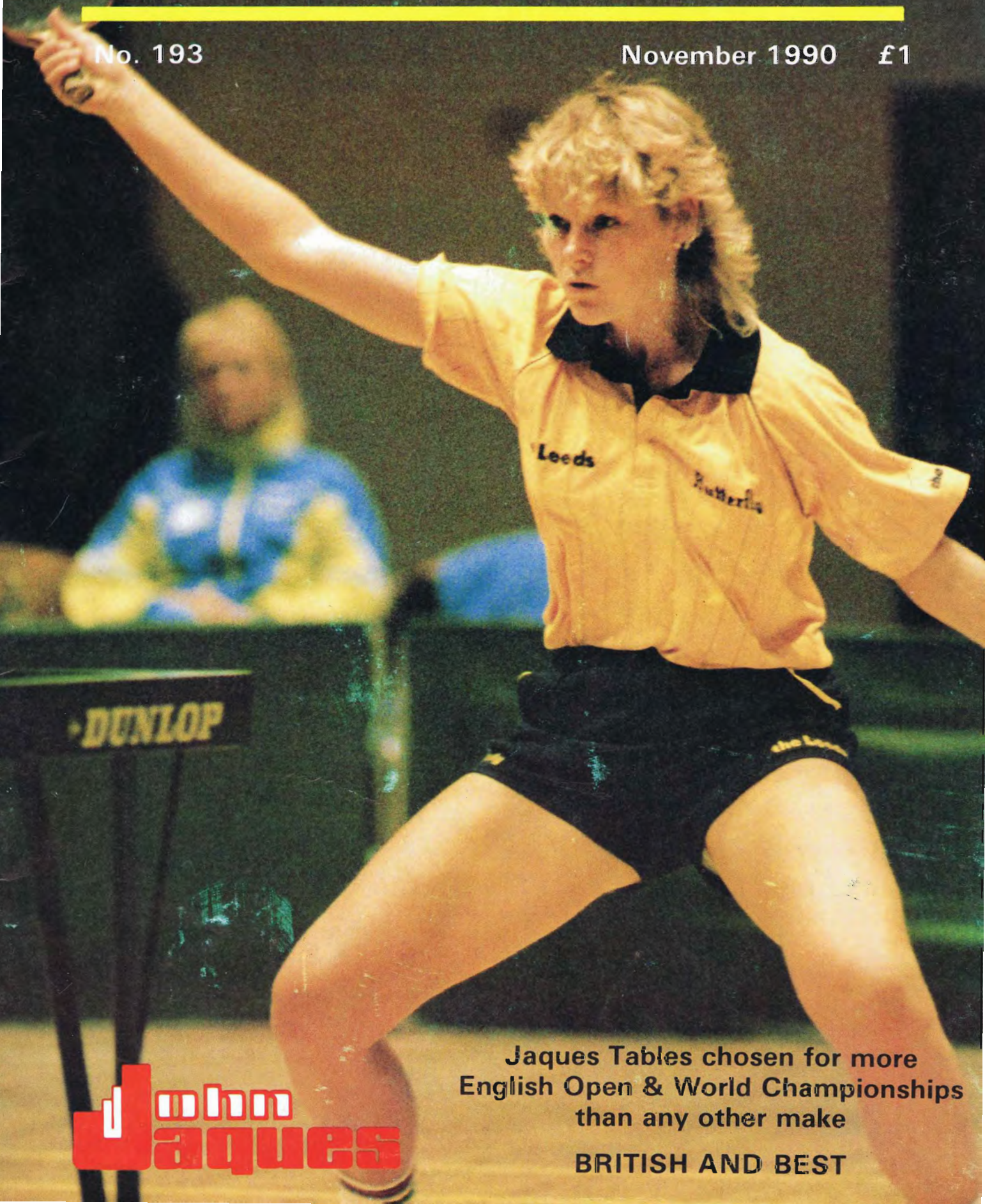




Table Tennis News

No. 193

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TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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Third Floor
Queensbury House
Havelock Road
Hastings TN34 1HF
Tel: 0424 722525
Fax: 0424 422103

President J A Leach MBE

Chairman J Preat

Editor Jim Beckley

Advertisement and Editorial
Offices:
Sports PR
P O Box 8
Cheadle Hulme
Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 7RG
Tel/Fax: 061-488 4002

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Geoff Twiss
Mike Loveder
John Wood

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Going strong...



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**All this and
more in your
new look
Table Tennis
News**

BILL & NORA CELEBRATE FIFTY YEARS

NORA AND BILL VINT OBE, our Life Vice-President celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary with a lunch for over 120 guests in Hastings recently. Incredibly, the best man and two of the bridesmaids were able to be present at the celebrations.

Naturally, table tennis was well represented and guests included Ichiro Ogimura, (ITTF President), Lollo Hammarlund (ITTF Deputy President), Hans Giesecke (ITTF Treasurer), Johnny Leach MBE (ETTA President) as well as staff members of both ITTF and ETTA. Also in attendance and looking well was Charles Wyles OBE the former Chairman of the ETTA.

Reference was made in the speeches to the long and varied life enjoyed by Bill not only in table tennis but in his business life in local government which culminated in his position as Publicity Officer for the town of Hastings.

Congratulations, Bill and Nora.

Family Winners

NATIONWIDE Anglia Building Society representative Kerry Hicks presented a delightful clock trophy to the first Family Champions on the Isle of Dogs. Congratulations to mum and dad Jill and Andy Newman, and nine year old son Tristan who emerged winners by three points over other family contenders in a gruelling six event tournament.

This innovative local championship will be the first of many designed to maintain interest and friendly rivalry among the Table Tennis playing families on the Isle of Dogs.

Bad News

IF the ETTA decide to send a team to the Commonwealth Championships in Nairobi in April, the squad might well be advised **not** to relax in the cinemas.

According to a story in the Sunday Telegraph magazine by Michaela Dennis the animal expert who lives there, Nairobi cinemas are bad news. She says "It is hard to go to the cinema in Nairobi because some people use it as a lavatory. They'll be so interested in the film that they relieve themselves and then move into the next seat."

Scots S O S

THE Scottish Sports Council will help to support the Scottish squad to go to Nairobi for the Commonwealth Championships mainly because Scotland won medals in Cardiff, but they have declined support for the world championships in Chiba City.

This means that unless the young Scottish players find personal sponsors for about £1,500 per player, there is little chance of Scotland going to Japan.

Hat Trick

NICKY Carter of the George Green Table Tennis Club rounded off his Junior career by taking three major titles. He won the Barclays Shield as the number one ranked Junior on the Isle of Dogs. He also won the Junior Cup in the Silvertown and District League, and took the senior individual title at the London Federation of Boys Clubs regional tournament held at the London Arena.

Watch Out!

A NAME to watch in the future is Robert Abbott of Blacklands School, Hastings who recently won the under 11s at the Dunlop Schools Individual Championships in Mansfield. He's been playing only six months and is still only 9 years old!



Chen Xinhua

Dates

TWO important dates for schools have been announced. The British Primary Schools Championships will be held in Dumfries on 5-7 April 1991 with each team consisting of four boys and four girls. Next Easter a special coaching course is to be held at Lea Green, Matlock. The contact here is Bob Wood 0253 57163.

News Hound

HAVE you a nose for news? If so Mike Lewis would like to hear from you as soon as possible. The Womens British League are seeking a Press Officer to look after their two major weekends at Stourbridge in February and Bletchley in June next year. He or she would become involved in the planning of the two weekends and take a place on the sub committee. Interested? Then contact:

Mike Lewis Tel: 0272 730788.

Super England

ENGLAND beat Spain 6-1 in their second European League Fist Division match in Hull and that win puts us in the semi-finals of this new competition format. But we still need two more wins to put us back into the Super Division. More about this match in the December issue.

Making Her Mark

NICOLA Deaton, the young Chesterfield player, is making her mark on the European scene. She appears at No. 18 in the cadet listings and seems set to rise even higher. It's been quite a season so far for the 13 year old who made her debut for the England senior side in the recent series of challenge matches against Sweden.

Unbeaten Lancs

LANCASHIRE cruised to the top of the Senior County Championships as they did last season at this stage. They finished with a 100 per cent record with Middlesex and Yorkshire (with Chen) also unbeaten. Alan Cooke turned out for Derbyshire but his team still finished third from bottom with one point.

New Venue

A NEW venue for table tennis perhaps? Next year the new National Indoor Arena in Birmingham will open its doors for the first time and already the national associations of Netball, Volleyball and Gymnastics have booked major events there.

MEDALS MUST BE EARNED



After the disappointment of the European Junior Championships in Hollabrunn John Prean casts his eye over the junior scene and asks the question are we getting the best from our young players. He also sees a way forward...

THE European Youth Championships brought us no medals, not for the first time. This need not be an occasion for alarmist outbursts, nor smugness. The 8 medals of, say Malmö (1983) cannot be repeated at will. I wrote at the time ('The last Fling of the Combination Bats') "It was a triumph. We may not see its like again."

I recall an amusing, but shrewd article by Geoff Sandley (Father of Graham) headed "Wot, no medals?" In short, we have met both triumph and disaster and, to rephrase Kipling, have to learn to live with both impostors.

Our successes of yesteryear were based on very few players, often with combination bats (Lisa Bellinger, Billy Gleave, Carl Prean) and it was no coincidence that in 1983 (our best ever year) all-black bats were banned by the ITTF, supported by the ETTA vote and so ended the effectiveness of the combination bat.

One of the above players helped us to no fewer than 5 gold medals in a distinguished junior career. Our successes with orthodox rubbers were fewer and, in the main, longer ago. One thinks of Des Douglas (1973) and particularly Paul Day (1976).

It has also to be discussed why players undoubtedly good enough have returned with no medals or fewer than we had hoped. One thinks of Sally Marling and Nicola Deaton last time and the tandem of Michael O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield a year earlier, which yielded the silver of Michael, an undoubted achievement, but we had dared to hope for more from singles, doubles and team event.

We have discussed all this and much more and some meaningful initiatives are in the pipeline. One has to conclude that the local Centres of Excellence, with few exceptions, have not lived up to our best hopes. They have not produced European medal winners very often and sometimes have failed to attract the best players even in the area.

I therefore regard Stuart Sneyd's initiative of central Centres of Excellence as sound and gathering the best juniors for full week-ends at the National Sports Centre, Lille-shall has to be a step forward. I visited one of these week-ends and was impressed.

The 'story' that we have spent less on juniors than in previous years is incorrect. We have spent

more, perhaps in too many directions, though from the best of motives.

The complaint that we do not send enough juniors 'abroad' is based on the illusion that a magic elixir is available on such trips. Russian juniors, particularly, so often seem better than ours, but this overlooks factors we cannot match, state help which may be disappearing under the new regime, special sports schools, etc. Nevertheless the foreign juniors one is likely to encounter in, say, the French Open are hardly likely to be better players than those who provide the opposition in an English 3 Star senior event.

If juniors wish to stretch themselves and play against better opposition, that opportunity exists at home at lower cost with less travel wear and tear. My own experience indicates that no player who fails to make a mark in our domestic senior scene has any chance of winning medals in the European Youth.

Our most successful junior (of all time) never went to an overseas Junior Open as a Junior. That does not mean that we shall not send juniors to Open events, but they must have a realistic chance to return as winners rather than tourists.

Sadly, it has to be reported that such trips in the past have been looked on as holidays rather than hard competition in which one represents one's country. Too often social players, to use the kindest expression, have represented us in Junior Europe. Medals are not won by such players.

Our sport caters abundantly for both the social player and the one

with ambitions to go to the very top. I myself was never other than a social player. However, our 'excellence' funds must be spent on precisely that objective. We do not, despite our vastly improved financial position, have funds that remotely equal those of most of our competitors whose performance we must nevertheless try to match.

We must spend wisely and well. We always listen to advice and ideas. These should have within them the twin virtues of truth and commonsense rather than personalised grievances. In organisational terms, we have combined the 'coaching' functions with those of 'development' under Stuart Sneyd and have made 'selection' a separate department under Kevin Satchell.

The latter involves international playing activities and the preparation for these, both junior and senior. The brief is international success at all levels. Everyone who has spoken to me about Kevin has been impressed by his grasp and vision. To this I add enthusiasm, which I regard as a vital quality in all members of my team.

We have already initiated an Under-11 National Championship which has attracted more entries each year. This season we shall add U-10 and U-12 National Championships, all these being sponsored by Halex for whose support we are very grateful. The U-11 event is now an established and popular event. We shall catch our young players earlier and in time this will benefit both our international and grass roots efforts.

In addition we shall stage a National U-21 Championship, so

that ex-juniors have fresh goals and ambitions and so that life does not end when they leave the junior scene. A number of good U-21 events are already taking place. We hope this will stimulate many more, increasing the good health of the sport.

Don Parker will, of course, continue the good work as England Team Manager and Director of Coaching, whilst Kevin heads the Selection Dept. He will devote a great deal of time to our junior team and those with the potential to make this. Don will continue to select the teams. The U-12 squads will be broadened and continued. We hope to gather promising players more frequently for training and guidance.

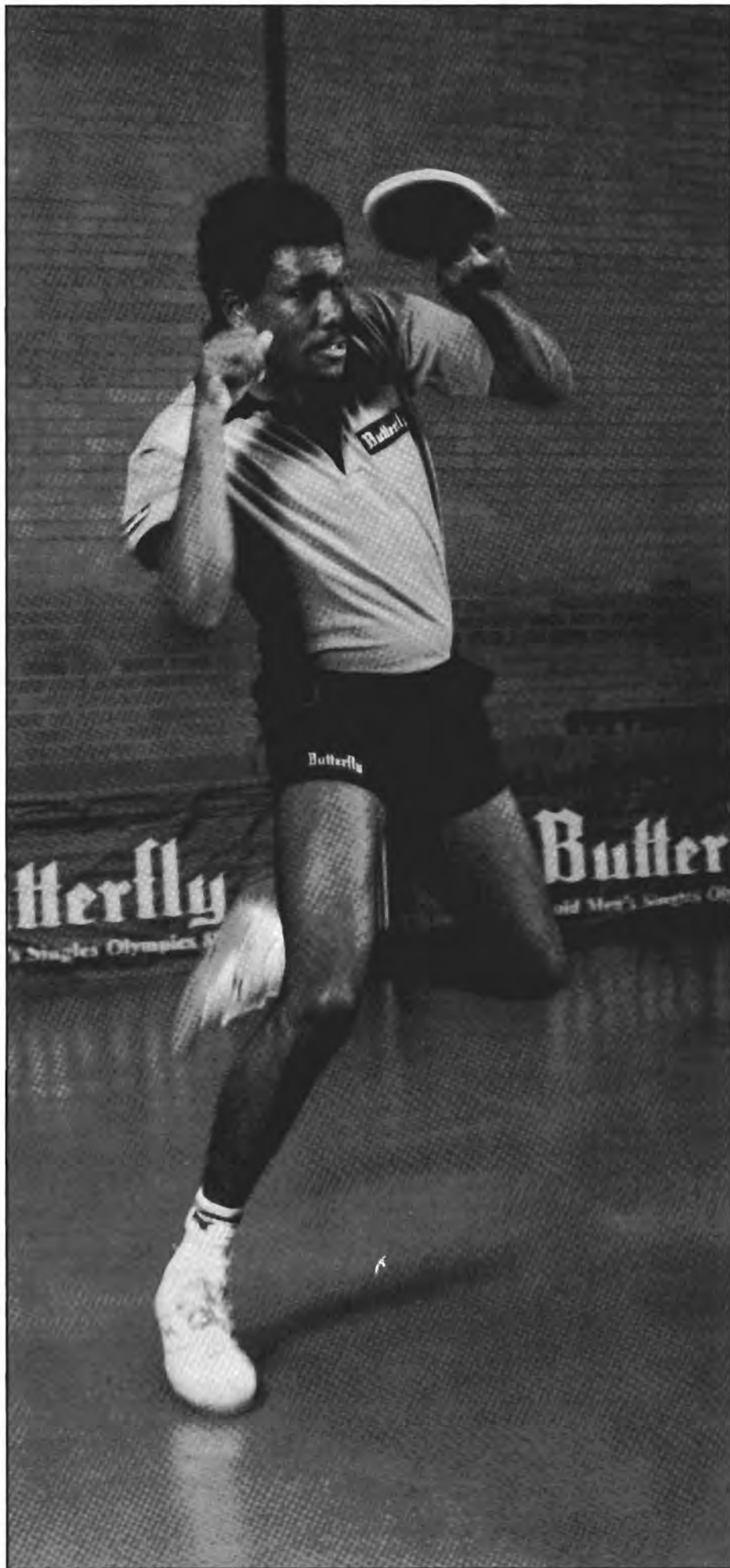
'Instant' success cannot be promised. In the end, players have to be in the right form and frame of mind on the big occasions, but we shall give any good luck going a helping hand. Both Kevin and Don are highly approachable. Problems and solutions can be discussed with them.

We held a seminar for parents and mentors, who accompany juniors on our tournament circuit. A number of speakers were able to pass on their experience. I wish something like this had existed when I began to take Carl round the tournaments. How many mistakes I would have avoided! How much I had to learn the hard way!

I have dealt mainly with the international junior scene. Coaching continues all over the country, both private initiatives and national ones. If you hear the opposite don't believe it. Ever increasing entries to junior tournaments tell the real story. The ETTA's Development Plan is providing further fillips.

The game is healthy and well, but it will only continue to be so if the grass roots are strong. We compete every day against a hundred other sports. We have to make sure that OUR message is seen and heard. It has to be an attractive one, not one that magnifies the 1% which maybe went wrong and ignores the 99% that went right.

No local Association should be without a development policy which brings new blood into our ranks: New faces, fresh ideas, particularly the young, so that our great game has a future and future generations have the fun we have had and will go on having.



DESMOND Douglas might be easing off the accelerator these days but from the form he showed at the Masters in Gateshead where this picture was taken, he still has many years ahead of him yet.

Our Picture of the Month shows a typical Des action shot which has thrilled fans all over the country.

FRANCE TWO DOWN, ONE TO GO

CHAMPIONS DEFEATED

FRANCE, the defending champions of the Super Division in the European League, took a 6-1 hammering by Yugoslavia in their opening match of the 1990/91 season in Cetinje on Sept 11.

Jean-Philippe Gatien saved the whitewash when, in the penultimate set, he beat Zoran Primorac to record the only French success even Wang Xiao Ming going down to Jasna Fazlic.

Scores:-

Z. Primorac b D. Mommessin 10, -19, 11;
I. Lupulescu b J-P Gatien 17, 21;
J. Fazlic b Wang Xiao Ming -15, 20, 17;
Primorac/Lupulescu b Gatien/Mommessin 16, 15;
Lupulescu/Fazlic b Gatien/Wang -18, 16, 15;
Primorac 1 Gatien 17, -24, -13;
Lupulescu b Mommessin 19, -19, 14.

In the other Group A fixture, played in Weert on Sept 12, promotees Belgium recorded a 5-2 win over Netherlands the home victories going to the credit of Paul Haldan and Gerdie Keen.

Scores:-

P. Haldan b T. Cabrera 14, -19, 14;
T. Keen 1 J-M. Saive -17, -14;
G. Keen b K. Bogaerts 13, 14;
Haldan/Keen 1 Saive/Cabrera 17, -17, -13;
Haldan/E. Noor 1 Saive/E. Billen 17, -17, -19;
Haldan 1 Saive -23, 16, -17;
Keen 1 Cabrera -8, -19;

Group B saw the Federal Republic of Germany beat Poland 5-2 in Warsaw on Sept 11 with Piotr Skierski beating Steffan Fetzner and Leszek Kucharski accounting for Jorg Roszkopf to record the two home successes. Scores:-

L. Kucharski 1 S. Fetzner 18, -16, -12;
P. Skierski 1 J. Roszkopf 18, 17;
A. Mikijaniec 1 N. Struss -13, -17;
Kucharski/Skierski 1 Fetzner/Roszkopf -11, -14;
Skierski/A. Gieraga 1 Roszkopf/Struse -19, 18, -15;
Kucharski b Roszkopf 21, 11;
Skierski 1 Fetzner 10, -12, -16.

Sweden, at home to Czechoslovakia in Olofaström on Sept 13, began with a 5-2 win with their only losses being by Asa Svensson who lost to Marie Hrachova and Mikael Applegren who went down to Thomas Janci. Scores:

M. Applegren b P. Korbel 10, 20;
J. Persson b T. Janci 11, 13;
A. Svensson 1 M. Hrachova -21, -18;
Applegren/Persson b Janci/P. Javurek 19, 11;
Applegren/Svensson b Korbel/Hrachova 15, -15, 19;
Applegren 1 Janci -12, -14;
Persson b Korbel 15, 19.

Belgium recorded yet another win in Group A on Sept 26 in Charleroi where they

inflicted yet another defeat for France who went down 4-3 with Cabrera distinguishing himself with wins over Gatien and Patrick Chila.

Scores:

J-M Saive b P. Chila -13, 16, 14;
T. Cabrera b J-P. Gatien -19, 25, 15;
C. Ozer 1 Wang Xiao Ming -6, -3;
Saive/Cabrera b Gatien/D. Mommessin 18, -15, 21;
Saive/Els Billen 1 Gatien/Wang 19, -17, -19;
Saive 1 Gatien 15, -12, -15;
Cabrera b Chila 12, -19, 18.

Two other results to hand without individual scores record a 4-3 win for Yugoslavia in Super Group A against Netherlands and, in Super Group B, Sweden defeated Poland 4-3.

SUPER DIVISION

Group A	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	2	2	0	10	4	2
Belgium	2	2	0	9	5	2
Netherlands	2	0	2	5	9	0
France	2	0	2	4	10	0

Group B

F.R. Germany	2	2	0	10	4	2
Sweden	2	2	0	9	5	2
Poland	2	0	2	5	9	0
Czechoslovakia	2	0	2	4	10	0

VICTORY

In far off Sicily England opened up their account with a 7-0 grand slam victory over Italy. Scores:-

M. Constantini 1 C. Preat -16, -13;
G. Di Napoli 1 A. Cooke -9, 19, -10;
A. Arisi 1 L. Lomas -12, -13;
Constantini/L. Nannoni 1 Cooke/Preat 14, -20, -18;
Constantini/Arisi 1 Preat/Lomas -18, -18;
Constantini 1 Cooke -19, 19, -20;
Di Napoli 1 Preat -7, -12.

Austria who can be considered England's chief rivals began their programme in Group A with a 4-3 win over promotees Spain in Almeria. Scores:-

R. Casares 1 Quian Quianli -21, -17;
J-M Pales 1 Ding Yi -5, -12;
A-M Godes 1 E. Maier -17, -12;
Casares/Pales b Ding/Quian -18, 14, 12;
Pales/Godes b Ding/Maier -17, 20, 15;
Casares 1 Ding Yi -10, -6;
Pales b Quianli -14, 20, 14.

Hungary, in Group B, began with a 6-1 win away to Turkey on Sept 14 the home win coming in the last set when Eran Ilhan beat Ivan Vitsek 24-22 in the third. Scores:-

G. Yaldiz 1 I. Vitsek -12, -17;
E. Ilhan 1 Z. Harczy -16, -17;
Y. Tunay 1 C. Batorfi -10, -4;

Yaldiz/O. Cimen 1 Harczy/Vitsek -17, -16.
Cimen/S. Cimen 1 Harczy/Bartofi -9, -20;
Yaldiz 1 Harczy -16, -16;
Ilhan b Vitsek -8, 20, 22.

It was a much closer contest in Sofia where, on Sept 12, Bulgaria beat Finland 4-3. Scores:-

I. Stoyanov b P. Valasti 10, -16, 18;
M. Kostadinov 1 L. Eriksson -18, -17;
D. Guerguelchva b J. Kaimio 15, 21;
Stoyanov/M. Bratanov 1 Valasti/Eriksson -18, 5, -15;
Stoyanov/Guerguelcheva b Valasti/Kaimio 10, 16;
Stoyanov b Eriksson 10, -21, 13;
Kostadinov 1 Valasti -20, -11.

DIVISION I

Group A	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	2	0	13	1	2
Austria	2	2	0	9	5	2
Spain	2	0	2	4	10	0
Italy	2	0	2	2	12	0

Group B

Hungary	2	2	0	12	2	2
Bulgaria	2	2	0	9	5	2
Finland	2	0	2	4	10	0
Turkey	2	0	2	3	11	0

GREAT START

As reported in the October issue England began their Group B fixtures at home to Czechoslovakia and won 5-2.

Details:-

A. Holt 1 M. Hrachova 19, -14, -10;
A. Gordon b A. Safarova 10, 12;
L. Lomas b R. Zatkova 17, 24;
Lomas/Holt b Hrachova/Safarova 16, 14;
Holt 1 Safarova 20, -20, -13;
Lomas b Hrachova -15, 8, 20;
Gordon b Zarkova 19, 13.

In the other Group B match France beat Netherlands 6-1

Scores:-

Wang Xiao Ming b M. Moller 14, 15;
A. Lelannic b E. Noor 18, -20, 24;
E. Coubat b G. Keen 18, -20, 22;
Wang/Coubat b Moller/Noor 16, 8;
Wang b Noor 13, 16;
Coubat b Moller -18, 13, 14;
Lelannic 1 Keen -18, -19.

Europe Club Cup of Champions

Round 2 of the women's section brought a home 5-0 win for N.F.D. Grove over TTC Dietikon of Switzerland and in Round 3 they travel to Austria to take on ATUS Judenburg Sparkasse, 5-4 winners over Trade Unions Moscow in the previous round. Good Luck Grove.

Grove's men's team were due to play Avila Rojas T.M. of Spain on October 26.

Stiga Junior Top 12

Italy will provide the venue for this season's Stiga Junior Top 12 over the weekend of Jan 26/27, 1991 the location for which has shall to be notified. The invitation list reads:-

Junior Boys

- 1 Torben Wosik (FRG)
- 2 Slobodan Grujic (YUG)
- 3 Mirko Pawlowski (FRG)
- 4 Thierry Tran (FRA)
- 5 Robert Pagonyi (HUN)
- 6 Piotr Szafranek (POL)
- 7 Christophe Legout (FRA)
- 8 Radek Kostal (TCH)
- 9 Christian Tol (ROM)
- 10 Italian Nominee

Cadets

- 11 Sergi Andrianov (URS)
- 12 Vladimir Samzanov (URS)

Reserves

- * Lacjan Blaszczyk (POL)
- Radek Mrkvicka (TCH)
- Stephane Lebrun (FRA)
- Gerd Kobes (HOL)
- Krisztian Gardos (HUN)
- David Gustafsson (SWE)

Junior Girls

- 1 Vanda Litinskaja (URS)
- 2 Oksana Kusch (URS)
- 3 Laura Niculae (ROM)
- 4 Ekaterina Tauschkanova (URS)
- 5 Anna Januszyk (POL)
- 6 Alena Vachovcova (TCH)
- 7 Sabina Martincova (TCH)
- 8 Vivien Ello (HUN)
- 9 Petra Fichtinger (AUT)
- 10 Italian Nominee

Cadets

- 11 Ana Gogorita (ROM)
- 12 Tatjana Kulagina (URS)

Reserves

- * Elke Schaeff (FRG)
- Cecile Ozer (BEL)
- Sandrine Derrien (FRA)
- Marie Persson (SWE)
- Melissa Muller (HOL)
- Krisztina Toth (HUN)

* To attend with travelling expenses to be paid by the ETTU if not called upon to play.

Players to be accompanied by 1 Official for up to 3 participants and 2 officials for more than 3 participants.

Only Westernfield's Nicola Deaton figures in the Junior and Cadet Classification Lists issued after the European Youth Championships in Hollobrunn being placed at No. 18 in the Cadet Girls list.

Junior and Cadet Classification Lists September 1990

Junior Boys

- 1 * Wosik Torben (FRG)
- 2 * Grujic Slobodan (YUG)
- 3 * Pawlowski Mirko (FRG)
- 4 * Tran Thierry (FRA)
- 5 Schlager Werner (AUT)
- 6 * Pagonyi Robert (HUN)
- 7 Olejnik Martin (TCH)
- 8 Noskov Sergei (URS)
- 9 * Szafranek Piotr (POL)
- 10 * Legout Christophe (FRA)
- 11 * Kostal Radek (TCH)

- 12 Lundquist Fredrik (SWE)
- 13 * Tol Cristian (ROM)
- 14 Janci Vladimir (TCH)
- 15 * Blaszczyk Lucjan (POL)
- 16 Janasek Tomas (TCH)
- 17 * Mrkvicka Radek (TCH)
- 18 Levandy Alexander (URS)
- 19 * Lebrun Stephane (FRA)
- 20 Napiorkowski Piotr (POL)
- 21 * Kobes Gerd (HOL)
- 22 Ricci Luca (ITA)
- 23 Divald Gadi (ISR)
- 24 * Gardos Krisztian (HUN)
- 25 Basis Guy (ISR)
- 26 Kalmar Tamas (HUN)
- 27 Grebentsev Alexandr (URS)
- 28 * Gustafsson David (SWE)
- 29 * Krzeszewski Tomas (POL)
- 30 Olsson Christian (SWE)

Junior Girls

- 1 Wirth Veronika (HUN)
 - 2 Kostromina Tatjana (URS)
 - 3 * Litinskaja Vanda (URS)
 - 4 Nastase Adriana (ROM)
 - 5 Kravchenko Marina (URS)
 - 6 * Kusch Oksana (URS)
 - 7 * Niculae Laura (ROM)
 - 8 * Tauschkanova Ekaterina (URS)
 - 9 * Januszyk Anna (POL)
 - 10 * Vachovcova Alena (TCH)
 - 11 * Martincova Sabina (TCH)
 - 12 * Ello Vivien (HUN)
 - 13 * Fichtinger Petra (AUT)
 - 14 * Schall Elke (FRG)
 - 15 * Ozer Cecile (BEL)
 - 16 Lelannic Agnes (FRA)
 - 17 Mladkova Luba (TCH)
 - 18 * Derrien Sandrine (FRA)
 - 19 * Persson Marie (SWE)
 - 20 Lichter Olga (URS)
 - 21 Bauer Anna (FRA)
 - 22 * Muller Melissa (HOL)
 - 23 * Toth Krisztina (HUN)
 - 24 Rascanu Julia (ROM)
 - 25 Nienhaus Sandra (FRG)
 - 26 * Cojocarui Georgeta (ROM)
 - 27 Ludewigs Heike (FRG)
 - 28 * Stanic Stanislava (YUG)
 - 29 Jonsson Jenny (SWE)
 - 30 * Creuze Caroline (FRA)
- Players noted * are still Juniors for 1990/91

Cadet Boys

- 1 Andrianov Sergei (URS)
- 2 Samsonov Vladimir (URS)
- 3 Kostner Sascha (FRG)
- 4 Batorfi Zoltan (HUN)
- 5 Bardon Andrej (TCH)
- 6 Hakansson Fredrik (SWE)
- 7 * Angel Simon (SWE)
- 8 * Krajcik Robert (TCH)
- 9 Karakasevic Aleksandr (YUG)
- 10 Fadeev Evgenij (URS)
- 11 Marzocchi Federico (ITA)
- 12 * Balogh Jozsef (HUN)
- 13 Zawadski Grzegorz (POL)
- 14 * Schroder Thomas (FRG)
- 15 * Pantelimon Marius (ROM)
- 16 Tancer Bronstajn (YUG)
- 17 Botram Marco (HOL)
- 18 * Lengerov Kostadin (BUL)
- 19 Stenberg Matias (SWE)
- 20 * Unterreiner Alexander (AUT)

Cadet Girls

- 1 Gogorita Ana (ROM)
- 2 Kulagina Tatjana (URS)
- 3 Cehovin Polona (YUG)
- 4 Fazekas Maria (HUN)
- 5 Herczig Judit (HUN)

- 6 Petra Gina (ROM)
 - 7 * Mancic Tanja (YUG)
 - 8 Savu Simona (ROM)
 - 9 Kulagina Ekaterina (URS)
 - 10 * Plakidina Elena (URS)
 - 11 Zschau Eva (FRG)
 - 12 Merenda Michele (ITA)
 - 13 Narkiewicz Joanna (POL)
 - 14 Langosz Jolanta (POL)
 - 15 Poliaczkova Zuzana (TCH)
 - 16 * Schmidt Nadine (FRG)
 - 17 Pavlova Julia (URS)
 - 18 * Deaton Nicola (ENG)
 - 19 Boileau Anne (FRA)
 - 10 Molnar Zita (HUN)
- Players noted * are still Cadets for 1990/91

European Women's League Premier Section

Results First Stage, Round 1 (18.9.90) First Division:

Group A at Bucarest

Romania - Sweden 2:5

at Budapest

Hungary - Germany FR	6:1		
1. Hungary	1	1:0	6:1
2. Sweden	1	1:0	5:2
3. Romania	1	0:1	2:5
4. Germany FR	1	0:1	1:6

Group B at Jeumont

France - Netherlands 6:1

at Lillehall

England - Czechoslovakia	5:2		
1. France	1	1:0	6:1
2. England	1	1:0	5:2
3. Czechoslovakia	1	0:1	2:5
4. Netherlands	1	0:1	1:6

EUROFIX

Joola European League Group Matches

Division One - Group A

Nov 17 Austria v England

Nov 17 Spain v Italy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 15/18	'Sovetskaya Kultura' Invitation (Moscow)
Nov 22/25	Yugoslav Open (Nis)
Nov 29 - Dec 2	French Open (Lyons)
1991	
Jan	Stiga Europe Junior Top 12 (Italy)
Jan 18/20	European Nations Cup (FR Germ.)
Feb 1/3	Stiga Europe Top 12 (s-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands)
Feb 21/24	Czechoslovak Open (Presov)
Apr 24 - May 6	41st World Championships (Chiba City, Japan)
May 25/27	English Junior Open (Bridlington)
May 31 - June 2	French Junior Open (La Roche s/Yon)
June 21/23	Italian Jun Open
July 20/28	34th European Youth Championships (Granada, Spain)
Sept 27/29	European Masters Cup (FR Germ.)
Oct	Polish Open
Oct 24/27	Swiss Open (Geneva)
Nov 14/17	Hungarian Open (Budapest)
Nov 28 - Dec 1	Swedish Open (SOC) (Sundsvall)
Dec 5-8	Finlandia Open



George Yates

THE CHINESE CONNECTION

GRAHAM Clarke has just returned from a Chinese experience he hopes will lift him into the top 50 of English players.

The Hyde Vymura International player, along with three scousers and a couple of

cockneys, put their savings on the line in a bid to learn some of the secrets that have consistently put Chinese players on top of the world.

Already, after returning from a month's solid practice in the provincial town of Tenjin, two hours north of the old city of

Beijing, the gamble is beginning to pay off. Before he left Graham was ranked 116th, when the rankings come out again next month, he expects to have broken the 100 barrier after beating players well above him in the current listings.

"They completely took my game apart and started from scratch," he said. "One of the first things our coach said to me was that because I was on the small size, I should be playing their type of game."

"We practised a lot on my forehead. They had me standing nearer the table and showed me how to kill the ball quicker."

"We practised six hours a day, six days a week and all around us were Chinese players doing exactly the same. Nobody took any notice of us, we were just one of them."

"It was practice, practice all the time. They gave us a day off to do some shopping and then it was back to the table," he said.

"Some of the youngsters couldn't have been more than five or six years old yet they were looping and playing some very advanced shots. What they will be like in a few years time I cannot imagine."

"I have always found playing against defenders difficult. But thanks to the Chinese way of teaching, it is now all so much easier."

Graham's aim now is to make the top 50 in the country and then perhaps return again in the future, just to pick up some more tips.

It seems the Chinese connection is already being used by other countries as well.

"Some of the more frequent visitors these days are the top Swedish players who make no secret of the fact that they still have a lot to learn."

Anti Drug Rules

As a responsible controlling body in sport, the ETTA, with a large number of active players, adopted rules and procedures aimed at combating the abuse of drugs. The ETTA co-operates with the Sports Council's drive against this form of cheating.

Members are strongly urged to study the relevant rules which are reproduced below. Remember that these and other rules were passed by majorities of two thirds or more at AGMs of the Association.

Particular attention is drawn to 32.8.4.

- 32.8.1. Doping is prohibited, doping being the use by a player of any of the substances specified in the List of Banned Substances contained in Appendix 'P' to these Rules.
- 32.8.2.1. The List of Banned Substances shall include all the substances listed in the International Olympic Committee's Medical Commission's list of banned substances and such other substances as the National Council shall decide.
- 32.8.2.2. Any change made by the International Olympic Committee's Medical Commission in its list of banned substances shall be copied in the list in Appendix 'P' on the day following the day on which the ETTA shall have received notification of the change, and the revised list shall have immediate effect.
- 32.8.3. For the purposes of Rule 32.8.1 use shall be conclusively established by —
 - 32.8.3.1. in the case of an endogenous banned substance the presence of a body fluid, established by quantitative analysis, of more than the amount specified by the International Olympic Committee's Medical Commission as the amount the presence of which is the minimum necessary to show that the quantity present could not have occurred naturally.
 - 32.8.3.2. in the case of any other banned substance the identification in a body fluid of it and/or one of its metabolites.

32.8.4. Failure to undergo a doping control test, if requested by an official designated by the ETTA for the purpose, will be treated as a positive result having been obtained.

- 32.8.5. A Member shall not assist or incite any player to contravene Rule 32.8.1 nor distribute any banned substance to any player.
- 32.8.6. If use by a player is established as provided by Rule 32.8.3 —
 - 32.8.6.1. the General Secretary shall make a formal allegation of breach of rule against that player and
 - 32.8.6.2. that player shall forthwith be suspended from the privileges of membership until the Disciplinary Committee proceedings and any appeal against the decision in those proceedings have been completed.
- 32.8.7. In any case of breach of Rule 32.8.1. there shall be a right of appeal to the Board of Appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

NOTE:

The National Council has decided as a matter of policy that in the case of breach of Rule 32.8.1 the normal minimum penalty should be a two years' suspension; where abuse is of a more serious and deliberate nature a much longer period would be expected to be appropriate.

Photographs

Unfortunately the quality of some of our pictures in the October issue were not of the usual standard. This was due to technical difficulties with which we shall not bore you.

However, it should be noted that colour photographs are NOT suitable for magazines in the main printed in black and white. Would contributors please send black and white photos only with good, clear definitions.

Only the cover is in colour and any pictures sent would need to be of exceptional quality to be considered.

Editor

THE MONEY GAME

THE Sports Council is an independent body established in 1972 by Royal Charter. It has a remit covering British sport as a whole, but it is mainly concerned with English matters as there are separate Councils for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It consists of members, all of whom are appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment, and around 600 permanent employees.

It aims to increase the provision of sports facilities, increase levels of participation, raise standards of performance and provide information for, and about sport. The council receives a grant from central government (£39m in 1988/9) to carry out its activities, and it is responsible for the allocation of grants to governing bodies of sport, i.e. English Table Tennis Association. The amount of grant each sport receives, depends upon the size of the association and the proposed activities. To ascertain this, and other facts, each governing body submits a detailed forward plan, where the merits of expenditure are evaluated.

The ETTA have a current four year (1989/93) forward plan which sets out ETTA objectives and details how it is proposed that objectives will be met, and how much it will cost to meet them (i.e. how much grant is needed).

The table tennis forward development plan received full backing from the Sports Council (not all do!) and was praised for its content and presentation.

In 1989, the ETTA received £190,235 from the Sports Council which represents just under half of the Association's income (compare this with £97,039 affiliation fees income — one fifth of the Association's income).

The Sports Council HQ are in Euston, London and there are 10 regional councils spread throughout England which bring together local interests. Each council has an officer who has responsibilities for table tennis as a liaison officer. Revenue grants (or Regional Participation Grants as they were once known) are available through regional sports council offices. These grants financially assist voluntary (i.e. local clubs) statutory and commercial organisations.

Applications for a grant should reflect sports council objectives and like all good development projects, should give details of how the proposed project will develop to become independent (i.e. self supporting) on exhaustion of sports council funding.

Examples of successful table tennis grant applications have included the following: improvement of lighting, purchase of new equipment, creation of a schools project, funding of a coaching centre etc.



by Diccon Gray
(National Development Officer)

THE Sports Council is often the only means of survival for many sporting organisations. Without it's annual cash injection many would go out of business and sport today is big business. The ETTA works closely with The Sports Council and here we explain how local clubs can benefit also.

A co-ordinated and well structured application is more likely to be successful if the ETTA both regionally and nationally are informed of intentions. Anybody applying for a grant would be advised to contact myself at the ETTA when help, advice (including relevant contacts) and at the very least support can be given.

Types of schemes which would be considered eligible for grant aid are as follows:

- the employment of a sports development officer or motivator
 - the training and provision of coaches
 - coaching of skills to raise standards of performance
 - the organisation of publicity and promotional events
- Costs which are allowable are:
- salaries and the costs of a worker
 - publicity materials
 - administration costs (e.g. postage, typing, printing etc.)
 - sports officials and coaches fees (including travel)

— purchase of equipment required to progress the scheme or an integral part of it. Initial enquires for grants are encouraged in narrative style, before any forms are filled. However, the following information should be included:

- purpose of the scheme; its objectives
- detailed programme of activities of events
- estimate of costs
- other sources of income to help meet these costs

If you feel that your project meets the criteria above, why not phone me, Diccon Gray at HQ on 0424 722525 to discuss it further?

FUND RAISING FOR SPORT by Hywel Griffiths

A RECENT report has shown that sport in Britain needs to become more expert in the business of raising cash often to survive. As a nation we are good organisers, but we don't like asking for other people's money.

But there are ways of raising money for sport; hence this book which will be invaluable to the many clubs and centres, struggling to make ends meet.

It isn't only God who helps those who help themselves. Self help is a hallowed and respected tradition in voluntary sport. Many of the facilities which we enjoy and admire today were provided through the work and fund raising efforts of our predecessors. In these difficult financial times the problems of helping yourself and providing everything your club needs through your own efforts are becoming more and more difficult. Even with the advent of financial help from statutory and charitable funds, fund raising is often the biggest problem facing the voluntary sports club as it strives to survive and to improve the quality of the facilities and opportunities which it provides for its membership.

The Sports Council is pleased to help and encourage such efforts with grant aid where it can, but our resources are never sufficient to meet all the demands made upon them. Neither would we wish to assume the role of totally funding voluntary projects as such a role would only create dependence and reduce initiative.

We do, however, have a role in disseminating knowledge so that people can benefit from the experience of others. Our regional staff deal with many, many clubs who are involved in projects to provide new or improved facilities or who are seeking to help promising players, and, through our grant aid we have come into contact with many interesting ideas for raising money to finance such projects.

This publication is, then, a distillation of the knowledge and experience which we have gathered over our many years of involvement in voluntary fund raising.

There are many very good general fund raising books on the market and many of the ideas which fund raisers in other fields have developed are applicable to sports clubs. Up until now there has been nowhere where the club administration has been able to turn for advice which directly relates to the problems of sports clubs, but with this publication we hope that you will find all the help that you need between two covers.

I commend this book to anyone facing the problem of raising cash.

Dick Jeeps (Chairman — The Sports Council)

England manager and national coach Don Parker continues his coaching tips with a look at the forehand and backhand drives. How to add power to your strokes and the importance of getting into the right position at the right time.

IT'S only a matter of time before you will want to start hitting the ball harder. Although the temptation to take a swipe at it may prove to be overwhelming, it will be a pointless exercise if you keep missing the other side of the table.

Moving the ball faster takes time to learn in table tennis, as in many other sports. This is a gradual process and improvement doesn't occur overnight, so be prepared to spend time and patience on developing your basic technique. The starting point is to keep the ball going during practice for as long as possible.

To hit hard, you must be able to generate power. Power is what makes your bat move fast through the air. Power comes from using the bigger muscles in your body — for example, in your upper legs, back and stomach — and from aiming your swing slightly lower. Other than this, the basic technique involved in powerful backhand and forehand shots remains unchanged.

Fast Forehand Drive

You use your arm and body for this, throwing your body weight firmly forward from your back leg to the front one as you strike hard 'through' the ball.

You start in a side-on position, and must rotate your waist during the action so that your shoulders are able to swing into the stroke. You end up square-on to the table.

Keep the shoulder and elbow of your playing arm 'loose'. You effectively lengthen your arm by increasing the angle of your elbow, but don't hold it completely straight. As you accelerate your bat towards the ball, your elbow must be able to close as you make contact. The greater part of your swing should occur before you hit the ball, not after.

For maximum effect, the bat should hit straight through the ball, which, as usual, needs to be taken at the top of its bounce. You have to get the sequence just right. The power comes first through the legs, then the waist, shoulder down through the elbow, and finally into the wrist and bat.



Picture shows: Alan Cooke, one of the most powerful hitters in the game.

Try to imagine that your body is a lightning conductor with the electricity — or in your case power — passing through your legs and into your bat. This is basically as for your backhand, but with more of your body action going into it. Keep to a stance which is square-on to where you intend the ball to go.

Fast Backhand

The same principles apply to hitting hard on the backhand as on the forehand although it is harder to get quite as much body action into it. Again, you increase the power of the shot by a slight twist of the waist; if you are a right hander, turn a little to the left and bring your right shoulder into line with the

flight of the ball.

Extend your arm at the elbow and bend your knees ready to push your weight forward into the shot. With your bat held out a little to the left of your hips, start to straighten your legs and rotate your shoulders back towards a square-on position.

At virtually the same time, start your swing, using your shoulder first and then your elbow. You should be hitting the ball at the top of its bounce, at a point roughly in line with your stomach.

(Take up Table Tennis by Don Parker is published by Springfield Books.)



Tips from the Top

MAKE sure when you are competing in a tournament that you keep drinking water to replace body fluids. It is best to buy your own small plastic bottle and keep sipping throughout the day. Remember, if you feel thirsty then it is too late and your performance will have already been affected.

★

As well as drinking it is important to keep your energy levels topped up which does not mean having a Mars just before going on the table. This causes an immediate increase in energy followed by a drop which can cause that weak legged, light headed feeling at 15-15 in the first game. Ideally eat a well balanced high carbohydrate meal about three hours before you start preparing to compete. When this is not possible a banana is a useful snack at a tournament as this is high in fructose. It is always an excellent idea to use a glucose polymer (a white energy powder) in your water bottle making up about a 10 per cent solution i.e. 10 grams/litre. This is the best way to maintain your glycogen level, the immediate form of energy, at its highest throughout a days play.

★

Most players know the advantages and importance of warming up, but how many 'warm down'? After a hard training session or game there will be lactic acid in the system which needs to be removed as quickly as possible or it will effect subsequent performances. By gentle jogging and simple stretching for five minutes the increase in the speed of reduction of lactic acid is very significant and means the performer is more likely to produce his or her best on the next trip to the table.

Next: Spin

COLIN SPEAKS TO ASIAN REFEREES



A REFEREE'S seminar will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, immediately before the Asian Championships later this month, followed by the first International Referee examination.

Two candidates will be invited from each of seven Asian associations and the Oceania Federation. Invitations will be sent direct to Associations which have staged world, continental or Olympic championships in the past five years i.e. China, India, Japan, Malaysia and the Republic of Korea — and the ATTU will be asked to nominate two other Asian associations.

The seminar will consist of a written IR examination and interviews. Although accommodation and meals will be free participants will be expected to make their own travel arrangements.

Speakers are expected to include Chandra Kelekar, referee of the 1975 and 1987 world championships; Borje Karlsson, referee of the 1985 world championships and 1990 European Championships and Colin Clemett, chairman of the ITTF Rules Committee, who will jointly conduct the examination.

WORLD FOCUS ON HASTINGS

HASTINGS, more known for 1066 and all that, is rapidly making a name for itself in the world of sport.

The world governing body of Squash, the International Squash Rackets Federation, is moving its Secretariat to Hastings after appointing Ted Wallbutton as its Executive Director.

The ISRF therefore joins the ITTF as one of the world governing bodies with HQ's in Hastings. Other sports include athletics, badminton, tennis and yacht racing.

At the start of the season (September) the little town with the big reputation played host to the world windsurfing championships.

The English Table Tennis Association have had their headquarters there for many years.

WORLD RANKING

MEN'S INDIVIDUAL

- 1 Waldner Jan-Ove (SWE)
- 2 Appelgren Mikael (SWE)
- 3 Grubba Andrej (POL)
- 4 Persson Jorgen (SWE)
- 5 Yoo Nam Kyu (KOR)
- 6 Chen Longcan (CHN)
- 7 Ma Wenge (CHN)
- 8 Yu Shentong (CHN)
- 9 Lindh Erik (SWE)
- 10 Roskopf Jörg (FRG)
- 11 Li Gun Sang (PRK)
- 12 Chen Zhibin (CHN)
- 13 Gatien Jean-Philippe (FRA)
- 14 Kim Song Hui (PRK)
- 15 Saive Jean-Michel (BEL)
- 16 Kim Taek Soo (KOR)
- 17 Primorac Joran (YUG)
- 18 Mazunov Andrei (URS)
- 19 Saito Kiyoshi (JPN)
- 20 Xu Zengcai (CHN)
- 21 Teng Yi (CHN)
- 22 Lupulesku Ilija (YUG)
- 23 Prean Carl (ENG)
- 24 Wei Qingguang (CHN)
- 25 Böhm Georg-Zsolt (FRG)
- 26 Chen Xinhua (ENG)
- 27 Kucharski Leszek (POL)
- 28 Chu Jong Chol (PRK)
- 29 Mazunov Dmitrij (URS)
- 30 Xie Chaojie (CHN)
- 31 Kim Ki Taek (KOR)
- 32 Ding Yi (AUT)
- 33 Cooke Alan (ENG)
- 34 Klampar Tibor (HUN)
- 35 Ahn Jae Hyung (KOR)
- 36 Douglas Desmond (ENG)
- 37 Haldan Paul (HOL)
- 38 Lochuen Tsung (HKG)
- 39 Matsushita Koji (JPN)
- 40 Wu Wen-Chia (TPE)
- 41 Kalinic Joran (YUG)
- 42 Fetzner Steffen (FRG)
- 43 Wang Yansheng (NOR)
- 44 Shibutani Hiroshi (JPN)
- 45 Kriston Zsolt (HUN)
- 46 Karlsson Peter (SWE)
- 47 Wang Yonggang (CHN)
- 48 Kano Claudio (BRA)
- 49 Janci Tomas (TCH)
- 50 Cabrera Thierry (BEL)
- 51 Carlsson Ulf (SWE)
- 52 Want Tao (CHN)
- 53 Bengtsson Ulf (SWE)
- 54 Miyazaki Yoshihito (JPN)
- 55 Loukov Marlan (BUL)
- 56 Korbel Peter (TCH)
- 57 ONO Seiji (JPN)
- 58 Harczy Zsolt (HUN)
- 59 Cecava Miroslav (TCH)
- 60 Musa Atanda (NGR)
- 61 Javurek Jiri (TCH)

- 62 Nukazuka Juzo (JPN)
- 63 Fan Yiyong (CHN)
- 64 Von Scheele Thomas (SWE)
- 65 Andrew Skylet (ENG)
- 66 Marmurek Olivier (FRA)
- 67 Dvorak Vladmir (URS)
- 68 Zhang Lei (CHN)
- 69 Chih Chin-Long (TPE)
- 70 Constantini Massimo (ITA)

WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL

- 1 Qiao Hong (CHN)
- 2 Chen Jing (CHN)
- 3 Li Bun Hui (PRK)
- 4 Chen Zihe (CHN)
- 5 Hyun Jung Hwa (KOR)
- 6 Deng Yaping (CHN)
- 7 Guergueltcheva Daniela (BUL)
- 8 Batorfi Csilla (HUN)
- 9 Chai Po Wa (HKG)
- 10 Chan Tan Lui (HKG)
- 11 Li Jun (CHN)
- 12 Wirth Cabriella (HUN)
- 13 Nemes Olga (FRG)
- 14 Hoshino Mika (JPN)
- 15 Gao Jun (CHN)
- 16 Ding Yaping (CHN)
- 17 Yu Sun Bok (PRK)
- 18 Wang Xiaoming (FRA)
- 19 Badescu Otilia (ROM)
- 20 Geng Lijuan (CAN)
- 21 Uchiyama Kyoko (JPN)
- 22 Hrachova Marie (TCH)
- 23 Hu Xiaoxin (CHN)
- 24 Tu Yong (SUI)
- 25 Hong Cha Ok (KOR)
- 26 Hooman Mirjam (HOL)
- 27 Safarova Alena (TCH)
- 28 Popova Valentina (URS)
- 29 Urban Edit (HUN)
- 30 Kasalova Renata (TCH)
- 31 Bulatova Fliura (URS)
- 32 Hong Soon Hwa (KOR)
- 33 Fazlic Jasna (YUG)
- 34 Cho Jong Hui (PRK)
- 35 Palina Frina (URS)
- 36 Svansson Marie (SWE)
- 37 Perkucin Gordana (YUG)
- 38 Han Hye Song (PRK)
- 39 Vrieskoop Bettine (HOL)
- 40 Lee Tae Joo (KOR)
- 41 An Hui Suk (PRK)
- 42 Lomas Lisa (ENG)
- 43 Pang Chun Dok (PRK)
- 44 Gordon Alison (ENG)
- 45 Xu Jin (CHN)
- 46 Liu Wei (CHN)
- 47 Yamashita Fumiyo (JPN)
- 48 Timina Elena (URS)
- 49 Mok Ka Sha (HKG)
- 50 Keen Gerda (HOL)

THE IOC has confirmed, in response to Mr. Ogimura's request, that as two bronze medals in each event are awarded at our World championships, the same can apply in the event at the Olympic Games in Barcelona. This means of course that there will be no play-offs for third and fourth place. This represents a change from the system in Seoul.

ITTF committee members who are not doing their job are being given a last chance to do something about it. Up to 30% are not playing any useful part in the work of their committees and now individual associations are being advised that they are not carrying out their duties.

ALBERT SHIPLEY who left the ETTA after 23 years as general secretary for a position as tournament director with the ITTF was an outstanding candidate. Apparently there were very many applications of a very high calibre. But according to the ITTF executive committee, "because of his outstanding experience and qualifications we had no hesitation in giving him the job." Well done, Albert.

SUPER star Jan Ove Waldner may be in the army this time next year. In Sweden they still have military service as mandatory and not even a world champion can escape the call to duty.

But not only is Waldner due to join up, so are Jorgen Persson and Peter Karlsson and Erik Lindh which could all add up to a real blow to European table tennis.

Table tennis is supposed to be a simple game. Yet in Japan next year, just before the World Championships, they will be holding a conference to discuss the physiological, biological, psychological and medical aspects of the sport.

Fiji and Western Samou have been elected into provisional membership of the ITTF.

Our thanks to the ITTF Bulletin for the above information.

European League for Women

A MAGNIFICENT
MATCH

ENGLAND defeated France 4-3 on October 16 to make certain of a place in the semi-finals. Those are the bare bones of a magnificent, tremendously exciting match, in which our girls led 2-1 before the interval, went down 2-3 and triumphed 4-3.

The Peniel Academy provided a marvellous venue and a gate of over 200 which meant that about a quarter of the places were empty. Those who did not come really missed something! I can think of few matches in the main event of the European League which equalled this — none better.

Andrea to the fore

England captain Jill Hammersley-Parker stuck to the line-up which had produced that staggering upset against Czechoslovakia. So Andrea Holt opened against Agnes Lezannic, last year's French Junior Champion and a defender.

An opening 21-12 victory caused us few anxieties and when Andrea led 19-16 in the second after some very crisp hitting, we settled down for a quick victory, especially with her good servis to come. Instead it was 19 all and when the Bury girl had put away a smash only to move the table in the process she was 19-20 down! She saved that game point and eventually won 23-21, each point being highly dramatic.

Fabulous...

The star of the French, the Chinese girl Wang Xiao Ming was next on the table against our No. 1 Lisa Lomas. It was to prove a fabulous match in which Lisa played better than I had seen her do for some years. She could not have played better than she did to go 12-5 up, but her opponent's very safe looping and a few missed hits saw Lisa's lead dwindle and she lost 21-19 when everything had looked so good.

She won the next by the same score, picking up a lot of points with lobs and floated balls to the base line, though each point had to be fought for and numerous returns had to be made or a good hit had to be put away. Wang is on most days as good as any player in Europe and this was one of them.

The key match..?

1-1 and Alison Gordon to play Emmanuelle Coubat against whom she has both won and lost with 19 in the 3rd a not unusual result. The French girl has a sharp forehand counter hit and pimples on the backhand with which she makes some very good winners, but also mistakes against spinny loops.

Alison won the first 21-17 but lost the second to 18. The French girl had the better of the early stages in the third, but an excellent run saw us through by 21-13. It was a dream-like spell by the Reading girl. In my calculations I had seen this as the key match, if the form book prevailed the rest of the evening. I suppose it did in the end, but not without the most enormous tension and excitement.

The doubles, Lisa and Andrea for us, Wang and Coubat for the French saw the visitors on top almost throughout winning by twice 15. We could not complain. They played very well.

Wang strikes

Andrea against Wang was always going to be a stern test and a French lead of 15-5 did not encourage great hopes. A pull-up to 15-10 did, but the Chinese girl then shut shop and won 21-10.

Some crisp hitting induced some uncertainties in the second game which Andrea won to 17, but the third went beyond control quite quickly and to defeat by 21-1. Our fortunes had changed rapidly, 2-1 up and then 2-3 down. No further defeat was possible, if we were to win.

Gordon and Lomas strike back

How would Miss Gordon fare against the French defender? It was to prove an uphill task as the first game slipped away to 17. Patience is not only a virtue against good defence, it is essential. Only on lucky days will a diet of 3rd balls and roulette tactics succeed.

Alison was to discover that in the first game. However, in the second and third she looped with some purpose and worked hard for her points with only the occasional hopeful flash. Two wins to 12 was no more than she deserved for her impressive application.



Alison Gordon

I was beginning to feel hopeful by now. Lisa Lomas had been playing so well. Surely victory was only a formality if she was in that sort of form? She herself had told me that she had twice lost to the French girl. It was information which at the time I could have done without! However, she fully lived up to my confidence winning the first game 21-9.

It was to be a different story in the second as the her opponent swept into useful leads and was now dealing with the defensive problems rather well. Lisa's hitting was off target more often than not. Just when we settled down for a third game, a fine run of winners and immaculate defence swept Lisa to a famous 21-19 victory which sealed the match and our place in the semi-finals.

How Table Tennis should be...

These will be played on a home and away basis. I think our girls will now win the group which if I am right, will mean a match against Rumania, Sweden or Germany. I think Hungary (Batorfi, Wirth, Urban) will win the other group and are likely finalists and tough opponents for the ones who prevail to that stage.

Our girls have already done magnificently. I know they will not rest on their laurels and will try to go all the way. I hope that, wherever we stage these matches, our members and fans will come out in force, because we have an excellent and attractive team.

The audience at the Peniel Academy really rose to the occasion

and gave splendid support which I regarded as quite indispensable in our victory. Our warmest thanks, yet again, to Mike Reid and his team at Peniel who made this superb occasion possible. How often have I said this before? This is a part of England where Table Tennis LIVES.

It was by any standards a great day for our sport, a game played over 4 hours to the highest standards of skill and sportsmanship, an audience enthusiastic and enthralled. That is what table tennis should be, what it can be. Adjectives fail me at last.

Well done, players, promoters, audience and ETTA who worked hard, at one time almost alone, to make the project of a European Women's League possible.

What I saw on October 16 amply repays us for our efforts.

JOHN PREAN

RESULTS

Andrea Holt v Agnes Lezannic 12, 21. 1—0
 Lisa Lomas v Wang Xiao Ming 19, 19, -17. 1—1
 Alison Gordon v Emmanuelle Coubat 17, -18, 13. 2—1
 Andrea Holt/Lisa Lomas v Wang Xiao Ming/Emmanuelle Coubat -15, -15. 2—2
 Andrea Holt v Wang Xiao Ming -10, 17, -11. 2—3
 Alison Gordon v Agnes Lezannic -17, 12, 12. 3—3
 Lisa Lomas v Emmanuelle Coubat 9, 19. 4—3

GROVE OPEN IN STYLE

Reports Mike Loveder

THERE were no surprises in the Premier Division. NFD Grove beat Team Peniel 8-0 although John Holland took both Chris Oldfield and Des Douglas to three games. Grant Solder made his premier debut helping Bathwick Tyres 1 to an 8-0 win over West Warwicks.

Ornesby beat Ellenborough 6-2 with Nigel Eckersley losing the two to Ewan Walker and Colin Wilson. Butterfly Cardiff beat DML

Pickard despite Leigh Jeffries bagging a duck. Ruston Marconi Lincoln and St Neots shared the points. Jason Bamford did well to beat Keith Richardson and Stephen Moore. However his effort was off-set by two from Stuart Palmer.

Division 2 North seems to be set to be steam-rolled by Yugo Cars I. With Dave Gannon, Keith Rodger, Lindsay Taylor and, at No. 4, Denis Neale they are capable of

off to a healthy start with a 6-2 win over Colley Toyota 11. Colin Bowler beat Lee Thomas and David Buck.

Ellenborough 11 triumphed 6-2 over Horsham Dolphins 2nd in Division 2 South. Nicky McKoy beat Peter Bartram and Paul Elphick. John Lennon did well too beating Andy Walker and Paul Barry. TSP Larkhall 1 beat Gunnersbury

game to Neil Parkin but beat Paul Moore. Oldham journeyed to Borough of Sunderland to share the points. Nicholas Mooney and Norman Thewlis both won games at deuce in the third for Oldham.

Two new teams in Division 3 South, Edison and Linda Farrow, shared the points too. David Tan and his brother Peter won three for Linda Farrow with the equaliser coming from Duncan Taylor against Mark Henn. Rejects 111 secured a slightly surprising 5-3 win over Bri-Bar Ashford with Jason Blake and Steve Carpenter beating Paul Amos. Sean Kelly scraped home 19, -19, 20 in the last game against Desiree Joseph to make the scoreline look more respectable.

In Division 3 East three Tenders and Clive Carpenter (Fellows Cranleigh) overcame Levi's Westfield 2nd 5-3. Daddy Tendler (John — the one with the anti-loop) led by example winning his two against Gary Hamilton and Keiron Dabbs. Young Gary Tendler benefitted from the experience while elder brother Jason won his two, both at 16 in the third.

BSG Brentwood beat Britannia AC1 2nd 7-1. David and Martin Cole win four of them, Peter Hayden two and Paul Stephens the other. Charles Fulcher took the consolation game. Yugo Cars 2nd beat Uxbridge (Burton) 6-2 with the resistance coming from Ivor Warner who beat Jimmy Brewster and Michael Laird.

In the 'West' the two Hampshire teams — Amity Generation 2 Fareham and Hall, Pain, Foster Alpha Southampton — battled it out with the former winning 5-3. They would probably tell you it should have been 8-0 as Andrew Ely beat Mark Bleakley at 19 in the third and Ramesh Bhalla 17 & 19. Tony Catt beat Graham Toole 20 and 20 to level the match at 3-3 which gives a slightly different picture.

Parkside Dragons (Newport) beat Bathwick Tyres 3rd 5-3 with the last four games all going to three. Tony Holmes beat Ian Johnson 7, -16, 11 to secure the points. Despite two wins from Adrian Thorp Leckie lost 3-5 to NFD Grove 4th. Spencer Harris won two to help complete Grove's four wins in a weekend.



Chris Oldfield

Destroyers 5-3. The England No. 8 veteran, Mike Short, recorded a useful win over the Welsh No. 1, Steve Ward, at deuce in the third. Paul Whiting beat Paul Giles and Tony Taylor.

From the 'wilds of the north-west' NFD Grove 2nd appear in Division 1 South and they opened their account with a 5-3 win over Colley Toyota. The latter have recruited Dave Barr who beat Steve Slater and Jonathan Taylor in straight games.

Rejects were hammered 7-1 by Chelmsford OC's with Clive Carthy beating John Dennison at 19 in the third but losing to Dave Newman at 18 in the third. Victoria Park Mazda achieved a 5-3 win over Team Peniel 2nd despite Andrew Eden winning his two. George Evan did well to beat Lisa Lomas 18 & 17.

NFD Grove also appear in Division 1 North and, led by Andrea Holt, they beat Norwich Foxwood 6-2. The latter found it was tough going without their No. 1 Neil

recording wins in the Premier Division! They made short work of Chan Construction 11 although Neale had '2 1/2' games with Kwok Chan, winning 17, -18, 3.

Ornesby and Vymura International drew with surprise wins for Graham Clarke and Derek Schofield over Bennie Robertson. Burslem scraped a 5-3 win over City of Leicester with six games going to three. In the eighth game Mark Illingsworth beat John Hancock 19, -18, 23. Humberside Andro beat Cambridge 5-3 thanks in part to a -17, 17, 20 win by Lee Hewitt over Gary Jordan.

Chris Holley and Alex Perry led Bathwick Tyres 2nd to a 7-1 win over White Hart Launcester in Division 2 Midland. Greg Bridgett beat Diccon Gray 18 & 19 for consolation. With two useful wins from Colin Greens, Chan Construction 1 held Birmingham Sports Cudworth to a draw. Pete Machin won the other two for Chan. City of Milton Keynes, led by John Burleton, got

Triangle 6-2 with the resistance coming in the form of David Goode who beat Brian Garroway and Mike Hammond.

In Division 3 South TSP Larkhall 11 shared the points with Pilling Air Croydon after leading 4-1. Chris Ross got his money's worth that afternoon losing to Steve Davis, 19, -14, 19 but beating Gordon Chapman 12, -14, 19.

Further north Vymura International 11 beat Ornesby 111 8-0, all games won two-straight and with Keith Whittaker nominated the outstanding player. Howles Blaydon inflicted a 7-1 defeat on the Tigers with two sets won in single figures. Peter Hoyles at No. 4 lost -19, -22 to Malcolm Langford but then conceded his last game against Bob Brown.

John Crawford and Steve Cooper were impressive for SEE South West Durham in their 7-1 win against Lifeline Developments Crusaders. England No. 3 veteran Malcolm Corking lost his opening

BRITISH LEAGUE - 2

PREMIER DIVISION								DIVISION 3 (EAST)								
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts									
NFD Grove 1	2	2	0	0	16	0	4	BSG Brentwood	2	2	0	0	14	2	4	
Ormesby 1	2	2	0	0	14	2	4	Yugo Cars 11	2	2	0	0	12	4	4	
Bathwick Tyres 1	2	1	1	0	12	4	3	Team Peniel 111	1	1	0	0	6	2	2	
Butterfly Cardiff	2	1	1	0	9	7	3	Fellows Cranleigh 11	2	1	0	1	6	10	2	
Team Peniel 1	2	1	0	1	5	11	2	Levi's Westfield	1	0	0	1	3	5	0	
Ellenborough 1	2	0	0	2	5	11	0	Uxbridge (Burton)	2	2	0	2	4	12	0	
DML Destroyers	2	0	0	2	3	13	0	Britannia ACI 11	2	0	0	2	3	13	0	
West Warwickshire	2	0	0	2	0	16	0	DIVISION 3 (WEST)								
DIVISION 1 (NORTH)								Amity Generation 2 Fareham	2	2	0	0	12	4	4	
St. Neots	2	1	1	0	9	7	3	NFD Grove 1V	1	1	0	0	5	3	2	
NFD Grove 111	1	1	0	0	6	2	2	Hall, Pain & Foster Alpha	2	1	0	1	8	8	2	
Liverpool	1	1	0	0	5	3	2	Parkside Dragons Newport	2	1	0	1	8	8	2	
Britannia Potters Leisure	2	1	0	1	8	8	2	Bathwick Tyres 111	2	0	1	1	7	9	1	
Norwich Foxwood	2	1	0	1	7	9	2	Leckie TTC	2	0	1	1	7	9	1	
Ruston Marconi Lincoln	2	0	1	1	7	9	1	Thoms (Dudley) TTC	1	0	0	1	1	7	0	
Well Connected Menswear	1	0	0	1	3	5	0	DIVISION 2 (SOUTH)								
City of Leeds	1	0	0	1	3	5	0	TSP Larkhall 1	3	3	0	0	19	5	6	
DIVISION 1 (SOUTH)								Ellenborough 11	2	1	1	0	10	6	3	
NFD Grove 11	2	2	0	0	13	3	4	Gunnersbury Triangle	2	1	0	1	9	7	2	
Chelmsford OC's	2	2	0	0	12	4	4	AHW (Bletchley) Comets	2	0	0	1	7	9	2	
Victoria Park Mazda	2	2	0	0	12	4	4	Jolliffe Poole	2	1	0	0	7	9	2	
Team Peniel 11	2	1	0	1	10	6	2	Fellows Cranleigh 1	1	0	1	0	4	4	1	
Kleinwort Benson Gill'ham	2	1	0	1	8	8	2	Horsham Dolphins 11	2	0	0	2	4	12	0	
Colley Toyota 1	2	0	0	2	4	12	0	Rejects 11	2	0	0	2	4	12	0	
Horsham Dolphins 1	2	0	0	2	4	12	0	DIVISION 3 (NORTH)								
Rejects 1	2	0	0	2	1	15	0	Vymura International 1	2	2	0	0	16	0	4	
DIVISION 2 (NORTH)								SEE South West Durham TTC	2	2	0	0	13	3	4	
Burslem	2	2	0	0	11	5	4	Borough of Sunderland	2	1	1	0	10	6	3	
Humberside Andro	2	2	0	0	11	5	4	Hoyles Blayden YC	2	1	0	1	9	7	2	
Yugo Cars 1	2	1	1	0	12	4	3	Lifeline Dev. Crusaders	2	1	0	1	7	9	2	
Ormesby 11	2	0	2	0	8	8	2	Oldham	2	0	1	1	4	12	1	
Vymura International 1	2	0	2	0	8	8	2	Tigers TTC	2	0	0	2	3	13	0	
City of Leicester	2	0	1	1	7	9	1	Ormesby 111	2	0	0	2	2	14	0	
Cambridge TTC	2	0	0	2	5	11	0	DIVISION 3 (SOUTH)								
Chan Construction 11	2	0	0	2	2	14	0	Rejects 111	3	2	1	0	15	9	5	
DIVISION 2 (MIDLAND)								Edison TTC	2	1	1	0	10	6	3	
City of Milton Keynes	2	2	0	0	13	3	4	J.A.G.S. SC	1	1	0	0	6	2	2	
Cheltenham Saracens	2	2	0	0	11	5	4	Linda Farrow	2	0	2	0	8	8	2	
Bathwick Tyres 11	2	1	0	1	9	7	2	Dick Shepher Rams	2	1	0	1	7	9	2	
Colley Toyota 11	2	1	0	1	8	8	2	TSP Larkhall 11	2	0	1	1	6	10	1	
Birmingham Sports Curd'th	2	0	2	0	8	8	2	Pillinger Air (Croydon)	2	0	1	1	6	10	1	
Chan Construction 1	2	0	1	1	6	10	1	Bribar Ashford	2	0	0	2	6	10	0	
White Hart Launceston	2	0	1	1	5	11	1									
OLOPS TTC	2	0	0	2	4	12	0									

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YORKSHIRE LEAD THE WAY

Yorkshire juniors are aiming high this season. In their opening salvo they won three matches and dropped a mere five sets. A team to watch as our correspondent Doug Moss reports.

THE first Junior Premier Weekend was played at St. Neots TT Club. It was good to see the 12 matches played in an atmosphere of great enthusiasm with two drawn and five decided at 6-4.

It seems Yorkshire are determined to be back on top of the junior scene. The team won their three matches dropping only five events. They have top ranked girls to call on — Ellen Meddings and Katherine Goodall each losing only one singles and the boys were also in form with Gareth Jones and Andrew Nicholls being unbeaten.

Lancashire, the current champions, have Devon as their first opponents. In the very first event Darren Howarth (La) was 13-17 down in the 3rd game against John Shipman but fought back well to win 24-22. However Lancs hopes of continuing as champions were soon dashed as Devon won 8-2. At a vital stage Alex Perry (Dv No.1) beat Darren Howarth 19 in the 3rd game.

Lancs later beat Kent 6-4 with Darren Howarth beating Brian Mileham 15 and 10! Lancs dropped a point against promotees — Surrey. This match brought together the Nos. 3 (Darren Howarth) and No. 4 (Edward Hatley) nationally ranked players. Hatley (Sy) was the victor in straight games.

Devon are a good all round team and performed well. The team had wins over Lancs and Durham but dropped a point against Middlesex. A vital factor in this match was David Baker's win, at 21 in the 3rd game, against Alex Perry. Claire Pengelly (Dv) lost to Sara Williams but earlier she had a great win over Maria Thornley (La) -15, 23 and 20!

Middlesex and Surrey, two of the promoted teams, did well each getting a win and a draw. Sara Williams was the most successful Middlesex player winning five of the six singles — losing only to Ellen Meddings. Sara's win over Katherine Goodall was at 22 in the 3rd game. For Surrey Edward Hatley was the star with six wins. Darren Blake (Sy) got a vital deuce in the 3rd game win over Spencer Thompson in the team's win over Kent.

The other promotees, Durham, found the going hard. But Ian Collier played very well with four wins, including defeats of higher ranked players. Jackie Marriott provided some surprises and will certainly have improved her ranking! Jackie had four wins and all over players well above her in national rankings.

Essex got 2 wins doing particularly well against Surrey with a 6-4 win. Sarah Gardner won her 2 singles in this match. But the team

were heavily defeated by Yorkshire, Kent had a disappointing weekend, losing each match 4-6. Brian Mileham had 4 wins. The final series is in March, I see Devon as the only team who may beat Yorkshire.

Results											
Dv	8	La	2	La	6	K	4				
Y	7	Mi	3	Sy	4	E	6				
K	4	Sy	6	Dv	8	Du	2				
E	6	Du	4	Sy	5	La	5				
Du	2	Y	8	K	4	Mi	6				
Mi	5	Dv	5	E	0	Y	10				

League Table							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Y	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Dv	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
E	3	2	0	1	12	18	4
Sy	3	1	1	1	15	15	3
Mi	3	1	1	1	14	16	3
La	3	1	1	1	13	17	3
K	3	0	0	3	12	18	0
Du	3	0	0	3	8	22	0

Senr 1A:

Yorks 2, 7, Suffolk 3, Cambs 1, Beds 9, Lancs 2, 6, N'berland 4.

Suffolk visited Bradford and found the Yorkshire team of Mick Stead, Lee Hewitt, Tim Dyson, Ruth Bray and Helen Shields all in good form. Yorks won 7-3. But John Kitchener was also on top form with 2 wins and Sue Welham beat Helen Shields at 17 in the 3rd game. Beds, on promotion started with a great win over Cambs.

Senr 1B:

Devon 6, Avon 4, Glos 5, Wilts 5, Middx 2, 5, Kent 5, Sussex 2, 7, Essex 3, Wilts 4, Sussex 2, 6, Essex 6, Middx 2, 4, Kent 1, Devon 9, Avon 7, Glos 3, Sussex 2, 5, Avon 5, Glos 4, Kent 6, Essex 10, Wilts 0, Middx 2, 0, Devon 10.

The initiative of Chris Whiting led to 12 matches being played in Plymouth over a weekend. And Devon was the successful team with 3 good wins. Paul Whiting, Paul Giles, Mike Short, Carol Giles and Elaine Short each suffered just one defeat in these matches. Sussex 2, on promotion also did very well dropping just 1 point in a drawn match with Avon. The only unbeaten player of the weekend was VARSHA MAJMUDAR (Av). Varsha and her husband are in Bristol and likely to be there for 4 years. She is an Indian International player who represented India at the Commonwealth Championships in Cardiff. Varsha's wins included Carol Giles (No. 6 national ranking) and Elaine Short (Dv) and



Ellen Meddings

Carol Hewitt (Sx).

Senr 2A:

Staffs 10, Cumbria 0.

Staffs made a great start on promotion with a "clean sweep". It is a strong team with Steve Slater, Adrian Thorp, Andy Rich, Helen Lower and Josie Bongers.

Senr 2B:

Somerset 3, Hants 7, Avon 2, 8, Dorset 2, Dorset 3, Cornwall 7, Cornwall 3, Somerset 7, Devon 2, 3, Avon 2, 7, Hants 7, Glam 3, Glam 5, Devon 2, 5.

Another Division with matches being played on two dates during the season. Seven matches were played in a day at Swansea. Hants, on demotion from Div. one, started well with two wins. Ramish Bhalla and Sarah Hammond won their four singles. Avon 2nd also did well with two wins. Ian Johnson (Av. No. three) had a clean sheet. A disappointment was Dorset not having any ladies present and conceding all ladies events.

Senr 2C:

Norfolk 5, Cambs 2, 5.

Cambs 2 did well to get a draw on their visit to Norfolk but the home team were a lady short!

Senr 2D:

Kent 2, 5, Essex 2, 5, Bucks 8, Berks 2, 2, Surrey 2, 7, Oxon 3.

Bucks had a good start, on promotion, with an 8-2 win. John Burleton, Philip and Jonathan Bradbury were in good form with 6 wins. Essex 2 came back from 3-5 down to get a draw with Kate Gower and Martin Cole getting the final wins.

Senr 3A:

Clwyd 1, Ches 2, 9, Essex 3, 5, Worcs 2, 5.

Derek, Doreen and Jill Schofield featured in Ches 2 emphatic win. Mark Pugh got the one win for Clwyd beating Graham Pointer 11 and 19. Worcs 2 came back from 3-5 to get a draw against Essex 3, who were a lady short.



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Senr 3B:

Hants 2, 9, Glos 2, 1.

New entrants Glos 2 had a tough baptism. Paul Tsakarisanous won the one event for Glos with a win at deuce in the 3rd game.

Junr 1A:

Clwyd 0, Yorks 2, 10, Warwicks 8, N'berland 2, Lancs 2, 2, Suffolk 8, Lincs 2, Derbys 8.

Warwicks, on demotion from Premier Division, would be pleased to start with a good win. Barry Forster (Nd) won his 2 singles. And Suffolk, on promotion, were equally successful with a good team effort.

Junr 1B:

Berks 7, Oxon 3, Glos 5, Herts 5, Cornwall 5, Worcs 5, Essex 2, 8, Glam 2.

Two promoted teams, Glos and Worcs, started with drawn matches. Their No. 1 players, Raymond Powell (Gs) and Lee Horton (Wo) were unbeaten. Glamorgan, also on promotion, had a harder task and were beaten by Essex 2 by an 8-2 margin.

Junr 2A:

Lancs 3, 0, Staffs 10, Notts 3, Ches. 7.

Staffs, back on the Junior championship scene, made a marvellous start. Just 1 event went to 3 games when Paul Tomlinson (St) beat Andrew Halford at 19 in the 3rd game.

Junr 2B:

Bucks 4, Essex 3, 6, Northants 7, Berks 2, 3. Essex 3 got off to a good start on promotion on their visit to Slough. With the match score 4-4. Anna Weil and Vince Avery got the vital wins to earn the 2 points.

Junr 2D:

Norfolk 1, 9, Norfolk 2, 1, Sussex 8, Surrey 2, 2, Suffolk 2, 1, Kent 2, 9, Surrey 3, 5, Sussex 2, 5.

Sussex, on demotion, played well to start with a convincing win. Paul McNamara (Sy) was a trifle unlucky to lose both singles at 19 in the 3rd games. Surrey 3 and Sussex 2, who shared the bottom spot last year, started with a draw. John Wakefield (Sy) had 2 wins.

Vets 1A:

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

Herts suffered a defeat in their first match on demotion from Premier Div. Leics, on promotion, held Norfolk at 4-4 but then Tony Hipperson beat John Iliffe to give the visitors the win. Janet Hunt (Wo) came back from 13-17 down in the 3rd game to beat Carol Judson (Y) 21-17!

Vets 1B:

Surrey 2, 6, Bucks 3, Oxon 9, Hants 0, Middx 4, Kent 2, 5, Dorset 6, Berks 3.

Bucks, also down from Premier Div, were also defeated — by Surrey 2. Kent 2 fought very well to get a win on their visit to Ashford. Kent had wins at 19, 21 and 23 in the 3rd game!

Vets 2A:

Clwyd 0, Lancs 2, 9, Yorks 3, 3, Warwicks 6.

Warwickshire, on demotion, got a very good win over Yorks 3. Pat McCabe and Ann Lloyd were involved in 5 wins.

Vets 2B:

Beds 3, Northants 6.

Promotees Northants did well to win their first match. Brian Dangerfield won his singles and the doubles with Geoff Atkinson.

Vets 2C:

Bucks 2, 5, Wilts 2, 4, Surrey 3, 4, Glos 5.

Glos, on demotion, made a great fight for their 5-4 win. The team was 2-4 down when Tony Hogarth beat Ron Langheim 29, -20, 19! Then followed 2 wins at 19 and 18 in the 3rd games by Frank Jones and John Fannin!

Vets 2D:

Berks 2, 4, Hants 2, 5.

Hants 2 are another team on promotion to start with a win — but it was close! Maurice Shave (Ha) won both his singles at 19 in the 3rd game!

Vets 3A:

Ches 3, 3, Hunts 2, 6, Northants 2, 3, Herts 4, 6.

Ches 3, on demotion, would be disappointed to suffer a 6-3 defeat. Barry Hagger won his 2 singles for Hunts. Herts did well to win. There were good performances from David Wilson and Jackie North who were involved in 5 of the sets won.

Vets 3B:

Sussex 4, 4, Herts 3, 5, Kent 3, 5, Sussex 3, 4.

The new Kent 3 team got off to a narrow win over Sussex 3. Mel Dixon, Dennis McConkey and Ted Tydeman each had a win and Pam Butcher won her singles and the mixed with Mel Dixon.

Vets 3C:

Glos 2, 5, Somerset 2, 4, Wilts 3, 6, Wilts 4, 3.

Two new teams — Glos 2 and Somerset 2 — met in close contest. Tony Hogarth was again to the fore for Glos with 2 singles wins. Wilts 3 got a 6-3 win over their 4th team but it was closer than the match score suggests. The 3rd team got wins at 19 and 20 in the 3rd games.

NO STOPPING MIDDLESEX

THE Maurice Goldstein Challenge Cup, between the champions and runners-up teams of last season's Premier Division, was played under good conditions at Fountain Leisure Centre, Brentford.

The champions, Middlesex, had a weakened side in April and lost to Lancashire. But this time Middlesex were well prepared with their full team of John Souter, Nigel Tyler, Graham Sandley and Lesley Keast — and a resounding 7-2 win materialised.

Unfortunately, on this occasion, Derbyshire were without their top players. Alan Cooke was at the Rumanian Open Championships and Bradley and Julie Billington were suffering injuries.



John Holland

John Holland was at No. 1 supported by Ivor Warner, Jason Bamford and Nicola Deaton.

Derbyshire opened the scoring when John Holland demonstrated his good form with a 17 and 18 win over Nigel Tyler. But John

Souter then beat Ivor Warner 8 and 12. The Middlesex pairings of Graham Sandley/Lesley Keast and John Souter/Nigel Tyler had easy wins in the doubles events to take the match score to 4-1.

Nicola Deaton then raised

Derbyshire's hopes, taking good advantage of her opportunity in the ladies singles event, by achieving a fine win over Lesley Keast 12 and 18.

Nigel Tyler clinched the win for Middlesex with a 17 and 19 win over Jason Bamford. John Holland again played well in his match with John Souter but could not improve the Derbyshire score, the Middlesex man winning -10, 13, 18.

Middlesex won the Goldstein Trophy for the first time. This was a timely win and augured well for Middlesex with the first Senior Premier Division matches taking place the following weekend.

WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT CHESTERFIELD

Why can one small town provide so many top class players.
JOHN WOODFORD has been finding out.



Alan Cooke

WE all know how important to budding players is practice facilities with strong or stronger players. At the moment within striking distance of Chesterfield, home town of Alan Cooke, Julie and Bradley Billington and Nicola Deaton England's newest debut player, there are also players such as Desmond Douglas, Sean Gibson, the other Grove players — Alison Gordon, Fiona Elliot, Jill Harris and other strong players from further afield.

When visiting Burton-on-Trent on the last leg of the England and Sweden women's tour I asked Derbyshire county stalwart Terry Gadsby just why Chesterfield was a hot-bed of talent.

It appears that the answer lies with the older generation of parents, three in number — Jackie and Maurice Billington and sports and showbiz entrepreneur Colin Deaton, all of whom played for England in the past.

Both families obviously thought it would be great for their offsprings to do the same and it appears they have succeeded after Nicola's impressive senior debut against Sweden on September 30, when she collected 24 points from the Swedish champion Pernilla Pettersson.

Another reason for the successes in the Derbyshire and Staffordshire area is an abundance of fine coaches, headed by Alan Cooke's coach Derek Marples.

Another prominent name in the sport in the area is Eric Hall — he has helped enormously in promoting the sport and the players in the area which has some strange quirks concerning the borders of the two counties — Staffordshire and Derbyshire. The not so good news from the area is that the original five coaching centres are now down to three and Bradley Billington missed two major events some four or five weeks again due to a groin injury that at the time of writing was something of a mystery.

So, the answers are that geographically, Chesterfield is well-placed to arrange practice even for players from the South Yorkshire area like Chen Xinhua, still within range of Desmond Douglas from Walsall and all the players concerned with the Grove Club at Market Drayton, so efficiently run by Ian Marshall.

The coaches are there, not too far to travel, the facilities are fine and there are former internationals available to

encourage not only their children but all the others as well. In addition stalwarts like Eric Hall, Terry Gadsby and many others keep the whole thing swinging.

However, there maybe problems ahead for players in the area and for the Grove club, champions of the British League currently without sponsors, short of star players and even without a press officer, the financial situation being so tight at Hastings.

Leading table tennis nations in Europe give absolute priority to their National Leagues. Many inter-club matches draw a thousand spectators. The national associations go out of their way to attract sponsors so the leagues abroad attract foreign players of stature from everywhere — China, Poland, England, France, even Korea.

Here we are (some would say) saddled with the county championships, an old war-horse (some would say) which is a fine amateur contest, but regrettably the top strata of the sport is professional and that means that next season people like Alan Cooke could be lured to the continent and the British League will be left with no star players and no prize money.

ETTA County Supplement

BERKSHIRE Bob Adams

THE BERKSHIRE Ranking Committee are in the process of issuing the 1990 lists and have got as far as Veteran Men and Ladies and Senior Men. From my position of total ignorance as to the method used by the Committee I shall attempt to read the minds of these great men and hazard a guess as to how they arrived at their conclusions.

At the top of Veteran men we have Wally Allanson and Syd Montgomery, in the same positions as last year and where they finished in the Reading League - a fair guide for ranking purposes because most of the top Berkshire players, whilst playing in other leagues, seem to find Reading the place to meet the stiffest competition. Having said that, third on the list Eddie Herrity, up one place from last year, does not, to my knowledge, play in Reading, but confines his efforts to Maidenhead. Big improvements may be seen from Dave Streak, the ever-cheerful Pete Bradley, John Glew and Ly Bach Tuyen from Newbury. Funny bat specialist Roger Woolven-Allen rises two places to no. 13, whilst Tony King rockets up six to join the top 20 together with other improvers Dave Gilham, Ian Schwartz and Bob Holiday. Pete Slatford is knocking on the door of the Veteran top 20 making gradual improvements over the years, but when is a young 'un going to pinch Wally's spot? According to my limited records, he has been up there for at least six years.

In the Veteran Ladies, apart from the unchanged top trio of Gill Knightley, Christine Basden and Pam Spooner, everyone seems to have gone down at least one place thanks to the rapid rise to No. 4 of Maureen Allchurch, playing once again in the Bracknell League.

In the Mens, it goes without saying that England's top defender Matt Syed should be at No. 1, with Jimmy Stokes at No. 2. The absence of Andy Wellman moves former England No. 1 junior Dave Barr up to No. 3,

whilst another ex England Junior No. 1 Dave Reeves just holds off four place improved County Champion and Reading average topper Martin Adams - possibly as a result of Dave's fine victory in the Reading Master. Incidentally, I notice that this means that the top five men in Berkshire have at one time or another represented England in their respective age groups, an achievement of which Berkshire can be justifiably proud. Can any other County beat that? (I throw out these challenges from time to time, but no one ever seems to respond). Other climbers are Clive Payne, Graham Kemp, Marc Priddle (up six to No. 9) and Jonathan Samuel, up only one to No. 11, but playing superbly after a few tips from Chen Xinhua, and the one I predict to give the most surprises in the coming season (those who know Jon would regard this as a pretty safe bet!) New entrants, or returnees, to the top 20 Men include Keith Hodder, Syd Montgomery, Bob Sym, Eddie Herrity, Dave Streak, Steve Everard, Nick Heaps and Geoff Davis.

Astute readers will observe that those named above are either in the top four or have gone up a place - so if you haven't got a mention, you know what to do!

CUMBRIA Gordon Brown

JONATHAN LOWES, A 17 year old prodigy from Barrow in Furness, has emerged as top of the men's rankings in his first season as a senior. Jonathan collected both the Cumbria Closed and Barrow Town men's singles last term and has won the county junior title on several occasions.

He helped Vickers Sports Club win the Barrow League and while at Parkview School, Barrow, was in the team that took the Under 16s national title. He started playing at Abbotsmead Junior

School, Barrow, and is now at Barrow Sixth Form College. Already he has displayed the form that won him 64 of his 66 sets in the Barrow League last season by helping his side to a 10-0 win over the club's B team in the opening fixture.

Tim Pachul (Barrow Ponderosa) is ranked second and Ian Reed (Millom Former Pupils) third. It is a credit to the Barrow League that they provide the first three men players. Other men's rankings are:

4. Stephen Temple (Carlisle League);
5. Kevin Hodgson (Vickers, Barrow);
6. Mark Temple (Carlisle League);
7. Neil Yardley (Vickers Barrow);
8. Jimmy Cummings (Whitehaven News, Whitehaven League).

The latter went through last Whitehaven league season with a 100% record and helped Newthe title as well as playing in the Carlisle League.

Cumbria captain Julie McLean retains her place at the top of the women's rankings with fellow Penrith townee Joanne Burgess one place behind her. Bella Edwards, of Millom Wrecks, is third, and Lynne Hadfield, of Windscale, in the Whitehaven League, fourth.

DORSET Martin Hughes

The County Championships

Dorset's senior first team suffered two defeats at the hands of Avon and Cornwall in their first encounters of the season as they were unable to raise two women to represent the county. Mark Werner remained unbeaten in his four outings, and Kevin Smith picked up a solitary victory, whilst Martin Tate was well beaten in straight sets in both matches.

The British League

Jolliffe Poole, sponsored by Peter Jolliffe (Bookmaker) started their

season in the British League in the best possible fashion with a 5-3 victory away to London side Rejects II.

Jolliffe's team all played a part in the success with Tony Clayton, John Robinson and Martin Hughes winning one game each, whilst Jason Creasey kept his 100% record with two victories.

Jolliffe's second match against AHW (Bletchley) Comets, also away, saw Tony Clayton voted man of the match following his two victories over Keith Samuels and Jon Bradbury, despite Jolliffe Poole losing 2-6.

Clayton was the shining light for Jolliffe Poole as Mark Werner, John Robinson and Barry Hill all struggled against an in-form home side.

Mark Werner, playing his first match for Jolliffe Poole for four years, was unable to impose his game on his opponents, and was defeated in straight sets by Keith Samuels and Steve Cowley.

John Robinson, suffering from a heavy cold, played well in this match but narrowly lost out in both his games. He went down in three sets to Mike Levene, and was unfortunate to lose 26-28, 15-21 to Jon Bradbury, after seven deuces in the first end which effectively finished his challenge.

Poole and District League

Lytchett A remain unbeaten in the Poole and District League and look likely to retain their premier division title which they have monopolised in the last decade.

ESSEX Alan Shepherd

I HAVE TO start this piece with my annual apology for missing the October issue. Copy by the end of August always seems to catch me unawares, as I am still trying to perfect my square cut at that time, and not really thinking about the ping.

Let me then take up where I left off in May/June, mourning over the loss of our Senior

Counties 2

Premier Division spot. As it turns out, we would have needed to beat Surrey 9-0 to avoid relegation, and missing Steve Dorking, that was obviously impossible. More in the realms of reason, however, had those two 4-5 defeats been reversed, we would have survived.

The Senior match secretary, Bill Wadling, launched his 1990/91 campaign to regain Premier status in highly controversial style. Firstly he ignored the claims of loyal County servant Des Charlery, who was not even in the squad originally selected to play in a three match weekend in Devonshire. Secondly he chose juniors Linda Radford and Alison Gower ahead of the highly ranked seniors Lesley Radford, Elaine Sayer, Kate Gower, Julie Askem and Kim Mudge. I suppose I might have applauded such a youth oriented policy had it not been for the fact that Linda and Alison were due to lead the Junior Premier team's attempt to survive in the toughest of all Leagues. In the event the withdrawal of Grant Solder led to the recall of Desmond, and I can only hope that our squad has a successful start to its season. For the first time for many years I shall be unable to accompany the Junior squad to St Neots for its weekend. Of our players only Cris Sladden will have appeared in a Premier Division match and we will need a great deal of luck on our side to survive. All I know is that Cris, Ryan Savill, Paul Hudson, Nadine Barthee and Sarah Gardner will give their all in the cause of the County.

There have been few changes on the Management Committee of the County for this season but one of them was extremely important. Barry Granger, one of our very competent tournament organisers and also a popular umpire around the circuit, has become the new Treasurer. He takes over at a tricky time, the AGM having refused to pass a proposal to increase affiliation fees, even though the same have remained the same for the last three years. I believe that Barry will be arranging urgent meetings with John Major!

The other changes are that Mike Watts, the former ETTA Deputy General Secretary, relinquishes acting Treasurer and returns to being Vice Chairman, while Marie Know, a friend for many years standing from my days in the Central London and Ilford Leagues, becomes Administrative Secretary.

Several events have already taken place in the county. On September 9th the Essex Games were hosted by the Braintree District Council, when 14 Boroughs or Municipal Districts competed in 20 sports, including table tennis. Our event was won by Chelmsford, who fielded Steve Kerns, Julie Vansertima, Ryan Savill, Sarah Gardner and Pip French. Maldon were runners-up, and their team was Martin Speight, Keith Mays and the Oakmans - Clive, Annette and Julie.

Our Junior Trials were held at the excellent Dengie Hundred Sports Centre at Burnham on Crouch. 150 players competed over two days and the first ranking lists have been issued as follows:

JUNIOR BOYS

1. Cris Sladden
2. Ryan Savill
3. Paul Hudson
4. Wayne Mitchell
5. Colin Law
6. Richard Lawrence
7. Peter Worthington
8. Ben Ware
9. Vincent Avery
10. Andrew Taylor

JUNIOR GIRLS

1. Linda Radford
2. Alison Gower
3. Nadine Barthee
4. Sarah Gardner
5. Jenny Coleman
6. Cathy Sibbald
7. Anna Weil
8. Shelley Ruocco
9. Melanie Savill
10. Elizabeth Sibbald

CADET BOYS

1. Paul Hudson
2. Vincent Avery
3. Daniel Yardy
4. Edward Cook
5. Wayne Smithies

6. Paul Davison
7. James Wickens
8. Stephen Joslin
9. Thomas Thostrup
10. Ryan Hughes

CADET GIRLS

1. Jenny Coleman
2. Cathy Sibbald
3. Shelley Ruocco
4. Michelle King
5. Sarah Davison
6. Claire Rowlands
7. Tracey Davies
8. Verity Cleminson
9. Melanie Sharp
10. Karen Mason

UNDER 12 BOYS

1. Alex Yardy
2. Stephen Linnecar
3. Reagan Nettlingham
4. Jehan Ramanathan
5. David Coleman
6. Neil Dalton

UNDER 12 GIRLS

1. Tracey Davies
2. Verity Cleminson
3. Helen Lincoln
4. Anna Cheesman
5. Abigail Cleminson
6. Lisa Joslin

Roy Franklin, Essex Inter-League chief, reports that all 17 leagues are represented, 132 teams being entered. Brentwood (Damian Holland, Martin Cole, David Cole) hold the Mens Title and Dagenham (Elaine Sayer, Kim Mudge, Gill Bowman, Gill Patten) are ladies Champions. Chelmsford (Dave Newman, Richard James, Andrew Wadling, Julie Vansertima, Kate Gower) hold the Mixed title and Clacton (Derek Wood, Chris Jacob, Dave Binns) are Veterans Champions, Dagenham (Grant Solder, James Oyekunle, Cris Sladden, Tayo Fasanya, Linda Radford, Shelley Ruocco) hold the Junior title, and Brentwood (Vince Avery, Ben Linnecar, Jenny Coleman) are Cadets Champions. Roy can only see two of these Leagues retaining their titles!

GLoucestershire Aif Peppard

THE FOLLOWING officers agreed to serve the County Association for season 1990/91:

<i>President:</i>	L C T Davis
<i>Chairman/</i>	
<i>Nat. Councillor:</i>	L J Smith
<i>V.C./Coaching Officer:</i>	P F Cruwys
<i>Gen. Secretary:</i>	D Dean
<i>Treasurer:</i>	K Bridle
<i>Minutes Sec:</i>	Mrs J Smith
<i>Umpires Sec:</i>	Mrs G Smith
<i>Selection/Team Sec:</i>	D Wyatt
<i>Publicity Officer:</i>	A F Peppard

It was agreed that each of the four affiliated Leagues in the County - Gloucester, Cheltenham, Stroud and Cirencester, should submit three representatives each to serve on the Association's Committee.

British League

Cheltenham Saracens, Gloucestershire's sole team in this League got away to a fine start in their first match of the season in Division 2 Midlands, opposing "Our Lady of Peace" Saracens, beating the Reading based team 5-3 and in their second match v Chan Construction 11, Saracens again notched up a 6-2 win, well done, Dave Harvey, Mark Owen, Darren Griffin and Andy Castle, Reserve: Raymond Powell, yet to play.

To current date of writing the following Gloucestershire players appear in the ETTA computer ranking list (start of season):

<i>Senior Men</i>	
Dave Harvey	49
Mark Owen	114
Graham Slack	115
Darren Griffin	130
<i>Junior Boys</i>	
Raymond Powell	10
Jeremy Hyatt	22

Counties 3

Junior Girls

Alison Cox 86

Cadet Girls

Kerry Hogarth 37

County selection and rankings are often a controversial subject, and once made public the selectors invariably come under severe criticism from many sections of the table tennis media.

The Gloucestershire selectors met in late August, here are their findings - other more up to date rankings will follow as the season proceeds.

Senior Men

1. Darren Griffin (G)
2. David Harvey (C)
3. Graham Slack (C)
4. Raymond Powell (G)
5. William Dawe (G)
6. David Smith (G)
7. Dale Saunders (G)
8. Frank Jones (G)
9. Alan Giles (S)
10. John Fannin (G)
11. Martin Harper (S)
12. Guy Greening (C)
13. Lawrence Symonds (G)
14. Sylvester Callum (G)

Senior Women

1. Reiko Morita (C)
2. Heather Tyrer (G)
3. Cathy Robb (C)
4. Judy Morley (G)
5. Jacquie Carver (C)
6. Christine Williams (G)
7. Julie Hogarth (G)
8. Alison Cox (C)
9. Julie Taylor (C)
10. Caroline Stainer (S)
11. Caroline Thompson (S)

Veterans Men

1. David Harvey (C)
2. Frank Jones (G)
3. Alan Giles (S)
4. John Fannin (G)
5. Roy Fowler (C)
6. Peter Wood (G)
7. Tony Hogarth (G)
8. Ray Poole (G)
9. Peter Slack (C)
10. Don Sweeney (G)
11. Bob Trimble (G)
12. Keith Simmonds (S)
13. Kenneth Smith (C)
14. Mike Grey (C)

Veteran Women

1. Judy Morley (G)
2. Jean Golding (S)

3. Sheila Matthews (C)

4. Roz Ross (S)

5. Viv Hathaway (G)

6. Ann Hazlett (G)

7. Gill Smith (C)

8. Barbara Davis (G)

Junior Boys

1. Raymond Powell (G)
2. Jeremy Hyatt (G)
3. Peter Hayward (S)
4. Leigh Nelmes (S)
5. Lawrence Simpson (G)
6. Paul Morley (G)
7. Richard Moore (G)
8. Trevor Fannin (G)
9. Martin Chueng (C)

Junior Girls

1. Alison Cox (C)
2. Caroline Stainer (S)
3. Kerry Hogarth (G)
4. Michelle Hogarth (G)
5. Elaine Bassett (S)
6. Emma Parker (S)
7. Helen Arnold (C)

CODE:

C = Cheltenham

CIR = Cirencester

G = Gloucester

S = Stroud

Alison Cox, Cheltenham and Gloucestershire's County No. 1 Junior has leapt into the ETTA Junior ranking list appearing at No. 86.

With the County Junior side having gained promotion to Division 1, Alison's ambition of achieving a ranking inside the top 50 appears to be easily well within her grasp.

Alison, who last season achieved the rare feat of winning all THREE local Junior titles ie Cheltenham, Gloucester and Gloucestershire competes in Division 1 of the Cheltenham League for Dowty "A".

Last season Alison also won the Cheltenham Ladies singles for the first time in a very close and exciting tussle against Julie Taylor, a previous title holder.

Another younger Gloucestershire lady player aged 11 has this season entered the National Cadet rankings at No. 37, her name Kerry Hogarth from Newent. Kerry is playing for Newent with her mum Julie in the 2nd Division of the Old Market Printers Gloucester TTL, she's a

lucky young lady as mum's a very experienced County player - and I am sure will guide her daughter along the right lines.

Jacquie Carver, former County player and last season's Hon General Secretary to the Cheltenham TTA, gave birth to a daughter on 26th September - Hearty congratulations to both parents, Jacque and Tony - didn't they do well?

HERTFORDSHIRE John Wood

WHAT A START to the season for young Duncan Taylor of Barnet, when firstly he was ranked No. 1 County Junior, following the trials held at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre on Sunday 2nd September; secondly he went on to have a fabulous tournament at the Jarvis Sports SKITT Milton Keynes Under 21, a week later.

It was at the Bletchley Leisure Centre, where Duncan's true potential came of age, when he took the tournament by storm, to win the first game against the highly talented Michael O'Driscoll, before being beaten by the No. 3 seed, in the Under 21 section.

In the Under 17 competition, young Taylor went even further, reaching the quarter finals where he lost, after giving the No. 1 seed Edward Hatley a scare, in two straights, but he had the lad from Surrey hanging on tenderhooks in the first, taking him to deuce.

In the Hertfordshire Games, held at the Watford Leisure Centre, North Herts beat last year's winners Hemel Hempstead, to take the table tennis trophy. The result wasn't decided until the very last game of the day, when the two title contenders stood at two games all, when Keith Samuels of North Herts narrowly won an all out attacking game against Rob Liquorish.

Following the County Senior Trials, Keith Samuels has been

ranked No. 1, John Taylor 2, Richard Russell 3, Rob Liquorish 4, John Lennon 5, Glen Wilkes 6, Ian Black 7, Graham Witchalls 8, Derek Rogers 9 and Tom Carr 10. Whilst in the Women's Emma Hurling has been ranked No. 1, Lynne Harrison 2, Maggie Pavitt 3, Caroline Boxall 4, Caroline Seaholme 5, Maria Williams 6, Janice Laing 7, Karen Morton 8 and Lindsey Booth 9.

The Veterans Trials saw Derek Balding enter the over 40's age group, where following a splendid display of youthful aggression he was ranked No. 5, with the other new face Tony Teff attacking his way to the No. 7 spot.

Barnet's John Taylor has been ranked No. 1, with the two evergreen lads from Watford David and Stuart Seaholme, coming in at 2 and 3.

The top three women are Sue Felstead, Sylvia Tyler and Sally Bax.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE David Deller

AWAY TO LINCOLN in their first British National League match St Neots playing in Division 1 North and represented by Stuart Palmer, Steve Moore, Mick Harper and Keith Richardson gave away a 4-1 lead to finish all square at 4-4. In their next encounter things were very different with St Neots trailing 3-0 to Britannia Ipswich who won five in a row to record a fine win. Keith Richardson took two with the other three players taking one apiece.

Mark and Kevin Holton gave good performances in reaching the regional trails recently and a good performance from leading girl Shelley Leak who narrowly missed the next stages.

At St Ivo Recreation Centre recently table tennis took middle stage in a special day organised by Hunts Health Authority. Arranged by Peter Warton, the St Ives club duo of Paul Jackson and

Counties 4

Simon Pryke gave nearly four hours of exhibitions to a good sizes audience.

KENT Adrian Hall/ Brian Etherington

A NEW RANKING list based on last season's results has been issued by the Selection Committee no girls over the age limit and only Martin Gunn too old for the Junior Boys, the list greatly resembles those previously issued:

Junior Boys

1. Brian Mileham
2. Miles Willey
3. Spencer Thompson
4. Martin Hewitt
Matthew Vardy
6. Matthew Bull
7. Kevin Read
8. Paul Duke
9. Michael Hutton
10. Nick Wetton

Junior Girls

1. Lesley Hollingworth
2. Desiree Joseph
3. Carly Riggs
4. Nicola Duke
5. Katherine Ackerley
6. Sarah Baker
Joanne Barham
8. Michelle Ritter
9. Natasha Barham
10. Heidi Steers

Cadet Boys

1. Glen Ritchie
2. Ross Friday
3. Ben McCarthy
4. Christopher Thompson
5. Scott Friday
6. Adam Beasley

Cadet Girls

1. Nicola Duke
2. Joanna Barham
3. Crystal Hall
4. Alison Smith
5. Marceline Joseph
6. Rachel Woolven
7. Laura Petters
8. Carrie Blake

A disappointing weekend for our Premier Division Juniors at St Neots 29/30th September, losing to newly promoted Surrey and Middlesex, both 6-4 and going down by the same score to last season's champions Lancashire. With every game going according to the ranking list except for Karen Richardson's 15, 14 victory over Kent's Lesley Hollingworth, it was a surprise decision to leave out Miles Willey for the final Middlesex game, his inclusion could surely have reversed the 6-4 defeat!

Kent Players Results

Brian Mileham			
P6	W4	66.66%	
Miles Willey			
P4	W2	50%	
Spencer Thompson			
P6	W2	33.33%	
Matthew Bull			
P2	W	00%	
Lesley Hollingworth			
P6	W3	50%	
Carly Riggs			
P6	W1	16.66%	

Kent Junior II had a convincing 9-1 victory over Suffolk I with Matthew Vardy, Martin Hewitt, Kevin Read and Joanne Barham going unbeaten, Michelle Ritter was Suffolk's lone scalp.

Kent Senior II, with a much understrength team, got a good 5-5 draw with Essex II. Matthew King (2), Neil Harris (1) and one each for Folkestone Ladies earned a point. Kent Veteran II and III both had convincing early season victories. Kent II confirmed last season's result with another 5-4 win over Middlesex with John White (2) taking the prize scalp of John Holland deuce on the third. Keith Clark (1) also had a good third leg win over Babs Adedayo, these two were well supported by John White and Dave Atherton in the Men's Doubles and by Keith Clark and Joan Beadle in the Mixed. Kent III ousted Sussex III 5-4 with Ted Tydeman, Dennis McConkey, Mel Dixon and Pam Butcher each winning one game plus the mixed doubles, for Sussex Mike Watts (2) and Gerry Batt-Rawden (1) were the singles winners. Swadlands Youth Centre, Lenham, venue this season for all the

major Kent Championships, was home to the Maidstone Summer Handicap Tournament in September and more recently the Maidstone Junior Trials where over 30 youngsters attended. The Youth Centre gained valuable experience in both events and by all account the Kent Junior Open in November should be the first of a series of successful tournaments run by this very table tennis orientated Youth Centre and their leader Carol Morton and friends.

LANCASHIRE George Yates

TWO WINS FOR Oldham's Doug Mayall and two from Carol Mitchell of Bury, plus one each for Liverpool's Paul Hutchings and Denise Conroy of Warrington, carried Lancashire's second team through to a 6-4 win over Northumberland in Division 1A of the County Championships

Darren Howarth, with four wins out of 6, and Maria Thornley, with 5 wins out of 6, sparkled for the Red Rose county in the Junior Premier Weekend in St Neots but only one win was recorded, 6-4 over Kent, a 5-5 draw against Surrey and an 8-2 defeat at the hands of Devon. Not the best of starts for a team now lacking the overaged Andrew Eden, Howard Whewell, Robin Faulkner and Jason Lee.

In Junior 1A Lancs II Went down 8-2 to Suffolk with Philip Musgrove and Andrew Bottoms winning one each but Lancs III in Division 2A suffered a whitewash at the hands of Staffs with the only set of ten going to three involving Andrew Halford.

Meeting in Bolton the County Selection Committee formulated their initial rankings lists as follows:

Senior Men

1. Sean Gibson
2. Tony Taylor
3. Jon Taylor
4. John Hilton

5. Nigel Eckersley
6. Andrew Eden
7. Paul Hutchings
8. Keith Williams
9. Doug Mayall
10. Malcolm McEvoy
11. Dave Bunting
12. Howard Whewell
13. Steve Bevan
14. Martin Ireland
15. Graham Clark *
16. Neil Gravenor *

Senior Women

1. Andrea Holt
2. Mandy Winstill
3. Denise Conroy
4. Julie Clegg
5. Carol Mitchell
6. Debra Wilson
7. Paula French
8. Brenda Buoeoy *
9. Jean Parker *

Veteran Men

1. Phil Blake
2. Tony Rigby
3. John Mason
4. Brian Clements
5. Norman Thewlis
6. Jon de Pledge
7. Derek Watmough
8. Ken Jackson
9. Alan Chase
10. Bill Russell

Veteran Women

1. Mabel Neary
2. Alwyn Burrough
3. Lesley Smallwood
4. Kath Hilton *
5. Freda Jackson *

Junior Boys

1. Darren Howarth
2. Brett Ward
3. Matthew Coombe
4. Richard Beattie
5. Chris Whitehead
6. Philip Musgrove
7. Andrew Bottoms
8. Andrew Halford
9. Martin Hunter
10. Craig Abbott
11. Rod Mainwaring
12. Aidan Douglas
13. Alan Jones
14. Darryl Meredith *
15. Chris Campbell *

Junior Girls

1. Maria Thornley
2. Tamar Connolly
3. Rosemary Gaulter
4. Jayne Schofield

5. Lindsey Thornton
6. Karen Richardson *
7. Rachel Normanton *
8. Karen Bailey *

Cadet Boys

1. Darryl Meredith
2. Chris Whitehead
3. Kevin Dolder
4. Raman Deo
5. Glenn Payne
6. Graham Thornton
7. Christian Halford
8. Sunny Deo
9. Gary Atherton
10. Phillip Ellison

Cadet Girls

1. Lindsey Thornton
 2. Jayne Schofield
 3. Suzanne Geldard
- * added to list but did not attend trials

Lancashire and Cheshire League

In the men's first division champions Stockport opened up their fixtures with a strong defence of their title beating Bolton 7-3 when represented by Roger Hampson and the Horsfield brothers, Andy and Steve.

Liverpool, on the other hand, who finished in the runners up position last season, were hard pressed on their visit to Blackburn and it was left to Keith Williams to square the match 5-5 when in the last set he triumphed over Graham Clarke 17, -18, 18.

In the women's first division Oldham had a runaway 9-1 win away to Macclesfield when represented by Mandy Winskill (nee Goodwin), Karen Richardson and Marjorie Riddle, the latter losing the Anne Greenhalgh.

Barrow, last season's Junior Division 1 champions, went down 6-4 to Oldham in their opening match with the latter's Darryl Meredith winning his three singles and sharing a doubles success with Matt Coombe.

Glyn Faulkner, younger brother of Bury champion, Robin, starred in his team's 6-4 defeat of Bolton, winning his three singles and the doubles in partnership with Darren Outram.

Warrington's Bob Bagot was a treble winner in the 6-4 defeat of Macclesfield as was John de Pledge who did likewise for Rochdale over fellow promotees Halton, beaten 6-4.

MIDDLESEX Iris Moss

WITH THIS ARTICLE having to be posted before the results of the first County weekend are available, there is very little to report this month. The Selection Sub Committee have had their first meeting and the top 10 on the Ranking lists for the start of the 1990/91 season are:

Senior Men

1. J Souter (W Mx)
2. N Tyler (N Mx)
3. G Sandley (N Mx)
4. C Wilson (N Mx)
5. T Stark (N Mx)
6. M Mitchell (N Mx)
7. D Tan (N Mx)
8. D Goode (N Mx)
9. T Cutler (Wembley)
10. N Charles (Staines)

Senior Women

1. L Keast (N Mx)
2. S Williams (W Mx)
3. A Smith (N Mx)
4. R Knight (Wembley)
5. L Souter (W Mx)
6. G Blanch (W Mx)
7. H Smee (Wembley)
8. H Williamson (Wembley)
9. K Kottasz (N Mx)
10. R Fisher (N Mx)

Veteran Men

1. M B Adedayo (Central)
2. J Holland (Willesden)
3. W Brookman (Staines)
4. A Lindsay (Central)
5. T Campbell (N Mx)
6. J Smith (W Mx)
7. N Slifkin (Staines)
8. A Taylor (Wembley)
9. G Ailward (W Mx)
10. M Isaacs (Wembley)

Veteran Women

1. M Sawyer (Wembley)
2. K Nunn (Staines)
3. L Slifkin (Staines)
4. B Blanch (W Mx)
5. M Prowen (Willesden)
6. J Tuddenham (W Mx)
7. D Stannard (W Mx)
8. M Souter (W Mx)
9. F Wade (Willesden)
10. L Lloyd (Willesden)

The Sub Committee had decided (and had their decision endorsed by the Executive Committee) that no Junior Trials

would be held this year and that any Junior or Cadet who had not represented the county and wished to be considered for the ranking lists would have to attend the Middlesex Coaching Sessions at Harrow on Monday evenings. As this was still in the experimental stage, no ranking lists for Juniors or Cadets would be issued for the time being.

The Committee were pleased to welcome a new League this season, the Isle of Dogs Junior Table Tennis League. Well done, Laurie Laken, for starting up what I am sure will be a very important League, in a rather "uncared for" area, and for our very important grass roots youngsters. We wish you the best of luck.

By the time this article is published the Maurice Goldstein Trophy challenge match between Middlesex and Derbyshire will have been played at the Brentford Fountain Leisure Centre and a report will be included in the December issue.

Entry forms for the Middlesex 3 Star Open Championships will be in circulation and if you wish to enter and have not received a form, please contact Iris Moss (081 203 4476 between 10.00 am and 10.00 pm) urgently. Don't forget the closing date is 15th November. See you at Picketts Lock.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Dennis Millman

THE FIRST MAJOR event of the season ended in surprising fashion when the Express Sports Top 12 for Juniors was won by the only girl invited to take part - Sally Russell. Earlier in the day, the group matches had given no indication of such a possibility, for Matthew Rowe's 100% record in Group 1 against five opponents, had included a comfortable win over Sally. Likewise, Julian Marshall was untroubled in the second group, accounting for the otherwise unbeaten Andrew Lingley 8 and 13.

It was the second series of

games that provided the shocks, with Sally's hard earned 16, 26, success over Julian, the highlight, but Andrew's -13, 22, 15 decision against Matthew equally surprising.

This left Sally and Andrew to contest the final, and it was a scintillating Sally who stole the show, her dominant and fluent display giving her a 21-10, 21-4 victory, which enhanced her reputation, but could have done little for the remainder of the field, as they watched thirteen year old Sally lift the prestigious Express Sports Trophy presented to her by County Chairman Phil Snelling.

Final Positions:

1. Sally Russell
2. Andrew Lingley
3. Matthew Rowe
4. Julian Marshall
5. Paul Smith
6. Steve Hobbs
7. Stephen Atkinson
8. Christian Drage
9. Colin Campbell
10. Ian Souster
11. Matthew Gilbert
12. Andrew Leahy

An infusion of young blood into the County hierarchy comes as a welcome change. Following last season's election of Phil Snelling as County Chairman, we now have two new Match Secretaries in Richard Elliott and David Evans. Strangely the pleasing return of Graeme McKim from the Buckinghamshire ranks may prevent Richard from representing the Senior Firsts, and in the first series of County Championship matches he lines up alongside David in the Seconds.

Well Connected Menswear's familiar name was missing when the Kettering and Wellingborough Leagues started their new season, but aspirants to their regular pole position in both leagues needn't look forward with eager anticipation. Graeme McKim, Andy Edmonds, Chris Handshaw, Andy Trott and Richard Elliott will be appearing yet again, this time under the banner of the Higham Band Club.

Although Kettering is the only major league to have an increased number of clubs for the coming season, it is Wellingborough

which has now taken over as the County's biggest league, as Northampton continues to decline in quantity, even if the quality in the higher sections is still maintained.

The Kettering Town Club, at one time the largest club within the county boundaries, is celebrating its fortieth birthday this season, and is marking the occasion with the provision of a new trophy. However, playing results will be of minimal importance, with enthusiasm, social awareness and many other factors which go towards making each and every match an enjoyable evening, the salient features. Prompt starts, lack of postponements, fielding the full complement of players and early despatch of scorecards, are other factors which may be taken into consideration.

Team captains, in consultation with their teammates, will be responsible for the adjudication, and it is hoped that they will approach their task with genuine enthusiasm, rather than the cynicism that pervades so much of today's sporting activity.

Many of the teams disappearing from the League scene contain players who are motivated more by enjoyment than by success and a balance must be struck between the two, if table tennis is to halt its decline and once again become the greatest of participation sports.

SUSSEX

John Woodford

SUSSEX II MADE a rip-roaring start to the campaign at Plymouth at the first County Championships weekend in this class. The best Sussex efforts came from Paul Elphick who seems to have another wave of form to ride on and Phil Smith.

The Horley based Smith, the man who has yet to win the Sussex title, often makes up for it at other events. He is best in the

clubrooms - the tournament halls do not suit him. He was the only scorer as Horsham Dolphins were sunk 6-12 by Peniel Academy B in Division 1 of the British League.

Down in Plymouth he struck again to record his first ever win against Des Charlery and Elphick took revenge over the Peniel setup when he up-ended Richard Darnell as Sussex II slammed Essex I 7-3. Another Elphick victim at Plymouth was John Dennison, a former Dolphin.

Sussex Secretary Derek Bunday as he enthusiastically gave me the results from Plymouth said, "Here was an inspired piece of selection - Tracey Cole defeated Alison Gower (Essex) No. 29 on the women's list and Michele Cohen (Bristol) No. 30."

Sussex II finished on second place behind Devon, beating Essex and Wiltshire and drawing with Avon for whom Hastings based Diccon Gray failed to score.

The new Sussex third team also started well with a fine 7-3 win at Barnet against Herts II with Peter Bartram and Andy Walker unbeaten. Alan Cole scored once and is having a slow start to the season.

At the Premier Weekend Sussex I men's trio will be at full strength - Adrian Moore, Ritchie Venner and Stephen Moore, but with Janet Smith on Scotland duty at a tournament, Teresa Moore and Sally Weston will play the women's matches. Sussex will play Berkshire, Derbyshire and Lancashire.

A fine performance at Baltimore last season that for some reason went unnoticed was Horton and Robin Stace winning the men's doubles consolation event at the World Veterans Championships!

WILTSHIRE

Laurie Selby

WILTSHIRE'S BACKDOOR PROMOTION to the First Division was the main news item

reported to the annual meeting. The meeting heard they had a good season with four wins from their five matches, but were a point behind Gloucestershire for promotion into the First Division.

Then fate took a hand. Devon's first team was demoted from the Premier Division into the First Division. But Devon seconds were already in the First Division and the rules of the County Championships say that a county cannot have two teams in the same division. So Devon seconds had to go down into the Second Division and give Wiltshire their place in Division One.

Wiltshire's top Veterans team - strengthened by the inclusion of Terry Bruce and Bill Moulding, was also promoted.

Some of the top Juniors came under fire from senior county player Eddie Roofoe of Swindon. He hit out at their attitude and lack of interest. He was put in charge of the junior team, who finished second from bottom, for this season. More than 400 was paid out in a bid to step up coaching and coaching officer Kevin Satchell said it was paying off. Ranking trials had been held throughout the year and these had produced good competitive play but he complained that some top players had not taken advantage of county coaching squads.

Generally, he said, the standard of seniors was improving, junior boys were poor but there were signs of improvement among the girls. There was a shortage of women players. It was decided to put up players' affiliation fees after hearing that the county had lost nearly 400 on the season. Seniors will now pay £4 (up 75p) and juniors £2 (up 40p) this season.

Officers elected were:

Chairman
Bill Moulding
Vice Chairman
Colin Bendall
Secretary
Norman Atkins
Treasurer
Doug Parsons

County Team Match Secretaries

Brenda Lee (Seniors)
Eddie Roofoe (Juniors)
Brian Powell (Veteran Firsts)
Mike Oxley (Veteran Seconds)
Basil Thompson (Veteran Thirds)
Bill Willson (Veteran Fourths)
Umpires Secretary
Colin Bendall
Coaching Officer
Kevin Satchell
Press Officer
Laurie Selby
Inter-Town Secretary
Keith Thompson
Auditor
Les House

International umpire Bill Willson had a sound answer when asked by the Swindon Evening Advertiser why he was shelling out £750 of his own money to travel to officiate at the Butterfly World Doubles in Seoul, South Korea. "I must be mad" was his carefully considered reply.

Two young Swindon table tennis players put up excellent performances at the South West Region preliminary trials held at the Herod Parkway School Swindon. Tracy Youldon, the county's Under 17 and Under 14 champion, qualified for the final regional trials in both the Under 17 and Under 14 sections.

Debbie King was also in fine form in the Cadet (Under 14) event and also qualified.

Kelly Sampson (Swindon) is first reserve in the Cadets and Yvonne Dowd (Melksham) in the Under 17 singles. Players who get through the South West final trials will go on to the national trails and will be playing for points for the national ranking lists.

WORCESTERSHIRE

Ken Watton

THE COUNTY'S EXCELLENT President Ian Crickmer, informs me of the untimely death of Peter Nunney, age 45, a founder player of the St Johns Club, around the 1950-60

period. Unfortunately stricken by cancer, Peter will be remembered and sadly missed, by everyone, especially Worcester League players from that era.

On a happier note, the wedding took place (did I say happier?) of Steve Horton and Sue Meredith, during the close season, both County Second Team players.

They will be setting up home in the Kidderminster area and will, after a short period of "acclimatisation to wedded bliss" be no doubt looking to consolidate their County places. Good luck to them both.

On the County scene, 29th September sees the first matches of the season taking place with Juniors, Second Team Seniors and Veterans all in action.

Cornwall is the destination for John Smith and the Juniors, whilst yours truly will be heading for Brentwood and Essex III. The Veterans entertain Yorkshire 2nds at Jims Gym, Dudley. International table tennis came to Kidderminster once more on 18th September, with a match between England and France. Des Douglas, Alan Cooke, Michael O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield represented England, whilst the French team were led by No. 1 Jean-Phillipe Gatien.

A good sized local crowd were treated to some superb stuff, and despite England going down 4-3, a good time was had by all. Congratulations to Alistair Kerr, and the Kidderminster League, for staging the match.

British League table tennis is once again on show in the County this year, with Thorns TTC competing in Division 3 West.

It would be nice to see some extra support for the club, who have done as much as they can to encourage local fans to come and watch, so how about it, all you table tennis lovers.

Local leagues will commence on 1st October, but as yet I have only news of the Dudley League, where 4 divisions will be in operation.

If you want anything included in the column, please give me a ring, or drop me a line, because otherwise my options are limited.

County Rankings:

Men

1. Malcolm Green
2. Trevor Washington
3. Eric Hardman
4. Ken Walton
5. Jeremy Duffield
6. Mark Brookes
7. Steve Horton
8. Kwok Chan
9. Adrian Tottey
10. Jason Thompson
11. Andrew Hartland
12. Mark Fiddian
13. Willie Aherne

Women

1. Sandra Roden
2. Mandy House
3. Lynda Reid
4. Janet Hunt
5. Sue Horton
6. Helen Pogmore
7. Joanne Hill
8. Sarah Stone
9. Barbara Jukes

YORKSHIRE Rea Balmford

THE YORKSHIRE LEAGUE, one of the strongest inter-league competitions in the country with nineteen Leagues fielding no less than 109 teams in 14 divisions will, by the time these notes go into print, be under way in eight of the divisions.

But, with a new format, discussed and approved by the Leagues, coming into force, all Junior Divisions and the Mens Premier Division will be played over three Sundays at a 'central' venue.

All the Junior and Cadet Divisions will be truly centralised at the Leeds League club room at Farnley Park, but the prestigious Men's Premier Division will move round the county with Sheffield, the Leeds/Bradford conurbation and Hull the likely venues.

This innovation follows the successful experiment last season

when the Junior and Cadet girls events were played on a similar basis and brought many favourable comments, particularly in that playing time and travelling time were in much better balance.

With the men's division, it is hoped that the new and streamlined format will enable more of the top players to compete in the County's top competition now that it has become possible to use dates which are clear of major tournaments, County and British League fixtures.

Congratulations are in order for popular 'new' Yorkshireman Chen Xinhua who was early among the honours when he won the M & G International Open at Brentwood with a victory over Alan Cooke, and for Sally Marling who, at 14 years of age, made her senior international debut in the three match test series against Sweden. There was little joy for Sally in a 1-6 defeat, but the experience gained will be invaluable.

Still on the international front, Hull has been allocated the opening European League match of the season when England play hosts to Spain on Thursday 25th October at the Ennerdale Leisure Centre.

Dewsbury's first newsletter of the season is to hand and it is good to see the handicaps for the forthcoming season listed - everybody now has a chance to get their 'moans' off their chests before they play, rather than after they have been beaten!

Except, that is, in the case of the Jim Brown Trophy which was played in the opening week of September and won by Brian Carter, off 23 - comment from the editor of the newsletter "Obviously his handicap needs changing!!"

On a more serious note, one or two teams have been lost and it is a pity that well established clubs are having to disband, not because the players are leaving the sport, but because premises are not available for match play.

Here, possibly, is an area which Development Officers - League,

County and National - should investigate. The answer is, obviously, Leisure Centres, but too few seem to be table tennis orientated and able to put reasonable facilities forward at a price a three-man team can afford.

And this comment is certainly not directed at Earleheaton who, bringing their strength up to five teams, appear to be playing their part.

Would all County Notes correspondents please send their copy and pictures direct to Bethan Davies at:

**ETTA office,
Queensbury House,
Havelock Road,
Hastings,
East Sussex
TN34 1HF**

**to arrive
BY THE COPY
DEADLINE DATE.**

TOP SEEDS MISSING BUT SANDLEY TRIUMPHS

IN a tournament hit by the withdrawal or non-arrival of 8 top seeds, Graham Sandley took advantage to win the mens singles title for the third time and his first title for five years. Alison Gordon continued her incredible run of singles wins and this year claimed the hat-trick winning the womens doubles and mixed doubles as well.

The mens singles saw Sandley and Stephen Dorking come through their half (weakened by the absence of Bradley Billington & Michael O'Driscoll) without any real problems. The other half, with absences of Chris Oldfield and Tony Taylor, saw John Holland and Sean Gibson have varying fortunes. Gibson had a fairly comfortable passage only being taken to three sets by Paul Lewis.

Holland, on the other hand, had real battles against Michael Hammond and Phil Smith (both 3 sets) and Paul Elphick who had earlier had an excellent win against Glen Baker. Peniel Academy were well represented in the semi-finals with three out of the four being members of that club, the odd one out being Sandley.

It was, however, Sandley who took the first final place just edging out Dorking 26-24, 21-18 in a tremendous match. With club mates clashing in the other semi-final, a very close match ensued. Holland took the first set but Gibson came back to take the other two 22-20, 22-20. The final was no disappointment either with Sandley and Gibson matching each other point for point but Sandley just edged home for the title.

The womens singles also had its problems with seeding due to the withdrawal of Andrea Holt and Carol Giles. Alison Gordon, despite a fright in the first set against Lesley Radford, won her matches without much problems. In the other half, the luck of the draw saw the other surviving seed Jill Harris come up

against Scotland & Sussex No.1, Janet Smith.

In a very tight match, Smith came through 23-21, 17-21, 23-21 and proceeded to the final. This was the first time that Sussex has been represented in the womens singles event. Unfortunately, Alison has now made this event her own domain and was determined not to lose her crown beating Janet in straight sets both in single figures to secure her seventh successive singles win and her eighth in all.

The mens doubles really had a turn-up for the book. Top seeds Dorking and Grant Solder (replacing O'Driscoll) had a hard three set match against Des Charlery and Joe Kennedy but then proceeded comfortably to meet Sandley and Colin Wilson in the semi-final. This again was a very tight match with Sandley & Wilson just getting home 17-21, 24-22, 21-18.

In the other half, Gibson & Holland were favourites for a final place with Oldfield & Taylor absent. However, in the quarter-finals, they met Andy Cunningham and Tommy Cutler, playing together for the first time, and lost quite decisively 7-21, 18-21.

Cunningham & Cutler then met the Sussex pairing of Phil Smith & Ritchie Venner (who came through the section made wide open through the absent pair) in the semi-final and won in three sets. They then met the experienced pairing of Sandley & Wilson in the final and, despite losing the first set, took the next two for an unexpected title win.

With Andrea Holt and Carol Giles not appearing, their respective partners Jane Barella & Krubrat Owalabi were paired together and had some tight matches before reaching the final. However, they were no match for the holders, Alison Gordon & Juliette Houghton who, despite losing the first set,



Sean Gibson

took the next two in single figures to retain their title.

The mixed doubles saw top seeds Gibson (replacing Oldfield) and Jill Harris reach the semi-final with a three set victory over Adrian & Teresa Moore. At this stage, they met Sandley & Janet Smith and just edged home 21-19, 21-19.

With John Holland (replacing Jonathan Taylor) joining up with Alison Gordon, this pair proceeded well but not easily to the semi-final where they met Joe Kennedy and Sue Collier and just scraped home 23-21, 21-19. The final saw Gordon & Holland take the title fairly comfortably over Gibson & Harris to give Alison her hat-trick of wins.

The non-appearance of seeds even effected the veterans singles with nos. one and two Henry Buist and Derek Holman failing to appear. This left the event wide open with Brian Simmonds having three good wins before going out to the holder Andy Meads in the semi-final. Lesley Radford was proceeding well through her half of the draw but was then stopped by David Harvey in the semi-final. The final saw Harvey score a comfortable victory over Meads.

Womens Singles:

Final

Miss A. Gordon bt Miss J. Smith 8, 7

Mens Doubles

Final

A. Cunningham & T. Cutler bt G. Sandley & C. Wilson -13, 14, 16

Womens Doubles

Final

Miss A. Gordon & Miss J. Houghton bt Miss J. Barella & Miss K. Owalabi -18, 5, 8

Mixed Doubles

Final

J. Holland & Miss A. Gordon bt S. Gibson & Miss J. Harris 18, 16

Veterans Singles

Final

D. Harvey bt A. Meads 17, 16

Stamco Sussex Open Two Star

Mens Singles

Semi-final

G. Sandley bt S. Dorking 24, 18

S. Gibson bt J. Holland -16, 20, 20

Final

G. Sandley bt S. Gibson 19, 21

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England No.2 Alison Gordon recently visited Thornaby Pavilion to put local youngsters through their paces. Alison had a busy day giving tips and hints to scores of youngsters in one of the country's busiest table tennis areas. Our picture shows her along with her young hopefuls during a brief rest period. (Photo courtesy Evening Gazette, Middlesbrough)

WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT THEM?

ON BEHALF of the Women's Committee, I would like to express our appreciation to everyone who assisted in the recent England vs Sweden Women's series, and especially to thank those sponsors without whose financial support the tour could not have been so successful.

In Bury, Mike Leggatt of SMART MOVE AND PHOTO-STATIC and Milliken Industries Ltd., assisted Bury Metropolitan Borough Council who staged the first match at Castle Leisure Centre in the town.

Rainbow Leisure Centre in Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, hosted the second match on Saturday and thanks are extended to a group of thirteen local corporate sponsors: Blake Newport Quantity Surveyors, Evening Gazette, Ronald Freeman Jewellers, Hillprint Ltd., Horncastle Motor Company Ltd., I.C.I. Chemicals & Polymers, Northern

Photographic Services Ltd., Post House Hotel, Alan Ransome Sporting Goods Group, The Sports Council, Northern Region, Sid Turnbull Limited — Insurance Consultants, The Swedish Church, and Willett Rose & Linthorpe Insurance Brokers Ltd.

The final match of the tour was played at Meadowside Leisure Centre at Burton on Trent, and supported by the East Staffordshire District Council and organised by Terry Gadsby.

These events do not happen without the commitment of PEOPLE, and I would also like to acknowledge the help of Jenny Hughes who did a great job in co-ordinating the tour, Wilton Holt and members of the Bury League, members of the Rainbow Ladies Club in Middlesbrough and Uxbridge TTL, Meadowside Ladies and Burton Senior TTL in Burton, together with the Managers and Staff at all three venues for their assistance.

And last but not least, to our equipment sponsors, Dunlop and

Jaques for providing the equipment.

Jose Ransome

HERE WE GO AGAIN

ARRANGEMENTS are now underway for 1991 Women's British League Weekends, as follows:

First Rounds: 16/17th February at Crystal Leisure Centre, Stourbridge.

Final Rounds: 1/2 June at Bletchley Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes.

Entry forms are available from the Organiser, Mike Lewis, Glenavon Cottage Clifton Down, Bristol, Tel. 0272 73078

The League will be restricted to 30 club teams and any new clubs interested in participating in the five-division league are advised to make an early application.

Sponsorship

A great sponsorship opportunity exists as the sponsor of the Women's British League. Sponsorship proposal and presentation folders are available from Jose Ransome, "Conifers", Church Lane, Ormesby, Middlesbrough, Cleveland. Tel. 0642 322223.

MONEY FOR THE ASKING

A fund of £100,000 for development of any sport is big money by any standards. The ETTA has been fortunate in being able to allocate that amount from its funds to enable members to take up initiatives to attract new members and therefore build for a healthy future. John Prean who announced the setting up of the development fund keeps us in the picture.

ALL too often I hear the tale that our local Associations (Member Leagues) have not heard about the Fund and the opportunities, which it presents, to do something for Table Tennis in their area without the slightest financial risk. If so, one wonders what more can be done to make our members aware of this exciting initiative.

Not only have we written about this in this very magazine, of which, after all, every League Secretary, Chairman and Treasurer gets a copy (assuming only that such names have been given to us), but we featured the scheme in our August Newsletter and ETTA circulars. The news made the National Press last Spring and received highly favourable comment as yet another sign of the sport's revival and continuing progress.

My own local league did apply. Our scheme was a very simple one. We rented normal club halls during the summer in three locations at the usual landlord's rent of a few £s per evening.

None of our premises are large. The smallest used holds four tables and the largest six. As children were involved, we did not need enormous space.

We paid our coaches travel cost only, but no fees.

We put an ad. in the local paper which cost £40 making sure that an article appeared at the same time. Later the local newspaper actually sent a reporter and photographer. Carl Prean, who spent a month on the Island during the summer, helped very actively. He never charged us a penny. Local Radio featured a long interview with him and the scheme got further publicity.

All sessions were full, lots of children turning up. We were surprised how many owned a bat and could play a bit. We learned that Mail Order Houses now sell tables for domestic use and a lot of our newcomers came to the sport that way. This season our league will have 54 teams instead of last season's 48 and lots of kids are in the pipeline for 1991/2.

Our grant from the ETTA was just over £400 and it was money well spent (and we still have some left for more sessions). Our scheme was as simple as that. Clubs were delighted, gaining new members and eventually revenue.

The limit of the grant is the sum total of one year's affiliation fees. We made it go a long way. When the ETTA's money runs out, we feel sure that the scheme can continue on a self-funding basis with newcomers paying a small fee for coaching and playing.

Other leagues may have better ideas. Bigger leagues qualify for larger grants, which means they can make a larger splash and set their ideas a little higher, perhaps a big open day with an international match as the climax.

New tables are a good idea which can be funded in full, but we insist that they represent new capacity, fresh playing space and are not merely replacements of old ones.

Local Authorities and Sports Councils may contribute additional funds over and above what you raise or get from the ETTA.

Here is your chance to form your local development committee to improve the sport and really broaden the membership base in your league. The ETTA's development fund will give you a useful start. Pick up the phone! Talk to Diccon Gray (at our Hastings Office 0424 722525) or to me (0983 62747). There has to be a closing date, perhaps in a few months and it would be tragic if any league misses out.

For me personally it was a great day when we were able to plough back so large a sum — up to £100,000 — into the grass roots of the game where it can do so much good. It made our efforts over the last three years or so very much worthwhile. So far a sum over £6,000 has been allocated and requests are processed daily.

Too many leagues have not applied. Take the chance. Make the effort. It is nice to have money earning interest, especially at today's high interest rates and the ETTA is in that happy position, but better still to build a stronger sport, to serve the members, to enlarge and improve the game around the country.

That's what we are here for. That is why our members have elected us.

John Prean

ENGLAND TAKE A TUMBLE

SOME splendid table tennis between two evenly matched teams was seen at Bury, Middlesbrough and Burton-on-Trent. The three young Swedish Marie Svensson, Asa Svensson and Pernilla Pettersson are a promising trio that could eventually prove too strong for some central European teams.

But, this could be the last women's tour, at least for the near future. As much as we all applaud Jose Ransome's efforts — and others — to boost women's table tennis crowds of 170 at Bury, 120 at Middlesbrough and only 65 at Burton means that the fans were not impressed enough to give up whatever else they were doing that week-end, even those well inside the sport.

As we now have a European Women's League, if this goes well and the signs at the start are good, then there is no call for women's tours on the proof we have in front of us after this tour.

At Bury we had our best chance of success where the final result was left until the very last game of the evening. With wins from Alison Gordon, Lisa Lomas and in the doubles when Andrea Holt and Lisa beat Asa Svensson and Pernilla Pettersson, it was all left to Alison to win the match.

That she failed to beat Asa Svensson was not for the want of trying. She had a good chance in the first game eventually going down 23.21. Showed some of her real form in winning the second game and fought like a tiger to clinch the final game but failed 21.18.

Something of a disappointment for Andrea who had hoped to do better in front of her home crowd. She went on first losing to Pernilla Pettersson the Swedish national champion and after the excellent win in the doubles went down in three games to Marie Svensson.

Sweden turned on the heat at Middlesbrough. The tour cars and the ETTA mini-bus all had some trouble finding the venue — the Rainbow Leisure Centre at Coulby Newham — and when we got there we found the centre was hidden amongst a shopping mall and there was an "open" squash court close enough to the arena to disturb the players.

However, that apart, the organisation at Middlesbrough was the best on the tour,

flowers on court, ten sponsors, excellent hotel etc. The Swedes were obviously not worried by the sounds of a squash ball being thrashed around, they thrashed England 6-1, racing to a 5-0 lead.

Fiona Elliot fighting as hard as ever to win the third spot in the England world championships squad for Chiba City next April, took the first game 25-23 against Pettersson but then ran out of steam to lose 10. -14.

Questions will have to be raised as to whether this "bleeding" of very young players was wise — these were the thoughts from the Press box as Sally Marling tried hard on her debut but could only must 17 points in two games against Asa Svensson. Lisa Lomas, really the star of the tour surprisingly lost -15, -15 to her close friend Marie Svensson and the Svenssons won the doubles.

A lack-lustre performance by Alison saw England go five down until Lisa managed to literally hit back to bring down Asa 13, 18, with a slick mixture of defence and attack. Latterly, Fiona again took the first game 16 against Marie but again could not hold the initiative and lost -11, -18.

On the road from Middlesbrough to Burton-on-Trent driven in pouring rain there were unfortunate happenings. Some 12 miles short of Burton on the A38 the ETTA mini-bus driven for the last time by Jenny Hughes ran out of fuel — despite the fuel gauge showing plenty. The players on the bus suffered a delay before a car was sent to pick them up, missing a sumptuous reception prepared at the Town Hall.

As the van was being towed in, Jenny saw Mike and Christine's Lewis's car involved in an accident at a roundabout. Happily, they were not hurt but their car was and the Lewis's, (gallantly following the tour as welcome spectators) had to follow their broken car home and did not see the final match at the Meadowside Centre, where the table tennis played second fiddle to a swimming gala.

However, this was an historic moment in the history of English table tennis — Nicola Deaton, 13, but being smaller looking more like 11, made a spirited debut to become the youngest player ever to appear for England taking over from Sally

Marling the previous day and Carl Prean in Lisbon in 1982.

The media were grateful for the inclusion of the two youngsters because it made as we say "a story" — had it not been for the tiny terrors it is doubtful if Richard Eaton would have been on the tour for his papers including "The Times".

England went three-nil down as Andrea Holt lost to Marie Svensson, Nicola Deaton smashed through a number of winners before losing -14, -10 to Pernilla Pettersson and once again the England champion Fiona Elliot sadly lost -20, -13 to Asa.

Unbeaten

England's fine new and winning doubles pair Lisa Lomas and Andrea Holt re-hoisted the England flag as they defeated Asa and Pernilla -12, 8, 11. Once more Fiona won the first game, this time against Marie but again could not hold on and lost 19, -14, -14.

Lisa wound up her tour smartly as England fought back to beat Pernilla 19, -13, 17 and Andrea Holt finished off her tour with an overdue win 17, 20 against Asa Svensson.

The tour ended at Burton Town Hall, where the Mayors Parlour hospitality suite was in full swing — a superb meal and other liquid refreshments that should have been taken at mid-day when the mini-bus broke down.

The players were then transported back to the England training camp at Lilleshall, where we assume, the Swedish team were suitably entertained for a further three days before returning to Sweden; Jill Parker had the task, not an easy one, of captaining the England team at Burton and Middlesbrough, with Kevin Satchell taking over at Burton.

Amongst the sponsors at Middlesbrough were Carole (nee Knight) and David Moore, who are now totally immersed in lawn tennis. Carole, the former England champion and her husband dental surgeon David entertained a small group who shall remain nameless (for celebrations at meeting old friends) until the very wee small hours at the Post House hotel and the Moores took a taxi home!



Lisa Lomas

DUNLOP MAKE IT SEVEN IN A ROW

DUNLOP has agreed to continue to sponsor the ESTTA national school team championships played at area, regional and national levels and the ESTTA individual championship — the largest one-day event of its kind in this country.

In addition to making a substantial cash contribution they will also supply tables and equipment for these events. The Official Handbook will also receive Dunlop support. In addition for the first time they will sponsor the ESTTA Invitation International championships held in July for school children at U19, U16 & U14 levels from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and other countries from Europe.

Commenting on this agreement, Mr. Chris Reynolds, Marketing and Sales Director of Dunlop said: "Dunlop Sports Co., believes that the encouragement of youngsters, in any sport, is a fundamental part of a child's education and for this reason, we are delighted to be associated, for the 7th successive year, with the English Schools' Table Tennis Association.

It is a proven fact that most world champions started playing their sport when very young — let's hope that through the help and enthusiasm of all those involved with the ESTTA, we are able to continue our success in the table tennis arena.

We hope that through our association with the ESTTA, more young people will have the chance to enjoy this sport. We are delighted to continue our Skills Award Scheme which gives youngsters the chance to set themselves a goal and win certificates for the skills they have acquired.

John Blackband, ESTTA Chairman said "In order to continue and expand our activities there must be two essential ingredients. First, a strong dedicated band of workers who promote schools' table tennis. Secondly, we need hard cash and security in the form of sponsorship. The cost of promoting competitions is ever increasing, and even though affiliation and competition fees are raised regularly, there is still a wide gulf between income and expenditure.

As a means to bridge this gap and provide essential security for our Association, I am pleased to inform you that Dunlop



John Blackband

THE English Schools' Table Tennis Association will benefit from a new sponsorship agreement with the Dunlop Sports Company.

Sports Company has again offered substantial sponsorship in cash and kind. I am sure all enthusiasts will help the ESTTA executive to continue to promote the link with Dunlop for the mutual benefit of schools' Table Tennis and the Dunlop Company. We are pleased to be introducing youngsters to the Dunlop product range which leads the field and offers its total support to the game of Table Tennis — a commitment from grass roots level to International level".

It is estimated that some 20,000 players took part in events at county, area, regional and national also international level as part of the schools' Table Tennis programme last year. The development of school Table Tennis must be seen as one of the corner stones of the future of Table Tennis in this country. For further information contact; Chris Reynolds (Dunlop) 0372-362222; John Blackband (ESTTA) 0922-27081 (evenings); David Lomas (ESTTA PRO) 081-656-8857.

NATIONAL COMPETITION DATES

Team

Regional Finals 17th February 1991

National Finals 16th March 1991

Individual

National Finals 27th April 1991

Handbooks

The 1990-91 Handbooks have now gone to press and will be distributed as soon as they are available.

I.O.M. International 1990

A very successful event was enjoyed by courtesy of the Isle of Man Association. We plan to participate in another event in 1991.

Provisional dates — July 5, July 6, July 7.

Provisional Venue — Stockland Green, Birmingham

Easter Coaching Course 1991

Venue — Lea Green, Matlock

Date — April 2 — 5 (4 days)

Cost — £68 Reduced rate for Derbyshire pupils.

Please give wide publicity to players in your area. If you are interested please contact Bob Wood 0253 57163.

Why not bring a party of children and you yourself participate in the Course?

ESTTA Reps on ETTA Coaching and Development Panels

Area

North West	Joe Walk
Yorks/Humberside	Richard Hudson and Rea Balmford
East Midlands	Dennis Worrell
Eastern	Paul Birch
West Midlands	Greta Willacey
Southern	Peter Charters
London & SE	Gail McCulloch
South West	Peter Hancock
Northern	Neil Dorney

ESTTA Reps on NCSS

E. Mitchell

L. C. Henry

D. Lomas

British Primary Championships 1990

A successful event was held at Dumfries in 1990. A similar event to be staged next year. A team of four boys and four girls under 12 on 28.2.1991 will be selected.

Venue: Dumfries

Date: 5th — 7th April 1991

DEPOSIT WILL DETER ABSENT TEAMS

COUNTY qualifying competitions for the Dunlop National School Team Championships are now well under way in most counties. Entries are due in to the Competition Secretary, Geoff Gardiner (36 Froom Street, Chorley, Lancs, PR6 0AN) by no later than December 10th.

At the ESTTA Executive Council meeting on September 30th it was agreed that all schools would be required to pay a returnable deposit of ten pounds when they submit their entry form (T3).

There has been a growing practice of teams failing to fulfil their commitments and the Council are hoping to eliminate this undesirable trend. Once school teams are knocked out at the Area or Regional stage their deposit will be returned.

The Area Finals are taking place earlier than usual — on January 12th and 13th, 1991, and so the necessary information for schools involved will be distributed before Christmas.

Winners go forward to Regional Finals at Pontefract, Cirencester and Croydon on February 17th and thence to the National Finals — at Lea Green, Matlock, Derbyshire, on March 16th.

In response to a questionnaire distributed at last season's national finals the Council have also decided to play all matches at the national finals on one table only. This will reduce the number of tables to eight, thus increasing the amount of spectator accommodation. Spectator involvement and support has always been a feature at Lea Green. There will be a slightly longer playing schedule but if all goes well the experiment could be permanent.

A press cuttings competition will also be held. This time there will be separate categories according to the progress of the teams through the various stages. Details from the General Secretary, Mr. L. C. Henry, Engelberg, Badger Lane, Woolley Moor, Derby DE5 6FG

(0246 590164).

The Dunlop English Schools Individual Championships are due to be held at Mansfield Leisure Centre on Saturday, April 27th. Entry is only via counties. Next season, with Easter being late, it is planned to revert to the more traditional May Day Bank Holiday Saturday.

At the inaugural meeting of international schools delegates at the Leeds Schools International Championships in Douglas, Isle of Man, it was agreed that more forward planning is desirable. England are hoping to stage the Schools International Championships in Birmingham on July 5/6/7 1991. Welsh Secretary, Steve Gibbs tells me that Wales are hopeful of staging their first schools international in Cardiff in 1992 and Scotland have an option for 1993.

The ESTTA are engaged in preliminary talks with the National Council for Schools' Sports and the

Sports Council with a view to staging a wider-ranging schools international event in England — under the patronage of the International School Sport Federation.

Copies of the ESTTA's 64-page official handbook — sponsored by Dunlop — are now available from the General Secretary, Mr. L. C. Henry, £1 plus post and packing.

It includes full details of all major events, details of county secretaries and photographic coverage of last season's championships.

Order your copy now before stocks — and the General Secretary — are exhausted.

D.L.



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STEVE SCORES A HAT-TRICK

by Ken Lyons

BRIDLINGTON, the resort for sport, was the venue for the 4th East Yorkshire Junior Open Championships. Played at the Spa with a record entry, the recently refurbished victorian style building provided excellent playing conditions and a great atmosphere

The event was superbly organised by the North Yorkshire Table Tennis Association in co-operation with the East Yorkshire Borough Council and Jarvis Sports. There was a large umpire presence (25) and first class hospitality was provided for a tournament that has a fast growing reputation and attracted the very best of the country's young talent.

Saturday proved to be a great day for Steve Meddings (Wa) who became a triple title winner by capturing the under 12 singles, cadet singles and doubles events. The U12 event went the way of the seedings up to the semi finals, Michael James, (4) then beat David Purdy (2) 13, -11, 17. Steve had a comfortable win over Gerald Ashison 15 and 8. In the final Steve scraped home 19 in the first and then played superbly to take the title 21-9.

The Cadet boys singles provided the upset of the day, in an event that attracted 17 of the top 20 players. Michael James of Bridlington, who had fought his way through the groups, put out the number one seed, Adrian Vincent in the first round 16 and 13. The semi-finals did however provide a line-up of four of the eight seeded players. In the first Philip Neal won a very close match with Ian Eaton (Ch) and in the other Steve Meddings was taken to three by Paul Hudson (E). The final provided some good table tennis but the greater experience of Steve gave him a win in two 13 and 14.

There was no surprises in the Cadet girls final with the experienced Sally Marling winning 17 and 7 over Lyndsey Heywood (Dv) who had previously had a good win in the semis over 2nd seed Michelle Martin (St) 19, -19, 22. The U12 Girls competition saw an all Yorkshire final where Nicola Smith beat Nicola Silburn 17, 19.

The Junior Girls singles went according to seeding up to the semi-finals where Maria Thornley (La) ousted top seed Sally Marling 18, 24. The other semi-final saw Ellen Meddings (Y) beat Nicola Meddings

(Wa) comfortably 13, 9. In the final it was even all the way with Ellen winning game 20. Ellen raced away in the second winning 14 to keep the title in the county.

The Junior Boys semi-finals had Gareth Jones (Y) matched to Alex Perry (Dv) and Darren Howarth (La) to Matthew Brown (St) in a dramatic see-saw struggle — Jones eventually made the final 18, -19, 16. The second semi started with Darren showing much class to win 21-10. The final line-up being decided with Matthew unlucky to lose 22-20. In the final Jones led 14-11 in the first, Howarth fought back to level at 15 all, a trend which was to continue throughout the match until Jones took 5 points in a row off his own service in the third to win the title 19, -19, 17.

The Junior Boys doubles final went to Fraser Lewis and Keven McKellar who were part of a large contingent from Scotland, who succeeded in two closely fought ends against the singles finalists Jones and Howarth 18, 18.

The mayor of East Yorkshire Borough Roy Saul summed up the event at the official reception as an impressive array of young talent whose competitive and friendly behaviour brings great credit to the sport, adding that he looks forward to the next table tennis event in the borough (the English Junior Open in May 1991) and hoped to see some of the competitors and officials on that occasion.



Mayor, Councillor Roy Saul, East Yorkshire Borough Council ,
Left: Steven Meddings (Wa) Winner.
Right: Philip Neal (Y) Runner-up. Cadet Boys Singles

RECORD BREAKERS

by BRIAN LAMERTON

Who reports on a successful season with league titles contested to the very last point. He also looks forward to another record year with an increasing number of members.

DESPITE the loss of sponsorship it was still possible to present prize winning cheques totalling £310 at the AGM of the Southern Region League held at Prestock (Farnborough) and the League now embarks on its fourth season maintaining its record of increasing in numbers every season.

Each of last season's three divisions were contested almost to the last point. Cippenham 'A' went into their last premier division match with a 100% record and needing only two sets against arch rivals Kingfisher to take the title. Well, 2 sets was all they got as they crashed 7 sets to 2, to an inspired Kingfisher lead by a hat-trick from Malcolm Hayes. As well as taking the title Cippenham also had the two leading players amongst those playing in more than 2 matches in Alec Watson (83.3%) and Frank Earis (73.3%).

Burnham needing a three point win in their last first division match to finish on top lost, 6 sets to 3, to Amity Generation 'B' who produced hat-tricks from the league's leading lady players, Sarah Hammond and newcomer John Roberts. Burnham still obtained promotion however as winners Kingfisher 'B' are unable to take their place in the Premier due to the presence of their 'A' string. Jonathan Samuel of Kingfisher (85.7%) and Burnham's Mark Banks (77.8%) were the leading 'regular' players in this division.

Not to be outdone in the excitement Kingfisher and Cippenham were level on points at the head of the ladies division when they opposed each other in the final match. With 4 of the 5 sets going to the third game it was the brace of singles wins for Nicola Cracknell, playing in her first match of the season, who won the day for Kingfisher.

1990-91's first matches will have been played by now — changes for the season are the demise of Purbrook from the Premier division to be replaced by KCD Stiga based on Fareham Community Centre with Kier Donaldson making another attempt at running a representative team and the addition of Aldershot

'B' to the ladies league means that we now have 3 divisions, each of 6 teams.

The junior regional trials were scheduled for October 14th at Redbridge Centre (Southampton). It is fully intended to run a Youth Cup competition in the second half of the season along Leeds Youth Cup lines — there will presumably be no national finals this season but the Southern Region hereby challenges any other region to put up their champions against ours towards the end of the season (Competition Secretary, Mick Strode — 0276 31926 — is sitting by his phone waiting for acceptances!)

Plans are also afoot for Junior Cadet leagues later in the season. The Banbury School Programme Scheme ('Tables in Schools') has taken a giant step forward with the agreement of the Sports Council to make a £2,000 grant to add to a similar sum already obtained by the Banbury T.T.A. themselves together with local commercial sponsorship.

Barry Aston and his colleagues who have worked hard to reach this stage (helped by Regional Chairman Ray Yates) now hope to have the scheme 'up and running' before Christmas.

On a personal note I was privileged to take part (as an umpire) recently in an event held within the regions boundaries — the British Sports Association for the Disabled championships; held in Reading — my first experience of disabled T.T. which I found very rewarding; the organisation was first class and no praise can be too high for those who worked tirelessly to produce an outstanding week-end. I hope I am asked again!

S W Region

THE Cotswold Junior select 2 Star this season, once again to be held at the Gloucester L.C. on the 2/3rd of February — the Junior events will now take place on the first day of the Tournament, this proviso is so that any Junior Player who wishes to play in the British League the following day is free to do so. Therefore, needless to say the Cadets and U12's events will take place all day on the Sunday.

After many years as chairman of the SWR, I understand that Bristol's Mike Lewis is now no longer with us — sadly it also appears very likely that Mike's wife Christine will have to be replaced as secretary.

I am sure that both of these dedicated TT administrators will be missed considerably for all the hard work that they have unselfishly put into our sport over a period of numerous years, one can wish them well for the years that lie ahead, and thank them for all that they have done.

Mrs. Valerie Clack from Swindon take's over the role of Chairman South West Region.

S/W and Southern Regions have this past summer ran a highly successful coaching course, and I am informed that the following have passed out in their respective coaching classes ie: Michael Fremonger (Farrington), Michael Flynn and Neal Henry (Gloucester), Peter Goatley (Reading), Martin Rumary (Bridgwater) and Gary Trent (Didcot).

A coaching course for children of all standards was also set up in Swindon — the get 'em young attitude certainly prevailed under the watchful eyes of coaches, Val Clack and Claire Hunter. George Novoth takes over the role of Senior Coach in Gloucester City — George succeeded Paddy Jackson, (now retired) who held the position for a worthy eleven years. Bath's Mike Hawkins has been doing the rounds of AGM's in the area and hopes to be catering for coaching at several levels ie: cadets — new members and novices I am informed are indeed welcome.

ALF PEPPERD

DOUBLE AWARDS

THE Kirklees Junior 2 Star, the results of which were reported in a 'stop press' article in the last edition of TTN was the occasion for the presentation of well deserved awards to two of the officials.

Jackie Ryder has been connected with the Kirklees annual tournament — it began life as a senior open before changing its format to cater for the juniors — since its inception in 1979.

Formerly with the Dewsbury League, the league which is responsible for the Kirklees, Jackie really became committed to table tennis because of the involvement of husband Bob and her three sons.

A hardworking figure, who rarely strays far from the control desk during a day's — or even a weekend's — play, Jackie's only connections with the sport today are the Kirklees and the various tournaments organised by the Yorkshire TT Association.

To mark her dedication over the years, Jackie was the recipient of a cut glass ashtray, mounted in silver and suitably engraved, by the referee/organiser of the event, Bevan Walker.

A second presentation followed in which Bevan, over the last decade, one of the front men on the Yorkshire tournament scene, received from the Brian Kinsey a bottle of Bollinger to mark his eleven year association with the Kirklees, nine as referee and ten as organizer.



ALL WINNERS

ONE of the — it not the — finest table tennis championships for disabled ever to be held in this country was recently held in Reading.

The Grand Metropolitan National Table Tennis Championships, staged by the British Sports Association for the Disabled (BSAD) and sponsored by Grand Metropolitan, brought together 120 table tennis players of all disability groups who had qualified from 13 regions of the British Isles.

The competition was fierce and the standard high in all of the various classes. An invitation Class nine abled-bodied event included some of our top players — Matthew Syed, Sean Gibson, Graham Sandley and Lisa Lomas to name a few. How refreshing — and how progressive — to see disabled and able-bodied players alongside each other!

These championships marvellously supported by an excellent organisation, including the ETTA officials and umpires and through Jill Hammersley Parker and David Hewitt, demonstrated just what can be achieved for table tennis for the disabled. Roll on 1991!

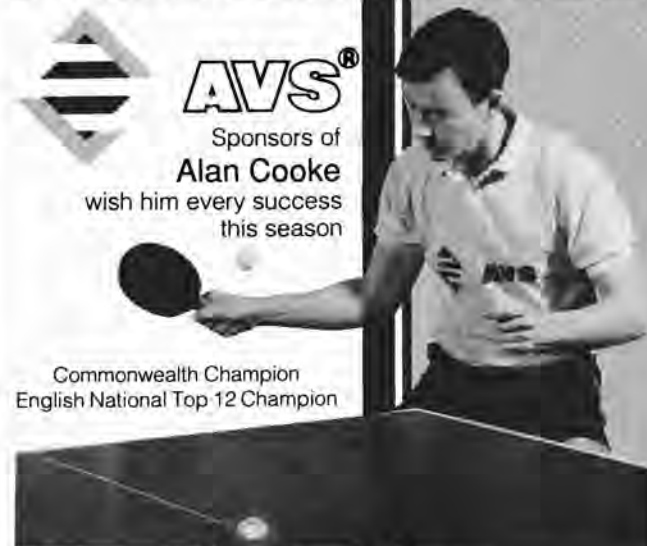
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EXCELLENT START

NFD Grove of Market Drayton made an excellent start to their campaign in the European Club Cup of Champions when the North Shropshire based club accounted for Sporting Clubs of Portugal 5-1 in Lisbon on September 29th whilst one week later the ladies were in equally mean mood as they beat Swiss champions Dietikon 5-0 at Market Drayton to maintain progress.

The only reverse for NFD Grove in Portugal was the defeat of Chris Oldfield by former Chinese player Chen Si Chas whose defensive skills overcame the Market Drayton player in a hard fought three set encounter but the oriental star had no answer to the precision like hitting of Alan Cooke and fell in straight sets as had Paulo Fernandez in the opening set. Meanwhile the legendary anticipation of Desmond Douglas delighted the large number of Portuguese fans as he beat

NFD Grove with new sponsors and high hopes of a successful season, have started in fine style. Here Ian Marshall sums up how both teams fared in their opening matches.

Fernandez and top Portuguese man Pedro Miguel Mousa whilst Oldfield concluded proceedings by beating the latter to put NFD Grove into the last 32 against Avila Rojas of Spain.

Undoubtedly the Spaniards will prove tough opponents at Market Drayton on

October 26th led by Russian star Vladimir Dvorak with highly ranked Spaniards Jose Maria Pales and Matao Cibantos in support, the prize will be a quarter final clash against defending champions Levalloris in Paris in November.

Meanwhile the girls have secured a quarter final place by beating luckless Swiss champions Dietikon 5-0 with Alison Gordon, Andrea Holt and Jill Harris never troubled and straight set wins the order of the day. The girls travel to Austria to play ATUS Judenburg-Sparkasse who were the surprise winners over Trades Unions, Moscow the number two seeds, the quarter final encounters are scheduled for 9/10 November.



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FORM UPSET

by Laurie Selby

ENGLAND's young hopefuls tore up the form book in the Wiltshire 2 Star tournament in Swindon, with only four of the 11 events won by the top seeds.

Out went number one seed Edward Hatley (Aldershot) in the boys' singles, gunned down by Gavin Yates (Oxford) who himself crashed in the semi-finals to number three seed Alex Perry (Devon).

Out went the second seed Steve Gill (Wales), ousted by Spencer Thompson of Kent. Then came along the unseeded Richard Hyacinth who gave Thompson his marching orders in the semis and then coolly disposed of Perry to take the £50 top prize.

Devon's Clare Pengelly also whipped the cream of the seeds. She kept her nerve to dispose of Alison Gower, the number two seed from Essex, in a nail-biting semi-final.

Then the Paignton girl smashed her way past the top seed, Natasha Williams of Wales, to take the under-17 championships.

The younger age group singles went more as expected with Adrian Vincent (Plymouth) living up to his England number two ranking by cruising to victory in the Cadet Singles.

The only mild surprise was in the Cadet girls' singles where top seed Michelle Martin (Burton-on-Trent) lost in the deciding game to against Lynsey Heyward (Newton Abbott).

Both the under 12 singles went according to the seedings — Stephen Meddings (Sutton Coldfield) taking the boys' title and Nicola Smith (Leeds), the girls.

The trophies for the best Wiltshire performances were won by Tracy Youldon, Tim O'Mahoney, Erica Stevens and Alexander Collar.

Trophies were presented by Roy Hazell of Aldbourne, president of the Wiltshire Table Tennis Association, and by tournament organiser Bill Willson of Swindon.

RESULTS

Under 17 boys' singles

semi-finals:

R. Hyacinth bt S. Thompson 17, -14, 18; A. Perry bt G. Yates 18, 13.

Final:

Hyacinth bt Perry 18, 18.

Under 17 girls' singles

semi-finals:

C. Pengelly bt A. Gower 15, -16, 20; N. Williams bt S. Williams 19, 16.

Final:

Miss Pengelly bt Miss N. Williams -19, 15, 17.

Cadet boys' singles

semi-finals:

A. Vincent bt A. Very 18, 15; P. Hudson bt P. Neal 10, -16, 12.

Final:

Vincent bt Hudson 12, 18.

Cadet girls singles

semi-finals:

L. Heyward bt G. Schwartz 23, 17; M. Martin bt J. Coleman 15, -13, 14.

Final:

Miss Heyward bt Miss Martin 11, -11, 10.

Under 17 boys' doubles

semi-finals:

D. Katz and M. Haycock bt S. Gill and A. Kennard 18, -11, 13; A. Perry and C. Sladden bt G. Yates and D. Baker 23-21, -17, 12.

Final:

Perry and Sladden bt Katz and Haycock 15, 14.

Under 17 girls' doubles

semi-finals:

C. Bentley and S. Seaholme bt L. Hollingworth and A. Gower 15-21, 16, 12; M. Martin and S. Williams bt S. Gardner and C. Pengelly 20, 19.

Final:

Miss Martin and Miss Williams bt Miss Bentley and Miss Seaholme -19, 19, 16.

Cadet boys' doubles

semi-finals:

A. Vincent and D. Heath bt V. Avery and D. Yardy -19, 16, 17; P. Neal and S. Meddings bt B. Johnson and I. Playsted -10, 10, 23;



Alex Perry

Final:

Neal and Meddings bt Vincent and Heath -15, 19, 11.

Cadet girls' doubles

semi-finals:

G. Schwartz and M. Martin bt S. Stedman and V. Fox 22, 10;

J. Coleman and L. Heyward bt C. Sibbald and S. Cuocco 19, -19, 17.

Final:

Miss Coleman and Miss Heyward bt Miss Schwartz and Miss Martin 17, 14.

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PROVING THAT BLUE IS BEST

Tony Morris concludes his observations on the changes within our sport and suggests how they might effect the way we play.

TIMING of response speed was carried out by placing a photoelectric beam immediately at the mouth of the ball-firer, between it and the screen. When a ball broke this beam it started a timer.

A second photoelectric cell was erected on stands at an angle to the player, so that the beam was broken by the player's forehand backswing. The locations of the two stands holding the cell transmitter and receiver were adjusted in practice trials with the ball-firer and no screen to ensure that the player could play her/his normal forehand drive unrestricted and consistently break the beam which stopped the clock.

This arrangement meant that response times varied greatly between players, depending on their typical forehand drive response. This does not affect validity of the study or interpretation of results, however, because the comparisons of interest are between the different ball/background combinations and each player was tested with every combination.

Trials were presented in blocks of 15 with each ball colour/background colour combination. The sequence of combinations was balanced across players to control for any learning effects.

The mean (average) response time for each ball/background combination was calculated. These values were shown in the table below.

Table of Mean (average) Reponse Times for Six Ball/Background Combinations

Combination (ball/background)	White/ Green	White/ Blue	White/ Red	Yellow/ Green	Yellow/ Blue	Yellow/ Red
----------------------------------	-----------------	----------------	---------------	------------------	-----------------	----------------

* msec = milliseconds or thousands of a second

These averages were subjected to a statistical analysis which indicated that the players' response times were significantly faster for the yellow ball than the white ball, against all backgrounds taken together. No other results were statistically significant, but examination of the data reveals a notable trend for faster responses when a blue background was used, compared with green or red.

It must be emphasised that this was a small preliminary study and deserves replication. Nonetheless the study was carefully carried out, with appropriate controls and the best subjects available, so its results should carry some weight. The implications are important.

First, and most emphatic, it appears that across the whole range of table tennis, played in venues with walls and floors of varying colour and players' kit why, there would be an advantage in terms of time to respond if a yellow ball was used.

Second, and in need of corroboration, the present results suggest that a switch to blue tables, floors, surrounds and/or walls would not be detrimental to performance, in fact it would probably enhance it. However, it might also be noted that the one background where the white ball does not produce a notably slower response time is the blue background.

Clearly habit has an effect on player's attitudes; we are all used to playing with white balls on green tables. Also, the human brain is attracted to novel stimulation, particularly in the visual sense. This means that when we first start playing in novel conditions, such as with a blue table, we are likely to be distracted by the table and thus not concentrate on the important cues. This novelty effect in the brain soon wears off, so the crucial thing is to persevere with the new conditions.

It would be valuable to repeat the experiment, using more subjects, the orange ball (and any other realistic candidates) and other background colours in addition to the present conditions.

For example, what would happen to response time for the favoured yellow ball against the yellow of the Swedish national shirt or even the lemon now being sold in a number of ranges?

What about passage from one background to another, as from a red brick wall to the grey of beige of a players' shirt?

The present study suggests that further research in this area could be very valuable. In the meantime our best advice is to paint your club walls blue, dress your opponent in blue, use a yellow ball, wear a yellow shirt and get your body behind the line of flight!

YOUR RESULTS AT A GLANCE

BRITISH LEAGUE - RESULTS

Bathwick T	4	4	B Cardiff
DML Destr.	0	8	NFD Grove
Ormesby	8	0	WWarwicks
T. Peniel	5	3	Ellenbro'

City Leeds	3	5	Liverpool
Britannia	5	3	Well-Conn
Norwich F	5	3	RM Lincoln
St. Neots	5	3	Britannia

Gillingham	5	3	Horsham D
Horsham D	1	7	T Peniel
Gillingham	3	5	Chelmsford
NFD Grove	8	0	Rejects
VP Mazda	7	1	Colley T

Burslem	6	2	Cambridge
Chan Const	2	6	Humberside
Leicester	4	4	Vymura Int
Ormesby	4	4	Yugo Cars

Bathwick T	2	6	Colley T
Birmingham	4	4	Launceston
Cheltenham	6	2	Chan Const
Milton Keyn	7	1	OLOPS

F Cranleigh	4	4	Ellenbro'
G Triangle	7	1	AHW Comets
Horsham D	2	6	Larkhall
Rejects	3	5	Jol Poole
Larkhall	7	1	Rejects
AHW Comet	6	2	Jol Poole

H Blyadon	2	6	Sunderland
Crusaders	6	2	Tigers
Oldham	0	8	Vymura Int
Ormesby	2	6	SEESW Dur

DS Rams	2	6	Jags
B Ashford	3	5	DS Rams
Pillinger	2	6	Edison
L Farrow	4	4	Rejects
Larkhall	2	6	Rejects

Britannia	2	6	Yugo Cars
Cranleigh	1	7	Brentwood
Uxbridge	2	6	T Peniel

Bathwick	4	4	Leckie
HPFA Soton	5	3	PD Newport
Thorns	1	7	AG Fareham

(Middlesbrough) - England 1, Sweden 6.

F. Elliott 1st P. Pettersson 23, -10, -14
S. Marling 1st A. Svensson -9, -8
L. Lomas 1st M. Svensson -15, -15
Elliot and A. Gordon 1st A. Svensson and M. Svensson -15 -15
Gordon 1st Pettersson -19, -14
Lomas bt A. Svensson 13, 18
Elliot 1st M. Svensson 16, -11, -18.

SWEDISH LADIES TOUR

(Bury) - England 3, Sweden 4.

A Holt 1st P. Pettersson -17, -17
A Gordon bt M. Svensson 19, 17
L. Lomas 1st A. Svensson 13, -16, -19
Lomas and A Holt bt
A. Svensson/Pettersson 12, 11
Holt 1st M. Svensson -23, 13, -17
Lomas bt Pettersson 6, -13, 12
Gordon 1st A. Svensson -23, 15, -18

(Burton) - England 3, Sweden 4.

A. Holt 1st M. Svensson -7, -21
Deaton 1st P. Pettersson -14, -10
F Elliott 1st A. Svensson -20, -13
Lomas/Holt bt
A. Svensson/Pettersson -12, 8, 11
Elliot 1st M. Svensson 19, -14, -14
Lomas bt Pettersson 19, -13, 17
Holt bt Svensson 17, 20

EAST YORKSHIRE JUNIOR

Boys Singles

Semi finals

D. Howarth (La) bt M. Willey (K) 10, 15
G. Jones (Y) bt A. Perry (Dv) 18, -19, 16

Final

G. Jones (Y) bt D. Howarth (La) 19, -19, 17.

Boys Doubles

F. Lewis/K. McKellar bt D. Howarth/G Jones

Restricted Boys Singles

Semi finals

M. Brown (St) bt P. Neal (Y) 10, 20
P. Chapman (Y) bt K. Horsfield (Y) 17, -18, 19

Final

P. Chapman (Y) bt M. Brown (St) 14, 16

Girls Singles

Semi finals

M. Thornley (La) bt S. Marling (Y) 18, 24
E. Meddings (Y) bt N. Meddings (Wa) 13, 9

Final

E. Eddings (Y) bt M. Thornley (La) 20, 14

Girls Doubles

S. Marling & G. Schwartz bt G. Marshall & N. Meddings, 12, 24

Restricted Girls Singles

Semi finals

L. Heyward (Dv) bt J. Marriott (Dy) -17, 14, 15
M. Martin (St) bt G. Schwartz (Bk) 15, 18

Final

L. Heyward (Dv) bt M. Martin (St) -12, 21, 18.

Cadet Events

Boys Singles

Semi finals

P. Neal (Y) bt I. Eaton (Ch) 19, -18, 19
S. Meddings (Wa) bt P. Hudson (E) 11, -20, 16

Final

S. Meddings (Wa) bt P. Neal (Y) 13, 14

Restricted Boys Singles

Semi finals

S. James (Y) bt A. Nixon (ULS) -23, 11, 15
P. Butcher (Sx) bt D. McGreevy (ULS) 14, -25, 10.

Final

P. Butcher (Sx) bt S. James (Y) 15, 18

Boys Doubles

S. Meddings and P. Neal bt D. Meredith and C. Whitehead 16, 17

Girls Singles

Semi finals

S. Marling (Y) bt S. Stedman (Sx) 15, 7
L. Heywood (Dv) bt M. Martin (St) 9, -19, 22

Final

S. Marling (Y) bt L. Heywood (Dv) 17, 7

Restricted Girls Singles

Semi finals

G. Ashison (Sy) bt S. Stedman (Sx) 19, -18, 15.
S. Goggon (Sx) bt V. Fox (St) 16, 17

Final

G. Ashison (Sy) bt S. Goggon (Sx) 12, 14

Girls Doubles

S. Marling and G. Schwartz bt V. Fox and S. Stedman 10, 10

Under 12 Events

Boys Singles

Final

S. Meddings (Wa) bt M. James (Y) 13, -11, 17

Girls Singles

Final

N. Smith (Y) bt N. Silburn (Y) 17, 19

Please send your results to the Editor as soon as possible after the event has finished. Remember, we are a monthly publication so speed is essential. We want to publish as many as possible and to reach every corner of the country. Send to: Sports PR, PO Box 8, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire SK8 7RG

JUNIOR PREMIER WEEKEND

Essex 6	Durham 4
Kent 4	Surrey 6
Yorkshire 7	Middlesex 3
Devonshire 8	Lancashire 2
Lancashire 6	Kent 4
Durham 2	Yorkshire 8
Surrey 4	Essex 6
Middlesex 5	Devonshire 5
Kent 4	Middlesex 6
Essex 0	Yorkshire 10
Surrey 5	Lancashire 5
Devonshire 8	Durham

POSITIONS

Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	6
Devonshire	3	2	1	0	5
Essex	3	2	0	1	4
Surrey	3	1	1	1	3
Middlesex	3	1	1	1	3
Lancashire	3	1	1	1	3
Kent	3	0	0	3	0
Durham	3	0	0	3	0

EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS AT HOLLABRUNN Finals

Junior Boys Singles

Torben Wosik (FRG) - Mirko Pawlowski (FRG) 21:14, 21:19.

Junior Girls Singles

Tatiana Kostromina (URS) - Vera Wirth (HUN) 21:13, 12:21, 11:21.

Cadet Boys Singles

Sascha Kötner (FRG) - Sergei Andrianov (URS) 21:18, 19:21, 21:23.

Cadet Girls Singles

Tatiana Kulagina (URS) - Ana Gogorita (ROM) 10:21, 14:21

Junior Boys Doubles

T. Wosik/M. Pawlowski - S. Noskov/A. Levadnyi (URS) 13:21, 21:17, 16:21.

Junior Girls Doubles

T. Kostromina/E. Taushkanova - V. Ellö/K. Toth (HUN) 19:21, 22:24.

Junior Mixed Doubles

Z. Varga/K. Toth (HUN) - P. Szafrank/A. Januszky (POL) 21:12, 21:9.

Cadet Boys Doubles

V. Samsonov/E. Fadeev (URS) - Z. Batorfi/A. Lindner (HUN) 21:11, 21:14.

Cadet Girls Doubles

T. Kulagina/E. Kulagina (URS) - J. Langosz/J. Narkiewicz (POL) 21:8, 18:21, 21:11.

Cadet Mixed Doubles

V. Samsonov/T. Kulagina (URS) - E. Fadeev/E. Kulagina (URS) 13:21, 21:11, 21:18.

TEAM EVENTS

Boys (U17)

- (1) URS
- (2) France
- (3) Czech.
- (4) Poland

Girls (U17)

- (1) URS
- (2) Rumania
- (3) Hungary
- (4) Germany

Cadet Boys (U-14)

- (1) URS
- (2) Czech.
- (3) Germany
- (4) Yugoslav.

Cadet Girls (U-14)

- (1) Yugoslavia
- (2) Hungary
- (3) URS
- (4) Rumania

HALEX NATIONAL RANKINGS



ETTA CADET BOYS		ETTA CADET GIRLS		ETTA VETERAN MEN		ETTA VETERAN WOMEN	
1	391 Blake Darren (S.Croydon)	1	875 Marling Sally A (Hull)	1	751 Hilton John (Manchester)	1	603 Schofield Doreen (Stockp)
2	273 Vincent Adrian (Plym'th)	2*	803 Deaton Nicola (Chest'ld)	2	595 Gibbs Stuart (Basildon)	2	517 Bassano Patricia (Hud'fld)
3	185 Wilkinson Andrew (N.Shd)	3	408 Martin Michelle (Bur.onTr)	3	540 Corking Malcolm (Stockt.)	3	361 Dignum Margaret (Maidst)
4	180 Neil Philip (Hull)	4	247 Heyward Lynsey (N.Abbot)	4	519 Buist Henry (Orpington)	4	359 Judson Carol (Wakefield)
5	154 Heath David (Ipplepen)	5	207 Coleman Jennifer (Brentw)	5	502 Holman Derek (Tooting)	5	298 Coop Joyce (Bournemouth)
6	139 Meddings Steven (S.Cold)	6	139 Schwartz Gemma (Reading)	6	492 Shearer Matt (New Walt.)	6	286 Knightley Gill (Flackw H)
7	136 Eaton Ian (Northwich)	7	134 Russell Sally (Bart.Seagr.)	7	455 Radford Peter (Upminster)	7	258 Beadle Joan (Ashford)
8	115 Hudson Paul (Wanstead)	8	123 Massingham Nicola (Gran.)	8	443 Short Mike (Plymouth)	8	237 Hunt Janet (Worcester)
9	109 Johnson Ben (Reading)	9	92 Sibbald Catherine (Ilford)	9	392 Stace Robin (Brighton)	9	233 Sawyer Mary (Hendon)
10	95 Purdy David (Dronfield)	10	87 Ruocco Shelley (Hornch.)	10	387 Taylor John (Golders Gr.)	10	231 Shaler Eileen (Hinkley)
11	92 Smith Mark (Bradford)	11	71 Stedman Sarah (Arundel)	11	378 Hampson Roger (Stockp.)	11	225 Neary Mabel (Liverpool)
12	86 Avery Vincent (Brentw.)	12	58 Wilson Claudia (Guestling)	12	365 Meads Andy (Ilfield)	12	223 Moran Connie (Grimby)
13	81 Zeffert Simeon (Lond.N8)	13	58 Fletcher Emma (Wirral)	13	346 Gunnion Ralph (Birming.)	13	211 Basden Christ.(Bur.Com)
14	77 Meredith Darryl (Oldham)	14	55 Fisher Michelle (Burt.onTr)	14	337 Warren Connie (Croydon)	14	209 Bax Sally (Watford)
15	75 Tilley Richard (Burt.on.Tr)	15	53 Duke Nicola (Sevenoaks)	15	336 Morris Clive (Tynham)	15	208 Radford Lesley (Upminster)
16	75 Yardy Daniel (Brentw.)	16	53 Smith Nicola (Leeds)	16	336 Judson Cleve (Walkefield)	16	194 Reid Lynda (Pershored)
17	72 Jackson David (Selby)	17	51 Newns Clare (Birkenhead)	17	333 Horton Keith (Burgess H)	17	181 Steel Pauline (Worthing)
18	64 Whitehead Christ.(Oldh.)	18	48 Walton Keeley (Leeds)	18	315 Allison Brian (Louth)	18	176 Lloyd Ann (Solihull)
19	63 James Michael (Bridl.)	19	47 Fox Vicky (Stoke on Tr.)	19	305 Holland John	19	167 White Jean (Spalding)
20	57 Pestka Gary (Nottingham)	20	44 Barham Joanne (Rotherth)	20	295 Dixon Ray (Moxley)	20	165 Fisher Kathleen (Louth)
21	53 Lidstone Christi.(B.inFur)	21	43 Thomas Joanne (L.Hampst.)	21	272 Schofield Derek (Stockp.)	21	161 Waters Kay (Slough)
22	39 James Simon (Bridlington)	22	38 Bush-Harris Joanna (Brigh)	22	260 Kean Brian (Manchester)	22	161 Carroll Shirley (Gt.Badd)
23	37 Jablon Simon (London)	23	33 Hall Crystal (Maidstone)	23	256 Wood Derek (Colchester)	23	154 Felstead Sue (Letchworth)
24	31 Fairclough Matth. (Pont.)	24	26 Thornton Lindsey (Bury)	24	245 Hams Frank (Morden)	24	151 Thomas Jackie (Slough)
25	27 Brabazon Tony (Wolv.)	25	25 Frith Victoria (Dronfield)	25	244 Herrity Eddie (Old Wind.)	25	141 Butcher Pamela (Neoph.)
26	26 Register Christoph.(Bude)	26	24 Youldon Tracy (Swindon)	26	236 Timewell Alan (Wirral)	26	139 Stafford Mary (Maidenh)
27	26 Cadman Adrian (M.Dray.)	27	22 Rowlands Claire (Brentw)	27	218 Rigby Tony (Preston)	27	125 Tyler Sylvia (Cheshunt)
28	26 Holton Paul (Peterbro)	28	19 Wear Joanne (Staines)	28	217 Champman Gord (Worc.P)	28	119 Spooner Pamela (Maidenh)
29	25 Jarris James (Eastern)	29	17 Silbum Nicola (Leeds)	29	216 Seaholme David (Watf.)	29	113 Pilford Julie (New Elth.)
30	25 Cook Edward (Chelmsf.)	30	15 Jenkins Sian (Wakefield)	30	214 Solman David (Buck.Hill)	30	109 Coombs Sylv.(W.Underw)
31	23 Holton Kevin (Peterbro)	31	15 Whittaker Helen (Wolverh)	31	210 Norton Roy (Dudley)	31	97 Garlinge Marion (Sittbne)
32	21 Thornton-Allen Gary (Wirral)	32	14 Templeton Lucy (Buck'shre)	32	200 Montgomery Syd (Read.)	32	90 Bayford Patricia (Cheshr)
33	21 Smith Richard (Hudd'fld)	33	14 Smith Lesley (Warwicks.)	33	199 Chilvers Arthur (Didcot)	33	86 Gloster Jeanne (Maidenh)
34	20 Butcher Paul (Uckfield)	34	13 Parker E Miss (Gloucs.)	34	197 Adedayo Babs (Lon.SE6)	34	77 Anker Pamela (Ilford)
35	20 Sims Matthew (Granth.)	35	13 Griggs Alison (Hampshire)	35	195 Simmonds Brian (V.Water)	35	67 Brookes Patricia (Chesh.)
36	19 Bartlam Matthew (S.onTr)	36	11 Cambridge Helen (Billeric)	36	195 Watts Michael (Rochfd.)	36	66 White Patricia (Cheshire)
37	18 Smithies Wayne (Chelmsf)	37	11 Hogarth Kerry (Newent)	37	195 Lockwood Fred (Basild.)	37	65 Porter Jennifer (Sheerwat)
38	17 Marsh Wayne (Hull)	38	11 Pestka Debbie (Notting'm)	38	194 Adams Thomas (Coulsd.)	38	64 Cox Muriel (Wellingbor.)
39	17 Nilski Mark (M. Drayton)	39	5 Harber Caron (St Albans)	39	187 Wood Mervyn (Halesow.)	39	53 Hazell Gwen (Marlboro.)
40	16 Church Robin (Ealing)	40	4 Johnson Angela (Hull)	40	184 Crowley David (Tadwth.)	40	51 Smith Jennifer (Sheerwat)
41	15 Stokoe William (Blaydon)	41	4 Cartmell Diane (Heburn)	41	184 Langheim Ron (Ashford)	41	48 Vass Jennifer (Sheerwater)
42	15 Joslyn Stephen (Brentw.)	42	4 Bamard Helen (Barnet)	42	181 Richardson Nat (Faringd.)	42	44 Hammond Patricia (Wilf'd)
43	15 Towson Michael (Bristol)	43	4 Smith Alison (Maidstone)	43	178 Thewlis Norman (L.Boro)	43	43 Maltby Jennifer (Sheerw)
44	15 Jones Richard (Trafford)	44	3 Singleton Lucy (Reading)	44	177 Iliffe John (Barwell)	44	43 Nunn Kathleen (Whitton)
45	14 Twiss Martin (Moore)	45	3 Barlow Wendy (Langley)	45	176 Earis Frank (Taplow)	45	42 Parker Linda (Alwoodley)
46	14 Yardy Alex (Brentwood)	46	3 Green K (Unknown Cadet)	46	175 Hartridge Keith (W.G.Cty)	46	41 Allison Sue (Louth)
47	13 Buchanan Craig (Hyde)	47	2 Forster Rachel (Purley)	47	172 Harvey Dave (Cheltenham)	47	40 Brown Janet (Oxfordsh.)
48	13 O'Leary Timothy (NW2)	48	2 Barnett Ruth (Mark.Drayt)	48	171 Millward John (Sandh.)	48	37 Long Pauline (Northumb.)
49	13 Joynson Ian (Cheshire)	49	2 Griffiths Helen (Leicester)	49	171 Collins Paul (Hyde)	49	34 Wales Patricia (Angmor.)
50	13 Trippett Joe (E.Midlands)	50	2 Evans Zoe (Unknown Cad.)	50	169 Lynch Graham (Warsash)	50	33 Rogers Paula (Chad.Hth)

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.

EUROPEAN

CADET GIRLS	
1	Gogorita Ana (ROM)
2	Kulagina Tatjana (URS)
3	Cehovin Polona (YUG)
4	Fazekas Maria (HUN)
5	Herczig Judit (HUN)
6	Petrea Gina (ROM)
7	* Mancic Tanja (YUG)
8	Savu Simona (ROM)
9	Kulagina Ekaterina (URS)
10	* Plakidina Elena (URS)
11	Zschau Eva (FRG)
12	Merenda Michele (ITA)
13	Narkiewicz Joanna (POL)
14	Langosz Jolanta (POL)
15	Poliackova Zuzana (TCH)
16	* Schmidt Nadine (FRG)
17	Pavlova Julia (URS)
18	* Deaton Nicola (ENG)
19	Boileau Anna (FRA)
20	Molnar Zita (HUN)

Players noted * are still Cadets for 1990/91

A print out of the Audit Trail can be obtained for a nominal charge of £3 plus sae

TABLE TENNIS SCHEME IN IPSWICH

IPSWICH Borough Council's Leisure Services Department are set to launch a brand new scheme aimed at promoting sports performance and excellence for youngsters involved in table tennis.

A revolutionary step in leisure provision, Ipswich Sport 2000 aims to 'create and co-ordinate a network that will introduce young people to table tennis, stimulate involvement and interest and identify, nurture and develop sporting talent.'

It will not only be the first such scheme of its kind in the Eastern Region but, to the best of the Borough Council's knowledge, one of the first in the country.

Plans are already underway for a high profile launch involving a number of celebrities from each of the target sports on Saturday, 24 November.

As a lead up to this the scheme will be hosting a number of activities with the aim of raising the schemes profile.

Already involved is former England international Nick Jarvis and it is also planned for star Chen Xinhua, ranked No.4 in the world in 1987 but now resident in this country, to visit the scheme soon.

SCORE POINTS WITH ELF

TABLE TENNIS enthusiasts can now sports clothing or equipment in a major promotion devised by Elf Oil GB and supported by The Sports Council.

Launched at more than 300 Elf petrol stations in England and Wales, Elf Sport In-Gear is a computerised points collection scheme designed to enable motorists to purchase sports kit or equipment to benefit the sports club, youth organisation etc of their choice. Or, of course, Elf customers may simply choose to collect Elf Sport In-Gear points to purchase sports equipment and/or clothing for themselves and their families.

Elf has linked with Intersport –

the nationwide chain of sports goods retail outlets – for the Sport In-Gear promotion and Elf customers can redeem Sport In-Gear vouchers at more than 270 Intersport shops.

Elf Oil GB's innovative promotion features a durable plastic credit card sized Elf Club Card containing a magnetic strip. As customers enroll for the promotion at participating sites, they will receive an Elf Club card.

Each card has its own serial number which is printed on the card and also built into the magnetic card.

NEW HALEX DEAL



Photo shows, from left to right: Ted Wallbutton, former ETTA Chief Executive and Johnny Leach, President of ETTA, exchanging contracts with Merrick Wolman, Managing Director of M. Y. Games/Halex Sports at EXSL for an exclusive one year's sponsorship deal which was reported in the last issue.

The following balls are licensed for 1990/91:

- Dunlop Premier Tournament 3 star and 2 star (celluloid).
 - Halex Ultra 3 star and 2 star.
 - Schildkrot 3 star and 2 star.
 - TSP 3 star and 2 star.
 - Donic 3 star and 2 star.
 - Lion 3 star and 2 star.
- Note: Nittaku are no longer licensed (rule 32.11 applies).*

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RADICAL MOVE

TABLE tennis is a great sport enjoyed by not only the able-bodied player but also the disabled player, wheelchair bound or 'walking wounded' alike. Table tennis, in all its forms is played by thousands of disabled players up and down the country — from Olympic, World and European Championships through to local club level.

Since sport for the disabled — and specifically table tennis for the disabled — was first conceived in the UK after World War II as a therapeutic, rehabilitative sport for the spinal injured by the late Sir Ludwig Gutman at Stoke Mandeville, table tennis for the disabled has been organised largely on a 'disability group' basis where each group works on a fairly autonomous basis.

There's the British Paraplegic Sport Society (BPSS) for the spinal injured (paraplegics and tetraplegics), The British Amputee Sports Association (BASA) for the limbless, and the British Les Autres Sports Association (BLASA) covering a multiplicity of different disabilities.

In addition to these disability specific associations, the British Sports Association for the Disabled (BSAD) through their regional organisations have provided table tennis facilities at local club level to literally thousands of disabled players, from grass roots level to the elite.

However, this organisational structure of table tennis for the disabled has its shortcomings — scarce resources such as finances, coaches, suitable venues and helpers, are spread very thinly across each disability group. There is no 'political' focus and as a result the governing body of our sport, the ETTA, have difficulty associating with these separate entities with the result that precious resources available to the able-bodied environment are not brought to bear to the disabled environment.

But following the recently published Moynihan Report, moves are afoot to create a single focussed association that will represent table tennis for all disabled in this country. Lets call it the British Table Tennis Association for the Disabled (BTTAD) for the moment. Undoubtedly it will overcome some of the deficiencies of today's structure and provide greater opportunities for the disabled to play table tennis. The formation of the BTTAD is a radical, revolutionary move — as such

it will not happen overnight and there are some major issues to be overcome. However, the benefits will be significant and its worth waiting and working for.

John Jenkins
5 Marne Avenue
Welling
Kent

PUBLICITY

THREE-STAR and two star senior tournament organisers requiring national publicity will be interested in the new policy of "The Daily Telegraph" in covering week-end sport.

The eleven-page sport supplement published every Monday may help the situation. No guarantees can be given, but those who saw the supplement on Monday October 8, may have noticed a small report and results from the Sussex Open 2-star event.

However, it is possible that working by telephone other tournaments could be covered on a similar way.

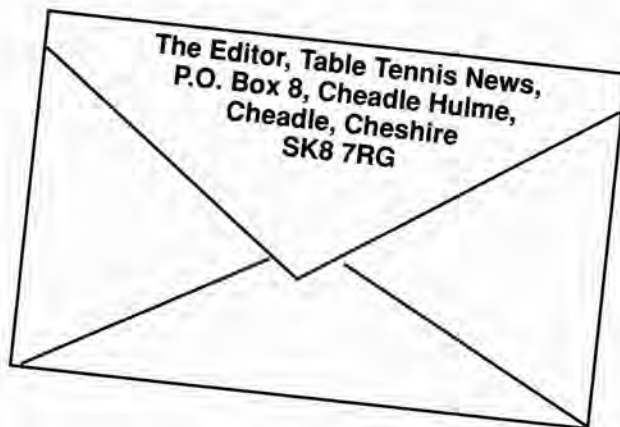
But there are strings attached to the arrangements apart from making sure in advance that I know that calls are going to be made to me on Eastbourne (0302) 26806, on a Sunday afternoon and EARLY evening.

The Telegraph require one piece of early copy by 4 p.m. at the latest — that will read something like "Alison Gordon the England No.2 reached the final of the women's singles etc..." It must come through me as I have "ordered" space.

I need two calls, one about 3.30 p.m. with early details and again between 7 and 8 p.m. with the details of the singles finals and a few facts. I then "file" a second piece of the same length for the late edition.

So, organisers and/or press officers wishing to have a stab at getting their sponsors names in the Telegraph, here may be an opportunity of success. On some occasions, I may be abroad on table tennis assignments, but I am frequently available on Sunday afternoons and evenings to organise this new facility.

JOHN WOODFORD
Table Tennis Correspondent
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH



CONGRATS DON

MANY thanks and heartiest congratulations to England supremo Donald Parker for his excellent coaching ideas and tips in the October issue.

By sheer co-incidence I have employed many of these methods myself over the years and indeed from a very early age could be seen rolling a big tyre along the road with one hand. When questioned by bemused neighbours I simply replied 'I'm practising my forehand.' Funny, I never had many friends when I was younger.

Also I have never played a match without warming up in the big furry sheepskin gloves that my mother bought for my tenth birthday or turned up without at least twelve spare pairs of spectacles in case I met an opponent with an aversion to said items.

As for the use of two towels, one for yourself and one for the bat, I agree wholeheartedly but would go one further in suggesting a THIRD towel for use in the showers after the match.

Thank you again Don for showing the less informed, poor misguided souls the light.

TONY TAYLOR
Manchester

THANKS

J.A. Leach MBE, President
E.T.T.A.

Dear Johnny,
Thank you for your letter informing me of the generous gift of golf clubs from the Association and as you well know, with my passion for golf there could not have been a more appreciated memento. I was particularly honoured by the arrangement for you to present them personally but quite understood how a business appointment prevented you visiting Hastings.

As you know I am off to Glen-eagles this weekend where the new clubs will be given a real baptism so I shall be thinking of you all then (and probably for some time to come).

Once again, my grateful thanks to all concerned and, as they say, "You have made an old man very happy".

Albert Shipley
38 Grange Avenue
Hastings
East Sussex

MORE

THROUGH the Table Tennis News I would like to express the thanks of my three daughters and myself to Gail McCulloch for organising an extremely enjoyable ladies weekend course, also to Limas Lomas, Jane Barella, Jill Harris and Gail for the excellent coaching and practice they all gave us.

It was a terrific weekend with a very friendly atmosphere and a lot of laughter which only inspired us

all to work and try even harder.

The job of the coaches was difficult as we were a mixture of standards, low division players to county standard, and ages from 17 years to 60 plus, but we all felt we had benefitted from the weekend and hope it shows in our game.

Many thanks once more ladies, and please can we have more of them.

Babs Blanch

ROB OLDFIELD APPRECIATION

THOUGH I did not know Rob Oldfield enormously well, our paths crossed quite often. It was always a pleasure when they did and I liked him tremendously. It seems also impossible that he should have died at the early age of 34, that he will live only in our hearts from now on.

Rob was a real 'Man of Table Tennis' who travelled the junior circuit as so many of us have done as young players and parents. With John Kitchener he was just about the best junior doubles pair of his day. "Just about?" I can hear Rob say, "We WERE the best!" On to Bath University and fame with Avon County and then to Hastings as the new ETTA press and development officer.

It proved in many ways a frustrating task, because little was going on. There were not enough events to publicise, not many events big enough to attract the media. 'Development' itself is a long slow progress, a little like digging for diamonds or prospecting for oil. So much good work comes to nothing.

Our Offices were still in the indescribable Claremont. I cannot recall whether it was Rob who dubbed the premises as "Dry Rot Castle" or "Woodworm Manor". Both were equally apt. It was a symbol of our decay and getting out some years later was equally a symbol of our progress since.

It was, sadly, no place for a bright, ambitious chap and the sport, to be honest,

was also going nowhere. After three years Rob moved on to "Keep Britain Tidy" where there certainly was much work to do. No civilised nation deposits its rubbish quite so freely and with such abandon just about everywhere except in the bins provided.

Rob advanced quickly, but after some years took voluntary redundancy to build a new career. He had, as always, numerous ideas, but this time death intervened. Before that came a brief spell on the ETTA's management committee as vice-chairman of press & P R following the retirement of Norman Reeve and at the same time Rob was Editor of TT News. In the latter role he sought to bring to the Magazine a larger number of younger readers. He may well have succeeded. We had many debates about this.

I was then very much an outsider, but he always listened to me with great care. My time as chairman was yet to come. Some time before Rob resigned his posts to concentrate on his career. He had done sterling work for us both as a volunteer and member of staff. His place in the history of the sport, even at his young age, is entirely secure.

He certainly hoped to return to the sport and the ETTA when he had worked out his career and found his niche and I was looking forward to that day.

Our hearts go out to his widow Caroline, herself, an excellent tennis player and press officer for the British Olympic

Association and a good friend of our sport.

Farewell, Robert, Man of Table Tennis. You live in our hearts and by your achievements in the game you loved so much.

John Preat

OBITUARY John Smith

IT IS with great regret that I report the death of John Smith after a short illness.

John Moved to Cheltenham in 1960 to work for the Civil Service and jointed Cheltenham Civil Service table tennis club for whom he played up to the end of last season. He spent most of his playing days in the 'middle' divisions, but for the last 2 seasons he played in division one. John was a real competitor as his opponents will all confirm.

He was, however, better known as an enthusiastic committee member and as a qualified county umpire. John served on the Glos. County Committee from 1985-1988 including a 2 year spell as vice-chairman, and he had been Cheltenham's division 2 secretary since 1981. County and British League matches were never (and never will be) the same without John officiating.

All members of Gloucester T.T.A. share the grief of his wife Gill, and children Nigel and Susan. He will never be forgotten.

Graham Slack

THE NEW ETTA TIE

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THE 6th TAMESIDE 2 STAR JUNIOR OPEN AND INVITATION JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL TEAM EVENT

7, 8, 9 December 1990
Copley Recreation Centre, Huddersfield Road, Stalybridge
Closing date for entries Friday 16th November 1990

Details from: Sports Development, Tameside MBC, Leisure Services Dept.,
Council Offices, Wellington Road, Ashton under Lyne.

McCARTNEY & DOWIE CLASSIC

Wednesday, 12 December 1990
Peniel Academy, Brentwood, Essex

Further information from: Peniel Academy. Tel: 0277 372996



ENGLISH JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sat/Sun 5/6 January 1991
Bletchley Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes
Further information from: ETTA Offices (0424 722523)



WOMENS BRITISH LEAGUE First Weekend

Sat/Sun 16/17 February 1991
Crystal Leisure Centre, Stourbridge
Further details: Mike Lewis Tel: 0272 730788



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sat/Sun 9/10 March 1991
Crystal Leisure Centre, Stourbridge

Further details from: ETTA Offices (0424 722525)



THE 5th NATIONAL UNDER 11 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday 28 April 1991

Further details from:
ETTA Offices
Tel 0242 722525



ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN

Sat/Sun 25/26 May 1991

The Spa, Royal Hall,
Bridlington
Tel: 0262 678255
Further details from:
ETTA Offices
(0424 722525)