



# Table Tennis News

No. 202

November 1991 £1.25



# Skills Award relaunch

THE Dunlop Skills Award Scheme will be relaunched in November, seventeen years after its original launch, the scheme has been revised and updated for today's young people.

Its objectives remain the establishment of a solid base of accurate, consistent strokes on which to build an effective game of table tennis. It's five grades act both as an incentive to the young learner to work on different aspects of training for improvement and as a training tool for teachers, youth club leaders, coaches and anyone else responsible for bringing our future players through their early months and years.

The first grade is very much geared towards those having just taken up the sport. Acknowledging early progress encourages the young player during those difficult days of not having



Children at the Cavendish School, Hemel Hempstead, preparing for their Skills Award

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**Mathew Syed, Alex Perry, Swedish Junior girl's team.**

For more information and to reserve your place please contact:

**Malcolm Francis on 0825 764566 or write to  
19 Campbell Close, Uckfield, Sussex.**

\* \* \* \*

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Sweden's leading lady coach, will be in attendance both weeks, with her powerful girl's team.

the satisfaction of being able to keep a rally going.

Working through a series of skills and training practices each grade introduces new strokes and a higher standard of consistency and accuracy.

One of the main benefits of the new scheme is the widening of the range of people able to act as Assessors for the lower grades. "Comparatively few youngsters have the benefit of the services of a qualified coach in their earliest development" comments Andrew Keast, Table Tennis Marketing Manager of sponsors Dunlop. "Insisting on a qualified Assessor reduces the number of young people in a position to work towards these awards. We have therefore widened the net to give more adults the opportunity to assess, thereby giving more young players the opportunity to take an award" he continued.

Only the top two grades, aimed at youngsters who are working hard at improving their game, are the only grades requiring assessment by an ETTA qualified coach.

Packs of information, giving full details of what is required for each grade, together with notes for Assessors, will be available from the ETTA office by the end of November. Leaflets advising parents how the scheme will benefit their child will also be available.

A new logo, cloth badges and certificates (a different colour for each grade) are also part of the new Dunlop Skills Award scheme. Each award winner is presented with a badge and certificate to mark his or her success. Clubs, schools and other groups will also have the opportunity to display the new Dunlop Skills Award scheme poster, not only giving details about the scheme but also having a section at the bottom to write in names of local award winners.

Further information about the revised scheme, its progress and its successes will be given in these pages in future months. Full details can be obtained from Bethan Davies, Awards Scheme Administrator, at the ETTA offices in Hastings.



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*Front cover: Masters for Masters - 12 year old Marie Masters, who is aiming for the Dunlop Skills Masters Award. Marie was also chosen to model for a colour photograph for the Award brochure (Picture by John F.A. Wood)*

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## Editor's Note

ALL of those fortunate enough to be in attendance at either Bletchley or Leeds for the England versus Japan matches, were fortunate indeed to witness two matches of spectacular table tennis, resulting in a double victory for England's Men's team.

On page 6 is an article on an exciting new scheme entitled 'Foundation for Sports and the Arts', which has available the sum of £60m per annum, to give away, of which £40m goes to sport and £20m to the arts.

The great surprise of last month was the statement by Deputy Chairman Stuart Sneyd that he would not be seeking re-election next year, due to the fact that he and his family will be moving to North Wales.

Good luck to you Stuart, in your new adventure!

I enjoyed my visit to The Peniel Academy on Sunday 20th October for the British League Premier Division clash between Team Peniel 1 and NFD Gfove 1.

The table tennis was exciting and the after match food was excellent, as was the chip butty at the interval, prepared by Fiona Green.

I wish to apologise for the unusually high number of spelling mistakes in last month's issue. This was due to very late copy, and circumstances beyond my control!

John F A Wood

### TABLE TENNIS NEWS 1991/92

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**APRIL**  
1st April 1992  
(Copy date 1st March)  
**MAY/JUNE**  
1st June 1992  
(Copy date 30th April)

## Cooke at Selfridges

TWICE English and Commonwealth table tennis champion, Alan Cooke, has been invited to participate in a table tennis promotion at Olympus Sport in Selfridges on Thursday, 7th November.

The promotion will include a "Challenge the Champion" opportunity when members of the public may play a game up to 11 points against Alan.

## Wang at the altar

WANG XIAOMING, the French No.1 now No.4 in Europe married a French sports journalist in Paris three days before the England women beat France 4-1 in Caen on September 24.

Her absence certainly helped England towards victory. With Andrea Holt losing the first game to Emmanuelle Coubat, had Wang been playing the chances that England might have lost 4-3.

But, with Alison Gordon on the bench, Andrea, Lisa Lomas and Fiona Elliot were in control of the rest of the match.

## Grubba to return?

ANDRZEJ GRUBBA told journalists in Bonn "I am looking forward to playing again in England. However, my return might be delayed beyond the English Open."

"With 1992 the Olympic Year, Poland has a vital training camp scheduled for early in January, so it might not be possible for me to come to Birmingham."

## Where did all the money go?

CHEN XINHUA won the World Cup in Japan in 1985, halting Andrzej Grubba in the final. The prize kitty was about £16,000. Chen received £70, the rest went to the Chinese TTA?

As these facts are revealed six years later it should be pointed out in fairness to the Chinese ruling body in the sport - they would regard Chen as an investment that paid off. The player freely admits that for many years as his skills were honed to perfection, everything was free, accommodation, food, all that a player could need.

That is the way the Chinese system works - they do everything for the player in their national squad. When he leaves the country as many do of course, they are still expected to make contributions to the Chinese TTA if successful in making money, part of the Communist ideology.



Early Christmas shopping for Susan and Alan Cooke

## The big money tournaments

ORGANISERS of money tournaments on the continent do not seem to have the trouble creating big cash kitties as we do here in Britain.

These invitation events are on the increase and are a threat to the traditional open tournaments where the prize money is negligible or even non-existent.

A sponsor in Leige (Belgium), is to run a one-day, all-star, all-money event on Wednesday, January 8, the day before the English Open at Birmingham - an event certain to attract possibly all the eight top seeds at Birmingham. The four top Swedes, Persson, Waldner, Appelgren and Lindh, Saive senior, Grubba, Roskopf and Gatién are expected to receive invitations.

It is likely that arrangements will be made for star players to travel direct from Brussels to Birmingham airport on the following day, as they will have byes in the first round of the mens singles.

Chen Xinhua has been invited to another money event in the South of France on March 13. He has won this event before, but with some help from Paul Haldan who removed Waldner!

## High rewards

THE rewards for success in this sport are higher than many people think, especially for the star players in the Bundesliga.

Chen Xinhua, now enjoying a lucrative contract with the club Sontheim (near Stuttgart) collected around £3,000 for winning one game - against Jean-Michel Saive and losing twice to Persson and Jorg Roskopf.

Some of the £3,000 will be used to send his two young sons Tamar and Liang to Fuku, China to spend time with their grandparents - an old Chinese custom before children reach school-age.

Chen's father earns a meagre £600 a year in China, so in 45 minutes Chen earned about five times his father's annual salary!

## Extra points from Bonn

- \* NEXT YEAR the tournament is expected to invite only players from Europe, but keeping to the agreed formula with the ETTU on eligibility.
- \* JOURNALISTS were told that next year it could be best of three games instead of five. The five-setters went on far too long - one session ran into another on the second day.
- \* WALDNER'S winning prize was 25,000 US dollars, Chen received about £3,000 in all.
- \* CAPITAL yields tax as in German law was deducted from winnings.
- \* EACH player brought a coach, also with hospitality. Chen was coached by England director of coaching Don Parker.

## Stuart Sneyd's moving to Wales

DEPUTY Chairman Stuart Sneyd announced at the National Council meeting on Saturday 12th October, at the Open University, Milton Keynes, that he would not be standing for office next season.

This is because he is moving with his family to North Wales.

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### ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

#### APPOINTMENT

#### FULL TIME REGIONAL TABLE TENNIS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (GREATER LONDON)

Initially a three year appointment (anticipated start date 1st January 1992 and subject to review) to organise and co-ordinate the development of Table Tennis within the 33 London Boroughs with particular emphasis amongst young people and women.

Salary will be in the region of £16,000 and includes an all hours worked supplement and London Weighting. Office based within London.

The successful candidate is likely to possess the following:

- Proven organising/administrative ability (preferably in sport)
- Effective communication and negotiating skills
- High level of self motivation and mobility
- Experience of sports development in an urban environment
- Understanding of table tennis
- Full Driving Licence

Closing date for applications: 20th November 1991.

Job description and application form available from:

Diccon Gray (National Development Manager),  
English Table Tennis Association, Queensbury House,  
Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF  
Tel: 0424 722525 Fax: 0424 422103

An equal opportunities post, funded by the Sports Council, the London Borough Grants Unit and the English Table Tennis Association.



# £40 million available for sport

ENCOURAGED by the Government through a reduction in betting levies, the Pools Promoters have established a £60 million per annum fund to assist sport and the arts, £40 million of which will be spent on sport. This appears to be the best opportunity for table tennis clubs and leagues to improve their playing facilities or launch a development plan for table tennis within their locality. A number of leagues will already have experience of applying for grant aid support as a result of the ETTA's Development Fund. Applications along these lines are all eligible for grants from the new fund and therefore secretaries should waste no time in filing their applications. Full details of the scheme are published elsewhere in this magazine. The ETTA will do all that we can to help but the initiative needs to come from the local clubs and leagues. From the information we have available at the moment, this is a golden opportunity....don't miss it!

I have just returned from watching two of the best table tennis matches in Milton Keynes and Leeds, that I have seen in England in the Japanese Festival games between England and Japan. The mixture of attack and defence between the two teams produced some really marvellous rallies. It was just a great pity that the BBC TV schedules did not allow the televising of one of these spectaculars. For England Carl Preat and Chen Xinhua played some excellent table tennis, both being undefeated in the singles. The two table format worked well and the atmosphere, particularly at Leeds where the Yorkshire County and Leeds League did well to sell all the tickets, was really tremendous.

This month our teams have more important matches. A victory against Austria in the Men's European League First Division at Ipswich on November 8th will assure us of a place in the promotion play-offs, whilst both of our Men's and Women's teams have done well to qualify for the World Team Cup in Barcelona.

Arrangements are well in hand for the English Open at the magnificent National Indoor Arena in Birmingham. A strong entry is already guaranteed and more counties are joining the list of participants almost daily.

Arrangements are also almost complete for the Chinese Men's tour. Already confirmed as St. Austell (28th December), Bournemouth (29), Sheffield (1st January), Grantham (2nd), Cleveland Open (4th/5th), Gateshead (6th) and Milton Keynes (7th) and, of course, the English Open on 9th to 12th January. Their is still one date available, December 30th, and any organiser interested should contact Julian Tee in the ETTA Office. Donald Parker will have all of our best men available for selection including Carl Preat, Alan Cooke, Chen Xinhua, Desmond Douglas, Matthew Syed. The Chinese remain among the best in the World, so some excellent contests are in prospect.

On the junior front, the first International of the season will be played at Gateshead



Alan Ransome

on 15th November against the Netherlands. This will be a series of four matches, Junior Boys, Junior Girls, Cadet Boys and Cadet Girls. The teams will go on to play in the Cleveland Junior Open on 16th and 17th November. Donald Parker has picked his strongest squads for these matches and this weekend will be the first of a number of opportunities that our junior players will be given for this season to gain vital international experience. Another incentive from the Association to encourage the leading juniors is that the best prospects are to be given free entry into the English Open (senior) in Birmingham, for themselves and free admission for their coaches. This year the Open includes an Under 21.

Jill Hammersley Parker, MBE, who took over the responsibility for the Junior Girls team as well as the Women's team from July, is increasing her commitment to the Association. From 1st October Jill is working full time as Women's Team Coach and National Coaching Manager. Jill, who is extremely well qualified as a result of her years at the top as an international player and coach, will take the responsibility for leading the Association's work with the coaching elements of the Focus Sport programme, within which it is intended to appoint a number of Regional Staff coaches with assistant from the Sports Council. These coaches will be responsible directly to Jill.

The funding for the first of these positions has already been agreed with the Yorkshire and Humberside Sports Council who have recently confirmed a three year package to the value of £125,000 with the Association. I was delighted to be able to conclude negotiations for this programme with their Regional Director, Cyril Villiers and officials of the Yorkshire Association, Eric Hill and Keith Shepherd when visiting

Leeds for the Japanese match on 19th October.

In addition to the coaching project, there are to be two full time Development Officers, one based in Leeds and the other in Humberside, and the Sports Council are entering into a further agreement with the Leeds League and the Leeds City Council to open a full time table tennis facility at the Armley Sports Centre. The centre will have six tables for matches or at least nine for coaching. It will be used for the Leeds league matches and for the Centre of Excellence, in addition to a number of other table tennis activities.

The Development Officer for London is also confirmed, but unfortunately progress in some of the other regions is slightly delayed due to the Sports Council nationally deciding to appoint a Co-Ordinator to manage the Focus Sport programme from their viewpoint. In the long run the appointment of this Co-Ordinator will be to the overall benefit of table tennis, but it does mean that the starting date in some regions is going to be pushed back well in 1992.

There have been two disappointments this month. The first was the cancellation of the visit to this country of Ichiro Ogimura, the ITTF President. Other important ITTF business had to take precedence, but fortunately I will have an opportunity to continue the discussions with him on a number of important issues at the World Team Cup in Barcelona later this month. A meeting of chairmen from several European countries has been called by the ITTF in Barcelona, which I will be attending, and this will give me the opportunity of talking to Mr. Ogimura and having discussions with a number of other overseas representatives about tours in this country and other potential projects.

The second disappointment was the announcement by Stuart Sneyd at the last National Council meeting that he would not be seeking re-election for the post of Deputy Chairman for a further term and would be retiring at the Annual General Meeting in June next year. Stuart has done a great deal of work over the last five years or so on the coaching scheme in particular and his contribution to the progress of the ETTA will be missed. Stuart is moving to Angelsey next year, however he intends to keep fully involved in table tennis, be it under the banner of the Welsh Association. I wish him luck with his new endeavours. All members of the Management Committee who attended the last meeting discussed informally the pending vacancy for the Deputy Chairmanship and all agreed to support the nomination of the current Vice Chairman for Competitions, Tony Chatwin.

I do hope that you will be making plans to visit the English Open at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham or attending one of the matches on the Chinese tour. I also hope that you will take the opportunity to come and have a chat with me as I am always keen to talk to our members about any aspect of table tennis.

# Grant aid available

THE Government and the Pools Promoters have recently established a Foundation managed by a Board of Trustees to administer a fund of £60m per annum for the benefit of sport and the arts in this country.

The finance is being provided by the pools promoters (mainly soccer) who have been given a contribution from the Government by way of a reduction of betting levies. The amounts involved are £40m to go to sport per annum and £20m to the arts per annum.

Applications for grant aid support are to be made in

writing from bona fide organisations, including in the case of table tennis, the national governing body (ETTA) and counties, leagues and clubs. County Associations, local leagues and clubs should consider submitting applications as soon as possible. Applications along the lines of those submitted for the ETTA's Development Fund will in the main be eligible for support but without the upper limit. Applications above £500 must be submitted to the Foundation for consideration by the Board of Trustees. Prior to decision they will be considered by the Working Party for sport

who will in turn give a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is in December and the agenda is virtually full for that meeting. The next meeting is in March 1992 and therefore applications to reach that meeting should be submitted before Christmas.

Applications for £500 or less can be approved by the Foundation's Chairman Tim Rice at his discretion and therefore are dealt with more quickly and do not need to wait for a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Projects eligible for support include:

**a) Training Schemes**

Applications for support for coaching, particularly at the lower levels

**b) Facilities**

Upgrading of existing playing facilities and possible grants for new facilities can be submitted

**c) Equipment**

Table tennis is a natural for this category as the game cannot be played without a table.

The Association can assist members (counties, leagues and clubs) by providing advice and a letter of endorsement. However, the Association would need to have sight in advance of the proposed scheme and would have to be satisfied that the schemes are both viable and bona fide.

For ETTA assistance with your submission, please contact Diccon Gray, The Association's Development Officer.

The following are then the items of information which the Foundation would like to receive:-

1. The latest Financial Statements of the enterprise to be assisted.
2. A description of the purposes for which a grant is sought. Where applicable this should be backed up with the reports of consultants and professional advisers.
3. The total cost of the project.
4. The amount of the grant desired from the Foundation.
5. A statement of the way in which it is proposed to fund the project, with information on other money which will, or may, be committed alongside that of the Foundation.
6. Information as to the persons who will be involved in the realisation of the plan. Where available and applicable, facts as to suppliers and contractors who will be, or who may be, invited to give effect to the proposals.
7. Any expressions of support for the project provided from noteworthy sources.

The address for the Foundation is PO Box 666, Liverpool. L69 7JN. Telephone 051-524 0235/6, and correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary of the Trustees, Mr. Grattan Endicott.

*Taken from a document prepared for the October National Council meeting by ETTA Chairman Alan Ransome*

If you require entry forms for any of the following National Championships please tick the relevant box and send it to the English Table Tennis Association, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.



Tick Relevant box (es)

English Junior National Championships 14th/15th December 1991

English Open Championships 9th-12th January 1992

English Senior National Championships 7th/8th March 1992

Halex English U18/21 National Championships 3rd/4th May 1992

Halex English U11 National Championships 10th May 1992

English Junior Open Championships 23/24/25th May 1992

Halex U10/12 National Championships 13th/14th June 1992

# Audience on their feet

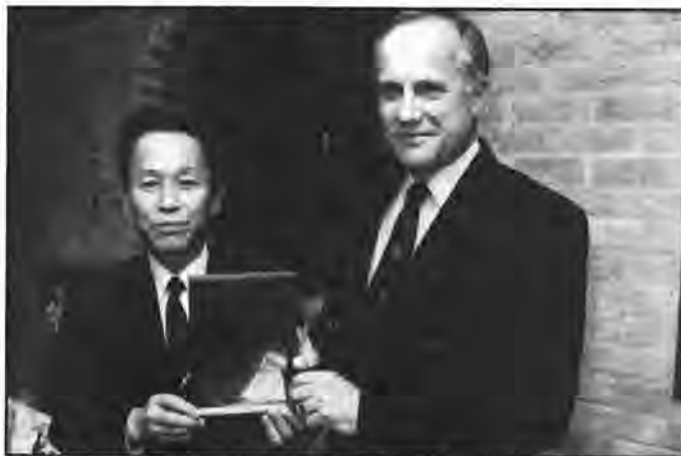
ENGLAND's Men's team brought the audience to their feet after beating Japan 5-2 at the Bletchley Leisure Centre, on Friday 18th October 1991.

Unfortunately our Women's team found the opposition too strong, although Lisa Lomas stopped the whitewash with an excellent display of defensive table tennis.

The Men's team, obviously strengthened by the inclusion of Chen Xinhua, are proving themselves a formidable force, that will get stronger, as the ever improving Matthew Syed develops his considerable talents.

Chen opened England's account with a decisive straight victory over Japan's Koji Matsuhita. Although the first game went to duce, Chen moved up a gear to take the second game 12.

England's National Champion Carl Prean was second on the table for the men, and looked a little cold, losing the first narrowly -19. But a



Japan's captain Toshiaki (left) receives a gift from David Hildreth, the Milton Keynes Borough Council Recreation Officer.

determined Prean took the second and third with a superb display of rhythmic forehand looping, to beat Japan's Yuji Matsuhita.

Rising England star Matthew Syed showed why he will one day be very difficult to beat, at international level. But at Bletchley Syed just missed out

in both his sets losing in 3 each time.

England's National Women's Champion Andrea Holt lost both of her singles narrowly. Firstly she lost to Miko Hoshino, the 1990 English Open Champion in three, losing the third -19, whilst against Japan's No.1, Rika Sato, she lost in two, -20 in

the second.

## BLETCHLEY SCORES

### MEN:

ENGLAND 5 JAPAN 2

- Chen Xinhua b K. Matsushita 23, 12
- Carl Prean b Y. Matsushita -19, 7, 12
- Matthew Syed l H. Shibutani 19, -11, -14
- Chen and Prean b K. Matsushita and Shibutani 8, 16
- Chen b Y. Matsushita 10, 16
- Prean b H. Shibutani 17, 13
- Syed l K. Matsushita -21, 14, -16

### WOMEN:

JAPAN 4 ENGLAND 1

- M. Hoshino b Andrea Holt 17, -18, 19
- R. Sato b Lisa Lomas 16, -12, 17
- Hoshino and Sato b Holt and Lomas 17, -18, 14
- Hoshino l Lomas -13, -14
- Sato b Holt 14, 20

OFFER CLOSSES 15th JANUARY 1992

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Small, Medium and Large	19.99	17.99	
B9-3 Training Shirts. Turquoise, Sky, Lemon, Gold and Royal. 14 years	5.99	4.99	
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B9-10 Salvo Shirt. Fuchsia and Turquoise, Royal and Turquoise or Gold and Navy 12 and 14 years	17.40	14.99	
Small and Medium	19.99	16.99	
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SH13-3 Des Douglas Practice	0.20	0.15
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B6-6 Butterfly Salvo sizes 3-5 5 1/2-11	25.99	20.99
	29.99	24.99
<b>Bat Wallets</b>		
B11-1 Butterfly Japanese 2 Bat Wallet. Red, Navy, Black, Green, Sky and Yellow	9.99	8.99
<b>Net &amp; Post sets</b>		
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TEES SPORT

# Prean and Chen undefeated

THOSE of us fortunate enough to watch both the clashes at Bletchley and at Leeds, were struck by the identical scores, our men winning again 5-2 and the women losing again 1-4 but in Yorkshire there was a distinct change of atmosphere.

Bletchley LC and their sponsors are so keen to put on a show for table tennis that it is hard to fault them, although a large arena as at Bletchley does not provide anything like the scenario at the Rothwell Leisure Centre in a hall half the size, but packed to the rafters with 500 fans and standing room only.

I have heard it said that Northern crowds make more noise, applaud louder and generally make their presence felt and heard. This stark contrast may prove that point, perhaps a generous admission for myself, a Southerner born and bred.

However, with the England men unchanged, it seemed quite likely that England would record their fifth victory in a row against Japan. Carl Prean and Chen stayed undefeated throughout the tour. The other three upsets for Japan against England came in Japan at the last World Team Cup in Osaka and then twice at the World Championships in Chiba City, much of course, to the displeasure of the home crowds.

Carl Prean, awesome often against choppers, delighted the Yorkshire enthusiasts with bursts of powerful driving against the combination bat owned by Koji Matsushita, clearly the Japan No. 3 on this mini-tour, to win the first clash 7, 17.

Matthew Syed, still bidding hard for his British Olympic place in between his 60 hours a week studying at Balliol College (Oxford) for degrees in history and economics, then lost his third game of the tour to Yuji Matsushita -12, -18 having finally concluded that the only way to beat the Japs was to bring into use his top-spin attack, which he did superbly later in the match.

Hiroshi Shibutani, a clearcut No. 1 for the tourists then surprised us all by taking the first game 15 against Chen Xinhua with an amalgam of defence and attack that at times seem to perplex the former World Cup Winner.

But not for long, Chen is too crafty a warrior and fine a technician to warrant that sort of cheek. He soon buckled down to a mixture of attack and defence that had the Japan champion chasing around the back of the court, to win 12, 15.

One of the most interesting features of the tour, enjoyed by the spectators, was that Chen and Syed, really had to attack with venom to win points, and that is not easily achieved by class defenders.

Although Don Parker had intended to play Michael O'Driscoll in the doubles with Prean, the Yorkshire



Carl Prean towers above Japan's Miko Hoshino

player (who has now taken up his University place) was unable to play because he was suffering from tonsillitis. So Parker decided to play Prean and Chen - it worked at Bletchley but the Japs got their revenge 15, 13 at Rothwell leaving the score at 2 - 2.

At that juncture, had Syed lost to Koji, England could have been in some difficulties, but the Oxford freshman after losing the first, threw caution aside, and burst through the very skilled, angled and cleverly backspin balls that were presented to him. I was sitting behind the court at that stage at a point where the true class of spin can be seen. Syed amazed himself by storming through 19, 11.

He said, just before he joined the M1 fast lane, 20 minutes after smashing Koji, "That was the best win of my career. I did not think that by attacking, I could get through his defences."

Syed drove through the night to Brentwood to lead Team Peniel to their first defeat in the British League, 8 - 3 to NFD Grove. Syed beat Chris Oldfield but lost to the legend, Desmond Douglas.

But it was a fine weekend for Matthew Syed overall - the win over

Matsushita and over Oldfield should help his cause - to play for England in Barcelona, next July.

The two final games in the men's match were played together. Chen got into a spot more bother in the first against Yoji, but swept ruthlessly home to win 20, 7.

The final game, Prean v Shibutani, was a classic. Against expectations Hiroshi raised his game to a point where Carl had to produce the most thundering selection of attacking shots, mainly on the forehand. I cannot recall having seen Carl in recent times have to hit the ball so hard, but he did so in the most professional manner to win 18, 19.

## PARKER TRIBUTE

Don Parker said after the tour had finished that he was well satisfied with the England women's team, although they lost at both venues 4 - 1. Lisa Lomas fought as hard as ever for her win at Bletchley and it was pleasant to witness Alison Gordon hit back at being dropped from the European League by defeating Sato -18, 15, 17 to provide England with a consolation victory after going 4-0

down.

Andrea Holt, up against some of the best players in the Asian women's scene, seems to get downhearted on court, but she played skilfully and bravely as she lost to Hoshino and Sato. This left some spectators thinking perhaps that the girl from Bury does have the armoury to win more in Europe; not many European women win against their Asian rivals anyway, not even the top Europeans, so there is some way to go yet for Andrea who in France last month lifted her game in this national league to beat former European champion Daniela Guergueltoheval

Summing up the tour: Japan are the sort of team in the men's game that England have to beat if they are to stay in the top flight at world level. The women were up against it, as are all European women against the Asians. Both events at Bletchley and Leeds were well organised. On the publicity side, Bletchley will need to start earlier if they want publicity - an 11pm finish there. The early start (6pm) at Rothwell would have been fine on a weekday, but even then the result made only the final editions of the Sunday Telegraph.

The publicity suffered also from the World Cup Rugby that saturated most newspapers although the results and a report on Rotherham did make my Daily Telegraph column on the following Tuesday. Bletchley results did make the very late London edition on Saturday morning.

## LEEDS SCORES....

### MEN:

ENGLAND 5 JAPAN 2

C. Prean b K. Matsushita 7, 17  
M. Syed l Y. Matsushita -12, -18  
Chen Xinhua b H. Shibutani -15, 12, 15  
Prean and Chen l K. Matsushita and Shibutani -15, -13  
Syed b K. Matsushita -19, 19, 11  
Chen b Y. Matsushita 20, 7  
Prean b Shibutani 18, 19

### WOMEN:

ENGLAND 1 JAPAN 4

A. Gordon l M. Hoshino -13, -18  
A. Holt l r. Sato -5, -18  
Gordon and Holt l Sato and Hoshino -16, -18  
Holt l Hoshino -14, -17  
Gordon b Sato -18, 15, 17

# Man of the moment

PROBABLY one man around at the moment has had a realistic life's ambition to become chairman of the English Table Tennis Association - the man who now is, Alan Ransome.

Did you know that he was the ETTA's youngest club secretary, at the age of 12? Or that a year later he was the youngest league secretary? Not long after that he was the youngest national councillor as well.

To achieve that, at the age of only 19, he had to overcome a life member in an election. The press called him "King of the Kids", not all that helpfully at the time, because the label encouraged some of the establishments to regard him as a rebel and an upstart.

For the next few years Ransome's presence threatened to split the sport. They were tough times but provided him with an important insight into how best to handle hostile opposition. This was something which stood him in good stead during the elections for the chairmanship last spring.

It is an open secret that Alan's opponents alleged he was unsuitable for the role, on the grounds of his widespread business interests. He plans to answer them by adding to an already remarkable list of achievements. For what some people may not realise is that Alan Ransome's record makes him the nearest thing there is to a Mr. Table Tennis.

It started when a chicken hut at the bottom of his garden was converted into a table tennis room. Later it became a much-celebrated venue, because it was here, right in his own back garden, that Ormesby were later to win the European Club Cup.

As a player he represented England, and as a coach he helped produce an international standard player every year for seven years. As an administrator he developed into one of the very few men with a knowledge of all the ETTA's departments. As an organiser he made the Cleveland tournament the leading annual competition almost every year since 1969.

And as a promoter he brought two world class events to Cleveland - the

*The Sunday Times  
Correspondent  
Richard Eaton, writes  
a profile on the ETTA  
Chairman  
Alan Ransome*



Alan Ransome

European Top Twelve and the Euro-Asia tournament - the second of which produced some of the best TV yet seen. It helped prove the compatibility of the small table with the small screen.

In the process of these three decades of effort a once-shy fellow transformed himself into an effective salesman and a meticulous diplomat. He also became a workaholic of whom it was said he expected everyone else to be likewise. But that was often an acceptable fault in a man whose achievements are among the most outstanding in the sport.

Ransome had a trial for Yorkshire cricket club as a lad. But he chose table tennis because he was fascinated by the game's unusual combinations of physical and intellectual qualities - a quicksilver magic of tactical subtlety

and sleight of hand. "With the right promotion and marketing in this country it could be one of the most popular sports, as it is in Germany and China," he says.

A launching pad for this could be provided by the national "Focus Sport" scheme, which has seen the Sports Council choose table tennis and soccer as the two activities to be focussed over the next three years.

The scheme's proposals suggest there may be highly significant expansion in the numbers of coaches and development officers, and in the proportion of three million casual participants who become affiliated competitors. It was Ransome's foresight, ten years ago, that made this possible.

Then, as head of the ETTA's development department, he pioneered the restructuring of the Association's boundaries to coincide with those of the Sports Council. This has made possible the funding that could create, for a minor sport, a very major opportunity. To help ensure it is grasped he has increased the number of the Association's departments to eight. He himself has relinquished twenty other positions within the game.

Relations between leading players and the ETTA has already notably improved, with the removal of a clause in their contracts which restricted their ability to speak to the media. Desmond Douglas suggested this was a reason for his unexpected retirement from international competition in the middle of last season.

Ransome has also been an advocate for Chen Xinhua, whose debut for England in May last year caused so much argument. It was not until more than a year after this that the battle to gain clearance for the former Chinese international to play in European competition was finally won. Without the efforts of the new chairman it may never have been possible.

The outcome of all this is that, when the talked-about national economic recovery actually comes, table tennis could be on the verge of its most promising era in its century-old history. And if anyone is able to become the game's new prophet it should be the man they alleged was not suitable to run it.

# Short & Schofield salvo

## THE HILTON NATIONAL HOTELS VETTS SOUTHERN MASTERS

MIKE SHORT and Doreen Schofield won their respective over 40 singles skirmishes in the Hilton Vetts Southern Masters, last month.

The Hilton National Hotels Southern Masters VETTS tournament was held at Basingstoke over the weekend of the 5/6th October. The event attracted a total of 220 entrants and for Val Roffe it was her first as referee at a vetts masters.

In the over 40 mens singles number one seed Dave Harvey had to scratch as his wife was taken ill. Even with Dave absent the line up was as strong as ever. In the quarter finals Derek Holman beat Dave Bowles 8, 12. Stuart Gibbs come up against National Champion Dave Wellsman, Gibbs playing some great table tennis claimed a semi final spot by winning two straight 16, 10. In the other two quarter finals Mike Short beat Clive Morris 14, 13 and Mal Corking beat D. Roberts 13 and 16. The semi final line up was Gibbs against Holman and Short against Corking. Gibbs took the first end against Holman 19, Holman squared it by winning the next 24-22. Stuart claimed his final spot when he won the decider 12. In the other Mike Short and Mal Corking had a tense struggle with Short coming out the victor 18, 18. In the final Gibbs took the first 22-20 and looked to be on his way to winning the title when he led 13-3 in the second only to see Short stage a great comeback to win 18. Short then won the decider 14 to take the title.

In the over 40 womens' singles quarter finals there was wins for D. Schofield, M. Maltby, M. Stafford and G. Knightley. In the semi-finals it was wins for Schofield over Matby 16, 17 and Stafford claimed her final place by beating Knightley 15, 14. So the final was Schofield against Stafford and it was Doreen who came away with the title with a fine 17 and 13 victory.

In the womens' over 50's final Janet Hunt had a very tense struggle to beat Pam Butcher 22-20, 26-24. Earlier in the semi-finals Janet had beaten Connie Moran 17, 13 and Pam had beaten Sylvia Coombes 13, 15.



*Matt Sheader (picture above) who with his partner Derek Schofield, reached the Over 40 Mens' Doubles final*

The over 50 mens singles seen semi-final wins for Keith Powell over Brian Allinson 11 and 20 and Stan "the bat" Batrick beat Ray Dixon 11 and 18. In the final after losing the first -20 Stan came back to win the next two and the title 17 and 16. Stan claimed a second title when he combined with Fred Lockwood to win the over 50 Doubles. En route to the over 40's mens doubles Derek Schofield and Matt Sheader seen off the young pretenders Gibbs and Corking. In the final they came up against Derek Holman and Connie Warren. After scraping home 20 in the first Derek and Connie made it a straight win by taking the next 16.

A special mention of thanks to Vals super team of Peter Roden and Phil Gower plus of course Val for making it a trouble free tournament. Also to Eileen Allison for doing lots of umpiring. One only hopes Eileen's example can be a spur to others to umpire at forthcoming tournaments.

## THE HILTON NATIONAL HOTELS VETTS SOUTHERN MASTERS FULL RESULTS

OVER 40 MENS' SINGLES FINAL	M. Short beat S. Gibbs -20, 18, 14
OVER 40 WOMENS' SINGLES FINAL	D. Schofield beat M. Stafford 17, 13
OVER 50 SINGLES' WOMEN FINAL	J. Hunt beat P. Butcher 20, 24
OVER 50 SINGLES' MEN FINAL	S. Batrick beat K. Powell -20, 17, 16
OVER 40 MENS' DOUBLES FINAL	D. Holman & C. Warren beat D. Schofield & M. Sheader 20, 16
OVER 40 WOMENS' DOUBLE FINAL	C. Basden & M. Dawson beat S. Carroll & E. Shaler 17, -18, 13
OVER 50 MENS' DOUBLE FINAL	S. Batrick & F. Lockwood beat B. Halliday & B. Mayfield 9, 11
OVER 50 WOMENS' DOUBLES FINAL	M. Neary & J. White beat S. Coombes & A. Robinson 11, -15, 17
OVER 60 MENS' SINGLES FINAL	G. Batt-Rawden beat L. D'Arcy 18, 21
OVER 60 WOMENS' SINGLES FINAL	G. Hazell beat J. Cook 19, 14
OVER 60 MENS' DOUBLES FINAL	T. Donlon & G. Batt-Rawden beat L. D'Arcy & R. Etheridge 7, -19, 14
OVER 60 WOMENS' DOUBLES FINAL	J. Cook & M. Jones beat D. Harmer & S. Jameson 11, 8
OVER 70 SINGLES' FINAL	L. D'Arcy beat N. Lusher 8, 14
MIXED DOUBLES FINAL	C. Morris/M. Dawson beat M. Short/E. Shaler 13, 17
MENS' RESTRICTED FINAL	D. Roberts beat D. Wright 16, 19
WOMENS' RESTRICTED FINAL	A. Burroughs beat B. Bayford 17, 14

# Chinese takeaway

**CHINESE super boy Meng Qing Yu beat his fellow countryman Xu Kai in the Boys' Singles Final, whilst Sally Marling flew the flag for England winning the Girls' Singles, at Bridlington, last month.**

BRIDLINGTON'S reputation for being 'The Resort For Sport' was further enhanced with the running of the 5th East Yorkshire Junior Open on the weekend of the 12th/13th of October. Many believe that our sport will flourish if organisers adopt a more professional approach and the showpiece venue of The Royal Spa Hall, added to the skilful organisation of the North Yorkshire team, is ample evidence of that theory. A quality entry has always been the order the day, with this year's tournament having the added attraction of the top two Chinese junior boys Xu Kai and Meng Qing Yu. The Royal Spa Hall was buzzing with anticipation as early as the group stage on the first day when the young Chinese stars arrived to sample the atmosphere during the Cadet events.

Favourite, and No. 1 seed for the Cadet Boys Singles was Steven Meddings and he duly took the title without the loss of a set including a merciless 6 and 8, drubbing for Michael James in his semi-final. Meddings completed a succession of quality performances with a straight sets win over Darryl Meredith who had inched out No. 2 seed Vincent Avery -16, 19, 22 in a pulsating encounter in the other semi-final. Kathryn Woodward almost produced a fairytale ending in the corresponding Girls event. Having worked her way through from a qualifying group, a preliminary round, and the main draw, the Cheshire girl only just failed against Sarah Stedman. The scores of 12, -16, 22 tell their own story and show just how close she came to making it a perfect ending to a wonderful day. However Catherine Corkill did just that by winning the Under 12 Girls' Singles, also having to work her way through from the group stage.

The Chinese connection was evident in the Under 12 Boys' event when Christian Thompson overturned top seed Gerald Ashison 18 and 12 in the final. Young Gerald must have been quite bemused and perhaps a little overawed to find the whole of the Chinese contingent backing the boy from Kent. The seedings almost went to plan in both Cadet Doubles events but the Michael James/Simon James and Glenda Ashison/Shelley Ruocco combinations both won through from their No. 2 seeded slots. Glen Ritchie and Nicola Silburn completed the first days proceedings with victories in the respective Boys and Girls Restricted Cadet events. Both were deserved winners of above average standard competitions. Sunday's Junior events saw a large crowd gather at the courtside when Xu and Meng made their first appearance in the Junior Boys' Doubles. They certainly gained top marks for



*The Royal Spa Hall at Bridlington*

entertainment as they diplomatically swept their way to the final. Yorkshire's Darren Lindley and Robert Sharp fought their way through from the other half of the draw, including a fine 15 and 10 win over the No. 2 seeded pairing of Barry Forster and Ray Powell, only to fall to Xu and Meng in the final. The Junior Boys' Singles was slightly impaired by the withdrawal of England's No. 1 Alex Perry. Seeded 3 behind the Chinese pair, his absence reportedly due to an excess of homework along with others from the Malcolm Francis Tournament squad, gave the opportunity to benefit from the experience of meeting Xu and Meng to those who chose to compete. Ian Musk was a surprise semi finalist, marching through from the qualifying groups, and only had his fine run ended by the Chen Xinhua like skills of Xu. No. 4 seed Barry Forster reached his allotted semi final slot and acquitted himself quite well, although never looking like threatening Meng.

Interesting performances in the early stages included a superb deuce in the 3rd win for one of last seasons top Cadets Phil Neal. England No. 7 Ray Powell being the unfortunate victim. However the 14 year old from Hull was overshadowed by county colleague Michael James who took out the seeded Robert Sharp and James Wheatley, both in three sets, before he took his departure courtesy of Meng. A large crowd stayed to watch the Junior finals and the Chinese boys played out an entertaining three ender. It barely seemed to matter which of the two succeeded, the fact that the match stretched to a deciding set was sufficient for a very appreciative audience. For the record Meng blasted his way through his fellow countryman's elegant defence.

Although understandably overshadowed by the presence of Xu and Meng, the Junior Girls Singles was a very keenly contested affair from a particularly strong entry. Top two seeds Sally Marling and Katie Goodall making it an all Yorkshire final with the former comfortably adding the East Yorkshire title to her already impressive list of tournament wins. However the roles were reversed in the girls doubles with the Goodall/Caroline Bentley combination succeeding against Marling and Sara Williams. As with the Cadets, the Restricted Junior Singles proved to be very competitive with Lancashire pair Philip Musgrove and Tamar Connolly being the deserved winners.

All in all, the East Yorkshire Junior Open achieved its objectives. Councillor Tom Brown, the Mayor of East Yorkshire Borough Council, the Borough's seemingly tireless Recreation Chief Barry Clifton, and Councillor John Cox, the Chairman

of the Borough's Environment and Community Services, all believe that the North Yorkshire Tournament team have made great strides towards making their event the leader on the junior circuit. A marvellous prize fund, superb organisation, quality equipment provided by Donic and Jarvis Sports, and the majestic setting of the Spa Royal Hall gives table tennis the image that it needs. The organising team, and those unsung heroes from the umpiring fraternity, worked long and hard to give players, coaches, and parents a thoroughly enjoyable weekend. As one coach and his charge prepared for the long journey home at the end of the finals session, his short summing up put into words the thoughts of many, "The travelling is well worthwhile - this is simply the Rolls Royce of the Junior 2 starts." High praise one might think, but on the evidence of two superb days in Bridlington it is praise that is certainly justified.

## EAST YORKSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN RESULTS

**JBS** - SF - Xu Kai (Chn) bt 1 Musk (B u) 7, 9 - Meng Qing Yu (Chn) bt B. Forster (NI) 11, 12 - F - Meng bt Xu 9, -17, 14  
**JGS** - SF - S. Marling (Y) bt S. Williams (Mi) -15, 11, 18 - K. Goodall (Y) bt N. Deaton (Dy) 19, 14 - F Marling bt Goodall 10, 12  
**JBD** - F Meng & Xu bt D. Lindley & R. Sharp (Y) 13, 9  
**JGD** - F - C. Bentley (Y) & Goodall bt Marling & Williams 17, 14  
**CBS** - SF - S. Meddings (Wa) BT M. James (Y) 6, 8 - D. Meredith (La) bt V. Avery (E) -16, 19, 22 - F Meddings bt Meredith 17, 15  
**CGS** - SF - K. Woodward (Ch) bt N. Massingham (Li) 18, 11 - S. Stedman (Sx) bt V. Fox (SI) 8, 20 - F Stedman bt Woodward 12, -16 22  
**CBD** - F - M. James & S. James (Y) bt Avery & Meddings 15, -9 15  
**CGD** - F - G. Ashison (Sy) & S. Ruocco (E) bt D. Pestka (Ng) & Woodward 16, -19, 10  
**U12BS** - F - C. Thompson (K) bt G. Ashison (Sy) 18, 12  
**URGS** - F - C. Corkill (Cu) bt Pestka 19, -17, 12  
**Restricted JBS** - F - D. Musgrove (La) bt P. Neal (Y) 18, 16  
**Restricted JGS** - F - T. Connolly (La) bt Massingham 17, 25  
**Restricted CBS** - F - G. Ritchie (K) bt S. Joslin (E) -22, 16, 18  
**Restrict CGS** - F - N. Silburn (Y) bt t. C. Hall (K) 16, 12

# Waldner wins the Masters

JAN-OVE WALDNER, arguably the most talented player in the world who won the world title at Dortmund in 1989 struck again to become the first winner of the £60,000 European Masters Cup in Bonn on September 29.

Waldner, the man, still only 24, who thinks nothing of placing £1,000 bets at casinos and still bears the scar of being mugged after leaving the green beige tables in Hong Kong three years ago, managed to motivate himself to beat Jean-Phillipe Gatién of France in the final in a four-game thriller -19, 15, 18, 21.

The standard of play throughout the three days play was extremely high, the standard of presentation was higher than ever and the hospitality for players, officials and the media was well up to the high standards usually attained by the German Tisch-Tennis Bund.

Table tennis fans in Europe are so lucky. Not long ago, to see the world's best players in competitive action a fan would need to travel to the Far East where China, Korea and Japan rule, or to the world championships, held only every two years.

At the present time, the world's best players - possibly Persson, Waldner, Appelgren, Gatién, Rosskopf, Grubba can all be seen fairly regularly in Europe - Cologne-Bonn airport is only an hour away from Heathrow.

Note that Asian players were all heaved out of the World Cup in Kuala Lumpur before the semi-finals. The last four were Persson (the winner), Waldner, Gatién and Saive... further proof if it were needed that the Chinese domination of this sport is well and truly ended.

The only Chinese player to shine currently is Ma Wenge, whilst Korea seems to be marking time - Yoo Nam Kyu failed to arrive in Bonn.

His apparent reason for not coming was that he was in hospital. The fact that an Asian player was invited was not appreciated by many people in Bonn.

## War Problems

The problems in Yugoslavia came to Bonn. There was sympathy for exile Zoran Primorac who could be eligible for immediate membership of the armed forces if he returned now to his native Croatia.

Ilja Lupelesku took the reverse position in Bonn after Yoo was pulled out and Carl Prean declined the offer of being first reserve.

Had Prean accepted this invitation he would it appears, have played instead of Yoo and qualified for substantial appearance money. Instead, he elected to spend some of the weekend practicing with Michael



Sweden's Jan Ove Waldner

O'Driscoll at Saarbrücken.

With only one English fan present - Barry Granger from Essex - the tournament got under way with a disappointment. Chen was well beaten 11, 16, 14 by world champion Persson, a revenge win as Chen defeated Persson in the Bundesliga a few weeks earlier, when Rosskopf and Fetzner were also Chen victims.

Later, Chen's immaculate back-spin and sharp attacks up-ended Saive 21, 13, 6 whilst Saive beat Persson but only when it was obvious that Persson and Chen were going through.

Waldner dominated Group 2, but Fetzner bounced back to qualify over a sad looking Primorac.

Lupelesku was the loser in group 3 where Grubba with his spectacular ability to come back from impossible situations, in particular stopping Appelgren 11 in the fifth game.

Jean-Phillipe Gatién is possibly the most improved player in Europe. To reach the final in Kuala Lumpur and then in Bonn must have been beyond his dream. His win over Rosskopf 19 in the fifth was a turning point in the tournament, because that put in Chen into the pit with Rosskopf, whereas the Chinese player may have had a better chance

of chopping Gatién to defeat.

And so to the quarter finals and the sudden-death stage at the Hardtberghalle. I have never seen Jorg Rosskopf play so well. Chen tried everything he knew, but revenge was sweet for the German ace as he thrashed his way through one of the best defences in the world to earn thunderous applause from the 2,000 German fans. The home fans by the way, saved plenty of appreciation for Chen whose skills are becoming legendary in Germany as well as elsewhere.

The shock of the quarters was possibly Gatién's victory over Persson, patiently shaped in five exciting games, whilst the win by Waldner over Appelgren showed that 'Appel' is showing his age at last.

Probably, the most exciting clash of the tournament was the semi-final defeat on Grubba by Gatién. Yet another cliff-hanging five-game battle of blazing attacking shots that saw the younger Frenchman despatching the 34-year-old Pole 21 in the final game, whilst Waldner managed to raise his motivation high enough to put an end to Rosskopf 15, 13, 14.

Waldner, the Swede who gambles his merry way through life on and off the table lost the first game of the final 19 to Gatién, but in typical style, poker-faced as always, never showing any emotion, finally prevented a fifth-game decider to win at 21, in the fourth.

## Stunning

The presentation of the event was splendid, stunning and of course expensive. The Germans have a

consortium of sponsors led by Opel. No expense was spared in presenting three days of table tennis of the highest quality.

The tournament's showbiz type approach was incredibly professional. On the first day the players appeared through a haze of "dry-ice" (stage smoke as seen at pop concerts), accompanied by fanfares in quad sound, setting a superb atmosphere that encouraged the German fans to respond so well.

Laser and strobe lighting in colour enhanced the effects. The hall lights were out before the players arrival on court producing a most dramatic effect.

The public address commentator was highly professional, announcing the players and giving their credentials at a high-decibel level that was never too loud for me or the bulk of the younger fans.

This is the way forward for tournament presentation. George Yates was the only member of the ETTA Management team present. I suspect it was all too much for him, but to combine the atmosphere of a pop concert with world class table tennis was highly successful and a model for officials from other nations.

Germany is out on its own as the best presenter of world-class table tennis. We know they have the money that others yearn for, but this must be the best way to promote the sport, the target for the future.

## European Masters Cup results from

# Bonn.

### Group 1:

J. Persson b Chen Xinhua 11, 16, 14.  
J. Saive 1 Chen -21, -13, -6. Persson 1 Saive 16, -16, -15, -18

### Group 2:

J. Waldner b Fetzner 16, 13, 18, 2.  
Primorac 1 Fetzner 14, -14, -14, 13, 18. Waldner b Primorac -15, 15, 12, -16, 20

### Group 3:

A. Grubba b I. Lupelesku 21, 10, 16.  
M. Appelgren b I. Lupelesku -18, 17, 14, 12. Grubba b Appelgren 12, -12, -17, 17 11

### Group 4:

J. Gatién b E. Lindh -17, 15, -20, 12.  
J. Rosskopf b Lindh -17, 7, 19, 14.  
Gatién 1 Rosskopf 18, -18, -18, 18, -19.

### QUARTER FINALS:

Gatién b Persson 19, 18, -16, -17, 17  
Grubba b Fetzner 12, -12, 10, 14  
Rosskopf b Chen 9, 17, 14  
Waldner b Appelgren 14, 20, 21

### SEMI FINALS:

Gatién b Grubba 10, -18, 20, -21, 21  
Waldner b Rosskopf 15, 13, 14

### FINAL:

Waldner b Gatién -19, 15, 18, 21

**EMC**  
European Masters Cup 1991  
**TABLE TENNIS**

# Peniel spectacular

TEAM PENIEL continued their winning ways at Ellenborough with some devastating results, without Steve Dorking. Their 8-0 victory included John Holland beating Ian McLean by the impressive scores of 21-7, 21-5 and Matt Syed beating Graham Sandley by the spectacular margin of 21-5, 21-2! All games were won two-straight and yet somehow that match lasted two hours on two tables - either a very long tea-break or expedite every game! Yugo Cars showed some potential as they beat Bathwick Tyres 8-2. Alex Perry chalked up a useful victory over Chris Rogers - 14, 19, 19 to show his fighting spirit. Yugo Cars are now rumoured to be importing so watch out whoever is next in the firing line.

## Turner back

West Warwickshire put themselves back on the map in Division 1 North at the expense of Britannia Ipswich who they beat 7-1. John Kitchener beat Adrian Dixon for consolation 18, -18, 19. Barry Johnson beat Richard Tanner and 'Kitch' in straight games. Well Connected Menswear beat Liverpool 5-3 with their first 3 wins all gained at 21-12 in the third. Steve Turner resurfaced for Liverpool and beat Mark Randle and Graeme McKim quite convincingly. Norwich Foxwood shared the points with Ruston Marconi Lincoln. Two from Neil Pickard were offset by two from Stephen Yallop. NFD Grove II continue to dominate and had little trouble with Vymura International, winning 7-1. Graham Clarke must have gone home disappointed as he lost -17, 18, -16 to Ian Stokes and 16, -13, -15 to John Souter. RML and WCM drew. Phil Vickers beat Andy Edmonds, but the latter won the last game to salvage a point.

## Green piece

Larkhall beat NFD Grove in Division 1 South. Mike Hammond and Dave Harding took two a piece with one from Ian Girdler for the points. The main resistance came from Malcolm Green, but his efforts were not enough to turn the match. Bathwick Tyres beat Victoria Park Mazda by the same margin in a 3 and a half hour marathon. Andy Creed kept Bath on course with comfortable wins against Mark Simon and Jeff Morgan. Jonathan Allen just lost out 17-21 in the third to both Diccon Gray and Chris Bridges. John Taylor beat Brian Jeanes and Steve Ward for Ellenborough II to draw with Colley Toyota. The Welsh team were without Dave Barr which seemed to cost them a point. Horsham Dolphins and DML White Hart Launceston also drew. Paul Whiting beat Paul Elphick and Ritchie Venner but his effort was offset by Andy Walker who beat Greg Bridgett and Gary Lambert.

## Burslem buried

Chan Constructions flexed their muscles against Burslem in Division 2 North. Phil Gunn led Chan to an 8-0 victory with wins over Mark Evans and Brian Johns. Stephens NYSD beat Burslem 5-3. On this occasion



John Holland (left) and Mathew Syed of Team Peniel



Alex Perry of Bathwick Tyres

Brian Johns beat Anwar Majid and Mick Stead in straight games. Eddie Wilkes beat Malcolm Corking at deuce in the 3rd. Borough of Sunderland went down 3-5 to Chan. Steve Bertie fulfilled a supporting role to Phil Gunn. Brabar Humberside beat City of Leicester 5-3 despite two from Mark Illingsworth who beat Sally Marling and

Matt Shearer comfortably in straight games. For Humberside Gareth Jones starred with close wins over Phil Smith and Martin Pickles. City of Leeds entertained Yugo Cars II and David Indriks opened by beating Ian Brown. Keith Rodger quickly reversed the trend and Yugo rattled off the next seven games.

## Brown makes his mark

In Division 2 South-West Kleinwort Benson Gillingham overcame DML White Hart Launceston 5-3. Mark Brown played well to beat Jeremy Williams and Kevin Buddell. Edison beat Amity Generation Fareham 5-3 after leading 5-1. Graham Toole beat Ian Black and Clive Carthy fairly easily but he could not prevent maximums from David Goode and Simon Rockall. Cheltenham Saracens had Raymond Powell to thank for their 5-3 win over Gunnersbury Triangle. All games were won and lost two-straight, the closest of these being a 17 and 19 win for Chris Pichon over Brenda Lee. Colley Toyota II took Kleinwort Benson Gillingham to three for six of their eight games but still lost all of them. Horsham Dolphins II beat DML White Hart Launceston 5-3. Roger Chandler enjoyed some long games, beating Adrian Vincent - 19, 13, 24 and losing to Carole Giles 12, -20, -20.



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Only one match to report on from Division 2 South-East where BSG Brentwood and City of Milton Keynes shared the honours in a 3 and a quarter hour match in which the first six games went to three. Led by Richard Darnell BSG Brentwood went 4-2 ahead but John Burleton pulled out the stops to help salvage a draw.

## Opponent complimented

In 3 hours 29 minutes Stephens NYSD II lost 3-5 to Vymura International II in Division 3 North. Steve Horsefield saved the day for Vymura beating John Crawford 23 and 14 and Tim Dyson 21 and 25. Tony Gelder led Borough of Sunderland to a 5-3 win against Kingshurst Bribar. Dave Robson also won his two. Match Referee Harry Madison describes Andrew Wilkinson as a "fine young player" in Vale Royal Warrington's draw with Ormesby - he beat Ken Connor 18 and 11 and Tony Worthington -19, 18, 20 to put Ormesby 4-3 ahead. VRW's Malcolm McEvoy recorded two straight-game victories over Barry Forster and Stuart Miller. Uxbridge (Burton) had Ivor Warner leading them to their first ever League victory, 6-2 over Lifeline Developments Crusaders. A duck from Neil Slater blotted the copy book but Steven Shaw took no chances conceding an average of only 10 points per game.

Alpha Southampton travelled to Parkside Dragons Newport only to lose 3-5 in Division 3 South. Byron Davies earned Man of the Match by beating Tony Catt 14 and 15 and Andrew Ely 4 and 15. Jozeph Okosiene and Michale Gabriel with a deuce game. Rejects just missed out on a draw and actually lost 2-6 to Linda Farrow. The latter had recruited Mike O'Leary from the former! Steve Carpenter put up a good fight, losing to John Payne -9, 18, -19. Duncan Taylor played well to take his revenge on Mike Loveder and scraped through -12, 20, 19 in an entertaining battle. JAGS hold on to top spot by virtue of a 7-1 win against Grove. Only two games were the distance in which Farhat Rasul lost to Tony Fitzgerald beat Jose Bongers 18, -16, 19.

## Another near miss...

Levis Westfield also just missed out on a draw in Division 3 East against Team Peniel II, losing 3-5. Ayoade Ademakinwa squeezed past Richard Elliott 21, -21, 19 and Vince Avery clinched the points in convincing style.

I only have one result from Division 3 West too. OLOPS comprehensively beat Ashford Kent 6-2, five games with scores of 10 or less. Justin Goodall resisted the onslaught with wins over Paul Savins and Wally Allanson.

A second reminder to the team admin men (and women): please do ensure that result sheets are complete i.e. include the Division and players' first names etc. And of course results must be sent in promptly.

Some 3rd November matches to watch out for include: Premier - Yugo Cars v NFD Grove, and Ellenborough v Bathwick Tyres; Division 1 North - NFD Grove II v West Warwickshire; and Division 1 South - Horsham Dolphins v Colley Toyota. Watch this space!!

## LATEST RESULTS (22nd September)

### PREMIER

NFD Grove I	8	0	Ellenborough
Con Life St. Neots	2	8	Yugo Cars I
Team Peniel I	8	1	Bath Tyres I

### 1 NORTH

Well C. Menswear	2	6	W. Waricks
NFD Grove II	8	0	Brit Ipswich
Vymura Int'l	8	0	Norwich Fox
Ruston M Lincoln	3	5	Liverpool

### 1 SOUTH

Ellenborough I	2	6	Bath Tyres II
Victoria P Mazda	0	8	NFD Grove III
Larkhall I	2	6	Horsham Dolph
DML WH Launceston	2	6	Colley Toyota

### 2 NORTH

City of Leicester	4	4	Chan Construct
Bor of Sunderland	0	8	Stephens NYSD
Burslem	3	5	City of Leeds
Bribar Humberide	2	6	Yugo Cars II

### 2 SOUTH-EAST

Rejects I	1	7	BSG Brentwood
C O Milton Keynes	6	2	Leckie
Pillr Air Croydon	7	1	Joll' Poole
Fellows Cranleigh	5	3	VRS Fareham

### 2 SOUTH-WEST

KB Gillingham	8	0	Gun Triangle
Cheltenham Sarac	4	4	Edison
Amity G2 Fareham	5	3	Horsham Dolph
WH Launceston II	3	5	Colley Toyota

### 3 EAST

Brit Ipswich II	3	5	L's Westfield
BSG Brentwood II	6	2	Ellenborough
Chelmsford League	5	3	Norwich Fox
Fellows Cranleigh	6	2	Team Peniel

### 3 NORTH

Ormesby	3	5	B' Sunderland
Kinghurst Bribar	3	5	Stephens NYSD
Vymura Int'l II	7	1	LD Crusaders
Uxbridge (Burton)	1	7	Vr Warrington

### 3 MIDLAND

NFD Grove colts	5	3	Bath' Thres
Chan Construct II	5	3	Thorns
Larkhall II	5	3	Ashford (Kent)
OLOP	6	2	Lambeth 4 T's

### 3 SOUTH

NFD Grove IV	5	3	PD Newport
Alpha Southampton	2	6	Rejects II
Linda Rarrow	8	0	Ashford, Middx
WH Launceston III	3	5	JAGS SC

# STOP PRESS

## Grove topple Peniel

NFD GROVE I came out on top of this Premier Division battle of the giants with Team Peniel I, winning 8-3, when they travelled to The Peniel Academy, Brentwood, Essex, on Sunday 20th October 1991, writes *John Wood*.

Thirty six year old Desmond Douglas won his three for Grove, proving that the young pretenders to his throne have a little way to go, before taking his crown.

Nicky Mason added two for Grove, with Chris Oldfield chipping in with one. But the crucial two match winning sets came in the doubles.

Grove's jubilant Ian Marshall said, when interviewed after the match, "It was a good win for Grove with Michael O'Driscoll not available due to tonsillitis, and partnering Taylor with Douglas and Oldfield with Mason, was a gamble that worked."



*Steve Dorking*

Matthew Syed, John Holland and Steve Dorking won one each for Team Peniel.

Man of the Match was Peniel's Steve Dorking, who was awarded this honour by Peniel's Peter Linnecar, for his consistent performance of maximum effort.

Running a close second for man of the match was umpire Dick Roffe.



# General overview

## by Tim Gautreau and Diccon Gray

### Introduction

THE 1991/92 Computer Ranking Scheme will be based on the proven Canadian Table Tennis Association Scheme which has been operational since its inception in the early 70's. The ETTA Management Committee decided to adopt this scheme on 1st September 1991. Subsequently through co-operation and

good will from the Canadians, their Programme Co-ordinator, Tim Gautreau visited England for a week in September to assist in the installation of the scheme.

This scheme embodies many of the principles established during the considerable efforts expended by Les Wooding on the previous scheme and has shown proven results and

acceptability to all levels of players in Canada.

### Concept

The "new" Scheme is based on the principle of establishing a RATING for each player, which accurately reflects the player's level relative to all other English players.

Therefore, the actual match result (irrespective of age) between two players or

in other words the "head-to-head" confrontation is the most important element of the Scheme.

Each match results in a points exchange (winner gains points, loser loses points) proportional to the relative ratings of the two players.

*Continued on Page 19*

## POINTS EXCHANGE TABLES

EXPECTED WINS & LOSSES																
Win/Loss Probability %	Difference in Rating Points	EVENT WEIGHTING							EVENT WEIGHTING							
		0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	3.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	3.0	
		Points Gained by Winner							Points Lost by Loser							
50	0 - 24	4	8	12	16	18	20	24	-4	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	
56	25 - 49	4	7	11	14	16	18	21	-4	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	-7	
65	50 - 99	3	6	9	12	14	15	18	-3	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	
74	100 - 149	3	5	8	10	11	13	15	-3	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	
81	150 - 199	2	4	6	8	9	10	12	-2	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	-4	
88	200 - 299	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	-2	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3	
94	300 - 399	1	2	3	4	5	5	6	-1	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2	
97	400 - 499	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	
99.9	500 +	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

UNEXPECTED WINS & LOSSES																
Win/Loss Probability %	Difference in Rating Points	EVENT WEIGHTING							EVENT WEIGHTING							
		0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	3.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	3.0	
		Points Gained by Winner							Points Lost by Loser							
50	0 - 24	4	8	12	16	18	20	24	-4	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	-8	
44	25 - 49	5	9	14	18	20	23	27	-5	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	-9	
35	50 - 99	6	11	17	22	25	28	33	-6	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	-11	
26	100 - 149	7	14	21	28	32	35	42	-7	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	-14	
19	150 - 199	9	17	26	34	38	43	51	-9	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	-17	
12	200 - 299	11	22	33	44	50	55	66	-11	-22	-22	-22	-22	-22	-22	
6	300 - 399	15	30	45	60	68	75	90	-15	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	-30	
3	400 - 499	20	40	60	80	90	100	120	-20	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	
99.9	500 +	25	50	75	100	113	125	150	-25	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	-50	

# County Supplement

## AVON Bob Murray

AVON PLAYED HOST, on the weekend of 28th and 29th September, to the first series of matches in Senior Division 1B. Bath Sports Centre once again proved a superb venue for this type of event and an excellent weekend's table tennis ensued.

From Avon's point of view it was a successful weekend on the table as well as off. Four comprehensive wins from the four matches played gives us a share of the lead with Essex in the Division and means there is everything to play for when the teams get together again in February.

Avon's results were as follows:  
vs Wiltshire 9-1  
vs Middlesex II 7-3  
vs Devon II 6-4  
vs Worcestershire 9-1

Varsha Majmudar was in devastating form with a maximum eight victories and she was well supported by Michele Cohen who in gaining six successes maintained her noticeable improvement this session. On the men's side Paul Lewis and Andy Creed once again showed outstanding form in taking 7 wins each from their 8 matches. Diccon Gray with 1 win and Steve Bettison with 2 wins also made timely contributions.

Of course the success of these weekend events depends heavily on the administration and availability of umpires and via this column I would like to express the thanks of the Avon Executive to Pat Archdale, Eric Wynn, Peter Sandford, Dave Bull, Mike Hawkins and last but not least Bernard Nash for their sterling work.

The newly formed Avon Veterans side also took advantage of Bath Sports Centre's facilities when entertaining Wiltshire II's in a Veterans Division 2 fixture. Despite trailing 1-3 at one stage they recovered to win 6-3 with John Higgs, Mike Kimber (2), Geoff Douglas and Jan Kettle all contributing with singles wins and John and Mike combining to take the men's doubles.

Following the weekend's matches the Avon selectors met and agreed the following ranking lists:

### Men

1. Paul Lewis
2. Andy Creed
3. Diccon Gray
4. Chris Holley
5. Steve Bettison
6. Gary Baldwin
7. Hugh Dalton
8. Ian Johnson
9. Clive Ellison
10. Bob Murray

### Ladies

1. Varsha Majmudar
2. Michele Cohen
3. Helen Perrott
4. Carey Webb
5. Debbie Booy
6. Sue Lovell
7. Sarah Kettle
8. Julie Westall
9. Dina Sandford

### Veteran Men

1. John Higgs
2. Dave Price
3. Mike Kimber
4. Geoff Douglas
5. Ernie Brown
6. Paul Etherington
7. Len Upward
8. Dennis Coombes
9. Chris Curl
10. Maurice Cohen

### Veteran Ladies

1. Jan Kettle
2. Muriel Lewis
3. Janet Achurch
4. June Watts
5. Bridget Pankhurst

### Junior Boys

1. Colin Butterworth
2. Barry Fudge
3. Martin Smith
4. David Reeves
5. Jon Thorn
6. Graham Long \*
7. Mike Button
8. Tom Orlik \*
9. James Godwin
10. Alan Burns

\* Also indicates Cadet Boy

### Junior Girls

1. Kelly Harris
2. Rachel Rosewell \*
3. Jessica Orlik \*
4. Lizzie McDonald
5. Emma Price \*
6. Claire Smythe \*
7. Debbie Maxted
8. Andrea Long \*
9. Emma Norman \*
10. Sarah Ainsworth \*

\* Also indicates Cadet Girl

The South West Preliminary Regional Trials held at Wellington saw most of Avon's top juniors and cadets in action. Tom Orlik's England ranking of 18 gave him exemption from the Cadet boys event and he will be eagerly looking forward to the National Trials. Hopefully he will not be alone as fine performances from Colin Butterworth, Barry Fudge, Graham Long, Matthew Pullin, Ross McDonald, Rachel Rosewell and Jessica Orlik have qualified them for the final South West Regional Trial also to be held at Wellington where they will be looking to progress further.

### Bath and District League

The Bath League has an extra two teams this season to bring the total to 65. Denis Swift and Mike Clare have got together a team of youngsters who will play as Larkhall United Reformed Church and Bath Lawn Tennis Club must be looking to keep their eye in during the winter as they appear in the league for the first time.

Oldfield, with virtually an unchanged side, will be warm favourites to lift the Premier title for the third season running although Longwell Green and Mayfield will be hoping to push them all the way.

### Bristol League

It will be a major surprise if Nailsea Leopards are not retaining their Premier Division title come next April. With an unchanged squad of Brian Reeves, Steve Bettison, Gary Baldwin and Paul Lewis looking far and away the strongest in the division, the main interest will probably focus on the runners up spot where Knowle and Brislington 'A' and Bristol Club 'B' can be expected to lead the challenge.

## BERKSHIRE John Cunningham

### Berkshire Junior Trials

This year's trials were held on Sunday 15th September at Altwood School, Maidenhead. With the No. 1 player in the girls section exempt and Caroline Goatly, Helen Goatly (Reading) and Joanne Barratt

(Newbury) competing in the Southern Regional Trials at Southampton, the door was open for a new star to emerge from the junior ranks. Joanna Stone from Bracknell answered the call, she remained unbeaten throughout the day, a tribute to her regular practice throughout the summer months.

Lucy Turton from the Trench Green coaching squad finished a creditable second and a youngster to look out for in 1992, Susan Johnson, took the fourth spot behind another potential star, Nikki Spence. The top eight girls were:

1. Joanne Stone (R,B)
  2. Lucy Turon (R),
  3. Nikki Spence (R)
  4. Susan Johnson (R,B)
  5. Joanna Hyde (N)
  6. Vicky Montgomery (R)
  7. Sarah Crone (N)
  8. Danielle Montgomery (R)
- (R) Reading (B) Bracknell (N) Newbury (M) Maidenhead

The Junior Boys also produced some surprises. Richard Pilkington (R) who finished ninth last year, headed a strong junior group winning all his matches, bar one, in straight sets. His only defeat all day was at the hands of Anthony Rotunno (M) 21-12, 12-21, 16-21. No. 1 seed Richard Woolven-Allen played his usual fighting table tennis. However, he was under extreme pressure living up to his No. 1 spot and just failed to clinch one or two vital points. Maidenhead filled third and fourth spots in the form of Des Shictam and Anthony Rotunno, while Newbury's Ian Barratt improved two places on last year to take the runner up spot. The top 12 boys were:

1. Richard Pilkington (R)
2. Ian Barratt (N)
3. Des Shictam (M)
4. Anthony Rotunno (M)
5. Richard Woolven-Allen (R)
6. Ian Bellinger (M)
7. Lindsay West (M)
8. John McClure (R)
9. Russell Astin (M)
10. Daniel Nickolson (M)
11. Robert Powles (B)
12. Nick McAdden (B)

As with the young ladies, the top three Junior Boys, Ben Johnson

# Counties 2

(R), Robert Dawson (N) and Ali Subhan (R), together with No. 10 seed Andrew Dyke (R) did not take part as they were at the Regional Trials. Mind you, the way Richard Pilkington is playing they all better watch out this season. The youngsters would like to thank David Langley and all the adults who once again organised a successful event.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Ron Hedley

A NEW SEASON begins and the County Committee remains unchanged. Yet again there were no votes for places to run the County affairs. Unfortunately as in most areas of sport there seems to be less interest from people wishing to put something back into sport. As usual the few are doing too many jobs and eventually they are doing far more than they can cope with and their efficiency declines or they are pushed into doing so much that they have enough and they need three or four people to replace them. Let's see some of the people who criticise come forward to do the jobs. Mind, if all the moaners came forward we would have far too many people!

The county teams will be competing with two senior, one junior and one veteran team. This is a reduction of one veteran team on last season and reflects the retirement of two county stalwarts in Alec Watson and Les Wooding and to the lack of female players. At the present time we have only two women available and although many people felt that we could run two teams with only two women it was decided against. This would appear to be vindicated by the fact that the No. 1 woman is unavailable for two of the matches. It should also be noted that we only have five men who have put themselves forward for selection.

On writing these notes, the Senior 1st team have already competed in the first session on their promotion to the Senior Division 1. This was held in Bath and we came away with three wins and one defeat at the hands of Essex. Phil Bradbury won 7-8, John Burlton 5-8, Steve

Cowley 4-6, Nikki Cowley 4-4 and Jacquie Lovell 1-4 contributed to Bucks' wins. Unfortunately Nikki was injured and missed the last two matches. Essex look favourites to win the division but Bucks and Avon will make them fight all the way in February.

The second team play five matches on 12/13th October at Haylemere Youth Centre, High Wycombe and expect to field a young side so they can gain experience. We shall have a lot of work to do during the weekend and here's hoping it is a success.

### High Wycombe League

The Wycombe League have been busy organising the new venue at Haylemere and will be staging three sessions of the men's inter league at the venue. The county will also be using the venue to stage the Senior 2nd team session matches against Cornwall, Herts, Essex, Kent and Hampshire.

The venue has been available to league players each Saturday morning during September for practise but unfortunately few players took up the opportunity. On the final Saturday Nicky Jarvis of Jarvis Sports Ltd came and gave people an opportunity to try various bats and rubbers and several people took up the offer.

The league were asked at the AGM to organise a social function during the season and a Barn Dance has been organised for March. With the league's 50th Anniversary four years away, a fund has been set up to raise enough money to put on a gala celebration. Each player has been levied 50p to provide the finance and a great celebration is planned.

## CORNWALL

THERE HAVE BEEN dramatic changes in the British League scene with White Hart Launceston and DML Plymouth amalgamating in the close season to form one large club. The new setup has been masterminded by Cornish table tennis guru Peter Hancock and his band of helpers from North Cornwall. The newly formed club DML White Hart Launceston now boasts three teams competing in

Division 1 South, 2 South West and 3 South with one of the best setups in the League. Full marks to Peter Hancock for his superb efforts and hopefully results over the season will improve to give him the rewards he deserves.

The Launceston club is now the only British League club west of Bath and now seems a far cry from British League in the region in the early eighties. In those days Launceston, Plymouth and Torbay would all do battle against each other in Division 3 West. Launceston now accommodates players remaining from those clubs whilst also providing an incentive for the younger players to break into the British League scene.

Players registered for the coming 1991/92 season include: John Bassett, Rachel Boon, Greg Bridgett, Kevin Buddell, Susan Buddell, Carol Giles, Steve Giles, Martin Hussey, Mark James, Gary Lambert, John Maggs, Jonathon May, Jonathon Pocock, Malcolm Peters, Graham Read, Cara Rowe, Kevin Rowe, Martin Rowe, Elaine Short, Mike Short, Esme Stevenson, John Thorpe, Adrian Vincent, Anthony Virgoe, Paul Whiting, Gary Wilson, Jeremy Williams, Graham Worth and Kevin Worth.

## CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

WHITEHAVEN LEAGUE ARE boasting 16 teams, eight in each of two divisions, this season.

Division 1: YMCA A, B and C, Mirehouse, Sports Centre A, Whitehaven News, Windscale A, Beckermat.

Division 2: Sports Centre B, Workington Boys Club A and B, YMCA D, Mirehouse B, Maryport Boys Club A and B, Windscale B.

There is the possibility of inter-league matches being re-introduced in Cumbria with Whitehaven expressing an interest in playing other Leagues. Some years ago the county had an inter-league competition.

Whitehaven have decided that no match shall be postponed. Any team unable to play is now forfeiting points. Also, every team had to pay their fees before playing

their first match this term. Fees were slow in being paid last season.

The possibility of re-introducing an individual tournament, probably including invitations to players from other leagues, is being investigated.

Re-elected at the Annual General Meeting were Chairman - John Cotterill, Secretary - Tom Mitchell, Treasurer - Billy Manford, County Representatives - Gordon Brown and Lynn Blackburn.

## DERBYSHIRE

Malcolm Allsop

AFTER A SPELL in the Premier Division of the County Championships during which time the senior team won the championship, finished runners up and then relegated in a brief, eventful interlude, the county team returned to Division 1 with the problem of facing life without the Cookes and Billingtons, Alan and Sue Cooke being in Sweden and Brad and Julie Billington still recovering from injury.

Good news was the announced intention of John Holland and Nicola Deaton to be available if possible, 'veteran' Martin Kinsella still retaining interest and Philip Vickers regaining his fighting enthusiasm.

The County Senior team matches will be played over two weekends, the first in January at Lodge Moor, Sheffield and then in April at St Neots.

The County Junior 1st team opened their fixtures with a 7-3 victory despite the presence of Barry Forster in the Northumberland team. Jack Boulton, James Wheatley and David Purdy won a singles apiece with twins Katty and Louise Petty winning all four girls singles.

It was anticipated that the County Junior 2nd team would take time to settle as Michelle Fisher was the only experienced player in the squad, so a 3-7 reverse at the hands of Lancashire 2nd was no surprise. Andrew Clayton won one singles to add to two from Michelle Fisher for Derbyshire's

# Counties 3

successes, but Stuart McIntyre was unfortunate to go down 22-24 and 19-21 in the third game of his two contests.

In an effort to attract a larger entry to the County Closed Championships, an early opportunity was taken to fix the date so that players could ensure they would be available. They have been provisionally arranged for 9th February, either at Greasley or the Derby Table Tennis Centre. So keep that date free!

Uxbridge of Burton were pleased to record their first win in the British League after going through last season without success. I was pleased to attend their subsequent home match against Vale Royal of Warrington where they were on the wrong end of a 1-7 result despite some close games. Garry Pestka played quite well but, not unexpectedly the youngster was nervous on his British League debut. Steve Shaw gained Uxbridge's only success and I was pleased to witness an improvement in his temperament and personality to a level that I had not anticipated he would achieve, and even more pleased to admit that I have been proved wrong (but don't tell anybody!).

## ESSEX Alan Shepherd

OUR SENIOR TEAM made the best possible start in their bid to reclaim Premier Division status, when they took on Sussex II, Avon, Bucks and Devon II in Avon, winning all four matches. Now all we have to do is to win the remaining three matches in February in our own County and Essex will be back where they belong.

Senior Match Secretary Bill Wadling is to be congratulated on his astute selection of the fast improving Jason Tendler and Martin Cole to team up with Des Charlery, Grant Solder, Alison Gower and Linda Radford, in the unavoidable absence of our No. 1 man, Steve Dorking. Well done, everybody!

As reported last month, we have now held our Junior Ranking Trials, and the leading positions as

a result have been announced as follows:

### Junior Boys

1. Cris Sladden (Dagenham)
2. Ryan Savill (Southend)
3. Paul Hudson (Dagenham)
4. Vincent Avery (Brentwood)
5. Ben Ware (Brentwood)
6. Wayne Mitchell (Harlow)
7. Peter Worthington (Brentwood)
8. Andrew Taylor (Dagenham)
9. Karl Grant (Brentwood)
10. Kevin Mays (Burnham)

### Junior Girls

1. Linda Radford (Dagenham)
2. Shelley Ruocco (Dagenham)
3. Jenny Coleman (Brentwood)
4. Sarah Gardner (Chelmsford)
5. Julie Rand (Brentwood)
6. Cathy Sibbald (Brentwood)
7. Elizabeth Sibbald (Brentwood)
8. Michelle King (Harlow)
9. Verity Cleminson (Brentwood)
10. Tracy Davies (Brentwood)

### Cadet Boys

1. Vincent Avery (Brentwood)
2. Stephen Joslin (Chelmsford)
3. Ben Linnecar (Brentwood)
4. Barry Mays (Burnham)
5. Alex Yardy (Brentwood)
6. Stephen Linnecar (Brentwood)
7. Nicky Lapwood (Brentwood)
8. Reagan Nettingham (Brentwood)
9. Sam Cleminson (Brentwood)
10. Kevin Lim (Brentwood)

### Cadet Girls

1. Shelley Ruocco (Dagenham)
2. Verity Cleminson (Brentwood)
3. Tracy Davies (Brentwood)
4. Melanie Sharp (Brentwood)
5. Anna Cleminson (Brentwood)
6. Helen Lincoln (Brentwood)
7. Abigail Cleminson (Brentwood)
8. Nikki Kennard (Chelmsford)
9. Luisa Matta (Brentwood)
10. Karen Mason (Brentwood)

### Under 12 Boys

1. Ben Linnecar (Brentwood)
2. Stephen Linnecar (Brentwood)
3. Sam Cleminson (Brentwood)
4. David Coleman (Brentwood)

5. Ian Kennard (Brentwood)

### Under 12 Girls

1. Verity Cleminson (Brentwood)
2. Tracy Davies (Brentwood)
3. Anna Cheesman (Brentwood)
4. Helen Lincoln (Brentwood)
5. Abigail Cleminson (Brentwood)

Our Juniors only had one match in September. The third team made the long journey to Grantham to play Lincs and came away with a nice 7-3 win. During the preceding week Andrew Taylor managed to injure himself so Kevin Mays stepped in for his County debut. He acquitted himself splendidly and in fact remained unbeaten along with Peter Worthington and Karl Grant. The girls, from whom we normally expect 4 wins, managed only one, and the big surprise for us was that Cathy Sibbald did not win any!

Compensation, although possibly causing consternation in the Sibbald household, came when big sister Elizabeth scored a great win over Catherine Challis.

Other junior activities during September were a visit to Ashford in Kent for a series of development matches against our hosts. Ten boys, none of whom had represented the county, took part in 4 matches, and our thanks to Bob Taylor for making the arrangements.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE Alf Pepperd

APOLOGIES TO ALL Gloucestershireans for the total absence of County News of last month's 201st edition, this is the first County report that I have missed since the 122nd issue in November 1981 - I plead forgiveness.

Gill Smith, the County's much valued umpires secretary took 21 youngsters, of which 8 were table tennis players, with ages ranging from 11 to 15 to Gottingen - Cheltenham's twin town in Germany, on an all sports tour, table tennis was played, but enjoyed in a light hearted manner, nevertheless - I understand that a great time was had by one and all.

Raymond Powell, the county's No. 7 Junior (to date) recently won the Kirklees Junior 2 Star singles at Huddersfield, beating Paul Butcher of Haywards Heath 18 and 21 in the final, Powell then followed up this success by winning the doubles event in partnership with Barry Foster from Newcastle. Powell who hails from Gloucester, is in his last year as a junior and is sponsored by the Sports Aid Foundation.

I understand that George Novoth who as I stated in the August/September magazine, already the Gloucester City Coach - has now taken on added responsibility in the form of county coach. George has already visited Cirencester, and one must assume that Cheltenham and Stroud will be seeing him shortly.

Meanwhile, assisted by Neil Henry, George continues his City coaching at Oxstalls School every Thursday night, other coaching in the area is being well handled by Roy and Judy Morley plus Mike Flynn at the Crypt School, Julie Hogarth continues her sessions at Newent and Steve Cox in charge over at Cheltenham, at Stroud Bob Brown and Dave Wyatt and helpers do the best that they can upon the coaching scene. So looking at the coaching spectrum in general, I do not think that the county has very much to worry about.

Cheltenham Saracens, Gloucestershire's sole entry in the British League (at the time of writing) have played two matches - in their last encounter with Gunnersbury Triangle away, Saracens gained a 5-3 victory, in their second match at home with Edison TTC both teams ended up with a favourable draw.

The County table tennis selectors have releases the following 1991/92 rankings list, and emphasise that they are only for county team selection purposes and press.

### Senior Men

1. Darren Griffin (G)
2. Dave Harvey (C)
3. Raymond Powell (G)
4. Graham Slack (C)
5. William Dawe (G)
6. David Smith (G)
7. Guy Greening (C)
8. John Turner (C)
9. Sylvester Callum (G)
10. Jeremy Hyatt (G)

# Counties 4

11. Dale Saunders (G)
12. Alan Giles (S)
13. Denis Holland (G)
14. John Fannin (G)
15. Frank Jones

## Senior Women

1. Heather Tyrer (G)
2. Alison Cox (C)
3. Judy Morley (G)
4. Christine Williams (G)
5. Cathy Robb (C)
6. Jacqui Carver (C)
7. Angela Bristow (G)
8. Julie Taylor (C)
9. Julie Hogarth (G)
10. Linda Probert (C)

## Veteran Men

1. Dave Harvey (C)
2. Alan Giles (S)
3. John Fannin (G)
4. Denis Holland (G)
5. Frank Jones (G)
6. Roy Fowler (C)
7. Roy Morley (G)
8. Peter Wood (G)
9. Don Sweeney (G)
10. Tony Hogarth (G)
11. David Shill (G)
12. Roger Beard (G)
13. Ken Smith (C)
14. Ray Poole (G)
15. George Van Sant (S)

## Veteran Ladies

1. July Morley (G)
2. Sheila Matthews (C)
3. Jean Golding (S)
4. Vivian Hathaway (G)
5. Roz Ross (S)
6. Barbara Davis (G)
7. Anne Smith (G)

## Junior Boys

1. Raymond Powell (G)
2. Jeremy Hyatt (G)
3. Leigh Nelmes (G)
4. Peter Hayward (S)
5. Tim Dewick (G)
6. Jamie Day (G)
7. Martin Chueng (Cir)
8. Andrew Ind (C)
9. Tim Knott (C)
10. Peter Dupree (G)
11. Arron Mortimor (G)
12. Jan Kellor (G)

## Junior Girls

1. Kerry Hogarth (G)
2. Emma Parker (S)
3. Elaine Bassett (S)
4. Sarah Dean (S)
5. Julia Mullarney (C)
6. Anna Grange (S)

Cirencester; S - Stroud; G - Gloucester

These county rankings are issued by Alf Pepperd, County and South West Regional Press/Publicity Officer/ETTA. Tel: 0452 840599

## HAMPSHIRE Brian Lamerton

AFTER THE DIFFICULTY of forming a men's ranking list reported in my last column a second selected men's ranking meeting took place and the following is the published results.

### Senior Men

1. Graham Toole (P)
2. Micki Sinanan (P)
3. Mark Bleakley (P)
- 4a Andrew Ely (S)
- 4b Mark Wilding (P)
5. Jeff Giles (S)
6. Graham Pointer (S)
7. Mark Thorne (S)
8. Tony Reynolds (B)
9. Tony Catt (S)
10. Mark Shutler (GF)

### Senior Ladies

1. Sarah Hammond (S)
2. Sarah Turner (S)
3. Serena Sinanan (P)
4. Clare Woodham (A)
5. Barbara Savage (A)

### Veteran Men

1. Chris Shetler (S)
2. Graham Lynch (P)
3. Graham Outrim (A)
4. Ken Giles (S)
5. Bob Cox (P)
6. Ken Burton (P)
7. Norman Stagg (P)
8. Ray Lush (P)
9. Maurice Shave (S)
10. Charlie Childs (P)

### Veteran Ladies

1. Vera Hutchinson (A)
2. Mary Barroh (P)
3. Pat Wales (P)
4. Ann Abraham (GF)
5. Gill Larking (B)
6. Avril Waters (B)

### Junior Boys

1. Kevin Macken (B)
2. Jeremy Wilson (An)
3. David Dobson (S)
- 4a Mark Giles (S)

- 4b Andrew Liu Kilin (B)
5. Gareth Scadden (GF)
6. Robert Praine (S)
7. Peter Childs (GF)
8. Paul Shutler (GF)
9. Kevin Smith (P)
10. Terry Farnham (B)

### Junior Girls

1. Caroline Newling-Ward (A)
2. Heidi Wheaton (P)
3. Caroline Cook (S)
4. Laura Brown (An)
5. Donna Granville (P)
6. Carly Scadden (GF)

**CODE:** P - Portsmouth; S - Southampton; B - Basingstoke; GF - Gosport and Fareham; An - Andover

The 4b rankings are in respect of players who wish to be considered only in an emergency due to studies (Andrew Liu Kilin) and other interests (Mark Wilding).

Although Ramesh Bhalla was unable to attend either ranking meetings it is surprising to see last season's leading player (90% average) omitted altogether. My best is that a revised ranking list will help me fill next month's column.

Congratulations to Caroline Newling-Ward who has qualified through to the final regional qualifying rounds.

Juniors: Jeremy Wilson, Kevin Macken and Mark Giles; Cadets: Andrew Jenkins and Gareth Scadden.

With the moving of the Wiltshire Junior Open to Salisbury, 14 miles from Hampshire's borders, it was disappointing to note only 3 Hampshire names amongst the 200 entrants. Of those only two turned up but although Mark Giles and Jeremy Wilson each won their respective groups, they found the opposition tough thereafter. Never mind, they are now well ahead of the others in terms of experience. I am told that youngsters look to the magazine to see their names in print but that mention has to be earned.

Also seen at Salisbury (and I was there in my blue jacket to see all this) were Wendy Lewis and David Wiles who were observing points as part of their coaching qualification.

Congratulations to Mike Strode who has been selected as

team leader of the English umpires travelling to Sweden in November. Mick will be joined at the English International (Open) in Birmingham in January by Harry Spraggs and yours truly.

Three Southampton schools, Bitterne Park and Weston Park Boys Secondary and St Marys College, will shortly be taking delivery of a brand new table tennis table, each as a result of a successful development grant application by the Southampton Association.

I would have liked to have ended by announcing that all member associations have increased membership this season but whilst this is the case with my own Association Southampton, a complete lack of any report from the other nine leaves me reluctantly realising that my wish was but a dream.

### STOP PRESS:

Two wins, one draw and two defeats was the record from the opening day County Championship results with Graham Toole, Mark Bleakley and Sarah Hammond leading the Senior A side home by 7 sets to 3 against Berkshire 2nds.

## HERTFORDSHIRE John Wood

STAR OF THE Hertfordshire Senior County Trials was young Duncan Taylor, who beat everyone else, except his dad, John, to whom he lost in three, having won the second 21-6.

John Taylor did lose though, when Watford's Peter Harris hit through Taylor's normally solid defence.

Unfortunately the Senior Trials were marred by players who didn't turn up.

### Ranking Lists:

#### Senior Men-

1. John Taylor (Barnets)
2. Keith Samuels (N Herts)
3. Peter Harris (Watford)
4. Duncan Taylor (Barnets)
5. Rob Liqueorish (H Hempstead)
6. John Lennon (Cheshunt)
7. Glen Wilkes (H Hempstead)
8. Ian Black (St Albans)

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9. Derek Rogers (Cheshunt)
10. Dave Seaholme (Watford)
11. Tom Carr (Cheshunt)
12. Chris Budden (N Herts)
13. Peter Brownlow (Barnets)
14. Gary Keers (H Hempstead)
15. Michael Danson (Cheshunt)
16. Chris Marlowe (Cheshunt)

## Senior Women

1. Emma Hurling (H Hempstead)
2. Maria Williams (Barnets)
3. Caroline Seaholme (Watford)
4. Sarah Seaholme (Watford)
5. Caroline Boxall (Cheshunt)
6. Maggie Pavitt (Cheshunt)
7. Lindsey Booth (N Herts)
8. Janice Laing (N Herts)
9. Karen Morton (N Herts)
10. Kim Hughes (Cheshunt)
11. Talya Greenberg (Barnets)

The senior first team opened the account in the County Championships with a great 8-2 victory against Bedfordshire II, away at AC Delcos canteen in Dunstable. John Taylor won 2, Peter Harris won 1, John Lennon won his 2 as did Emma Hurling, whilst Maria Williams won 1.

Hertfordshire's Senior 3rd team won their home match against Staffordshire II, 5-2.

Duncan Taylor carried on where he left off in the trials, winning his two, with a sparkling display of defence and attack. Firstly he overpowered Andy Stokes 6 and 8, then he beat Adrian Thorpe 18 and 18, to complete a memorable double, whilst Derek Rogers, Tom Carr and Janice Laing won one each.

Meanwhile, on the European scene, Chris Budden flew the flag for Hertfordshire when he won the European Police Championships category B, men's singles title in Holland.

## ISLE OF WIGHT

John Prean

FURTHER NEWS FROM the Inter-Island games, the mini-Olympics for small islands all over the world - we gained 5th place in the Team event, which was contested by line-ups of 2 men and 1 lady. Alan Hulbert, who is the chairman of the Isle of Wight Association, played splendidly

with fine support from Martin Mitchell and Heather Wykes, our new Secretary.

We began with a defeat against Faroe Isles (5-2), a team who have competed in the full European Championships, though not with quite the success they enjoyed here! From then it was success all the way with victories against Asland (6-1), Shetland (7-0) and the Isle of Man (5-2). Three out of four with by no means our strongest team must be regarded as an excellent effort. We hope to do even better when the event moves to the Isle of Wight in 1993. Something to look forward to.

Asland's line-up included a name as well known as Walhers (Andrew) Blackadder! He did not play against the Isle of Wight which presumably made his team's defeat inevitable. I had earlier congratulated Peter Urry on reaching the quarter finals of the singles. Much greater adulation came to Pete when a Swedish coach complimented him on his play with a hard bat - 'In our country' said the Coach 'such bats are only used by older players'. Pete, who is in his forties, was greatly encouraged in more ways than one.

Almost my first duty on being elected as Chairman of the Ryde Club was to call on our landlords with my colleagues to hear that our rent had been doubled! Though a compromise was reached which reduced the increase from 100% to 50%, we did not feel flushed with success. We live in times when the number of suitable premises is falling and rents are therefore rising. We compete with other sports not only for members, but also facilities. Few leagues, for various reasons, find sports centres suitable for league play. I get similar reports from all over the country. A number of clubs live on a knife's edge, wondering whether their premises will be taken or priced from them next season. This is the reality of sports like ours at this time.

Nevertheless, we again increased our membership, moving from 48 teams to 54 last season and to 56 now. Our fingers are crossed, so that late withdrawals do not halt this good trend. If repeated nationally, there would be much rejoicing.

We found the ETTA's Development Fund a great help.

We put the few hundred pounds we got to very good use. Quite a few young players also play on the fringes with every prospect that they may graduate to league play in future seasons. This is the direct result of summer coaching and general play we were able to introduce.

## KENT Adrian Hall

KENT ARE BENEFITING from having Meng Qing Yu and Xu Kai resident in the county for ten weeks, ranked No. 1 and 3 respectively as Under 17's in China and working in conjunction with their coach Wang Da Zhi from the international table tennis training centre in Tianjin they are spending time coaching in the county. Wang's brother, ex Chinese champion and at present coaching the Belgium National teams spent an evening at the Northborough School in Maidstone with the Maidstone cadet elite squad who train under the guidance of Alan Woollven. Both players are staying as guests of Kent Chairman Reg Thompson, having been allowed out of their own country for the first time. 'Their stroke play, technique and physical movement is vastly superior to anything we have seen in this country' said Mr Thompson 'even after the first coaching session there was marked improvement in the children's play'. Other county players will get the opportunity to play against them as they are planning to compete in both the Kent and South of England tournaments.

Ten members of Kent Senior and Junior squad are attending the Belgium National training camp week commencing the 19th October. Andy Cunningham, Phil Cox, Spencer Thompson, Miles Willey, Martin Hewitt, Peter Burrow, along with Juliet Houghton, Lesley Hollingworth, Carly Riggs and Crystal Hall are making the trip due to the generous sponsorship of Roy Willey, this will undoubtedly be the most intensive camp that these players will have attended and it is hoped that the benefit will be there for all to see on their return.

The Southwark and

Rotherhithe League are sending a junior squad to Sweden for match play also beginning the week of the 19th October.

I am pleased to report encouraging results from our juniors at the recent Wiltshire 2 Star Open at Salisbury. Pride of place goes to Lesley Hollingworth who in partnership with Claire Pengelly, won the junior girls doubles, beating Lyndsey Heyward and Jennifer Coleman in the final. Crystal Hall and Joanne Barham narrowly lost the cadet girls doubles final 21-18, 21-18 to No. 1 seeds Shelley Ruocco and Glenda Ashison. Junior boys Martin Hewitt and Paul Duke caused a major upset by reaching the semi final of the doubles but then found Alex Perry and Richard Hyacinth too much of a handful. Likewise Nicola Duke and Sussex's Sarah Stedman did well to reach the Junior girls doubles semi final. Joanne Barham became the first cadet this season to topple the high flying Shelley Ruocco in the junior class 2 event and progressed to the semi final before losing to combination play of Catherine Woodward.

The Selection Committee have issued a new Veterans ranking list for the start of the 1991/2 season with Henry Buist and Margaret Dignum retaining their No. 1 positions.

## Veteran Men

1. Henry Buist
2. Clive Morris
3. Tom Adams
4. Dereck Emery
5. Graham French
6. Paul Beck
7. Keith Clark
8. John White
9. Dave Kellard
10. George McGlone

## Veteran Women

1. Margaret Dignum
2. Joan Beadle
3. Pam Butcher
4. Madge Garlinge
5. Marilyn Dudgeon
6. Brenda Aherne
7. Evelyn Gurr

The County for the first time in a long time is to organise regular county trials which will count towards county ranking. Both the Seniors and Juniors have recently had their first sessions and the

# Counties 6

following are the placements which were obtained, it must be stressed that this is not an official ranking list but will be taken into consideration when county rankings are announced. Chairman of selectors Roy Willey will be pleased to hear from any league who have players they feel should be invited to partake in the trials.

## Senior Men

1. Andy Cunningham
2. Justin Goodall
3. Paul Rainford
4. Ian Girdler
5. Chris Knight
6. Mark Green
7. Mark Romano
8. David Griffiths
9. Spencer Thompson
10. Phil Cox
11. Phil Beven
12. Iozeph Okosieme
13. Dave Davies
14. John Huckle
15. Pete Roberts
16. Brian Mileham
17. Chris Ross
18. Tony Dixon
19. Jeff Chapman
20. Martin Gunn
21. Matthew King
22. Ian Brown
23. Lee Nicholls
24. Miles Willey
25. Andy Duff

## Senior Women

1. Julie Thorn
2. Sandra Collins
3. Marilyn Dudgeon
4. Jackie Mersh
5. Jane Robinson
6. Carol Holmwood
7. Lin Martin
8. Karen May

## Junior Boys

1. Martin Hewitt
2. Paul Duke
3. Glen Ritchie
4. Craig Hastie
5. Peter Burrow
6. Ben McCarthy
7. Duncan Cross
8. Sam Corcoran
9. Christopher Hall
10. Christian Thompson
11. Jason Cheeseman
12. Alan Crowe
13. Charlie Chamberlain
14. Robert Waller
15. Daniel Cheeseman
16. Nick Hebbs

## Junior Girls

1. Michelle Ritter
2. Heidi Steers
3. Joanne Barham
4. Natasha Barham
5. Carly Riggs
6. Crystal Hall
7. Nicola Duke
8. Alison Smith
9. Hayley Pizzey
10. Angie Bristow
11. Claire Chamberlain
12. Rachel Woollven
13. Carrie Blake
14. Charlotte Eke
15. Jade Stutely

## Cadet Boys

1. Paul Smith
2. Adam Beasley
3. Scott Dawtry
4. Jonathon Cheng
5. Richard Farthing
6. Anthony Lickford
7. Alan Smith
8. Lee Howes
9. Gareth Hill
10. Ashley Steers
11. James Henderson
12. Stephen New
13. Lee Smith
14. Arron Campbell
15. Robert Gates
16. Nick Stokes

Our Juniors had another successful weekend at the Grove H & E Scaffolding 2 Star on 28/29th September. Scott Friday comfortably won the Boys Under 12 and teamed up with brother Ross to unexpectedly reach the Cadet Doubles final, only to come runners up. It was left to Alison Smith and Clare Newns (Birkenhead) to go one better and take the Cadet Girls title. Crystal Hall did well to reach the Under 17 Class B final.

The county teams made their first outings of the season but I have only two results to hand so far. Junior 1 drew with Gloucester 1, 5-5, Lesley Hollingworth and Natasha Barham were Kent's stars winning all their singles with Paul Duke chipping in with one to get Kent the draw. Last season's all conquering Vets II started this campaign on the wrong end of a 5-4 result against Berkshire I, Kent's Keith Clarke and John White both produced splendid play for two wins apiece but on this occasion Dave Kellard and Joan Beadle were unable to assist, for Berkshire's

Nicky Heaps, Sid Montgomery and Jill Knight, and the Mens and Mixed Doubles proved the winning combination.

## LANCASHIRE George Yates

LANCASHIRE'S THREE TOP ranked women, namely Andrea Holt, Maria Thornley and Mandy Winskill, were all unavailable for the first of the Senior Premier Weekends at St Neots over the weekend of 28/29th September as was Jonathan Taylor who, like Miss Holt, had commitments abroad.

In the event the No. 8 ranked woman, Paula French, made the trip to St Neots, leaving the No's 4 and 5 Tamar Connolly and Brenda Buoey to bolster the fortunes of the second team who had a home match against Lincolnshire. But this split left the first team with a woman short and as a result two sets were conceded in each of the three matches against Devon, Berkshire and Surrey.

Two wins for Andrew Eden and a solo for Sean Gibson - he lost to Paul Whiting - was all that Lancashire could extract from Devon who won 7-3 but Eden (2) Gibson (2) and Tony Taylor (2) got us home 6-4 against Berkshire. And, in the third encounter, it was Gibson (2), Eden and Taylor (1 each) plus a win for Paula French against Gillian Blanch that divided the spoils against Surrey.

Meantime it was a 10-0 whitewash that was inflicted on Lincolnshire by Lancashire 2nds at Blackpool in the Senior Division 2A, all going well for Graham Clarke, Nigel Eckersley, Paul Hutchings, Tamar Connolly and Brenda Buoey.

Playing at Woodland Grange, Preston, the Junior 2nds opened up their fixtures with a 7-3 win against Derbyshire 2nds with Kevin Dolder (2), Philip Musgrove (2), Mark Stevens (1), Lindsey Thornton (1) and Jayne Schofield (1) all taking a hand in the proceedings.

Not to be outdone the Veteran 1st team travelled to engage Oxfordshire and returned

home with a 6-3 win under their belts thanks to Phil Blake (2), Brian Clements (2), Tony Rigby (1) and the doubles. The Veterans 2nds also took to the road and they too triumphed 7-2 against Staffs with Derek Watmough (2), Norman Thewlis and Keith Ward (1 each), both doubles and a win for Mabel Neary against Shirley Boone as against two successes for Martin Pickles.

News from the Bolton Brady League is that their chairman, Rupert DeRiggs is battling valiantly against Stomach cancer which is causing great distress to his wife Majorie, son Vaughan and daughter Yvonne as well as to all his colleagues both in the Bolton Brady League and elsewhere throughout the county. One cannot but admire the tremendous fight he is putting up and our prayers are with him and his family.

\*\*\* Can you please note from August/September's Lancashire Notes:

"Farnworth have merged with the former Salford league" is incorrect and the correct statement should read:

**"URMSTON TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE HAVE AMALGAMATED WITH THE SALFORD AND FARNWORTH TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE"**

## LEICESTERSHIRE Derek Butt

NOT TOO MUCH to report on at the time of writing except that the season is now in fully swing, the Leicester and District Table Tennis League have ten full divisions and Loughborough have three.

The Elbow Tankard (Summer League) has now been completed and after five groups fought out a round robin, the top sixteen positions went forward into a knock-out stage.

The Semi Final and Final results were as follows:

### Semi Final

The Cads 11 Freddie's Hero's 12

# Counties 7

Park Keepers 6 Bali Hi 14

**Final**  
Freddies Hero's 13 Bali Hi 7

Bob Smith was the Hero's hero (if you will excuse the pun) winning five out of his six sets. On the winning trail Freddies Hero's beat three fancied teams, Royal Mail, Summer Knights (Knighton Park) and The Cads (GEC).

On the coaching scene Harry Ward tells me that a group of schoolchildren from Avenue School in Leicester, about twenty in all, are taking part in a coaching session during their lunchtimes. Approximately two thirds of these have not played table tennis before.

It is still hoped that the scheme at the Mary Linwood School is going to take place on Saturday mornings. This has all got to be good for our game.

The County Junior team in Division 2A were beaten 10-0 by a very strong Cheshire side, but will have gained a lot of experience.

## MIDDLESEX Iris Moss

ONCE AGAIN I must start my report with the sad news that we have lost another of our Vice Presidents. Alan Curry, who died on 13th September, was a Director of Curry's (the well-known electrical supplier) before it was 'taken over' by a larger firm, and played table tennis regularly in the old North Acton League.

After his retirement from business he went to live in Oxfordshire but still came up to London for the 3 Star Open Championships and on other occasions connected with the League. Alan was very popular with all who knew him and will be sadly missed by his many friends in Middlesex, particularly in the West Middlesex League area.

The first Senior Premier Weekend has resulted in both Middlesex and Devon being unbeaten but with Middlesex at the top of the table by one game. Our team beat Berkshire 10-0; Surrey 8-2 and Sussex 9-1. Well done our team; keep it up. I have not had any news about our other teams but no doubt their results

will be included elsewhere in the magazine.

It is hoped that the Middlesex Closed Championships will take place over the weekend of 21st and 22nd March 1992 at the Tottenham Sports Centre. It was decided that we would combine the Junior and Senior Championships once against because of the difficulty of finding two suitable weekends in the over-crowded calendar. So Middlesex players, make a note of the date and ENTER.

By the time this article appears in print, the entry forms for the Middlesex 3 Star Open Championships will be out, and I hope, most of them will have been sent in. But with the closing date not until 14th November, you still have time to enter if you have not already done so. Entry forms are available from me (081 203 4476) but please don't telephone too early in the morning! See you all at Picketts Lock on 7th December.

## NORFOLK Ray Hogg

OUR FIRST OBSTACLE of the season is over - namely a County Committee meeting. Trying to fix a date to please all is impossible, so dates have been set in advance so that members of the committee have a chance to reserve that date. At that first meeting member leagues reported that on average they were about the same as last season.

Big efforts are being made by Wymondham and Dereham Leagues to encourage youngsters by starting a youth division. We look forward to hearing of this progress and possible expansion to other leagues. Like many counties, finance reared its ugly head with the Treasurer reported that she had managed to raise £100 in sponsorship and was organising a Jumble Sale (which raised £150) by the efforts of the few. This, together with the normal input from the leagues should see us through this season provided we have a good entry for the County Championships on 7/8th December. A budget is to be produced predicting possible loss/

profit this season and all committee members are to be circulated with suggestions on funding teams for next season.

This will include the possibility of players having to contribute towards the expenses - something that Norfolk has never had even to think of before. It is all the veterans fault.

All county teams in action on the first day of the season started well with the Veterans 1st and both Junior teams winning and our seniors despite the absence of Neil Pickard (Holiday) and Phil Logsdon (ill), managed a draw. This match was notable for the long overdue debut of Chris Brewer from Kings Lynn who responded by winning both his singles comfortably including one over Geoff Davies. I hope he gets selected again as next season he will be a veteran and no doubt required there. There is life outside Norwich.

After my comments regarding the Juniors having no one to ask advice of, the twins Richard and Martyn have arranged that one of them will be present at all matches home or away. This should give the younger players more confidence.

Norwich Foxwood British League have entered a second team for the first time and the response from invited players has been terrific with the likes of Steve Sadd, Shaun Molloy, Trevor Bunn, Pat McClougham etc being given a new lease of life with something to play for.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Dennis Millman

TWELVE MONTHS AGO Julian Marshall, a hot favourite for the Express Spors Junior Top 12, carried all before him until he was well beaten by Sally Russell in a second phase match, and it was Miss Russell who went on to take the coveted trophy.

This year, under a new format which omitted phase two, the respective No 1 boys and girls - didn't meet until the final crucial match of the event. This time there was a vastly different result with Marshall the master in every aspect of the game, but in particular his fleetness of foot and his power

to shot posing problems to which the holder had no answers.

Earlier in the groups, both players had coasted throughout without conceding an end, with Paul Smith the only player to extend Miss Russell, but even he, after losing the first game at deuce, fell away badly in the second. Meanwhile, Marshall was so dominant that only Mark Cornforth was twice able to reach double figures, as the eventual champion surrendered a miserly 96 points in his six successes. Other noteworthy winners at this stage were Mark Adams against younger brother Paul, and the improving Helen Watts who had an impressive victory over Derek Hill, before going close against Adams, only to go down at 17 in the decider.

With the players now placed in groups of 4, the winner had to come from Group A - Marshall, Russell, Smith and Adams. Marshall found Smith a tough proposition, with Smith initially holding the ascendancy, his backhand effectively blocking Marshall's left hand loop, but when Marshall switched the direction of his attack, he ran out a comfortable winner and moved on to a one-sided final before receiving the trophy from County Vice Chairman Ken Marchant.

### Final Placings

1. Julian Marshall
2. Sally Russell
3. Mark Adams
4. Paul Smith
5. Tom Trippett
6. Paul Adams
7. Helen Watts
8. Paul Wood
9. Clare Hickman
10. Derek Hill
11. Martin Gibbs
12. Martin Cornforth

In the Pennine Senior Top 12, sponsored by the Kettering League player Gerald Finney's Pennine Designer Packing and Display, the absence of Graham McKim and Andy Edmonds pointed to a repeat of last year's final between Kieron Dabbs and Ian Hawes. In Group 1 Dabbs started well with three easy wins before being confronted by Steve Silk and Rafe Miller who both extended him fully before Dabbs came through to complete a clean sheet. Chris Handshaw was in even better form in this section

# Counties 8

but proved no match for Dabbs and had to be content with second place.

The first surprise in Group 2 came when Richard Elliott lost his very first rubber to Mick Spear and then went very close to defeat against Ashley Bennett before re-asserting himself in the decider. Meanwhile the Dabbs/Hawes looked even more likely when Hawes took his first three matches comfortably and then survived his usual traumatic encounter with Team Electric colleague Steve West on a third end deuce. However, Elliott had been improving steadily and in the fifteenth and final game in the group he wore down Hawes to win -17, 15 and 7.

The stage was now set for the second and final phase - three groups of 4. Group C saw Mick Spear, who had already accounted for West, add wins over John Moloney and late reserve Ryan Keates, West gained his only wins of the day, and Keates finished ahead of Moloney as scant reward for some superb performances against all opposition.

Group B was much more evenly contested with Rafe Miller, who had lost to Silk earlier, now dominating exchanges to finish first, and Silk slipping to fourth place after defeats at the hands of Bennett and Steve Brown.

With the earlier group wins of Dabbs over Handshaw, and Elliott over Hawes, standing for the final count in Group A, the pressure was on Hawes to beat Dabbs and he started well, countering Dabbs' serves with astutely placed attacking shots, but gradually Dabbs made up the leeway to take the first to 19, and then looking a class apart, he took the second with consummate ease. Meanwhile Elliott trailed Handshaw until the final stages when his recent match practice for Levi Westfield paid rich dividends and he came through to face Dabbs in the final.

In the third place play-off, Handshaw again had the ascendancy when he led Hawes 11-8 in the third, but then Hawes moved up a gear and allowed Handshaw only two further points.

Dabbs, the artisan, used his athleticism to good effect in the final, and Elliott was submerged under a barrage of cracking

forehands and subtle backhands. However, Dabbs almost lost his way in the second as Elliott began to cope more than adequately with service and actually held a game point at 21-10 before Dabbs reasserted himself to take the final three points and so collected the trophy for the second time from Mrs Pat Finney, wife of the sponsor.

## Final Placings

1. Kieron Dabbs
2. Richard Elliott
3. Ian Hawes
4. Chris Handshaw
5. Rafe Miller
6. Ashley Bennett
7. Steve Brown
8. Steve Silk
9. Mick Spear
10. Steve West
11. Ryan Keates
12. John Moloney

The County Championship season got off to a slow start with only one of Northants' six sides in action and in this, the newly promoted Juniors went down 7-3 to Staffordshire. However, excellent performances from the unbeaten Sally Russell and debutantes Paul Smith and Mark Adams augurs well for the future.

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## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE Malcolm Allsop

WRITING THE THIRD (sixth????!!) County Notes of the season in September is a strange experience, a comment that other county scribes may echo. Finding material may be difficult for many but I am pleased to report that Nottinghamshire table tennis is flourishing.

The County is running a senior team again this season, alongside the Junior and Veteran teams, and a successful start was made to the Halex County Championship campaign when all three teams scored victories.

Pride of place must go to the senior team for their 8-2 win over Huntingdonshire. The power of Lee Neil, Tim Sheppard and Junior Stoddart was formidable, and I believe these three have the ability to improve further. Angela Brettell

was a model of consistency, yet had to fight back from behind in the second game of both her sets to clinch two 2-straight victories. Lorraine Smedley showed the strength of her powerful game yet allowed debut nerves to affect her consistency as she lost both her sets; with experience she will complement an impressive team under the leadership of Ralph Green - my admiration for his enthusiasm grows every time I meet this modest gentleman.

Playing for Huntingdonshire was Dianne Gutteridge (nee Maxfield) who many Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire players will recall from the days when she played in the area.

The county veterans gained a 6-3 win over Cheshire 2nd. The win was achieved without the top two players so Ron Bolton is confident of a good season.

The junior team had a convincing 8-2 victory over Cheshire 2nd where unfortunately the opposition could only field two boys. It does not encourage enthusiasm to travel some distance and only play one set.

County Umpires Secretary Brian Draycott is appealing for more umpires. He has test papers for anyone who wishes to contact him.

The Nottinghamshire Sports Training Scheme, run by Notts Leisure Services, continues to provide excellent opportunities for table tennis with over 100 children again attending the sessions throughout the county. This year they are at Newark Tech, Mansfield, Retford and Sycamore Centre, Nottingham.

The Leisure Services Department are looking for clubs to place these youngsters when they have passed through the scheme, which provides clubs and leagues with a continuous stream of possible recruits. The Nottinghamshire County Association are working with the Leagues to ensure that places are found for these youngsters and new clubs are being set up. One such club, started at the Grove, Newark, last year, is successful, but further assistance would be welcome.

Children on previous courses Mike and Kevin Green, Michelle and Ann-Marie Hayes and Sarah Smith have already

advanced to county representation, with Michelle winning her first title at the end of September at Grove, Marketing, in the restricted event.

Schools development has just started with demonstrations being set up at Gedling School and Blue Bell Primary.

Nottinghamshire does not depend on the Leisure Services for all the coaching and the recruitment initiative is carried out at all levels. A session on Saturday evenings at the Sycamore Centre brings many senior players into help the youngsters with coaching and serious practice. More youngsters are welcome and Ralph Green wishes it to be known that everyone throughout the county, not just Nottingham, is welcome to attend.

In Mansfield, Paul Linfield is running sessions each Sunday at Berry Hill tea rooms - I don't know whether you get a half-time cuppa! Wednesday afternoons see coaching sessions, a challenge ladder and tournaments at the Kirkby Festival Hall, with Notts County Council Leisure Services advanced coaching on the first Tuesday of each month.

Only five more issues of Table Tennis News this season, but enough is happening in Nottinghamshire to fill them - so watch this space!

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## SOMERSET Andy Seward

WITH NO COUNTY matches to report on, a chance to review the county rankings for the first half of the season. Rankings appear to generate more heat than any other topic, so at the risk of being burned, here is the latest deliberations by the Somerset jury!

The Veterans Ranking List shows few changes. Mike Baker, having recovered from injury, should resume his first team place, leaving the improving Paul Hewitt and Graham Durley to lead the second team challenge.

Mark Smith and Rob Millard are again the top two juniors but there are a number of newcomers in the rest of the list. The most interesting are the two Andrews, Hewitt and Rumary, both sons of ranked veterans!

# Counties 9

Nice to see Kate Gent back on the county scene after her absence last season due to a succession of knee operations. She deserves to have a successful year.

## **Veteran Men**

1. Brian Reeves
2. John Crabtree
3. Mike Baker
4. Paul Hewitt
5. Graham Durley
6. Alan Maidment
7. Andy Seward
8. Peter Butterworth
9. Martin Rumary
10. Vernon Adams

## **Veteran Ladies**

1. Shirley Dark
2. Wendy Pryce
3. Diane Helsdon

## **Junior Boys**

1. Rob Millard
2. Mark Smith
3. Andrew Hewitt
4. Alan Russell
5. Corin Webster
6. Rob Fearn
7. Andrew Rumary
8. James Hayne
9. Robert Horton
10. Jason Papier

## **Junior Girls**

1. Kate Gent
2. Julie Ashcroft
3. Claire Shobbrook

Lots of successes at the Regional Preliminary Trials held at Wellington last month, six through to the finals. That may not match the Devon and Essex junior production lines but for Somerset, six is historic!

Mark Smith deserves a special mention for coming second in by far the strongest of the four groups. Rob Millard also came second in his group and when he starts to play well, then watch out! In the Junior Girls section, Kate Gent and Julie Ashcroft duly qualified for the finals. Two more qualifiers in the Cadets - Andrew Rumary who won his group and Claire Shobbrook. Congratulations to them all.

Next month, news from the local leagues and a report on the first county matches. Thought for the day: What is the definition of a ranking list?

## **STAFFORDSHIRE**

### **Tony Clift**

FOLLOWING AN INCREASED entry into the County Championships it came as a financial blow to find 1st division matches are to be played on two weekends. Resources had already been stretched and the extra costs will cause problems. Chairman Arthur Thomas considers it may not be possible to finance teams in future seasons if the same format is continued. In the meantime, sponsorship would be gratefully accepted.

Denis Butcher and Ron Harvey have arranged two coaching sessions at Lilleshall (5th October and 14th December). Players of various standards will be invited.

County League entries are currently arriving and early indications suggest two divisions involving a total of 12 teams.

The County Tournament is scheduled for 26th January 1992 at White Hall Junior school, Walsall, closing date for entries (to me) is 31st December.

At local league level the new season is underway, Wolverhampton has 6 divisions involving 67 teams with Division 1 looking very strong. Pre-season title favourites will be from Moseley, Springfields A, and Woodfield A and C.

Stafford supports 4 divisions of 44 teams. The keen Weston Club has been forced to play away matches until its premises are rebuilt. Leek have struggled to survive, but the 7 teams are keen to give it a go.

## **SURREY** **Terry Vance**

WELCOME TO NIGEL Thomas and Gillian Blanch who have now joined Surrey. They should make a great difference to our top county squad.

### **Tournament Results**

In the National Under 21 and Under 17 event at Milton Keynes, the only Surrey representative Darren Blake lost to Alex Perry of Devon in the Under 17 semi. At the

McCartney and Dowie 5 Star Jane Barella turned in her best performance for ages when narrowly losing to Carol Giles of Devon in the third. Devon must be our bogey at the moment!

### **County Championships**

The first Senior Premier Weekend gave Surrey two unexpected draws out of the 3 matches played. On paper we played the 3 top counties, Middlesex, Yorkshire and Lancashire. On the Saturday an 8-2 loss to Middlesex and a draw against Yorkshire thanks to a magnificent win by Jason Blake. At the training session in the restaurant on the Saturday night the orders against Lancashire in the morning were 2 from nicky and 4 from the ladies. Come Sunday morning nicky loses 1 as did Gillian Blanch on her debut for Surrey. 5-4 down when Mick Hammond turned the ranking lists upside down to force a draw. Better hopes for the next weekend when we should have our top men available.

You cannot but hope for miracles (which is a change from a pessimist). All the counties seemed to be without at least two of their top players except for Middlesex and Devon who both won all their three matches.

### **Surrey Newsletter**

At last it was published on 1st October 1991. It is hoped to be a bi-monthly free issue. If anyone wants a copy or has articles and/or comments, please ring me on 081 390 4068.

Lastly, don't forget to enter the Surrey Championships. Entry forms from Gail on 0483 728069.

## **SUSSEX** **John Woodford**

DESPITE THE PRESENCE of Adrian, Stephen and Teresa Moore and Ritchie Venner, Sussex failed to conjure up two wins on the first weekend of the Premier County Championships, losing 4-6 to Yorkshire whose power-base was Sally Marling and Kate Goodall.

Sussex were without Janet Smith, once again on Scotland duty, so her absence was costly.

On the administration front, there are some radical changes. It

is now confirmed that the Worthing League are to run the three major events - the all Sussex Championships (12th April), the Sussex Junior Championships and the Sussex Inter-league Championships.

Two venues at Worthing are in prospect - the Worthing Leisure Centre and the spacious Foresters Hall, a venue used many years ago for the NATIONAL Final of the Rose Bowl with the then unmarried - Diane and Rosalind Rowe winning the Bowl.

Malcolm Francis and his company Express Sports of Uckfield is sponsoring the Worthing League and that is behind the running of these events. All home county matches and all junior events have a new Brighton venue - it is the Newman School at Hove, where Peter Burdock will be the principal coach. The new junior secretary will be Ian Brown of Brighton.

The Sussex Junior scene is back on an even keel, so much so that there is a possibility that the Sussex Junior 2 Star Open could be in for a revival and in addition a new 1 star junior event, probably at the Newman School.

Ifield, the Crawley club who won the national club title are set to travel to Austria in the European Nancy Evans Cup. There they will play an Austrian club that has the Czech No. 1 Roland Vimy as their star player.

Meanwhile at Horsham, the Dolphins, still looking for some sponsorship, are in second place in the British League table, Division 1 (South), so they are looking for promotion.

## **WILTSHIRE** **Laurie Selby**

ALTHOUGH HIT BY a leg injury Kevin Satchell still remains top of the latest Wiltshire ranking lists.

There were few surprises in the rankings which show Claire Hunter and Tracy Youldon still leading their groups. But the Junior boys list is headed by Stuart Fry, followed by Alex Collar - a reversal of the positions in the Swindon ranking list.

# Counties 10

The Wiltshire Ranking lists are:

## Senior Men

1. K Satchell
2. T Bruce
3. W Moulding
4. T Lloyd
5. E Rooft
6. C Bridges
7. D Russell
8. I Neate
9. G Freeman
10. T Waller

## Senior Women

1. C Hunter
2. B Lee
3. T Youldon
4. A Hunt
5. Margaret Potter
6. J Mills
7. K Sampson
8. D Cleary
9. Melissa Potter
10. A Jeary

## Junior Boys

1. S Fry
2. A Collar
3. T O'Mahoney
4. H Ngo
5. D Davies
6. S King
7. G Cooke
8. M Thompson

## Junior Girls

1. T Youldon
2. K Sampson
3. M Potter
4. D King
5. Y Dowd
6. E Stephens
7. H Cooke
8. G Hogan

Tips from the top were served up at a table tennis coaching school in Swindon for leading players in the South West region.

The two-day course was held at the Herod Parkway School and the youngsters were put through their paces by ETTA coaches Claire Hunter, of Swindon, Michael Auchterlonie (Salisbury) and Adrian Moore of Bexhill, Sussex.

"The youngsters are given physical training and table skills" explained Val Clack of Swindon, Chairman of the South West Region Coaching Committee. "We teach them how to train for excellence". "The main object is to get them into the England ranking lists." The day before the South West course, there was a

one-day session for Swindon players.

Wiltshire table tennis has been given a great boost with Michael Auchterlonie moving back to the county. He was one of the best juniors to come out of the county and reached No. 2 in the England under 14 rankings. Mike, now 18, became the county's youngest under 17 champion when he won the title, aged 12.

Four years ago he left with his family to live in Halifax. "Now we are back and I want to play for the county again" he said. He is now a professional table tennis coach and player and should strengthen the Wiltshire team in the County Championships.

A special general meeting of the Swindon and District League was held to discuss a proposed change of rules. Traditionally the doubles have been held at the end of league matches but many doubles are conceded without being played. It was proposed that the doubles would be played as game number four to prevent this. But the move was defeated because it was felt that lack of time to complete matches in school halls rather than a lack of inclination was the main reason for doubles not being played.

## WORCESTERSHIRE

### Ken Walton

NEWS FROM WITHIN the County regarding Senior and Junior Closed tournament dates. November 17th sees the Junior event being held once again at Christopher Whitehead School, whilst January 26th will be the Senior's day at Thorns in Dudley.

After last season's problems regarding the paying of fees, to enter Alex Westwood's County league, lets hope that the £3 per town team fee will not prove extortionate this time around. On the subject of extortionate amounts of money, I have to sympathise with County Treasurer Vera Royal when she hears of £200-£250 being needed to see the County firsts through their weekend at Bath Leisure Centre!!

Whoever dreamt up the idea of these weekends, obviously doesn't work in a bank and probably

never studied Maths at school, because many more hair-brained schemes like this will not only leave the county without any funds, but also without a Treasurer, at the end of the season!!

All this expense, on top of the County just having purchased county shirts for Senior 1 and 2 teams, at almost £100 as well. What annoys me personally is that Worcestershire is a well organised, well run county, with caring officials, and if we are going to struggle financially, what about some of the not so well organised/caring counties. Maybe it's all part of a plan to ..... who knows? Certainly, I don't understand.

On a somewhat lighter note, John Turner and Roger Stevens have both accepted positions as County Junior Selectors, joining John Smith in this respect.

Local British League team Thorns (Dudley) TTC have had a mixed start to their Division 3 Midland campaign, winning 1 and losing the other 2, of the opening fixtures.

Team captain Ken Walton, along with Eric Hardman, Mark Brookes, Sandra Roden, Ray Dixon, Julian Wootton and Malcolm Langford, make up the squad, who fly the flag for Dudley and Worcestershire in the competition.

## YORKSHIRE

### Rea Balmford

I MUST OPEN these notes with a belated word of thanks to Alan Battye who, at the end of last season, resigned his office of County Competition Secretary to devote his full attention to his work for the Sheffield Association.

Alan spent two years in office and one of the innovations introduced that time was the playing of Senior Premier, Junior and Cadet Divisions on a multi-match basis at a central venue over two or three Sundays.

Despite some teething troubles, the new pattern was basically a success, enabling those players who were regulars on the tournament circuit, and thus heavily committed at weekends, to become involved, and the pattern is likely to be continued during the present

season. Thank you Alan - Sheffield's gain is our loss.

This term the League will be taken over by Rod Hullah, Secretary of the City of Leeds British League club who will be in overall charge, with Coaching Secretary Ray Burch looking after the Juniors and County Championships Secretary Albert Dawson the Veterans.

Rod will also be responsible for the Yorkshire Clubs Championship which will, for the first time, include a Veteran event. This competition normally gets under way towards the mid-point of the season and the closing date for entries has long gone but if some unfortunate club has failed to enter, it just may be possible to squeeze them in - no promises. Ring Rod on 0484 519967 - preferably yesterday!!

At the time of writing, the only competition that is really underway is the British League, with all our four teams having played three matches, and best chance of honours coming to the County look to be with the re-vamped Stephens (North Yorkshire/South Durham) side, based just outside the County boundary at Darlington, but with no less than 13 of its 15 players registered in Yorkshire.

Led by Bradford's Mick Stead, who has moved from City of Leeds and York based former Scottish International Anwar Majid, Stephens have returned three wins in their three outings and are likely to be challenging Yugo Cars II - who field exiled Yorkshireman Lee Hewitt - for the Championship come next April.

Stead lined up against his former club in the opening match of the campaign and was immediately involved in a titanic battle with Bradford colleague Dave Indriks which saw him 15-20 down in the decider before fighting back to save six successive match points and run out 22-20 winner.

7-1 was the result in favour of the visiting North Yorkshire outfit, and they went on to record wins over Burslem (5-3) and Sunderland (10-0), results which must mean that Stead, Majid, Benny Robertson and Malcolm Corking already have Division 1 in their sights.

City of Leeds, with a new look, home grown squad of Indriks, Craig Render, Andy White and Helen Shields, all West Riding

# Counties 11

players, have also lost to the other 'big boys' Yugo Cars, by the same 7-1 score but got off the mark at Burslem where Indriks beat both Mark Evans and Brian Johns.

Mixed fortunes for Bribar Humberside, formerly Humberside Andro, who have lost Hewitt from last year's squad, with a draw at Sunderland, a 5-3 victory over Leicester and 2-6 defeat by Yugo Cars, while Stephens II in Division 3 North have recorded wins at Lincoln (6-2) and Kinghurst (5-3) and a home defeat at the hands of Vymura 3-5.

The county Junior Trials attracted a big entry from the 20 plus leagues and, following a hectic weekend's play conducted by Richard Hudson at the Farnley Park Centre in Leeds, the following lists were issued:

#### Junior Boys

1. Darren Lindley  
(Huddersfield)
2. Robert Sharp (Northallerton)
3. Richard Smith (Huddersfield)
4. Andrew Nicholls (Selby)
5. Jeremy Hazlehurst  
(Harrogate)
6. Mark Smith (Bradford)
7. Michael James (Bridlington)
8. Philip Neal (Hull)
9. Paul Smith (Ripon)
10. Richard Potter (Leeds)

#### Junior Girls

1. Sally Marling (Hull)
2. Katie Goodall (Leeds)
3. Caroline Bentley (Bradford)
4. Nicola Smith (Leeds)
5. Nicola Silburn (Leeds)
6. Emma Roberts (Leeds)
7. Zoe Fisher (Hull)
8. Lyndsey Jenkins (Wakefield)
9. Sian Jenkins (Wakefield)
10. Rachael Grindrod  
(Wakefield)

#### Cadet Boys

1. M James
2. Simon James (Bridlington)
3. Andrew Sugarman (Hull)
4. David Smith (Huddersfield)
5. Wayne Marsh (Hull)
6. Tony Hudson (Leeds)
7. Darren Ashall (Normanton)
8. Darren Wright (Bradford)
9. Mark Brook (Huddersfield)
10. Jonathan Wilby  
(Huddersfield)

#### Cadet Girls

1. Smith
2. Silburn
3. Fisher
4. S Jenkins
5. Joanne Lewis (Wakefield)
6. Lindsey D'Arcy (Wakefield)
7. Emma Booth (Huddersfield)
8. Kate Foster (Leeds)
9. Paul Broadhead (Wakefield)
10. Charlotte Spink (Leeds)

The table tennis world in Hull was saddened by the sudden passing of Glenn Miller just prior to the opening of the season at the early age of 43.

After recovering from an illness which had sidelined him for part of last season, Glenn was looking forward to again representing Hull YPI, the club he had served since the age of 14, in the Premier Division of the Local League.

He had also worn the city's colours in Yorkshire League matches at both Men's and Veteran's level and was a regular member of sides playing in the Humberside League.

But, above all, Glenn will be remembered as a true gentleman and sportsman, and the sympathies of all his many friends will be with Gwen, Margaret, Ben and Louise in their loss.

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# THE HALEX NATIONAL RANKING SCHEME



Continued from Page 18

## Normal Cases

(i.e. a match between two rated players)

## Events with a Weighting of 0.5 to 1.0

For these events, the winner and loser exchange an equal number of points.

e.g. Player A Rating 2800  
Player B Rating 2680

Rating difference 120

### Case 1 (Player A Wins - Expected Win) WEIGHT = 1.0

Referring to the points exchange table, Player A would gain 5 points while Player B would lose 5 points.

### Case 2 (Player B Wins - Unexpected Win) WEIGHT = 1.0

Referring to the points exchange table, Player B would gain 14 points while Player A would lose 14 points.

### Case 3 (Player A Wins - Expected Win) WEIGHT = 0.5

Referring to the points exchange table, Player A would gain 3 points while Player B would lose 3 points.

### Case 4 (Player B Wins - Unexpected Win) WEIGHT = 0.5

Referring to the points exchange table, Player B would gain 7 points while Player A would lose 7 points.

## Events with a Weighting of 1.5 - 3.0

For these events, the winner and loser exchange an unequal number of points:

e.g. Player A 2800  
Player B 2680

Rating Difference 120

### Case 1 (Player A wins - Expected Win) WEIGHT = 2.25

Referring to the points exchange table, Player A would gain 11 points while Player B would lose 5 points.

### Case 2 (Player B Wins - Unexpected Win) WEIGHT = 2.25

Referring to the points exchange table, Player B would gain 32 points while Player A would lose 14 points.

## List of Event Weightings

### Weighting of x 3

Olympic Games  
World Championships  
European Championships  
European Youth Championships

### Weighting of x 2.5

Olympic Qualification  
Euro-Asia Tournament  
European League  
European Nations Cup  
European Masters  
Swedish Open  
English Open  
Hungarian Open  
World Team Cup  
European Stiga Top 12  
European Top 12 (Junior)

### Weighting of x 2.25

English Senior National Championships  
English Junior National Championships  
Polish Open

Finlandia Open  
USSR Open  
Rumanian Open  
Swiss Open  
French Junior Open  
Portuguese Junior Open

### Weighting of x 2

5 Star Opens  
VETTS National Masters

### Weighting of x 1.5

Friendly International Matches  
3 Star Opens  
Junior 2 Star Select Opens  
Junior Top 12  
County Championships...Premier  
British League...Premier  
VETTS Regional Tournaments  
Final National Junior Ranking Trials

### Weighting of x 1

County Championships (except Premier)  
British League (except Premier)  
2 Star Opens

### Weighting of x 0.5

1 Star Opens  
Regional Junior Ranking Trials

Where there is a Team Event in any of the above, the Team Weighting will be 0.5 below the individual weighting.

Bonus points are automatically built in for the winner based on the importance of the event.

## Periods

The playing season is divided into a number of "periods". All included results held between the start and end dates set for a period are processed at the same time. Therefore, a player's points change only once in each period. All a player's match point exchanges are based on the starting points at the beginning of the period. The player's points at the end of the period are equal to the starting points for that period, plus or minus the sum of all his/her match point exchanges, e.g. Start Rating 2100, Points gained 34 lost 22. New Rating 2112. Players who are inactive for more than 4 consecutive periods incur a penalty of 25 points per period, starting with the 5th period of inactivity. After 11 periods of inactivity a player will be deleted from the Rating Scheme.

Periods (i.e. publication dates of all lists) for Season 1991/92 are proposed as follows:-

1. November 1st, 2. December 20th, 3. February 7th, 4. April 1st, 5. May 29th, 6. August 14th

Publication dates have been calculated where possible to provide up to date ranking lists for seeding purposes for the major National Championships.

## INITIAL RATINGS

### Starting Rating

Each player's starting Rating for period 1 was determined taking into consideration the ITTF World Ranking Lists, the ETTA end of 90/91 season Ranking Lists and in some cases, a subjective assessment of a player's level by members of the Ranking Committee: Stuart Sherlock, Geoff Twiss, Don Parker, Tim Gautreau, Diccon Gray.

Players become rated when they have obtained a minimum of 2 USABLE wins and 2 USABLE losses.

A match is deemed USABLE by the computer when:

1. It is against a player with an established rating
2. The opponent is within a range of plus or minus 200 points of the player's level, which is based on the current set of matches for that player.

E.g. Player A has 4 match results in a period as follows: Wins over player B (1850) and player C (1900), AND with losses to player D (2100) and player E (2750). The match with player E is not usable for initial rating purposes because it is more than 200 points above player A's indicated level (near 2000) based on the other 3 match results.

### Re-Calculated Initial Ratings

In subsequent periods for player A above, his/her rating will be re-calculated based on his/her new results in the next period combined with all previous results.

This procedure will take place until Player A has a minimum of 5 USABLE wins and 5 USABLE losses.

A player can therefore obtain an initial rating quickly (i.e. 2 + 2 USABLE) and subsequently obtain a more accurate re-calculated Rating based on more data (i.e. 5 + 5 USABLE).

### Re-Ratings

Players who show rapid improvement (i.e. gain at least 130 points, at a weight of 1.0, in one period), qualify for the initial Rating procedure as described previously (see Initial Ratings section).

These players are treated exactly the same as new players because a change in level (i.e. Ranking) is evident based on their current results.

### Capping

In the above Initial Rating procedures, the highest initial rating a player will be awarded by the computer is limited to the player's best win minus 7. This is to ensure players are not initially over-rated.

### Ranking Lists

The scheme is not based on quantity of matches played (i.e. the more you play the higher you will be ranked) but the **quality** (i.e. level/rating of opposition) of matches played.

Therefore a player can be more selective with his/her competitive programme which has always been seen by England Team Manager Don Parker as essential to a player's balanced development.

All ranking lists will be printed at the end of each period. Lists published will initially be Veteran, Senior, U21, Junior, Cadet, (male and female).

Results of males against females will not count for any ranking purposes.

The integration of results means that all of a player's results (irrespective of age category) contribute towards one rating for that player.

## Results Checking

After events have been inputted at Hastings, all results, where possible, will be subject to independent checking in order to reduce the number of errors.

## List Markers

On each published list, the following list markers may appear:

NA - Newly active (a player who has not played in the current period but did not play in the previous 5 periods)  
\* - Not played in current period. \*\* - Not played in previous 2 consecutive periods. \*\*\* - Not played in previous 3 consecutive periods. \*\*\*\* - Not played in previous 4 consecutive periods. N - A player's first Initial Rating. I - A player who has gained or lost at least 130 points in current period.

## I.D. Numbers

Results are inputted into the computer using a unique individual I.D. number which is allocated when the player is entered into the computer database. This will not change unless a player is deleted from the scheme and re-enters.

## Dummies

For non-English players, Ratings will be determined according to the most current ITTF World Ranking banding chart below.

Bands	ITTF Ranking Men	Rating
A	1 - 10	3350
B	11 - 20	3250
C	21 - 30	3200
D	31 - 40	3150
E	41 - 50	3100
F	51 - 100	3050
G	101 - 200	3000
H	201 - 300	2900
J	Over 300	2800

Bands	ITTF Ranking Women	Rating
A	1 - 10	3100
B	11 - 30	3000
C	31 - 50	2900
D	51 - 70	2800
E	71 - 100	2700
F	101 - 150	2500
G	151 - 200	2300
H	201 - 250	2100

For players not World Ranked, the Ranking Committee, led by Don Parker, will determine this player's Starting Rating according to his/her level relative to English players.

Non-English players will be rated but will not appear on English Ranking lists.

## Audit Trails

A full breakdown of an individual's results (i.e. audit trail) is available from the ETTA at a cost of £5. Please send large SAE to Doreen Nightingale at ETTA, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, E. Sussex TN 34 1HF.

## Future Enhancements

If ETTA members have suggestions to enhance the scheme, or wish for certain aspects to be discussed, the committee will be pleased to consider submissions in writing received at the Hastings Office.

# Middlesex are on top

## SENIOR PREMIER

St. Neots Table Tennis Club is the home of the Senior Premier Division this season and the first series of matches was played 28/29 September.

It did not prove to be a happy hunting ground for Lancashire, the current champions, as they dropped 3 points. This was despite very good efforts from Sean Gibson and Andrew Eden, who each lost only 1 singles. But Lancs had only one lady player and started the programme "two strikes down"! It was Middlesex, the most consistently successful County Champs team, who came out on top, dropping only 3 events over the 3 matches. And congratulations to Devon, on promotion, who did very well to win their 3 matches and finish just 1 event down on Middlesex.

The Yorkshire team was without their male stars. It seems team selections could have been affected as the weekend coincided with the European Masters event. However, Yorkshire dropped only 1 point due to the excellence of their young ladies, Sally Marling and Kate Goodall, who won all their matches. Surrey, led by Nicky Mason, had 2 drawn matches - against Lancs and Yorks! Against Lancs Surrey were 3-5 down. Mike Hammond won the final event against Tony Taylor to secure the draw. Sussex got a comprehensive win over Bedfordshire but then had hard matches losing to both Middlesex and Yorkshire. Bedford's found it difficult after having been promoted from Division 2 in 2 seasons. Peter Bowler did well to get 2 good wins against Yorkshire. Berkshire were without the services of Mathew Syed. The team did not recover from a 10-0 defeat by Middlesex and lost also to Lancs and Devon. Against Devon the Berkshire team lost 2 events at deuce in the 3rd game. However they will not have such a difficult programme in the finals series.

The most hard fought event must have been the clash between Graham Sandley (Mi) and Adrian Moore (Sx). Adrian won -19, 18, 21 to get the one event for Sussex.

There were some very good individual performances over the weekend. Of the men none did better than Colin Wilson (Mi No.3), who won all his matches! There were a number who suffered only 1 defeat. One of these was England No.1 Junior Alex Perry (Dv), who lost only to Andrew Eden (La) at 17 in the 3rd game. Sally Marling and Kate Goodall were, of course, undefeated as were the 3 Middlesex ladies - Lesley Keast, Angela Smith and Sara Williams - who each played in 2 matches.



Middlesex



Devon

## RESULTS

La	3	Dv	7	Bk	4	La	6
Mi	10	Bk	0	Dv	10	Bd	0
Y	5	Sy	5	La	5	Sy	5
Bd	2	Sx	8	Mi	9	Sx	2
Sy	2	Mi	8	Y	8	Bd	2
Sx	4	Y	6	Dv	9	Bk	1

## LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mi	3	3	0	0	27	3	6
Dv	3	3	0	0	26	4	6
Y	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
La	3	1	1	1	14	16	3
Sx	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Sy	3	0	2	1	12	18	2
Bk	3	0	0	3	5	25	0
Bd	3	0	0	3	4	26	0

## Senior 1B:

AV 9, Wi 1, Bu 6, Mi2 4, Wo 4, Sx2 6, DV2 4, E 6, Sx2, 3 Bu 7, E 9, Wo 1, Wi 4, DV2 6, Middx 3, Av7, DV2 4, Av 6, Bu 1, E 9, Mi2 4, SX2 6, Wo 6, Wi 4, DV2 5, Mi2 5, Av 9, Wo 1, E 7, SX2 3, Wi 3 Bu 7

The teams met at Bath Leisure Centre over weekend 28/29 Sept, and got off to a good start each playing 4 matches. Essex and Avon won all their matches. Essex started against Devon 2 and just got home at 6-4 when, in the final event, Des Charley beat Gary Lambert at 22 in the 3rd game! Devon 2 also gave Avon a hard fight before going down 4-6. Bucks, a promoted team, did very well to get 3 wins - losing only to Essex. They fought well to beat Sussex 2 by a 7-3 margin. Steve Cowley (Bu) beat Peter Bartram (Sx) at 26 in the deciding game!

Linda Radford (E) and Marsha Majmudar (Av) played very well over the weekend to win their 8 matches. Paul Lewis and Andy Creed also served Avon well each suffering only 1 defeat. Philip Bradbury also gave a similar performance for Bucks. The series was obviously successful for hosts Avon, who finished as a mid-Table team last season. Avon and Essex meet in the last Round of the final series in February.

**Senior 2A:** Lancs 2, 10 - Lincs 0, Cumbria 6 Warwicks 2, 4. - Lancs 2 had a very strong team with Graham Clarke and Nigel Eckersley (No.2) and Lincs suffered a maximum defeat. Cumbria got off to a good start with a win against Warwicks 2. Julie McLean won both her matches and, at a vital stage, Kevin Hodgson got a win at 22 in the 3rd game.

# COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2

**Senior 2C:** Cambs 2 5 - Norfolk 5, Beds 2 2 - Herts 1 8 - With the score 2-5 against Cambs 2, Norfolk staged a great fight back. First Jon Cockburn (Nk) beat Geoff Davies (Ca) at 25 in the 3rd game and then Ruth Acourt and Chris Brewer followed up with wins to gain a draw. Herts must be favourites in this Division followed up with wins to gain a draw. Herts must be favourites in this Division and started with an 8-2 win - only 1 event going to 3 games.

**Senior 2D:** Berks 2 3 - Hants 7, Sussex 3 9 - Oxon 1 - Hants, who just missed promotion, got off to a good start with a win over Berks 2. Gemma Schwartz (Bk), a junior last season, played well to beat Sarah Turner (Ha) at 18 in the 3rd game. Sussex 3, on promotion, inflicted a heavy defeat on Oxon. The only Oxon win came in the first event - Gavin Yates beat Tony Murrell at 24 in the 3rd game!

**Senior 3A:** Herts 3 5 - Staffs 2 5, Notts 8 - Hunts 2. Newcomers Staffs 2 came back from 3-5 to get a draw at Barnet. Duncan Taylor, a Herts junior player last season, had 2 good wins - including one over Adrian Thorp. Notts had a convincing win over Hunts, with only 1 event going to 3 games.

**Junior 1A:** Durham 4 - Clwyd 6, Derbys 7 - N'berland 3, Yorks 2 9 - Suffolk 1, Northants 3 - Staffs 7. Durham, down from Premier Division, suffered a setback when losing to Clwyd. Paul Robertson (Cw No.1) did well to win his 2 matches. Derbys got a good win over N'berland, for whom Barry Forster had 2 wins. Suffolk had a tough start visiting Yorks and losing 1-9. Emma Corbett got the 1 win for Suffolk. Northants/Staffs was a clash of 2 promoted teams. Staffs came out on top with their boys - Matthew Brown, Paul Tomlinson and Richard Tilley - winning their 6 events.

**Junior 1B:** Glos 5 - Kent 5, Oxon 0 Surrey 2 10. Glam 2 Herts 8. Kent, also down from Premier Division, could only manage a draw at Glos. Glos still have the services of Raymond Powell and Jeremy Hyatt, successful championship players of a few seasons, and they won their 4 events. Oxon team did not have any girls and Surrey 2 got a maximum win. Herts did very well on their visit to Barry to come away with an 8-2 win over Glam.

**Junior 2A:** Lancs 2 7 - Derbys 2 3, Ches 2 2 - Notts 8, Leics 0 - Ches 10, Staffs 2 6 - Warwicks 2 4. Lancs 2, on demotion, did well to get a 7-3 win over Derbys 2. 2 Lancs wins came at 22 and 19 in 3rd games. Ches 2, a player short for a home match, paid the penalty with Notts getting a 7-3 win. Sarah Smith (Dy) had 2 good wins. Ches 1 team made no mistakes with a max win over Leics. The clash of Midlanders, Staffs 2 and Warwicks 2, resulted in Staffs going away to a 3-0 lead and achieving a 6-4 win. Anthony Smith and Julie Bickerton (St) won their 4 events.

**Junior 2B:** Herts 2 5 - Suffolk 2 5, Lincs 3 - Essex 3 7, Cambs 2 2 - Norfolk 2 8. Suffolk 2 fought back from 3-5 down to get a draw against Herts 2. Sarah and Craig Dawson were the successful players. Lincs, down from Division 1, met the current champions Essex 3, who started well with a 7-3 win. Peter Worthington and Karl Grant (E) got 4 wins. Norfolk 2 did well to get an 8-2 win on their visit to Soham. Shelley Leak got the 2 wins for Cambs. Norfolk 1 went one better with a 9-1 win over Beds - just 1 event went to a decider.

**Junior 2D:** Sussex 2 4 - Bucks 6, Surrey 3 2 - Sussex 1 8, Middx 2 5 - Hants 1 5, Middx 2 8 - Hants 2 2. The Bucks boys - Neil Biggrave, Ian Musk and Cuong Lieu - won their 6 events in the

defeat of Sussex 2. Sussex 1 on their visit to Surrey went into a 3-0 lead and won 8-2. The Hants team visited Ashford and the 1st team got a draw against Middx 2 when, in the last event, Jeremy Wilson (Ha) beat Simeon Zeffert 19, -19, 23! Hants 2 started reasonably well but Middx took over to win the last 5 events for an 8-2 win.

## VETERAN PREMIER

The teams met at Hyde and 12 matches were played. Yorks and Ches again came out on top with 3 wins. Yorks had a hard fight against Essex and were in fact 2-4 down. Malcolm Corking, Dennis Neale and Derek Munt won the final 3 events. Essex won their other 2 matches to be in 3rd place at this stage. Leics did well on their first experience of Premier Div to get a 7-2 win over Kent. They only lost to Sussex when, in the final event, Keith Horton (K) beat Tony Kinsey at 22 in the 3rd game.

Derek Schofield, making a return to the Ches Premier Div side, played well to win his 6 singles as did Roger Hampson (Ch). Dennis Neale (Y) won his singles events and the doubles with Malcolm Corking. Lesley Radford (E) got 100% wins in singles and mixed doubles. In the Yorks match, partnered by Stuart Gibbs, the win over Derek Munt/Pat Bassano was with the scores 15 and 31! Doreen Schofield (Y) won her singles matches, including a 20 and 12 win over Beryl Voss (L) who was unbeaten last season. The Ches/Yorks match in the final series could again decide the championship - but Ches also have to meet Essex.



Hertfordshire's Duncan Taylor

## RESULTS

E	5	Sy	4	Sy	1
Y	8	K	3	Sy	6
K	2	Le	7	Li	6
K	3	Ch	8	Li	1
Y	6	Li	3	E	7
Sx	2	Sx	5	Le	4
Ch	8	Sx	1	Le	2
Ch	7	Y	5	E	4

## LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Ch	3	3	0	23	4	6
Y	3	3	0	19	8	6
E	3	2	1	16	11	4
Le	3	1	2	13	14	2
Sy	3	1	2	11	16	2
Li	3	1	2	10	17	2
Sx	3	1	2	8	19	2
K	3	0	3	8	19	0

**Vets 1A:** Oxon 3 - Lancs 6, Yorks 2 7 - Glos 2, Norfolk 6 Ches 2 3. Oxon held Lancs to 3-3 but Brian Clements, Phil Blake and Tony Rigby won the last 3 events for the Lancs win. Glos, on promotion, met strong opposition at York. Frank Jones (Gs) did well to beat Keith Powell at 18 in 3rd and Judy Morley (Gs), a newcomer to Vets scene, beat Carol Judson by a similar margin. Ches 2 started their Div 1 experience at Norwich. They put up a good fight and won one event at 23 in 3rd game and lost another at deuce - Les Rayment (Nk) was involved in both matches. Mick Broughton (Nk) had 3 wins to assist the 6-3 win.

**Vets 1B:** Surrey 2 4 - Dorset 5, Berks 5 Kent 2 4, Sussex 2 1 - Essex 2 8, Wilts 5 - Middx 4. Three 5-4 results in the first Round in this Division - typical of competition in the Vets Section. Berks did very well to topple the current champions - Kent 2. K. Clarke and J. White won the 4 events for Kent. Sussex 2, on promotion, had a tough initiation when meeting Essex 2. Although 8-1 for Essex there were a number of close games. Wilts, down from Premier Div, got off to a good start with a 5-4 win over Middx. John Holland (Mi) did well to beat both Bill Moulding and Terry Bruce.

**Vets 2A:** Staffs 2 - Lancs 2 7, Notts 6 - N'berland 3. Martin Pickles won his 2 events for Staffs against Lancs 2, including a very good 2 straight defeat of Norman Thewlis - but that was all his team could muster. N'berland, down from Div 1 and without the services of Fred Short, got only 3 wins against Notts - 2 of these came from Pauline Long, who partnered Maurice Cheek in the mixed doubles.

**Vets 2B:** Hunts 3 - Beds 6. Brian Mayfield and David Randall were in good form to win their 4 events for Beds. In the last event Alan Kirsop (Hu) beat Jim Wooliscroft 20, -19, 19!

**Vets 2C:** Middx 2 6 - Oxon 2 3, Kent 3 4 - Surrey 3 5, Essex 3 8 - Sussex 3 1. Newcomers Oxon 2 had a tough start against Middx 2. Oxon led 3-2 but then Middx "cleaned up" to win 6-3. Kent 3, on promotion, did well against Surrey 3, but with the match score 4-4 Ron Langheim had a decisive win to give Surrey 2 points. Sussex 3 also had a hard match on promotion and succumbed 8-1 to Essex 3.

**Vets 2D:** Avon 6 - Wilts 3, Glos 2 3 - Berks 2 5, Hants 3 Somerset 5. Newcomers Avon did well with a good 6-3 win over Wilts 2. The doubles events were close with Wilts getting the mixed at 22 in 3rd and Avon struck back to win the mens at 23 in 3rd. Glos/Berks was a hard fought match. 7 events went to a 3rd game and 4 of these decided at 19 or 20 in the deciders - the results being shared equally! Hants, on demotion, went down 3-6 to Somerset for whom Brian Reeves had 2 good wins.

**Vets 3A:** Hunts 2 0 - Cambs 9, Warwick 2 6 - Herts 2 3. Cambs are also newcomers to make a flying start with a max win in straight games over Hunts 2. Herts 2, on demotion, had to meet Warwicks 2 - last season's champions. Being without a lady Herts had to forfeit 2 events and lost 3-6. Derek Balding (He) did very well to win his 2 singles events.

**Vets 3B:** Herts 3 8 - Beds 2 1, Wilts 4 1 - Berks 4 8, Essex 4 7 - Sussex 4 2. Herts 3 beat Beds 2 by an 8-1 margin but it was a hard fought match with 3 Herts wins at 19 and 20 in the 3rd games. Berks 4 well on top against Wilts 4 with 8 two straight wins. But Ray Cordery (Wi) "bucked the trend" with a 16 in 3rd win over Brian Halliday. Newcomers Essex 4 made a good start against Sussex 4 - they took a 3-0 lead and went on to win 7-2.

**Vets 3C:** Herefords 4 - Herts 5 5, Somerset 2 1 - Hants 2 8, Wilts 3 6 - Dorset 3 3. Herefords went 0-3 down but fought back well to level at 4-4. It was a close match to decide the issue when Derek Caulder beat Jim Ahern 19 and 21 for the Herts win. Hants 2 got a good 8-1 win at Yeovil. In the mens doubles Ken Burton/Ray Lush (Ha) beat Alan Maidment/Vernon Adams 20 and 24. Newcomers Dorset 3 led 3-2 at Swindon but Wilts 3 came back with successive wins at 19, 17, 17 and 18 in 3rd games for the win.

# France slam Sweden

SHOCK result from Group B in the Super Division of the Joola European Men's League was afforded me by fax from Nicky Bergstrom, the Gen. Sec. of the Swedish TTA, and his communication, brief though it is, forms the headline.

The match was played in Stockholm on September 17 and France, without the services of Jean-Philippe Gatién, let loose the young tigers in the persons of Patrick Chila, Nicolas Chatelain and Damien Eloi to claw their way to victory over Jorgen Persson, Mikael Appelgren and Erik Lindh.

**Scores:**- J. Persson 1 D. Eloi -15, 13, -14; E. Lindh 1 P. Chila 15, -9, -26; M. Appelgren 1 N. Chatelain -22, -15; Persson/Lindh 1 Chila/Eloi -12, 19, -18.

Continued hostilities in Yugoslavia has put on hold the other Group B match involving the host nation at home to Hungary.

Meantime, in Group A, the defending champions, Germany, 1-3 down, were hard pressed to dispose of Poland 4-3 with victory coming in the final set when Torben Wosik just made it against Lucjan Blaszczyk 14 and 25!

**Scores:** J. Roszkopf 1 L. Blaszczyk 17, -14, -18; P. Franz 1 P. Skierski -17, -11; T. Wosik b M. Dziubanski -18, 9, 15; Roszkopf/S. Fetzner 1 Blaszczyk/Skierski -16, 16, -17; Roszkopf b Skierski 16, 13; Franz b



Sweden's Erik Lindh

Dziubanski 13, 14; Wosik b Blaszczyk 14, 25.

Belgium at home to the Netherlands in Anderlecht on September 25th had a comfortable 4-1 win their only loss being inflicted by Danny Heister who beat Philippe Saive.

**Scores:** J-M Saive b T. Keen 17, -8, 13; T. Cabrera b P. Halden 21, 10; P. Saive 1 D. Heister -16, 19, -18; J-M Saive/Cabrera b Keen/C. Mol -18, 14, 20; J-M Saive b Halden 20, 18.

## DIVISION 1

England's match at home to Italy at Bletchley on September 18 was covered in the October issue of this maga-

zine, the 4-0 result in Group B denying the spectators a full quota for their money. But that is the new rule, as agreed at the Informal General Meeting in Chiba - the match concludes when one team has won 4 sets. Austria, England's chief rivals in this group, shed two sets in their home match against Spain winning 4-2 at St. Veit on September 21.

**Scores:** Ding Yi b I. Caymel 14, 8; Quain Quianli b R. Casares 17, 12; W. Schlager 1 J. Pales -18, 16, -13; Schlager/K. Jindrak 1 Pales/Casares -19, 12, -15; Quain Quianli b Casares 21, -16, 21; Quain Quianli b Pales 15, 11.

Czechoslovakia, last season's demotees from the Super Division, began their Group A Division 1 programme with a 4-0 home win against Turkey in Kosice on September 18.

**Scores:** P. Korbelt b O. Cimen 15, 14; T. Janci b G. Yaldiz 16, 12; R. Vimi/P. Javorek b Cimen/Yaldiz 13, 19; Vimi b I. Eren 18, 11.

Bulgaria were at home to Denmark in Sofia on September 29 but with the scores tied at 3-all Denmark got home 4-3 when Allan Bentsen beat Ivan Ajanski in

the match decider.

**Scores:** M. Bratanov b A. Bentsen 17, 13; K. Lengerov 1 L. Hauth -9, 13; I. Ajanski b M. Sonnichsen 19, 18; Bratanov/Serafimov 1 Bentsen/Sonnichsen -12, 13, -17; Bratanov b Hauth 17, -14, 18; Lengerov 1 Sonnichsen -12, 22, -20; Ajanski 1 Bentsen -21, -10.

Subsequently Bulgaria travelled to Sakarya where they were seen off 4-1 by Turkey on October 2.

**Scores:** Yaldiz b Ajanski 7, 13; Eren bt Bratanov 20, 19; Cimen 1 Lengerov -17, -19; Yaldiz/Cimen b Bratanov/Lengerov 19, 16; Yaldiz b Bratanov 15, 18.

## OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

The Singles qualifying tournament is to be played in the Palasport, via Resia, Bolzano, Italy over a 4-day period February 6/9 1992. The doubles tournament will be over two days in Wroclaw, Poland on February 22/23, 1992.

## 18th EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

April 10/20, 92. Hanns-Martin-Schleyer-Hall Stuttgart.

The BGM of the ETTU will take place on Thursday April 16/92.



## OBITUARY

Dr. Karl Smekal, the Hon. President of the Austrian Table Tennis Association, died on September 24th, 1991, following a heart attack at the age of 76. Dr. Smekal served on the Management Committee of the ETTU from 1978 to 1982 and was President of the Austrian Association for more than 17 years. As a politician he was decorated with all important orders of the Austrian government and especially received the title "Hofrat", which is the highest possible award in Austria.

## EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LEAGUE 1991/92 - CIRCULAR 1

### SUPER DIVISION

<b>GROUP A</b>		<b>(First Stage, Round 1)</b>						
<b>HUNGARY</b>		<b>BELGIUM</b>						<b>4:0</b>
BATORFI	Csilla	-	BILLEN	Elke	21:15	21:10	1:0	
TOTH	Krisztina	-	BOGAERTS	Karien	21: 7	17:21	2:0	
WIRTH	Veronika	-	BILLEN	Els	19:21	21:14	3:0	
TOTH/ELLO		-	BILLEN/BILLEN		21:16	21:13	4:0	
<b>FRANCE</b>		<b>ENGLAND</b>						<b>1:4</b>
COUBAT	Emmanuelle	-	HOLT	Andrea	16:21	21:13	1:0	
DERRIEN	Sandrine	-	LOMAS	Lisa	11:21	12:21	1:1	
YQUEL	Rozenn	-	ELLIOT	Fiona	21:18	16:21	1:2	
COUBAT/YQUEL		-	HOLT/LOMAS		24:22	17:21	1:3	
COUBAT	Emmanuelle	-	LOMAS	Lisa	20:22	13:21	1:4	
<b>USSR</b>		<b>SWEDEN</b>						<b>4:1</b>
TIMINA	Elena	-	SVENSSON	Asa	21:19	8:21	1:0	
MELNIK	Galina	-	SVENSSON	Marie	12:21	17:21	1:1	
PALINA	Irina	-	PETERSSON	Pernilla	19:21	21:10	2:1	
TIMINA/PALINA		-	SVENSSON/SVENSSON		21: 8	21:16	3:1	
TIMINA	Elena	-	SVENSSON	Marie	21:17	17:21	4:1	
<b>GROUP B</b>		<b>(First Stage, Round 1)</b>						
<b>CZECHOSLOVAKIA</b>		<b>ITALY</b>						<b>4:0</b>
KASALOVA	Renata	-	NEGRISOLI	Laura	21:13	21:19	1:0	
MIHOCKOVA	Jaroslava	-	ARISI	Alessia	21:19	21: 8	2:0	
DOBESOVA	Jana	-	SEMENZA	Christina	20:22	21:15	3:0	
KASALOVA/MIHOCKOVA		-	NEGRISOLI/SEMENZA		21:17	21:12	4:0	
<b>ROMANIA</b>		<b>GERMANY</b>						<b>4:1</b>
BADESCU	Otilia	-	PRAEDEL	Christiane	21: 6	21:14	1:0	
CIOIU	Emilia	-	NEMES	Olga	21:15	18:21	1:1	
NASTASE	Adriana	-	SCHALL	Elke	21: 9	21:13	2:1	
CIOIU/NASTASE		-	PRAEDEL/SCHALL		25:23	15:21	3:1	
BADESCU	Otilia	-	NEMES	Olga	21:17	22:20	4:1	

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# Recreation for the genteel

## TABLE TENNIS IN THE PARLOUR

IT is unlikely that we will ever know exactly how table tennis developed in its early days, "a period," according to Ivor Montagu, "in which history becomes tangled and confused by reminiscence, and reminiscence itself is dimmed either by senility or the hearsay of a new generation." But it is clear that until the very end of the nineteenth century table tennis was essentially a parlour game, invariably played on a large dining-room table. The game at this stage was exclusively a post-prandial recreation for the genteel, a domestic diversion. A highly authentic reconstruction of this scene was shown in the BBC Television series 'Eureka' in 1983. In the evening, after dinner, the table was cleared, a net improvised with two champagne bottles and a piece of string and the company then began to play. The gadrooned edge of some dining-tables could be a nuisance but, as Arnold Parker suggested, lets should be allowed.

We can feel, after allowing for some artistic licence, that the artists of the day caught the scene very well. Many illustrations were published, particularly in the *Illustrated London News*, *Punch*, *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News*, *Sphere* and *Graphic*. Most commonly two players are seen in



rather stilted, unorthodox action and surrounded by quite a crowd of onlookers, other dinner guests socialising while waiting their turn. Table

tennis followed lawn tennis in allowing even encouraging - the sexes to mix and even to compete together, up to about 1880 this would have been unthinkable in England. But informality did not go so far as to allow the gentlemen to remove their evening jackets, and the ladies must have been severely encumbered by their long dresses, allowing not even the glimpse of an ankle.

The immense popularity of these ping-pong parties soon led to a demand for printed invitation cards. These were often in the form of picture postcards with a ping-pong scene and a simulated handwritten message to be completed by the sender, for example: "WE ARE HAVING PING-PONG ON ..... AT ..... O'CLOCK, DO JOIN US." Over fifty different cards were published in 1902, the most notable being those by Galyon (the earliest) and by Raphael Tuck, with fine coloured illustrations drawn by Lance Thackeray and printed by chromolithography in Germany.

Sometimes, no doubt, guests ignorant of the game were cajoled



"Ping-Pong Fever", a scene from a reconstruction of 1890s ping-pong, Danmarks Radio, 1988

## TABLE TENNIS The Early Years - 2

against their wishes into playing. Such is the scenario for 'That Dreadful Game or The Torture of Tomkins' published in *Punch* in April 1901. *Punch* is a humorous magazine well-known in England, and the article, though mildly satirical, gives quite a strong impression of the scene....."About a fortnight ago I went to dine with the Robinsons. It was an excellent dinner, as all their dinners are, and not too long, which leaves time for music or cards afterwards....

When we had finished dinner at the Robinsons that evening, the men were invited to go and smoke in another

room. I thought nothing of that. I imagined that the dining-room had to be cleared, so that early next morning it might be painted or whitewashed, or undergo some such decoration not unusual in spring. So I smoked peacefully in the other room with the other fellows, and then we went into the drawing-room. No sooner had we entered the door than the young ladies of the family jumped up and cried joyfully, "Ping-Pong!"

"What's that?" said I.

"Not know Ping-Pong, Mr. Tomkins?" they asked derisively.

"I'm not much good at games," I

confessed humbly. "Of course I've heard it spoken of, but how do you play it?"

"Come and see," they replied: "It's as easy as possible. You'll learn directly. It's such a jolly game. We play ever evening."

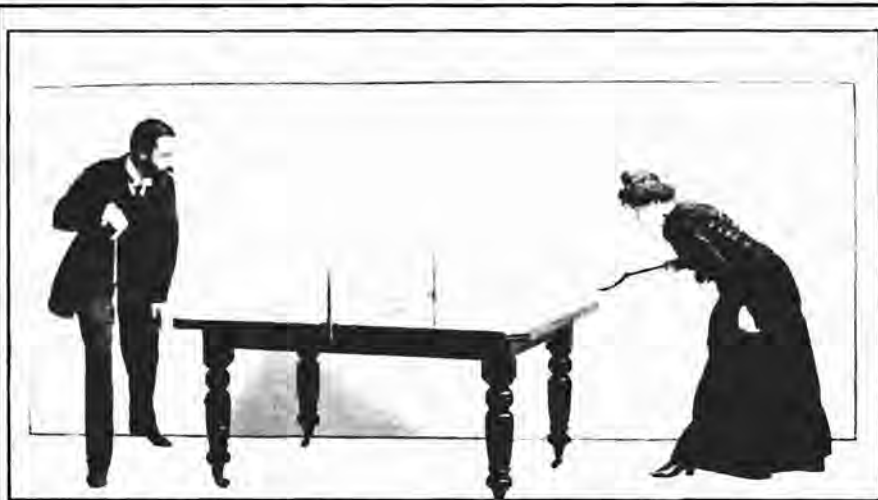
I abandoned all hope of peaceful music.....The whole of that deplorable evening was devoted to that 'jolly game'. They stood me at one end of the dining-table, put a battledore, a beastly baby's battledore into my hand, and made me aim at a beastly little ball.....At first I couldn't hit the thing at all. Then I gave it tremendous whacks, and it flew up to the ceiling, or hit the pictures, or got mixed up with the electric light. But wherever it went it always finished on the floor, and I spent half the time crawling under the table, or hitting my head against the sideboard, or grovelling under the chairs, or lifting up the coal scuttle. However, several times I hit the silly ball in the right direction and the girls said I was getting on *splendidly*, when all I was anxious for was getting off..... After that the party broke up, I have since understood that this was unusual, as many intelligent persons go on till breakfast time.....

But table tennis was not only played 'upstairs'; it also extended 'downstairs' to the kitchen quarters, where - as again satirised by *Punch* - it was played by the servants. And it was also enjoyed at the very top of the house in the children's nursery. Clifton Bingham described the scene in a children's book illustrated by Louis Wain:-

*The craze spread to the nursery soon,  
The children there, each afternoon,  
Discarding corals, bibs and rattles,  
Gave bottles up for Ping-Pong battles!*

If table tennis had stayed in the house, it would, no doubt, have faded away for ever along with other contemporary parlour games such as Dumb Crambo, Knight of the Whistle, Smudgeographs, Squails, Ringolette and Cockamaroo. But, of course, it moved out into the world and had a quite astonishing, if shortlived, run of success.

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"A long shot from the corner", 1901, an early photograph of the domestic game  
*The Royal Magazine*



A "write away" postcard, 1902. The message has to be completed by the sender. *The Gurney Collection*

# Gold in Marseilles

THE GREAT BRITAIN team won four Gold Medals in Marseilles, in July, in the European Maccabi Games.

Talya Greenberg won two gold medals, one with Perry Somers when they won the Mixed Doubles title, and the other when she paired up with Joanne Solley to win the Ladies Team event.

Simeon Zeffert and Simon Jablon won the other two gold medals when they won the Boys Team event and captured the Boys Doubles.

In fact this was a record breaking games for the Great Britain Team, winning a total of 19 medals.

Some two months prior to us departing with everything virtually in place, our Maccabi Union Table Tennis President Alan Shepherd had to have a hip replacement operation so unfortunately could not join the squad.

Some three weeks before departing I was informed by Skylet Andrew who was to come as our coach that he could not come because he thought he was going to have a record released or something like that. This appeared to be a blow but we were then lucky enough to acquire the services of Mark Dare of Herfordshire/Essex, in my opinion a coach of great vision, and so it proved as Mark was superb in Marseilles, gaining many friends and admirers for his tremendous input and knowledge of the game.

The French had laid on an extravagant opening ceremony which was held in Marseilles football stadium (where Chris Waddle plays) and it was great to be part of the 27 countries marching around the stadium with all the participants decked out in their national track suits. The culmination of the ceremony was parachutists landing into the stadium from small aircraft above all holding French and Israelie flags, a sight to see and this just after another moving sight when a French athlete lit the main torch to start the games.

The table tennis venue was a hall in the centre of Marseille which could have been well equipped to stage the event, however a major problem arose with one wall surface being all windows and the french referee (appointed by the french table tennis federation) not being able to understand English and refusing to do anything about it).

Further problems arose when all the managers of the participating countries had a meeting and voted separately and unanimously to change the mens team event from Corbillon cup rules (two a side) to Swathling cup rules (three a side), it was also agreed that countries could have two or three sides competing. Further it was voted that the Womens team event and the junior boys and girls events could be Corbillon cup.

## MENS TEAM EVENT

GREAT BRITAIN had two teams in this event, GB1 comprising Perry Somers, Melvyn Waldman and Joel Roodyn. GB2 comprising Morris Greenberg, Dov Katz and Paul Jablon.

GB1 "v" Czech/Norway (combined side)... Won 5-2. The Czech No.1 Povazan a big hitting player caused us great problems and he beat both Perry and Joel, although Perry was unlucky losing 18, -15, -20, luckily for us the other Czech player and the Norwegian player were not as strong and we came out comfortable winners.

GB1 "v" Turkey... Won 5-2/ The Turkish No.1 David Kumru turned out to be an incredible player with a tremendous all round game often retrieving balls beyond the rear barriers and coming in with big hits, he was a really entertaining player to watch particularly as his personality was as big as his game and his shouts and screams would reverberate around the hall. He beat Melvyn

and Perry proved to be the hero's here both winning their three matches with all the matches being very competitive.

This last win made GB1 the winners of their group and therefore through to the semi finals of the team event to play the surprise runners-up in the other group.

GB2 "v" Italy/Holland (combined side)... Won 5-2. Here we had the two Italians playing with the Dutch boy Jonah Kahn and what a player he proved to be recording the only two wins for the combined side crushing both Paul and Morris as easily as our boys had crushed the Italians. Clearly Jonah was going to be the player to beat or so we thought.

GB2 "v" Denmark... Won 5-0. Our young team totally demolished what appeared on paper to be a pretty good Danish side.

GB2 "v" Austria... Won 6-2. Once again a country had a very good No.1 player in this instance it was Davidov. He was an extremely good

defensive player with a big hit to any loose ball.

This last match made GB2 the surprise runners-up in their group and to our delight meant that GB1 had to play GB2 in the semi final ensuring that each team would win either a bronze or possibly a gold or silver.

The other semi final saw Germany 1 play Germany 2 with the first team winning 5-0 to then reach the final against the winners of the all Great Britain match.

What a match our two GB sides put on. Our very young GB 2 side of 19 year old Morris and Paul with 17 year old Dov had really geared themselves up. Morris and Perry put up a tremendous match with Perry edging through 22, -14, 19. Melvyn narrowly beat Dov in the third and Joel beat Paul in two very tight games. Then Morris again in a terrific match beat Melvyn 19 and 20 and Dov playing very fast beat Joel 14 and 16. Perry then in a tight game beat Paul 15, -15, 16. Perry then beat Dov 18 and 19 and Melvyn beat Paul 18 and 18. GB1 therefore won 6-2 in an emotionally draining game with all the games very tight.

The final therefore saw Germany 1 "v" Great Britain 1. There is always a great atmosphere when these countries clash and so it was again. The first match between Perry and Weiss was perhaps the most important one for us, we needed to win it, however it was not to be for no matter what Perry did Leo the lion pulling out every gamesmanship trick he knew just edged it winning 17, -14, -15. Guisman was just too strong for Joel winning -4, 14. Melvyn tried like anything against the defensive master Berger but just could not break through and lost -16, -20. Perry then got hit off by Guisman -11, -13. Melvyn then played superbly to beat Weiss 18, -19 17. Melvyn brought back memories of his great days. Joel then lost to Berger -16, -12 giving the Germans a 5-1 win and the gold medal.

The final mens team results were.

Germany 1 .....	Gold
Great Britain 1 .....	Silver
Great Britain 2 .....	Bronze
Germany 2 .....	Bronze

## THE SQUAD

Stuart Greenberg .....	Manager
Mark Dare .....	Coach
Lawrence Blaston .....	Assistant Manager

### MENS TEAM:

Perry Somers .....	Herts
Melvyn Waldman .....	Middx
Joel Roodyn .....	Middx
Morris Greenberg .....	Herts
Dov Katz .....	Middx
Paul Jablon .....	Middx

### LADIES TEAM:

Talya Greenberg .....	Herts
Joanne Solley .....	Middx
Joanna Jablon .....	Middx
Lisa Kaplan .....	Middx

### JUNIOR BOYS TEAM:

Simeon Zeffert .....	Middx
Simon Jablon .....	Middx
Mark Hilton .....	Middx
Robert Lazarus .....	Middx
David Seal .....	Middx

### JUNIOR GIRLS TEAM:

Charlene White .....	Newcastle
Suzanne Karter .....	Newcastle

in a great game 14, -13, -21 and he also beat Perry 15, -13, -10 to record Turkey's two wins. Again luckily the other two Turks were not as strong and Joel Perry and Melvyn beat them comfortably.

GB1 "v" Switzerland... Won 5-0. The Swiss were perhaps the weakest players in the tournament and our men were not extended.

GB1 "v" Germany 2... Won 6-2. This was the German second team and a very strong team it was comprising Billy Jaschikowitz, Ari Osterer and Peter Bisitzki. Melvyn

loop drive player and if in the lead very difficult to rattle and he proceeded to beat both Morris and Dov winning the two matches for his country. Once again his compatriots luckily for us were not up to his standard and they were seen off easily by our boys.

GB2 "v" Germany 1... Lost 5-0. Leo Weiss losing 17, -16, -14. Morris had a tremendous game with Guisman losing -19, 20 in a big hitting display by both players and Dov showed his mounting maturity by losing to Berger -14, -18 a fine

## JUNIOR BOYS TEAM EVENT

IT should be mentioned that for reasons best known to them, the organisers decided that the juniors should be under 16 years of age and not 17 years a per the ITTF rules. Therefore Dov Katz narrowly missed playing in the juniors which is why he was playing in the senior squad.

We had 2 and a half teams in this event with a GB1 side of Simeon Zeffert and Simon Jablon, a GB2 side

# EUROPEAN MACCABI GAMES - 2

of Mark Hilton and Robert Lazarus and David Seal partnered a Turkish boy Kohen in a combined side.

There were six teams in this event and it was decided to hold it as one group with the top three teams winning the three medals.

GB1 \*v\* GB/Turkey...Won 3-0. Young David put up a sterling performance against Simeon unluckily losing only 19 and 19, but the Turkish boy was trounced by Simon, and Simeon and Simeon easily won the doubles to take the match.

GB1 \*v\* Germany 2...won 3-0. Both Simon and Simeon played tremendous stuff to thrash this rather good German second team.

GB1 \*v\* Denmark...Won 3-0. Once again Simeon and Simon won this match effortlessly beating what was actually quite a useful Danish side.

GB1 \*v\* GB2...Won 3-0. As one can imagine a little bit of bite with this match but apart from a good effort by Mark Hilton against Simeon losing 16 and 20 one which the first team never looked like losing.

GB1 \*v\* Germany 1...Won 3-2. This was the big one and what a match it turned out to be with Simeon and Simon playing literally out of their skins to win the match and the gold medal in an electric atmosphere. First Simon went on to demolish the German No.2 Vitzer 10, 10. Then Simeon played the best table tennis I have ever seen him play to beat the German No.1

Johnen, a 15 year old boy about 6'6" tall and who looked at least 18 years old and with the power to match. The noise was deafening as Simeon came through -21, 14, 17. Then again in a tension filled match our boys lost their first match in the doubles going down 20, -6, -18. Simon then came on against Johnen and found him just that bit too powerful losing -16, -16. The final match saw Simeon immediately see off Vitzer 9, 10 for us to take the gold.

GB2 \*v\* Germany 1...Lost 4-1. The highlight of this match was young Roberts superb win over Vitzer 17, 14 and the doubles which our boys were so very unlucky in losing, 15, -10, 21.

GB2 \*v\* GB/Turkey...Won 3-0. David Seal decided he was going to take on his two British counterparts by himself as he really had to do as his partner was outclassed. David was unlucky to lose -17, 9, 17 to Robert and virtually played the doubles by himself to go down 11, -19, 12.

GB2 \*v\* Germany 2...Won 3-0. This was an excellent result with Robert and Mark playing above themselves to win their three matches with comparative ease.

GB2 \*v\* Denmark...Lost 3-0. In many ways this match could have gone the same score to us for our boys came so close, Robert losing to Fish, -20, -18. Mark losing to Bergmann ??? -19 and losing the doubles -12, -25.

GB2 played above themselves to take the bronze medal and deservedly so, with Germany 1 taking the silver.

GB/Turkey \*v\* Denmark...Lost 3-0. Unfortunately for David Kohen was

not able to give his support and Davie was really having to play these matches by himself. He was unlucky to lose to Bergmann -13, 16, -19.

GB/Turkey \*v\* Germany 1...Lost 3-0. Once again David was playing very well only just losing to Vitzer 19, -18, -14.

GB/Turkey \*v\* Germany 2...Won 3-0. This was a great result and one David particularly richly deserved with him beating Kern 17 and 20 and carrying his partner Kohen to win the doubles and Kohen amazingly somehow winning his singles. The final mens team results were:  
Great Britain 1 ..... Gold  
Germany 1 ..... Silver  
Great Britain 2 ..... Bronze  
Denmark ..... Bronze

What was also nice was that it was decided to give David a bronze medal as he really was part of Great Britain's second team and deservedly so.

## LADIES TEAM EVENT

WE had three teams in this event which was a two side Corbillon cup. GB1 comprised Talya Greenberg and Joanne Solley, GB2 comprised Joanna Jablon and Lisa Kaplan and GB3 comprised our two junior girls Charlene White and Suzanne Karter who were allowed to play in the senior event as there were so few junior girls and it was decided that to participate and gain experience was important.

Once again we were slightly unlucky with the junior birth date rule because Talya missed playing in the junior events by one week.

There were five teams in this event and it was decided to play it as one group.

GB1 \*v\* GB2...Won 3-0. As expected this was actually a very tight match, with Jo Solley beating Joanna Jablon -9, 17, 17. Talya beating Lisa 18, -21, 9 and the first team winning the doubles 14, -20, 13.

GB1 \*v\* Austria...won 3-0. This was an excellent win with both our girls playing well against strong opposition. Jo beat Adler 13 and 14, Talya beat Lazar 17, -16, 17 and our girls winning the doubles 16 and 18.

GB1 \*v\* Germany/Czech...Lost 3-2. This combination side turned out to be extremely strong, but did our girls try, no one could have tried harder as the scores suggest; Jo beat the Czech girl Krausova -19, 20, 18. Talya then lost to the German girl Bellowski 19, -17, 18. Our girls won the doubles 14, -18, 15. Jo then lost to Bellowski 16, -19, -15 and Talya lost to Krausova -11, -19.

GB1 \*v\* GB3...Won 3-0. This an expected match score easily won by our first team.

GB2 \*v\* GB3...Won 3-0. This again an expected match score easily won by the second team

GB2 \*v\* Germany/Czech...Lost 3-1. Jo was playing very well to only just be edged out by Bellowski 16, -14, -21 and she then

combined brilliantly with Lisa to win the doubles 19 and 18.

GB2 \*v\* Austria...Won 3-1. This was an excellent win against these strong Austrian girls. Jo lost to Lazar -16, 6, -19. Lisa then thrashed Adler 13 and 4. Our girls won the doubles 19 and 15 and then Lida playing brilliant table tennis beat Lazar 18, -18, 18.

GB3 \*v\* Austria...Lost 3-0. Our girls tried hard but lost to this very good side comfortably.

GB3 \*v\* Germany/Czech...Lost 3-0. Once again our girls tried hard against opponents who were just too strong for them. The final team results were:  
Germany/Czech ..... Gold  
Great Britain 1 ..... Silver  
Great Britain 2 ..... Bronze

(only three medals given)

## MENS SINGLES

THIS was the much anticipated event particularly with the first entry competitively on the tables of the Russian Brainin.

After much discussion the eight seeds were as follows:

- 1 Brainine ..... Russia
- 2 Guisman ..... Germany
- 3 Kahn ..... Holland
- 4 Weiss ..... Germany
- 5 Kumru ..... Turkey
- 6 Berger ..... Germany
- 7 Osterer ..... Germany
- 8 Somers ..... Great Britain

Upon carrying out the draw it was discovered that there were 31 players in the event and the question was raised around the hall if there was perhaps a manager that could play to make up a 32 draw. Yours truly was therefore drafted into the event to find myself in my first round match to play Brainine.

Yes, I lost to him by scores of -12, -10. But I have to say there is absolutely no doubt he could have beaten me -0, -0, he most certainly gave me the points and convinced me that he was a very great player indeed.

Other British results were:  
Joel Roodyn lost his first round to Bisitzki (Germany) 13, -12, -15.

Melvyn lost first round to Davidov (Austria) -15, -18.  
Dov Katz lost most unluckily to Osterer -20, -22.

This left only Perry Somers, Morris Greenberg and Paul Jablon as our only winners in the first round Perry beating a Turk rather easily and Paul and Morris each beating a Dane just as handily.

The second round saw Morris up against Brainine. Morris played as well as I have ever seen him but the Russian is a genuine world class player and won again easily by scores of 13 and 14.

Paul put up a tremendous fight against the Dutchman Kahn before going down -17, -18.

Perry was our lone winner in this round beating Joel's conqueror Bisitzki 16, 16.



## ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

### APPOINTMENT

#### FULL TIME REGIONAL TABLE TENNIS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (YORKSHIRE/HUMBERSIDE)

Initially a three year appointment (anticipated start date 1st January 1992) to organise and co-ordinate the development of Table Tennis within the Yorkshire/Humberside Region with particular emphasis on young people, and the creation of additional table tennis facilities.

Salary will be on the scale of £13,332 - £17,017 and is an all hours worked post. Likely to be office based in Leeds.

The successful candidate is likely to possess the following:

- Proven organising/administrative ability (preferably in sport)
- Effective communication and negotiating skills
- High level of self motivation and mobility
- Experience of sports development
- Understanding of table tennis
- Full Driving Licence

Closing date for applications: 20th November 1991

Job description and application form available from:

Diccon Gray (National Development Manager),  
English Table Tennis Association,  
Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings,  
East Sussex TN34 1HF  
Tel: 0424 722525 Fax: 0424 422103

An equal opportunities post funded by the Sports Council and the English Table Tennis Association



# EUROPEAN MACCABI GAMES - 3

The quarter final saw Perry up against Brainine who again won comfortably 11, 16.

Another quarter final match in an explosive atmosphere saw Kumru see off Weiss 19 in the third, with both players shouting and screaming to the joy of the spectators.

The semi final line up saw Brainine against Kumru and Kahn against Guisman.

Brainine seemed to toy with Kumru before winning 19 and 11.

The other semi final was a real anti climax after their scintillating match in the team event everyone expected another great match. However the Dutchman visibly fell apart losing very easily to the competent German 14 and 14.

The final became to an extent therefore the expected one with Brainine against Guisman but who could have predicted the result?

Again there was a complete contrast of styles and physique. The lean powerful flamboyant Brainine and the small bouncy buzzsaw and quick hitting Guisman.

I feel sure if a sweepstake had taken place before the match 100% would have gone for Brainine, however Guisman ran out the winner in a disappointing match 17, -14, 17.

## MENS CONSOLATION SINGLES

AN all British final here saw Melvyn Waldman lose to Dov Katz 25, -17, 15.

## LADIES SINGLES

THE event was divided into two groups on an all play all basis and the final four positions were:

Krausova (Czech) ..... Gold  
Jo Solley (Great Britain) ..... Silver  
Talya Greenberg (GB) ..... Bronze  
Bellowski (German) ..... Bronze

Some good British results were, Lisa beating Adler (Austria) 11 and 16. Also only just losing to Bellowski 15, -13, -13.

Talya beating Bellowski 15 and 19.

Jo Solley was extremely unlucky to lose to the winner Krausova -16, 16, -20. She also had a real fight with Jo Jablon winning -16, 16, 19.

The semi finals saw Jo Solley v Talya Greenberg and Krausova against Bellowski.

Jo overcame Talya in a nail biting match, -18, 15, 13. Krausova beat the German girl -11, 19, 16 and then beat Jo again 16 and 7.

## JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES

IT transpired that there were enough girls for an event on a group basis but to every ones surprise it turned out that Krausova and Adler were juniors. Krausova proceeded to win the event beating Adler in the final game 14 and 19 but not before our two girls Charlene and Suzanne had taken the bronze positions.

So the final positions were:  
1 Krausova ..... Gold

2 Adler ..... Silver  
3 White ..... Bronze  
4 Karter ..... Bronze

## JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES

THE first round saw two of our players lose. Robert lost in a very tight match to the German No.2 Vitzer -12, 18, -18. Mark lost to Spennadl (Austria) -18, 8.

The next round saw the demise of David to the German No.1 Johnen -14, -10. Simon beat Spennadl 16 and 10 and Simeon beat Vitzer 17 and 15. In an emotion filled match Simon lost to Johnen in the semi final -16, -13 whilst Simeon lost in an upset to Nagy (Austria) -19, -17. The final saw Johnan beat Nagy two straight to take the gold.

The final positions were therefore:  
Johnan (Germany) ..... Gold  
Nagy (Austria) ..... Silver  
Simon Jablon ..... Bronze  
Simeon Zeffert ..... Bronze

The two Austrians had not played in the junior team event playing in the senior event instead.

## MENS DOUBLES

WE partnered Perry and Melvyn together. Morris and Joel and Paul and Dov.

The first round saw Perry and Melvyn lose to Osterer/Bisitzi (Germany) -17, -20. Morris and Joel had a poor draw having to play Brainine/Berger and lost -7, -11. The win of the round for us came with Fox and Paul who played brilliantly to beat the good partnership of Kahn (Holland)/Davivdov (Austria) 15 and 23. They unfortunately could not keep that standard up and lost in the next round to Weiss/Guisman -7, -11.

The final was the expected one with Brainine/Berger against Weiss/Guisman with again perhaps surprisingly Weiss/Guisman winning -14, 17, 21 in a great game.

So the final positions were:  
Weiss/Guisman ..... Gold  
Brainine/Berger ..... Silver  
Jablon/Katz ..... Bronze

## LADIES DOUBLES

OUR pairings were, Talya/Jo Solley, Jo Jablon/Lisa and Charlene/Suzanne.

The semi finals saw both our top two pairs competing in with Talya and Jo beating the Austrian pair of Adler/Lazar 11 and 11. In the other semi final Jo and Lisa lost to the Czech/German pairing of Krausova/Bellowski in a tremendous match -17, 23, -19.

The final saw Talya and Jo combine brilliantly to smash their rivals 17 and 12 to take the gold.

So the final positions were:  
Talya Greenberg/Jo Solley ..... Gold  
Bellowski/Krausova ..... Silver  
Jo Jablon/Lisa Kaplan ..... Bronze  
Adler/Lazar ..... Bronze

## MIXED DOUBLES

OUR pairings here were: Melvyn/Lisa, Talya/Perry, Jo Jablon/Morris, Jo Solley/Joel, Charlene/Paul and Dov/Suzanne.

All of our pairs played well together and one early round win of note saw Morris and Jo beat Osterer/Krausova 18, -8, 21. The semi final line up saw Joel/Jo against Guisman/Bellowski and Morris/Jo against Talya/Perry.

Perhaps in one of the great British wins of the tournament Joel and Jo played great stuff to beat the favoured Germans 17 and 14 in a crushing display. No praise is high enough for them in this display.

The other semi final saw Talya and Perry beat Morris and Jo 13 and 11.

The final as expected was very tight with both pairs knowing each others game but Talya and Perry coming through -16, 15, 21 to take the gold.

The final positions in an event that became dominated by the British were:  
Talya/Perry ..... Gold  
Joel/Jo ..... Silver  
Morris/Jo ..... Bronze  
Guisman/Bellowski ..... Bronze

## JUNIOR BOYS DOUBLES

WE paired Simeon/Simon, Robert/Mark and David with his Turkish friend Kohen.

David and Kohen lost first round as did Robert and Mark to the Austrians Nagy/Spennadl but in a very close set 15, -13, -19.

Simon and Simeon reached the semi final to play Fish/Dammas (Denmark) and cam through 17 and 8 to play Johnan/Vitzer the Germans in the final.

Playing great stuff Simeon and Simon beat the Germans to win the gold 18 and 15. So the final positions were:

Simeon/Simon ..... Gold  
Johnan/Vitzer ..... Silver  
Dammas/Fish ..... Bronze

## FINAL MEDAL TALLY BY GREAT BRITAIN

### MENS TEAM EVENT

Silver GB1 (Somers/Waldman/Roodyn)  
Bronze GB2 (Greenberg/Jablon/Katz)

### LADIES TEAM EVENT

Silver GB1 (Greenberg/Jablon)  
Bronze GB2 (Jablon/Kaplan)

### BOYS TEAM EVENT

Gold GB1 (Zeffert/Jablon)  
Bronze GB2 (Lazarus/Hilton)

### MENS DOUBLES

Bronze (Katz/Jablon)

### LADIES SINGLES

Silver (Jo Solley)  
Bronze (Talya Greenberg)

### LADIES DOUBLES

Gold (Solley/Greenberg)  
Bronze (Jablon/Kaplan)

### BOYS SINGLES

Bronze (Simeon Zeffert)  
Bronze (Simon Jablon)

### BOYS DOUBLES

Gold (Zeffert/Jablon)

### MIXED DOUBLES

Gold (Somers/Talya Greenberg)

Silver (Jo Solley/Roodyn)

Bronze (Morris Greenburg/Jo Jablon)

### JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES

Bronze (Charlene White)

Bronze (Suzanne Karter)

### MENS CONSOLATION SINGLES

Winner (Dov Katz)

R/U (Melvyn Waldman)



## ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

### APPOINTMENT

#### PART-TIME REGIONAL STAFF COACH (YORKSHIRE/HUMBERSIDE)

Initially a three year appointment (anticipated start date 1st January 1992) aimed at the organisation of coaching and coach education to all sections of the community and at all levels within the Yorkshire/Humberside Region.

Pay and hours to be agreed.

The successful candidate will work closely with the full-time table tennis Development Officer and is likely to possess the following:

- Proven organising/administrative ability (preferably in Sport)
- Effective communication skills
- ETTA Coach Qualification
- Understanding of table tennis
- Full Driving Licence

Closing date for applications 20th November 1991

Job description and application forms available from:

Diccon Gray, (National Development Manager),  
Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings,  
East Sussex TN34 1HF  
Tel: 0424 722525 Fax: 0424 422103

An equal opportunities post funded by the Sports Council and the English Table Tennis Association



# Green freeze spray

A NEW freeze spray which is claimed to provide up to four hours relief is being marketed under the name of Ralgex.

According to the manufacturers Smithkline Beecham, it will enable players with minor injuries to finish their game before getting further treatment.

It is also the first freeze spray to go 'Green'. The CFC's which create the cooling effect, but which are burning away our atmosphere, have been removed.

## New deal from Halex

HALEX, the major sponsors of the ETTA (English Table Tennis Association) are set to expand their commitment to the sport with a new deal.

Originally Halex contributed more than £6,000 to cover the Under 10, Under 11, Under 12 English Table Tennis Championships and the Halex ETTA National Table Tennis Ranking Scheme.

Further to the success of the sponsorship programme Halex's Managing Director, Merrick Wolman, has announced that more investment will be put forward into the Under 18 and Under 21 National Championships to be held in May '92 in addition to the Under 10, 11 and 12 to be held in Spring next year.

## Sports Action

FUJIFILM has joined forces with Britain's leading professional sports photographers to produce a superb 1992 Wallchart to support the charity Sports Aid Foundation.

The Wallchart features action shots from different sports, taken by members of the Professional Sports Photographers Association, and it can be yours for just £2.99 (including P&P) as a special offer to Table Tennis News readers (normal price £3.99).

The Sports Aid Foundation (President: HRH The Duchess of York) provides much-needed assistance to competitors living in the United Kingdom, who have the potential and enthusiasm to succeed in sport but who lack the means to develop their ability. Fujifilm will give half of the proceeds to SAF.

The get your Wallchart, send a cheque for £2.99, made payable to Fuji Photo Film (UK) Ltd., to Sports Aid Foundation Wallchart Offer, PO Box 1320, Swindon SN1 4TJ, and you will receive your 1992 Wallchart. Please allow 28 days for delivery.



Ralgex freeze spray

## Champion Coaching Project

TABLE Tennis is one of 11 sports to be selected for a Champion Coaching project.

Champion Coaching has been put together by the National Coaching Foundation and is aimed at developing the sport in the 11-14 age group.

Coaches will attend a residential weekend course at Lilleshall and our contact is Stuart Sneyd, the ETTA's deputy chairman.

## Butterfly's domination

FIGURES just published from the World Table Tennis Championships show Butterfly's strong domination of the international table tennis scene.

Of the 700 or so players representing their national teams 52% used Butterfly rubber sheets on their bats compared with 17% and 13% respectively supplied by the highest other leading manufacturers.

Butterfly's most popular rubber, Sriver, was used by Carl Prean and Alan Cooke, while Chen Xinhua,

Matthew Syed and English womens champion Andrea Holt used Butterfly Tackiness and Long Feint pimped rubber in the Championships.

Butterfly were also well ahead in the blades chart. A total of 44% of the players used Butterfly blades with the second most popular brand recording 24% and the third 9%.

## Nationwide Sports

PLAYRITE Sports, down and out last season, have re-emerged under a new name - Nationwide Sports. Part of the Worldwide Business Corporation, it will be run from its original address in Chiltern Drive, Surbiton by former Playrite man Brian Windett.

## Connie Warren

ONCE a table tennis supplier... Connie Warren is the latest to come back from the Playrite plunge. He informs TTN that he has started a mail order business from his home in Purley.

## A sporting Christmas from Halex

THE Halex range of sporting equipment provides a wide selection of ideal gifts for both the professional and serious player at club level or for the enthusiastic amateur.

Top of the table tennis ball range is the 3-Star Ultra Tournament Ball, approved by the International Table Tennis Federation and the English Table Tennis Association and available in both 6 Ball Boxes and hanging blister packs (recommended retail prices £4.99 and £5.49 respectively). Aimed at offering family fun at home, the Halex 2 player Table Tennis Set (recommended retail price £8.99) is right on the ball.

The less competitive player should seek out the Halex Meteor Practice Ball which retails at 99p for a 6 Ball Box and £1.25 for a 6 Ball blister pack particularly suitable for children as they conform to EEC safety regulations. Alternatively, they can be purchased loose over the counter for 15p each. The range also includes 2-Star and 1-Star celluloid balls.

There's a variety of table tennis bats to choose from and all in attractive new packaging with euroslot hanging facility such as the 3-Star Bat (recommended retail price £9.99) through to the Practice Bat (recommended retail price £1.99). Other bats in the range include the 2-Star (recommended retail price £6.99), 1-Star (RRP £3.99) and Halex Meteor Bat (RRP £2.99).

# Butlin's boy of the week

**COLIN WILSON, now aged 29, reflects on twenty years in table tennis.**

COLIN has recently returned to table tennis as a professional player/coach, after a gap of five years. In a career spanning from age 9-23 years, Colin always played a foremost role on the competitive circuit, from Butlin's Boy-of-the-Week at age 9 to England Cadet No.1 and through to England Junior No.1 before joining the Senior ranks.

"I loved my time as a budding junior playing" says Colin, who began at Merton T.T.C. in Bournemouth until moving to North London's Ellenborough T.T.C. at age 14. "I played almost every evening, weekend and holiday for about ten years. I played with big brother (Steve) and Dad (Terry) and in local and national groups and teams." Colin competed in five consecutive European Youth Championships, a record surpassed only by Carl Prean. "Even on my birthday I just wanted 'to go for a knock'."

At age 18, Colin played whilst at University College, London, where he spent three years, and gained a honours degree in Economics and Statistics. From 1979 to 1982 Colin progressed on a Senior Interval, winning 2 silver medals at the Commonwealth Championships and two bronze at the Israel Open.

## Poorly paid

"It was at this stage that I became interested in coaching as I studied technique more deeply. Also I became conscious that table tennis was poorly paid unless you were in the top three in England, so career considerations grew in importance. "After University I played full time, and helped run some coaching camps and organised my own sessions to pay my expenses. For two summers I trained and learned in Sweden with John Souter, which was invaluable for the experience. I reached England No.10 in the 1985/86 season but I gradually became more aware of the poor prospects available to the pool of full-time players in England. Sometimes it seemed that table tennis was a lowly sport without the will or ability to improve its own status. Without a pool of



Colin Wilson

15-20 professionals making a reasonable living, England could not, and still cannot truly compete in depth with the rising Asian and European challengers."

At this time Colin decided that he needed the experience and stimulation offered by the world of business. He helped to build a garage workshop business 'Mark One Motors' with great T.T. friend Mark Mitchell, also an ex-International, now aged 34. Further experience in sales of motor vehicles, skin products and motor trade products helped Colin to buy his first home and act as consultant for other small businesses. "I love the challenge of building businesses and adding value" says Colin. "As in sport, you work hard, and you win some and you lose some, but as long as you're always striving to improve, you can never really lose. You get better and better, which is good for everybody involved."

Colin finished a business project in August, "and I became interested in table tennis again." For three years he had another sporting diversion -

hot air ballooning! "A wonderful, fun sport" says Colin, now a qualified pilot. "I used to be scared of heights but it's not a problem now! The challenge is in flying and landing safely. So far, so good!"

This season Colin has expanded his coaching activities and is training too. He has already beaten Jon Holland (England No.12) and won all six of his matches in the County Premier Weekend for Middlesex.

"What's needed now is the desire in England to build clubs of excellence, like they do in

Europe and Scandinavia. In these countries the clubs exist to become the best in depth of standard, from under 10's to National League winners. This has already been achieved at Grove and Peniel who have made dramatic progress. I admire their drive and enthusiasm. They are well organised and driven by Ian Marshall and Michael Reid, and both have top professional coaches, John Souter and Nicky Jarvis."

"The clubs must lead the Association towards excellence" says Colin "not the other way round. Pressure and enthusiasm from clubs of excellence will spur the Association to better organisation, better events, better publicity, better sponsorship, better funding and a greater desire and vision of national success. After all, the Association is the clubs in each league."

"From this base there is room for at least 15-20 professional players to earn a reasonable living from their sporting excellence. Later in their careers they can train youngsters on a commercial basis, who in turn can see the rewards of success from a young age."

"If we have a Grove or Peniel in every town, table tennis would be a stronger, more vibrant sport with lucrative rewards and status for top players. For the Association and its enthusiastic members, it's as difficult and as simple as that."

"My plans? I love table tennis and I love business. I'm available and I want to help make table tennis happen."

Colin Wilson was talking to John Wood

**Colin Wilson BSc (Econ), PPL (B)  
Currently available for part-time/full-time contract  
and consultancy work in table tennis.**

**COACHING  
TRAINING FOR SUCCESS  
CLUB DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

**Contact Colin at:  
25 Brookside Crescent, Cuffley, Herts. EN6 4QW**

# Southern Region

by Brian Lamerton

40 youngsters risked the roadworks which attempts to make Southampton an Island these days to compete in the preliminary regional trials on September 15th.

Caroline Newling-Ward (Ha.), Wendy Barlow and Lucy Templeton (both Bu.) qualified for the junior national finals whilst the following boys qualified to return to the same Southampton venue in November for the final regional trials.

CADETS: Greg Burns (IW), Andrew Jenkins and Gareth Scadden (both Ha.), Steven Munson, Edward Donovan.

JUNIORS: Jeremy Wilson, Devin

Macken and Mark Giles (All Ha.) and Mathew Sims (Ox.). There were 4 hat tricks in the opening matches in this season's regional league. Tony Taylor on his debut for Burnham against K.C.D. Stiga 'A' and Mark Priddle in OLOP's narrow win over Cippenham in the Premier and in the first division for Roger Hookey of the Isle of Wight who defeated Cippenham 'B' and Roger Woolven-Allen whose Kingfisher team were defeated 5-4 by Kingfisher 'B'.

Title holders Cippenham opened the ladies league season with a 5 sets to love success over the Isle of Wight.

# South West Region

by Alf Pepperd

THE SWR preliminary trials held at Wellington Somerset in mid-September could well have been a disaster.

15 minutes, after the arrival of the Head Referee Dave Nipper, Dave received an urgent phone call to inform him that his Mother had passed on earlier on that very morning, of course he departed for home immediately.

This columnist, and all concerned at that Tournament extend our deepest heartfelt sympathy to Dave Nipper and his family.

However, despite this tragic happening, Peter Buckingham a student coach, studying maths at Oxford, took over the hot seat vacated by Dave Nipper and saw the day through, much to the relief of Chief Organiser - Valerie Clack (Chairman SWR Coaching).

Another worthy helper on the day, and there were so many, was Fred Ingram from Cornwall, the only qualified umpire in the hall who acted as floor referee throughout the Tournament.

The following Juniors/Cadets have qualified for the next round of trails at Wellington on the 10th of November.

CADET GIRLS: Nickie Bryson (Do.), Claire Shobbrok (Som.), Racheal Rosewell (Av.), Lucy Perry (Dv.), Kerry Hogarth (Gs.), Debby King (Wi.), Ann Humble (Gs.), Jessica Orlick (Av.), Lissy McDonald (Av. 1st Reserve), Emma Price (Av. 2nd Reserve).

CADET BOYS: Andrew Rumary (Som.), Peter Thomas (Dv.), Ross McDonald (Av.), Tim O'Mahoney (Wi.), Matthew Pullin (Av.), Graham Worth (Co.), Graham Long (Av.), Kevin Worth (Co.), Simon Rooke (1st Reserve), J. Seale (Co. 2nd Reserve).

JUNIOR GIRLS: Tracy Youldon (Wi.), Kerry Hogarth (Gs.), Debbie King (Wi.), Kate Gent (Som.), Rachel Boon (Co.), Julie Ashcroft (Som.), Lisa Morrish (Dv.), Kelly Sampson (Wi.), Emma Parker (Gs. 1st Reserve), Nicola Grey (C. 2nd Reserve).

JUNIOR BOYS: Colin Butterworth (Av.), Stuart Fry (Wi.), Philip Lord (Dv.), Robert Millard (Som.), Simon Dilkes (Dv.), Mark Smith (Som.), Barry Fudge (Av.), Leigh Nelmes (Gs.), Martin Smith (Av. Reserve)

The Trials attracted a total entry of 85 players.

After a spell in Musgrave Park Hospital in Taunton, for a minor operation, I am delighted to report that Somerset's former ETTA National Councillor, Tony Carey is now out of hospital and hopefully on the way to total recovery.

Tony, informs me that he has now qualified as a senior coach and has been asked to head a team of local coaches, including Claire Hunter from Swindon and Chris Bridges of Bristol in a National Coaching Foundation Project - called Championship Sport. And finally, many thanks to Valerie Clack and Kevin Satchell for giving me BBC Radio Gloucestershire South & West Interviews at the trials at Wellington.

# LION SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

THE first three correct entries drawn from the hat will win, 1st a Lion insulated bat case, 2nd a Lion bat case and 3rd a box of Lion 3 star balls.

All entries must be received by 20th November 1991 addressed to Bethan Davies at Hastings. (Editor's decision is final).

In this issue's 'Lion Spot the Difference' competition you are required to circle with a pen the 10 deliberate differences in Cartoon B.

Below are the lucky winners in the October 1991 competition:

- 1st Mr. R. Green, 19 Torcross Road, South Ruislip, Middx
- 2nd Mr. I. Wong, Celia Marsh House, Headington School, Oxford
- 3rd Miss E. May, 3 Almond Drive, Plympton, Devon



Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

# Polka dots and chequerboard

At a recent 5 star tournament there was some discussion between umpires and the referee about the legality of some shirts. Briefly, there are now few restrictions on clothing; the main part of the shirt, shorts or skirt must not be of the same colour as the ball in use. Apart from this, clothing may be of any colour or colours, the collar and sleeves of a shirt and trimming along side seams or round edges and pockets may be of any colour, including the colour of the ball in use.

Clothing may be of any pattern, but must not bear symbols or lettering that might cause offence or bring the game into disrepute. The referee decides. Polka dots and chequerboard etc. are acceptable, and the old 'stripes' definition is not now relevant.

## Covering the racket

There seems to be some misconception about the necessary covering of the racket, probably arising from the requirements in international competitions that one side of the racket blade must be red and the other side must be black. This regulation has been adopted very widely, even down to local league level, instead of the more simple requirement that the blade must be uniformly dark coloured and matt.

However, the regulation does not say that one side must be covered with red rubber and the other side with black rubber. Law 3.4.3. says "A side of the blade used for striking the ball shall be covered..." The phrase in Law 3.4.6. "...a side of the blade if it is left uncovered..." emphasises the fact that a penholder may elect not to cover the side of the racket that he does not use to strike the ball. nevertheless, if the international regulation 4.2.1.3. has been adopted, one side of the racket must be bright red and the other side black. So one side may have to be painted or dyed red or black depending whether the rubber on the other side is black or red respectively. If a player strikes the ball with the painted or dyed side he loses the point.

We say again that, in spite of what is said in some current trade literature, if you don't use one side of the blade for striking the ball, you don't have to cover it with expensive rubber if you don't want to.

## A disgusting habit

For some reason, which it is



Hertfordshire's Di Jermyn

difficult to fathom, some players have taken to spitting on the floor and rubbing their feet in it if they make up their mind that the floor is "slippery". Not only is this a revolting habit which may be dealt with under the regulations concerning "Behaviour of Players" likely to offend spectators, but a moment's consideration would indicate that the effect could last only a few seconds or a couple of steps, and is therefore not worth the effort in the first place. It would be better if this habit was eliminated from the scene.

## Referees

Congratulations are in order for Tony Chatwin, Richard Scruton and Doug Young who have recently passed the written part of the International Referees examination.

If this exam leads to a more consistent worldwide interpretation and application of laws and regulations, will we in this country have to change some of our views? No doubt this will provide food for thought.

## Name badges

Everybody will know us soon. National and International umpires are to have name badges.

## Umpire's dash

Dave Edwards stepped in at the eleventh hour to deputise for a sick Di Jermyn at the England v Japan match at Bletchley.

## Umpire selections

Umpires have been selected for forthcoming events as follows:-

### HUNGARIAN OPEN

November 14-17 - W.F. Lavis (leader), G. Taylor, E. Pentland (reserve)

### SWEDISH OPEN

November 28-December 1  
M. Strobe (leader), H. Willis, D.A. Poultney (reserve)

### JUNIOR PREMIER WEEKEND

November 30-December 1  
A. Harwood, T. Vance, G.G. Hammond, D. Edwards, J. Melnick, E. Emecz, J. Pringle and G. Parkes

### ENGLISH JUNIOR NATIONAL

December 14-15  
Mrs. E.J. Wilson, D. Perry, D.A. Poultney, J. Jermyn, Mrs. D. Jermyn, D. Sherratt, Mrs. H. Masters, G.G. Hammond, F. Groom, W.F. Lavis, B. Watkins, B. Foggin, M.J. Payne, G. Taylor, J. Melnick, W. Moran, J. Evans, R. Douglas, D.A. Young and D. Roden

## Old Habits Die Hard

In the 1969 "Handbook for Umpires", and also in the 1974 version, it said, "Where a point is awarded for one of the following reasons the umpire should precede the score with

the appropriate words of explanation: Good service not made - "Fault"...etc.

Later, in 1983, the "Handbook for Match Officials" introduced an extra phrase: "When (a rally) is determined by some occurrence which may not be obvious to the players or spectators, the umpire is recommended to give a brief explanation...as follows: Good service not made - "Fault" ...etc.

This was further emphasised on page 32 in the September 1989 "Handbook for Match Officials", which says: "It is not, however necessary to call anything but the score when it is obvious that a player has not made a good service, such as when the ball fails to clear the net", and the phrase was slightly modified to, "Service illegal (call) Fault."

This is in accordance with the concept that the only time the umpire talks is when essential information has to be conveyed. The trouble is that some of the old established umpires have got used to calling "Fault" and still do, and since they are the senior ones whom the younger umpires tend to copy, one continues to hear the unnecessary call. So see if you can restrain (retrain) yourself, like now calling "Double bounce" instead of "Not up".

## Our pen picture this month is:

### Di Jermyn

Hampshire had 25 active umpires - all men.

Then along came this lady who admitted she actually enjoyed umpiring at local league matches in Gosport and Fareham.

"I'm as good as them! At least at umpiring table tennis". To prove a point, and out of sheer bravado, Di took and passed the County umpire test, the first rung of the umpiring ladder. Now she is one of a small band of lady international umpires. Whilst in Hampshire she was secretary of her local league and county inter-town match secretary.

In 1985, on a trip to the Isle of Man for the Commonwealth Championships, Di met John Jermyn (actually on Euston Station) and four years later they were married (both for the second time). Between them Di and John have five children, and now live in Baldock, Herts. Di is assistant league secretary for the North Herts league and plays for the Warren Spring club of Stevenage in Div. III of the North Herts League.

# Olivetti sponsor Leeds



Gary Kirwood, Northern Region Sales Manager, Olivetti Systems & Networks presenting a cheque for £50 to Sandra Rider

THIS season's dates have now been confirmed as February 29th/March 1st at Stourbridge (West Midlands) and May 16/27th at Cardiff (National Sports Centre for Wales).

It is likely that there will be only two changes from last season's final participants. World of Sports (whose Nicola Deaton will line up this time with Commonwealth all Stars) and Newcastle 2nd's have intimated that they will not be competing and their likely replacements - with some possible additional promotions to suit - will be Welsh Ladies 2nd's and 'Olivetti Leeds Bribar'. This latter team, led by Sandra Rider, has been fortunate to obtain sponsorship from Olivetti Systems & Networks who are equipment suppliers to our very good table tennis friends, The Leeds Permanent Building Society, for whom Sandra works as a secretary and represents in the Leeds table tennis league. Completing 'O.L.B.' will be Sandra's Yorkshire colleague Cathy Johnson and Helen Sheilds.

## ETTA Women's coaching weekend by Jackie Bellinger

ON Friday 30th August, on what must have been one of the hottest weekends of the year, seven enthusiastic women arrived at Luton for the first Womens Coaching Weekend of the 1991 season. Accommodation was at the Sunview Guest House, Luton, recently refurbished and extremely friendly, and play at Luton Regional Sports Centre, which has been the venue for past English Championships and National Junior/Cadet training camps. The course was run by Jackie Bellinger and players were also able to gain tips from top England Senior player Lisa Lomas who came for one day.

The Weekend programme consisted of 4 hours coaching on Saturday where all the basic strokes were covered while Sunday was spent with the more advanced technique of B/H and F/H loop, individual work and finally a tournament. This was won by Dolly Harmer, the oldest player on the course at 77!!!

Even though there were not as many players on the course as expected, it was a great success and all participants expressed their interest in attending any other womens coaching courses that the ETTA run.

## A Backward Step

Surely the new rule which stops European league matches as soon as one team reaches four is going to do more harm than good. Over the years how often have we all heard the cry you the players should support the National team, I personally have always tried to get to an International match if the venue was in reasonable driving distance and I always try to take a full car load with me.

So sure enough I went to England's first home match at Bletchley, from my home town Maidenhead, it was only a sixty mile drive and it was easy to reach the venue for a 7.15pm start. I knew before we left that this was expected to be an easy win, what I did not know was that I would only see four sets which incidently were all won in straight games, so it turned out I made a 120 mile round trip for just eight games of table tennis. The only consolation was that at just after 9.15pm I was able to listen on my car radio to my favourite football team Arsenal score three second half goals.

Please England if you want me and many like me to continue to support, you must insist that all Internationals are played right out. If a match is based on seven sets such as the Men's European league we want to see all seven.

*Hugh Bartholomew  
Vice President & Past Chairman  
of Maidenhead & District TTA*

*Vice Chairman of Marketing,  
Clive Oakman explains below,  
hopefully satisfactorily to all  
concerned, with regard to the new  
regulation: Editor*

## Explanation

Our first home European League match of this season was not only a disappointment to correspondents, but also to me. I failed to interpret the new ETTU regulation in the correct way - "the team match shall be won by the team winning 4 individual matches" - it was not until 10 minutes before the match commenced that Milan Stencil, the Italian Team Manager pointed this out and that the implication was that the match finishes at that time.

The ETTU explanation for the changed format is that players do not wish to play, nor spectators watch, dead rubbers - I would not disagree with that argument.

Don Parker has agreed that at any future matches where the match scores finishes 4-0 or 4-1 there will be an exhibition match featuring two England players.

Hopefully England will be playing in the Super Division next season, 4-0 results will be less likely and we should be viewing excellent matches with match results dependent on the last rubber.

I hope those of you in the Bletchley or Leeds area will have taken the opportunity to attend the England v Japan match, a full evening of 12 matches.

*Clive Oakman  
Vice Chairman, Marketing*

## Thanks Jackie

I am just writing to say "thank you" for making it possible for me to take part in Jackie's Course at Luton.

She really is a super coach for all ages - (and she had 60 years between oldest and youngest this time!) and I hope there may be further similar opportunities in the future.

*Dolly Harmer  
Leighton Buzzard, Beds*

*Glad to here that you still playing  
table tennis Dolly - Editor*

## Great Weekend

I have just spent a great weekend being coached by Jackie Bellinger at Luton.

I do hope that more of these weekends are arranged for the future, if so I will appreciate details.

May I suggest that more women would come if it was publicised say in the VETTS News Sheet etc.

*Marjorie Berge - Edgware, Middlesex*

## Answer to Ruth's plea

In answer to Ruth Hogg's plea on financing county teams: Our sport is backward in money-raising, especially at county level. Table Tennis clubs on occasions raise money, like many other organisations inside and outside sport by the traditional jumble sales, car boot sales, dances, raffles, legal weekly football tickets etc.

County officials seem less keen to raise money by these methods. Some counties manage to get sponsors, mainly purveyors of equipment. The other alternative of course is to raise county affiliation fees. Sussex has nine teams in the county championships - the four veterans sides are not fully supported by the county, but the other five are, so the fees have to keep rising anyway to keep pace with inflation and paying for most of these teams to travel and to entertain their opponents.

Hastings is one of the most enterprising leagues in the country. They have raised a really substantial sum of money through a weekly goal-scoring football "scheme" run over some years. How they are going to use the money is till I understand, unclear. There was an idea of buying a permanent headquarters but when the price of property shot through the roof not long ago, that was shelved.

*John Woodford - Eastbourne*

## Unusual hobby

I have possibly an unusual hobby, I collect table tennis balls. I think I have the second largest collection in England of around 360 different types of balls.

I know of collectors in Holland and Germany of which I know the people from these countries comes three of the largest collections in the world.



## Swing is Legal?

Surely we players are entitled to more information regarding the legality or otherwise of our equipment.

With the demise of the Patsun/Lentec organisation the question of whether their rubbers would continue to be approved was in doubt. As a user for several years of Lentec Swing I enquired of Albert Shipley, before he left the ETTA to work for the ITTF, whether this rubber would maintain its approval. After consulting with the ITTF Albert informed me that it would be legal until June 1991, after which it would no longer be legal.

Naturally I accepted this top level ruling and altogether spent around £100 experimenting with different rubbers in an attempt to find a replacement. I know that I was not alone in this respect.

Imagine my astonishment when I found that one of my first opponents in the first VETTS tournament of the season was using Swing. I queried this later with Mike Watts, the VETTS Secretary, himself a previous Swing devotee. Mike's immediate response was to confirm that Swing was illegal but then shortly afterwards discovered that the ITTF fee had been paid for a further year and was therefore legal until June 1992.

There are those who argue that any ban on Swing or indeed any other rubber bearing the ITTF logo would not stand up in a court of law. Whether this is true or not, surely players are entitled to be given the information so that they know exactly where they stand.

*R.E. Etheridge  
Beckenham, Kent*

So I had wondered whether or not there are people out there in the table tennis world who know of anyone who also collect table tennis balls or if in the bottom of bags, in club rooms or in your home, if you have got any balls you may think I have not got or whether any one works in a sports shop or at a table tennis company selling table tennis equipment.

I also wonder if you know of anyone who you know from overseas who is a collector.

Thank you very much for your help.

*Kevin Gowlett, Essex*

## Penpal needed

I'm writing as a table tennis player and as a language student at the University of Antioquia. That's why I would like to meet any of the players of your association. Specially I would like to meet Desmond Douglas.

I do not want to bother anybody, I just want to have a friendship interchange (and improve my English through letters), and if he or she really likes table tennis as I do, we will have many things to talk about.

What I want is you to mail me Desmond Douglas or somebody else's address. I would really appreciate if you could help me out this.

*Jorge Laroo Columbia, Sth. America*

*Please send your genuine replies to  
Bethan Davies at Hastings - Editor*

## Woolly headed

Every time that I hear of an education authority which forbids competitive games on the grounds that it is bad for children to lose, my heart sinks, for here is yet another example of an attempt to instil the idea of a future life totally without consequences.

Some four or five years ago, I wrote to TTN of this then growing trend and the complacency of those in authority who seemingly seek to push these willy nilly ideas.

It does appear throughout the Country in general that this woolly headed thinking is on the upward trend, and the individuals who undermine the notion of all youngsters personal responsibility should be exposed for what it is: Vicious - Self Seeking and so desperately cruel.

If allowed to gain too much momentum, even table tennis could well suffer in the not too distant future.

*Alf Pepperd - Gloucestershire*

## Please Note

We would like to make it clear that Table Tennis News does not necessarily agree with the views made by those correspondents whose letters are published in Mailbox.

Your letters that are NOT abusive or libellous are always welcome as are replies.

Only those when names and addresses are supplied for publication will in future be considered.



# 59th ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Birmingham National Indoor Arena**

Thursday/Friday/Saturday 9/10/11 January 1992: Individual Events  
 Saturday/Sunday 11/12 January 1992: International Team Events and Veterans  
 Saturday 11th, BBC TV Grandstand coverage. Further details from ETTA 0424 722525

**Joola Men's European League  
 Division One**

**ENGLAND v AUSTRIA**

**Friday 8th November, 7.15pm**

Northgate Leisure Centre

Sidegate Lane West, Ipswich

**Tickets £5**

Adam Baker, Tel: 0473 263540

**MIDLAND 3 STAR**

**Saturday/Sunday, 9/10th November**

Cox Moors Wood Leisure Centre

Birmingham

Brian Lloyd, Tel: 021-745 2360

**MIDDLESEX 3 STAR**

**Saturday/Sunday 7/8th December**

Picketts Lock Centre, Edmonton

Doreen Stannard, Tel: 081-845 6713

## ENGLISH JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Saturday 14th December: Junior Events**

**Sunday 15th December: Cadet Events**

Crystal Leisure Centre, Stourbridge,

West Midlands

Julian Tee, Tel: 0424 722525

## CLEVELAND 5 STAR & BUTTERFLY INTERNATIONAL TEAM EVENT

**4/5th January 1992**

Thornaby Pavillion, Cleveland

David Hutchinson, Tel: 0642 543738

(B) 0642 224444

## ENGLAND v CHINA 7 Match Test Series

**Polkyth Recreation Centre,**

**St. Austell, Cornwall**

**1 Saturday 28th December, 1991**

(Sponsored by Restormel Borough Council)

**Littledown Centre,**

**Bournemouth**

**2 Sunday 29th December, 1991**

(Sponsored by Slough Estates)

**3 Monday 30th December, 1991**

**Venue to be decided**

**Ponds Forge Leisure Centre**

**Sheffield**

**4 Wednesday 1st January, 1992**

(Sponsored by Sheffield City Council)

**South Kesteven**

**Table Tennis Centre,**

**Trent Road, Grantham**

**5 Thursday 2nd January, 1992**

(Sponsored by South Kesteven District Council)

**Gateshead Leisure Centre,**

**Gateshead**

**6 Monday 6th January, 1992**

(Sponsored by Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council)

**Bletchley Leisure Centre,**

**Bletchley, Milton Keynes**

**7 Tuesday 7th January, 1992**

(Sponsored by Milton Keynes Borough Council)

Tickets and further information on all these Test Matches can be obtained from Julian Tee at the ETTA on Tel: (0424) 722525