi-final stage of the men's singles losing to Canada's Huang who won -23, 12, -15, 15 and 14. Nicky Mason fell to the Indian, Mehta, in the quarters while Chris Oldfield and Mike O'Driscoll were eliminated in the third round by Atanda Musa of Nigeria and Huang respectively. Huang went on to win the event with a final victory over Mehta conqueror of top seed Musa in the semis.

But it was a far different story in the men's doubles in which England's quartet had it all to themselves in the final in which O'Driscoll and Oldfield beat Andrew and Mason -22, 16, 18.

Triple bronze

What then of the exploits of Chesterfield's Nicola Deaton in picking up no less than three bronze medals? In the women's singles she saw off the challenge of Ireland's Pat Hunter, Scotland's Janet Smith and, in the quarters, Iyabo Akanmu of Nigeria before falling, predictably, to top seed and eventual winner Chai Po Wa of Hong Kong.

Alison Gordon was also a faller in the semis losing to the second seed Chan Tan Lui, the other Hong Kong star, Sally Marling also losing to Chai Po Wa in the quarters.

In the women's doubles Nicola and Sally, after wins over Radika and Sejal Sha of India and Justine Thomas and Natasha Williams of Wales, had the daunting task of tackling the top-seeded Hong Kong pair, Chai Po Wa and Chan Tan Lui, but they put up a good fight before being beaten 20 and 17.

Alison was paired with the third Hong Kong girl, Chan Suk Yuen, and also succeeded in reaching the semis before losing to Bhuvaneshwari and Mantu Ghosh of India who, in the final, were beaten 5 and 7 by Hong Kong's rampant Chai Po Wa and Chan Tan Lui.

On then to the mixed doubles in which Nicola, paired with O'Driscoll, again reached the semis only to lose to Chan Chi Ming and Chan Tan Lui of Hong Kong who eventually claimed the title at the final expense of Ng and Domonkos of Canada. Andrew and Alison took their departure

**PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
DENNIS GEORGE**

in the quarters when beaten by Chetan Baboor and Ghosh of India while Mason and Sally took their departure, also in the quarters, to Chan Chi Ming and Chan Tan Lui.

But, two gold, two silver and nine bronze medals was a fair return for an England B team the allocation being to O'Driscoll and Oldfield in the men's doubles and to Andrew and Mason the silver whilst the bronze went threefold to Nicola, to Andrew in the men's singles, to Alison in the women's singles, to Sally, with Nicola in the women's doubles and to Alison with Chan Suk Yuen in the same event and, finally to O'Driscoll and Nicola in the mixed. And, not to be forgotten on the rostrum, not Miss Marples of TV fame, but Derrick Marples the n.p.c!

Running the show as Referee was Doug Young whose accompanying suitcase failed to appear on the conveyor belt in Nairobi but turned up in Johannesburg from whence it was returned for later collection in Nairobi which

necessitated a taxi journey which was involved in a crash on the return trip! But, apart from having his spectacles knocked off, Doug was uninjured. His assistant referee was Kenya's Sunil Shah who rendered valuable assistance.

Doyen behind the scenes were Philo and Jane Pinto with Sharad Ghia, the Kenyan Chairman, Dharam Prakash and Felix Pinto rendering, in their various capacities, all manner of help.

At the BGM of the Commonwealth Table Tennis Association, Kenya's Sharad Ghia succeeded Roy Evans as the Association's President and the writer, George Yates, succeeded Horace Mallet of Guernsey as Chairman with Keith Bowler retaining the secretaryship.

Coming down from the clouds, for Nairobi is nearly 6,000 ft above sea level, one can look back at the successfully run tournament, generous hospitality and good board and lodging at the New Stanley Hotel. Well Done Kenya.

TRUST BANK 10th Commonwealth Championships

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Mens Singles; Round 3

A. Musa (NGR) b C. Oldfield (ENG) 20, 14, 19;
G.J. Ng (CAN) b J. Broe (SCO) 17, -15, 13, 18;
N. Mason (ENG) b P. Pinkewich (AUS) 19, 16, -17, 11;
K. Mehta (IND) bt Chan Chi Ming (HKG) 13, 15, 13;
S. Andrew (ENG) bt T. Oloransola (NGR) 13, -23, -19, 12, 18;
A. Barua (IND) b Li Hok Wing (HKG) -12, 14, -19, 8, 17;
G. Tepper (AUS) b S. Ghorpade (IND) 22, -16, 16, 10;
J. Huang (CAN) b M. O'Driscoll (ENG) 14, -21, 13, 17.
Quarter-finals:
Musa b Ng 18, 8, -19, 12; Mehta b Mason 19, 13, 18;
Andrew b Barua 15, 20, 11; Huang b Tepper 14, 19, 10
Semi-finals:
Mehta b Musa -21, 11, 15, 19; Huang b Andrew -23, 12, -15, 15, 14.
Final: HUANG b Mehta 13, 12, 17.

Women's Singles; Round 3

Chai Po Wa (HKG) b B. Bhuvaneshwari (IND) 6, 4, 8;
S. Marling (ENG) b S. Shah (IND) 19, 16, 19;
N. Deaton (ENG) b J. Smith (SCO) 19, -23, -14, 17, 11;
I. Akanmu (NGR) b D. Seruciga (UGA) 8, 13, 7;
A. Gordon (ENG) b J. Langridge (AUS) 13, 9, 10;
A. Radika (IND) b Chan Suk Yuen (HKG) 14, 18, 14;
M. Ghosh (IND) b D. Walker (SCO) 15, 17, 17;
Chan Tan Lui (HKG) w.o. J. Kyakobye (UGA)
Quarter-finals:
Chai Po Wa b Marling 4, 6, 10; Deaton b Akanmu 16, -12, 16, 19;
Gordon b Radhika 12, 12, 8; Chan Tan Lui b Ghosh 7, 12, 7.
Semi-finals:
Chai Po Wa b Deaton 5, 9, 12; Chan Tan Lui b Gordon 12, 9, 9.
Final:
Chai Po Wa b Chan Tan Lui 15, 12, 14.

Men's Doubles; Quarter-finals:

Andrew/Mason b S. Addeke/T. Oloransola (NGR) 17, -10, 17;
Barua/Mehta b D. Buck/S. Ward (WAL) 9, 5;
O'Driscoll/Oldfield b Broe/I. McLean (SCO) 19, 18;
Huang/Ng b Ghorpade/S. Raman (IND) 22, 15.
Semi-finals:
Andrew/Mason b Barua/Mehta 16, -17, 11;
O'Driscoll/Oldfield b Huang/Ng 15, 17.
Final:
O'Driscoll/Oldfield b Andrew/Mason -22, 16, 18

Women's Doubles; Quarter-finals:

Chai Po Wa/Chan Tan Lui b C. Dillon/J. Langridge (AUS) 9, 8;
Deaton/Marling b J. Barton/H. Bedard (CAN) -18, 21, 16;
B. Bhuvaneshwari/M. Ghosh (IND) b J. Smith/D. Walker (SCO) 17, 19;
Gordon/Chan Suk Yuen b I. Akanmu/K. Okenla (NGR) -17, 20, 21.
Semi-finals:
Chai Po Wa/Chan Tan Lui b Deaton/Marling 20, 17;
Bhuvaneshwari/Ghosh b Gordon/Chan Suk Yuen 17, -19, 18.
Final:
Chai Po Wa/Chan Tan Lui b Bhuvaneshwari/Ghosh 5, 7.

Mixed Doubles; Quarter-finals:

Chan Chi Ming/Chan Tan Lui b Mason/Marling 18, -12, 13;
O'Driscoll/Deaton b Pinkewich/Dillon 15, 19;
Ng/M. Dominkos (CAN) b Li Hok Wing/Chai Po Wa 16, 19;
C. Barboor/Ghosh (IND) b Andrew/Gordon 19, -12, 19.
Semi-finals:
Chan Chi Ming/Chan Tan Lui b O'Driscoll/Deaton 18, -18, 16;
Ng/Dominkos b Barboor/Ghosh 18, 12.
Final:
Chan Chi Ming/Chan Tan Lui b Ng/Dominkos -15, 15, 9

TEAM EVENTS

| Matches | | Games | | | Place | | | WOMEN | | | Mch's Gme Pl'ce | | |
|--|--------------|--------|-----------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|---|---|-----------------|---|--|
| Men | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | W | L | W | L | W | L | W | L | |
| Stage 1 Group A | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| England | - | 3-5 | 5-0 | 5-0 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| Canada | 5-3 | - | 5-0 | 5-0 | 3 | - | 15 | 3 | 1 | | | | |
| I.O.Man | 0-5 | 0-5 | - | 2-5 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 15 | 4 | | | | |
| Tanzania | 0-5 | 0-5 | 5-2 | - | 1 | 2 | 5 | 12 | 3 | | | | |
| Group B | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nigeria | - | 5-0 | 5-0 | 5-0 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 1 | | | | |
| Wales | 0-5 | - | 5-0 | 5-0 | 2 | 1 | 10 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| Kenya | 0-5 | 0-5 | - | 5-0 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 10 | 3 | | | | |
| Zambia | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0-5 | - | 0 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 4 | | | | |
| Group C | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kong Kong | - | 2-5 | 5-1 | - | 1 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 2 | | | | |
| Scotland | 5-2 | - | 5-3 | - | 2 | - | 10 | 5 | 1 | | | | |
| N Ireland | 1-5 | 3-5 | - | - | 0 | 2 | 4 | 10 | 3 | | | | |
| Group D | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| India | - | 5-1 | 5-0 | 5-0 | 3 | - | 15 | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Australia | 1-5 | - | 5-0 | 5-0 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| Guernsey | 0-5 | 0-5 | - | 1-5 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 4 | | | | |
| Uganda | 0-5 | 0-5 | 5-1 | - | 1 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 3 | | | | |
| Stage 2 Group E | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canada | - | 5-0 | 5-4 | 5-0 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 4 | 1 | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 0-5 | - | 0-5 | 2-5 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 15 | 4 | | | | |
| India | 4-5 | 5-0 | - | 5-1 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 6 | 2 | | | | |
| Wales | 0-5 | 5-2 | 1-5 | - | 1 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 3 | | | | |
| Group F | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Australia | - | 0-5 | 0-5 | 5-1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 3 | | | | |
| England | 5-0 | - | 4-5 | 5-0 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| Nigeria | 5-0 | 5-4 | - | 5-0 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 4 | 1 | | | | |
| Scotland | 1-5 | 0-5 | 0-5 | - | 0 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 4 | | | | |
| Group G | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guernsey | - | 5-3 | 1-5 | 0-5 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 13 | 3 | | | | |
| I.O.Man | 3-5 | - | 0-5 | 0-5 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 15 | 4 | | | | |
| Kenya | 5-1 | 5-0 | - | 1-5 | 2 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 2 | | | | |
| N Ireland | 5-0 | 5-0 | 5-1 | - | 3 | 0 | 15 | 1 | 1 | | | | |
| Group H | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tanzania | - | 5-2 | 5-0 | - | 2 | 0 | 10 | 2 | 1 | | | | |
| Uganda | 2-5 | - | 5-0 | - | 1 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 2 | | | | |
| Zambia | 0-5 | 0-5 | - | - | 0 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 3 | | | | |
| Stage 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| F2/E1 | ENGLAND | 5 | Canada | 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| E2/F1 | India | 5 | Nigeri | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| F4/E3 | Scotland | 5 | Wales | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| F3/E4 | Australia | 5 | Hong Kong | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| G1/H2 | N Ireland | 5 | Uganda | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| G2/H1 | Kenya | 5 | Tanzania | 0 | | | | | | | | | |
| H3/G3 | I.O.Man | 5 | Guernsey | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| MEN | Andrew | Mason | Oldfield | O'Driscoll | F | A | Opponents | | | | | | |
| | 2-0 | 2-0 | 1-0 | | 5 | 0 | Tanzania | | | | | | |
| | | 2-0 | 1-0 | 2-0 | 5 | 0 | Isle of Man | | | | | | |
| | 1-2 | 1-2 | 1-1 | | 3 | 5 | Canada | | | | | | |
| | 2-0 | | 1-0 | 2-0 | 5 | 0 | Scotland | | | | | | |
| | 2-1 | | 2-1 | 0-3 | 4 | 5 | Nigeria | | | | | | |
| | 1-0 | 2-0 | | 2-0 | 5 | 0 | Australia | | | | | | |
| | 1-2 | 2-1 | 2-1 | | 5 | 4 | Canada | | | | | | |
| | 2-0 | 1-1 | 2-0 | | 5 | 1 | India | | | | | | |
| | 11-5 | 10-4 | 10-3 | 6-3 | 37 | 15 | | | | | | | |
| W'MEN | Gordon | Deaton | Marling | Deaton/Marling | Gordon Marling | F | A | Opponents | | | | | |
| | | 1-0 | 1-0 | 1-0 | | 3 | 0 | Uganda | | | | | |
| | | 1-0 | 1-0 | 1-0 | | 3 | 0 | Nthn Ireland | | | | | |
| | | 2-0 | 0-2 | 1-0 | | 3 | 2 | Australia | | | | | |
| | 1-0 | | 1-0 | | 1-0 | 3 | 0 | Wales | | | | | |
| | 0-1 | 0-1 | | | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | India | | | | | |
| | 0-1 | 0-1 | | | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | Hong Kong | | | | | |
| | 1-1 | | 0-1 | | 0-1 | 1 | 3 | Canada | | | | | |
| | 2-3 | 4-2 | 3-3 | 3-0 | 1-3 | 13 | 11 | | | | | | |
| FINAL MATCHES | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MEN England 5 India 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oldfield b S. Ghorpade -15, 11, 20; b K. Mehta 16, 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S. Andrew b S. Raman 17, 10; b Ghorpade 17, 13. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N. Mason lost to Mehta 14, -17, -16; b Raman 13, 13. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WOMEN Hong Kong 3 India 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chai Po Wa b B. Bhuvaneshwari 13, 11; Chan Tan Lui b S. Shah 13, 10; | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chai Po Wa/Chan Tan Lui b Bhuvaneshwari/M. Ghosh 11, 16. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Men Final Positions | | | | | | Women Final Positions | | | | | | | |
| 3/4 | Canada | 5 | Nigeria | 3 | 3/4 | Canada | 3 | England | 1 | | | | |
| 5/6 | Australia | 5 | Scotland | 2 | 5/6 | Nigeria | 3 | Scotland | 1 | | | | |
| 7/8 | Hong Kong | 5 | Wales | 0 | 7/8 | Wales | 3 | Australia | 2 | | | | |
| 9/10 | Nthn Ireland | 5 | Kenya | 1 | 9/10 | Nthn Ireland | 3 | Kenya | 1 | | | | |
| 11/12 | Uganda | 5 | Tanzania | 2 | 11/12 | Uganda | 3 | Tanzania | 1 | | | | |
| 13/14 | Isle of Man | 5 | Guernsey | 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Zambia | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FINAL PLACINGS: MEN - 1 ENGLAND, 2 India, 3 Canada, 4 Nigeria, 5 Australia, 6 Scotland, 7 Hong Kong, 8 Wales, 9 N.Ireland, 10 Kenya, 11 Uganda, 12 Tanzania, 13 Isle of Man, 14 Guernsey, 15 Zambia. WOMEN - 1 HONG KONG, 2 India, 3 Canada, 4 England, 5 Nigeria, 6 Scotland, 7 Wales, 8 Australia, 9 N.Ireland, 10 Kenya, 11 Uganda, 12 Tanzania | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

TRUST BANK

Triple triumph for Sweden

Following their retention of the men's team title with a final 3-2 victory over Yugoslavia, the icing on the cake was provided by **Jorgen Persson** in winning the men's singles and by **Peter Karlsson** and **Thomas von Scheele** who triumphed in the men's doubles — truly a remarkable feat for Sweden!

And did it ever happen before in the World Championships that four European Associations provided the semi-finalists in the Swaythling Cup competition? Yes, it did, but it was way back in Bombay in 1954. Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Yugoslavia made up this elite quartet in Chiba and are to be congratulated in totally breaking the oft monopoly by the Asian Associations with the exception, two years ago in Dortmund, when Sweden triumphed against the People's Republic of China.

The European Table Tennis Union claim credit for this upsurge by their member associations following their initiative in instigating the Euro-Asia series which have proved so profitable first to bridge the gap and finally, in Chiba, to demolish the bridge completely.

Not so the women however with a combined **Korean** team, yes both North and South United as one team, taking the women's team title and China maintaining their hold on the women's singles and doubles in addition to the mixed won, respectively by **Deng Yaping**, **Chen Zihé** and **Gao Jun** and **Wang Tao** and **Liu Wei**, yet another significant treble!

But what a furore was created in the men's team event when Germany having been afforded by a 2-0 lead by China conceded the remaining three sets on the pretence that their players were unwell and could not continue. Naturally this caused a considerable stir and eventually the German non-playing captain, **Zlatko Cordas**, was debarred by the Jury from any further involvement with captaincy. Subsequently, after apology, a contrite **Zlatko** was allowed to involve himself for the individual events.

What then of England's fortunes in the team events? Well, for the men, it was more than a bright beginning with four wins on the trot against Belgium (3-2), Japan (3-1), Nigeria (3-0) and, astoundingly, against Yugoslavia (3-1) who subsequently went on to contest the final!

The tide turned when both Sweden and Korea inflicted damaging 3-0 defeats with partial recovery with a 3-2 win over Chinese Taipei only for Czechoslovakia to beat us 3-2 with Prean going down to Janci and Vimi. But the Isle of Wight player finished on a high note when unbeaten against Japan, for a second time, and France. Playing then for 9th or 10th position it was the latter we finished when beaten 3-0 by Austria.

Losing four of their first five matches in the Corbillon Cup competition England's women failed to inspire the one bright spot being the victory of **Andrea Holt** over the reigning European champion **Daniella Guergueltcheva** of Bulgaria. Overall **Lisa Lomas**



Swedish Men's Team

FINAL TEAM POSITIONS

| Mens | | | | | |
|-------|----------------|---|----------------|---|--|
| 1/2 | Sweden | 3 | Yugoslavia | 2 | |
| 3/4 | Czechoslovakia | 3 | Belgium | 1 | |
| 5/6 | F.R. Germany | 3 | Korea | 0 | |
| 7/8 | China | 3 | Canada | 0 | |
| 9/10 | Austria | 3 | England | 0 | |
| 11/12 | France | 3 | USSR | 1 | |
| 13/14 | Japan | 3 | Italy | 0 | |
| 15/16 | USA | 3 | Poland | 0 | |
| 17/18 | Netherlands | 3 | Chinese Taipei | 0 | |
| 19/20 | Hungary | 3 | Spain | 1 | |
| 21/22 | Brazil | 3 | Denmark | 2 | |
| Women | | | | | |
| 1/2 | Korea | 3 | China | 3 | |
| 3/4 | France | 3 | Hungary | 2 | |
| 5/6 | Hong Kong | 3 | Romania | 0 | |
| 7/8 | Czechoslovakia | 3 | USSR | 1 | |
| 9/10 | Japan | 3 | Yugoslavia | 0 | |
| 11/12 | Sweden | 3 | England | 0 | |
| 13/14 | F.R. Germany | 3 | Finland | 0 | |
| 15/16 | Denmark | 3 | New Zealand | 2 | |
| 17/18 | USA | 3 | Netherlands | 1 | |
| 19/20 | Bulgaria | 3 | Chinese Taipei | 0 | |
| 21/22 | Belgium | 3 | Poland | 0 | |



Jorgen Persson the new World Singles Champion

had the best record winning five to **Andrea's** three but only winning three of their 10 doubles sets.

So both the men and women lost placings from Dortmund the men dropping from 9 to 10 and the women from 10 to 12 but still remaining in the top category for the next championships not now to be in Mexico but to be announced within the next three months by the ITTF Board. Could be China, could be South Korea — time will tell. So too the system of play which was given the thumbs down in Chiba and to be reviewed in due course by the ITTF Council at their next meeting.

In plummeting from second to seventh position in the final team placings in the Swaythling Cup competition and for the first time since 1961 the Chinese men did not reach the semi-final stage. They have won ten titles and finished second three times including 1989 in Dortmund.

Czechoslovakia shut the door on China reaching the semis winning 3-2 with one each for **Petr Korbél** and **Tomas Janci**, plus the doubles, and Korea rubbed salt into the wound with a 3-0 win. Final countdown (Top positions):

Individual Events

England's **Alan Cooke** provided the biggest shock in the first round of the men's singles when he eliminated 2nd seed **Mikael Appelgren** of Sweden 12, 19, -14, -24, 22. In the decisive fifth game **Appelgren** led 20-15 but failed to capitalise throwing off his bat rubbers in disgust. **Cooke** has recently signed a contract to play for **Malmö** in the Swedish National League and will no doubt meet **Appelgren** again in the coming season.

Eric Lindh, also of Sweden and seeded No.12, was another first round faller when beaten by Japan's **Hiroshi Shibutani** with the remaining fourteen seeds surmounting their first hurdles and, indeed, their second. **Cooke's** joy was regrettably short lived as he went under -18, -15, -21 to **Lee Chul Seung** of Korea a subsequent winner over **Andrei Mazunov**.

Seeds to fall in the third round were **Kim Song Hui** of Korea, to China's **Wang Tao**, **Li Gun Sang** of Korea, to China's **Xie Chaojie**, and **Zoran Primorac** of Yugoslavia to England's **Chen Xinhua** who won 14, 11, 18 after previously accounted for **Didier Mommessin** of France and **Choi Gyong Sop** of Korea.

Chen, up against the top Chinese, **Ma Wenge**, fell away alarmingly having equated the match score at 1-1 losing the next two games -16, -4 (!) Meantime **Matt Syed** comfortably disposed of Scotland's **John Broe** only to lose out to **Wei Qingguang** of China. **Skylet Andrew** having under his own steam got to Chiba came through his qualifying rounds with flying colours beating **Shakeel Ahmed** of Pakistan, **Fanis Avradinis** of Greece and **Roar Blikken** of Norway to enter the first round proper and victory over Germany's **Torben Wosik**.

But all good things come to an

end and so it was for flamboyant "Sky" when beaten, over 5 games, by China's Wang Tao, at 19 in the fifth. What then of the English national champion, Carl Prean, who began by avenging his defeat at the hands of the Czech Roland Vimi.

Subsequently Stephen Ward of Wales came under the hammer only for the Isle of Wight player to fall to the ever improving Belgian, Jean-Michel Saive, who himself fell in the next round over five games to the ultimate winner Jorgen Persson who disposed and dethroned his Swedish compatriot, Jan-Ove Waldner, 3-straight in the final.

From the last sixteen Waldner had disposed of Jorg Roskopf (GER). Jean-Philippe Gatien of France and, in the semis, China's Ma Wenge with Persson coming through with wins over Saive, Andrzej Grubba of Poland and Korea's Kim Taek Soo.

In the counterpart women's event only one European, Hungary's Csilla Batorfi, succeeded in reaching the last sixteen with the title holder, Qiao Hong of China beaten in the semis by Korea's Li Bun Hui who, in turn, lost to Deng Yaping of China in the final.

Of the three English girls only Fiona Elliot was called upon to contest three qualifying rounds and like "Sky" she bounced through with wins over Sejal Shah of India, Ilona Knecht of Switzerland and Gina Hui of Australia going on the account for Rossi Dipoyanti of Indonesia before falling to the eventual champion Deng Yaping.

Surprise Winners

Lisa Lomas began with a win over Christine Praedel of Germany only to fall to Chai Po Wa of Hong Kong in the next round a fate that was to befall Andrea Holt who began with the despatch of Canada's Julie Barton and defeat at the hands of Tu Yong the Swiss Chinese immigrant.

Surprise winners of the men's doubles were Peter Karlsson and Thomas von Scheele of Sweden who, in the quarters, beat Norway's Frode Grini and Wang Yansheng and then Lindh and Persson in the semis before battling home, 18 in the 5th, against Lu Lin and Wang Tao of China in the final.

England's Chen in partnership with Syed opened with a win against Finland's Linus Eriksson and Pasi Valasti going under to Yu Shentong and Zhang Lei of China while Cooke and Prean were first round fallers to Choi Gyong Sop and Chu Kyo Sung of Korea. Andrew, like Chen and Syed, had to qualify but whereas the latter pair did, Andrew, paired with Tomas Janci of Czechoslovakia, did not, falling to Thierry Cabrera and Frederic Sonnet of Belgium.

Germany's Steffen Fetzner and Jorg Roskopf, winners in Dortmund, went out in the quarters when beaten by the Mazunov brothers, Andrei and Dmitriy, who subsequently lost to the beaten finalists.

Lisa and Andrea nudged home 20 and 20 against Pascal Rommerskirchen and Tu Yong of Switzerland in the first round of the women's doubles but took their leave when beaten 20 and 19 by China's Deng Yaping and Qiao Hong who, in the final, were beaten by Chen Zihe and Gao Jun also of China. Meantime Fiona, paired with Polona Freljih of Yugoslavia, failed to emerge from the qualifying rounds when beaten by Kim Hye Yong and Park Hae Jung of Korea.

Greece won its first medal ever when Calin Creanga, formerly of Romania, got a bronze medal in the mixed doubles event with his former compatriot Otilia Badescu. The pair were beaten by China's Xie Chaojie and Chen Zihe who, in the final, lost to Wang Tao and Liu Wei also of China.

England's two pairs comprised Matt Syed and Andrea Holt and Skylet Andrew and Fiona Elliot but neither progressed beyond the first round the former losing to Zhang Lei and Qiao Yungping of China and the latter to Vimi and Hrachova of Czechoslovakia.

Budget

Stuart Sherlock as a Deputy Referee and Harry Spraggs, who was called upon to umpire the men's singles final, both looked resplendent in their red blazers as did the rest of the umpiring fraternity but after the comparative calm of the Commonwealth Championships in Nairobi affairs in Chiba were of the jamboree variety.

A budget estimated at 15 million US dollars could not have been very much wide of the mark and with a veritable army of personnel in every department the championships moved to a successful conclusion with a closing ceremony which incorporated a full scale orchestra playing Beethoven's 9th Symphony complimented by a choir in glorious voice.

The Japanese TTA are to be complimented in putting on a show of shows at the Nippon Convention Centre (Makuhari Messe) witnessed not only by thousands of spectators but by the presence, at the individual finals, or His



'91 CHIBA

Imperial Highness, Prince Akishino and the ICC President, Juan Samaranch.

ITTF President, Ichiro Ogimura, can be well satisfied with events at Chiba for throughout he kept a close eye on proceedings whilst playing host to all manner of people in his own inimitable style and handling the two sessions of the ITTF BGM well.

Winners of the Joola Trophy — presented by A.I.P.S. — were Zoran Primorac of Yugoslavia and Hyun Jung Hwa of Korea who had the best returns in the team competitions. The Victor Barna awards presented by the Swaythling Club for the most sporting players went to Janet Smith of Scotland and to Zoran Kalinic of Yugoslavia.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS — Men

v Belgium (won 3-2)
Cooke I T Cabrera -16,18, -19; Chen b P.Saive 17, 8; Cooke/Prean I Saive/Saive -15, -18; Chen b Cabrera 16, 20; Prean b J-M Saive 19, 15.
v Japan (won 3-1)
Prean b K. Matsushita 17, 23; Chen b K. Iwasaki -15, 19, 19; Chen/Syed I Matsushita/H. Shibutani -18, -2(1)!
Prean b Iwasaki -17, 19, 13.
v Nigeria (won 3-0)
Cook b I. Niniola 10, 8; Chen b A. Musa 16, 11
Cook/Prean b T. Maya/Musa 14, 17.
v Yugoslavia (won 3-1)
Prean b Z. Kalinic 14, 10; Chen b I. Lupulesku 16, 18; Chen/Cooke I Kalinic/Z. Primorac -16, -15; Prean b Lupulesku -17, 17, 17.

v Sweden (lost 0-3)
Cooke I J-O. Waldner -9, -12; Prean I J. Persson -21, 16, -11; Chen/Cooke I M. Appelgren/Persson -18, -21
v Korea (lost 0-3)
Chen I Kim Taek Soo -18, -18; Prean I Kim Song Hui -18, -10; Cooke/Prean I Kim Taek Soo/Yoo Nam Kyu -11, -12
v Chinese Taipei (won 3-2)
Syed b Feng Sheng-Chin 17, 18; Cook I Hsieh Wen-Tang 18, -18, -13; Cooke/Prean b Feng Sheng-Chin/Wu Wen-Chia -19, 21, -23; Syed I Hsieh Wen-Tang -17, -10; Prean b Wu Wen-Chia 13, 11.
v Czechoslovakia (lost 1-3)
Chen b R. Vimi 16, 12; Prean I T. Janci -21, 16, -15; Chen/Syed I Janci/P. Korbel -16, -18; Prean I Vimi -11, 19, -16.
v Japan (won 3-1)
Prean b Shibutani 20, 7; Chen b Iwasaki -17, 15, 16; Chen/Syed I Matsushita/Shibutani -9, 14, -14; Prean b Iwasaki -20, 16, 19.
v France (won 3-1)
Chen b D. Eloi 5, 11; Prean b P. Chila 20, -7, 15;
Prean/Syed I N. Chatelain/Eloi -14, 14, -16; Chen b Chila 11, 12.
v Austria (lost 0-3)
Cook I Ding Yi -9, -17; Syed I D. Palmi -12, -9; Chen/Cooke I Palmi/Qian Qianli -14, -19.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS — Women

v USSR (lost 0-3)
Lomas I Y. Timina 15, -17, -17; Holt I I. Palina -14, -9; Holt/Lomas I G. Melnin/V. Popova 19, -16, -2
v Hungary (lost 1-3)
Holt I C. Batorfi -13, -15; Lomas I G. Wirth -19, -19; Holt/Lomas b Batorfi/Wirth 17, -19, 18; Lomas I Batorfi -18, -5.

v Bulgaria (won 3-0)
Holt b D. Guergueltcheva 19, 17; Lomas b K. Vicheva 16, 12;
Holt/Lomas b Guergueltcheva/Vicheva 17, 16 v China (lost 0-3)
Holt I Gao Jun -10, -8; Elliot I Gao Hong -15, -10; Holt/Lomas I Deng Yaping/Gao Jun -12, -16.
v Czechoslovakia (lost 0-3)
Lomas I R. Kasalova 12, -13, -12; Holt I A. Safarova 19, -18, -9; Holt/Lomas I Kasalova/Safarova -8, 21, -16;
v Chinese Taipei (won 3-1)
Lomas b Bai Hui-Yin -19, 16, 19; Holt b Lin Li-Zu -18, 18, 18; Holt/Lomas I Bai Hui-Yin/Lin Li-Zu 17, -18, -18; Lomas b Lin Li-Zu 16, -18, 24
v Yugoslavia (0-3)
Elliot I G. Perkucin -16, 19, -13; Holt I P. Freljih 12, -10, -18; Holt/Lomas I J. Fazlic/Perkucin -15, -14.
v France (lost 1-3)
Lomas b A. Lelannic 14, 11; Holt I Wang Xiao Ming -20, -10; Holt/Lomas I E. Coubat/Wang Xiao Ming 17, 17, -20; Lomas lost to Wang Xiao Ming -13, -16.
v New Zealand (won 3-2)
Lomas b M. Goldie 16, 12; Holt I Li Chunli 15, -14, -13; Holt/Lomas b Goldie/Li Chunli 18, -21, 12
Lomas I Li Chunli -17, -10; Holt b Goldie 12, 9.

ENGLISH TEAM RESULTS

| Men | Prean | Cooke | Chen | Syed | Cooke/P | Chen/Syed | Chen/Cooke | P/S | F | A | Opponents |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|---|------------|
| 1-0 | 0-1 | 2-0 | | | 0-1 | | | | 3 | 2 | Belgium |
| 2-0 | | 1-0 | | | | 0-1 | | | 3 | 1 | Japan |
| | | 1-0 | 1-0 | | | 1-0 | | | 3 | 0 | Nigeria |
| 2-0 | | 1-0 | | | | | 0-1 | | 3 | 1 | Yugoslavia |
| 0-1 | 0-1 | | | | | | 0-1 | | 0 | 3 | Sweden |
| 0-1 | | 0-1 | | | 0-1 | | | | 0 | 3 | Korea |
| 1-0 | 0-1 | | 1-1 | 1-0 | | | | | 3 | 2 | Ch Taipei |
| 0-2 | | 1-0 | | | | 0-1 | | | 1 | 3 | Czechs |
| 2-0 | | 1-0 | | | | 0-1 | | | 3 | 1 | Japan |
| 1-0 | | 2-0 | | | | | 0-1 | | 3 | 1 | France |
| | 0-1 | | 0-1 | | | | 0-1 | | 0 | 3 | Austria |
| 9-4 | 1-4 | 9-1 | 1-2 | 2-2 | 0-3 | 0-3 | 0-1 | 22 | 20 | | |
| Women | Lomas | Holt | Elliot | Holt/Lomas | F | A | Opponents | | | | |
| 0-1 | 0-1 | | | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | USSR | | | | |
| 0-2 | 0-1 | | | 1-0 | 1 | 3 | Hungary | | | | |
| 1-0 | 1-0 | | | 1-0 | 3 | 0 | Bulgaria | | | | |
| | 0-1 | | 0-1 | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | China | | | | |
| 0-1 | 0-1 | | | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | Czechs | | | | |
| 2-0 | 1-0 | | 0-1 | 0-1 | 3 | 1 | Ch Taipei | | | | |
| | 0-1 | | | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | Yugoslavia | | | | |
| 1-1 | 0-1 | | | 0-1 | 1 | 3 | France | | | | |
| 1-1 | 1-1 | | | 1-0 | 3 | 2 | N Zealand | | | | |
| | 0-1 | | 0-1 | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | Japan | | | | |
| 5-6 | 3-8 | | 0-3 | 3-7 | 11 | 24 | | | | | |

v Japan (lost 0-3)

Elliott I R. Satch -13, -19; Holt I F. Yamashita -11, -3;
Holt/Lomas I M. Hoshino/Yamashita -19, -9.

TEAM FINALS

Men

Sweden 3 Yugoslavia 2
M. Appelgren b Z. Kalinic 13, -18, 10; J-O. Waldner I Z.
Primorac

-14, -11;
Appelgren/J. Persson I I. Lupulesku/Primorac -16, -19;
Waldner

b K. Kalinic 9, 8; Persson b Lupulesku 18, 21.

Women

Korea 3 China 2
Yu Sun Bok b Deng Yaping 7, -17, 18; Hyun Jung Hwa b
Gao Jun 11, 15; Hyun Jung Hwa/Li Bun Hui I Deng
Yaping/Gao Jun 16, -19, -13; Hyun Jung Hwa I Deng
Yaping -14, -16; Yu Sun Bok b Gao Jun 19, 19.

Final Team Placings

(Previous positions in Dortmund)

| Men - Swaything Cup | Women - Corbillon Cup |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Sweden (1) | 1 Korea (2/5) |
| 2 Yugoslavia (13) | 2 China (1) |
| 3 Czechoslovakia (14) | 3 France (17) |
| 4 Belgium (11) | 4 Hungary (4) |
| 5 Germany (7) | 5 Hong Kong (3) |
| 6 Korea (3/5) | 6 Romania (14) |
| 7 China (2) | 7 Czechoslovakia (7) |
| 8 Canada (27) | 8 USSR (9) |
| 9 Austria (23) | 9 Japan (6) |
| 10 England (9) | 10 Yugoslavia (13) |
| 11 France (17) | 11 Sweden (8) |
| 12 USSR (4) | 12 England (10) |
| 13 Japan (6) | 13 Germany (19) |
| 14 Italy (25) | 14 Finland (22) |
| 15 USA (20) | 15 Denmark (18) |
| 16 Poland (8) | 16 New Zealand (43) |
| 17 Netherlands (12) | 17 USA (12) |
| 18 Chinese Taipei (15) | 18 Netherlands (11) |
| 19 Hungary (10) | 19 Bulgaria (15) |
| 20 Spain (35) | 20 Chinese Taipei (16) |
| 21 Brazil (19) | 21 Belgium (23) |
| 22 Denmark (24) | 22 Poland (24) |
| 23 Nigeria (16) | 23 India (31) |
| 24 Finland (22) | 24 Brazil (32) |
| 25 Turkey (28) | 25 Australia (29) |
| 26 India (32) | 26 Indonesia (25) |
| 27 Indonesia (33) | 27 Luxembourg (27) |
| 28 Romania (-) | 28 Malaysia (30) |
| 29 Norway (29) | 29 Austria (20) |
| 30 Cuba (-) | 30 Cuba (33) |
| 31 Australia (31) | 31 Macao (28) |
| 32 Ireland (38) | 32 Canada (21) |
| 33 Israel (26) | 33 Italy (26) |
| 34 Greece (44) | 34 Nigeria (34) |
| 35 Pakistan (30) | 35 Spain (41) |
| 36 Switzerland (34) | 36 Israel (45) |
| 37 Hong Kong (21) | 37 Greece (35) |
| 38 Luxembourg (36) | 38 Scotland (37) |
| 39 New Zealand (42) | 39 Portugal (-) |
| 40 Malaysia (37) | 40 Egypt (-) |
| 41 Iran I R (-) | 41 Peru (40) |
| 42 Peru (-) | 42 Colombia (38) |
| 43 Portugal (-) | 43 Norway (39) |
| 44 Mexico (-) | 44 Wales (42) |
| 45 Scotland (39) | 45 Pakistan (-) |
| 46 San Marino (46) | 46 Switzerland (-) |
| 47 Thailand (-) | 47 Liechtenstein (-) |
| 48 Macao (47) | 48 Cyprus (-) |
| 49 Egypt (-) | 49 Philippines (-) |
| 50 Wales (40) | 50 Sri Lanka (-) |

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

THE team flew out on Friday morning and arrived in Tokyo on Saturday morning with the tournament, commencing on the Wednesday morning. All the team took the right steps in enhancing their ability to adjust to the time difference and in my opinion the preparation period was ideal. Any longer and I think the players would have become frustrated with the wait. While these extra days proved costly I feel it was money well spent as we certainly made a good start.

The hotel we stayed in was one of about a dozen used by the organisers and appeared to be by far the best. The German team were round the corner from us, using the same bus service, in a much inferior hotel. It would appear Jill's 'scouting' trip paid dividends. The bus journey was about 20 minutes with a frequent service.

Through our involvement with the National Coaching foundation we managed, at no cost to the ETTA, to secure the services of two Sports Scientists, Ian Maynard and Tim Holder. Both presented papers at the Sports Science Congress and joined us on the eve of the Championships. Between them they supervised the nutritional requirements during competition, shot videos and were a great backup to Jill and I on the team bench with their support. Tim is a trained masseur and over the Championships probably gave 100 massages. Most countries, (certainly all those in the top groups), had brought their own masseur which by the time they have paid his salary, hospitality and air fare would cost around £2,000.

The tournament itself started very well for both our teams. The men started in particular very well beating Belgium, Japan, Nigeria and Yugoslavia. The new system made the matches and the selection of order of play, much more of a lottery. Carl and Xinhua both started exceptionally well winning their first five matches. Unfortunately the No.3 in the team does not get a great deal of play unless the matches go the full distance.

We lost to Sweden and Korea but finished with a 3-2 win against Taipei, Carl winning at 2-2 against Wu. We therefore won 5, lost 2 in the original group and qualified for the last sixteen knockout. Belgium won 2, lost 5 and when the draw was made had a much better draw than us, Russia and Canada for a medal. We were drawn against Czech, and Carl, who had played quite superbly to date, was slightly below his best. Despite having a 10-6 lead in the third he just failed to win and establish a 2-0 lead. Had the score reached 2-2, Matthew would have played Korbel who again he has beaten the last three times. It was important to win the next match against Japan to make the top 10 and Carl bounced right back with two excellent wins.

We finally finished in tenth position, with Xinhua winning 9 out of 10, Carl 9 out of 13, Alan 1 out of 5 and Matthew 1 out of 3. Particularly disappointing was the doubles where we won 2 out of 11, Xinhua, while outstanding in singles, was disappointing in doubles. However, I did feel

the Cooke/Precan combination improved as the tournament progressed, a feeling endorsed by the players. Looking to the future I feel we must encourage a left hand/right hand combination.

I selected Matthew for six of the eleven matches and with this ridiculous system he only played three singles.

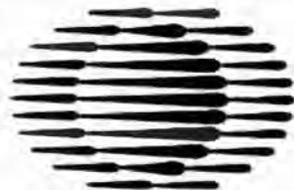
The girls were in a very tough group, but thanks to very good performances from Lisa and Andrea secured the two wins to qualify for the last sixteen knockout. They beat Bulgaria 3-0 with Andrea beating Guerguelcheva and after Taipei had beaten Hungary, managed to beat Taipei 3-1. In the last sixteen they were drawn against France. Wang was strong favourite for two and Lelannic was strong favourite to lose with the match therefore depending on the doubles. The match went as predicted and in the doubles Andrea and Lisa led 20-19 in the third game, one point from the last eight!

Therefore, while our final positions were similar to Dortmund, the men had the satisfaction of beating the eventual silver medallists and bronze medallists while our women were one point from the last 8. It is also interesting to note that in Nairobi our men's second team finished above Canada who in Chiba finished 8th, indicating we have a very good strength in depth.

In the individual events all our men progressed to the second round, a very good achievement in itself. Particularly when Carl beat Vimy who he had lost to in the team event and Alan had an unbelievable match against the European Champion, Appelgren, recovering to win from 15-20 in the fifth. Skylet had a very solid 3-0 victory over young Wosik, Xinhua a slightly nervy performance against Mommessin and Matthew a below par performance against John Broe, despite winning 3-0. In the second round Carl had no problems against Stephen Ward, while Alan was unable to maintain his first round form losing to a Korean who went on to reach the quarter finals. Matthew found Wei far too consistent, Xinhua beat a Korean in three closely contested games while Skylet put up a great performance against Wang before losing 19 in the fifth. In the third round Xinhua beat Primorac 3-0 while Carl lost to Saive 3-0. In Carl's case all three games were close although in my opinion Carl made too many unforced errors on the backhand. In the last 16 Xinhua lost 3-1 to Ma Wenge who played backspin very well.

All three girls won their first round against reasonable opposition but were all beaten in the second round by much higher ranked opposition. Again there was very little to speak about in the doubles although Lisa and Andrea played exceptionally well against the Chinese losing very narrowly.

Our men's team have secured their place in the World Team Cup and European Nations Cup. While subject to the new ITTF ranking list we should have two men qualifying automatically for the Olympics. The women's team maintained their position in the top category and hopefully with Andrea and Lisa improving, the future looks quite promising.



'91 CHIBA

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Mens Singles: Round 3

J-O Waldner (SWE) b D Mazunov (URS) 19, 12, -18, 11
 J.Roskopf (GER) b Wei Qingguang (CHN) -24,-16,15,9,18
 Wang Tao (CHN) b Kim Song Hui (KOR) -22,-10,17,11,10
 J-P Gatien (FRA) b P Haldan (HOL) 18,19,17
 Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR) b Wang Yansheng (NOR) 14,19,-15,22;
 H.Shibutani (JPN) b P. Saive (BEL) -16,17,-16,17,12;
Chen Xinhua (ENG) b Z. Primorac (YUG) 14,11,18;
 Ma Wenge (CHN) b Ding Yi (AUT) 20,6,18;
 A.Grubba (POL) b Kang Hee Chan (KOR) -17,20,12,-21,13;
 Chen Zhi Bin (CHN) b Yang Jianhua (LUX) 14,-20,17,-21,19;
 J-M. Saive (BEL) b **C.Prean (ENG)** 19,18,21;
 J.Persson (SWE) b G-Z.Böhm (GER) 17,-19,16,16;
 Xie Chao Jie (CHN) b Li Gun Sang (KOR) -18,9,12,-15,18;
 Kim Taek Soo (KOR) b S.Fetzner (GER) -20,19,9,11;
 Yu Shentong (CHN) b K.Saitoh (JPN) 19,8,-23,10;
 Lee Chul Seung (KOR) b A.Mazunov (URS) 15,14,14.

Round 4

Waldner b Roskopf 18,17,18; Gatien b Wang Tao 9,18,15;
 Yoo Nam Kyu b Shibutani 9,10,16;
 Ma Wenge b **Chen Xinhua** 15,-14,16,4;
 Grubba b Chen Zhibin 16,19,6; Persson b J-M Saive 17,-18,-12,14,18;
 Kim Taek Soo b Xie Chaojie 10,-20,13,13; Lee Chul Seung b Yu Shentong 19,15,-19,19

Quarter-Finals

Waldner b Gatien -16,15,-17,15,14; Ma Wenge b Yoo Nam Kyu -21,15,18,-18,11;
 Persson b Grubba -15,19,-19,18,16; Kim Taek Soo b Lee Chul Seung -18,12,-9,16,13

Semi-finals:

Waldner b Ma Wenge 18,-18,7,15; Persson b Kim Taek Soo 12,22,18;

Final: PERSSON b Waldner 19,18,18

Women's Singles: Round 3

Qiao Hong (CHN) b Kim Hye Yong (KOR) 17,-18,13,10;
 Hong Soon Hwa (KOR) b S.Matsusaki (JPN) 17,14,13;
 Hu Xiaoxin (CHN) b F.Yamashita (JPN) 12,13,10;
 Chai Po Wa (HKG) b J.Fazlic (YUG) 10,11,10;
 Gao Jun (CHN) b B.Vriesekoop (HOL) 13,15,18;
 Geng Lijuan (CAN) b Park Hae Jung (KOR) 16,15,17;
 Ding Yaping (CHN) b Hong Cha Ok (KOR) 13,16,16;
 Li Bun Hui (KOR) b A.Safarova (TCH) 9,19,-21,10;
 Hyun Jung Hwa (KOR) b Tu Yong (SUI) -16,12,21,14;
 Liu Wei (CHN) b T.Shimonaga (JPN) -19,11,10,14;
 Chan Tan Lui (HKG) b Ying Ronghui (CHN) -14,15,19,22;
 M.Hosino (JPN) b Chen Zhihe (CHN) 14,-4,17,15;
 C.Batorfi (HUN) b A.Arisi (ITA) 17,-18,-19,20,15;
 M.Hrachova (TCH) b Li Jun (CHN) -5,18,19,-17,14;
 Yu Sun Bok (KOR) b O.Badescu (ROM) 11,-15,15,-14,17;
 Deng Yaping (CHN) b P.Frelth (YUG) 10,14,13.

Round 4

Qiao Hong b Hong Soon Hwa -23,12,14,9; Chai Po Wa b Hu Xiaoxin 25,-19,19,14;
 Geng Lijuan b Gao Jun 16,22,-16,17; Li Bun Hui b Ding Yaping -18,17,17,20;
 Liu Wei b Hyun Jung Hwa 14,-13,17,-13,27;
 Chan Tan Lui b Hoshino 20,15,16;
 Batorfi b Hrachova 19,16,15; Deng Yaping b Yu Sun Bok -15,16,17,15

Quarter-finals:

Qiao Hong b Chai Po Wa -23,12,14,9; Li Bun Hui b Geng Lijuan 16,13,-18,-17,10;
 Chan Tan Lui b Liu Wei -19,19,17,-13,13; Deng Yaping b Batorfi -15,16,17,15

Semi-finals:

Li Bun Hui b Qiao Hong -24,20,20,-16,20; Deng Yaping b Chan Tan Lui 16,9,14

Final: DENG YAPING b Li Bun Hui 13,18,14

Mens Doubles: Quarter-finals:

Mazunov/Mazunov b Fetzner/Roskopf 17,-18,14,19;
 Lu Lin/Wang Tao (CHN) b Grubba/Kucharski -15,-21,11,18,19;
 E.Lindh/Persson (SWE) b Kim Song Hui/Yoo Nam Kyu -16,10,-18,18,17;
 P.Karlsson/T.von Scheele (SWE) b F.Grini/Wang Yansheng (NOR) 15,14,10.

Semi-finals:

Lu Lin/Wang Tao b Mazunov/Mazunov 17,16,10;
 Karlsson/von Scheele b Lindh/Persson -13,19,19,12
Final: KARLSSON/VON SCHEELE -16,16,14,-18,18



Jan Ove Waldner the 1989 World Champion and this year's runner-up.



Journalists John Woodford (left) and Barry Granger looking for a scoop!



Scottish men's team (left to right) Euan Walker, Ian McLean, John Broe and Ian Stokes

Women's Doubles: Quarter-finals:

Deng Yaping/Qiao Hong b Li Bun Hui/Hyun Jung Hwa -19,16,16,-15,11;
 Hu Xiaoxin/Liu Wei b Chai Po Wa/Chan Tan Lui 16,11,12;
 Gao Jun/Chen Zhihe b Batorfi/G.Wirth (HUN) 15,9,15;
 Li Jun/Ding Yaping b Hong Cha Ok/Yu Sun Bok 18,-17,16,17;

Semi-finals:

Deng Yaping/Qiao Hong b Hu Xiaoxin/Liu Wei 22,18,17;
 Chen Zhihe/Gao Jun b Ding Yaping/Li Jun 10,14,13;
Final: CHEN ZIHE/GAO JUN b Deng Yaping/Qiao Hong 20,-20,18,17

Mixed Doubles: Quarter-finals:

Xie Chaojie/Chen Zhihe b Roskopf/N.Struse (GER) 14,15,22;
 C.Creanga (GRE)/Badescu b Chu Kyo Sung/Kim Hye Young (KOR) 8,12,13;
 Wang Tao/Liu Wei b Gatien/Wang Xiao Ming (FRA) 11,13,-19,12;

Kim Song Hui/Li Bun Hui b Wei Qingguang/Deng Yaping 18,15,11;

Semi-finals:

Xie Chaojie/Chen Zhihe b Creanga/Badescu 15,19,14;
 Wang Tao/Liu Wei b Kim Song Hui/Li Bun Hui 18,-10,17,21
Final: WANG TAO/LIU WEI b Xie Chaojie/Chen Zhihe 14,19,14

Men's Singles: Qualifying Rounds

Andrew b S.Ahmed (PAK) 18,7; b F.Avradinis (GRE) 13,12;
 b R.Blikken (NOR) 13,14

Round 1

Syed b J.Broe (SCO) 17,19,15;
 Andrew b T.Wosik (GER) 12,15,14;
 Chen b D.Mommessin (FRA) -19,16,12,17;
 Prean b R.Vimi (TCH) -17,10,20,10;
 Cooke b M.Appelgren (SWE) 12,19,-14,-24,21.

Round 2

Syed I Wei Qingguang (CHN) -15,-11,-14;
 Andrew I Wang Tao (CHN) -17,18,22,-14,-19;
 Chen b Choi Gyong Sop (KOR) 16,17,19;
 Prean b S.Ward (WAL) 8,11,8;
 Cooke I Lee Chul Seung (KOR) -18,-15,-21

Round 3

Chen b Z.Primorac (YUG) 14,11,18;
 Prean I J-M Saive (BEL) -19,-18,-21

Round 4

Chen I Ma Wenge (CHN) -15,14,-16,-4

Women's Singles: Qualifying Rounds

Elliot b R.Dipoyanti (INA) 14,-17,-19,11,7; I Deng Yaping (CHN) -9,-16,-13

Round 1

Lomas b C.Praedel (GER) -19,12,9,21;
 Holt b J.Barton (CAN) 19,17,10

Round 2

Lomas I Chai Po Wa (HKG) -6,-12,-14;
 Holt I Tu Yong (SUI) 20,-7,-8,-16

Men's Doubles: Qualifying Rounds

Andrew/T.Janci (TCH) I T.Cabrera/F.Sonnet (BEL) -18,-20;
 Chen/Syed b L.G.Basurto Reyna/C.B.Mora (MEX) 6,18;
 b Khek Yeap Peng/Yong Hong Chen (MAL) 10,9

Round 1

Chen/Syed b L.Eriksson/P.Valasti (FIN) 8,12;
 Cooke/Prean I Choi Gyong Sop/Chu Kyo Sung (KOR) -19,19,-17

Round 2

Chen/Syed I Yu Shentong/Zhang Lei (CHN) -12,-20

Women's Doubles: Qualifying Rounds:

Elliot/P.Frelth (YUG) b I.Akanmu/B.Kaffo (NGR) 13,-19,11
 I Kim Hye Yong/Park Hae Jung (KOR) -13,-17

Round 1

Holt/Lomas b P.Rommerskirchen/Tu Yong (SUI) 20,20;
 I Deng Yaping/Qiao Hong (CHN) -20,-19

Mixed Doubles:

Round 1

Syed/Holt I Zhang I Lei/Qiao Yungping (CHN) -13,-10;
 Andrew/Elliot I R.Vimi/M.Hrachova (TCH) -17,20,-16.

Women at the Worlds

Women were very much in evidence at the 41st World Championships in Chiba City, Japan, ... as players, officials, helpers in every department and particularly the ladies, dressed in their traditional Kimonos, provided a spectacular aspect of the ceremonial events at the Championships.

On the playing side, generally speaking the Chinese and Korean women are still far superior to the Europeans, whilst the European men again confirmed their strength over the Asians. Interesting this — could it provide a useful subject for a scientific study? There is also a large gap in the standard of play between the top twenty women's teams and the next thirty. What can be done to bridge this gap?

The England women's team performed reasonably well, given the opposition they faced in Chiba, coming sixth in the first stage group play out of eight countries which included China, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, USSR, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Chinese Taipei. The girls scored a good 3-0 win over Bulgaria, when Andrea Holt scored a major upset victory over the European champion, Guerguelcheva. Although losing 3-0 to Czechoslovakia, all three sets went to three games and against Yugoslavia Fiona Elliot extended Gordana Perkucin to three, while Andrea did the same to Polona Freljih. Lisa Lomas and Andrea also scored a good doubles win against the strong Hungarian combination of Batorfi and Wirth. At one set all and deuce in the third in the doubles against France in the first round of the final draw, England had every chance to win the match and proceed further to the last eight. As it was, the French team stood on the podium with China and Korea. A little extra experience, confidence or concentration would have clinched it.

In the individual singles, Lisa beat Christianne Praedel of Germany 3-1, before losing in the next round to Chai Po Wa of Hong Kong who reached the quarter finals. Andrea beat Julie Barton of Canada in her first round, losing to the Swiss Chinese, Tu Yong in the next. Fiona fought her way through three qualifying rounds and the first round proper before bowing out to the champion, Deng Yaping of China. Incidentally, Jill Parker the women's team captain, was again one of the few female coaches on the world scene. When not busy with the team she was involved in meetings to further the sport of table tennis. There was good team spirit throughout compared to the power-



Jose Ransome (top) with ex World Women's Singles Champion F. Eguchi. Bottom picture is part of the closing ceremony

Photographs by Jose Ransome

ful Dutch team which was relegated after internal wrangling wrecked their chances — well done Lisa, Andrea, Fiona and Jill!

Out of 52 foreign umpires, two were female, whereas out of the 100 Japanese International umpires, sixty were female and 40 male. Apparently women have more time for officiating in Japan. Also it was pleasing that one of the three Deputy Referees was a woman, Cindy Leung of Hong Kong.

The 41st Worlds was also very pleasing colourwise for the spectators with red flooring, blue tables and half size blue surrounds. All the umpires were resplendent in red blazers and cream slacks/shirts, whilst the Organising Committee and assistants wore green and cream. A whole army of orange and blue jacketed volunteers were busy at the venue and all the hotels, for the most part being housewives who proved most helpful as interpreters all day every day.

One of the most incredible

scenes at Chiba was the Women's Global Tournament which took place on 90 tables in an adjoining hall, plus 30 tables at a further venue in the town. Over a thousand women of all ages and standards participated in this team and individual event which included players from all over Japan and Taiwan and even one lady from Italy. In the age groups over 30, 40 and 50, there were three levels of play from champions, local players and beginners... they all looked pretty skilful to me, and very fit and trim and well attired in attractive team outfits. Their play was strong and serious, courteous as well as obviously enjoyable from the laughing and clapping that was taking place. After their daily play was concluded about 5 p.m. the ladies became enthusiastic spectators at the World events next door.

The ten computer terminals which controlled this event was supported by 80 enthusiastic helpers, male and female. The

general organisation of women's table tennis in Japan comes under a J.T.T.A. Women's committee of five famous champions, including the 1957 World singles champion, F. Eguchi, (seated next to me in the photo).

Perhaps the only areas where women's participation in Chiba was thin was the I.T.T.F. Biennial meetings and in the press room... lots of room here for change!

Towards the end of the World Championships, the women's game caused a major stir amongst the European countries when plans were made known for the European Women's League in 1991/92 following the successful experimental league last season. Last minute high level meetings were held in an attempt to resolve the situation and at the time of writing the final outcome is not known. The men did their best on behalf of the women, but I did wonder why we have to be held down by existing rules and regulations when a new league is being formed. The criteria governing the competition should meet the new needs.

Janet Smith of Scotland (and Sussex) won the Fair Play Award at the Closing Party for continuing to play on so that her team could stay in the competition even though she was quite sick and had to go to hospital three times. It was nice having Betty Griffin (Steventon) supporting the teams in Chiba, (a guest of the Swaythling Club) and quite a surprise when Melody Hill (Ludi) turned up in Chiba. A surprise too for Melody to find that the event was taking place in Japan as she arrived there on holiday.

A report on "Women at the Worlds" would not be complete without mention of the part the Japanese women played in the overall presentation of the Championship. Exquisitely dressed in Kimonos, two ladies performed the ancient game of Ping Pong at the Opening Ceremony, others graciously assisted with the Presentations, and the Closing Ceremony turned into a real spectacular when the arena was filled with their beautiful colours and dancing. Together with the music and singing, this was the best Closing Ceremony I have ever seen.

And a good time was had by all! I particularly enjoyed taking photographs for the magazine and a video which I plan to prepare and edit for members to see.



Victory for heart-throb Jorgen

JORGEN PERSSON, master of the forehand loop and the backhand kill, landed the mens singles trophy in Chiba City on May 6 to the delight of his Swedish team-mates and the continent of Europe, not to mention the ladies — he is at the very top of their heart-throb list.

Jorgen, 25 from Malmo but moving to Saarbrücken soon to play No.1. in the Bundesliga with Carl Prean disappeared under a throng of well-wishers at the Father and Mother of all Farewell Parties at the magnificent Makuhari Prince Hotel on the last night.

Jan-Ove Waldner remains in my view, the most talented player in the world. He is still the man who can when the mood takes him beat all comers but also lose to almost anyone when he is not motivated.

The two mens finalists fought out a real battle. When two players know each others tactics so well, a memorable duel rarely happens. This was the case in Chiba. I summed it up in the Daily Telegraph as "bland" when I could have used "boring". But, most people were really pleased that principally, but not entirely with the help of the Swedes, the Chinese and Korean challenges in the mens events had been stifled until the next world championships at a venue, as yet undecided, in 1993.

But, in the womens event Asia still rules. The chunky, over-the table bomb-hitter Deng Yaping from China is without doubt a formidable player and a worthy world champion. The slightly worrying factor in Chiba was that even the best of the women players in Europe seemed to have little impact on the Asian girls.

Cooke's Corker

The best individual win in Chiba by an England player was without doubt by Alan Cooke over the second seed Mikael Appelgren in Round 1 of the mens singles, a beautifully timed success for the Chesterfield hero.

Alan played a subdued role during the team events for England as the major roles were taken by Carl Prean and Chen Xinhua that culminated in England crushing Yugoslavia 3-1, the team who went on to the end and were only knocked down 3-2 by Sweden in the final!

So there was Alan Cooke, spending hours on the benches during the team sessions with the second toughest draw in Chiba facing mighty Appel! And then we thought it was all over as he trailed 15-20 in the final fifth game, but he fought his way back to win a match that we will all remember for a long time and a victory that he badly needed to boost his confidence as he returns to Sweden in August to play No.1. for Malmo, as a replacement for the new world champion Jorgen Persson.

And furthermore, there came another bonus for Sweden and for Europe. Unseeded Peter Karlsson and Thomas von Scheele lifted the mens doubles crowns for Sweden — an amazing run of successes that ended with a final round victory against Wang Tao and Lu Lin (China), 21-18 in the fifth.

Karlsson and von Scheele, along with Goran Wrana will be Alan Cooke's team-mates in the Swedish League, so our top two Cooke and Prean will be playing alongside world champions in both Sweden and Germany.

A word on England's performances in the team events — the opposing teams for both men and women were stronger than ever. England men won five matches, losing only to Korea and Sweden in the groups finishing in fourth position but then losing to Czechoslovakia — that was very disappointing, but better things followed as England men smashed France and Japan to secure tenth place overall, one down on Dortmund, but surely against stronger opposition.

The suspension of the German coach Zlatko Cordas was the most outstanding story for the 500



Jorgen Persson

journalists in Chiba. Cordas acted rather too hastily when Germany led China 2-0. He decided the Chinese were not trying to win to manipulate the placings in the group and avoid Sweden. His action was to pull out the German team, when he had two other courses of action — consult his team bosses or invite the intervention of the referees.

After being suspended, he wrote letters apologising for his hasty action, but I did not see him on the benches again.

England women had a tough time. They finished in twelfth spot, two down on Dortmund, but at least they fought off the threat of relegation. Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt played more matches than Fiona Elliot, but team captain Jill Parker in my view, needed another player there to give her more scope in team selection. Our girls collected some useful wins — Lisa defeated the German Top-12 champion Christiane Praedel, but there was no real progress against the Asians.

Chen Xinhua took full advantage of a good draw. He chopped and top-spun his way to the last 16, including amongst his victims Zoran Primorac (Yugoslavia) surely one of Europe's best young men, but in the eighth-finals showdown Xinhua could only hold out against the power of the Chinese top man Ma Wenge for a limited time. In the fourth game the man from Rotherham only scored 4 points, but ended with a cartwheel on court — a signal of surrender, but how few other players could show such exuberance in defeat.

England men had a lot of trouble with Roland Vimi, now the joint Czech No.1. He beat Prean in the team event, but Carl exacted revenge in the singles. However, Prean's round 3 defeat by Jean-Michel Saive ended in controversy. Prean claimed a let service on the penultimate point, a valid claim supported by those including myself seated court-side, but the umpire did not see it, neither did Saive, so the Belgian champion who seems to be still

improving, crashed home two winners with Prean unsettled enough not to shake hands, which is uncharacteristic of Carl on court. As Skylet Andrew said, "If Preano said it was a let service, it was".

Skylet, who paid his own way to Chiba but did not seem to get any money back by offering his services as a comedian at the last night banquet, came through three qualifying rounds of the mens singles, losing later 21-17, 18-21, 22-24, 14-21, 19-21 to Wang Tao of China, a fine effort by the man from East London and the Tempo Club in Holland.

Daniela Guerguelcheva, the European champion from whom much was expected was in disastrous form. Among her defeats was losing in the womens singles to Tomoko Shimomaga of Japan, but also winning against Daniela was the England champion Andrea Holt from Bury, Lancashire.

Korea United

Another important happening in Chiba was the unified team from North and South Korea. They did not do as well as expected in the team events for men, although they triumphed in the Corbillon Cup.

Table Tennis may have helped the divided nation to unite, but there is still a lot of doubt for example what might happen if Seoul hosted the 1993 Worlds — would the Northerners play ball?

Five hundred Koreans living in Japan supported their united team in Chiba, easily drowning support from all other quarters even Japan. Cheer leaders, (radio controlled), huge Korean flags, all members of the party with their own personal flags and organised chanting. Fine for Korea but hopelessly distracting for players on tables adjoining.

One can imagine what it would be like in Seoul — Table Tennis is a major sport there, there could be upwards of 10,000 people daily cheering only the efforts of the Koreans, not a happy prospect.

Janet in the Swaythling Club

Janet Smith, the Brighton-based Scottish champion had a nightmare three weeks in Nairobi and Chiba, although all ended happily. She was ill in Nairobi, delayed 15 hours at Moscow airport feeling worse and was taken twice to Hospital in Chiba, where she was put on "drips" suffering (apparently) from dehydration.

Feeling like nothing on earth she played for Scotland on one occasion but had to pull out and still played in the singles feeling ill losing to a player from Chinese Taipei.

But her reward was the Fair Play Trophy — a silver engraved bat, a fine wristwatch and membership of the elite Swaythling Club, normally reserved for people who have played a number of times or captained their countries.

Chiba Facilities

The tournament overall was well-run and presented by the Japanese TTA. The show courts were in an arena not unlike Dortmund with four tables, but only 4,000 seats. The seating was well-packed most of the time, but sold out for finals day. The main hall held 26 tables.

Food for the players and officials was excellent, better than any previous venue. Transport to hotels, buses every hour, sometimes every half hour was first-class. The Press Centre was only just about adequate for the 500 journalists and photographers. Telephones were good with about 25 lines. Totally absurd was the wall-chart system in the Press Centre and elsewhere — instead of marking through the teams or the players all the Japs could manage was a red line through the draw and 3-0 instead of the full score!

But the Japanese are a welcoming and courteous race, not good at crowd control and keeping tenacious journalists out of areas where they are not normally allowed.

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION
Biennial General Meetings
Attended by representatives from 100 national associations

Changes called for in the new Swaythling Cup System

FOLLOWING a great deal of comment and criticism of the new system introduced for the first time in Chiba for the Swaythling Cup, the I.T.T.F. council agreed to think again for future championships. Both the match playing system of five sets including doubles and the group system which turns into a last 16 knock out draw were felt to be unsatisfactory.

The five set system came under attack for being too complicated to understand and for forcing captains either to play a second strength doubles pair or drop their best singles player from the two singles position. In the main, captains preferred to play a second strength doubles, but in the final of the Swaythling Cup Yugoslavia decided to play their No.3, Kalinic, in the top singles place.

The final knock out draw system created a situation where the top teams in the world played 7 matches over five days just to qualify for the last 16, and then a single loss at that stage, regardless of how well the team had done previously, meant that they could only then compete for a world ranking of 9-16.

At the I.T.T.F. Congress meetings, the President of the German Table Tennis Association, Hans Wilhelm Gab, asked the I.T.T.F. Council to produce a system that was easy to understand and meant that the best players would meet each other in the singles and that the best pairs could be selected for the doubles.

The Olympic Games

Arrangements for the number of players to qualify for the Olympic Games in Barcelona in July 1992 were confirmed. The top 16 men and women in the World ranking list will automatically qualify for Barcelona. Europe will hold its own qualification tournament for a further 12 men and women. As is normal with the Olympics, participation is limited to three players in the men's and women's singles from each Olympic Association. The European qualification tournament will be held in February 1992 at a venue to be decided.

Future World Championships

Mexico, who hold the option for the 1993 World Championships, withdrew in Chiba and the I.T.T.F. are investigating possible applications from other associations. The three most likely

candidates appear to be Sweden, China and Korea. A decision was taken in Chiba to hold the 1995 World Championships in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Several countries, including England, have indicated an interest in staging the Championships from 1997 onwards.

I.T.T.F. Officers

The three principal officers of the I.T.T.F., Ichiro Ogimura, Lollo Hammarlund and Hans Giesecke, were all re-elected unopposed.

I.T.T.F. Computer Ranking Scheme

Following a great deal of work carried out by the Canadian Table Tennis Association and some of Les Wooding, the I.T.T.F. are to go ahead with a Computer Ranking List for next season. Results in all of the major championships will be included and the system will incorporate both wins and losses.

World Title Events

The I.T.T.F. were pleased with the progress that had been made over the last two years with their World Title Events, the T.S.P. World Team Cup and the Butterfly World Doubles. The Nittaku All Star Circuit was also regarded as being successful. All of these events will continue next season. They all carry substantial prize funds, which has implications for International Open championships that do not provide substantial cash prizes.

Rule Changes

The majority of the rule changes that were submitted were either defeated or

withdrawn. Three that did make progress were:

1. Any changes to the rules affecting play would become operative from 1st September rather than 1st July.
2. Umpires will be permitted to warn a player before taking a point.
3. The expedite rule cannot be introduced after the score reaches 19 - all.

Table Tennis Museum

The I.T.T.F. have entered into an agreement with a Japanese local authority Narakawa to host a World Museum for Table Tennis. In addition to the Museum, the city will provide a major table tennis centre.

European Table Tennis Union

The main points to come out of the E.T.T.U. meetings in Chiba were as follows:

1. From the start of next season the European League, formerly a mixed league, will be for men only for the Super and First Divisions, playing three a side, six singles and one doubles.
2. The separate Women's league which was introduced as an experiment for the first time last season, will continue but the exact format is as yet unsure.
3. The principle proposed by England to hold national closed championships throughout Europe on the same weekend each season was well received and the E.T.T.U. are proceeding with this on a voluntary basis.



ETTA LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT FUND

** DEADLINE **

At their meeting on 13th April, NATIONAL COUNCIL set 15TH NOVEMBER 1991 as the deadline for grant applications to the above fund.

Any interested affiliated League who have not yet received a grant, can obtain further details on how to claim back full affiliation fees from **DICCON GRAY** (National Development Officer) at the ETTA on **0424 722525**

A personal view of Chiba

THE future of different sports is seen more and more in terms of Television, the ability to please this hard task master and potential benefactor. If only Table Tennis could succeed in this field, what a golden future would lie before us... Look at Snooker, Soccer, Rugby Union, Cricket, even Darts and Bowls on both of which we had rather looked down a few years ago.. and what about American Football? Not long ago we had vaguely looked on this as a muscular fancy dress party played out in an alien land, but today thanks to the magic of television all that has changed...

The visual, the artificial

Sound thinking therefore that much attention should be given to the presentation of the sport. There were orange-coloured balls, blue tables, red floors, white shirts, though not often full houses.

It seemed at times that the decor had occupied more thought and time than what went on in the arena. A cynic remarked, that to understand the sport these days you had to attend the ITTF Congress or to be part of the Technical Committee. It was not enough to see what Persson and Waldner did on the table.

Decision Time

The decision to make black/red bats part of the rules, for instance, effectively abolished the games most charismatic characters. The defender virtually ceased to exist as a force at international level. That is not to say that Li Gungang or Chen Xinhua did not play well in Chiba, but neither had the remotest chance of becoming world champion. Chen, in 1985, and Li, this time, might have had a real chance with an all-black bat. It is not the purpose here to discuss past decisions, merely to show how enormous was the influence on the game, and the people in it, of the ITTF Congress and the politics which precede and accompany it.

In 1989 a large majority voted for the abolition of the old Swaythling Cup system, which will probably never return. What replaced it was a strange travesty criticised by many knowledgeable people. To describe it briefly, the maximum of 9 matches is reduced to one of 5 and the match can end at 3-0 just as it previously would end at 5-0. One man plays two singles and the other two play only one and it is these two who **must** play the doubles. It may pass as an egalitarian exercise in a minor youth club, where there is much else to do, but in a world championship? To start with, all sorts of illogicalities will have to be considered. Nations with strong doubles pairs, say, Germany and Yugoslavia may be tempted to give their worst player the two singles in order to keep the best doubles pair together. Or they may tear apart their winning doubles duo, so that they can give their best singles player the two singles.

The ever present dilemma

The introduction of doubles contests seemed to suggest that a great future was seen in doubles. However, thereafter the format seemed to discourage those nations which had produced the best doubles pairs. The Germans and Yugoslavs battled with this dilemma throughout, whether to give Roskopf and Lupulesku the two singles or whether to part their world class doubles pair.

In the Final the Yugoslavs gave Zoran Kalinic the two singles. He was clearly, so late in his career, their worst player. He lost both and the match was lost 3-2 and Sweden remained world champions. Earlier the Germans lost to the Yugoslavs, playing Roskopf and Fetzner in the doubles. In this match Kalinic won both singles, so that no one could blame



the Yugos for trying this again against the Swedes. Nevertheless they will wonder all their lives whether they did the right thing.

Absurdities and distortions

The inclusion of the doubles did little for England, since it meant invariably being one down with four to play or, if you like, having to win 3 singles out of 4, a tough act at the best of times.

That apart, the group system did England few favours. Winning 5 matches out of 7 proved a meaningless exercise, since at that point a 'sudden death' stage began and defeat against Czechoslovakia undid all the good work. The one defeat counted more heavily than the five wins. Yugoslavia (Finalists) and Belgium (Semi-Finalists) had been beaten, but to no avail. Belgium, in fact, had won practically nothing in the groups, but two wins thereafter propelled them to a medal position! The Poles were another victim of the group system. They too lost in their first contest in the sudden death stage to Canada, more precisely, perhaps, to Johnny Huang, who won two singles. He had been, I am told, in Canada for 9 months after arriving from China. If so, one wonders what happened to the 6 year, or even the earlier 2 year eligibility clause. Whilst Luxembourg and Norway only used their excellent Chinese in the Individual Events, Canada was transformed by the inclusion of theirs. A few days earlier Huang had won the Commonwealth singles title. I think it right that all players, regardless of nationality, should be able to play in the individual events, but I cannot see how it can make the remotest sense to include citizens of another country in a national team.

It is not what England, as represented by the ETTA National Council, decided, but it was not a decision that won us new friends abroad and there was much malicious glee about our 10th place.

Chen played well in the singles, but he did not solve our doubles problems, losing all of the 6 doubles in which he played in the team event. Our weakness was therefore clearly identified, as indeed it has been for some years.

Tragedy as well as farce

The group system encouraged poor attitudes, since 6 nations of the 8 were assured of promotion to the last 16 stage in each group. It was not unnatural that teams, which had won a couple of matches

in their group, should begin to cast an eye on the draw to ascertain where they would find the easier opponents. Thus Germany and China calculated, when they met, that victory would give them a far harder draw than defeat and so defeat seemed suddenly a highly desirable target!

The German solution was to play their No. 4 and 5, Franz and Wosik, but that seemed their only concession to the desired defeat, as the youngsters approached their task with some vigour and were soon two up! The Chinese, however, were less restrained and were reported as playing with some determination to lose!

The German NPC then conceded the match and China 'won' 3-2! Once again a first class scandal. One recalls how the Chinese held up the Men's Team Final in 1989 by half an hour whilst protesting about an umpiring decision. Officials, indeed the ITTF were unequal to the challenge then and so it proved this time. The German Coach was selected as the sacrificial lamb and banned from the team bench during the team events! That proved the end of the disciplinary festivities.

China lost to Czechoslovakia in the next round, a sad end for a once great table tennis nation. The play-offs for places 5-8 added to their plight and they finished 7th, for China a staggering result. The mighty had fallen very far and hard.

The Germans lost to Yugoslavia, whom they have been beating conclusively and regularly, at any rate in the Roskopf/Fetzner era. The Swedes defeated the united Koreans and sailed into the sunset of victory, though the Yugos gave them plenty of trouble in the Final, the match standing at 2 all when Persson faced Lupulesku.

Issues not faced

The system was cobbled together as a compromise and in order to appease the stronger nations, who liked the old category system, which divided nations on the basis of their previous performance in the event two years earlier. Then the top two in each group went into the semi-finals. There was next to no scope for the China/Germany type of incidents then. Compromise does not mean that one extreme should be exchanged for another. Why could not the top 4 of each group go into the last 8? If it was thought desirable to bring in teams from lower groups, the best two could have played off against the 4th placed nations of the groups of Category 1.

The sooner the present playing format is abandoned, the better. If the classic "3 vs 3" really no longer has support, then the format of the European Women's League should be considered (6 singles and 1 doubles).

However, the major problem remains the gathering of so many players and indeed officials into one place. A world championship is, in the end, an elite event for the best players in the world. Wimbledon (of Tennis) is not thrown open to park players. Chiba was and the votes of their representatives are more numerous and therefore more decisive than those of the larger nations who will provide the best players. A series of qualifying events is therefore quite essential, so that numbers are reduced and the world championships become what they are supposed to be — big sport.

This is where I came in. Television was not won, because basically there is no market for boy scout gatherings. When there is, we shall have a better chance. Till then, only the crumbs of television will remain and that is not enough. Crumbs are traditionally thrown to the poor.

Yorkshire take two titles

YORKSHIRE'S Junior and Veteran teams rose to the occasion winning both county titles, during a somewhat hectic end to the season's Championships. 170 matches were played over the weekends 23/24 March and 6 April. This was a season with the highest entry ever — 187 teams in 26 Divisions.

JUNIOR PREMIER — The final series of matches were played at Batley Sports Centre. And it was Yorkshire who reclaimed their place at the top of the Junior scene after finishing in 3rd place last season.

Their first match of the weekend was obviously going to be the vital one. It was against Devon, who were in 2nd place after the first series. And Devon went into a 2-nil lead! Alex Pery and Adrian Vincent both had comfortable wins. However the Yorkshire girls — Sally Marling and Ellen Meddings — were dominant winning their 4 singles. Gareth Jones also did very well with 2 wins, including the 2 straight defeat of Alex Pery at a vital stage in the match. Yorkshire went on to win 6-4 and followed this with good wins over Kent and Surrey. In their last match Yorkshire had a very hard fight with Lancashire. Yorkshire led 4-3 when Darren Haworth (La) had an exciting win over Gareth Jones the scores being -15, 21 and 22! Match score 4-4 and a surprise to come when Maria Thorneley (La) beat Sally Marling 17 and 17! Robert Sharp won the last event for Yorkshire to secure a draw. This was the only point dropped by Yorkshire and the team again became worthy Champions.

Devon followed the Yorks match with good wins over Essex, Kent and Surrey and thoroughly deserved the runners-up position in the Championship. Lancs improved their position with wins over Essex and Durham and, of course, took a point off Yorkshire. But they came unstuck against Middlesex being beaten 6-4. James Sprackling played well to get 2 wins for Middx. However Lancs went into 3rd place in the Table. Essex had wins over Middx and Kent but lost against Lancs when Maria Thorneley and Tamar Connolly won their 4 events. This led Essex to having to be content with 4th place. The Essex No.1 — Chris Sladden — did very well to win 6 of his 8 singles. Surrey, one of the promoted teams, did well with 3 wins and 1 draw. They took over 5th place and obviously continue at Premier level. Middx finished with a similar record but a slightly inferior sets ratio.

The Kent team, without Brian Mileham in this 2nd series, was able to win only one match. They are due for demotion together with promotees Durham, who won only 16 events over the 7 matches. One Durham player who would have benefitted from the Premier Division matches was Jackie Marriott, who performed very well throughout and included a -20, 18, 20 win over Maria Thorneley (La).

The most successful player of the final series was undoubtedly Edward Hatley (Sy) who won all 8 singles and was undefeated throughout the whole of the programme. Of the girls who played in all 4 matches no-one was unbeaten but 3 won 7 of their 8 singles namely — Maria Thorneley (La), Sara Williams (Mi) and Jackie Marriott (Du).



Yorkshire's three junior aces Sally Marling (top) Ellen Meddings (centre) and Gareth Jones (bottom).

Veterans Premier

16 matches were played at Ellenborough. Yorkshire completely dominated this Div. with 7 good wins (14 points) and dropped only 11 events. Following Yorks were 4 teams each with 8 points — which illustrates how far ahead they were. The same 3 teams as last season finished at the top with Cheshire, topped at last, getting the runners-up spot and Essex being in 3rd place.

The team which made a great improvement in the final series was Lincolnshire, with wins over Essex, Kent and Cheshire! Matt Shearer was back and playing well for Lincs, including a 2 straight win over Stuart Gibbs (E)! Matt was involved in what was the closest match of the series when he beat Tom Adams (K) -19, 19, 20. Wilts team, with only 1 win, is for demotion after 1 season. Surprisingly the other team is Kent, who achieved a 6-3 win over Ches. Their fate was decided in the last match. Going into this match Surrey really had just a slim chance to avoid relegation. They played Kent, who were without Henry Buist, and won 9-0! The best performances came from Yorkshire players with Dennis Neale and Malcolm Corking unbeaten. And the Yorks doubles pairings — Derek Munt/Carol Judson and Dennis Neals/ Malcolm Corking — won all their matches. Beryl Voss (Li) played very well indeed. In this final series she got 100% in singles with wins over Carol Judson, Marjorie Dawson, Margaret Dignum and Doreen Schofield — in fact Beryl lost only 1 game. Beryl Voss (Li) and Dennis Neale (Y) were the only players to win all their singles events over the whole programme.

Results

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| Y | 9 | Wi | 0 | Sy | 3 | E | 6 |
| K | 6 | Ch | 3 | Li | 2 | Y | 7 |
| Sy | 3 | Sx | 6 | Wi | 2 | K | 7 |
| E | 4 | Li | 5 | Sx | 3 | Ch | 6 |
| K | 3 | Li | 6 | E | 0 | Y | 9 |
| Ch | 8 | Wi | 1 | Sx | 6 | Wi | 3 |
| E | 7 | Sx | 2 | Li | 5 | Ch | 4 |
| Y | 7 | Sy | 2 | Sy | 9 | K | 0 |

Senr 1A:

Beds 6, Ches. 4; N'berland 3, Cambs 7; Lancs 2, 10, Suffolk 0 (conceded); Warwicks 5, Yorks 2, 5; Ches 5, Lancs 2, 5; Yorks 2, 5, Cambs 5; N'berland 4, Beds 6; N'berland 10, Suffolk 0 (conceded); Suffolk 7, Warwicks 3.

Beds 6-4 win at N'berland in their last match gave them the championship and promotion to Premier Div. But it was a close thing — Colin Bowler, in the final event, won at 20 in the 3rd game to get the win. Mike Levene (Bd) won his 2 matches but Lisa Robins lost her unbeaten record to Caron Guthrie. So, in 2 seasons, Beds have come from 2nd Div to Premier Div! Yorks 2 only making a draw with Cambs robbed them of the title. Keith Richardson and Mick Harper (Ca) won their 4 events. Ches. got their first point of the season by drawing with Lancs 2. Wayne Percival (Ch) won 2 as did Beverley Parkes on her debut. Ches and Lancs 2 (with 5 points) are the teams for demotion.

Senr 1B:

Avon 5, Middx 2, 5; Middx 2, 8, Glos 2; Devon 9, Glos 1; Devon 7, Essex 3; Avon 4, Essex 6; Wilts 1, Avon 9; Wilts 5, Middx 2, 5; Wilts 0, Devon 10;

Results

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| Y | 6 | Dv | 4 | Sy | 8 | Du | 2 |
| La | 6 | E | 4 | La | 4 | Mi | 6 |
| Mi | 3 | Sy | 7 | E | 1 | Dv | 9 |
| Du | 3 | K | 7 | K | 1 | Y | 9 |
| Mi | 3 | E | 7 | La | 5 | Y | 5 |
| Y | 7 | Sy | 3 | K | 4 | E | 6 |
| Du | 2 | La | 8 | Sy | 4 | Dv | 6 |
| Dv | 8 | K | 2 | Mi | 9 | Du | 1 |

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2

Essex 10, Glos 0; Sussex 2, 4, Middx 2, 6; Sussex 2, 1, Devon 9; Glos 4, Sussex 2, 6.

12 matches played at Chelmsford to complete the fixtures. Devon dominated the scene with 4 emphatic wins, dropping only 5 events. Devon won the championship and gain promotion to Premier Div. Paul Whiting finished with a 100% record of wins. Essex were runners-up having lost to Sussex 2, in the first Round, and to Devon. In this vital match the Devon ladies — Carol Giles and Elaine Short — won their 4 events, as they did in Devon's other 3 matches. Wilts had the services of Kevin Satchell when they drew with Middx 2. Glos is the team for demotion.

Senr 2A:

Warwicks 2, 0, Staffs 10; Staffs 10, Lincs 0 (Conceded); Leics. 2, 10, Durham 0 (Conceded).

Staffs emphatic win — all 2 straight games — against Warwick 2nds gave them the championship. Staffs have succeeded in getting promotion in successive seasons and will appear in Div 1 next season. Cumbria and Durham finish level on points and sets at the foot of the table.

Senr 2B:

Cornwall 1, Devon 2, 9; Cornwall 5, Hants 5; Somerset 5, Glam 5; Devon 2, 8, Somerset 2; Glam 4, Avon 2, 6; Hants 2, Devon 2, 8; Hants 8, Avon 2, 2; Avon 2, 5, Cornwall 5; Avon 2, 1, Somerset 9; Glam 6, Cornwall 4.

10 matches played at Launceston to complete the fixtures. Devon 2 had dropped 3 points from their 3 matches in the first Round. But the team had 3 very good wins this time, including the 8-2 defeat of Hants, their closest rivals. Greg Bridgett, former Devon Junior, came into the team in this final Round and won all his matches. So it was another successful Devon team who will replace Devon 1 in Div. 1. Hard lines Hants, who finished on level points but 4 events down on Devon. Rhamish Bhalla (Ha) lost only once during the season — to Kevin Buddell (Dv) at 15 in the 3rd game. Dorset, who conceded all the ladies events in the first Round, did not compete in the final Round and are due for demotion.

Senr 2C:

Suffolk 2, 1, Worcs 9; Norfolk 6, Beds 2, 4; Worcs 6, Beds 2, 4; Cambs 2, 6, Herts 4.

Worcs finished in style with wins over Suffolk 2 and Beds 2, went through the season unbeaten and get immediate return to Div 1. Trevor Washington went through the season with 100% wins and Malcolm Green lost only one match. Ruth Hunter (Nk) had 2 very close events in the match with Beds 2, losing at -20 in the 3rd game to Sandra Harper and Mary Jarrett. Cambs 2 did well to get a 6-4 win over Herts, who were without the services of John Taylor, on Vets duty for the County. Suffolk 2nds is the team for demotion.

Senr 2D:

Northants 6, Essex 2, 4; Berks 2, 4, Oxon 6; Northants 6, Oxon 4; Essex 2, 6, Surrey 2, 4.

Essex 2's 6-4 win over Surrey 2 gave them the championship, having a slightly better sets average than Bucks. But with Essex 1 in Div 1 it will be the Bucks team for promotion. Kate Gower and Debbie Taylor won their 4 events in the vital match and it meant that Kate achieved 100% success throughout the season. Oxon lost their last match 4-6 at Northants. Dawn Barnett and Sally Hughes, in their last season as Juniors, won their 4 matches for the Senior team. The Berks/Oxon match was a vital one to decide which team would be for demotion. Oxon did



Matt Shearer (above) of Lincolnshire Veterans with Wiltshire's Senior Kevin Satchell (below)



well to get their first win of the season which took them off the bottom of the Table.

Senr 3A:

Northants 2, 9, Clwyd 1; Worcs 2, 9, Clwyd 1; Ches 2, 7, Hunts 3; Essex 3, 9, Northants 2, 1; Worcs 2, 4, Ches 2, 6; Hunts 2, Essex 3, 8; Herts 3, 10, Clwyd 0 (Conceded); Clwyd 5, Hunts 5.

Ches 2 visited Worcs for their last match. A vital match it was with a win for either team giving them the championship and possible promotion. A draw would have given Essex 3 the title. The Ches. team certainly rose to the occasion. Although Ches had to concede 2 events (one lady absent) they got a 6-4 win with John Hope, Phil Biggs and Tony Vaughan winning their 6 events. Sue Horton (Wo) won her singles as did Lynda Reid, coming back from 7-16 to win at 19 in the 3rd game! Essex 3's 8-2 defeat of Hunts puts them in the runners-up position. The Essex team drew, earlier in the season, with both Ches 2 and Worcs 2. Clwyd finished at the bottom of the Table.

Senr 3B:

Sussex 3, 9, Glos 2, 1; Hants 2, 4, Dorset 2, 6; Bucks 2, 3, Glos 2, 7; Dorset 2, 4, Herts 2, 6.

Sussex 3 completed their programme with a 9-1 win. The team won all 5 matches and dropped only 6 events! Peter Bartram and Andy Walker went through the season unbeaten. Herts 2 beat Dorset 2 and finished as runners-up suffering only 1 defeat — by Sussex 3. Glos 2's win over Bucks 2 took them away from the bottom of the Table and left Bucks 2 stranded. Dave Smith and Alan Giles (Gs) won their 4 events.

Junr 1A:

Warwicks 10, Lancs 2, 0; Yorks 2, 6, N'berland 4;

Lincs 3, Suffolk 7; Derbys 6, Clwyd 4; Suffolk 2, Warwicks 8; Lancs 2, 4, Clwyd 6; N'berland 5, Lincs 5; Derbys 5, Yorks 2, 5;

Warwicks completed the season with 2 more convincing wins. Just 1 point dropped as a result of a draw with Derbys. Warwick made an immediate return to Premier Div. Steven Meddings and Ian Fergusson both won 12 of their 14 singles. Clwyd got a good 6-4 win over Lancs 2 with Natasha Williams (Cw) getting 100% wins over the season. Menir Davies (Cw) also won her 2 singles. N'berland, without the services of Barry Forster, were held to a draw by Lincs. The Lincs girls — Nicola Massingham and Elaine Timbrell — won their 4 matches. Derbys did well to draw with Yorks 2. Katy Petty (Dy) won her 2 matches. Lancs 2 and Lincs are the teams for demotion.

Junr 1B:

Glam 2, Berks 8; Essex 2, 7, Worcs 3; Oxon 9, Herts 1; Cornwall 2, Essex 2, 8; Herts 7, Essex 2, 3; Berks 10, Cornwall 0; Glos 6, Worcs 4.

Berks had a marvellous season — 7 wins and dropped only 11 events. Nicola Cracknell (Bk) played in all matches and had 100% wins. There was an exciting clash in the match v. Glam with Martin Adams (Bk) beating Steven Gill -16, 19, 22! Oxon was another very good team — they had the one loss against Berks but beat all other teams very comfortably. Dawn Barnett (Ox) had just 1 defeat — by Nicola Cracknell. Lee Horton (Wo) had 2 good wins over Raymond Powell and Jeremy Hyatt (Gs). In the 8-2 defeat at the hands of Essex 2 it was Rachel Boon (Co) who got the 2 wins. Cornwall and Worcs are the teams for demotion.

Junr 2A:

Leics 2, Staffs 1, 8; Notts 7, Ches 2, 3; Staffs 2, 1, Derbys 2, 9; Lancs 3, 1, Notts 9; Ches 2, 2, Ches 1, 8; Staffs 2, 6, Leics 4; Notts 8, Derbys 2, 2.

Staffs 1 finished the season with 2 emphatic wins. The team dropped just 1 point over the season, won the championship of the Div and will be promoted to Div 1. Matthew Brown and Alison Taylor (St 1) each suffered just 1 defeat over the season. Ches 1 finished just 1 point behind Staffs 1 — they lost 4-6 to Staffs. Zoe Buchanan (Ch1) achieved 100% wins. Staffs 2 got their first points of the season at the expense of Lincs. This took them off the bottom spot. Lancs 3 got the "wooden spoon" in this Div.

Junr 2B:

Berks 2, 4, Wilts 6; Herts 2, 5, Bucks 5; Middx 2, 7, Warwicks 2, 3; Northants 6, Essex 3, 4; Warwicks 2, 3, Northants 7; Berks 2, 2, Middx 2, 8; Bucks 8, Wilts 2; Herts 2, 4, Essex 3, 6.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 3

Northants made a great bid at the end of the season. The team inflicted the first defeat of the season on Essex 3 and finally had a 7-3 win over Warwicks 2. But Essex 3 won their final match and top the Div by virtue of a better sets ratio. However, with Essex 2 in Div 1, Northants will be the team for promotion. There were some close games in the Herts 2/Essex 3 match. Caron Harber (He) was involved in 2 of these — she lost to Anna Weil -13, 27, -21 and beat Elizabeth Sibbald -18, 16, 21! Bucks were 2-5 down in their match against Herts 2 and fought back to get a draw. Berks 2 failed to get a point, although they lost 3 matches at 4-6, and are at the bottom of the Table.

Junr 2D:

Surrey 3, 0, Surrey 2, 10; Sussex 1, 8, Suffolk 2, 2; Sussex 2, 6, Suffolk 2, 4; Sussex 2, 4, Kent 2, 6; Surrey 3, 10, Norfolk 2, 0; Surrey 2, 9, Norfolk 2, 1; Surrey 2, 7, Norfolk 1, 3; Surrey 3, 6, Norfolk 1, 4.

Two Surrey and two Norfolk teams met at New Malden to complete their programme. At that stage Norfolk 1 headed the Table but were beaten 7-3 by Surrey 2 in a match in which 7 events went to a decider. Surrey 2 won the championship and gain promotion to Div 1. Glenda Ashison (Sy 2) won all her matches. Kent 2 concluded with a 6-4 win over Sussex 2 and are the runners-up. Norfolk 2 finish at the foot of the Table.

Vets 1A:

Essex 2, 6, Lancs 3; Leics 6, Herts 3; Norfolk 4, Worcs 5; Yorks 2, 8, N'berland 1; N'berland 2, Leics 7; Norfolk 6, Yorks 2, 3; Herts 5, Essex 2, 4; Lancs 4, Worcs 5.

Lancs defeat at the hands of Essex 2 ruled them out of winning the Div and it was down to the results of Leics and Essex 2 in their last matches. Leics visited N'berland and won 7-2 with Maurice Newman and Tony Kinsey winning their 4 singles and also being involved in 2 doubles wins. Essex 2 were surprisingly beaten 5-4 by Herts and had to be content with runners-up position. John Taylor was in the Herts team and won his 2 singles and the doubles with Stuart Seaholme. With the match score 4-4 Alan Lamprell beat Faisal Mauthoor 19 and 24! But this great effort did not save Herts from demotion. Going into the last Round any 2 of 5 teams could have been demoted. Worcs won both their last 2 matches 5-4, each decided in the last event, by a win from Roy Norton. Norfolk also won their final match 5-4 and both these teams avoided relegation. N'berland is the other team for demotion.

Vets 1B:

Surrey 2, 3, Middx 6; Oxon 4, Kent 2, 5; Hants 1, Dorset 8; Berks 4, Bucks 5; Hants 3, Berks 6; Bucks 2, Oxon 7; Kent 2, 6, Surrey 2, 3; Middx 5, Dorset 4; Middx 6, Berks 3.

The defeat of Surrey 2 by Middx ended their chance of becoming Divisional champions. Kent 2 got a narrow win over Oxon. In their last match Kent 2 confirmed their right to the title with a 6-3 win over Surrey 2. Keith Clark and John White (K) won their 4 singles and were involved in 2 doubles victories. Berks 6-3 win over Hants saved them from relegation. Bucks and Hants are for relegation.

Vets 2A:

Lancs 2, 3, Ches 2, 6; Lincs 2, 1, Warwicks 8; Lincs 2, 0, Ches 2, 9; Yorks 3, 7, Clwyd 2.

Lancs 2's defeat by Ches 2 destroyed any title hopes. Ches 2 had a maximum win over Lincs 2, head the Division and gain promotion. At the

outset of the Lancs/Ches match there were 3 men with 100% records — Brian Clements (La), Norman Thewlis (La) and Derek Schofield (Ch2). In this vital match Thewlis beat Schofield, Schofield beat Clements and Thewlis lost to Timewell — all square! Lincs 2 finished at the foot of the Table and are due for relegation.

Vets 2B:

Beds 8, Notts 1; Notts 8, Hants 1; Hunts 3, Norfolk 2, 6; Northants 9, Norfolk 2, 0; Essex 3, 5, Beds 4.

Essex 3 narrowly defeated Beds in their final match with Peter Ballard and Linda Hales being involved in 4 of the wins. Linda Hales inflicted the first defeat of the season on Sylvia Coombes. But Northants head the Table, and are for promotion, despite the fact they were earlier beaten 8-1 by Essex 3.

Vets 2C:

Middx 2, 9, Wilts 2, 0; Bucks 2, 3, Surrey 3, 6; Glos 7, Bucks 2, 2.

Middx 2 got a maximum win over Wilts 2 and became champions of the Div. The Middx team excelled in the doubles events losing only 1 throughout the programme. Glos concluded a good season with a 7-2 win over Bucks 2. Dave Harvey made his debut and had 3 wins. Glos are runners-up although they did achieve a 5-4 win over Middx. Herefords, at the bottom of the Table, are for demotion.

Vets 2D:

Sussex 2, 4, Berks 2, 5; Herts 2, 5, Hants 2, 4; Hants 2, 3, Sussex 2, 6; Berks 2, 5, Somerset 4.

Berks 2 inflicted the first defeat on Sussex 2 and left both teams on equal points going into the last Round. Sussex 2 beat Hants 2 6-3 but Berks 2 had a harder fight in their 5-4 win over Somerset. It went to 4-4 with Ian Schwartz (Bk) winning the final event — as he did against Sussex 2! Wally Allanson (Bk) was involved in 2 expedite matches and in one of these he inflicted the first defeat on Brian Reeves. Sussex 2 take the title and Dorset 2 get the "wooden spoon" and are for demotion.

Vets 3A:

Warwicks 2, 8, Beds 2, 1; Norfolk 3, 1, Northants 2, 8; Norfolk 3, 7, Beds 2, 2; Herts 4, 4, Hunts 2, 5; Ches 3, 5, Beds 2, 4; Hunts 2, 2, Warwicks 2, 7; Herts 4, 7, Norfolk 3, 2.

A fitting finale in this Div with the 2 unbeaten teams — Hunts 2 and Warwicks 2 — meeting in the last Round. Warwicks 2 were on top with Pat Glynn and Barry O'Brien winning their 4 singles and both being involved in 2 doubles wins for Warwicks. Warwicks 2 won 7-2 and are the champions of this Div. There was a very close finish in Ches 3/Beds 2 match. With the score 4-4 Derek Hendry (Ch) beat Doug Folds 19, -10, 23! Eileen Edwards (Ch3) kept her unbeaten record. Beds 2 fought back well in their last match but it did not take them away from the bottom of the Table.

Vets 3B:

Sussex 3, 5, Sussex 4, 4; Herts 3, 9, Northants 3, 0; Northants 3, 1, Kent 3, 8; Sussex 3, 7; Herts 3, 2; Berks 4, 5, Sussex 4, 4.

Sussex 4 put up a good fight against their 3rd team before losing 4-5 in the last event. They won the 2 doubles and Pat Pearce and Brian Keeley had wins at 19 and 21 in the 3rd game. Kent 3, finishing with a 8-1 win, went through this season unbeaten, won the championship and are due for promotion. Northants 3 take the "wooden spoon".

Vets 3C:

Wilts 3, 7, Herts 5, 2; Berks 3, 8, Wilts 4, 1; Somerset 2, 3, Berks 3, 6; Wilts 4, 5, Glos 2, 4.

Berks 3 ended the season with 2 good wins and gave them the championship. Pam Spooner and Mike Harris went through the season unbeaten. Wilts 4 did what their 3rd team failed to do, which cost Wilts 3 the championship, when they beat Glos 2. Wilts won the final event for the 5-4 win.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Final Tables Season 1990/91

SENIORS

| Premier Division | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Lancashire | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 54 | 16 | 14 |
| Middlesex | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 48 | 22 | 11 |
| Yorkshire | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 42 | 28 | 11 |
| Sussex | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 34 | 36 | 7 |
| Surrey | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 29 | 41 | 5 |
| Berkshire | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 25 | 45 | 4 |
| Leicestershire | 7 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 26 | 44 | 3 |
| Derbyshire | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 48 | 1 |

Division 1A

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Bedfordshire | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 41 | 29 | 11 |
| Yorkshire | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 42 | 28 | 10 |
| Warwickshire | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 36 | 34 | 8 |
| Suffolk | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 31 | 39 | 8 |
| Cambridgeshire | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 35 | 35 | 7 |
| Northumberland | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 42 | 28 | 6 |
| Lancashire 2nd | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 32 | 38 | 5 |
| Cheshire | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 21 | 49 | 1 |

Division 1B

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Devonshire | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 51 | 9 | 12 |
| Essex | 6 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 38 | 22 | 8 |
| Sussex 2nd | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 29 | 31 | 7 |
| Avon | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 34 | 26 | 6 |
| Middlesex 2nd | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 28 | 32 | 6 |
| Wiltshire | 6 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 15 | 45 | 2 |
| Gloucestershire | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 45 | 1 |

Division 2A

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Staffordshire | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 48 | 2 | 10 |
| Leicestershire 2nd | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 27 | 23 | 6 |
| Warwickshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 21 | 29 | 5 |
| Lincolnshire | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 20 | 30 | 3 |
| Cumbria (38-73) | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 17 | 33 | |
| Durham (38-73) | 5 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 17 | 33 | 3 |

Division 2B

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| Devonshire 2nd | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 43 | 17 | 9 |
| Hampshire | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 39 | 21 | 9 |
| Somerset | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 36 | 24 | 7 |
| Avon 2nd | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 29 | 31 | 7 |
| Glamorgan | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 33 | 27 | 6 |
| Cornwall | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 25 | 35 | 4 |
| Dorset | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 55 | 0 |

Division 2C

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Worcestershire | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 36 | 14 | 10 |
| Hertfordshire | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 31 | 19 | 6 |
| Cambridgeshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 25 | 25 | 5 |
| Norfolk | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 23 | 27 | 5 |
| Bedfordshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 23 | 27 | 4 |
| Suffolk 2nd | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 12 | 38 | 0 |

Division 2D

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| Essex 2nd | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 36 | 14 | 8 |
| Buckinghamshire | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 33 | 17 | 8 |
| Northamptonshire | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 25 | 25 | 7 |
| Surrey 2nd | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 24 | 26 | 5 |
| Oxfordshire | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 17 | 33 | 2 |
| Berkshire 2nd | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 15 | 35 | 0 |

Division 3A

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Cheshire 2nd | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 39 | 21 | 11 |
| Essex 3rd | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 43 | 17 | 10 |
| Worcestershire 2nd | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 39 | 21 | 9 |
| Herefordshire 3rd | 6 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 34 | 26 | 6 |
| Northamptonshire 2nd | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 23 | 37 | 4 |
| Huntingdonshire | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 19 | 41 | 1 |
| Clwyd | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 13 | 47 | 1 |

Division 3B

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Sussex 3rd | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 6 | 10 |
| Hertfordshire 2nd | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 31 | 19 | 8 |
| Hampshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 24 | 26 | 4 |
| Gloucestershire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 31 | 4 |
| Dorset 2nd | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 18 | 32 | 2 |
| Buckinghamshire 2nd | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 14 | 36 | 2 |

ETTA County Supplement

AVON Bob Murray

WELL, THE LONG wait was certainly worth it with two excellent Divisional Groups being played on the weekend of 23/24 March.

Andy Creed was undoubtedly the star of Avon I's matches held at Essex. He had a maximum haul from his 6 games including a brilliant win over the host county's Steve Dorking. Andy looks determined to regain his County No 1 spot. The bare results of played 3, won 1, drawn 1 and lost 1 do not show how close Avon I were to picking up all 6 points on offer. A 6-4 defeat at the hands of Essex saw Andy's two victories supplemented by one each from Paul Lewis and Chris Holley but unfortunately nothing from the girls.

A Wiltshire side without injured Kevin Satchell were no threat to Avon. Maximums from Andy, Paul, Chris, Helen Perrott and one from an unusually out of touch Michele Cohen gave us a resounding 9-1 victory. The weekend concluded with a 5-5 draw against Middlesex II. Helen and Andy capped fine performances by again taking both their matches and Paul took the other.

Avon II's can be well pleased with their performances at Launceston in an excellent weekend's table tennis. The last minute withdrawal of Dorset threatened to throw the schedule into chaos but clever rearrangement of fixtures by organisers Pat Archdale and Pete Hancock ensured things ran smoothly. 9-1 and 8-2 defeats at the hands of Somerset and Hampshire respectively were predictable even if the score lines did nothing to reflect the closeness of some of the matches. But a 6-4 win over Glamorgan and a 5-5 draw with Cornwall endured that Avon were at least able to hold their own in the post match analysis held behind closed doors in the White Hart Hotel!

Highlights of the weekend on the table were the victories enjoyed by Steve Bettison and Ian Johnson over "King Ginster", Jeremy Williams and by Steve over Glamorgan No 1 Mark Simon. Over the weekend Steve had 4 wins out of a possible 6 and Ian a 3 out of 8. Paul Hooper showed he is coming back to form with 3 wins out of 6 and Bob Murray managed 1 win from 4. Debbie Bouey's 2 wins from 8 and Carey Webb's 1 from 8 were scant reward for their efforts but these 3 victories all came in the Glamorgan game and tipped the scales.

Following these results, Avon I's and II's have joined the Junior side in finishing mid table in their respective divisions. Next season it is hoped that a Veteran's side can be re-established to give Avon a full range of teams in the County Championships.

Congratulations to Brislington School who are the new English Schools Champions in the Under 13 Boys section following wins against Downside (Purley) and Park View (Cumbria). The Brislington squad of Graham Long, Tom Orlik, Matthew Pullin and Ross McDonald are all part of Bernard Nash's impressive coaching set-up at the Knowle & Brislington Club.

Congratulations also to Holmead for progressing so far in the Under 11 Girls event. The squad of Emma Price, Lizzie McDonald, Jessica Orlik, Clare Smyth and Andrea Long achieved the runners up spot in the competition. A win against Woodley (Stockport) was followed by a defeat against the very strong Peniel side from Brentwood.

Bath League

Two matches involving Oldfield have almost certainly decided the outcome of this season's Premier Division title and the Knock Out Cup. In the league, 3 wins for Chris Holley, 2 from Marc Cotton (including an excellent win over Wiltshire's Trevor Lloyd) and 1 from John Higgs gave Oldfield a 6-4 win

over rivals Mayfield. Bob Murray with 2 wins did best for the losers but a second consecutive title now looks inevitable.

In the Knock Out Cup against Longwell 'A', Oldfield took an early lead with wins by Chris Holley over Martin Smith and John Higgs over Mike Bridgeman and looked on course for victory. It was then that Clive Ellison took charge of proceedings and superb wins over Holley, Higgs and Marc Cotton were supplemented by one each from Smith and Bridgeman. Langwell will now be warm favourites to win this competition.

Weston Super Mare League

Good news from Weston is that they have at last found a venue for their closed championships. By kind permission of the Station commander, this year's event will be staged at RAF Locking on 28th April.

One of the favourites for the Mens Singles title will be former Somerset player Joe Garland who seems to be playing as well as ever. Joe is unbeaten in the league this season and his YMCA side look certain to take the championship.

Bristol League

Most of the Bristol Executive's time lately seems to have been taken up by the shenanigans surrounding the ETTA.

Nailsea Leopards are still clear at the top of the Premier Division and the main interest is centred on the battle for the runners-up spot. Bristol Club B have only dropped three points to date but have a very difficult run-in and will be hard pressed to finish ahead of Knowle & Brislington A. There is the usual scramble at the bottom of the league where four teams will be relegated.

BERKSHIRE Bob Adams

FOR A COMPARATIVELY new club, Our Lady of Peace (OLOP in the table tennis world) have certainly made some impression in Berkshire - not yet in my view challenging the position of Kingfisher as the best known in the county, but coming up fast. For example, in the Bracknell League, they not only look virtually certain to top the Premier Division, beating SSV into second place (Kingfisher, although third, have no hope of catching either), they already have both Division One and Four titles in the bag. A glance down the individual averages gives a clue as to their success - Tony Duffield and Michael Childs with 100% and 94% occupy first and third places, whilst Ian Schwartz and Martin O'Donovan are close behind but with more individual wins.

In Division One Barry Morten and Femi Iyali hold the top two positions, Tim Heaps is fourth, with only Eddie Spielberg of Bagshot getting in amongst them. Jim Heslington takes number two spot behind the unbeaten Dave Halfpenny of Broadmoor in Division 2, but going down to Division 4 we again find an OLOP man at the top - Peter Goatly, again with 100%. The only other 100 percenter is Martin Lowe of Met Office in the Premier, unfortunately with his other league commitments he has been unable to play any more than nine opponents, but judging by the way he has brushed these aside, it is interesting to conjecture how he might have fared against Tony, had they met. In Division 2 of the Bracknell League, Royal Ascot A have taken the title, although the race for second place and promotion could not be more close, with only 2 points splitting Broadmoor B, Winkfield A and Met Office B.

The standard in this division has, to my mind, been exceptionally high this season -

Counties 2

for some unknown reason the division has been filled with vast numbers of players who graced the first division last year - I reckon that all the teams in the top half of the second division could happily replace the bottom half of the first. Wokingham E should take the Division 3 title, a good all round performance by the team with Alan Fielden and Colin Field getting the bulk of the points - a strange statistic here is that Dave Thornton and Mick Prater, both of Kingfisher have higher averages than Alan and Colin, but their team look like finishing in the bottom half of the division.

Looking at the Reading League, OLOP again feature prominently with no fewer than eight teams participating in the senior divisions and four in the junior. I do not have the current placings but no fewer than three OLOP teams are topping their divisions and two more are in second place - and no, they are not just all the same players appearing in two leagues. When one remembers that OLOP are also mid placed in Division 2 (Midlands) of the British League one can see just how well the club has progressed in the last three of four years through their policy of both recruiting established players and developing new ones.

Newbury Press Secretary informs me that the Thatcham squad of Dave Barr, Clive Payne, Dave Wise, Terry White and Alan Palaczky will retain the Division One title - I'm not surprised with a line up like that. Only Dave Reeves seems to be missing, and he leads Woolton Hill in the runners up spot. JOB A have Division 2 sewn up as have West Ilsley in Division 3, with the remaining Divisions 3 and 4 still undecided. In the Newbury Closed Championships Dave Reeves and Julie Norman took the major singles events, and these two, coupled with Darren Jones and Liz Whittaker took the doubles titles. Newbury have tried a second season with 3 points for a win, 2 for a draw and 1 for a 4-6 defeat. Most teams seem to like it but counter proposals are expected at the AGM.

Finally on a sad note, Ron Jerome, one of those players who always gave his all in a table tennis match but still managed to remain on the best of terms with his opponents, died in the last week of March. For many years both Club Secretary and the Press Secretary of the Bracknell League, his knowledge of the statistics of the players and the history of the League was second to none. An accomplished cartoonist and holder of that rare distinction, an entry in the Guinness Book of Records for his record breaking Scrabble exploits, he will be greatly missed by his table tennis friends, who will all wish to send their condolences to his wife and family.

CUMBRIA Martin Tickner

THE CARLISLE AND District Table Tennis Association annual City Championships sponsored by C.M. Boyd Insurance Brokers were held at Carlisle Sports Centre on Saturday, March 9th. Mark Temple who plays for the Royal Oak at Scotby won the Open singles event defeating his brother Steven the titleholder for the past two years. The two brothers teamed up again to win the open doubles title from Brian Bell and Jimmy Cummings. The junior singles event was won by Paul Dawson of the Sands Centre beating Phil Clarkson in straight games. Eleven year old Phil gained revenge by winning the U15 title beating Stephen Mond from Annan and the Division Two handicap event defeating his father John in a keenly contested final. Andrew Endredy also from the Royal Oak, Scotby secured his fifth veterans title inflicting a two set

defeat on George Gray. The main handicap event was claimed by Kenny Young of Solway Wines, Dumfries beating Ian Wallace also of Dumfries in an exciting final. The full results are as follows:

Open Singles :

M Temple beat S Temple
22/20, 21/18

Open Doubles :

M & S Temple beat B Bell/
J Cummings
21/10, 19/21, 21/18

U17 Singles :

P Dawson beat P Clarkson

21/12, 21/12

U15 Singles :

P Clarkson beat S Monk
21/2, 21/8

Veterans:

A Endredy beat G Gray
21/16, 21/19

Div 2 Handicap:

P Clarkson beat J Clarkson
41/33

Main Handicap :

K Young beat I Wallace 51/48

The run in for the first division title in the Carlisle & District League is hotting up with Tailor Made Windows comprised of Martin Tickner, Julie McLean and Stewart O'Neil at the top closely followed by Royal Oak, Scotby and Cairndale Hotel, Dumfries. Fire Service lead division two from the Sands Conquerors with Salvation Army lying in third place. The top positions are as follows:

Division One

| | P | Pts |
|---------------------|----|-----|
| Tailor Made Windows | 18 | 57 |
| Cairndale Hotel | 18 | 56 |
| Royal Oak, Scotby | 19 | 56 |
| Solway Wines | 17 | 45 |
| Cumbria Valves | 19 | 42 |

Division Two

| | P | Pts |
|------------------|----|-----|
| Fire Service | 17 | 61 |
| Sands Conquerors | 17 | 56 |
| Salvation Army | 17 | 55 |

| | P | Pts |
|---------------|----|-----|
| Chapelcross A | 18 | 50 |
| Ferguson B | 17 | 36 |

DORSET Martin Hughes

DORSET SENIOR SECONDS recorded their first victory of the season recently when they defeated neighbours Hampshire seconds by six games to four. Martin Hughes won both his games against Miki Sinanan and Andrew Ely, after coming back from 13-20 down against Ely to win 22-20, 21-18.

Jo Le-Neve-Foster beat Barbara Savage in an excellent contest, 20-22, 21-17, 21-19 but Bev King was defeated in straight sets. Jason Hagarty played well but was on the losing end of two close matches against Sinanan and Mark Shutler, losing in the decider on each occasion.

Hampshire were without a second lady player, so two sets were conceded, but captain Dave Sharples sealed the victory for Dorset when he won the last game of the day, beating Shutler in straight sets.

The Veteran first team were also away to Hampshire, and they recorded a resounding 8-1 victory as Barry Hill, Chris Pickard and Joyce Coop all kept a clean sheet with only Taffy Davies losing a set. Unfortunately, due to some 4-5 losses in the early part of the season, it appears that Dorset will have to wait another year to see if they can join the elite ranks of the premier division.

A hard fought match away to West London side Gunnersbury Triangle saw Jolliffe Poole emerge with a 4-4 draw in the second division south of the British League recently.

Counties 3

Gunnelsbury Triangle's top two players, David Goode and Neil Charles, proved too strong for Jolliffe Poole but Poole took full advantage against Chris Boothby and Steve Gennari as they won all four of the matches involving them.

Jolliffe Poole's number one Tony Clayton, who has never lost both his singles in a British League match since joining the team in 1986, went down in straight sets to Goode and Charles.

John Robinson was soundly beaten by David Goode in his first match, but played with steel and determination to eventually defeat Chris Boothby in a pulsating match, 20-22, 21-17, 23-21, after holding a 20-17 lead in the first end, and a 20-18 lead in the deciding end.

Jason Creasey also played a vital part as he beat Steve Gennari in straight sets, 21-14, 21-19 whilst Mark Werner, who was moved down to number four in the Jolliffe Poole ranking at Christmas, secured both his singles against Boothby and Gennari, although Steve Gennari gave him a hard match in the last game of the day before he eventually ran out the winner at 20-22, 21-17, 21-17 to earn Jolliffe Poole a valuable league point.

ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

THE WEEKEND OF March 23rd/24th was quite a traumatic one for our players, match secretaries and umpires. Apart from the small matter of contesting no fewer than seventeen matches in places as far apart as Batley in Yorkshire and Chelmsford in our own county, there were the critical

tasks for our seniors of trying to win their way back into the Premier Division, for our Juniors of staying there, and for our Veterans of achieving a good placing at that top level. It did not help that some of our leading players were unable to represent us in Senior/Junior or Senior/Veteran, so that we ended up with weakened sides throughout.

The juniors made the very long journey to Batley, with an unexpected cushion of 4 points already in the bag. However, Linda Radford and Alison Gower were unavailable to us and I feared that we would be unable to gain sufficient points to avoid relegation. At the end of the first day we had not gained any more points, while Kent had closed the gap behind us. We had to kick ourselves for not forcing a draw with Lancashire, which County seems to hold the Indian Sign over us.

Last season we were sure that we had the best team in the country, and would have won the Championship had we but drawn with them. Even they must have been surprised at their 6-4 win. This season Cris Sladden pulled off a great win over Darren Howarth, leaving Ryan Savill with the apparently simple job of beating the extremely talented 13 year old Darryl Meredith in order to secure for us a much needed 5-5 draw. Ryan did not manage it, and once more we had lost 4-6. After this somewhat dispirited team were crushed 9-1 by the powerful Devon squad.

The second day dawned and even the most optimistic of us could not see any reward coming from our match against Middlesex. Richard Hyacinth and Dov Katz looked good for a minimum of two sets, but probably three, while Sara Williams and Emese Kottasz looked certain to gather another four. So a 7-3 loss was on the cards. How we managed to win 7-3 is one of the great mysteries of our sport! In the event Cris Sladden, Ryan Savill and Paul Hudson played magnificently to win all six sets contested by them and after Jennie Coleman had lost to Emese despite holding three match points in the third

game(!) Sarah Gardner came along with a stunning two straight victory over the same player.

The match against Kent was supposed to have been our last chance of gaining the point which was needed to avoid relegation and no longer requiring it made the game a little bit anti-climatic. At one time I thought we would lose, after Miles Willey had clobbered Cris Sladden, Spencer Thompson had edged out Ryan Savill - 22, 17, 19 and Lesley Hollingworth had snatched it from Sarah Gardner 19, 20. However, Kent had left Brian Mileham and Desiree Joseph behind, and their young replacements Glenn Ritchie and Natasha Barham were a little bit outclassed. Jenny Coleman justified her inclusion in the Essex squad by having a marvellous win over Lesley Hollingworth and Cris Sladden came good against Spencer Thompson. As a result we gained a 6-4 win and a final placement of fourth, which, in all the circumstances has to be regarded as brilliant, and a tribute to a most unusually (for Essex juniors) well behaved and hard working squad, very efficiently coached by Bob Sladden. Next season we hope to push Malcolm Francis' Devon squad all the way for the title, since we will have the same players as I have mentioned, the rapidly improving Vincent Avery, and I sincerely hope our No. 1 girl Linda Radford.

At the Chelmsford meeting of the Division 1B Seniors, not only did Essex need to beat Avon and Gloucestershire but also they had to beat Devonshire by a large margin. Unfortunately, although the first requirement was met, we were unable to beat Devon at all. Steve Dorking and Grant Solder tried valiantly, but even they could not win everything, while Carol Giles and Elaine Short were too strong for the mother and daughter combination of Lesley and Linda Radford. That at least was something that had never been seen before in the County Championships, and as each of them won 4 sets out of 6, they

did not do too badly either. So it is good luck to Devonshire in the Premier Division next season when we will be trying extremely hard once more to join them in 1992/93.

Even without Lesley Radford our Veterans squad of Stuart Gibbs, Peter Radford, Dave Solman, Stan Battrick and Marjorie Dawson looked capable of mounting a challenge for honours. Phyllis Lauder, their redoubtable leader, tells me that the hiccup of a 4-5 defeat at the hands of Lincolnshire, following victories by 6-3 and 7-2 over Surrey and Sussex respectively, prevented our team from finishing in the runners-up spot behind the champions, Yorkshire. I am still trying to work out how the line-up mentioned above lost 0-9 to the White Rose county!

My campaign for copy from our member leagues has borne fruit again in the form of a letter from my old friend Ron Fosker of the Braintree League accompanied by a very interesting report upon their recent Closed Championships. This reveals that the mens singles was won by an "Old Boy" of the late lamented Littlehampton Training Camp, namely Andrew Wadling, the son of our Senior Match Secretary. He beat top County veteran Derek Wood in what appears to have been a very hard fought final, far less comfortable than the scoreline of 21-18, 21-16.

The ladies singles was won by Andrew's fiance, Kate Gower, a member of the famous Gower family. She beat one of the county's talented cadets, Sarah Davison, who is just 13, and has already represented Essex in a friendly match against neighbours Suffolk. Apart from this she reached no fewer than 8 other finals, of which she won 5!! Guess who won the mixed doubles?

It was Andrew and Kate who beat young Sarah, partnered by my very old friend Robert Hellaby, a giant of the County team all those years ago when Ian Horsham, Susan Beckwith, the Lockes and sister Janet also figured. To complete this saga of families 14 year old

Counties 4

Paul Davison won the boys singles and restricted singles.

Finally, may I be permitted to include a few words of congratulations for new Chairman Alan Ransome. Everybody in Essex wishes him good fortune in his onerous position. If he does as well as he did when masterminding the Ormesby Club to be the most feared in the junior game in the early seventies with talented players spilling out of the woodwork, then table tennis in England will be in good hands.

He becomes the third Gloucestershire national champion since the 1959/60 season when Bryan Merrett won the English Closed singles, and was followed by Ian Harrison from Cheltenham who did the same the following year in 1960/1961.

Kerry Hogarth, an 11 year old Newent schoolgirl with a national cadet ranking in England, has been selected to represent England in the British Primary Schools Championships at Dumfries, Scotland, on 5-7th April, the England team will be playing Ireland, Wales, Scotland and Ireland - regrettably copy date prohibits me giving the results.

In the Gloucestershire inter league tournament played at Deerpark School, Cirencester, Gloucester, entering the tournament for the very first time, ran out easy winners with a final total of 22 points.

Cheltenham, last year's winners were runners up with 14 points and Stroud fell into third position with 11 points, the host League Cirencester captured seven points.

Each league team consisted of seven players made up as follows: one Veteran, one Senior man, one lady (any age), two under 17 Juniors and two under 14 cadets, the winning Gloucester team were Frank Jones, Darren Griffin, Angela Bristow, Ray Powell, Jeremy Hyatt, Jamie Day and Aarron Mortimor.

Gloucestershire Schools Championships at St Benedicts School, Cheltenham

Finals

Under 19 Boys

Winner J Hyatt (Newent)

Runner Up

P Hemming (Cotswold)

Under 19 Girls

A Cox (Bournside) bt A Bristow 17, 17.

Under 16 Boys

R Poweli (Crypt) bt P Hayward (Marling) 15, 10.

Under 13 Boys

J Day (Severn-Vale) bt A Mortimor (Thomas Richs) 17, 18.

Under 13 Girls

M Garlick (Newent) bt KHogarth (Newent) 13, -13, 19.

Under 11 Boys

J Kellor (Elmbridge) bt R Dearing (Elmbridge) 18, 3.

Under 11 Girls

Winner
a Humble (Higham)

Runner Up

Jacquie Browett (Elmbridge)

Finals Nights Results

The first league to feature an annual Finals night was Cirencester. This event took place at Deerpark School and below are the results of the events played.

The Open Singles went to Charlie Jefferies who beat last year's winner Bob Davis 18, -13, 17. The Ladies singles title was safely retained by Jane Muncer who beat Caroline Spoons, 15, 10.

Cadet Martin Cheung took both the Under 15 and 17 titles, in the latter he beat Robert Brown 12, -18, 19. The Open Doubles went to Peter Davis and Graham Holton who beat Charlie Jefferies and Robert Brown, 18, 15. And in the mixed doubles Jane Muncer and Graham Holton combined well to beat Bob and Helen Davis 20, 9. For a small league Cirencester had 45 entries which was most encouraging.

Gloucester's Final Night was held at The Nuclear Electric Headquarters at Barnwood and attracted a sizable amount of spectators, in the first of the semi finals Darren Griffin beat fellow Gordon League clubmate Sylvester Callum 9, 18, meanwhile in the other semi 15 year old Junior Ray Powell beat Veteran Denis Holland 9 and 21 so it was a Griffin v Powell final, Griffin the County No. 1 was at his very best form and showed his much younger adversary very little mercy - beating him 12, 19 and 11, to take the Open Singles in convincing form.

In the Open Doubles Griffin teamed up with Graham Slack to beat William Dawe and Sylvester Callum 12, 19. The Junior boys singles Under 17 went to Oxstalls Leigh Nelmes who beat Peter Hayward from Crypt School -11, 14, 16, and the Veterans singles was won by Roy Fowler from Strollers, Roy beat Denis Holland 19, 15.

Judy Morley, the defending Ladies singles title holder retained her title by beating Alison Cox who plays for Rudford 19, 18.

The only blot upon the City FN Championships was that the Mixed doubles between Darren Griffin/Judy Morley v William Dawe/Heather Tyrer, was not played as unfortunately Mrs Tyrer was in hospital recovering from a knee operation.

Stroud's FN took place as usual in the small hall of the Stroud Leisure Centre, situated in the beautiful surrounds of Stratford Park.

In the first of the open singles semis defending champion Alan Giles had a walkover over Rob Wilsher, and in the other semi Brian Cullis beat John Fannin, 17, 19, so that was the scenario for a Giels v Cullis singles final, Alan retained his title by beating Brian, 17, 15. The ladies singles was won by Roz Ross who beat Caroline Thompson 11, 18.

The open doubles was a very tight affair and resulted in Brian Cullis/John Fannin beating Ian Pooler and Andrew Stratford -16, 20, 17. Trophies and silverware was presented by Mr Gordon Evans, the sports editor of The Stroud News and Journal.

The last of the finals nights featured Cheltenham, the venue was at the YMCA in Vittoria Street. In the first of the Open semi finals Cheltenham's Chairman Graham Slack beat Guy Greening -18, 12, 12 and in the other semi Dave Harvey ran out the winner against Sylvester Callum, 12, 16. So, in the final Harvey the holder opposed Graham Slack, in replica of last year's open final - and this year Graham was not going to be intimidated by Dave Harvey's recent successes, their first game was close, Graham just

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Pepperd

IT WAS A great pity that the Stroud and Gloucester Final's nights happened to coincide on the same evening this past season.

Players like Alan Giles and Ray Poole stalwarts, who for years have played in both league's could have been denied the chance of participating in both final's nights, and probably were, respective committees must ensure that next season's finals nights to not take place on the same evening - for all those concerned.

It is not very often that Gloucestershire these days can boast "A National Champion" but that happened over the weekend of 9th/10th March when Cheltenham's Dave Harvey won the Veterans title in the National Championships in Stourbridge. Harvey, an Assistant Administration Manager at Dowty Rotol Ltd, who plays in both Gloucester and Cheltenham League's beat Tony Isaacs from Staffs 19, 19, to take the Singles title and No. 1 ranking.

won 26-24, the second he took at 15 and established himself as Cheltenham's open singles champion.

In the mixed doubles final Guy Greening and Reiko Morita beat Graham Slack and Jaquie Carver 10, 18. The veterans final was a foregone conclusion with Dave Harvey (England's No. 1 veteran) beating John Fannin 7, 13. The mens doubles went to Dave Harvey and Steve Cox who beat John Fannin and Graham Slack 20, 17.

And finally the ladies singles was won by 19 year old Japanese Student Reiko Morita who beat Julie Taylor 10, 6. Reiko leaves these shores in early July to permanently return to her native Yokohama, having completed her studies in Cheltenham - we shall all miss her, not only for her playing ability, but for the strong personality that lies behind it.

Individual leagues this past season have been well informed through the medium of newsletters compiled by the following: Net and Edge, Cheltenham's Newsletter edited by Stan Johnstone, Gloucester's newsman, Keith Simpson Editor of Focus on Points and Stroud's Newsletter Editor, John Bunn, who compiles the Stroud Point-maker, well done all of you.

I have this season completed 31 live weekly table tennis broadcasts for BBC Radio Gloucestershire South and West regions, and two recorded broadcasts.

Finally my sincere thanks to the following for giving me BBC Radio interviews this past season and for their cooperation and willingness to face the microphone: Peter Cruwys, Graham Slack, Raymond Powell, David Dean and Denis Holland, Reiko Morita and Darren Griffin.

HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood

NORTH HERTS SENIOR Inter League team have won the county title for the second year running.

On Sunday 24th March, the North Herts trio, Mick Harper, Jimmy Walsh and Lindsay Booth won their remaining two games, beating Cheshunt 6-1 and Hemel Hempstead I 5-2, to take the title, at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre.

The other two members of the North Herts squad, who did their bit on the first Sunday of the competition last November, were Keith Samuels and Sandra Harper.

Runners up this year were Barnet, with Watford in third spot. Surprisingly none of the men achieved maximum wins this year, but two of the women managed 100% singles records, they were Sandra Harper of North Herts and Emma Hurling of Hemel Hempstead I.

Senior Inter League 1990/91

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| North Herts | 6 | 6 | 0 | 37 | 5 | 6 |
| Barnets | 6 | 5 | 1 | 33 | 9 | 5 |
| Watford | 6 | 3 | 3 | 26 | 16 | 3 |
| Cheshunt | 6 | 3 | 3 | 22 | 20 | 3 |
| Hemel | | | | | | |
| Hempstead | 6 | 2 | 4 | 16 | 26 | 2 |
| St Albans | 6 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 33 | 2 |
| Hemel | | | | | | |
| Hempstead II | 6 | 0 | 6 | 9 | 33 | 0 |

The Cheshunt Junior Inter-League team swept aside all challengers to take the trophy in style.

On Sunday 17th March 1991 they won their remaining three matches with consummate ease, beating Watford 5-2, North Herts I 5-2 and North Herts II 7-0, at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre.

Cheshunt's four man squad was Justin Skinner, Kevin Flowerday, Simon Flowerday and Steven Nelson. Runners up, just one point behind, were St Albans with Watford in third place.

Unfortunately only one player achieved a 100% singles average, that was Cheshunt's Kevin Flowerday, with the next closest being North Herts' Colin McCarthy with 91.66%.

Junior Inter League 1990/91

| | P | W | L | F | A | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Cheshunt | 7 | 7 | 0 | 40 | 9 | 7 |
| St Albans | 7 | 6 | 1 | 40 | 9 | 6 |
| Watford | 7 | 5 | 2 | 32 | 17 | 5 |
| North Herts I | 7 | 4 | 3 | 31 | 18 | 4 |
| Barnets | 7 | 3 | 4 | 31 | 18 | 3 |
| Hemel | | | | | | |
| Hempstead I | 7 | 2 | 5 | 12 | 37 | 2 |
| North | | | | | | |
| Herts II | 7 | 1 | 6 | 13 | 36 | 1 |
| Hemel | | | | | | |
| Hempstead II | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 49 | 0 |

Highlight of the month for Hertfordshire was when Hemel Hempstead's Emma Hurling won the women's singles title at the British Polytechnic Table Tennis Championships.

Barnet's John Taylor came a close second to Emma, by reaching the Veterans final at the South of England 3 Star, and also the final of the Vets at the Barclays Essex 5 Star. John also picked up lots of ranking points by beating Tony Taylor of Manchester, in the men's singles at the Essex Championships.

ISLE OF WIGHT

Brian Lamerton

MARCH WAS A good month for Roger Hookey; with a 21-12, 21-19 final defeat of Chris Angus, Roger retained his Island Men's singles title; together with Mike Turner and Ray Winter his Sandown club held on to, for yet another season, the first division championship and a hat-trick in

the Regional League gave the Island only their second win of the season with a 5-4 success against Kingfisher 'B'.

Other Island title winners from the Championships held at the Ryde club's new headquarters were Ladies Singles: Regina Stevens, a schoolteacher newly arrived in the Island this season and playing for Plessey; Mens Doubles: Chris Angus/Chairman Alan Hulbert; Ladies Doubles: Regina Stevens/Mary Wheeler; Mixed Doubles: father and daughter Chris and Michelle Angus (a busy day for Chris!) who overcame at the last hurdle the brother and sister partnership of Ian and Sharon Urry.

Peter Urry together with Paul Moreton and Mark Mitchell representing Rookley 'A' are this season's Knowles Cup (Handicap) winners following their final victory over Newport Vics 'A'.

Our Juniors and cadets have now completed their season in the Hampshire inter-town league and all have gained much from their trips to the mainland. The Juniors (Alex Rorke, Marcus Garman, Alister Hulbert, Laurence Downs and Claire Waghorn) missed winning the second division title only on sets average from Bournemouth 'B' whilst the Cadets (Gregory Burns, Stuart Dover, Geoff West, Steven Holbrook and Nick Hutchings) a little overawed at first ended with a very satisfying 7 sets to 3 win against Bournemouth. It was pleasing to hear the comments at the end of the last session from Harold Albery (Hampshire Secretary and Junior Match organiser) "Don't forget, we want the Island back against next season".

Returning to the League, it was always one way traffic for Sandown in a First division reduced to 9 teams; up from division 2 next season will come champion, Ryde 'A' (Barry Howlett, John Rawlings, Bill Paul and Brian Farrelly) and also possibly second and third team Wrexall 'B' and St Lawrence 'A' in order to

Counties 6

establish a larger division.

Tim Lewis of Ventnor 'C's fourth division team provided the season's only 100% individual record.

1st Division

| | P | W | Pts |
|----------------|----|----|-----|
| Sandown A | 16 | 15 | 56 |
| Newport Vics A | 16 | 11 | 47 |
| Wroxall A | 16 | 12 | 45 |
| Shanklin | 16 | 7 | 37 |
| Rookley A | 16 | 8 | 36 |
| Plessey | 16 | 8 | 35 |
| Rookley B | 16 | 5 | 23 |
| Newport Vics B | 16 | 2 | 8 |
| Ventnor A | 16 | 0 | 1 |

Finally, our next contribution will include truly overseas news as it has now been definitely decided to send a team to the Island Games in Oland (Scandinavia) in June.

Finally 2, congratulations to Carl Prean who has finally landed the English Men's Singles title after two previous disappointments, and finally 3, we look forward to seeing more of John Prean as he goes into well earned retirement from his very successful four year stint as National Chairman.

KENT Adrian Hall

AS EXPECTED THE U11 Boys final proved the highlight of the Lenham Storage Ltd Kent Junior Closed Championships on 9/10.3.91. No. 1 seed Christian Thompson (Medway) just beat nine year old Scott Friday (Medway) in a match of exceptional quality with controlled topspin and counter hitting and retrieving from all parts of the court 18-21, 21-17, 21-15.

Nicola Duke (Tonbridge) dominated the U14 girls events beating Joanne Barnham (Rotherhithe) in the singles final 21-19, 21-10 and partnering Alison Smith (Maidstone) to take the doubles against Crystal Hall (Maidstone) and Joanne Barham 23-21, 21-14.

Glen Ritchie (Folkestone) failed to complete a hat-trick of wins in the boys events when partnered by Ben McCarthy (Tonbridge Wells) they were beaten in the U14 doubles by the Friday brothers Ross and Scott 16-21, 21-17, 25-23. This was perhaps just reward for Ross Friday who was beaten by Ritchie in both the U13 and U14 events 21-17, 21-11 and 21-15, 13-21, 21-3 respectively.

In the Junior Boys the only upset was the defeat of Paul Duke (Tonbridge) 16-21, 21-15, 25-23 by Craig Hastie (Ashford). The top four seeds reached the semi finals where Spencer Thompson (Medway) was put under pressure by Kevin Read (Ashford) but held on to win 21-18, 21-19, Matt Vardy (Maidstone) beat No. 2 seed Miles Willey (NWK) 21-10, 21-14. The final was full of spectacular hard hitting rallies with Thompson just squeezing home 15-21, 21-8, 21-17.

Junior girls No. 2 seed Carly Riggs (Maidstone) came to grief in her group 22-20, 22-20 against Joanne Barham but she in turn fell to Nicola Duke 21-15, 17-21, 21-10 in the semi final. Other good results worthy of mention were Rachel Woolven's (Maidstone) 9-21, 21-18, 21-18 victory over Heidi Steers (Tonbridge Wells) and Crystal Hall's win over Michelle Ritter (Rotherhithe) 13-21, 22-20, 23-21. In the final Lesley Hollingworth (Sittingbourne) was made to play at her very best to control the at times inspirational play of Duke 21-15, 17-21, 21-10.

Crystal Hall and Joanne Barham caused a major upset in the Junior Girls Doubles when they out-played the red hot favourites Hollingworth/Duke 21-17, 21-19 in the second round and kept their composure to defeat the No.2 seed Heidi

Steers and Natasha Barham 21-16, 19-21, 21-14 in the final.

Peter Barrow (Medway) virtually unknown prior to the Championships won the U17 class 2 without dropping a game.

In the U17 Girls class 2 the major upsets were the defeats of Natasha Barham by Crystal Hall 19-21, 21-16, 21-17 and Rachel Woolven's magnificent victory over Joanne Barham 21-19, 10-21, 21-19. In the final Nicola Duke got yet another winners medal with a 21-14, 22-20 win against Michell Ritter.

Results

U17 BS
S Thompson (Med) bt M Vardy (Maid) -15, 8, 17.

U17 GS
L Hollingworth (Sit) bt N Duke (Ton)
15, -17, 10.

U17 BD
S Thompson (Med)/M Willey (NWK) bt K Read (Ash)/M Vardy (Maid) 19, 16.

U17 GD
C Hall (Maid)/J Barham (R'hithe) bt H Steers (Ton)/N Barham (R'hithe) 15, -19, 14.

U15 BS
C Hastie (Ash) bt G Ritchie (Flk) -19, 9, 13.

U15 GS
N Duke (Ton) bt N Barham (R'Hithe) 12, 19.

U14 BS
G Ritchie (Flk) bt R Friday (Med) 15, -13, 3.

U14 GS
N Duke (Ton) bt J Barham (R'Hithe) -10, 19, 15.

U14 BD
R Friday/S Friday (Med) bt G Ritchie (Flk)/B McCarthy (T Wells) -16, 17, 23.

U14 GD
N Duke (Ton)/A Smith (Maid) bt C Hall/J Barham 21, 14.

U13 BS
G Ritchie (Flk) bt R Friday (Med) 17, 11.

U13 GS
J Barham bt C Hall 18, -17, 10.

U11 BS
C Thompson (Med) bt S Friday -18, 17, 15.

U11 GS
C Howes (T Wells) bt E Flynn (Ton) 20, 21.

U17 BS II
P Barrow (Med) bt G Ritchie (Flk) 12, 13.

U17 GS II
N Duke (Ton) bt M Ritter (R'Hithe) 14, 20.

Trophies were presented to the winners and runners up by the Transport Director of LENHAM STORAGE LTD., Mr Allan Flood.

Vardy beats England No 2
Matt Vardy (Maidstone) did his English Junior Rankings no harm at the Derby select tournament on the 3rd March, playing the best table tennis of his career to beat No 44 Steven Meddings (Sutton Coldfield) 21-14, 17-21, 26-24, No 2 Gary Knights (Burton-on-Trent) 15-21, 24-22, 23-21, No 17 Gavin Yates (Thame) 21-17, 19-21, 21-17, before being finally beaten by No 9 Martin Adams (Ascot) 16-21, 21-19, 16-21.

Kent Schools
Maidstone Grammer Schools Mathew Vardy became Kent U19 Schools Champion when in a hard hitting final he defeated Kevin Read (Canterbury College) 21-14, 24-22. Read had earlier had a struggle against a determined James Clench (Harveys Grammer School) before winning 21-9, 20-22, 21-13.

In the U 16 boys semi-finals Paul Duke (Wilderness - Sevenoakes) just hung on to defeat Craig Hastie (Norton Knatchball - Ashford) 21-19, 10-21, 21-17 and Peter Barrow (Borden Grammer School) fresh from his triumphs at the Kent Junior Closed Championships completely out played Sam Corcoran (Norton

Counties 7

Knatchball) 21-8, 21-8. Barrows run of success came to an end in a final riddled with unforced errors and despite three service faults in the final leg Duke scraped home 21-18, 14-21, 24-22.

Ross Friday (Rainham Mark Grammar) retained his U13 title but he was made to fight all the way to defeat Scott Dawtry (Harvey Grammar Folkstone) 21-16, 20-22, 21-19.

Nine year old Scott Friday (Thames View Rainham) claimed the U11 title once held by his brother when he over powered Nicky Stokes (Mierscourt Rainham) 21-7, 21-9.

U19 Girls Leigh Hastie (Highworth Girls Ashford) Walkover.

The winners go onto Mansfield as their Schools and KENTS representatives for the Dunlop English Schools National Finals on April 27th. Well done!

Barclays Bank West Kent Table Tennis Tournament

This popular annual event staged at the Wilderness Sports Centre on Saturday 16th March attracted a large entry of approximately 160 young table tennis hopefuls, for many it would have been their first taste of tournament play and the standard varied from raw beginners to experienced nationally ranked players who played in a separate invitation event.

Each entrant received a Barclays Bank Mug so nobody went home empty handed and most entrants played at least four games in a day when good fun was had by all.

Sevenoaks Table Tennis League

The Sevenoaks League Annual Closed Championships were held at Donnington Hall on Sunday 17th March. This friendly Sunday League tournament attracted a disappointing entry but those taking part had a full days table tennis in splendid surroundings with refreshments readily available. Organisers Roger

Pingram and Brenda Bennett ran the tournament in a friendly relaxed manner that should be the envy of many other leagues.

Results

Open Singles

Roger Pingram (Fort Halstead) bt Adrian Hall (Larkfield) 21-7, 26-24.

Open Doubles

Roger Pingram (Fort Halstead) & Adrian Hall (Larkfield) bt Roy Terry (Fort Halstead) & Shev McDonald (Larkfield) 21-17, 21-15

Over 45 Singles

Les Hart (Larkfield) bt Derek Allen (Limpsfield) 21-11, 21-16

Over 45 Doubles

John Neal (Fort Halstead) bt Derek Allen (Limpsfield) & Ron Terry (Fort Halstead) & Peter Warnock (Limpsfield) 26-24, 21-19

Junior Singles

Adam Beasley (Sevenoaks C.P.) bt Stewart Massey (Leigh) 21-19, 21-17

Handicap Singles

John Neal (Fort Halstead) bt Shen McDonald (Larkfield) 21-15, 21-16

For further information contact
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where they beat Essex (6-4), lost to Middlesex (4-6), beat Durham (8-2) and finally became the only county to take a point from champions Yorkshire.

It was in the opening match against Essex that Darren Howarth lost his only set of the weekend when beaten by Cris Sladden while Maria Thornley suffered her only defeat when she lost to Jackie Marriott of Durham, otherwise it was a 7-1 return for both players.

Darryl Meredith finished 3-5, Richard Beattie 3-1, Matthew Coombe 0-4, Tamar Connolly 3-3 and Karen Richardson 0-2 for an overall 23-17 analysis still a creditable performance.

The Red Rose senior seconds had their home match conceded to them when Suffolk defaulted on the fixture and in their final engagement against Cheshire forced a 5-all draw thanks to two wins for Graham Clarke and Brenda Bucoy and a solo from Paula French.

In this latter engagement Stan Clarke, the normal non-playing captain, had a frustrating time when, for varying reasons, the chosen Paul Hutchings and Doug Mayall became unavailable as did the chosen reserves, Keith Williams and Malcolm McEvoy. But, eventually, Dave Bunting stepped into the breach with captain Stan having to don the green shirt himself!

Both Veteran teams, after bright beginnings, have fallen away with the firsts going down to Leicestershire (2-7) and Essex II (3-6) and the seconds losing to Warwickshire (4-5) and to Cheshire II (3-6) - not a happy ending.

No happier tidings to impart in respect of the junior second and third teams with the likelihood of the latter being withdrawn from next season's entries a shortage of girls of sufficient standard being the major problem. Oh for a few budding Andrea Holts!

And congratulations once more to Andrea who added to her laurels in again beating Lisa Lomas to win the women's

singles event in the Essex 5 Star and on her elevation to No. 3 in the Halex ETTA rankings. Also on the up are Maria Thornley, from 16 to 12 and Mandy Winskill, from 73 to 18, although there may have been confusion in the computer with points earned under her maiden name of Goodwin.

Top Lancastrian in the men's list is Sean Gibson, although down from 7 to 9 and Jonathan Taylor, down from 9 to 13, and Tony Taylor down from 17 to 20. On the up are Andrew Eden, from 32 to 25 and Graham Clarke from 70 to 36. Young Darren Howarth leaps from 83 to 54 and Stephen Scowcroft from 93 to 58. Who said the latter was a spent force?

Lancashire and Cheshire League

Warrington duly achieved their objective in beating Liverpool Business Houses 8-2 to champion, for the first time, the men's first division. Malcolm McEvoy, Peter Flint and Terry Turner being the players responsible in the final success with Peter Lander earlier involved in this championship winning season.

Congratulations also to Blackpool in taking the runners-up position their final win being against Blackburn by a 6-4 margin with two wins each for Dave Bunting and Steve Bevan, a solo from Martin Ireland plus the doubles won by Bunting and Ireland against a treble for Graham Clarke and one from Neil Gravener.

Manchester and Liverpool Business Houses are the demotees from the first division, their places to be taken over by Wirral and Oldham, although the latter have their 'A' team to thank in winning Division 2 (South) whereas Oldham firsts finished in second place in Division 2 (North).

Liverpool have retained the women's first division title with an unblemished record as have Stockport in the veterans first division whose Derek Schofield has announced his retirement from L & C TTL play. Could it be the legs are finally giving out? But what a stalwart and a credit to the game.

LANCASHIRE George Yates

ALTHOUGH CHAMPIONS OF the Junior Premier Division last season, Lancashire had to content themselves with third place following the second weekend of matches at Batley

Counties 8

Oldham have taken over the junior first division title from Barrow, despite losing their final match when beaten 7-3 by Wirral whose Gary Allen trebled against Matthew Coombe, Darryl Meredith and Chris Whitehead.

Finally, do not forget Tuesday 21st May, which is the date not only of the Lancs and Cheshire League but also the Lancashire TTA as well as Thames Board Mills Social Club, Warrington. Have a good summer.

Division 1 Singles
A Watson (Sawley) bt
W Glossop (Sawley) 14, -15, 19.

Division 1 Doubles
A Watson/W Glossop (Sawley)
bt L Medley/M Truman
(Sawley) 20, 19.

Division 2 Singles
A Cheung (Students) bt
M Oberliessen (Students)
14, -15, 19.

Division 2 Doubles
N Aries/A Cheung (Students) bt
A Stevenson/A Tompkinson
(Barrow) 14, 18.

Division 3 Singles
D Connors (Students) bt
D Byrne (Students) 21, 14.

Division 3 Doubles
D Byrne/D Connors (Students)
bt J Brindley/M Brindley (Kings
Church) 12, 20.

Meanwhile in Division 1 of the Loughborough League, Sawley A top the chart with 7 wins, 1 draw and 1 defeat (30 points) but Cavaliers A in second place look favourites for the title with 7 straight wins (27 points). Knightthorpe A, Sawley B and Thringstone A are too far behind the top two to cause them any concern but an epic battle looks likely between Smithland Motors A, Barrow A and Cavaliers B to avoid relegation.

The top of Division 2 looks extremely competitive with no less than 4 teams all in with a shout of the Championship. Just 5 points separates Swithland B, Knightthorpe B, Barrow B and Students A. At the bottom; Inicorn look doomed and Kegworth, Sawley C, Barrow D and Barrow C should not rest on their laurels otherwise any one of them could join them.

Leading Players

1. Peter Hadgraft (Swith)
P36 W33 92%
2. Bryan Summers (Thring)
P36 W31 86%
3. Martyn Balmra (KT)
P34 W26 76%

4. Mark Genco (Swith)
P33 W25 76%
5. Arthur Tompkinson
(Bar B)
P39 W29 74%

Aerodrome Adventurers (what a picture that conjours up!) head Division 2 having won 7, drawn 3 and lost 1 of their 11 matches to date, gaining 32 points. Second, with the same number of points but having played two matches more, are Kings Church. Kings look threatened for this position by Students B who are 5 points adrift but have two matches in hand.

Barrow E and Nat West Bank look settled in their present positions with the former looking to have an outside chance of secondary honours. At the bottom it's a two horse race between Knightthorpe C and Swithland Motors C to avoid the dreaded wooden spoon position.

Leading Players

1. R Hogg (Aeros)
P35 W31 89%
2. J Brindley (Kings)
P26 W23 88%
3. N Marriot (Aeros)
P29 W21 72%
4. P Bull (Barrow)
P41 W27 66%
5. K Cottam (KT)
P25 W16 64%=
6. V Odedra (Barrow)
P25 W16 64%=

got much to report. All our teams have performed reasonably well; none brilliantly apart from our Premier team, but I understand that they have all retained their places in their respective Divisions.

Having cancelled the Middlesex Junior Closed because of lack of entries, it was decided to have Junior and Cadet events with the Senior Championships. The result was that although we are going to run our Closed event over the week-end of 20th and 21st April, the entry barely justifies the effort.

The total entry for all events is approximately 60 people - and that is in a County where at least 1000 people must be registered to play in the number of teams in the Leagues! Colin Wilson is coming to the next meeting of the Tournaments Sub-Committee (I hope) to see whether he can suggest anything that will "sell" our Closed Championships to our players.

Our Inter-League Competitions are almost completed and in the last Tables which have been published, it looks as though Willesden are having a field day, leading in all except the Victor Barna Competition. But in some instances there is not much difference between the first and second places, and the final results might well be different.

The MTTA 100 Club Dinner in honour of Len Pilditch and our 1989/90 Champions will be well attended. In all 62 people will be coming which shows that Len is more popular than our Closed Championships!

Have a quiet summer. I will be slaving away over the Handbook, and I hope to be writing to you all again next season.

LEICESTERSHIRE Terry Bown

THE LATEST EDITION of the Loughborough Leagues' Table Tennis magazine "Behind the Serve", superbly edited for many years by David Green, carries a report on their League tournament. Organiser John Brindley writes - It was always on the cards that the Loughborough Students would prove the joker in the pack in the handicap tournament at the Queens Hall, Loughborough.

Their highly talented Second and Third Division players provided a handicap headache for the organisers and they scarcely looked like losing a match all day - except when they played each other. All six titles for which they competed went the way of the Students with Sawley's Division 1 class preventing a total clean sweep.

Results

Open Singles

M Oberliessen (Students) bt
A Tompkinson (Barrow) 18, 20.

Open Doubles

A Cheung/N Aries (Students) bt
R Struck/M Oberliessen
(Students) -17, 16, 13.

MIDDLESEX

Iris Moss

DESPITE THE FACT that I missed out on last month's issue of Table Tennis News, I haven't

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Dennis Millman

MAKING A RARE appearance at the Wellingborough Closed Tournament, Graeme McKim won the men's singles with consummate ease, to make it three titles within the month, for earlier he had annexed the corresponding Northampton and Kettering events in similar fashion.

Richard Elliott was the losing finalist, and he also ended on the wrong end of the men's doubles, when together with Chris Handshaw they became the latest victims of McKim, and the newest in a long line of successful doubles partners, Julian Marshall.

Marshall went one better than McKim, for he gained an easy win over Paul Smith in the junior boys' singles, to become the first winner of the Rod Marchant Memorial Trophy, and then together with Andy Lingley, held on to take the junior doubles after three close games with Matthew Rowe and Christian Drage.

However at the end of the day, the most prolific winner was thirteen year old Sally Russell who accounted for Caroline Perkins in the ladies event, Clare Waples in the junior girls, Paul Adams in the under fourteen singles, Graeme McKim, with the help of a fourteen point handicap advantage in the Premier Division Handicap singles, and in partnership with Muriel Cox, the ladies doubles, with Joanne Abbott and Clare Waples providing the opposition. Quite a haul for quite a player, who starting younger than most, looks destined for even greater heights in the future.

Mrs Cox retained her veteran ladies trophy, despite being forced to a third end by Marjorie Chambers, but a new name appeared on the over forty veteran men's trophy when Alan Ashberry gained just reward for his infectious enthusiasm and genuine endeavour, by beating Phil Slade, who as organiser completed a nap hand of tournaments with his first

venture into the Wellingborough ranks.

Slade also found time to eliminate Mick Edwards, the number one seed at veteran level, and he had to be content with a share in the veteran doubles with Greg Dobrowolski, while Dobrowolski, who spent much of the day drumming up support for the fourth, and most successful Veterans' Dinner held recently at Northampton's Grand Hotel, retained the over fifties singles title and also joined genial Chas Allen to notch the corresponding doubles.

In the under fourteen doubles, Paul Adams, playing with Joe Trippett, displayed some of the talent which will surely see him emerge as one of the county's top players, but even so three ends were required before the Thomas brothers, Paul and Andrew, were prepared to admit defeat.

The remaining events in one of the most entertaining Wellingborough tournaments for many years, went to Dennis Millman in the over sixties, Phil Slade in the consolation singles, Davis Waples and Paul Adams in the mystery doubles and Muriel Cox, John Gandofi, Scott Dixon and Neil Gibbs, with the help of generous handicaps, taking the various handicap competitions, but perhaps the most deserved award was the ETTA Certificate of Merit presented to the Wellingborough League Chairman Arthur Palmer, who for almost thirty years has been the hub round which the league's activities have revolved, and whose quiet yet consistent service has shown a true spirit of dedication.

In the Central Auto Supplies Women's Top Twelve, two players in each of the initial groups dominated the proceedings. In the first group, Margaret Maltby and Kristina Cox each won four rubbers in straight games, but when they met it was the younger, more aggressive Cox who came out on top, taking the third end convincingly to eleven.

The second group saw Donna Furniss and Sally Russell

carry all before them, dismissing all opposition in straight games, until faced by each other, a tense battle was fought with Furniss emerging triumphant after losing the opening end.

As has happened before, and most recently when Miss Russell took full advantage to win the Junior Top Twelve, the second phase contained the surprise results, with the runners up in the original groups each beating the group winners from the opposite section, in this instance, Mrs Maltby accounting for Miss Furniss and Russell getting the better of Miss Cox.

After Kristina had swiftly despatched Donna in the third place play-off, the final became a fluctuating encounter with the first end comfortably to Sally at 21-13, and the second to an improving Margaret 21-11.

The final end ebbed and flowed, Maltby six one ahead, Russell leading ten seven at the change-over. Maltby thirteen twelve up, Russell in front at seventeen fourteen and then suddenly Maltby with three match points at twenty seventeen. Young Sally saved two of these, but not the third, and it was the experienced Margaret Maltby who became the Central Auto Supplies Top Twelve Women's champion for 1991, and the recipient of a fine trophy duly presented by one of the directors - Patrick O'Reagan.

Final Placings: 1. Margaret Maltby. 2. Sally Russell. 3. Kristina Cox. 4. Donna Furniss. 5. Muriel Cox. 6. Dorothy Marsh. 7. Clem Little. 8. Tracey Marriott. 9. Helen Watts. 10. Sue Moloney. 11. Mary Hearn. 12. Cath Walsh.

Looking back on the season as it rapidly disappears into the record books, Northants table tennis has also ebbed and flowed. Well Connected, now as Higham Band, has again dominated the local leagues. After a shaky start Graeme McKim is again wearing his rightful crown. Many of our tournaments have become more adventurous, and

consequently more entertaining for players and spectators alike. However the margin between success and failure is a slender one and soon AGM's up and down the county will be seeking newcomers with staying power and originality to supplement the undoubted and lingering talents of those current senior committee members who have already devoted the best years of their lives to our noble art.

SOMERSET

Andy Seward

THE SENIORS TRAVELLED to Cornwall for their second county weekend and came away with one win, one draw and one defeat - as captain Brian Reeves commented "a mixed bag of results!" Brian and Melonie Carey achieved the best results, Mel winning 5 out of 6 and Brian four, including an excellent victory over Mark Simon of Glamorgan.

Excellent organisation as usual by Cornwall; no doubt the disappointing non-appearance of Dorset will be covered elsewhere.

Taunton League

After a long period of decline when the league went from five divisions down to two, the number of players has started to increase. For the last two seasons, the league has been tottering on the brink of needing an extra division and hopefully there will be three divisions next year. Partly this has been due to former players being attracted back into the game, partly the results of coaching sessions at Wellington Sports Centre and local schools and church halls.

A team strengthened by visitors from Bridgwater, including Phil Payne, looks likely to win the league title this season. Phil has already won the Taunton League singles title this season, yet another trophy for his collection.

The league has a strong veteran's element, indeed one of the Committee members, Bill Waller, is 80 years old and is still playing league table tennis - as is his wife! Bill is, however, not the only octogenarian playing in Somerset as Arthur Weare from the Henton Club in the Mendip League also reached that milestone earlier in the season.

It's all down to clean living and a good pint of.....

failed to reach the finals. The Thames Valley League have cancelled their Closed Champs due to lack of support. Should a week be set aside, should a hall be hired for a week for a day, should each event be played on a separate night? These are some of my personal suggestions as an alternative to a weekend event. Please contact your TVL committee if you have any suggestions after all they try to run these events for you the players.

At the halfway stage of the Wandsworth & District League Earlsfield A look certain of another title. Their 3 players, Steve Holloway Dave Bangerter, Dipan Shah head the averages with Steve unbeaten.

The Croydon & District League Closed had only 22 entries for their 9 events but they decided to run it after Monks Hill Sports Centre agreed to charge only for the hours used.

The Results:

Mens Singles

Dave Crowley bt John Callcut;

Ladies Singles

Hazel Linfield bt Heather Allen;

Veterans Singles

Chris Harper bt Emil Emecz;

Hard Bat

Emil Emecz bt Russell Bates.

Open Doubles

Emil Emecz/John Callcut bt Ian O'Connor/Lee Nicholls.

Mixed Doubles

Russell Bates/Heather Allen bt Greg McClone/Hazel Linfield.

Div 2

Nick Chillaq bt Heather Allen;

Div 3

Daddy Brooks bt son Simon Brooks.

It is rumoured that Croydon & District League have been having talks with Croydon Business House League with a view to amalgamation because of the loss of so many teams in each League.

SUSSEX

John Woodford

AMBITIOUS PLAYERS PLEASE note - it pays to play in as many tournaments as possible. Sussex player Paul Elphick has this campaign shot up around 100 places on the England Men's List. Now he is No. 38 and will freely admit that below him are a number of players he would have difficulty overpowering. But the fact of life is that people who fail to turn up at tournaments pay the penalty on the computer.

However, the future of Sussex table tennis has never looked brighter - there are now a number of players already hitting the local and regional press headlines and they have three and in some cases four seasons left as juniors!

Next season, Wesley Bush-Harris (Brighton) and our two top girls Tracey Cole and Natasha Wilson move into the senior ranks. Left behind, in tremendous form are a dozen players, some of whom must be destined for stardom - at what level remains to be seen.

Paul Butcher and Paul Cichelli are two names to watch for more excellent progress. Butcher is the player with some of the quickest reflexes I have seen, and that view is shared by Sussex coach Pat Ginnaw.

Not far behind in the reckoning is Arundel's Kevin Doyle - he has four more years as a junior and is already lifting senior titles in town tournaments.

Among the starlets, we have two fast attackers in Sarah Stedman (Arundel) and Brighton's Joanne Bush-Harris, both with four more years as juniors. Other names to keep an eye on - Alex Gray, Paul Hancock, Niall Munroe, Claudine Wilson, Sara Coggan, Claire Brown and Tina Beaney. Claire and Tina have five years to go in the junior ranks!

Junior Rankings

Boys

1. Paul Butcher
2. Wesley Bush-Harris
3. Paul Cichelli
4. Kevin Doyle
5. Alex Gray
6. Paul Hancock
7. Niall Munroe
8. Adam Smith
9. Paul Cunningham
10. Martin Simms
11. James Beale
12. Robert Abbots
13. James Beer
14. Stuart Rowe
15. Adam Flavell

Girls

1. Tracey Cole
2. Natasha Wilson
3. Sarah Stedman
4. Joanne Bush-Harris
5. Claudine Wilson
6. Sara Coggan
7. Claire Brown
8. Tina Beaney
9. Nicola Evans
10. Joanne Thomas
11. Carrie Munday
12. Toyin Bakare
13. Cara Ward
14. Ann Marie Thomas
15. Heidi Simms

WARWICKSHIRE

Alan Healey

Suffolk v Warwickshire - County Juniors - Div 1A

Date 6th April 91 - Venue Britannia TTC - Ipswich, Suffolk.

Result: Suffolk 2 Warwickshire 8. (Warwickshire 'Bears' win promotion.....)

Another consistent performance from this young team of keen players.

Warwickshire Juniors have now won their way back in to the Premier Division for next season - with particular mention

SURREY

Terry Vance

CONGRATULATIONS TO NICKY Mason on making the team for the Commonwealth Games in Nairobi. Nicky performed well at the National championships being the only one to take a game off new Champion Carl Preat.

The Inter League Competition has 4 teams in the Harding cup and 5 teams in the Percy Johnson Cup. The Sutton Trophy for Juniors will not be played because only one League entered. Maybe the Sutton League, who donated the trophy, will agree to a change in the format in future.

At the National Schools Championships Surrey will be represented by Paul Carter; Diba Ali; Jason Blake; Darren Blake; Claire Ashley; John Wakefield; James Furner; Katherine Wells; Gerry Ashison and Anna McNamara. The only Surrey School in the Team finals is Downside. This is the first time that Cumnor House have

re the girls who won 10 from 14 matches during the campaign.

The two girls - Joanne Groves (Kingshurst YCC, Solihull) and Susan Clarke (Wellesbourne TTC, Warwickshire) have been improving all season and are looking forward to a higher class of table tennis next year.

Team Coach David Spilsbury wishes to pass on his own recognition of the support given to this team by the players parents, throughout a long season.

Warwickshire Veterans

The Warwickshire Veterans second team, in their first season, handsomely repaid their sponsors Realm Security Systems Ltd., by winning Div 3A of the County Veterans Championship with a 100 percent record.

Their seasons reached an exciting climax when they met Huntingdonshire II's, also undefeated, in their final match at St Neots, Huntingdonshire.

With their strongest team of Pat Glynn, Barry O'Brien, Neil Wheatly and Dot McFarlane, Warwickshire were always on top during the match and ran out as worthy winners by 7-2.

Skipper Neil Wheatley attributed the success of his team to its strength in depth. "We fielded the same team in only two of our six matches", he said, "but Barry Hunt, Graham Hoskins, Barry Russ and Dot Sheward all made vital winning contributions - winning nine out of the twelve doubles games was another important factor.

WORCESTERSHIRE Ken Walton

IN THE COUNTY Team Handicap Competition, O.E.'s beat Crackpots by 4 points in the semi-final, and will be playing either Worcester LTC, or Stourport Workmans in the final. Last years finalists, Thorns TTC, and Bromley TTC will once again contest the scratch final, to be played at Jims Gym, Dudley. The same teams

incidentally, will meet again in the final of the Dudley Table Tennis Leagues, "Second Chance Cup", having defeated Hawbush, and Jims Gym 'A' in their respective semi-finals.

News from County Chairman Doug Moss is that he organised and ran a schools table tennis competition for Hereford and Worcestershire recently.

Whilst on the subject of young players, a junior and cadet team tournament is to be held at the Pensnett school on May 12th, Vera Royal and Barbara Jukes will be running the event, and tell me that spectators are welcome.

Coaching Co-ordinator Brian Selby ran a course in January at which 16 students made good progress. Any ranked players looking for extra help, or indeed, willing to offer assistance to Brian during coaching sessions, should contact him for details.

Interested to hear that Chester Barnes and Trevor Taylor were "exhibiting" their considerable talents in Kidderminster recently, exact details not known.

Despite being an important part of the Martin Pipe/Peter Scudamore horse racing set up nowadays, Chester obviously retains his love for the game. Wonder if he still retains that fabulous backhand? Hopefully by now, both County Senior teams will have won their respective last matches, and in the process their respective divisions!!

Anyway, whatever, a great season for both teams, well done everyone. Couldn't fail to be impressed by the English Closed held at the Crystal Leisure Centre, Stourbridge. Referee Doug Young and his team, plus all concerned with the event, especially old mate Brian Lloyd, did everyone proud, and surely they will be back again next season, for another resounding success. Catshill Youth Centre Bromsgrove was the venue for the Bromsgrove and District League Championships. Well supported and attended, as per usual apparently, some sparkling play was forthcoming with the two main titles going to

Margaret Dignum (Ladies Singles), and D Rogers (Mens), defeating Helen Pogmore and Craig Ward respectively.

Finally, a thank you from me to everyone who has given me information for this column this year. Hope to be back in action with the October edition. see you all at the AGM.

YORKSHIRE Rea Balmford

IT WAS A pleasure and an honour for Yorkshire to host the second Junior Premier Weekend at the Batley Sports Centre, and the county were delighted when our new-look Junior squad brought the title, which twelve months ago we passed over to our friends and greatest rivals Lancashire, back across the Pennines.

Non - playing captain Bevan Walker rang the changes in his seven strong squad, and they came undefeated through the seven match series, dropping only one point to the Red Rose side.

At the other end of the age scale the Veterans went one better as they travelled south to the Veteran Premier Weekend,, returning a clean sheet as the legendary Denis Neale brought back memories of his days as England's undisputed No. 1 with eight wins which brought his total over the two weekends to 14 from visits to the table. News from round the County is scarce, but I hear on the 'grapevine' that Huddersfield, like Dewsbury, are looking to establish their own League club room.

Dewsbury themselves are thinking ahead to the so-called close season with Sunday morning coaching sessions to be held at Batley Sports Centre, while at the same venue a Two-a-side Summer League is being planned for Friday evenings.

All those who know popular Bradford coach Hans Soova will rejoice with him on the wonderful news that his father, whom he thought had died in a Russian Labour Camp during the Second World War, is alive and well in his native

Estonia. The surprise news came as the result of a chance meeting between Hans and a young Estonian who was visiting the West Riding, and the Shipley accounts clerk is now hoping to visit his native land shortly and meet the 83 year old father whom he last saw 50 years ago!

The Northallerton League, which attracts not only players from the surrounding area of North Yorkshire, but from a wide area of the North East, can report success at both Veteran and Junior level.

The Veteran side progressed to the semi-final weekend of the National Cup following a win over Reading, while leading youngster Robert Sharp made a successful debut on the county Premier scene at Batley.

In the local League, Sharp represents Bedale A, who also call upon Richard Scruton, a leading candidate in the recent election for the Chairmanship of the ETTA and Craig Milner, and the trio are among the contenders for the runners-up spot in Division 1 along with Brockholme B and Appleton Wiske. Red hot championship favourites, however, are Brockholme A, represented by the SEE SW Durham British League squad of John Crawford, Steve Cooper, Keith Bell and Gary Webstell.

Finally, some interesting information from the newly formed Edinburgh Street Community Centre, who field teams in Divisions 5 and 9 of the HULL League. A five strong squad who make up the Division 9 strength includes four senior citizens who boast an aggregate age of 262 years, the 'odd one out' being the son of one of the club's players.

And no less than three of the senior citizens are ladies, with team captain Alice Duffy, who had never played table tennis until recently in her 70th year. I can say without reservation that Alice is the oldest female player in the Hull league - perhaps somebody will let me know if she can lay claim to being Yorkshire's senior lady.

What about a challenge from Peter Powell's squad at Chester (TTN March 1991) - I can pass on the contact if required.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 4

| JUNIORS | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| Premier Division | | | | | | | | | |
| Yorkshire | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 52 | 18 | 13 | | |
| Devonshire | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 48 | 22 | 11 | | |
| Lancashire | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 36 | 34 | 8 | | |
| Essex | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 30 | 40 | 8 | | |
| Surrey | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 37 | 33 | 7 | | |
| Middlesex | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 35 | 35 | 7 | | |
| Kent | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 26 | 44 | 2 | | |
| Durham | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 16 | 54 | 0 | | |
| Division 1A | | | | | | | | | |
| Warwickshire | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 55 | 15 | 13 | | |
| Yorkshire 2nd | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 48 | 22 | 10 | | |
| Northumberland | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 39 | 31 | 9 | | |
| Derbyshire | 7 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 37 | 33 | 8 | | |
| Suffolk | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 35 | 35 | 6 | | |
| Clwyd | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 28 | 42 | 5 | | |
| Lincolnshire | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 24 | 46 | 3 | | |
| Lancashire 2nd | 7 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 14 | 56 | 2 | | |
| Division 1B | | | | | | | | | |
| Berkshire | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 59 | 11 | 14 | | |
| Oxfordshire | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 54 | 16 | 12 | | |
| Hertfordshire | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 35 | 35 | 9 | | |
| Essex 2nd | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 36 | 34 | 8 | | |
| Glamorgan | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 32 | 38 | 6 | | |
| Gloucestershire | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 25 | 45 | 5 | | |
| Worcestershire | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 48 | 1 | | |
| Cornwall | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 17 | 53 | 1 | | |
| Division 2A | | | | | | | | | |
| Staffordshire 1st | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 53 | 17 | 13 | | |
| Cheshire 1st | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 55 | 15 | 12 | | |
| Nottinghamshire | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 49 | 21 | 11 | | |
| Derbyshire 2nd | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 35 | 35 | 7 | | |
| Cheshire 2nd | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 32 | 38 | 7 | | |
| Leicestershire | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 23 | 47 | 2 | | |
| Staffordshire 3rd | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 18 | 52 | 2 | | |
| Lancashire 3rd | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 15 | 55 | 2 | | |
| Division 2B | | | | | | | | | |
| Essex 2nd | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 50 | 20 | 12 | | |
| Northamptonshire | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 45 | 25 | 12 | | |
| Middlesex 2nd | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 46 | 24 | 10 | | |
| Buckinghamshire | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 46 | 24 | 9 | | |
| Hertfordshire 2nd | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 35 | 35 | 6 | | |
| Warwickshire 2nd | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 28 | 42 | 5 | | |
| Wiltshire | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 60 | 2 | | |
| Berkshire 2nd | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 20 | 50 | | | |
| Division 2C | | | | | | | | | |
| Devonshire 2nd | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 52 | 18 | 13 | | |
| Gwent | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 53 | 17 | 12 | | |
| Hampshire | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 52 | 18 | 11 | | |
| Hampshire 2nd | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 37 | 33 | 8 | | |
| Dorset | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 28 | 42 | 5 | | |
| Avon | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 29 | 41 | 4 | | |
| Somerset | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 24 | 46 | 3 | | |
| Devonshire 3rd | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 5 | 65 | | | |
| Division 2D | | | | | | | | | |
| Surrey 2nd | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 50 | 20 | 12 | | |
| Kent 2nd | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 46 | 24 | 10 | | |
| Sussex 1st | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 46 | 24 | 9 | | |
| Norfolk 1st | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 40 | 30 | 9 | | |
| Surrey 3rd | 7 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 34 | 36 | 7 | | |
| Sussex 2nd | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 29 | 41 | 6 | | |
| Suffolk 2nd | 7 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 22 | 48 | 2 | | |
| Norfolk 2nd | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 13 | 57 | 1 | | |
| VETERANS | | | | | | | | | |
| Premier Division | | | | | | | | | |
| Yorkshire | 7 | 7 | 0 | 52 | 11 | 14 | | | |
| Cheshire | 7 | 4 | 3 | 35 | 28 | 8 | | | |
| Essex | 7 | 4 | 3 | 34 | 29 | 8 | | | |
| Lincolnshire | 7 | 4 | 3 | 31 | 32 | 8 | | | |
| Sussex | 7 | 4 | 3 | 30 | 33 | 8 | | | |
| Surrey | 7 | 2 | 5 | 30 | 33 | 4 | | | |
| Kent | 7 | 2 | 5 | 25 | 38 | 4 | | | |
| Wiltshire | 7 | 1 | 6 | 15 | 48 | 2 | | | |
| Division 1A | | | | | | | | | |
| Leicestershire | 7 | 6 | 1 | 41 | 22 | 12 | | | |
| Essex 2nd | 7 | 5 | 2 | 39 | 24 | 10 | | | |
| Lancashire | 7 | 4 | 3 | 35 | 28 | 8 | | | |
| Yorkshire 2nd | 7 | 3 | 4 | 33 | 30 | 6 | | | |
| Norfolk | 7 | 3 | 4 | 28 | 35 | 6 | | | |
| Worcestershire | 7 | 3 | 4 | 24 | 39 | 6p | | | |
| Hertfordshire | 7 | 2 | 5 | 30 | 33 | 4 | | | |
| Northumberland | 7 | 2 | 5 | 22 | 41 | 4 | | | |
| Division 1B | | | | | | | | | |
| Kent 2nd | 7 | 7 | 0 | 38 | 25 | 14 | | | |
| Middlesex | 7 | 6 | 1 | 41 | 22 | 12 | | | |
| Surrey 2nd | 7 | 5 | 2 | 32 | 31 | 10 | | | |
| Dorset | 7 | 4 | 3 | 37 | 26 | 8 | | | |
| Oxfordshire | 7 | 2 | 5 | 36 | 27 | 4 | | | |
| Berkshire | 7 | 2 | 5 | 29 | 34 | 4 | | | |
| Buckinghamshire | 7 | 2 | 5 | 24 | 39 | 4 | | | |
| Hampshire | 7 | 0 | 7 | 15 | 48 | 0 | | | |
| Division 2A | | | | | | | | | |
| Cheshire 2nd | 5 | 5 | 0 | 30 | 15 | 10 | | | |
| Warwickshire | 5 | 4 | 1 | 30 | 15 | 8 | | | |
| Lancashire 2nd | 5 | 3 | 2 | 29 | 16 | 6 | | | |
| Yorkshire 3rd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 26 | 19 | 4 | | | |
| Clwyd | 5 | 1 | 4 | 13 | 32 | 2 | | | |
| Lincolnshire 2nd | 5 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 38 | 0 | | | |
| Division 2B | | | | | | | | | |
| Northamptonshire | 5 | 4 | 1 | 29 | 16 | 8 | | | |
| Essex 3rd | 5 | 4 | 1 | 27 | 18 | 8 | | | |
| Bedfordshire | 5 | 3 | 2 | 28 | 17 | 6 | | | |
| Nottinghamshire | 5 | 2 | 3 | 23 | 22 | 4 | | | |
| Norfolk 2nd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 26 | 4 | | | |
| Huntingdonshire | 5 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 36 | 0 | | | |
| Division 2C | | | | | | | | | |
| Middlesex 2nd | 5 | 4 | 1 | 33 | 12 | 8 | | | |
| Gloucestershire | 5 | 4 | 1 | 29 | 16 | 8 | | | |
| Surrey 3rd | 5 | 3 | 2 | 25 | 20 | 6 | | | |
| Buckinghamshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 21 | 24 | 4 | | | |
| Wiltshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 20 | 25 | 4 | | | |
| Herefordshire | 5 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 38 | 0 | | | |
| Division 2D | | | | | | | | | |
| Sussex 2nd | 5 | 4 | 1 | 29 | 16 | 8 | | | |
| Berkshire 2nd | 5 | 4 | 1 | 27 | 18 | 8 | | | |
| Hampshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 22 | 23 | 4 | | | |
| Somerset | 5 | 2 | 3 | 20 | 25 | 4 | | | |
| Hertfordshire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 26 | 4 | | | |
| Dorset 2nd | 5 | 1 | 4 | 18 | 27 | 2 | | | |
| Division 3A | | | | | | | | | |
| Warwickshire 2nd | 6 | 6 | 0 | 38 | 16 | 12 | | | |
| Huntingdonshire 2nd | 6 | 5 | 1 | 29 | 25 | 10 | | | |
| Hertfordshire 4th | 6 | 3 | 3 | 32 | 22 | 6 | | | |
| Cheshire 3rd | 6 | 3 | 3 | 30 | 24 | 6 | | | |
| Northamptonshire 2nd | 6 | 2 | 4 | 31 | 23 | 4 | | | |
| Norfolk 3rd | 6 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 39 | 2 | | | |
| Bedfordshire 2nd | 6 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 40 | 2 | | | |
| Division 3B | | | | | | | | | |
| Kent 3rd | 5 | 5 | 0 | 33 | 12 | 10 | | | |
| Sussex 3rd | 5 | 4 | 1 | 30 | 15 | 8 | | | |
| Hertfordshire 3rd | 5 | 3 | 2 | 27 | 18 | 6 | | | |
| Berkshire 4th | 5 | 2 | 3 | 18 | 27 | 4 | | | |
| Sussex 4th | 5 | 1 | 4 | 23 | 22 | 2 | | | |
| Northamptonshire 3rd | 5 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 41 | 0 | | | |
| Division 3C | | | | | | | | | |
| Berkshire 3rd | 5 | 4 | 1 | 34 | 11 | 8 | | | |
| Wiltshire 3rd | 5 | 4 | 1 | 29 | 16 | 8 | | | |
| Wiltshire 4th | 5 | 3 | 2 | 20 | 25 | 6 | | | |
| Gloucestershire 2nd | 5 | 2 | 3 | 18 | 27 | 4 | | | |
| Somerset 2nd | 5 | 1 | 4 | 18 | 27 | 2 | | | |
| Hertfordshire 5th | 5 | 1 | 4 | 16 | 29 | 2 | | | |

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is 15th JULY**

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Cooke topples Prean



Johnny Leach (right) presents the Mens Singles winner's cheque to Alan Cooke (left) watch by losing finalist Carl Prean!

ALAN COOKE took the top prize of £700 winning the mens singles crown with a surprise victory over top seed Carl Prean, in the Barclays Essex 5 Star tournament, at Brentwood.

Cooke, who at one stage looked to be losing in the second, having lost the first leg to National Champion Prean, managed to fight his way back into this final, taking the third aggressively.

Meanwhile Andrea Holt who appears to have the measure of the other three girls at the top of English table tennis, won the Womens singles £400 prize when she beat Lisa Lomas in the final in three.

The first Five Star Tournament staged by Essex was carried out with the flair associated with its organiser, Dick Roffe. Under referee Mike Watts and Deputy Peter Roden, the events got under way on the Friday evening with the Veterans singles. There were many surprises before the eventual winner was known, No. 1 seed Stuart Gibbs went out to John Taylor in the semi's and Essex lady Lesley Radford took out No. 3 seed Derek Holman in the 2nd round. Other seeds fell, No. 2 Mike Short in the 3rd to David Solman who went out in the next round to Andy Meads. In the final, No. 4 seed Taylor could not find his usual form and was comfortably beaten 16 & 13 by Meads.

Saturday commenced with the story of Alison Gordon accepting an invitation to visit Canada in preference to playing



Johnny Leach (left) presents the Women's Singles cheque to Andrea Holt (right) watched by runner-up Lisa Lomas (centre)



Celebrating with a glass of wine the success of the Barclays Five Star are Phyllis Lauder, Essex Assistant Secretary and the over 80's veteran womens World Champion, with her husband Keith Lauder, the President of Dagenham league.

at Essex. Also Chen Xinhua had to withdraw when wife Jeanette presented him with a baby boy. Congratulations to all three from all at Essex.

The groups were played off first with no surprises and we proceeded with the mens doubles event stretching into Sunday. In the top half No. 1 seed Alan Cooke and Des Douglas won through to the final without conceding a game beating the Moore brothers Adrian and Stephen in the semi-final. The bottom half was a little closer with Steve Dorking and Mike O'Driscoll losing the first in the semi final 21-12 before taking the next two 19 & 13 against Philip Bradbury and Andrew Eden.

The ladies doubles brought no surprises, the No. 1 seeds Lisa Lomas and Fiona Elliot reaching the final together with Janet Smith and Jill Harris, the No. 1 seeds not dropping a game.

In the mixed doubles the No. 1 seeds Steve Dorking and Andrea Holt won through to the final without losing a game and No. 2 seeds John Holland and Nicola Deaton reached the same position after a close match against Joey Kennedy and Sue Collier.

The ladies singles slightly weakened by Alison Gordons's non-appearance saw many surprises; No. 3 seed and England No. 4 going out to Helen Lower 19-21, 21-9, 21-23. Helen then losing to Jill Harris who in turn went out in the semis to Lisa Lomas, No. 1 seed. Andrea Holt reached the same stage after dropping just one game to Sally Marling in the 3rd round, before beating Carol Giles in the semis.

The mens singles top half saw Carl Prean No. 1 in England and the tournament winning through to the semi final very comfortably without losing a game. Nick Mason reached the semis in similar circumstances from the No. 4 spot. The bottom section saw Des Douglas also reaching the semi final without a game being taken from him and Alan Cooke became his semi final opponent in likewise manner.

The new English ranking lists were known just prior to the tournament and there was excitement when it was discovered that John Holland had jumped from the No. 24 spot to No. 11, one place in front of his Peniel National League team mate Steve Dorking who had moved up one place to No. 12. and that they were to meet in round 2. The two friends put everything into this match and Steve was always trailing by the odd point after very long attacking rallies until the final few points and he snea-

ked in front to take the first game 23-21. He was behind in the second game 2-8 and picked up to 13-12 before winning 21-17.

The finals started at 3.00pm with about 500 spectators in the tiered seats on either side of the magnificent Barclays blue coloured arena.

Carl Prean (IOW) opened the final stages with his mens singles semi final against Nicky Mason (Sx). Mason, determined not to be over-awed by the National Champion staged some marvellous attacking rallies before losing the first 19-21. He fought with great tenacity in the second game with strokes flowing from both players and took this game 21-19. The final game saw Carl putting on more pressure and winning 21-15.

Alan Cooke (Dy) was just too fast for Des Douglas (Wa) who could not get into his stride before Alan ran out the winner 14 & 17.

The mixed doubles was made up of two very contrasting games, Steve Dorking (E) and Andrea Holt (La) went through John Holland (Dy) and Nicola Deaton (Dy) 21-7 in the first but the second was very fiercely fought with very tight close table rallies before going once again to the first pair 26-24.

The ladies doubles was between Lisa Lomas (Bd)/Fiona Elliot (St) and Jill Harris (St) Janet Smith (Sco). Lisa and Fiona were not put under too much pressure apart from some hard hitting by Jill and ran out winners 21-15, 21-17.

The mens doubles was a fast fought hard hitting cross court match which Des Douglas and Alan Cooke did not have to work up too much steam in order to beat Steve Dorking and Mike O'Driscoll (Y) 21-16, 21-13. Ladies singles, and Lisa Lomas No.1 was against No. 4 Andrea Holt. The match was as expected, Andrea hitting and Lisa defending with the occasional attack. Play was full of short rallies with many unforced errors.

Andrea eventually took the first 24-22. The second followed the same pattern but with some longer rallies and this went to Lisa 21-18. The third followed suit with the inclusion of Andrea smashing and Lisa high lobbing before Andrea won 21-15.

The mens final between Carl Prean No. 1 and Alan Cooke No. 2 started as close to the table cross court hitting with a number of unforced errors creeping into this game. Alan took an early lead with some hard hitting but Carl pulled him back with some close blocking. It then fell to Carl to tidy up at 21-19. The second saw again a close to the table game of quick reflex play with Alan reversing the score 21-19.



Essex's Stephen Dorking (right) and Andrea Holt winners of the Mixed Doubles



Essex Umpire Phil Gower upstaged the players during the women's singles final, when he was called upon to supply new balls (5 in total), and he became the star of the moment by dropping the balls, much to the appreciation of the audience

The third game started with Alan nosing in front only to be pulled back and overtaken with some cross hitting from Carl. A few silly mistakes saw Alan fall behind but with some power hitting he lead 10-8 at change of ends. He forged ahead to 17-9 with some quick hitting and speed about the table. Carl was now at the receiving end of an Alan Cooke assault and went down fighting 13-21.

FINALS

Vets Singles: A. Meads (Sx) bt J. Taylor (He) 21-16, 21-13.

Mixed Doubles: S. Dorking (E)/A Holt (La) bt J. Holland (La)/N. Deaton (Dy) 21-7, 26-24

Ladies Doubles: L. Lomas (Bd)/F. Elliot (St) bt J. Smith (Sco)/J. Harris (St) 21-15, 21-17

Mens Doubles: A. Cooke (Dy)/D. Douglas (Wa) bt M. O'Driscoll (Y)/S. Dorking (E) 21-16, 21-13.

Ladies Singles: A. Holt (La) bt L. Lomas (Bd) 24-22, 18-21, 21-15

Mens Singles Semi-Finals: C. Prean (IOW) bt N. Mason (Sx) 21-19, 19-21, 21-15

A. Cooke (Dy) bt D. Douglas (Wa) 21-14, 21-17

Final: A. Cooke (Dy) bt C. Prean (IOW) 19-21, 21-19, 21-13.

Our grateful thanks to Barclays for their wonderful sponsorship and support at the tournament and to the management and staff at the magnificent Brentwood International Centre.

LILLE 91

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.....

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Peniel stole the limelight

DUNLOP NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

PENIEL Academy, Brentwood, stole all the limelight at the Finals of the Dunlop National School Team Championships at Lea Green on March 16th when they won no fewer than **four** of the eight titles.

This record-breaking achievement is testimony to the dedication to the sport at the Brentwood school, which has less than 100 pupils on roll.

Even allowing for the domination of the Finals by Peniel, there were some closely-fought matches which were the culmination of a season's competition which began for some teams way back in September with local and county events leading to the national area and regional events in January and February.

Observers in the packed audience at Lea Green agree that the tussle that developed in the Girls under-19 event was of the highest quality for suspense and standard of play. Kesteven and Grantham Girls were determined to get back on the road that had seen them win three consecutive titles in 1987, 88 and 89. They held the powerful Peniel quarter to a 4-4 draw but then went down 6-2 to The Grove. In the third match The Grove nudged home, 5-3.

Peniel made amends by winning the Boys' Under-19 event comfortably, with 7-1 and 8-0 margins. Parkview school — the north's answer to the multi-challenge of Peniel — should have pulled off an Under-16 double. Their Boys team, spear-headed by Kevin Hodgson (who won the Boys "Best Performance Award"), regained the Leach-Carrington trophy which they lifted in 1989 but the girls dropped a vital set in winning 5-3 over The Mitchell High School, Bucknall and paid the penalty. Their 4-4 draw with Peniel allowed Peniel to ease through on a superior sets ratio.

The new format of playing matches on a single table proved generally a success. It allowed for better monitoring by those at the courtside but put pressure on the players, especially the younger ones. There was unfortunately a problem involving one of the Under-11 finals where the spectators' over-exuberance spilled over and distracted players.

But the matches were played in a good spirit, none more so than the Boys Under-13 event where protagonists, Brislington, Downside and Parkview, met up like old pals. The Brislington



Diccon Gray, with Girls under-11 winners, Peniel Academy

boys were former Holymead pupils. Parkview were ex-Yarlside whilst Downside recalled similar opponents when they won the Boys; Under-11 title in 1984.

The Avon boys called the tune and consequently became the first-ever Avon winners in the 25-year history of the Championships. Congratulations to coach Bernard Nash for perseverance over the years rewarded with a fine all-round team performance which gained colour photographic coverage in the Bristol press.

Archbishop Cranmer's Yorkshire lasses stepped up from winning the Under-11 title last year to take the Under-13 "pot" as well. Richard Hudson's Quartet included Nicola Smith and Nicola Silburn who represented English Schools in the inaugural British Primary Schools Championships in Dumfries last year.

Both Under-11 events went to Peniel. The Girls achieved the only "wipe-out" of the day as they brushed aside Woodley and Holymead with 8-0 victories. Tracy Davis was outstanding. The boys were convincing winners, lead by Ben Linnecar.

So concluded the 25th Championships. If your school is interested in taking part in next season's competition please write to the Competition Secretary:

Geoff Gardiner,
36 Froom Street, CHORLEY,
Lancs PR6 0AN (02572 64873)

RESULTS:

Boys Under-19

1. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)

2. Dronfield (Derbyshire)
3. Wollaston Comp (Northants)
Dronfield 7 Wollaston 1
Wollaston 1 Peniel 7
Peniel 8 Dronfield 0

(Peniel team: Keith Buers, Matthew Ried, Vince Avery, Daniel Yardy)

Girls Under-19

1. The Grove, M Drayton (Shrops)

2. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)

3. Kesteven & Grantham Girls (Lincs)

Kesteven & Grantham 4 Peniel 4
The Grove 6 Kesteven & Grantham 2
Peniel 3 The Grove 5

(The Grove team: Sarah Creasey, Elizabeth Creasey, Claire Marshall, Tracey Garrett)

Boys Under-16

1. Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness (Cum)

2. Bedford Modern (Beds)
3. Shenley Court, Birm (W. Midlands)

Shenley Court 3 Bedford Mod 5
Parkview 8 Shenley Court 0
BedfordMod 1 Parkview 7
(Parkview team: Kevin Hodgson, Justin Brunton, Andrew Michie, Jamie Harris)

Girls Under-16

1. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)

2. Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness (Cum)

3. The Mitchell High, Bucknall (Staffs)

Mitchell High 2 Peniel 6
Parkview 5 Mitchell High 3
Peniel 4 Parkview 4
(Peniel team, Ingrid Cleminson, Claire Coleman, Claire Rowlands, Tirrian Sharp)

Boys Under-13

1. Brislington, Bristol (Avon)

2. Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness (Cumbria)

3. Downside, Purley (Surrey Metropolitan)

Downside 1 Brislington 7
Parkview 7 Downside 1
Brislington 6 Parkview 2
(Brislington team: Graham Long, Tom Orlik, Matthew Pullin, Ross McDonald)

Girls Under-13

1. Archbishop Cranmer CE Middle, Leeds (West Yorkshire)

2. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)

3. Newent Community (Glouc)

Newent 3 Peniel 5
Archbishop Cranmer 7 Newent 1
Peniel 2 Archbishop Cranmer 6

(Archbishop Cranmer team: Nicola Smith, Nicola Silburn, Kate Foster, Esther Legg-Bagg)

Boys Under-11

1. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)

Girls Under-11

1. Peniel Academy, Brentwood (Essex County)

Future Stars

DUNLOP SCHOOLS INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE Dunlop English Schools Individual Championships at Mansfield Leisure Centre on April 27th produced six new champions — three of whom are from Peniel Academy, Brentwood. Unlike the "outside-half factory for the Welsh rugby side" as immortalised by Max Boyce, it looks as though Peniel are well set to produce future "stars"!

There was the incentive of possible selection for the 30-strong English Schools squad to take on fresh opposition from the continent — in the shape of Czechoslovakia and Belgium — in the Dunlop Schools International Championships at Birmingham in July — but most players were content to pursue national honours.

All the 250 competitors were county champions. Organiser Paul Birch had enthused about the quality of the Boys' under-16 event in particular. Out of a maximum entry from 50 county areas, 44 responded. Defending champion, Edward Hatley, was seeded to take on England Number One, Alex Perry, in the final (with 25 of the ranking list involved) but Perry's withdrawal left the way clear for Hatley to successfully defend his crown.

Paul Carter (Purley Sixth Form College) was within a whisker of becoming the first player to win the Boys Under-19 category twice but the defending champion let slip a 17-13 lead to lose the next eight points and give Martin Adams (Windsor Boys) his first title.

Linda Radford (Essex Metropolitan) was a comfortable winner of the Girls under-19 event and, not surprisingly, Sally Marling (Sydney Smith, Hull), fresh from gaining a bronze medal in the Commonwealth Championships in Nairobi, Kenya, waltzed through the Girls' Under-16 event, her second ESTTA title.

Ben Linnecar and Tracy Davies pulled off a Peniel "double" in winning the respective under-11 events, whilst Vincent Avery was another Peniel winner (Boys under-13) and Nicola Smith (Archbishop Cranmer CE Middle School, Leeds) kept the north flag flying.

Former ESTTA President and Life Member, Tom Matthews, was presented with an illuminated address to highlight his outstanding service to schools table tennis.

It was also a pleasure to welcome Alan Meale, Member of Parliament for Mansfield, as a guest. He took great interest in the Championships.

RESULTS:

Boys Under-19

Paul Carter (Surrey Met) bt Gareth Jones (North Yorks) 21-15, 24-22.

Martin Adams (Berks) bt Garry Knights (Staffs) 21-13, 27-25.
Adams bt Carter 21-19, 12-21, 21-17.

Girls Under-19

Linda Radford (Essex Metro) bt Claire Marshall (Shrops) 21-6, 21-18.

Dawn Barnett (Northants) bt Samantha Marling (Humberside) 24-22, 21-16

Radford bt Barnett 21-13, 21-14.

Boys Under-16

Edward Hatley (Hants) bt Raymond Powell (Gloucs) 21-14, 21-14

Chris Sladden (Essex County) bt Rod Manwaring (Lancs) 21-18, 21-19.

Hatley bt Sladden 27-25, 21-4.

Girls Under-16

Sally Marling (Humberside) bt Lynsey Heyward (Devon) 21-12, 21-13.

Sara Williams (Middlesex) bt Nichola Meddings (W. Midlands) 19-21, 22-20, 26-24.

Marling bt Williams 21-16, 21-7.

Boys Under-13

Vincent Avery (Essex County) bt David Purdy (Derbyshire) 21-23, 21-19, 21-18.

Steven Meddings (W. Midlands) bt Michael James (Humberside) 21-13, 21-16.

Avery bt Meddings 21-17, 21-18.

Girls Under-13

Glenda Ashison (Inner London) bt Debbie Pestka (Notts) 21-12, 21-13.

Nicola Smith (W. Yorkshire) bt Kathryn Woodward (Greater Manchester) 21-18, 17-21, 22-20.

Smith bt Ashison 21-18, 21-13.

Boys Under-11

Scott Friday (Kent County) bt Gerry Ashison (Surrey Metro) 21-12, 21-14.

Ben Linnecar (Essex County) bt Gareth Brown (Tyne & Wear) 21-9, 21-13.

Linnecar bt Friday 21-19, 21-19.

Girls Under-11

Tracy Davies (Essex County) bt Anna McNamara (Surrey Metro)

16-21, 21-6, 21-6.

Lindsey Thornton (Greater Manchester) bt Yvonne Slinger (Cheshire) 21-11, 21-12.

Davis bt Thornton 21-10, 21-19.

Charismatic Linnecar BRITISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

ALTHOUGH Ireland retained three of the four titles at the second British Primary Schools Championships at Dumfries in early April, England won the Boys event with a charismatic performance from Ben Linnecar.

The England teams turned in good performances in the team events, pushing Ireland all the way. They could not be faulted on commitment and effort but unfortunately they were both pipped at the post.

England's Girls team of Kerry Hogarth, Tracy Davies, Catherine Corkhill and Lindsey Thornton fought hard to take on Ireland in the final encounter but went down 6-4 to finish second. The Boys drew 5-5 but conceded winners spot because of an inferior sets ratio, caused mainly by some inept doubles performances. The Boys line-up was Gerry Ashison, Ben Linnecar, Gareth Brown and Alex Yardy.

England players best performances were to come in the Individual events which rounded off a most successful weekend, organised by the energetic Keith Powell.

Tracy Davies (Peniel Academy) reached the final of the Girls event and pushed defending champion, Michelle McGreevey of Ireland all the way before losing. Then came Peniel colleague, Ben Linnecar, seemingly determined to entertain the crowd and win for England over Michelle's younger brother, David. Linnecar, still hell-bent on going for winners looked well set at 15-8 up in the deciding match of a tremendous final but the Irish boy, urged on by the crowd, pulled back to 17-16 and then the purple patch of the weekend followed as Linnecar nudged home with some cool play to assume the title previously held by James Furner of Croydon.

Results:

Team event:

| | | | |
|-------|---------|-----------------|------|
| Boys | England | bt Isle of Man | 9-1 |
| | | bt Scotland | 9-1 |
| | | bt Wales | 9-1 |
| | | drew Ireland | 5-5 |
| Girls | England | bt Isle of Man | 10-0 |
| | | bt Scotland | 8-2 |
| | | bt Wales | 10-0 |
| | | lost to Ireland | 4-6 |

Individual

Boys Final —

Ben Linnecar (England) bt David McGreevey (Ireland) 8-21, 22-20, 21-17.

Girls Final —

Michelle McGreevey (IRE) bt Tracy Davies (ENG) 21-11, 21-18.



Mansfield MP, Alan Meal, congratulates Tracy Davies on her Under-11 Girls victory



MARTIN ADAMS (Berkshire) receives congratulations on his Boys Under-19 Success at Mansfield from Robin Fountain of sponsors, Dunlop.

Peniel hurt Grove

NOT SATISFIED with their draw against Ormesby, the giant killers and third place candidates Team Peniel struck out at Grove and took a point with Matthew Syed beating Alan Cooke -21, 18, 18. Sean Gibson beat Chris Oldfield fairly comfortably and a duck from John Souter saw the points shared. It was Des Douglas nominated as Man of the Match as he beat Syed in straight games and Steve Dorking in three.

Draw enough?

Ormesby beat Bathwick Tyres 5-3 and the result was never really in doubt with Chen Xinhua and Michael O'Driscoll almost cruising. Ormesby dropped two games to Ellenborough a week later and are clearly not concerned with looking at a title gained on games difference. Indeed a draw with the equally mighty Grove at the end of the season should be enough for Ormesby to take the title for the first time. Of course there will be very little room for doubt if Creanga should suddenly reappear! Ellenborough took two points from Butterfly Cardiff as Colin Wilson beat both the Pauls — Lewis & Giles. Steve Ward won two for the Welsh but this was offset by a duck from Tony Taylor.

Highlights from Division 1 North include City of Leeds flexing their muscles against an unsuspecting Norwich Foxwood. The latter only won one as Neil Pickard beat Dave Indriks. Ruston Marconi Lincoln also stepped up a gear to beat Well-Connected Menswear despite two wins from Adrian Pilgrim. The way was opened for St Neots as they whitewashed Liverpool and Grove III drew away to Britannia Potters Leisure. Phil Logsdon and Richard Tanner beat Andrea Holt in straight games in their two maximums.

Houdini Horsham

Further south Horsham Dolphins continued their Houdini act with a crushing of a 3-man Victoria Park Mazda. Tommy Cutler helped Chelmsford OC's to a 5-3 win over Colley Toyota with straight game victories over Mike Owens and Dave Barr. Lisa Lomas convincingly led Team Peniel II to a win over Rejects I despite two from Paul Carter. Clive Carthy recorded a surprisingly comfortable win over Joey Kennedy.

Dave Harvey helped Cheltenham Saracens to a bit of a surge to win 6-2 against Colley Toyota II. White Hart Launceston may have surprised OLOPS

Sean Gibson beat Chris Oldfield fairly comfortably



Sean Gibson

as Jeremy Williams led them to a 5-3 victory. City of Milton Keynes won a 3-hour+ marathon against Chan Construction to stay near the top. John Burleton pulled out the stops to beat Pete Machin 3 & 14.

Mark Illingsworth was the leader of the pack as City of Leicester punished Humberside Andro with a 7-1 defeat. Also in Division 2 North Cambridge managed to share the points with Ymura International. Andy Withers was very convincing in his two and Martyn Livermore won two hard-fought games.

McKoy looking crisp

Gunnersbury Triangle and Horsham Dolphins consolidated their mid-table positions with a draw in Division 2 South. Alan Cole played well to win two including one over Neil Charles. Tony Clayton beat John Taylor but lost to Nicky McKoy as Jolliffe Poole sunk 2-6 to Ellenborough who now have the Divisional title well within their sights. Follows Cranleigh halted AHW Comets' progress. Paul Sayer managed to beat Colin Luscombe and Steve Cowley to help his team towards a 6-2 win.

Cranleigh were at it again (winning) in Division 3 East against Team Peniel III. Linda Radford beat Mike Hayes and

Ayo 'Pandus' Ademakinwa. Britannia ACI moved to relative safety by beating Uxbridge Burton 6-2. Malcolm Davis did much damage at No. 1 in beating Neil Slater and Ivor Warner.

The top of the table tussle in Division 3 North between SEE S W Durham and Boro of Sunderland resulted in a draw despite the inclusion of Nigel Tyler who beat Dave Godbold and Pete McQueen. Malcolm Corring beat McQueen 20, -12, 22 and then beat Cliff Olsson 19 & 18. It was Ian Collier who offered the most resistance beating John Crawford 11 & 12 and Steve Cooper 17 & 16 despite trailing 4-11 against the latter.

Lowe and behold

Martin Lowe helped Pillinger Air Croydon to a 5-3 win over JAGS SC even though Farhat Rasul beat Henry Buist and Phil Cox. Rejects III suffered a shock 3-5 defeat at the hands of the experienced TSP Larkhall II. Derek Holman and Steve Davis were unstoppable. Trevor Campbell beat Gordon Chapman but then went on to lose to Frank Hams.

Little received from Division 3 West where I can only report that Bathwick Tyres beat Alpha Southampton 6-2 with Chris Bridges playing well. The other result I have is that Leckie whitewashed Thorns. Jill Harris was probably the best player on view and she beat Mark Brookes 17 & 10 and Ken Walton -20, 8, 12.

Results from early April include two walkovers for the Ormesby Club:-

| | | |
|--------------|-----|-------------|
| Ellenborough | 6 2 | W. Warwicks |
| Grove I | 8 0 | B Cardiff |
| Ormesby | 8 0 | Destroyers |
| Peniel I | 8 0 | Bath |

| | | |
|-----------|-----|-------------|
| Grove III | 6 2 | Leeds |
| St Neots | 5 3 | WC Menswear |

| | | |
|------------|-----|-----------|
| Chelmsford | 5 3 | VP Mazda |
| Horsham | 3 5 | Grove II |
| Gillingham | 3 5 | Peniel II |

| | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|
| Burslem | 2 6 | Humberside |
| Leicester | 4 4 | Chan Const |
| Ormesby | 5 3 | Cambridge |
| Ymura Int | 1 7 | Yugo Cars |

| | | |
|--------------|-----|------------|
| Birmingham | 2 6 | C M Keynes |
| Cheltenham | 3 5 | Bath |
| Ellenborough | 2 6 | Larkhall |
| Cranleigh | 4 4 | G Triangle |
| Horsham | 4 4 | Poole |

BRITISH LEAGUE - 2

| | | | |
|------------|---|---|--------------|
| Sunderland | 6 | 2 | Tigers |
| Oldham | 7 | 1 | LD Crusaders |
| Ormesby | 8 | 0 | H Blaydon |

| | | | |
|------------|---|---|------------|
| Vymura Int | 3 | 5 | Durham |
| Brentwood | 2 | 6 | Yugo Cars |
| Cranleigh | 7 | 1 | Uxbridge |
| Westfield | 6 | 2 | Peniel III |

| | | | |
|-------------|---|---|----------|
| Fareham | 8 | 0 | Newport |
| Southampton | 3 | 5 | Grove IV |
| Thorns | 1 | 7 | Bath |

| | | | |
|-----------|---|---|----------|
| B Ashford | 0 | 8 | Croydon |
| DS Rams | 1 | 7 | Larkhall |
| JAGS SC | 7 | 1 | L Farrow |

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Norwich | Liverpool |
| Rejects I | C Toyota |
| Chan Const | Launceton |
| OLOPS | C Toyota |
| AHW Comets | Rejects II |
| Edison | Rejects III |

British League Tables 9/4/91

| Premier | P | W | D | L | F | APts |
|-------------------|----|----|---|----|----|-------|
| Ormesby I | 13 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 84 | 20 25 |
| NFD Grove I | 13 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 89 | 15 23 |
| Team Peniel I | 13 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 69 | 35 20 |
| Bathwick Tyres I | 13 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 50 | 54 13 |
| Ellenborough I | 13 | 6 | 0 | 7 | 51 | 53 12 |
| Butterfly Cardiff | 13 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 40 | 64 9 |
| West Warwicks | 13 | 1 | 0 | 12 | 22 | 82 2 |
| DML Destroyers | 13 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 11 | 93 0 |

Div. 1 (North)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|---|----|----|-------|
| St. Neots | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 64 | 32 22 |
| NFD Grove III | 12 | 9 | 3 | 0 | 65 | 31 21 |
| Brit. Potters Leis. | 11 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 51 | 37 15 |
| Well-Con.Mensw. | 12 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 52 | 44 13 |
| Ruston Marc.Linc. | 11 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 37 | 51 7 |
| Norwich Foxwood | 12 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 40 | 56 7 |
| City of Leeds | 12 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 37 | 59 6 |
| Liverpool | 12 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 30 | 66 3 |

Div. 1 (South)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|---|---|----|-------|
| NFD Grove II | 12 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 68 | 28 23 |
| Chelmsford OC's | 12 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 62 | 34 19 |
| Colley Toyota I | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 50 | 46 12 |
| Vict. Park Mazda | 13 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 51 | 53 12 |
| Team Peniel II | 12 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 43 | 53 9 |
| Rejects I | 13 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 37 | 67 9 |
| Horsh.Dolphins I | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 41 | 55 8 |
| Kleinw.Bens.Gillh. | 12 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 40 | 56 6 |

Div. 2 (Midlands)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|---|---|----|-------|
| Bathwick Tyres II | 13 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 74 | 30 21 |
| City of Milt.Keynes | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 59 | 37 17 |
| Cheltenham Saracens | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 55 | 41 14 |
| Colley Toyota II | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 45 | 51 12 |
| White Hart Launc. | 12 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 41 | 55 11 |
| Chan Const. I | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 39 | 56 8 |
| OLOPS TTC | 13 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 44 | 60 8 |
| Birm'hm Sports Cud. | 12 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 35 | 61 6 |

Div. 2 (North)

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|---|---|---|----|-------|
| Yugo Cars I | 12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 71 | 25 20 |
| Ormesby II | 12 | 7 | 5 | 0 | 63 | 33 19 |
| Vymura Inter. I | 12 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 52 | 44 15 |



Tommy Cutler helped Chelmsford OC's to a 5-3 win over Colley Toyota

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|---|---|---|----|-------|
| Humberside Andro | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 47 | 49 12 |
| City of Leic. | 12 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 46 | 50 11 |
| Burslem | 12 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 40 | 56 9 |
| Cambridge TTC | 12 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 37 | 59 6 |
| Chan Const. II | 12 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 28 | 68 4 |

Div. 2 (South)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|---|---|----|----|-------|
| TSP Larkhall | 12 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 65 | 31 19 |
| Ellenborough II | 12 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 64 | 32 19 |
| Gunnorsbury Triang. | 12 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 52 | 44 13 |
| AHW(Bletch.)Comets | 12 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 48 | 48 12 |
| Horsham Dolph.II | 12 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 47 | 49 11 |
| Jolliffe Poole | 12 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 43 | 53 11 |
| Fellows Cranl.I | 12 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 43 | 53 10 |
| Rejects II | 12 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 22 | 74 1 |

Div 3 (East)

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|---|---|---|----|-------|
| Yugo Cars II | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 55 | 33 17 |
| BSG BRentwood | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 52 | 28 15 |
| Fellows Franl.II | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 49 | 39 14 |
| Team Peniel III | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 43 | 37 10 |
| Levi's Westfield | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 39 | 41 9 |
| Britannia ACI II | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 29 | 51 5 |
| Uxbridge (Burt.) | 10 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 21 | 59 2 |

Div. 3 (North)

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|---|---|----|-------|
| Bor. of Sunderland | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 73 | 23 22 |
| SEE S.W. Durham | 12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 61 | 35 20 |
| Vymura Internat.II | 12 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 61 | 35 15 |
| Oldham TTC | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 51 | 45 11 |
| Hoyles Blaydon YC | 12 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 44 | 52 10 |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|---|---|----|----|-------|
| Lifeline Dev. Crus. | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 40 | 56 10 |
| Tigers TTC | 12 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 28 | 68 5 |
| Ormesby III | 12 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 26 | 70 3 |

Div. 3 (South)

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|---|---|---|----|-------|
| Pill. Air Croy.RRTTL | 12 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 66 | 30 19 |
| Edison TTC | 11 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 54 | 34 16 |
| TSP Larkhall II | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 53 | 43 14 |
| Rejects III | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 49 | 39 12 |
| J.A.G.S. S.C. | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 46 | 50 11 |
| Bribar Ashford | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 42 | 54 10 |
| Linda Farrow | 12 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 34 | 62 7 |
| Dick Shepherd Rams | 12 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 32 | 64 5 |

Div. 3 (West)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|------|-------|
| Amity Gen.2 Fare. | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 61 | 19 20 |
| Bathwick Tyres III | 11 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 53 | 35 15 |
| Leckie TTC | 10 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 57 | 23 14 |
| NFD Grove IV | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 32 | 48 7 |
| Thorns (Dud) TTC | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 27 | 53 7 |
| Hall,Pain&Fost.Alpha11 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 31 | 57 5 | |
| Parkside Drag.(Newp.)10 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 27 | 53 4 | |

THE UNDER 18/21 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A progressive move for English Table Tennis this year is the inclusion in the Calendar of the Under 18/21 National Championships.

This tournament is to be held at the superb Spa Royal Hall in Bridlington on Saturday and Sunday 22nd and 23rd June 1991. The East Yorkshire Borough Council have kindly agreed to support the event as they have done with the English Junior Open the last four years.

The ETTA see this as a step forward, as this age group is certainly essential in helping players bridge the gap between the Junior and Senior ranks.

So many players reach high standards in the Junior age group, but find the step into the Senior ranks that much more difficult and become disheartened with the rise in standard. They either fail to reach their true potential or fall out of the sport completely.

Seven events will take place over the weekend and with a number of England's leading senior players eligible to enter, will ensure a top class field and some very exciting Table Tennis.

Super Hungarians

Having gone down 4-3 to **Hungary** in Budapest on Feb 10, Austria reversed the scoreline in St. Valentin on March 16 but with the sets equated at 7-7 the Hungarians gained promotion to the Super Division of the European League by virtue of a better games analysis 18-16!

At one stage Austria had a 4-2 winning lead but in the last all-important final set Qian Qianli, despite taking the first game, was then beaten 16 and 17 by Karoly Nemeth. Scores:-

Ding Yi bt K. Nemeth 14, 13;
Qian Qianli bt Z. Harczi 17, -20, 13;
E. Maier lost to G. Wirth -9, -11;
Ding Yi/Qian Qianli bt Nemeth/S. Varga -21, 14, 13;
Ding Yi/P. Fichtinger lost to Harczi/Wirth -12, -11;
Ding Yi bt Harczi 17, -16, 18;
Qian Qianli lost to Nemeth 11, -16, -17.

Demoted from the Super Division will be Czechoslovakia who, having lost 5-2 at home to Poland in Topolcany on Feb 5, subsequently lost a second time when beaten 4-3 in Poland but no individual scores to hand. As a result of losing to Spain 4-3 in Madrid on Feb 9 Spain consigned Finland to Division 2 with a 5-2 success in Helsinki on March 16. Scores in Helsinki were:-

P. Valasti bt J. Pales -15, 17, 12;
L. Eriksson lost to R. Casares -15, 19, -17;
J. Kaimio bt A. Godes 19, -18, 14;
Eriksson/Valesti lost to Casares/Pales -20, -13;
A. Kontala/A. Komulainen lost to Pales/Godes -11, -9;
Valasti lost to Casares -16, 20, -17;
Eriksson lost to Pales -18, -13.

Although no result is to hand in respect of the promotion 2nd leg issue in Division 2 **Denmark**, having beaten Norway 5-2 in Norway, are the likely candidates for promotion. But at the other end of the scale Ireland became due for the drop when beaten 4-3 twice by Wales in Abersychan on Mar 15 and on the following night in Cardiff. **Israel** are due to take over. Scores in Wales were:-

In Abersychan

N. Tyler bt H. Meneely 14, 17;
S. Ward lost to C. Slevin -22, -13;
N. Williams bt J. Reid 19, 18;
Tyler/Ward lost to Slevin/Meneely 18, -17, -8;
Tyler/L. Collier bt Slevin/Reid 16, -19, 16;
Tyler lost to Slevin -12, -18;
Ward bt Meneely 19, 15.

In Cardiff

C. Slevin bt Ward 17, -11, 14;
Meneely lost to Tyler -11, 19, -13;



Reid bt Williams 17, -16, 20;
Slevin/Meneely lost to Tyler/Ward -16, -19;
Slevin/Reid lost to Tyler/Collier -19, -12;
Slevin bt Tyler 10, 16;
Meneely lost to Ward -17, 14, -15.

Following the success of the experimental women's league in Europe last season there is little doubt that the league will assume formality hence forward but whether or not the established European League with a mixed team will continue in its present form will be open to debate, division by division, at the Informal Biennial General Meeting in Chiba. It could well be the Super and First Division associations will opt for separate men's and women's divisions.

In the experimental league this season Hungary and Czechoslovakia are involved for the championship decider in Div. 1 and Belgium and Italy in Div. 2. Positions 7 and 8 in Div. 1 are between France and the Netherlands in between Norway and Spain in Div. 2.

Hungary's Karoly Nemeth (left), and Austria's Ding Yi (below)





Nigel Taylor of Wales

Scores:-

V. Wirth lost to Braun 16, -19, -18;
 G. Wirth bt Kahn 12, -19, 15;
 Nagy lost to Batorfi 19, -12, -16;
 G. Wirth bt Braun 13, 10;
 V. Wirth lost to Batorfi -16, -19;
 Nagy bt Kahn 7, 17;
 G. Wirth lost to Batorfi 16, -10, -16;
 Nagy bt Braun -20, 18, 14;
 V. Wirth bt Kahn -14, 13, 18.

ETTU/Nancy Evans Cup

In the men's semi-final stage Lyckeby Bordtennisklubb of Sweden are at home to TTC Julich 1948 e.V of Federal Germany while Falkenberg Bordtennisklubb of Sweden play hosts to Sportvereinigung Steinhagen e.V. of Federal Germany.

Finalists in the women's section are TSG Dülmen of Federal Germany and CSS Slinta I.J.P.I.P.S. Constanta of Romania. The final is scheduled for June 8 at a venue yet to be determined.

STOP PRESS

Denmark duly qualified for promotion to Div.1 of the European League by beating Norway 4-3 in Esbjerg on March 6 thus winning 9-5 overall. Two mens' singles successes for Lars Hauth and Jan Harkamp, against Roar Blikken, a win for Pia Hansen in the women's singles, and the mixed doubles did the trick.



Jean-Philippe Gatoem of France

European Club Cup of Champions

U.T.T. Levallois of France and Borussia Düsseldorf of Federal Germany were this season's finalists and they agreed to make it a 2-legged affair. In the first encounter in France Levallois won 5-1 but in the return in Federal Germany Borussia Düsseldorf won 5-0 and 6-5 on aggregate! Scores:-

In France

Lo Chuen Tsung bt Cabrera 19, -18, 19;
 Mommessin lost to Roskopf -16, -15;
 Gatien bt Fetzner 15, 17;
 Lo Chuen Tsung bt Roskopf 19, -17, 20;
 Gatien bt Cabrera 17, -19, 20;
 Mommessin bt Fetzner -18, 17, 11.

In Federal Germany

Roskopf bt Lo Chuen Tsung -18, 9, 20;
 Fetzner bt Mommessin 19, -17, 20;
 Cabrera bt Gatien 18, 9;
 Fetzner bt Lo Chuen Tsung -21, 13, 15;
 Roskopf bt Gatien 21, -22, 11.

Statisztika Budapest won the women's section for the 19th time when they narrowly accounted for Budapest SE in an all-Hungarian final played on March 26, 5-4 being the winning margin.

EUROPEAN LEAGUE - SEASON 1990/91

SUPER DIVISION

| Group A | | | | | Group B | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|-------|---------|---|----------------|---|-------|---|----|----|---|
| P | W | L | F | A Pts | P | W | L | F | A Pts | | | | |
| Yugoslavia | 3 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 7 | 3 | Sweden | 3 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 9 | 3 |
| Belgium | 3 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 9 | 2 | F.R. Germany | 3 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 7 | 2 |
| France | 3 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 13 | 1 | Czechoslovakia | 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 1 |
| Netherlands | 3 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 13 | 0 | Poland | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 15 | 0 |

Second Stage

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|--------------|---|--------------------|---|------------|---|
| A1/B2 Yugoslavia | 3 | F.R. Germany | 4 | B2/A1 F.R. Germany | 6 | Yugoslavia | 1 |
| B1/A2 Sweden | 5 | Belgium | 2 | A2/B1 Belgium | 2 | Sweden | 5 |
| A3/B4 France | 5 | Poland | 2 | B4/A3 Poland | 3 | France | 4 |
| B3/A4 Czecho | 2 | Netherlands | 5 | A4/B3 Netherlands | 5 | Czecho | 2 |

Final Stage

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|-------------|---|
| Sweden | 3 | F.R. Germany | 4 | F.R. Germany | 5 | Sweden | 5 |
| Netherlands | 5 | France | 2 | France | 3 | Netherlands | 4 |
| Belgium | 3 | Yugoslavia | 4 | Yugoslavia | = | Belgium | = |
| Czecho | 2 | Poland | 5 | Poland | 4 | Czecho | 3 |

Champions:- F.R. Germany

Relegated:- Czechoslovakia

DIVISION 1

| Group A | | | | | Group B | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|-------|---------|---|----------|---|-------|---|----|----|---|
| P | W | L | F | A Pts | P | W | L | F | A Pts | | | | |
| Austria | 3 | 3 | 0 | 13 | 8 | 3 | Hungary | 3 | 3 | 0 | 19 | 2 | 3 |
| England | 3 | 2 | 1 | 16 | 5 | 2 | Bulgaria | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 12 | 2 |
| Italy | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 15 | 1 | Turkey | 3 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 12 | 1 |
| Spain | 3 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 14 | 0 | Finland | 3 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 16 | 0 |

Second Stage

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|----------|---|----------|---|---------|---|
| Austria | 6 | Bulgaria | 1 | Bulgaria | 1 | Austria | 6 |
| Hungary | 6 | England | 1 | England | 2 | Hungary | 5 |
| Italy | 3 | Finland | 4 | Finland | 1 | Italy | 6 |
| Turkey | 4 | Spain | 3 | Spain | 4 | Turkey | 3 |

Final Stage

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|----------|---|----------|---|---------|---|
| Hungary | 4 | Austria | 3 | Austria | 4 | Hungary | 3 |
| Turkey | 5 | Italy | 2 | Bulgaria | = | England | = |
| England | = | Bulgaria | = | Italy | 3 | Turkey | 4 |
| Spain | 4 | Finland | 3 | Finland | 2 | Spain | 5 |

Champions & Promoted :- Hungary

Relegated:- Finland

DIVISION 2

| Group A | | | | | Group B | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|-------|---------|---|-------------|---|-------|---|----|----|---|
| P | W | L | F | A Pts | P | W | L | F | A Pts | | | | |
| Denmark | 3 | 3 | 0 | 19 | 2 | 3 | Luxembourg | 3 | 3 | 0 | 16 | 5 | 3 |
| Norway | 3 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 6 | 2 | Portugal | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 12 | 2 |
| Scotland | 3 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 14 | 1 | Switzerland | 3 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 10 | 1 |
| Wales | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 20 | 0 | Ireland | 3 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 15 | 0 |

Second Stage

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|----------|---|----------|---|------------|---|
| Denmark | 6 | Portugal | 1 | Portugal | 0 | Denmark | 7 |
| Luxembourg | 1 | Norway | 6 | Norway | 6 | Luxembourg | 1 |
| Scotland | 3 | Ireland | 4 | Ireland | 3 | Scotland | 4 |

(Scotland 580-577 points)

Final Stage

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---------|---|---------|---|-------------|---|
| Switzerland | 5 | Wales | 2 | Wales | 5 | Switzerland | 2 |
| Norway | 2 | Denmark | 5 | Denmark | 4 | Norway | 3 |
| Wales | 4 | Ireland | 3 | Ireland | 3 | Wales | 4 |

Champions & promoted :- Denmark

Relegated :- Ireland

Division 3 Final Placings

1. ISRAEL - promoted
2. Greece
3. Malta
4. Iceland
5. Isle of Man
6. Liechtenstein
7. Guernsey
8. Jersey

Kathryn the Great triumphs!

DIMINUTIVE, unseeded Kathryn Woodward stole the show at the BP Essex Junior Select tournament, by winning the Under 12 Girls singles title.

Woodward's unexpected win overshadowed the singles victories by Edward Hatley and Maria Thornley in the Junior section and Adrian Vincent and Michelle Martin in the Cadets.

It is not often that the winner of an Under 12 event at a junior tournament steals the thunder of the big names, but so it was at Harlow. Little Kathryn Woodward, from Stockport, Cheshire, went into her category unseeded and unseeded, but came out as the winner not only without losing a game, but in turn ousting the top three seeds! First to go was Nicola Silburn from Yorkshire, next Alison Smith from Kent, and finally Nicola Smith (also from Yorkshire) the No.1 seed. What a performance!

Top Seed

In the Cadet Girls Kathryn met her match at the hands of Cathy Sibbald, of Essex, who then succumbed to County colleague Jenny Coleman. Top seed Lynsey Heyward (Devon) had a fight on her hands in the quarter-final before seeing off Vicky Fox (Staffs) but reached the Final at the expense of Jenny. Meanwhile Sally Russell (Northants) put out Gemma Schwartz (Berks) but herself fell to Michelle Martin (Staffs). The Final saw Michelle a fairly comfortable winner over Lynsey.

Adrian Vincent upheld his No.1 status in the Cadet Boys singles. His progress to the Final was only hindered by games lost to Andrew Wilkinson (Northumberland) and Steven Meddings (Warwicks). Darren Blake had to battle very hard to beat David Heath (Devon) -18, 15, 7 and Philip Neal (Yorks) -8, 17, 19, both of whom must have been very disappointed to lose. However Adrian was the master of the Surrey boy in the Final.

Winners Rostrum

Darren Blake did manage to get on the winner's rostrum when he and Adrian Vincent won the Cadet Boys Doubles event without losing a game throughout. The home County, Essex, gained its only victory of the day when Jennie Coleman, partnered by Lynsey Heyward, won the Cadet Girls Doubles. The Final was undoubtedly the most exciting one, with Gemma Schwartz and Michelle Martin putting up such a stern fight that the winners only got home -17, 15, 22.



Left to right: Essex Chairman Laurie Darnell, Kathryn Woodward from Cheshire the winner of the Under 12 title, Nicola Smith the runner-up from Yorkshire and BP's Joyce Ballam-Davies



Michelle Martin (left) of Staffordshire the Girls winner, and Boys winner Adrian Vincent from Devon



Just happy to be there, Louise Matta (left) of Peniel, Tracy Daniels (centre) also of Peniel and Lindsey Thornton from Bury in Lancashire

(Photos by John F. A. Wood)

The last event on Cadet Day was the Under 12 boys. The two Stevens — Meddings and Jablon — reached the Final to justify their top seeding, neither losing a game en route, but the Final was disappointing, as the scores show.

Obviously the big event of Junior day was the Boys Singles. Only the apparently retired Neil Bevan of the top 16 ranked players was missing from the draw. Round 1 saw the departure of Ian Collier (Durham) who is not seen at many tournaments, and was a very late entry. His conqueror was David Baker (Middlesex) by -20, 16, 18 who later on beat an even higher seed, namely Martin Adams (Berks), before going out to Garry Knights (Staffs).

Round 2 cost us Gavin Yates (Oxon) beaten by the very good Welsh boy Rhys Morgan, and Cris Sladden (Essex) beaten -18, 8, 20 by his County colleague and big prospect Vincent Avery.

Big Upset

The first really big upset came at the quarter-final stage when No.1 seed Alex Perry went out surprisingly easily, by scores of 12, 13 to the smiling Yorkshireman with the Welsh name, Gareth Jones. Another fine performance at this stage was by Barry Forster (Northumberland) seeded No. 12, in defeating Darren Howarth (Lancs) seeded No.4. Edward Hatley (Surrey) took full advantage of the absence of Perry by fighting off the big challenges of Richard Hyacinth (Middlesex) and Garry Knights to reach the Final. To be fair Garry looked all over the winner of the semi final but Eddie came from behind to gain the day. Gareth appeared to be about to cause a major upset when building up a long lead in the first game of the final, but once more Eddie showed his experience to take that first game, after which he came home an easy winner. Maria Thornley (Lancs) majestically won the Girls Singles, not losing a game to anybody. Her opponent in the Final was predictably Linda Radford (Essex) who had survived a tense encounter with another Essex player, Alison Gower, earlier a good winner over Yorkshire's Katy Goodall.

Linda Radford got Essex on the scoreboard when combining with Sara Williams (Middlesex) in what was a scratch partnership (!) to win the Girls Doubles while Martin Adams partnered by Matthew Greenwood (Bucks) came from the No.4. seeded position to take the Boys Doubles.

BP ESSEX JUNIOR SELECT - 2

With over 350 entries the Tournament was as popular as usual, and I hope it was enjoyed by all those who took part. I believe that every thing ran smoothly, with reasonably early finishes on both days. I would like to commend the splendid efforts of our organizer Barry Granger who made everything go off so well, and to thank our team of umpires who laboured so hard over the week-end. To our sponsors, BP International of Harlow, go our sincere appreciation of their help and generosity towards our staging of this Tournament.

JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES
Quarter-Final G. Knights (Staffs) bt D Baker (Middx) 12, 11
 E. Hatley (Surrey) bt R. Hyacinth (Middx) -17, 13, 13
 G. Jones (Yorks) bt A. Perry (Devon) 12, 13
 B. Forster (Northumberland) bt D. Howarth (Lancs) -12, 15, 11
Semi-Final Hatley bt Knights 18, -18, 19
 Jones bt Forster 15, 12
Final Hatley bt Jones 22, 7
JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES
Semi-Final M. Thornley (Lancs) bt S Williams (Middlesex) 18, 17
 L. Radford (Essex) bt A. Gower (Essex) -24, 10, 15
Final Thornley bt Radford 19, 14

JUNIOR BOYS DOUBLES
Semi-finals G. Knights (Staffs)/ B. Forster (Northhd) bt A. Perry (Devon)/R. Hyacinth (Mx) 13, -15, 14
 M. Adams (Berks)/ M. Greenwood (Bucks) bt D. Blake (Surrey)/C. Sladden (Essex) -16, 13, 13
Final Adams/Greenwood bt Knights/Forster 18, -19, 18
JUNIOR GIRLS DOUBLES
Semi-finals L. Radford (Essex)/ S. Williams (Middx) bt D. Barnett (Ox)/S. Seaholme (He) -11, 7, 12
 A. Gower (Essex)/M. Thornley (Lancs) bt K. Goodall/C. Bentley (Yorks) 18, 17
Final Radford/Williams bt Gower/Thornley 15, 14
CADET BOYS SINGLES
Semi-finals A. Vincent (Devon) bt V. Avery (Essex) 18, 9
 D. Blake (Surrey) bt P. Neal (Yorks) -8, 17, 19
Final Vincent bt Blake 10, 16
CADET GIRLS SINGLES
Semi-finals L. Heyward (Devon) bt J. Coleman (Essex) 19, 9
 M. Martin (Staffs) bt S. Russell (Northants) -23, 16, 11
Final Martin bt Heyward 13, 17
CADET BOYS DOUBLES
Semi-finals Vincent/Blake bt D. Heath (Devon)/P. Hudson (Essex) 17, 15
 Neal/S. Meddings (Warwicks) bt B. Johnson (Berks)/P. Butcher (Sx) 15, 10
Final Vincent/Blake bt Neal/Meddings 12, 9
CADET GIRLS DOUBLES
Semi-finals J. Coleman/ L. Heyward bt C. Sibbald/

S.Ruocco (Essex) 12, -15, 18
 G. Schwartz/M. Martin bt S. Stedman (Sx)/V. Fox (Staffs) 9, 22
Final Coleman/Heyward bt Schwartz/Martin -17, 15, 22
UNDER 12 BOYS SINGLES
Semi-finals Meddings bt B. Linnecar (Essex) 13, 11
 S. Jablon (Mx) bt G. Ashison (Surrey) 20, 14
Final Meddings bt Jablon 11, 17
UNDER 12 GIRLS SINGLES
Semi-finals N. Smith (Yorks) bt D. Pestka (Notts) 12, -19, 15
 K. Woodward (Cheshire) bt A. Smith (Kent) 9, 19
Final Woodward bt Smith 18, 23



Part of the Essex contingent at Harlow (left to right) Umpire Peter Embling of the Peniel Table Tennis Club, Umpire John Jennings of the Braintree and District League, and life member of Essex T.T.A. Frances Wayland, from Dagenham, the lady responsible for officials/VIP's, catering (Pic by John Wood)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The National Under 12 Team Championships (7th July) and the National Centre of Excellence (5/6/7th July), both scheduled to be held at Lilleshall National Sports Centre, have been cancelled.

Cancellation of the latter means there will not now be a clash with the schools International Championships — best of luck ESTTA.

The Lilleshall facility will now be used as a coaching/assessment weekend for the under 12s.

This will form the basis for selection of the England Under 12 Squads for 1991/92. Details to be announced.

STUART SNEYD
 Vice Chairman
 Development/Coaching

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The new magnificent seven

FOLLOWING in the footsteps of previous vice chairmen, who have performed their duties magnificently in the service of English table tennis, are seven eager men, who will I'm sure prove equally competent as their predecessors. And with some fresh ideas they will hopefully go on to achieve even greater success.

The ETTA National Council endorsed the choice of the new committee by Chairman elect Alan Ransome, at their April meeting.

For your information and interest Table Tennis News publishes the following short histories, on each of the new vice chairmen.

Administration/Competitions

L. A. CHATWIN



Tony Chatwin aged 57 years old, who lives in Spondon, Derbyshire, is married to Pat and has two daughters Claire and Helen. He is

by profession a maintenance engineer.

Unfortunately Tony doesn't play table tennis these days, but was once a good club player with Rolls Royce in Derby. He represented Derbyshire at Senior and Veteran level too.

It would appear that Tony's whole life is table tennis, for he was the Secretary of Rolls Royce Table Tennis Club for an incredible 28 years.

At one time he was also County Secretary in Derbyshire, where he is at present President.

Tony is also currently serving as a Vice President of ETTA.

His other involvements in table tennis are ex-chairman of Town and County, qualified as a coach with Jack Carrington, ex National Councillor, sat on development and tournament committees, member of NURC since 1970, member of Disciplinary Committee and Appeal Board member.

Tony's other activities, which he somehow finds time for, are Chairman of Rolls Royce Tennis Club, for whom he still plays in the first team, and Chairman and Trustee of Rolls Royce Recreational Society Sports Committee.

Superstar, multi-talented Chatwin also represented Derby at Basketball, but that was many years ago.

Coaching

S. J. SNEYD



Stuart Sneyd, who is Deputy Chairman elect, continues his successful role in the Coaching Department, where his expertise and motivation have proved very helpful to aspiring coaches.

Stuart is 46 years old and lives

in Oldham, Lancashire with his wife Hilary and two sons Jarrod and Darryl. He has recently become self employed as a Health and Safety Consultant.

His table tennis qualifications are E.T.T.A. Senior Coach, E.T.T.A. National Referee, I.T.T.F. International Umpire, and he is a Member of the British Institute of Sports Coaches (M.B.I.S.C.)

Stuart's other involvement in table tennis is Deputy Chairman, Coaching Officer and Development Officer of the Oldham League, he is also an executive member of Lancashire County, treasurer of the British Olympic Table Tennis Committee, member of User Committee of Lilleshall National Sports Centre, Coach in Charge at the Northwest Centre of Excellence, and coach in charge of the England under 12 squad (North).

Somehow Stuart finds time for other interests outside of table tennis, mainly aircraft and marine communications.

Development

M. W. J. LEWIS



Michael Lewis, who is aged 60, and married with three sons, lives in Clifton Down, Bristol. He is by profession a zoologist.

Michael's playing career included the winning of the Mordeci Team Cup.

He is a senior Coach/ Assessor and County Umpire.

Off court Michael is a very busy man indeed, from 1988 onwards he has been organiser of the Women's British League. Whilst in the past he was S.W. Region Coaching Chairman from 1979 to 1987, S.W. Region Development Chairman from 1981 to 1990, S.W. Sports Council representative 1980 to 1991. National Councillor for Avon 1980 to 1991, and at various times he has been Avon County's Secretary, Umpire Secretary and Coaching Officer.

Michael also leads a full life outside of table tennis, being a member of S.W. Sports Aid Foundation Grant Aid Committee. He is also interested in Square Rigged Sailing Ships and Bird Watching and of course his hands are full with his seven grandchildren!

Marketing

C. R. OAKMAN



Clive Oakman, who is 43 years old, is married to Chris has two daughters, Annette aged 18 and Julie 17, and lives in Maldon, Essex.

Many of you may have met Clive on his equipment stall around the tournaments, for those who haven't his profession is table tennis equipment hire and retail.

Clive is still a very active league player in Essex, playing for his club Maldon, in Division One of the Chelmsford and Burnham Leagues.

He is a club coach and a County Umpire.

Clive's other involvements are club Chairman/Secretary, British League Team Chairman, League Secretary/Tournament Secretary, County Tournament Secretary, Treasurer/Development Officer, National Councillor, and RCC Chairman.

He has been involved in many National Championships since 1984, from Brighton to Manchester.

He was English Senior National Organiser at Stourbridge, and has worked closely with the BBC (on site) and with Sponsors (Leeds/APA) for the past six years.

Clive, with his busy schedule, has no time for anything other than table tennis, although he did manage to escape from everything last summer to walk the coast to coast path (190 miles) from St. Bees, Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay, Yorkshire.

Public Relations

M. HOLT



Mike Holt, who is 46 years old, is married with two daughters, and lives in Barwell, Leicester.

Mike works as a National Sales Manager in the packaging industry.

He has had quite a sparkling playing career winning the Leicestershire Rosie Johnson Bowl 1986/87, Hinckley Albion Trophy 1986/87 and various local league divisional winners and runners-up trophies from 1971/72 to 1987/88.

Mike who is a local club coach and a county umpire, is a member of the Earl Shilton Institute Table Tennis Club, and a founder member of the Hinckley League.

He is a life member of a Leicestershire Table Tennis Association, and has been National Councillor for the same county for the past 6 years.

Mike has been a member of the English Championships Committee for the past 10 years, serving as Organiser for the English Junior Closed, English Junior Open, English Senior Closed, and as Venue and or Admin Director for 3 English Opens.

Mike was the winner of the 'Ivor Montagu Award' 1985/86, for services to English Championships.

He was also chairman of the British League Committee for 3 years, 1987/88 to 1989/90.

When Mike can manage to find a spare moment in his busy business and table tennis life, he likes to spend some time at the speedway track, working as a freelance radio reporter and radio announcer.

He is also interested in his local drama group, is a member of a local Methodist Church, and is a local community college governor.

Selection

P. DAY



Paul Day, who lives at Soham, Cambridgeshire, is a 32 year old single man.

He spends his working life as a Director of Turners (Soham) Limited, a Haulage

Contractor. Plus he also runs a Sports Shop.

Paul is also a very talented table tennis player, having won the English Junior Closed in 1974 and 1976, he was also English Senior Champion in 1978.

He has in total won 10 English Junior titles, plus 11 English Senior titles including the doubles.

Paul was ranked No.28 in the world, having played 3 World and 4 European Championships.

Paul is a National Coach and was England Junior Boys Coach for European Championships from 1985 to 1989. He was also England Ladies Coach for Europeans 1986.

He has been involved in table tennis since he began playing at the age of 10, reaching the highest level of play, both as a competitor and coach.

Sadly in 1984, Paul, had to retire from competitive play due to a neck injury.

Paul played for one season for Eintracht Frankfurt in the Bundesliga.

He is an allround sportsman playing squash in the winter and croquet in the summer.

Without Portfolio

G. R. YATES



George Yates, who is 69 years old, is married to Evelyn and has two children, a married son and daughter, and lives at Bolton, Lancashire.

He retired from British Rail after 44 1/2 years service, and now works as a freelance journalist, subscribing mainly to the Bolton Evening News, as well as Table Tennis News.

George, who is a County Umpire, plays table tennis for Heaton Cricket Club.

He is Hon. General Secretary of the European Table Tennis Union, I.T.T.F. Council Member for Europe, President of VETTS, President and Press Officer of Lancashire Table Tennis Association, President of Lancashire and Cheshire Table Tennis League, Member of Commonwealth Table Tennis Association Management Committee, Hon. Match Secretary of the Bolton League for 41 years, and former Editor of Table Tennis News for 19 years.

George likes to relax listening to classical music, visiting country pubs, watching cricket and football and taking holidays in bonny Scotland.

Arthur receives award

AT the Wellingborough & District Table Tennis League's Closed Championships the opportunity was taken to honour the League's Chairman, Arthur Palmer.

The English Table Tennis Association Merit Award for devoted service to table tennis was presented to him by Ken Marchant, Vice-President of the ETTA and Vice-Chairman of the Wellingborough League. Ken paid tribute to the excellent work he had done in the following posts in the League over the past 29 years as follows:

- Hon. Treasurer for 12 years (1962-1974)
- Acting Chairman for 2 years (1974-1976)
- Chairman for 15 years from 1976 to date
- Tournament Organiser on behalf of the League for 31 Tournaments

He also commented on Arthur's playing career which spanned 28 years before retiring from competition, during this time he played for Irthlingborough Town Band Club (which he formed), Wearra Shoes (which he also formed), Old Grammarians, Whitworths and finally Higham Band Club.

On the County scene Arthur was County Umpires Secretary for 7 years (1978-1985) being himself a qualified County Umpire.

He is also a qualified Tournament Referee, the only one in the County. Truly a record to be proud of for a well respected person in the table tennis fraternity.

Arthur duly replied to Ken's tribute, saying how stunned he was at the unexpected surprise and that he would treasure the Merit Award Honour bestowed on him always.



Arthur Palmer (left) is presented with an ETTA Merit Award by Ken Marchant

Paul Sherwood is Grove's most successful player

Thermovitrine

Graded Singles:

Fourteen year old Paul Sherwin proved to be NFD Grove's most successful player in the April Thermovitrine Graded Singles Tournament held at Grove School on Sunday 14th April.

The Grove schoolboy, in his first season of competitive play, clinched the consolation singles title in the under fourteen age group with a final success over Burton-on-Trent's Helen Rhodes; whilst in the afternoon session of play, the NFD Grove player stamped his authority on proceedings by clinching the Grade E title at the expense of Burton-on-Trent's Charlotte Merrick.

There was to be success for Wolverhampton's Sanjeev Clair in the senior singles, beating Leamington's Chris Haynes in a high class final, whilst there was to be success for the Warwickshire Spa town in the consolation event as

Richard Arnold beat colleague Kevin Ariss for success.

Meanwhile, the town of Chester clinched gold in the under 14 singles as Mark Ryder beat Stoke-on-Trent's Richard Mounsey in a hard fought final, with NFD Grove's Philip Parton and Leamington's Liz Haynes the losing semi-finalists. It was to be the girls of Stockport who dominated the under 10 event, with Tracey Hunt beating Potteries youngster Matthew Mounsey to win the main event, whilst Cassandra Hibbert won the consolation title at the expense of Chester's Luke McCloed.

Final Hurdle

Youth was to beat experience in the Grade A event as Leamington's Mark Jackson beat NFD Grove's veteran Maurice Alcock at the final hurdle, with Chester's Scott Jones the consolation winner, in a closely fought final over Manchester's Paul Doolan. However, there was to be success for the

Doolan family as Stuart Doolan clinched the Grade B title with a final success over Manchester's Tony Rudovsky, whilst Newcastle's John Steele beat the hard working Liz Haynes of Leamington to clinch the consolation event.

However, Leamington was to come good in the Grade C event as the rapidly improving Kevin Ariss beat town colleague Stuart Kurlle for final victory, with Newcastle's Claire Shipley beating NFD Grove's Philip Parton to win the consolation final.

Potteries

The hard fought Grade D event went the way of Chester's James O'Connell at the expense of NFD Grove's Matthew Siviter, with Potteries junior Matthew Mounsey winning the consolation event over Burton-on-Trent's Helen Rhodes. Meanwhile, in Grade E NFD Grove's impressive Lorna Ferguson won the consolation event beating clubmate Krissy Sherwin in the final.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Committee of St. Neots Table Tennis Club has for sometime been concerned about the possibility of a fire on the premises, the main danger of which would probably come from a smouldering cigarette.

Although we are required by the Insurance Company to inspect the premises before they are vacated there is always the danger that a smouldering cigarette could be missed. The effect of a serious fire would of course be disastrous for local table tennis and have some effect nationally.

The committee has therefore decided that with effect from **1st May 1991, Smoking will be banned** in the Playing Area, Office, Canteen, Kitchen and Toilets. For the convenience of players and visitors however, smoking will be allowed in the passageway from the Main Entrance Door.

We hope you will appreciate the reason for this ban and give us your co-operation by confining your smoking to the passageway only.

Southern Region

by Brian Lamerton

Cippenham 'A' successfully saw off the challenge of Pyestock (6 sets to 3) and are now on course to retain their regional league Premier division title. Alec Watson (3), Frank Earis (2) and Steve Dorrell (1) were the Cippenham winners with Andrew Nash bagging a brace for Pyestock.

In division 1 OLOP look as impregnable as the 9 sets to love drubbing which Mike Childs, Ian Schwartz and Martin O'Donovan gave to Cippenham 'B' suggests.

The Ladies league is a repeat of last season where all depends on the last match between champions Kingfisher & Cippenham.

Good individual performance this month came from Roger Hookey (Isle of Wight), Howard Davies & Kevin Smith (Merton) and Taryn N-Vallis (Kingfisher Ladies) twice, when three individual wins all contributed to overall team wins.

| Premier Division | P | W | Pts |
|------------------|---|---|------------|
| Cippenham 'A' | 9 | 7 | 18 |
| Pyestock | 8 | 5 | 14 |
| Kingfisher 'A' | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| KCD (Stiga) | 9 | 2 | 11 |
| Amity Gen 'A' | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Burnham | 8 | 2 | 7 |
| First Division | | | |
| OLOP | 8 | 7 | 20 |
| Merton | 9 | 6 | 17 |
| Kingfisher 'B' | 9 | 4 | 14 |
| Cippenham 'B' | 9 | 5 | 12 |
| Amity Gen 'B' | 7 | 1 | 6 |
| Isle of Wight | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| Ladies Division | | | |
| Kingfisher | 9 | 7 | 21 (37-8) |
| Cippenham | 9 | 8 | 21 (35-10) |
| OLOP | 9 | 5 | 14 |
| Aldershot 'B' | 9 | 3 | 10 (16-29) |
| Aldershot 'A' | 9 | 2 | 10 (16-29) |
| Isle of Wight | 9 | 2 | 6 |

South West Region

by Alf Peppard



Alf Peppard giving one of his weekly broadcasts

To current date — Hearty Congratulations to Dorsets County Press Officer, Martin Hughes, who despite only having two League's to report on, ie: Poole & Wimbourne has this season done a marvellous job and up until the April issue of this Magazine, Martin, has not missed one single month of County Reports.

Since moving further South West, Andy Seward has done remarkably well with his Somerset County reports, at least we now are aware that table tennis is alive and well in that part of the Region.

I have this season completed 31 live weekly broadcasts for BBC Radio Gloucestershire, South & West, plus two recorded events when I had to be somewhere else.

My very grateful thanks to Alex Perry, Englands No.1 Junior from Crediton Devon, and the ETTA National Develop-

ment Officer Diccon Gray for allowing me to interview them both in early April for the BBC local Sports prog.

South West Cadet League Final Positions Season 1990/91

| | P | W | L | F | APts |
|--------------|---|---|---|----|-------|
| Bristol "A" | 6 | 6 | 0 | 52 | 2 12 |
| N Cornwall | 6 | 5 | 1 | 35 | 19 10 |
| Yeovil | 5 | 3 | 2 | 27 | 18 6 |
| Bristol "B" | 6 | 3 | 3 | 30 | 24 6 |
| Ferndale "A" | 6 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 34 4 |
| Ferndale "B" | 6 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 48 2 |
| Gloucester | 6 | 0 | 6 | 10 | 44 0 |

Leading Averages

| | P | W | L | Av. |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|-------|
| G.Long Bristol A | 18 | 18 | | 0100% |
| J.Thom Bristol A | 18 | 18 | | 0100% |
| M.Smith Bristol A | 15 | 15 | | 0100% |
| K.Smith | | | | |
| N Cornw. | 18 | 15 | | 3 83% |
| A.Russell Yeovil | 18 | 14 | | 4 78% |
| P. Thomas | | | | |
| N Corn. | 18 | 15 | | 5 72% |
| C. Webster Yeovil | 18 | 12 | | 6 67% |
| R.McDonald Brist. B18 | 12 | | | 6 67% |

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Lloyd helps the ladies

COTSWOLD LADIES LEAGUE

Sunday 24th March saw the Cotswold tournament staged at Sydenham Sports Centre in Leamington Spa which enjoyed a good entry, helped mainly by our Referee, Brian Lloyd, making sure entries were received by most female members of the eligible leagues even those who had not played in the League itself.

Open Singles

The premier event, the Open Singles, had an entry of 30 with the last 4 consisting of Sue Culbertson (Birmingham), Janet Hunt (Worcester), Kate Ryan (Leamington Spa) and Sandra Peakman

(Birmingham). Janet and Sandra won through to a tightly fought final with Sandra being the victor at -24, 20, 16.

The Cadet Singles was run in groups and Swindon's England Ranked Cadet, Tracy Youlden, showed form by beating J.Allen in a comfortable two straight sets final.

Straight Sets

Other events included Div 1 Singles, Div 2 Singles, Doubles and Consolation Singles. The Division 1 Singles saw Helen Pogmore (Worcs) beat Joan Humphrey-Middlemore (B'ham) in the final, seemingly having no difficulty taking the match in two straight sets. Joan had beaten Julie Taylor (Cheltenham) and Helen had beaten Judy Morley (Gloucester) in the semis, again both

matches being taken in two straight sets. Division 2 team mates Kate Ryan and Tracey Green from Leamington Spa battled in the final, group of 3 along with Gladys Loft of Oxford, with Kate taking the No. 1 spot and Tracey No.2. In the Open Doubles Sue Culbertson partnered Sandra Peakman (both of Birmingham) and beat Witney partnership Janet Brown and Ann Wotherspoon in the semis to meet Lynda Reid and Helen Pogmore (Worcester) in the final which again was a two-straight sets victory for the Birmingham duo. Another two straight sets final was between the two Witney ladies, Joy Kirby and Ann Wotherspoon with Joy taking the closely fought two straight sets Consolation final at 20 19 after being taken to 3 sets in the semis by J Groves (Birmingham).

Next Year

The afternoon was a great success with plenty of T.T. for everyone with most events run in groups, organised by the one and only "Brian Lloyd" from Birmingham. Thanks Brian for all your assistance — a thorn between so many roses!! See you next year.

Trophies

Presentations were made at the end of the events, along with the 1990/91 Divisional Trophies. Worcester were the victors in Division 1 with the second place still to be fought between last year's division 2 promotion winners Cheltenham, and Gloucester, Gloucester still having one outstanding match against Witney. Cheltenham's Reiko Morita took the individual award with 100% record. The Division 2 award was presented to Leamington Spa with Oxford taking the runners-up trophy, however with these two teams still to play a final match, a 'gentleman's' agreement was made that should Oxford win the final match the trophies would be exchanged!!! With Oxford on the pen I'd like to mention the league match between Oxford and Evesham. Paddy Allan had come out of retirement and arrived in form and attacked anything in sight (even the net!!) winning points on both sides with superb positive play and gained a hat trick to help Oxford to an 8-2 win. Margaret Abbott took games from Jenny Williams and Joan Parfitt although not without a fight (both were won in the 3rd set). Sally Chambers took 2 games (not surprisingly with two people to hit the ball!!!). Best wishes Sally for the forthcoming event. Back to the League results — Tracey Green and Kate Ryan were the joint No.1 individual players each gaining 100% records and it was agreed that each would receive an Individual trophy. WELL DONE!

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Best read!

Mailbox was the best read in March TTN. I wonder what an interested but unbiased observer would make of it all?

Does Colin Wilson's 'ten or less spectators at any one time' at County Premier weekend tell us anything?

Geoff Twiss writes of the future need for 'bold decisions, imagination and flair'. 'The market is king', he says. How right he is. But is Alan Ransome, with his proven marketing skills, our white knight to lead us to the promised land? I think not.

The Americans have a saying 'But where is the beef?' No amount of marketing flair and glossy packaging can sell a product that people find insufficiently appealing. They may try it, but they won't stay with it.

The extreme diversity in the playing characteristics of modern rubbers, and the techniques and tactics homed to capitalise on them, including the hidden serve, the three ball game and bat twiddling all reduce the enjoyment of many participants, particularly in the middle and lower levels of the playing pyramid.

Non-participants cannot appreciate the effects of such techniques; they lose interest and choose a different, more appealing pastime.

Yes, Geoff, bold decisions are needed. The game needs considerable cosmetic surgery.

Alan Ransome, or 'Mr. Butterfly U.K.' as many of us know him has, indeed, succeeded commercially.

He clearly has many of the qualities to be found in the successful business man. But are these necessarily the qualities required in the leader of a sporting organisation that operates with a work force 95% + of whom are not employees but volunteers?

And don't manufacturers and major distributors already have too much power and influence in our sport?

John Prean, in his short letter, bares the truth behind the words in Alan's election leaflet.

The exorbitant cost of rubbers, caused largely by high profit margins after the cost of manufacture is not an insignificant factor in discouraging some people from staying in table tennis.

Could not Alan best serve the game in this country by concentrating his undoubted marketing skills on finding ways and means of making available equipment, particularly rubbers, at lower prices? (Incidentally, how do prices here compare with prices abroad? A piece of interesting research for future publication in TTN?)

I am quite sure that the vast majority of league players would prefer him to support them in

this way rather than as Chairman of the ETTA. This position could then be filled by a person with a proven track record of effective service to sport, service volunteered and unsustained by any incentive of personal financial gain.

My very best wishes to whoever is elected. I make just one plea. Mount and lead a campaign to make the game more appealing to both players and spectators. This must mean surgery. Packaging and presentation alone cannot sell and sustain a product which is inherently flawed.

In the increasingly competitive market for the public's leisure time the basic product itself — the 'beef in the sandwich' — must not only be sufficiently appealing to attract but must also be sufficiently appetising to hold that attraction permanently. As Geoff said 'The market is king'.

Failure to respond adequately to this fact can only lead to further decline until we level out on an even lower plateau of support than we have now. Bold decisions for change could revitalise the sport and people's perception of it. We have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

John Parker
3 Ferry Green
Willington, Derbys

Amazed

Regarding the letter from Pam Richmond (April Issue) which deals with comments made by Keith Wilson and John Crawford on the election issue and the poor state of affairs within Cleveland County, I find that I am absolutely amazed that any representative of a county association has the nerve to defend its failure to provide representative match play when it's supposed 'great motivator' included the growth of this form of competition as one of his main election policies. The two gentlemen concerned did not belittle the work of those in Cleveland who still work at improving standards, they simply made the point that if an election candidate wished for support on certain issues then it must be seen that the organisations to which he belongs are working towards the same aim. That particular organisation have had no interest in any form of county match play for several seasons. It is an easy way out to say that money previously spent on county teams would be used on coaching schemes. Having decided on that path, I would expect to see some indication of a developing junior game. With the exception of three lowly ranked cadets, who could all do far more given the sort of backing they would receive in other counties, there is no success at all nor any sign of anything to come

in the future. Anyone with even the smallest amount of interest in the game will know that good quality match play must follow good coaching. Keith Wilson and John Crawford were 100% correct in their judgement of an area where they have competed and organised for the past 23 years. Since his trade involvement became heavy, Alan Ransome simply has not had the time to motivate in the way that the phenomenal success of the 70's was gained. True, top class events are still held in the region. They are a joy to watch and I am pleased that I can regularly see the very best players only a few miles away. However, these should not be used to disguise the real truth, and that is that Cleveland is barely a shadow of its former glory days. High profile events will also be very beneficial to any particular brand names of a trade interest. There are numerous youngsters playing the game in Cleveland and as Mrs. Richmond says, one or two from surrounding areas have been involved in coaching schemes. The situation in Cleveland and the letter from Mrs. Richmond is rather like listening to a horse racing trainer who tells all and sundry that he has an abundance of talent that has yet to set foot on a racecourse. Unfortunately anyone who has knowledge of that particular pastime will undoubtedly say that only fools will take any notice. As far as being disgusted that our magazine is being used to undermine the efforts of her association, I personally would rather read the comments of a respected player and a respected organiser than those of someone who is so obviously living on past glories. An attitude that does Cleveland County, and the sport itself, no favours whatsoever.

Ken Lyons
Northallerton, N. Yorkshire

Scribblers

I feel that journalists John Woodford and Richard Eaton, have been unfairly criticised by I. Barrington (Mailbox, April), but that I recognised in many ways John Prean has done a good job, and in the interests and harmony of table tennis I don't wish to comment further.

Ken Muhr
Stony Stratford
Milton Keynes



The Editor
Table Tennis News
5 The Brackens
Hemel Hempstead
Herts
HP2 5JA

Disheartened

When I heard that the National Junior Top 12 was not to take place this year I was very disheartened. I see it as the second most important tournament on the circuit, behind the National Championships. It is the only competition where players get the opportunity to play against all of the other top juniors and to find the most appropriate ranking position for each.

By staging more tournaments of this nature, the task of selecting teams for international events would become easier and the rankings would become less of an attendance list.

The Management Committee's reason for cancelling the event was 'Severe overcrowding of the junior calendar.'

I find this hard to believe seeing as there is only five other major events between Christmas and the following season.

Martin Adams
Sunninghill, Ascot
Berkshire

Unwelcome

We journalists agree with Pam Richmond when at the end of her letter in the April issue of TTN she says "Criticism from outsiders who have no knowledge of what they are writing about is unwelcome".

The Editor will by now have realised that the letter headed "Disgust" written by someone called "I. Barrington", could well be libellous and is certainly written in a style that as a former editor, I would dismiss as personal abuse. If the Editor continues to print such dangerous letters without amendment or rejection the ETTA will need to increase their libel insurance.

During the four years John Prean has been in the chair, many words have been written praising his efforts. He has not been "attacked" as so clumsily described by the writer from

London NW8.

It is our job to tell people what is going on, to describe situations and to produce facts and to comment like anyone else on what is happening (or what might happen) in a sport where we are closely involved. Mr. Prean freely admits that his style of management has produced what he once called "casualties", but that is his way of doing things.

During the Prean era we have written hundreds of table tennis stories — The Daily Telegraph by the end of May will have carried over 170 table tennis stories during the season — very few of which were "political". Describing his actions from the chair is not attacking. It is reporting facts.

John Woodford
Eastbourne, Sussex

Before publishing the letter from I. Barrington, I gave it's contents long and careful deliberation, and finally decided that the statement made was the personal opinion of I. Barrington, and therefore not libellous. If I had rejected the letter I would have been showing an unfair bias towards fellow journalists — Editor.

Thanks

Dear Colleagues

Thanks to a significant majority of County and League Associations, July will see me installed as Deputy Chairman for 1991/92.

To say that I am delighted is almost an understatement — it's a great feeling to know that my first year in office will be spent with so much support behind me.

I approached the election campaign with a touch of nervousness, unsure of the reaction at the other end of the telephone line. I was impressed — very impressed — with the response. Take it from me, with the dedication and enthusiasm I found out there, table tennis has unbelievable potential.

I learned a lot, perhaps most importantly, the need for personal contact. That lesson will not be forgotten and has already been passed on to others.

Best wishes for the future and thanks once again for the tremendous support.

Stuart Sneyd
Deputy Chairman, elect

World Class

Whilst I agree with Jim Beckley that Carl Prean's play at the National Championships was 'awesome' (Table Tennis News, April) I think he takes something away from Carl in his description of the semi-final clash with Chen Xinhua.

It was not that Chen was off form but that Carl, definitely in 'overdrive', was so devastatingly good. Chen seemed to me to be playing well — good enough to beat anyone else in England — and the only disappointment was that he could not get closer than 12-21, 17-21, 13-21, (not 17-21, 7-21, 9-21, the scoreline over Sean Gibson) against the immaculate Prean. Chen's only chance was to attack more, Carl 'read' his chop so perfectly.

It was a world class performance by a gentlemanly champion.

Ken Muhr
Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes

Lunatics

Have the lunatics finally taken over the asylum? Having read an article in the Mail On Sunday, with regard to the proposed charge against John Prean of bringing the sport into disrepute, I sense that perhaps there may be some resemblance with my first statement and the workings of our own governing body. By the time this letter is published the charge will have been sensibly dismissed or outrageously upheld, but the effect on the need for unity at top management level should not be left without comment. Unity is badly needed, and has been for some time.

How such a course of action can be tolerated by the vast majority of seemingly sane people within our game is beyond comprehension. There should be no place in authority for vindictive fools who use the system as a means for gaining notoriety at the expense of a man who has achieved so much during his five year stint as Chairman. 'The long standing critic from Berkshire', as he is described in the Mail article, should make himself known to the full membership. At least then we may all be able to avoid close contact should his apparent 'illness' be contagious! John Prean made his views known on the election to be his successor, with a particularly strong opinion on why he thought Alan Ransome would be a bad choice. His views were

made in the style that we have all become accustomed to. He has always written in a controversial manner, sometimes abrasive, but very often brutally true and nothing hurts more than an unwelcome truth or two. However these were his own thoughts. Personal opinion is not yet a crime in this country. I would go as far as to suggest that to publicly castigate a man after five successful years in management is nearer to being a criminal act. I have no working interest at national level, but as an interested observer of Table Tennis politics I believe that the long running Chen Affair, the election issue, and the ridiculous disrepute charge has highlighted the need for a Chairman with the ability to bring all of the warring factions together. Whether Alan Ransome can do this is open to debate and, although I personally supported Richard Scruton, I honestly and sincerely wish him 100% success during his time in the chair. He will need support from all corners to achieve what is needed to make our sport grow again, he can well do without the sort of administrative hooligan whose petty charge has pitched our sport into the national newspaper headlines, once again for all the wrong reasons. Unity is a key requirement for Alan Ransome, he must have all of the top class administrators under one roof. If he begins his term of office by dispensing with men of proven talent, then the membership will be given the first sign that they have got it all wrong.

Keith Wilson
31 Brankin Road
Darlington, Co. Durham

Election

IN the recent election of Chairman, from an electorate of 302 organisations on the Electoral Register 255 ballot papers were received in time, a creditable return of 84%. That is the good news. The bad news is that of those 255 papers 30 did not show the organisation from which they came, having been incompletely filled in, so that the value of their vote could not be checked from the Electoral Register and they were invalid — this despite a reminder in the covering letter "Make sure that you FILL IN THE NAME OF YOUR ORGANISATION; if you do not, your vote will be invalid"

A note on the Ballot Paper told the person(s) filling it in that

all 8 boxes in the authentication section had to be filled in, yet 8 failed to show the office of the second person signing and had to be rejected. A ninth was rejected for another reason.

The commendable 84% return sadly finished as only a 71% poll.

Four people expected the Post Office to work miracles by delivering items on the same day as they were posted — the closing date!

In the election of Deputy Chairman, of the 84% return of 253 papers 36 were unidentified and 7 incomplete, reducing the poll to 69%

A.J.H.Wickens
ETTA Returning Officer

Jolson sings

In reply to your correspondent G. Twiss (TT News April), I reply to Readers' Letters when asked to do so by the Editor. I realize that "John Prean comments" is not as interesting as "Jolson sings" or "Astaire dances". That apart, I reply when I feel a reader deserved a reply. I do not really feel this is the case in respect of Mr. Twiss' letter.

John Prean Isle of Wight

Persistence

One admires Alan Shepherd for this persistence, if not his grasp of the matter (TT News April). My letter, printed in the Telegraph, did no more than explain Management Committee policy and corrected certain misapprehensions. It was both my duty and my right to do so. If Mr. S. wants to interpret this as "confrontational" and another occasion for unpleasantness, so be it. I have no intention to respond to him in kind.

John Prean
This correspondence is now closed — Editor.

Please Note

We would like to make it clear that Table Tennis News does not necessarily agree with the views made by those correspondents whose letters are published in Mailbox.

Your letters that are NOT abusive or libellous are always welcome as are replies.

Only those when names and addresses are supplied for publication will in future be considered.

Honours for disabled

TWENTY-NINE top disabled athletes from the north west took part in the North West Regional Table Tennis Championships in Manchester.

Organised by the British Sports Association for the Disabled, and supported by Central Manchester Development Corporation, the championships took place at the Castlefield Hotel's "Y" Club in Manchester.

Special guests included husband and wife team Don Parker and Jill Hammersley Parker, both well known and respected figures in the table tennis world. Don is an Engand international and current manager of the England able bodied team, whilst Jill has twice been the European womens singles champion.

The two will be coaching the North West finalists in the run up to the BSAD's national finals this summer and also gave training tips during the Manchester event.

Specially commissioned cut glass crystal trophies, sponsored by the Development Corporation, were awarded to the winners in nine different classes. The prizes were presented by Cllr. John Gilmore, Lord Mayor of Manchester, Dr. James Grigor, chairman of Central Manchester Development Corporation, and John Denham, physical education director of the "Y" Club.



Donald Parker (left) gives Gordon Shields a few tips

British Paralympic Table Tennis Training weekend

IN the early hours of Saturday morning on the 9 March, table tennis players from all over the country were making their way to the West Midlands Sports Centre for the Disabled, Coventry for the second training week-end of this multi-disability squad. The ultimate goal for all squad members being a place in the team selected for Barcelona in 1992.

This is the first squad to be drawn from all disability groups, for selection into one team to represent Great Britain. Previously it had been the case that each individual disability sports group had selected it's own team. Thus at most International events there were in effect three or four teams 'representing' Great Britain at Table Tennis.

"Sports Specific"

However, following Minister of Sport Mr. Moynihan's paper "Building on Ability" moves had been made to bring together the various disability and make the teams more "sports specific", rather than "disability specific", with the ultimate aim of the process being that the governing

bodies of a particular sport, ie the ETTA, becoming responsible for all aspects of their sport, including for people with disabilities.

Therefore the players that were greeted by Bob Churchill, the British Paralympic Association's Table Tennis Co-ordinator, came from various disability groups, Les Autres, Paraplegic, and Cerebral Palsy. But there the divisions ended as all squad members were put though a rigorous training routine by the coaches present, John Holland (CP Sports), Tony Teff, (Les Autres), Mark Mitchell and Claire Plumridge from the BWTTA, the paraplegic sports group.

Each coach organised a particular session which lasted approximately one hour, points covered included consistency, flexibility, three ball attack, and various types of service and service return. During each session players were moved from table to table at regular intervals to ensure that partners did not get fed up with each other, it also allowed a nice mix of the disability groups and showed

graphically the differences in the standard of play.

At the beginning and end of each morning and afternoon session there was a warm up and warm down carried out by David Heel, a physiotherapist. These sessions are very important as injuries often occur when players stretch 'cold' muscles, or don't relax properly after a hard training session and find themselves in trouble the following day. I am certain that most players would have taken something away from David's sessions and will use some exercises not only before competing or training, but for day to day fitness as well.

Most players seemed to enjoy the week-end and I am certain many gained a great deal from it. Not all will go to Barcelona next year, but I'm certain that for those who don't, the experience of being part of such a squad, that represents the best of British talent in Table Tennis for disabled people, will be great spur for the future. This after all is the start of a new way forward and at least we are ONE TEAM for Great Britain, cue - the National Anthem!!!

WINNING PLAYERS IN MANCHESTER

LADIES:

Class 1 — Joyce Cockcroft of Rochdale, who plays for Burnley's Temple Street Sports Club for the Disabled.
Class 2 — Trudy Barker of Accrington, a member of the Disabled Association for Sport in Hyndburn.
Class 3 — Manchester Kestrel's Barbara Gee, who lives in Stockport.

MEN:

Class 1 — Bolton's Gordon Shields, a player for the town's Jubilee Day Centre.
Class 2 — Ian Littlewood of Southport Paraplegic Sports Club.
Class 3 — Patrick Greer of Rawtenstall, member of Temple Street Sports Club, Burnley.
Class 4 — Jonathan Ward of Burnley, also a Temple Street player.
Class 5 — Alan Yates of Radcliffe, from the Castle Knights Sports Club in Bury.
Class 6 — Dave Birkett of Warrington, a member of Manchester Kestrels.

Carlisle Div 1 Winners



Carlisle and District Table Tennis League Division 1 winners (left to right) Stewart O'Neil, Julie McLean and Martin Tickner

WILTSHIRE CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS



Claire Hunter

Senior results

Men's singles, semi-finals: Terry Bruce beat Ian Neate 21-19, 21-11; Bill Moulding beat Tim Waller 20-22, 6-21, 21-19, Final: Bruce beat Moulding 21-17, 14-21, 21-9.

Women's singles, semi-final: Claire Hunter beat Alison Hunt 21-18, 21-13; Brenda Lee beat Tracey Youldon 21-11, 21-10, Final: Miss Hunter beat Miss Lee 21-16, 16-21, 21-16.

Veteran's Men's singles, semi-finals: Terry Bruce bt Brian Powell 21-14, 21-13; Bill Moulding bt Alan Duke 21-12, 16-21, 21-10, Final: Bruce bt Moulding 17-21, 21-10, 21-16

Veteran's women's singles, semi-finals: Sylvia Morse beat Ann Jeary (Calne) 21-17, 21-13; Margaret Willson beat Gwen Hazell 21-12, 19-21, 21-11, Final: Mrs. Morse beat Mrs. Willson 21-15, 21-16.

Men's doubles, semi-finals: Terry Bruce and Bill Moulding beat Richard Morgan and Mark Holt 21-23, 21-17, 21-14; David Russell and Trevor Lloyd beat Tim Waller and Raymond Powell 21-23, 21-15, 21-15, Final: Bruce and Moulding beat Russell and Lloyd 21-17, 21-14.

Women's doubles, semi-final: Brenda Lee and Margaret Willson beat B. Roberts and Julie Mills 21-12, 21-9; Claire Hunter and Tracy Youldon beat Melissa Potter and Margaret Potter 21-11, 21-10, Final: Miss Lee and Mrs. Willson beat Miss Hunter and Miss Youldon 21-18, 16-21, 21-12.

Mixed doubles, semi-finals: Alan Duke and Claire Hunter beat Terry Bruce and Margaret Willson

21-16, 12-21, 22-20; Richard Morgan and Alison Hunt beat Bill Moulding and Brenda Lee 21-16, 18-21, 21-14, Final: Duke and Miss Hunter beat Morgan and Miss Hunt 21-1, 21-11.

City of Derby Junior Select

Stewart Crawford from Falkirk upset the form book in the cadet singles. Seeded No. 9 based on his performances in recent English events he beat Andrew Wilkinson and Philip Neal and the No 1 seed Darren Blake in the top half of the draw. With tremendous support from the rest of his team he went on to confidently beat Adrian Vincent the No. 2 seed in the final. This is the first time that a Derby cup has gone out of the country.

Collection

In the cadet girls Sally Marling and Nicola Deaton once again contested a final. This time Sally came out the winner. On the Sunday she added the junior trophy to her collection when she beat Ellen Meddings in that final.

High Entry

Again, despite a high entry, Referee Stewart Sherlock with Deputy Karen Tonge finished both days at 6.30. This was Stewart's last Derby Select as it was for organizer Andrew Horsley. Both have played a tremendous part in the success of this tournament.

RESULTS

Cadet Girls Semi Finals

S Marling b M Martin 16, 9
N Deaton bt L Heyward 15, 15

Final

Marling bt Deaton 18, 20

Cadet Boys Semi Finals

S Crawford bt D Blake 22, -16, 12
A Vincent bt P Hudson 16, 14

Final

Crawford bt Vincent 21, 16

Junior Girls Semi Finals

S Marling bt K Goodall 12, -15, 12
E Meddings bt N Deaton 10, 18

Final

Marling bt Meddings 14, 13

Junior Boys Semi Finals

E Hatley bt D Howarth 18, -17, 18
A Perry bt M Adams 16, 16

Final

Perry bt Hatley 15, -14, 16

WHAT'S ON

ETTA

HALEX U10/12 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sat/Sun 15th/16th June
Bletchley Leisure Centre
Bletchley, Milton Keynes

ETTA

U18/21 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sat/Sun 22nd/23rd June
The Spa Royal Hall, Bridlington

ESTTA

SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fri/Sat/Sun 5th/6th/7th July
Stockland Green Leisure Centre
Birmingham

WORLD

WHEELCHAIR GAMES (Table Tennis)

Sat/Sun/Mon 20th/21st/22nd July
Guttman Sports Centre
Aylesbury, Bucks

BSAD

NATIONAL TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sat/Sun 10th/11th August
Rivermead Leisure Centre,
Richfield Avenue, Reading

**ETTA ranking list for
Season 1990/91 up to and including
County Championships
(7) 6.4.91. Published 1.5.91**

Veteran Mens

| Pts | Player |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1394 Harvey Dave (Cheltenham) |
| 2 | 1019 Hilton John (Manchester) |
| 3 | 916 Taylor John (Golders Gr.) |
| 4 | 887 Meads Andy (Crawley) |
| 5 | 774 Short Mike (Plymouth) |
| 6 | 738 Gibbs Stuart (Basildon) |
| 7 | 729 Corking Malcolm (Stockt.) |
| 8 | 663 Radford Peter (Upminst.) |
| 9 | 641 Holland John (Basildon) |
| 10 | 629 Holman Derek (Tooting) |
| 11 | 623 Stace Robin (Worthing) |
| 12 | 597 Horton Keith (Burg.Hill) |
| 13 | 567 Buist Henry (Orpington) |
| 14 | 563 Solman David (Buckh.H) |
| 15 | 542 Newman Maurice (Verdon) |
| 16 | 538 Sheader Matt (Grimsby) |
| 17 | 517 Allanson Walter (Shillingfd) |
| 18 | 477 Wood Mervyn (Halesowen) |
| 19 | 476 Hampson Roger (Manchest) |
| 20 | 475 Allison Brian (Louth) |
| 21 | 461 Neale Denis (Doncaster) |
| 22 | 458 Warren Connie (London) |
| 23 | 448 Isaac Anthony (Wednes.) |
| 24 | 442 Wood Derek (Colchest.) |
| 25 | 436 Morris Clive (Teynham) |
| 26 | 431 Collins Paul (Hyde) |
| 27 | 402 Hams Frank (Morden) |
| 28 | 368 Judson Cleve (Ossett) |
| 29 | 363 Simmonds Brian (V.Water) |
| 30 | 359 Dixon Ray (Moxley) |
| 31 | 357 Chapman Gordon (Worc.Pk) |
| 32 | 346 Gunnion Ralph (Solihull) |
| 33 | 336 Langheim Ron (Ashford) |
| 34 | 332 Hermy Eddie (Old Winds.) |
| 35 | 330 Norton Roy (Brierly Hill) |
| 36 | 326 Schofield Derek (Stockp.) |
| 37 | 312 Rigby Tony (Preston) |
| 38 | 307 Millward John (Sandh.) |
| 39 | 304 Battrick Stan (Dagenham) |
| 40 | 299 Chilvers Arthur (Didcot) |
| 41 | 297 Watts Michael (Rochford) |
| 42 | 295 Richardson Nath.(Faringd.) |
| 43 | 295 Agedayo Babs (Catford) |
| 44 | 294 Timewell Alan (Wirral) |
| 45 | 292 Seaholme David (Watf.) |
| 46 | 290 Bradley Peter (Reading) |
| 47 | 280 Broughton Mich.(Gl.Yarm.) |
| 48 | 276 Blake Phil (Lancashire) |
| 49 | 270 Bhalla Ramesh (Guildf.) |
| 50 | 270 Kean Brian (Manchester) |
| 51 | 264 Crowley David (Tadw'th) |
| 52 | 263 Powell Keith (Poynton) |
| 53 | 261 Lynch Graham (Warsash) |
| 54 | 254 White John (Sittingb'ne) |
| 55 | 252 Hill Brian (Wyberton) |
| 56 | 251 Hill Barry (Poole) |
| 57 | 250 Earis Frank (Taplow) |
| 58 | 249 Glynn Patrick (Edbast.) |
| 59 | 248 Moulding William (Salis.) |
| 60 | 243 Bartle Douglas (York) |
| 61 | 242 Thewliss Norman (L.Bor.) |
| 62 | 240 Bruce Terry (Salisbury) |
| 63 | 239 Lockwood Fred (Basild.) |
| 64 | 238 Mayfield Brian (Dunstab) |
| 65 | 238 Taylor Anthony (Ruislip) |
| 66 | 237 Clark Keith (Ramsgate) |
| 67 | 233 Iliffe John (Barwell) |

| | |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| 68 | 231 Kinsey Tony (Leicest.) |
| 69 | 229 Hartridge Keith (W.G.City) |
| 70 | 225 Watson Alec (Aylesbury) |
| 71 | 220 Montgomery Syd (Read'g) |
| 72 | 220 Munt Derek (Hull) |
| 73 | 216 Hobley Jim (Essex) |
| 74 | 213 Oxley Michael (Calne) |
| 75 | 210 Welsman Dave (Staines) |
| 76 | 208 Adams Thomas (Coulsd.) |
| 77 | 208 Smith John (Pinner) |
| 78 | 207 Hoyles Peter (unknown) |
| 79 | 205 Stagg Norman (Havant) |
| 80 | 204 Fannin John (Gloucest.) |
| 81 | 203 Brookman Bill (Heston) |
| 82 | 203 Jones Frank (High Lead'n) |
| 83 | 201 Wilson Terence (Cuffley) |
| 84 | 198 Wooding Leslie (Dunst.) |
| 85 | 198 Davies Alf (Wantage) |
| 86 | 198 Slifkin Norman (Ashf.) |
| 87 | 197 Davies Howard (B'nem'th) |
| 88 | 197 Batt-Rawden G. (Ditchling) |
| 89 | 192 Giles Alan (Stroud) |
| 90 | 191 Harris Michael (Reading) |
| 91 | 191 Jackson Keith (Burg.Hill) |
| 92 | 190 Halliday Brian (Reading) |
| 93 | 188 Cox Bob (Gosport) |
| 94 | 187 Clements Brian (Beds) |
| 95 | 181 Sinden David (E.Grinst) |
| 96 | 180 Reeves Brian (Failand) |
| 97 | 180 Streak David (Ilehurst) |
| 98 | 175 Edwards Mich. (Northants) |
| 99 | 175 Jacob Chris (Colchester) |
| 100 | 172 Hatton Chris (Worthing) |
| 101 | 172 Jones Peter (Macclesfd) |
| 102 | 171 Short Fred (Sth Shields) |
| 103 | 170 Jones Keith (Boothville) |
| 104 | 170 Murray Raymond (S-le-H) |
| 105 | 169 Lush Ray (Portsmouth) |
| 106 | 169 Thompson Basil (Swindon) |
| 107 | 164 Burgess Kenneth(Huddersf) |
| 108 | 162 Mauthoor Feizal (Unkn.) |
| 109 | 161 Lamprell Alan (Edmond.) |
| 110 | 160 Keeley Brian (Crawley) |
| 111 | 159 Burgess Sid (Needingw.) |
| 112 | 159 Willson William (Swind.) |
| 113 | 158 Giles Kenneth (Winchest.) |
| 114 | 158 Holden Derek (St. Albans) |
| 115 | 156 Wheatley Neil (Warwicks) |
| 116 | 155 Brook Geoff (Huddersfd) |
| 117 | 154 Tyler George (Finchley) |
| 118 | 154 Callcut John (Newdigate) |
| 119 | 153 Watmough Derek (Bolton) |
| 120 | 153 McCabe Pat (Warwicks.) |
| 121 | 152 Hipperson Tony (Norwich) |
| 122 | 151 Ballard Peter (Essex) |
| 123 | 150 Rayment Leslie (Theft.) |
| 124 | 149 Shave Maurice (Southampt) |
| 125 | 148 Cole Peter (Berkshire) |
| 126 | 145 Phillipson Ken (Notts.) |
| 127 | 144 Bush Cyril (B'nemouth) |
| 128 | 144 Moss Roger (Maccsfd) |
| 129 | 143 Whiffon Roy (Beds) |
| 130 | 142 Stennett Malcolm (Carlton) |

| | |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 131 | 141 Duke Alan (Swindon) |
| 132 | 138 Bache Terry (Birmingh.) |
| 133 | 138 Hagger Barry (Hunts) |
| 134 | 137 Randall Dave (Barry) |
| 135 | 137 Crabtree John (Somers.) |
| 136 | 135 Seaholme Stuart (Watf.) |
| 137 | 135 Smith Royston (Bristol) |
| 138 | 135 Woolscroft James (Unkn.) |
| 139 | 134 Pickard Chris (Dorset) |
| 140 | 130 Farnhill Mike (Hull) |
| 141 | 130 Manning Trevor (Chesh.) |
| 142 | 128 Atkinson Geoffrey (Ethersby) |
| 143 | 127 Wines Geoff (Feltham) |
| 144 | 127 Bax Geoffrey (Watford) |
| 145 | 127 Fowler Royston (Chelt.) |
| 146 | 125 Pratt Len (Fife) |
| 147 | 124 Cooper John (H.Wyc.) |
| 148 | 122 Leith John (Duckend Gr.) |
| 149 | 121 Glew John (Wokingham) |
| 150 | 121 Rowden Alan (Unknown) |

Veteran Women

| Pts | Player |
|-----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 727 Schofield Doreen (St'port) |
| 2 | 678 Radford Lesley (Upminst.) |
| 3 | 541 Bassano Patricia (Hudd.) |
| 4 | 492 Dignum Marg.(Redditch) |
| 5 | 401 Judson Carol (Ossett) |
| 6 | 380 Coop Joyce (B'nemouth) |
| 7 | 333 Beadle Joan (Ashford) |
| 8 | 328 Knightley Gillian (Fw Hth) |
| 9 | 297 Shaler Eileen (Hinkley) |
| 10 | 287 Hunt Janet (Worc.) |
| 11 | 285 Sawyer Mary (Hendon) |
| 12 | 283 Butcher Pamela (Meoph.) |
| 13 | 263 Neary Mabel (Liverpool) |
| 14 | 235 Basden Christ.(B'fld Com) |
| 15 | 235 Bax Sally (Watford) |
| 16 | 225 Moran Connie (Grimsby) |
| 17 | 201 Carroll Shirley (G.Baddon) |
| 18 | 194 Reid Lynda (Pershore) |
| 19 | 194 Lloyd Ann (Solihull) |
| 20 | 193 Fisher Kathleen (Louth) |
| 21 | 191 Steel Pauline (Worthing) |
| 22 | 186 Voss Beryl (Unkn.Vet) |
| 23 | 172 Felstead Sue (Letchw.) |
| 24 | 167 White Jean (Spalding) |
| 25 | 165 Thomas Jackie (Slough) |
| 26 | 161 Waters Kay (Slough) |
| 27 | 160 Dawson Marjorie (Stratf.) |
| 28 | 155 Spooner Pamela (Maidenh.) |
| 29 | 139 Stafford Mary (Maidenh.) |
| 30 | 135 Pilfold Julie (New Elth.) |
| 31 | 135 Tyler Sylvia (Cheshunt) |
| 32 | 120 Vass Jennifer (Sheerwat.) |
| 33 | 119 Coombs Sylvia(W.U'wood) |
| 34 | 109 Brookes Patrica (St. on Tr.) |
| 35 | 97 Garlinge Marion (Sitt'gbne) |
| 36 | 90 Bayford Patricia (Chesh.) |
| 37 | 89 Nunn Kathleen (Whitton) |
| 38 | 86 Gloster Jeanne (Maidenh.) |
| 39 | 84 Willson Marg. (Swind.) |
| 40 | 84 Edwards Eileen (Ches.) |

| | |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 41 | 81 Hazell Gwen (Marlbor.) |
| 42 | 77 Anker Pamela (Ilford) |
| 43 | 76 Burrough Alwyn (P-Le-Fylde) |
| 44 | 73 Newton Jean (Sheffield) |
| 45 | 68 Hammond Patric. (Willford) |
| 46 | 66 White Patricia (Cheshire) |
| 47 | 65 Porter Jennifer (Sheerw.) |
| 48 | 64 Cox Muriel (Wellingbor.) |
| 49 | 64 Allchurch Maureen(Berksh) |
| 50 | 56 Brown Janet (Eynsham) |
| 51 | 56 Morse Sylvia (Swindon) |
| 52 | 53 Long Pauline (Gosforth) |
| 53 | 52 Porter Joyce (Northants) |
| 54 | 52 Leak Pauline (Hunts) |
| 55 | 51 Smith Jennifer (Sheerw.) |
| 56 | 51 Newcombe Marg.(Heref.) |
| 57 | 44 Curtis Janice (High Wyc.) |
| 58 | 43 Maltby Jennifer (Sheerw.) |
| 59 | 42 Parker Linda (Alwoodley) |
| 60 | 42 Bayford Barbara (Unkn.) |
| 61 | 41 Allison Sue (Louth) |
| 62 | 40 Sheward Dorothy (Solih.) |
| 63 | 38 North Jackie (Hertfordsh.) |
| 64 | 36 Maltby Marg.(Northampt.) |
| 65 | 34 Wales Patricia (Angmor.) |
| 66 | 34 Hogg Ruth (Norfolk) |
| 67 | 33 Rogers Paula (Chad.Hth) |
| 68 | 33 Matthews Sheila (Yorksh) |
| 69 | 32 Lodge June (Surrey) |
| 70 | 32 Abraham Ann (Fareham) |
| 71 | 32 Carrington Elsie(B'nem'th) |
| 72 | 28 Davies Christine (South'ton) |
| 73 | 27 Jackson Valerie (Hay.Heath) |
| 74 | 25 Squier Gillian (Canewdon) |
| 75 | 25 Winn Barbara (Ashtead) |
| 76 | 24 Hales Linda (Unknown) |
| 77 | 23 Wotherspoon Ann (Eynsh.) |
| 78 | 22 A'Heame Brenda (Unkn.) |
| 79 | 21 Wakefield Doreen(Blun'h'm) |
| 80 | 20 Fletcher Edna (Gorleston) |
| 81 | 20 Pilford Julia (Surrey) |
| 82 | 19 Johnson Diane (Prestbury) |
| 83 | 18 Everett Hazel (Grimsby) |
| 84 | 18 Borough Alwyn (Unkn.) |
| 85 | 18 Smith Jean (Dorset) |
| 86 | 18 Moulds Janet (Unknown) |
| 87 | 17 Evers Elizabeth (Salish.) |
| 88 | 16 Pringle Jane (K. Lynn) |
| 89 | 15 Barron Mary (Portsm'th) |
| 90 | 12 Lypnyckyj Myra (Stockp.) |
| 91 | 10 Waters Avril (Basingstoke) |
| 92 | 10 Holland Shelley(H'tngd'sh) |
| 93 | 10 Hamblet Lilian(Macclesfd) |
| 94 | 10 Pryce Wendy (Bridgewater) |
| 95 | 9 Smith Louvain (Ripon) |
| 96 | 9 Rayford Barbara (E.Prest.) |
| 97 | 8 Hession Shelagh (Haish.) |
| 98 | 7 Kershaw Ivy (Yorkshire) |
| 99 | 7 Robinson Audrey (Alicsh.) |
| 100 | 5 Mayson Jean (L.Buzzard) |

Ranking Lists may be obtained from ETTA (Hastings) by sending a stamped addressed envelope which should state which list is required, i.e. Senior, Veterans, Junior, Cadet and any queries and complaints should be stated in writing. Information cannot be given on the telephone. Often research is needed, which requires a great deal of time or staff are taken from urgent work. Hope you will understand.

Whilst every care is taken that the data inserted into the computer are accurate the occasional error is inevitable. The E.T.T.A. accepts no responsibility of any kind for such errors and their consequences. Any mistake discovered will be investigated and a full audit trail posted to the player. Proven errors will be rectified in a subsequent list. Any queries from the Ranking List should be directed to Rob Sinclair, E.T.T.A., Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, TN34 1HF and be accompanied by a payment of £5 plus s.a.e. to cover cost of administration.

**SYD FRYER
VIDEOS**

Suffering with withdrawal symptoms due to lack of top table tennis? Give yourself a 'fix' by watching the 1980-90 top events on tape.

VHS video copying service
(TT copy)

Syd Fryer Videos
8 Cleveland Road
Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire
Tel: 061 980 8110



Pictured in their new England colours are (left to right) Michael O'Driscoll, Andrea Holt, and Alan Cooke

New England colours

THESE smart new England shirts are part of a contract signed earlier this year with the Tamasu Company who manufacture Butterfly equipment in Japan.

They were worn for the first time at the World Championships in Chiba and the Commonwealths in Nairobi, and England was the first nation

to adopt white as one of its official colours.

The ITTF agreed at a meeting last year to permit the use of white shirts for events when a yellow ball is used.

The England players were even consulted for their views on the new shirt and shorts and had a hand in the final design.

Andrew Flies Solo

SKYLET Andrew flew to Chiba, at his own expense, to compete under his own banner alongside his England colleagues.

Andrew arrived at Chiba on a highnote, having been a member of the successful England men's team in Nairobi.

Skylet Andrew is pictured right, with the Hungarian No.1 lady Czilla Batorfi



DON'T FORGET NEXT SEASON STARTS WITH THE AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER ISSUE