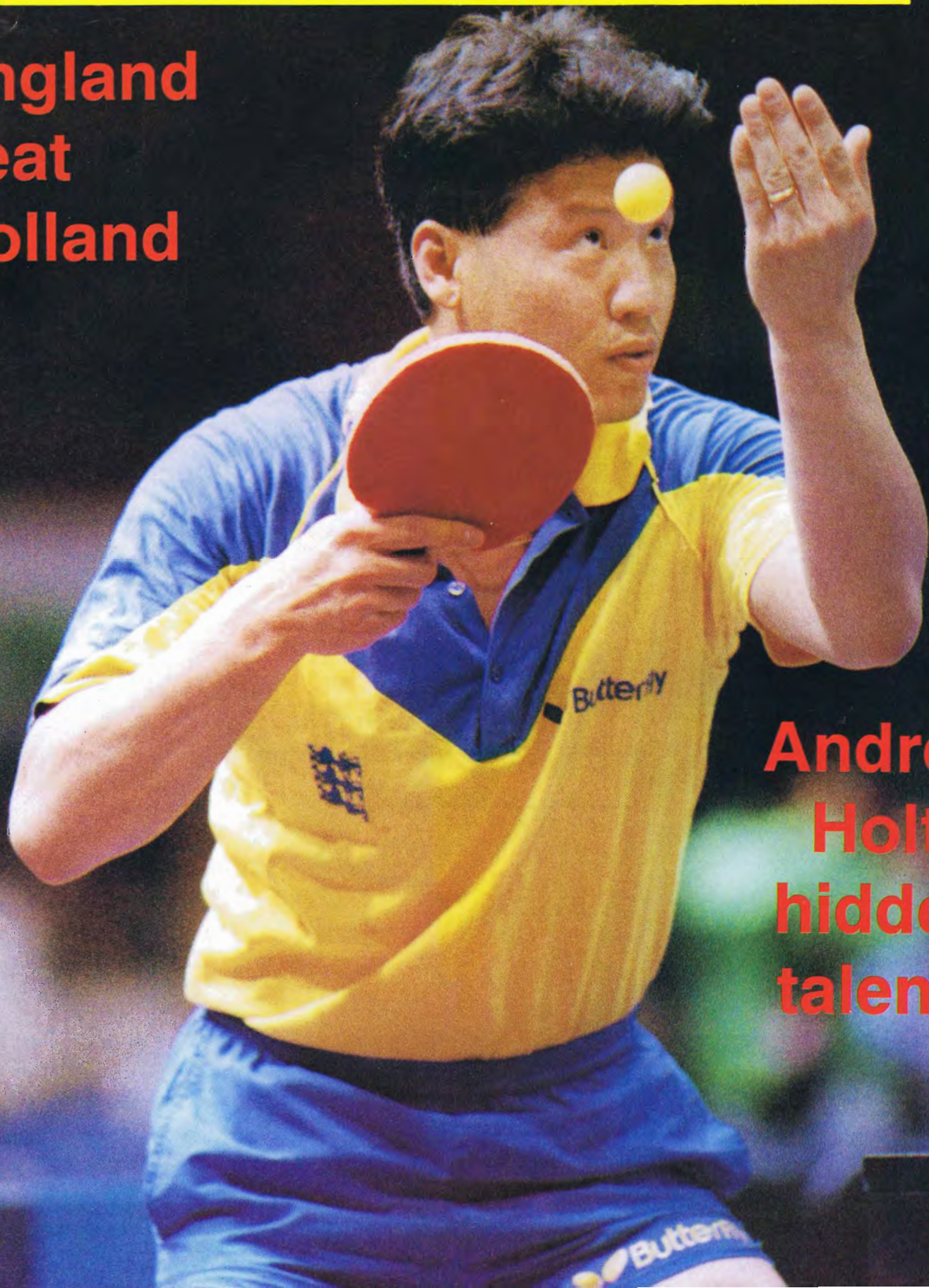




Table Tennis News

No. 218 £1.50
November 1993

**England
beat
Holland**



**Andrea
Holt's
hidden
talents**



TABLE TENNIS NEWS
November 1993 - Issue 218
The official magazine of
The English Table Tennis
Association

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CONTENTS



Players of the Month

Andrew Eden and Linda Radford are this month's choice for winning their respective singles title at the Stamco Sussex 2 Star

FRONT COVER Chen Xinhua (Pictured by John Wood)	1
CHATTERBOX Sovereigns win in Bulgaria	4
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Eleven up for next season?	5
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS Stream of volunteers	7
JOOLA EUROPEAN LEAGUE England v Holland	8
ENGLAND v BELGIUM Belgium beaten but only just	10
VETERANS BRITISH LEAGUE Sedgefield in front by a whisker	12
MACCABIAH GAMES Medals for England in Israel	14
FRIENDLY HOTELS BRITISH LEAGUE BFL Grove boast 100% record	16
PERSONALITY PROFILE Andrea Holt	18
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS Championships off to a great start	20
EAST YORKSHIRE JUNIOR OPEN One of the premier events	23
EUROPEAN AND WORLD REPORT Fair play award of Luxembourg	26
MAILBOX All your views	28

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Sovereigns win in Bulgaria

SOUTH Kesteven Sovereigns silenced the 500-plus crowd at the Svistov Centre in Bulgaria on Friday night and romped to a 4-1 win over Akademica in the second round of the European Club's Table Tennis Cup.

The win earned them a home draw against French opposition in the third round and that is scheduled to be played at South Kesteven Table Tennis Centre in early November.

Jill Harris got the Grantham based team off to a great start beating Milena Doneva 21-7, 21-14. That was followed by Karen Smith's 2 sets to nil victory over the home side's top player Marieta Georgieva, despite being 6-1 down in the first set.

Game three was the most exciting of the match. Helen Newbound faced Mariela Paneva and points went both ways until the scores stood at 19-19.

Helen then completely stunned the home crowd by killing the Bulgarian's supposedly unreturnable serve twice in succession to take the first set at 21-19.

Helen took control in the second set to win 21-16.

Sovereigns just needed one more game to win the match.

Jill Harris and Jane Strawson went down 21-12 in the first set of doubles but despite being 16-10 up in the second, they finally went down 21-18 after a Bulgarian comeback.

It was left to Jill Harris to clinch the tie and against the home side's number one, Giorgiev, Jill took the game in straight sets.

BFL Grove's women also win

THERE was good news for BFL Grove in the Women's Club Cup of Champions as the Market Drayton



South Kestevens Sovereigns

based trio of Lisa Lomas, Elena Timina and Andrea Holt beat E.T. Etzella Ettelbruck of Luxembourg 4-2 with success for the team from the Grand Duchy coming from Xia Lian Ni over Timina and Holt

Middlesex 3-Star Open

THIS year the ETTA and Middlesex are going into 'partnership' to experiment with a new type of tournament. Briefly instead of playing against all comers, competitors will be able to play against those with similar rating points. Men will play in 3 Bands: Band A with 2400 Ratings points and below. Women will be divided into 2 Bands; 1950 Ratings points and above and 1949 Ratings points and below. All entrants will be allowed to enter the Band above them as well as their own Band.

The effect of this should be that loss of rating points because you have an "off" day will be minimised, whereas if you feel you are playing at the top of your form you could play in 2 Bands and, with luck, double the ratings points earned in this Tournament.

Needless to say this experiment has resulted in our having to revise the prize fund and it might also mean that you have to play your doubles on a different day to your singles, but we can guarantee that if you play 2 bands they will be on different days.

We hope that lots of players will take part in this experiment and will let us have their views after the event. The closing date for entries is 18th November 1993 so get moving!

Cooke wins in Spain

BFL Grove's Alan Cooke returned to top form on Sunday 10th September by winning the top Spanish tournament of the season in Jaen.

Cooke qualified for the latter stages by beating top Spaniard Roberto Casares in the group matches and continued to improve as he ousted clubmate Desmond Douglas in the quarters before accounting for Chinese ace He Xhe Wen in the semi finals and the legendary Polish star Andreiz Grubba in the final.

Radio

PROFESSIONAL table tennis coach Stephen Baggaley from Milton Keynes and his younger brother Andrew, aged 10 (England No. 2 U-12's) were recently heard on BBC Three Counties Radio making possibly the first ever, live on air, outdoor, table tennis exhibition along with Ex-Blue Peter Presenter Simon Groom.

BBC Three Counties Radio Broadcasts to Herts, Beds, Bucks and parts of London.

Syed beats Lindt twice in the USA

MATTHEW SYED, England's super defender beat Sweden's Eric Lindt twice in the Sears International tournament in Chicago, USA, on 19th September 1993.

Syed's sensational victories happened firstly in the groups where he not only beat Lindt, but was also successful against Canada's Jo Eng and the USA's Danny Seamuller. And with two going through from the groups, he met Lindt once again for the finals.

In the semi finals Syed beat the USA's Jimmy Butler 3-1, and Lindt beat England's Alan Cooke.

The final was a majestic affair with Syed truly showing his world class potential by overwhelming Sweden's Lindt, who is ranked No. 10 in Europe, 23-21, 29-27, 17-21, 21-15 to take the trophy for England.

Chester Barnes on the mend

CHESTER Barnes, one of the table tennis's most colourful characters, has suffered a heart attack.

Five times our national singles champion, he played for England on many occasions during the late 1960's and early 70's before quitting the game and turning to horse racing. Later he became assistant trainer to owner Martin Piper.

At the time of going to press Chester had been transferred from intensive care to a normal ward, and a hospital spokesman said "Chester was doing fine and on the mend."

Engaged

RISING star Grant Solder from Essex became engaged to Caroline Buckley of Bedford, last month.

IMPORTANT NOTICE WOODFORD 1 STAR TOURNAMENT 11th & 12th DECEMBER 1993

Please note that details relating to the above event as stated in the tournament diary are incorrect. The organiser is

**DAVE RODEN, 55 KINGSWOOD ROAD,
KINGSWINFORM, WEST MIDLANDS, DY6 9TE**

And the event actually takes place at the Woodfield Club,
Wolverhampton (not Birmingham!)

T.T. VIDEOS SYD FRYER

8 Cleveland Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 8AY - 061-960 8110
GOTHENBURG 93 - TAPE NO.1 - Coaching Tape: Featuring all leading players (except Swedes), commentary and analysis by Donald Parker. TAPE NO 2 - Swedish Mens Team Matches v Frances, N. Korea (Group & Semi), Germany, Belgium and China (Final). Last game from each set played a presentation ceremony. Camera: Syd Fryer, commentary and analysis Donald Parker. Priced £15.00 each inc. p&p, full three hour tapes.

Eleven up for next season?

ONE of the main talking points in the E.T.T.U. Executive and Management in Rome at the beginning of October was the proposal that is being formulated for consideration at the next I.T.T.F. Council meeting in China in May of next year for the game to be scored up to 11 points instead of 21.

If adopted, this would be an experimental rule covering all international events for a twelve month period. The intention is that the change would apply to all events such as the World Championships, World Team Cup, European League and International Open Championships, including the English Open. If accepted at the international level, it would be up to the English Association to decide to what extent it would apply to play in this country. It could follow the example of the Red/Black rubber rule which initially was applied only to events under the direct control of the E.T.T.A. such as the National Championships, British League, County Championships, ranking trials, open tournaments, etc., so allowing the Counties and Leagues to make their own decision on the rule implementation for their own competitions.

The 11 up concept is not new. We introduced it for the Stiga Top 12 event which was played in Soham about five years ago. A survey was taken at the time which concluded that the majority of the spectators preferred the 11 up system. The main advantage is that, like tennis the game would come to a climax much earlier. It is felt that watching table tennis would become more exciting for TV viewers and spectators with 11 up.

The I.T.T.F. have been carrying out experiments in some of their own events over the last couple of years and the reaction of the world's top players is said to be favourable. However, they do not like to play 11 up in one competition and then change back to 21 up a couple of days later for a different competition, hence the proposal to try the 11 up system for all international events for a full season. Full details of how the change would work, if accepted, are not



Alan Ransome

available yet. However, one would expect that a match presently best of three x 21 up would become best of five x 11 up and so on. It is also likely that the number of consecutive serves for one player would be reduced from to, say, three and deuce would come into operation at 10 all.

The E.T.T.A. National Council discussed this subject at some length at its October meeting and Councillors will be consulting their members regarding the proposals so that they can be fully aware of the feelings throughout the country in advance of any voting or decision making.

At the same meeting of National Council, Clive Oakman the Director of the 1994 European Championships which are to be held at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham gave a full presentation on the progress of the organisation of the event to date. Publicity material for Euro '94 has been very widely distributed, including 90,000 copies of the EURO NEWS second edition. Tickets are now on sale and are available from the Box Office at the NIA.

With the intention of increasing the public awareness of the championships, Sue Withicombe has been engaged for six months as the Euro '94 Publicity Officer. Her role will be to publicize the championships through all media channels and increase attendances.

Whilst no major sponsor has yet been confirmed, the number of official suppliers supporting the event is increasing. The latest addition is Canon as official business machine supplies who will provide all the photocopying equipment required plus a quarter of a million sheets of paper for the championships results and information service.

National Councillors were asked to encourage their members to come to Birmingham to see and enjoy the most prestigious table tennis event to be staged in the UK since 1977.

Whilst on the one hand we are working to create interest and enthusiasm for table tennis by hosting the 1994 European Championships, work is going on apace at grass roots level to create playing and learning opportunities throughout the country by our Development and Coaching Departments. With the appointment of Stephen Joel (South) and Martin Ireland (North West) eight of the 10 Regional Development Officers are now in place. Appointments are expected to be made for the Eastern and Northern positions by the end of the year.

The main new initiative is the Facility Programme where we are encouraging and supporting our members to improve playing facilities. The Foundation for Sports and the Arts have generously allocated £500,000 for table tennis facilities in this financial year. Applications from member clubs and leagues are now being submitted to the Development Department. A Facilities Panel has been established to consider the applications and, subject to approval by Management Committee in each case, the successful applicants will be passed on to the Foundation for ratification. When considering a submission for financial support, the panel will not only be looking at the building or conversion plans, but will be taking into account strongly the viability of the total scheme to be able to sustain very regular table tennis activity long into the future. Therefore the business plan for the project will be just as important as the building plans.

The valuable funding provided by the Foundation for Sports and the Arts this year may well be enhanced further with the establishment of the new National Lottery which is due to commence in 1995 and will give a significant proportion of the profits to sports projects. The funding available for facilities schemes for sport in the future could be considerable.

To help our members we are, with the assistance from the Sports Council, currently considering applications for the appointment of a Facilities Officer. The successful applicant is likely to have considerable experience in building development and design and, when appointed, will be available to assist ETTA members who are planning a facility project with help and advice at every stage, right from the initial grant application through to the opening of the facility, including the preparation of the business plan.

In my October Report I referred to the unfortunate happening at the Peniel 5 Star tournament when the team event was aborted following the withdrawal of

three key teams. An official enquiry has now been established by the ETTA to investigate these incidents. The enquiry panel is named as Tony Chatwin, Chairman, Tony Wickens and Brian Halliday. Their report is expected to be completed before the end of November.

By beating the Netherlands 4-1 at Stourbridge, the England men's team have reached the semi-final of the Joola European League and will now play a two-leg fixture against Belgium. The first match is in Belgium on December 14th, returning to England on February 15th. This is the first time that our team have reached the semi final and with all four players, Chen Xinhua, Carl Prean, Matthew Syed and Alan Cooke all back to full fitness, we have never been in a better position to progress even further. With a superb victory by 4-1 over Sweden in September, our Women's team are also doing well in the Super Division of the Women's European League.

With both teams doing well in Europe and the European Champion

ships at Easter, we have a number of exciting table tennis events to look forward to for the rest of the season.



Alan Cooke

Nine years excellent service

AT the VETTS AGM held in Coventry Mike Watts stood down as General Secretary after nine years excellent service which has seen the society grow from a mere handful of members to its present position of having over 525 members. *Writes Ron Langheim*

Mike was made the societies new President, Peter Bradley has taken on the role as General Secretary and any prospective new members can join by contacting Val Murdoch (Membership Secretary) on 0462 671191

VETTS Society Tournaments for the coming season are:

EASTERN MASTERS 27/28th Nov 1993, Grimsby

MIDLAND MASTERS 29/30th Jan 1994, Hinckley

NORTHERN MASTERS 12/13th Feb 1994, Manchester

SOUTH MASTERS 12/13th March 1994, Harlow

NATIONAL MASTERS 21/22nd May 1993, Bracknell

Entry forms for these tournaments can be obtained from Peter Bradley (0734 585365)

ASHFORD

The Ashford VETS Tournament will be held on Saturday January 8th 1994 entry forms, available from Ron Langheim on 0784 244563.

WESTERN MASTERS

Roll of honour Western Masters held at Thornton, Bristol 2/3rd October



Mike Watts

OVER 40

M. S. N. Eckersley beat G. Baldwin 13 & 11

L. S. M Dignum beat D. Schofield 17 & 17

M/P N. Eckersley/M Corking bt Schofield/ Shaden -14, 16, 16

L/D C. Hewett/ M Dawson bt J. Middlemore/E Shaler 9 & 12

MX C. Hewett/I Johns bt J Thomas/D Holman 17, -16, 17

OVER 50

M.S H Buist bt R Gunnion 14, 8

L.S. H Dignum bt J. Coop 12, -17, 10

M.D. H Buist/M. Watts bt M. Wood/ R. Norton 15, 18

New Vets Baldwin and Biggs made 0/40 men singles s/f with Baldwin beating Corking 14 and 19 in Round 2, Chris Budden reached last 8, before losing 19 in the 3rd to the Thigh Slapping Derek Holman.

My vote as Vet of the Tournament goes to Margaret Dignum who beat the most successful vet in England Doreen Schofield twice to twin both over 40 and 50 ladies singles titles. The Midland air has certainly improved her performance since she left the backwaters of Kent.

Stream of volunteers

A STEADY stream of volunteers is building up for the championships and before long Clive Oakman will be sorting through the names and allocating duties. One area that is still on the light side is for drivers of courtesy cars and minibuses which will be on hand to take players and officials to the venue.

Best Seats

IF you want the best seats then book now. That's the message from the Euro 94 office as the momentum begins to build up next years championships in Birmingham.

When tickets went on sale last month there was immediate response and up to the time of publication ticket demands were steady.

But championship director Clive Oakman warn that the later you leave the decision to go, the less chance you will have of getting the best seats.

The championship office is at Euro 94, Brewmaster House, International Convention Centre, Birmingham B1 2EA. Tel: 021-644 6464.

Big names

EURO 94 will be the place to be if you want to launch a new product or find out what the new trends will be. Trade response to the championships has been excellent. So far most of the big names in the sport have indicated their eagerness to take a stand in the trade exhibition area and that is good news for players and spectators alike.

From bats to balls and from shirts to shorts plus a lot more will be on view in one of the biggest trade shows the sport has ever seen and as the months move on the organisers expect even more enquiries.

The equipment on view will be aimed at the league player as well as the casual player, a market which is of particular interest to the trade.

There will also be a Euro 94 merchandising stand as well as the ETTA Information Desk.

Clearly it promises to be a



Two of the medal prospects at Birmingham Romania's Otilia Badescu and Sweden's Jorgen Persson



bumper show in more ways than one. So make a note in your diary and don't miss the most important table tennis event in 1994.

Exhibitors showing an interest so far include: The Bat Workshop, Butterfly, Express Sports, Hanno, Juic, Jarvis Sports, Joola, Lion, Imperial, Nittaku, Simon Fraser Sports, Teesport and Schildkrot.

TV Coverage

Still five months to go but already Euro 94 is guaranteed massive television coverage. Seventy countries and altogether over 80 million viewers will tune in to see the biggest table tennis event of 1994. Its clearly the biggest audience

these championships will have ever had and will give the sport in this country its biggest boost ever.

Looking after the television will be Grand Slam Sports who are the second largest independent TV production company in the UK and by far the largest in the sports field. They have worked with us in the past and done a good job so we are in good hands.

They will be bringing with them a team of about a dozen including camera operators, interviewers and producers.

Important Role

TABLE TENNIS NEWS is going to play an important role in Euro 94. Besides keeping you up to date with all the latest news over the next few months, the next four issues will carry the various publications associated with the championships.

Booking forms, accommodation brochures, merchandising leaflets as well as the championships own publication Euro News, will be carried as separate inserts during the coming months.

So if you want to be kept in touch with all that is going on, get the magazine that does just that.

Draw

THE Team draw for Euro 94 will be made on Monday, 21 February 1994 at 11am in the Olympian Suite at the National Indoor Arena.

**EURO 94
COUNTDOWN**

**145
DAYS TO GO**

EURO 94
BIRMINGHAM

England beat Holland

THE shortage of ticket-buying fans at Leeds and Peterborough did not apply at the Crystal Leisure Centre, Stourbridge - 500 plus turned up to cheer the England men on as they eventually stormed through to the second stage of the Super Division, 4-1 winners over Holland on October 5.

Chen Xinhua in a more serious mood after the Leeds circus opened for England winning 15, 10 over Merijn de Bruin, ranked 139 in the world whilst Chen retains his No. 14 spot.

Trinko Keen, who won eight out of eleven games for Holland in Gothenburg put on a display that would not disgrace any of the top 20 in Europe.

Trinko unleashed a series of mainly forehand sizzling winners that proved just too strong for Carl Preat. The Isle of Wight professional fought desperately hard but his counter-hitting was not quite powerful enough and the Dutchman came home 18, -20, 13.



England's undefeated hero Chen Xinhua

Words by
JOHN WOODFORD
of the Daily
Telegraph



Matthew Syed

England through to Semi-Finals - for the first time!

with side-spin proved crucial - England went ahead 3-1 with scores of 15, 15. That just left Chen to bring down Trinko Keen 17, 17, but the Yorkshireman with a club in the Munich suburbs had to use again some of his "ace" services to get through, leaving England 4-1 winners, home and dry in the semi-finals.

At the time of course, it was not known that Poland had beaten Sweden 4-3 in Gdansk, but happily England were not affected by the craziest result of the season, no doubt another cynical team selection by Sweden, who figured out they would not need all the Big Guns in Poland. But of course, the European League is not highly rated in Sweden.

ENGLAND 4, HOLLAND 1
Chen Xinhua b M de Bruin 15, 10

C. Preat 1 T Keen -18, 20, 13
M Syed b D. Heister 20, 3
Preat and A Cooke b Keen and Heister 15, 15
Chen b Keen 17, 17

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION



NORTHERN



Regional Table Tennis Development Officer
(Full Time 3 year fixed term contract)

In conjunction with ETTA/Sports Council "Focus Sport" initiative, the main thrust of the post will be to plan and coordinate the implementation of the Northern Development Plan for table tennis.

Salary likely to be in the range between £14,000 - £18,000 (all hours worked post), to be confirmed. Office base, not yet confirmed.

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 ability to motivate others
Experience of sports development
Understanding of table tennis
Full driving licence

Closing date for applications: 22nd November 1993

Job description and application form available from:
Doreen Nightingale
English Table Tennis Association
Queensbury House, Havelock Road,
Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF
Tel: 0424 722525 Fax: 0424 422103

Striving for equal opportunities, this post is funded by the Sports Council (Northern) and the English Table Tennis Association

Belgium beaten but only just

FRESH from an amazing come-back victory over Stefan Fetzner in Germany, Carl Prean, lifted himself into his professional top gear to play a vital part in a 3-2 England victory in front of the BBC Grandstand cameras at the Rothwell Sports Centre, Leeds on October 1.

Chen Xinhua, acclaimed by Don Parker as now playing the best defensive table tennis since he came to live in England over four years ago, gave England a grand start by beating Philippe Saive who clearly played far better than when he lost in the final of the Peniel 5-star at Brentwood. Chen, slimmer and fitter than last season has to defend superbly and to employ some of his range of 'ace' services to beat the stronger, young players these days.

The TV cameras then concentrated on the Big Battle between Prean and the world sliver medallist Jean-Michel Saive, won fairly comfortably by the Belgian ace 16, 17.

Lisa Lomas, also bronzed and slimmer proceeded with clinical precision to give England a 2-1 advantage by despatching the promising Belgian teenager Cecile Ozer 13, 17. Having spent weeks in Japan, specifically to improve her attack, Lisa showed that she has made some progress with a series of attacks on both wings that surprised the Belgian champion who appeared promising but not so professional in her approach.

The Chen Circus

Chen Xinhua and Jean-Michel promised to be a battle royal. In some respects it was - the Chinese former world No. 4 and World Cup winner led 20-17 in the first game but lost 20-22, but he won the next game and the stage seemed set for a magnificent decider. But Saive swarmed back showing the meagre crowd that he can attack violently and accurately forehand and backhand even without his vicious top-spin.

Having fallen well behind, Chen decided to put on a circus act to which Saive responded. Both men hit winners from outside the court. Another series of circus material saw Chen juggling the ball on his nose as the TV cameras rolled. All something of a surprise in a serious match.

The crowd roared its appreciation. The players received almost a full standing ovation as



England's winning trio, Lisa Lomas (above) Chen Xinhua (middle) and Carl Prean (bottom)

Belgium levelled the match 21-14 to Saive. Credit must also go the Karen Tonge who had the unenviable task of umpiring a circus act under the gaze of the cameras. Tremendous TV of course, but perhaps best suited to Channel TV, rather than the BBC.

Many fans expected to see all the fun on the box on Grandstand. But that did not happen. BBC policy is excellence in sport and so the transmission included only a small section of the comedy by two skilled performers who must have a future earning big money with exhibition table tennis.

With the match poised at 2-2, serious table tennis of the highest order likely to be seen in Europe entered the arena with the showdown between Carl Prean and Philippe Saive. Unwavering professionalism in approach and technical superiority just managed to win the day for the man from the Isle of Wight.

He seemed to be just below his best with his attacking strikes, gallantly fighting hard to stop the young Belgian 19,23 a superb climax to the match that sent the fans home happy.

Just over 200 fans, slightly less at Peterborough on the following night has highlighted the struggle going on in the ETTA Events department to find suitable venues for this first series of international matches.

England 3 Belgium 2

Chen Xinhua b P Saive -19, 9, 14
 C Prean l J Saive -16, -17
 L Lomas b C Ozer 13, 17
 Chen l J Saive -20, 13 -14
 Prean b P Saive 19, 23



Belgium revenge at Peterborough



Belgiums Jean Michel Saive

JOHN WOODFORD
reports from
LEEDS and
PETERBOROUGH

DON PARKER decided in line with the usual selection policy on tours to give his other front-rank squad players a chance to shine at the Bushfields Sports Centre, Peterborough, so Chen and Prean were replaced by Matthew Syed and Alan Cooke, but as expected the Belgium trio gained revenge with an impressive 4-1 victory, as the two England men lost all four of the mens singles matches.

"Mr Table Tennis" in Peterborough Julian Tee did his best to whip up support but unfortunately only 200 out of the 800

who turned out when England played China at the same venue, appeared to watch Belgium.

But the organisers only had four weeks notice of the match, not long enough to attract people on a Saturday night, when most people have other things planned.

There were hopes that Alan Cooke might lift himself to defeat Philippe Saive in the opening clash, but again the Belgium No. 2 (whose advantage when in Belgium of being able to play his brother daily is enormous) swept home cutting through the Cooke top-spin to win 10, 11.

A number of people lost a lot of sleep the previous night watching TV the Lewis-Bruno fight. Matthew Syed did not seem too sharp as he went under 8, 14 to Jean-Michel Saive who played so decisively all evening that he was killing services stone-dead.

Lisa Lomas repeated her win over Cecile Ozer, although the Belgian girl perked up to win the second game. In the third however, Lisa swept home with her newly acquired attack and some typically vicious back-spin to win 6.

Alan Cooke got into the fourth game against Jean Michel and was unlucky to take the first number, losing 21, but the Belgium silver medallist piled on the pressure once again to clinch the match 13, giving Belgium the 3-1 winning lead. Syed looked perkier in the final game against Philippe Saive, but further proof emerged that he has improved since the Peniel 5-star and revenge was exacted for the Peniel final, 15, 16 to Saive. Up to the tour, Syed had collected 28 scalps in a row.

England 1 Belgium 4

A Cook l P Saive -11, -10
M Syed l J Saive -8, -14
L Lomas b C Ozer 14, -14, 6
Cooke l J Saive -21, -13
Syed l P Saive -15, -16

In conjunction with

ETTA & THE SPORTS COUNCIL

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US

at the

GREATER LONDON TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

**on Saturday/Sunday
18th/19th December 1993**

**to be held at
THE WATERFRONT
LEISURE CENTRE
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*Open to residents, workers and those born
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Sedgefield in front by a whisker

SEDFIELD DISTRICT are on top of the Veterans British League Premier Division, following the first weekend held at Grimsby in September, but only by a whisker, from arch rivals Peterborough.

The Grimsby Leisure Centre witnessed some excellent table tennis over the two days, before Sedgefield's John Hilton, Malcolm Corking and Ian Robertson led by the narrowest of margins of one game difference from Peterborough's Dennis Neale, Nigel Eckersley, Nicky Davies and Phil Bowen, leaving all to play for at the final weekend at Burton in February 1994.

Caldervale lead the title chase in the Womens Division, two points up on second placed Dagenham, who are themselves two points in front of Worcester Ladies who are in third spot.

The ladies of Caldervale, Doreen Schofield, Ruth Bentley, Carol Judson and Sandra Rider, played so well that they won for themselves the title of "Team of the Weekend".

Players of the Weekend were Sedgefield's John Hilton and for the women's division it was the Bombers' Jutta Trapp, who finished on Sunday afternoon unbeaten.

There were a couple upsets over the Saturday and Sunday, with firstly Val Murdoch of Letchworth, who is ranked nationally at 47, surprisingly beating Merseyside Pacemakers' Connie Moran, who is ranked 23, in straight games 18 and 18. Bribar Belles Sally Bax lost 18 in the 3rd to Sue Felstead of Letchworth, who is ranked 19 places lower than Sally at 33.

No real upsets in the Men's divisions, with everything happening as expected, although new boys in division



Alex Webster, the Chairman of Great Grimsby's Event Committee, celebrates with Caldervale, the "Team of the Weekend," (left to right) Sandra Ryder, Ruth Bentley, Carol Judson and Doreen Schofield.

VETERANS BRITISH LEAGUE

MEN							
PREMIER DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sedgefield District	5	4	1	0	26	4	9
Peterborough	5	4	1	0	25	5	9
Larkhill Spicer	5	1	1	3	12	18	3
Bribar Humberside	5	1	1	3	9	21	3
British Gas 'Palland'	5	1	1	3	9	21	3
Trend & Blend B'mouth	5	1	1	3	9	21	3
DIVISION ONE							
Vymura International	5	5	0	0	25	5	10
Olton & West Warwick A	5	2	2	1	19	12	6
Fullerians	5	2	2	1	16	14	6
PAA TTC	5	1	2	2	16	14	4
Shamrocks (Ireland)	5	2	0	3	10	20	4
Bribar Kingfisher	5	0	0	5	5	25	0
DIVISION TWO							
OLOP	5	4	1	0	21	9	9
Reading YMCA	5	3	1	1	19	11	7
Graham Spicer	5	2	1	2	14	16	5
Aldborough	5	2	0	3	14	16	5
Portsmouth	5	2	0	3	14	16	4
Thompeon Insurance	5	0	0	5	6	24	0
DIVISION THREE							
Olton & West Warwick B	5	5	0	0	27	3	10
Barclays Bank	5	4	0	1	21	9	8
Letchworth Lawn Tennis	5	2	1	2	13	17	5
Lillington Free Church	5	2	0	3	11	19	4
Great Grimsby	5	0	1	4	11	19	2
Seasiders (Blackpool)	5	0	1	4	7	23	1
WOMEN							
Caldervale	5	5	0	0	25	5	10
Dagenham	5	3	2	0	20	10	8
Worcester Ladies	5	3	0	2	17	13	6
The Bombers	5	2	1	2	15	15	5
Olton & West Warwick	5	2	0	3	15	15	4
Bribar Belles	5	2	0	3	13	17	4
Letchworth Lawn Tennis	5	1	0	4	6	24	2
Merseyside Pacemakers	5	0	1	4	9	21	1

two Thompson Insurance, who won promotion in true cavalier fashion last season, found life a little tougher in the higher ranks and didn't do as well as hoped after finishing undefeated champions of Division Three. Even their star player John Williamson, with his TSP Curl special long pimples on his backhand struggled to win, although he did win a classic long pimple battle of the wobble, when he defeated Aldborough's Stan Battrick, - 17, 12, 20.

In Division One the men of Vymura International, Roger Hampson, Derek Schofield, Norman Thewlis and William Russell, are leading the rest by a street.

They are 4 points clear of joint second placed Olton & West Warwick 'A' and Fullerians.

OLOP, Andy Meads, Keith Horton, John Millward and Graham Outrim, lead Division Two by 2 point from Reading YMCA, whilst Olton & West Warwick 'B' are in front of the Division three race, with Steve White, Barrie Russ, Chris Maiden and Alan Philpot, 2 points ahead of Barclays Bank.

Seaside wins for Eden & Radford

ANDREW EDEN and Linda Radford took the honours at this year's STAMCO Sussex Open Two Star Tournament held on 9th and 10th October. *Writes Ron Spencer.*

In the mens singles, all eyes were on Nicky Mason endeavouring to take the title for the fourth time and he went easily on his way to the semi-final, where he met Grant Solder seeded 5th. Solder had come through to this stage help by the withdrawal of the 3rd seed, Alex Perry. The semi-final was a very tight match with Mason taking the first set easily, Solder fighting back to take the second set 21-18 and then just being edged out by the same score in the third set. Eden the 3rd seed, had no problems in the early stages of his draw until the quarter-final where he had to overcome a tremendous challenge from the 5th seed John Holland, just edging home 21-19 in the third set. Sussex's Adrian Moore, seeded 5th, took advantage of the absence of second seed and title holder Jonathan Taylor to progress to the semi final stage where he lost comfortably to Eden. In the final, Mason's powerful hitting and skill was matched and bettered by Eden who took his first ever Sussex Open title.

Five young players, all ranked in the England top 10 women, entered this year and, with nine times champion Alison Gordon not entering, all had a good chance of winning the title. However, this number quickly reduced to two when Nicola Deaton and Helen Lower withdrew and Maria Thornley failed to appear. Two survivors were Kate Goodall seeded 2 and Linda Radford seeded 3, and they progressed to the final without any problems beating Sanja Kubelka and Kitti Kottasz respectively in the semi-finals. With Kate moving up to no. 4 in the latest ranking list, it was thought that she would dominate, but it turned out to be the other way round. Linda took the first set 21-14, Kate came back to take the second set and then was something like 9-6 up in the 3rd set before Linda came back strongly to take it 21-14 and the title. This followed in the footsteps of her Mother, Lesley Radford, formerly Bell, who won the title in 1964 and 1979. One of the highlights of this event was the tremendous quarter final match between Sanja Kubelka and Emma Hurling which Sanja eventually won 21-18, 23-25, 21-19.

There was some consolation for Mason in the Mens Doubles partnered by Joe Kennedy. In the top half of the draw, Eden was partnered by Holland and Stuart Palmer in the semi-final. Although not seeded, Mason & Kennedy came through to the semi-finals via a close call against Ritchie, Venner & Colin Wilson which they won 21-19 in the 3rd set. At this stage, they met 2nd seeds Stephen Dorking and Solder and won in straight games. In the final, Eden & Holland scraped home 24-22 in the first set, but Mason & Kennedy took the next two and the title.



Andrew Eden (left) and Linda Radford

The absence of Nicola Deaton and Helen Lower meant a change of partners for Kate Goodall. Originally due to play with Nicola, she was switched to partner Linda Radford to replace Helen and progressed easily to the final where they met Teresa Bennett & Claire Hunter. This pairing had taken advantage of the gap left by the Deaton/Goodall combination although it needed three sets to settle both their quarter-final and semi-final matches. The final, the best for some years, was also three sets with the underdogs taking the first set but eventually the Goodall/Radford partnership took



Emma Hurling

over for the title.

Because of withdrawals etc., amendments to the pairing in the Mixed Doubles had to be made and Adrian Moore, partnered by his sister Teresa Bennett, took advantage of the gap left by the absence of Taylor and Thornley moving through, but with a few close calls, to the final. Their semi-final was an all family affair meeting and beating brother Stephen and Adrian's fiancée, Claire Hunter. The other half of the draw saw Andrew Eden and Kate Goodall paired with each other and they proceeded easily to the final and took the title.

The veterans singles were dominated by the two top seeds, Derek Holman, the holder, and Dave Welsman, both reaching the final without too much trouble. In the final, Welsman took the title with a 21-15, 21-16 victory.

A Class 2 Mixed Singles event was held for the first time and some good matches resulted both in the group and knockout play. Mick Harper took the title beating Martin Lowe in the final. In the semi-finals, they beat Jerome Jonah and Gary Tendler respectively.

Mr Leon Sheppardson of the sponsors STAMCO and the Mayor of Hastings, Councillor Richard Stevens presented the trophies and prize money with the Mr Michael Varney of the Bexhill Building Society doing the honours for the womens doubles event they sponsor. The Hastings Association's President, Jim Barry, presented the awards for the Veterans Singles and Class 2 Singles on behalf of STAMCO.

RESULTS

M/S S/F	N. Mason beat G. Solder 9 - 18 18
	A Eden beat A Moore 10 15
Final	Eden beat Mason 15 19
W/S S/F	Miss L. Radford beat Miss K Kottasz 7 10
	Miss K Goodall beat Miss S Kubelka 11 5
Final	Radford beat Goodall 14 - 17 14
MD Final	J. Kennedy & N Mason beat A Eden & J Holland -22 16 17
WD Final	K Goodall & L Radford beat Mrs T Bennett & Miss C Hunter -15 16 12
XD Final	A Eden & K Goodall & L Radford beat A Moore & Mrs T Bennett 15 5
VS Final	D Welsman beat D Holman 15 16
CLASS	
2 Final	M Harper beat M Lowe 15 12

STAMCO

TIMBER TO THE TRADE

Medals for England in Israel

These Games are akin to the Olympic Games and in fact recognised by the I.O.C. They are held in Israel every four years, and bring together Jewish sportsmen from all over the world. Although many international athletes take part, table tennis has never sent too many of its top players. Those I can recall are the great Angelica Rozeanu of Romania (World Champion 1951 to 1955), Suzy Javor (Hungary), Norbert Van Der Wolle and Rosmarin of Belgium plus our own Stan Jacobson, Irene Ogus and Jeff Ingber. The amazing Leah Neuberger of USA, world champion in 1948 and 1956 in mixed doubles was also there once or twice. *Writes Alan Shepherd*

This time it was quite difficult, and I counted no fewer than 13 world ranked players who were taking part. The highest ranked man unfortunately did not show. This was Evgenij Brainin, the Russian who has just joined Grove and who stands at No. 114. He did compete at Marseilles in 1991 in the European Maccabiah Games, where he mysteriously lost in the men's final to Leonid Geisman of Germany, a tremendous player, but with no world ranking. Apart from Geisman who was in the German team and seeded no. 8 there were the four Israelis, Michael Kedar (193) Guy Basis (211) Yosef Bogen (270) and Izhak Abramovitz (293), Yair Nathan of Peru (279) and the highest ranked man in the tournament (at 177) Dimitry Abramenko of Kazakhstan. Seed No. 7 was a very talented American named Barry Dattel.

In the ranks of the fairer sex, Elena Timina of Russia at No. 39 was the top world ranked player present. She is, of course, very well known and popular in England through her open tournament



Russia's Elena Timinia

and British League activities, and I formed the view early on that she had only had to turn up to win gold. Opposing her, however, were her teammates Irina Palina (54) and Marina Kravchenki (108), three Israelis, Tatiana Stofblat (205) Sarit Hose (210) and Zoya Sidorovski (235) plus Tracy Ginsbury (260) from South Africa.

Our only world ranked player was Brian Wright, the Scottish No. 3 or 4, who is at No. 323 on the list, but he had chosen to get married this summer, and was thus not in our team. Had he been, he could well have been struggling against the fellows I have named!

Our men were Morris Greenberg (Herts), Joel Roodyn (Middlesex), Dov Katz (Avon) and Jason Tendler (Essex). In the opening Team Event they had a bloodless victory over Argentina by 4-0 but then were brought up short when the USA beat us 4-0. Their team consisted of the No. 7 seed, Dattel, Dicky Fleisher (whose standard was of the nature of top 50 in England) and a Simon Shtofmaker who could also play a bit. He had a rather tasty service when with his bat in his right hand, he hit the ball over his left shoulder. This had all the umpires crowded round, and they were forced to declare the service good! Mr Shtofmaker was a great character who had played in the World Vets at Baltimore where he told me his

only loss was to Liang Ko Liang! Next opponents were Holland, who had one brilliant young player, Jonah Kahan, but nobody backed him up, and we scraped through 4-3, putting us in the quarter-final.

The match against Germany was very exciting with plenty of crowd participation, and one sensational win for Dov Katz. The result, however was 4-1 to the Germans, and an exit for us.

Our ladies consisted of Talya Greenberg (Herts), Jo Solley, Lisa Cohen and Sally Raymond (formerly Prowen), all from Middlesex. They took part in a Round Robin of six countries. Victories over Austria and Argentina by 3-0 were cancelled out by defeats all by 3-0 against Israel, South Africa and C.I.S. The resultant fourth place rather remarkably led to our team receiving Bronze Medals.

The Junior Boys line-up was Bradley Cohen, Richard Binstock, Darryl Melzack and Mark Freyd. Their matches were extremely hard and, considering the strength of this opposition, our youngsters did remarkably well. A splendid win by 3-0 over USA was negated by a 0-3 result v Argentina. The crunch match was against South Africa in which a victory would have put us in with a medal opportunity in the quarter final. Sadly we just went down by 2-3, and also lost 3-2 to



Russia's Evgenij Brainin, the No. 1 seed, unfortunately did not compete

Germany. The outstanding player was Bradley Cohen, and I was so impressed with his play that I signed him on for my team in the North Middlesex League!

We had two teams in the Veterans Events. Stuart Greenberg, Ian Mablin and Stuart Spurling represented the over 40's, and victories by 3-1 over USA and Australia secured silver medals for them, gold going to Israel. Ronnie Herber, Eric Finestone and I formed the over 50 squad. We beat USA 3-0 but lost 3-1 to Israel and were awarded unofficial silver medals. In our match against USA I came up against another marvellous character. His name was Manny Moskowitz and he claimed that he would be 75 on his next birthday. He said that he was All American Champion in 1936 and his doubles partner in those days was the famous Sol Schiff.

When the individual events started our men immediately had the most fantastic wins. Following a walk-over, Jason Tendler had the frightening task of sorting out Dicky Fleisher. This he did in quite brilliant fashion in winning 3-1 - all singles matches here being "best of five." His reward for his great win was a contest with No. 1 seed Abramenko. Ilford League Div. 1 against Russian world ranked player sadly saw Jason blasted off the table. Next up was Joel Roodyn. He came through a five setter against a very good Lithuanian player, Kolcovas, and then faced the wily USA vet Shtofmaker. Wonderfully, Joel equalled Liang by winning in three straight games. This took him into the last 16, but there he was seen off by the Israeli, Guy Basis.

Dov Katz had a good opening win over the Dutchman David Rosenstein, but slightly disappointingly then lost to Benny Feingolf of Germany by three games to one. Morris Greenberg started with a comfortable win over an Argentinian, then took out Gribnev, a high-class Bulgarian player, by three games to two. Morris was thought by us to have a real chance of getting a medal from here, even though he was due to play the brilliant Dutch boy, Jonah Kahan, who had just put out Bogen (in Round 1). I am afraid that Jonah was too good for Morris.

Our girls had really no chance of progress with all those world ranked players in a draw of only 32. Jo Solley had a win, then met Timina. Talya had a win and then met Stofblat. Sally had a walk-over, then played Tracy Ginsberg. Lisa Cohen found the Argentinian girl Zdrojewski too good

for her. Later on Talya rescued something from the wreckage by winning the Plate Event.

In Men's Doubles, Dov and Morris had a terrific win against the Canadians, Rene Lewandowski and Mitch Rothfleisch, but bowed out in the next round against Basis and Bogen, of Israel. Joel and Jason were taken out by the Germans, Geisman and Feingold. The Women's Doubles event produced a very weird match in Round two. Our girls Jo Solley and Lisa Cohen, who are jolly good league players, beat two Argentinians in the first round, and went on to play the World No. 108 Kravchenko, partnered by Anna Isaev of Germany, who would probably get into one of the weaker county sides in England. Astonishingly, Anna was so petrified at playing alongside a superstar that she could hardly get the ball over the net, and nothing that the Russian girl could do helped. As a result our girls went through into the semi-final where they secured bronze medals by losing to Hose/Stofblat.

I cannot report any degree of success for the junior boys in their individual events but in the Veterans' events we brought in our "Joker" in the form of one Jeffrey Ingber, to play in the Over 50 singles. In the sixties, Jeff was England No. 3 and actually was Maccabiah champion in 1957 and 1961, then losing finalist in 1969. To our dismay, Jeff must these days be a better squash player (he represents Lancashire in Vets he tells me) since he lost in Round 1. I have to report that I actually beat an American in Round 1 before bowing out in Round 2 to an Israeli.

In the over 40 singles, our star was Ian Mablin, who reached the semi-finals and secured a bronze medal. In doubles, Ian was partnered by Stuart Greenberg and they secured another bronze for a semi-final loss.

Finals night was fairly remarkable. Guy Basis had eliminated the No. 1 seeded Russian, Abramenko by 3-2 in the semis, so played his Israeli team-mate, Michael Kedar, winner over Jonah Kahan, in the Final. It was difficult to concentrate on this match when there was simultaneously going on the women's final between Timina and Kravchenko at the other end of the Hall. Irena appeared to be coasting in Game one, but still trailed by 15-18 when to everybody's horror, the dreaded 'expedite' was called. It did not seem to matter that Kravchenko took that game. Since Irena is one of the best defenders in the world and

also hits like a rocket with her backhand, it seemed that the expedite rallies were just made for her. It did not work quite like that, as it happened. Game two jogged along to about 6-6 then, don't ask me why, Irena gave up, and lost 6-21. She tried again at the beginning of Game three but fell behind to 12-18 when she appeared to be on the verge of chucking it in for good. Incredibly she now fought back to win 24-22 and was only 2-1 down in games. Kravchenko, to her credit, did not lose her nerve and played very steadily in Game four, which she won 21-16. Meanwhile, Michael Kedar had secured the gold medal by beating Asis in the men's singles.

I have now taken part in these Maccabiah Games eight times between 1961 and 1993. It has always been a wonderful experience and quite different to any other sporting event in which one might participate.



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BFL Grove boast 100% record

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Vymura's Jonathan Taylor

BFL Grove are already the only side in the Premier Division who can still boast a 100% record which, of course, is hardly surprising considering the strength of their squad. In fact, they have only dropped two sets in their first four matches and these were both lost in the match against Vymura. The Cheshire side's Jonathan Taylor beat Chris Oldfield and then partnered Graham Clarke to victory over Oldfield and Steve Ward, but Vymura were still on the wrong end of a 12-2 scoreline. *Writes Aubrey Drapkin.*

The only drawn match to date came when Sedgfield entertained Team Peniel. Player of the match Sean Gibson won all three of his sets for Peniel and Andrew Eden and Steve Dorking proving to be too strong for the Scots Euan Walker and Ian Stokes. For Sedgfield Bradley Billington and Stokes both took two sets with Walker and John Hilton both managing to get one apiece. Billington and Hilton combined to take the second doubles set.

the way with seven points out of eight having taken maximum points from Vymura II, Uxbridge (Burton) and Derwent. The only point lost was when Leckie T.T.C. held them to a 4-4 draw. This was an all round performance by the Walsall club with Adrian Thorp, Jill Harris, Dave Hanney and Keith Fellows all getting one set.

But despite this performance against Leicester they languish at the foot of the table, their only other point coming from a draw with Uxbridge.

Linda Farrow are the early pace setters in division two south East with maximum points from the first four outings. Byng Hall, Team Peniel II, Ashford and Norwich Todd Foxwood have all fallen to the Londoners whose John Taylor, Grant Solder and Duncan Taylor have all claimed 'player of the match' awards.

Division two south west already looks to be a fight between Horsham Angels II and VRS Fareham. Horsham have so far beaten Amity Generation, Jolliffe Poole and BFL Grove Colts to sit on top of the table. VRS had successes against Poole and DML White Hart Launceston II but then dropped a point to Kingshurst Bribar. Bathwick Tyres seconds started badly with a defeat away to Launceston but by being able to field a stronger team have since beaten Kingshurst and Amity Generation.

Gridfine St. Neots are making an impact in their first season in the league, being the leaders in division 3 east. After victories over the Chelmsford League and Bren Juniors they slipped up against neighbours Peterborough who had Denis Neale in their team, but then bounced back to beat Norwich Todd Foxwood II. Peterborough and the Chelmsford League share second place with five points each.

Division 3 Midlands looks like being keenly contested with no club retaining an unbeaten record and four of them on six points from four matches. Hawbush C.C. have a slightly better set difference having won three successive matches against Horsham III, Colley Toyota II and Bathwick Tyres III after losing out to OLOP II in their first match. Bribar Colley Toyota II have beaten

Both clubs then won their next two matches to share second place in the division. Sedgfield won 9-5 away to Bathwick Tyres and 8-6 at home to Policy Plus St. Neots. Peniel defeated Horsham Angels 9-5 and then beat Vymura by the same score.

Horsham Angels got their victory in the top flight by beating Bathwick Tyres 10-4.

BFL Grove also dominate both first divisions with their second team, that includes England international Michael O'Driscoll, top of the northern section with four victories from four matches and their third team likewise top of the Southern Section with a similar record. Sedgfield II won their first two encounters in the North but were then held to a draw by both British Gas CMK and Olton and West Warwicks. Despite these two set backs they are in second place behind Grove.

In the southern section the Haringey club, Edison, also started with two victories - 5-3 against the Welshmen Bribar Colley Toyota and 6-2 away to fellow Londoners, Rejects. In their next match, however, they found Jimmy Stokes in fine form and went down 5-3 to the Reading side OLOP. In division two north, Leicester Lions lead

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Launceston III, OLOP II and Horsham III. The other Welsh side, Parkside Dragons Newport won their opening matches against Bathwick Tyres, Bromsgrove and Horsham before going down to Launceston.

Launceston's other victories have been against Bathwick Tyres and Bromsgrove.

Drumchapel Glasgow are favourites in division 3 north, but they slipped up away to BFL Grove IV after winning their first three matches. This has allowed Sedgefield III and Mooreland Seasiders of Blackpool to jointly take over at the top of the table. Both teams have lost one point, both being held by Grove.

As expected Barclays Bank still have a 100% record in division 3

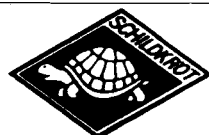
south and top the table, having dropped only five sets in four matches. Rejects II and Lennox House Group look to be the teams that will challenge for the second spot this division.

Anyone regularly using the telephone line to obtain the results will know that I nearly refer to this as the "Friendly Line". On Sunday 3rd October I had to chase two results only to be told by the secretaries that they had already put them on my answering machine. The only trouble is - I don't have one. Apparently they had both got the wrong number and the gentleman whose machine they got hadn't given his name, but had simply said 'this is my friendly answering machine.'

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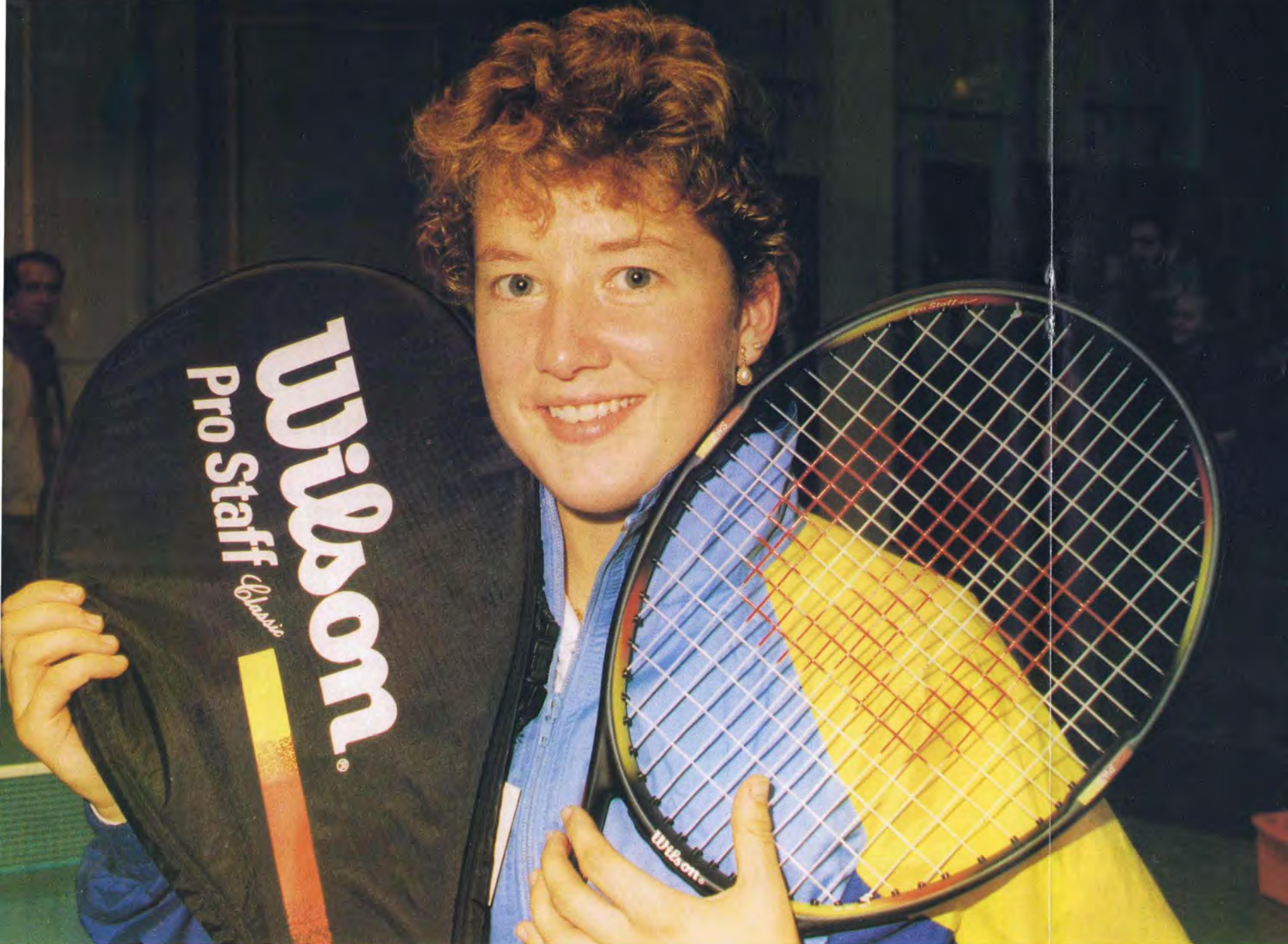
PREMIER DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS				
BFL Grove	4	4	-	-	54	2	8				
Sedgefield	4	3	1	-	34	22	7				
Team Peniel	4	3	1	-	34	22	7				
DML Launceston	4	2	-	2	26	30	4				
Vymura	4	2	-	2	23	33	4				
Horsham	4	1	-	3	25	31	2				
St. Neots	4	-	-	4	17	39	-				
Bathwick Tyres	4	-	-	4	11	45	-				
DIVISION ONE NORTH											
BFL Grove II	4	4	-	-	26	6	8				
Sedgefield II	4	2	2	-	21	11	6				
Olton & West Warwicks	4	2	2	-	21	11	5				
Humberside	4	1	2	1	15	17	4				
City of Sunderland	4	1	1	2	15	17	3				
British Gas CK	4	1	1	2	14	16	3				
R. M. Lincoln	4	1	1	2	13	19	3				
Cheltenham	4	-	-	3	3	29	-				
DIVISION ONE SOUTH											
BFL Grove III	4	4	-	-	24	8	8				
Edison	3	2	-	1	14	10	4				
OLOP	4	2	-	2	16	16	4				
Colley Toyota	3	1	1	1	13	11	3				
Rejects	3	1	-	2	9	15	2				
BSG Brentwood	4	1	0	3	13	19	2				
G. S. Larkhall	3	-	1	2	7	17	1				
DIVISION TWO NORTH											
Leicester Lions	4	3	1	-	19	13	7				
Uxbridge	4	2	1	1	20	12	5				
Vymura II	4	2	1	1	20	12	5				
Leeds	4	2	1	1	16	16	5				
Derwent	4	1	1	2	16	16	3				
V. R. Warrington	4	1	1	2	16	16	3				
Levi's	4	1	-	3	11	21	2				
Leckie	4	-	2	2	10	22	2				
DIVISION TWO SOUTH EAST											
Linda Farrow	4	4	-	-	23	9	8				
P. A. Croydon	4	3	-	1	21	11	6				
Byng Hall	4	3	-	1	20	12	6				
Ashford	4	1	2	1	18	14	4				
JAGS	4	1	2	1	15	17	4				
Fellows Cranleigh	4	1	1	2	15	17	3				
Norwich 4	4	-	1	3	9	23	1				
Team Peniel II	4	-	-	4	7	25	-				
DIVISION TWO SOUTH WEST											
Horsham II	3	3	-	-	19	5	6				
VRS Fareham	3	2	1	-	17	7	5				
Launceston II	4	2	1	1	21	11	5				
Kingshurst	4	1	2	1	17	15	4				
Bathwick II	3	2	-	1	11	13	4				
BFL Colts	4	1	1	2	14	18	3				
A. G. Fareham	4	-	1	3	10	22	1				
Jolliffe Poole	3	-	-	3	3	21	-				
DIVISION THREE EAST											
Gridfine St. Neots	4	3	-	1	19	13	6				
Peterborough	4	2	1	1	18	14	5				
Chelmsford League	4	2	1	1	17	15	5				
BSG Brentwood II	4	2	-	2	19	13	4				
Fellows Cranleigh II	4	2	-	2	17	15	4				
Brit. Ipswich	4	1	2	1	13	19	4				
Brent Juniors	4	1	1	2	15	17	3				
Norwich II	4	-	1	3	10	22	1				
DIVISION THREE MIDLAND											
Hawbush	4	3	-	1	20	12	6				
Colley Toyota II	4	3	-	1	19	13	6				
P. D. Newport	4	3	-	1	17	15	6				
Launceston III	4	3	-	1	17	15	6				
OLOP	4	1	1	2	16	16	3				
Horsham III	4	1	-	3	14	18	2				
Bromsgrove	4	1	-	3	13	19	2				
Bathwick III	4	-	1	3	11	21	1				
DIVISION THREE NORTH											
Blackpool	4	3	1	-	21	11	7				
Sedgefield III	4	3	1	-	21	11	7				
Glasgow	4	3	-	1	21	11	6				
BFL Grove IV	4	1	2	1	17	15	4				
Uxbridge II	4	1	1	2	16	16	3				
AALCO Leeds	4	1	1	2	12	20	3				
Crusaders Lincoln	4	1	-	3	11	21	2				
Co-op	4	-	-	4	9	23	-				
DIVISION THREE SOUTH											
Barclays Bank	4	4	-	-	27	5	8				
Rejects II	3	2	-	1	13	11	4				
WSIHE L. H. G.	3	2	-	1	12	12	4				
G. S. Larkhall II	3	1	1	1	11	13	3				
Linda Farrow II	4	1	-	3	15	17	2				
Ellenborough	4	1	-	3	11	21	2				
Adeyfield N. A.	3	-	1	2	7	17	1				



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Andrea Holt's hidden talents



Sporting all-rounder seems to sum up Andrea Holt the 22 year old from Bury who has already claimed the national singles title twice. But while most of us know her as a talented table tennis player, she has other hidden assets as well. *Writes Jim Beckley.*

Earlier this year she made her debut for tennis club Holcombe Brook. So what you may say, plenty of table tennis players are handy with the larger racket as well. But this north Manchester club are the top womens team in the land and Andrea is preparing to play a key role in their

future plans.

Twelve months ago she had never played competitive tennis. Then she signed up with her local club more as a means of keeping fit than anything else and has never looked back.

Showing the sort of commitment she gives to table tennis, she soon provided enough promise to catch the attention of Holcombe manager Tony Lawson.

"I wouldn't have believed it. For a girl who has never played at this level before she's amazing. She has natural talent and because of her table tennis exploits

is very fit."

She was quickly drafted into the Holcombe first team squad and although mostly on the sidelines, had the satisfaction of seeing the team win the Everest National Club League at the first attempt.

Ironically, she may get her big chance to become a regular, thanks to a change of rules. Last year Holcombe won the league mainly because they fielded two top Russian players. Now there are rumours that teams may only field one foreign player and that could let Andrea in.

At every opportunity she plays in LTA/Volkswagen tournaments and a handicap of 15.3 classifies her as a "higher grade of club player."

In between tennis and table tennis any spare time is spent on the golf course. "It's too expensive to join a club, so the municipal course at Burnley is ideal for me," she says. Whilst not having a handicap, a recent round of 89 on a par 72 course would probably give her a handicap of 18.

But beyond sport there is a more serious Andrea. Somewhere in between all this activity she is taking a B Tech

National Diploma in Sports Studies. She has already landed a distinction in her first year and is aiming to finally go for gold and get a degree.

In the meantime table tennis continues to take up the major part of her daily lifestyle. Two and a half hours a day is set aside for practice which she hopes will enable her to retain her singles title in March next year.

Tough, stubborn but a natural born winner. That's the description given to those born under the sign of Scorpio and Andrea Holt who will be 23 this month, fits it perfectly. *Pictures by John F.A. Wood*

Championships off to great start

THE Championships, successful as ever, got off to a great start with over 130 teams in action on the opening day. *Writes Doug Moss.*

Senr 1B Div:- Berks , 4 Middx II. 6. Avon 7 Berks II 3.

Berks first team, on demotion from Premier Div, lost their first match to Middx 2nds. David Goode (Mi) played well in winning his singles matches, including a 14 in 3rd win over David Barr. Gemma Schwartz was the successful Berks player with 2 comfortable wins. Avon went 2 nil down to Berks II but came back for 7-3 win with Michelle Cohen and Helen Perrott winning their four events.

Senr 2A Div:- Notts 6, Ches 4, Leics 2, 7 Clwyd 3, Staffs II, 4 Lancs II. 6. Staffs III, 0 Lancs 2. 10 Cumbria 1 Warwicks. 2. 9.

Notts could well be contenders for promotion and got off to a good start with a win over Ches. R Yong (Ng No. 1) won his two matches. Lancs II, down from Div 1, also started well with wins over Staffs II and III teams. Mathew Brown and Jose Bongers did well to win their four matches for Staffs II. Graham Clarke (La) played well and did not drop a game in these two matches. Events were all two straight in the Leics II/Clwyd match. The Leics men - Maurice Newman, Keith Fellows and Ian Brown - won their six matches and Natasha Williams had two comfortable victories for Clwyd. five events went to decider in the Cumbria/Warwicks II match but the visitors went away with a 9-1 win.

Senr 2B Div:- Somerset 8 Avon II. 2. Wilts 7 Glos 3. Worcs II. 2. Worcs 1. 8.

The Somerset team was in good form with their 8-2 win over Avon II. The tightest match was Lyn Addicott's (So) win over Kelly Harris 17, -22, 18. Wilts were aided in their win over Glos with Brenda Lee, the Wiltshire womens singles champion, and Helen Frost being unbeaten. Worcs should be good contenders for promotion this season. They got on their way with an 8-2 win over Worcs



Wiltshire's Womens Singles Champion Brenda Lee was unbeaten against Gloucester

II. Adrian Tottey was in very good form for the II team with wins in deciding games against Trevor Washington and Eric Hardman.

Senr 2C Div:- Suffolk II. 2 Kent II. 8 Kents II did well on their visit to The Dome, Ipswich with a convincing win. Sarah Davidson and Clare Lowe each had a win for Suffolk II. In Sarah Davidson's other match, against Carly Riggs, she lost 18, -10, -22.

Senr 2D Div:- Oxon 6 Herts III, 4. Hants II. 8 Dorset 2.

Oxon did well with a win over Herts 3rds. Tony Gorman and Dawn Barnett (Ox) had four wins. Gorman beat Chris Marlow (He) -16, 13, 20, Dorset visited Hants II and got off to a good start with wins by Brian Burn and Dave Sharples. But that was the extent of their success. Dorset team was handicapped by being a player short.

Junr 1B Div:- Hants 2 Kent 8. Essex 2. 2 Bucks 8. Glam 6 Sussex 4. Glam 5 Gwent 5. Sussex 5 Gwent 5. Sussex 10 Somerset 0. Somerset 2 Glam 8. seven matches were played in Swansea. Glam got off to a good start with a win over Sussex but were forced to a draw by Gwent. Five of the events were decided narrowly in three games with Gwent coming out on top in four of these. Somerset, on promotion, were in some difficulty losing 0-10 to Sussex and 8-2 versus Glam. Hants, also on promotion, lost 8-2 to Kent. Joanne Barham (K) beat Donna Granville -19, 20, 20 but lost to Lorna Dutch 20 and 18. The Bucks team did very well on their visit to Basildon to beat Essex 3rds 8-2. Harry and Tom Yeates and Lucy Templeton had 100% success for Bucks.

Junr 2A Div:- Northants 7 Ches II. 3. Lancs II. 5 Oxon 5. Lincs 6. Warwicks 2 4. Ches II. 6 Warwicks 2. 4. Leics 3 Northants 7. Ches II. 3 Derby 7 Oxon 5 Lincs 5. Warwicks 1 8 Leics 2 Lancs 2. 3 Northants 7. Warwicks II. 4 Leics 6. Lancs II. 1 Derby 9. Lincs 6 Warwicks 4.

Twelve matches were played at Grantham T.T. Centre. Northants just failed to get promotion but with four players from last season's team - Joe Trippett, Paul Adams, Sally Russell and Ruth Hickman - got off to a very good start with three 7-3 wins. Derbys on demotion from Div 1, also started well with 9-1 win over Lancs 2nds and 7-3 defeat of Ches. 2nds. Lincs made a good fight back against Oxon, coming from 3-5 to secure a draw. In the final event Darryl Davies (Li) beat Fraser Harris 19, -17, 19. Lincs also

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2

made a good finish against Warwicks II. With match score 4-4, they won the last two events.

Junr 2B Div:- Hunts 4 Essex III. 6. Bucks 7 Beds 3. Cambs 2 Norfolk II. 8. Cambs 4 Norfolk III. 6. Herts II. 8 Suffolk II.2.

Hunts, runners-up last season, slipped in their first match of the season. They lost 6-4 to Essex 3rds. Graham Winberg and Nicky Lapwood (E) won their four matches. Norfolk 2nd and 3rd teams visited Soham Sports Centre and both teams came out on top against Cambs. Norfolk 3rd team, making its debut to the Champs, went two-nil down but came back for a 6-4 win. Herts 2nds 8-2 but there were some close matches. Josh Lury (He) beat Robert Davey -12, 19, 26.

Junr 2C Div:- Gla II. 5 Devon II. 5. Glam II 7 Devon III 3. Cornwall 4. Wilts 6. Glos 2 Avon 8. Dorset 5 Worcs 5. Glam 2nds received the Devon 2nd and 3rd teams. Against Devon 2nds the team was 4-3 down when Robert Chell (Gn) beat Peter Thomas -17, 19, 24, which helped the team to get a draw. Against Devon 3rds Chell had another 26-24 win in a deciding game! Glam got a 7-3 win. Gareth Brooking (Dv3) won his two matches. Wilts beat Cornwall 6-4 on their visit to Falmouth. Avadh Srivastava (Co) won both his matches. The Glos. girls - Ann Humble and Neil Garlick - each won a singles against Avon, who got an 8-2 win. Worcs, who were a player short, were 5-3 down against Dorset but came back to get a draw. Chris Witham won two matches for Dorset and Zoe Evans got two wins for Worcs.

Junr 2D Div:- Surrey II. 7 Berks II. 3. Surrey III. 1 Berks II. 9. Middx II. 2 Hants II. 8. Sussex 3. Kent III. 7. Sussex II. 4 Kent II. 6.

Berks 2nds visited New Malden for two matches. They started with a 9-1 win over Surrey 3rd team. Later there was

a hard fought match against Surrey 2nds, who had come down from Div. 1. Surrey 2nds came out on top with a 7-3 win. The 2nd and 3rd teams of Sussex and Kent met at Hove. Scott Friday (under 12 national No. 1) made his first appearance in the Champs and won his two matches to assist Kent 3rds get a 7-3 win. Kent 2nds were also successful against Sussex 2nds with a 6-4 win. Ben McCarthy (K) beat Martyn Sims (Sx) 20, -16, 24. Hants 2nds started very well with an 8-2 win over Middx 2nds.

Vets 1A Div:- Leics 6 Worcs 3.

Worcs went 4-nil down on their visit to



Kent's Scott Friday National under 21, Champion won his two debut games.

Leics. They fought back to win the next three events by taking the mens doubles. Janet Hunt had a 23 and 17 win over Eileen Shaler and Mervyn Wood beat Steve White. But Leics won 6-3 with Maurice Newman involved in three of their wins.

Vets 1B Div:- Glos 6 Middx . 3. Essex III. 3 Essex II. 6. Hants 4. Kent II. 5. Berks . 5 Somerset 4.

What a match between promotees

Hants 1st and Kent 2nds. Visitors Kent led 3-2. There followed three events which each ended at 20 in deciding games and took two hours to complete! Gill Larking (Ha) beat Pam Butcher, Keith Clark (K) beat Bob Cox and Chris Shetler (Ha) had a win over Paolo Beck. Kent won 5-4. Glos, on promotion, started with a good win over Middx 1st team. Bill Brookman (Mi) had a 15 and 18 win over Dennis Holland and, with Mary Sawyer, won the mixed doubles in the 3rd game. Essex 3rd team, on promotion, started against their 2nd team and suffered a 6-3 defeat. Berks/Somerset match went to a 4-4 scoreline when Ian Schwartz beat John Crabtree for the Berks win.

Vets 2A Div:- Warwick II. 6. Staffs 3. Northants II. 2 Northants 7. Notts 3. N'berland 6.

Warwicks 2nds, on promotion, got a good win over Staffs 1st team. Phillippe Paine, Barry O'Brien and Ann Lloyd were the successful Warwicks players. Northants 2nds, also on promotion, met their 1st team and went two nil up. However, the 1st team got on top to win 7-2. Michael Edwards/Brian D'Hooghe (Npl) won the mens doubles 28 and 22! N'berland did well to win 6-3 at Notts with Maurice Cheek (Nd) involved in three of the wins.

Vets 2B Div:- Beds 4 Bucks 5. Cambs 3. Essex IV 6. Norfolk 9 Norfolk II. 0. Bucks, on demotion, got off to a good start with a 5-4 win over Beds 1st team. They won the two doubles events at 20 and 18 in deciding games. Essex 4th team got a 6-3 win over Cambs at Soham Sports Centre. Geoff Boyce was involved in three of the Essex wins. Norfolk 1st team, on demotion, met their 2nd team and struck the first blow for a return to Div. 1 with a 9 nil win.

Vets 2C Div:- Oxon 5 Surrey II. 4. Kent III. 1. Sussex II. 8. Middx II. 8 Oxon II. 1.

County Championship results will be given, as early as possible, on each Monday morning after the seven organised match dates

**FOR ALL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS
TELEPHONE 0891 664300**

Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at other times

Oxon 1st team, on demotion, went 2-nil down against Surrey 2nds but took the next five events, including two doubles, and finally won 5-4. Kent 3rd team found it hard going on promotion and were beaten 8-1 by Sussex 2nds. Middx 2nd team was also dominant with an 8-1 win over Oxon 2nds. Alf Davis (Ox) got a 15 and 13 win over John Smith (Mi).

Vets 2D Div:- Avon 4 Devon 5. Surrey III. 7 Wilts 2. Hants II. 9 Somerset II. 0.

Avon and Devon finished with almost identical records in this Div last season. It was not surprising there should be a 5-4 result, which went to Devon this time. In the mens doubles Gary Baldwin/ Bob Murray (Av) beat Mike Short/Paul Freeman 16, -18, 23. Surrey 3rds, on promotion, met Wilts 1st team, on demotion and with a weakened team. The Surrey team won 7-2 with John Callcut involved in three of the wins. Hants 2nds were in fine form with a 9-nil defeat of Somerset 2nds.

Vets 3A Div:- Wilts II. 1 Warwicks III.

8. Ches III. 7 Herts IV. 2. Hunts 3 Beds II. 6. Beds III. 6 Hunts II. 3. Wilts II, on demotion, received newcomers Warwicks 3rd team. The visitors went 6 nil up and finished with an 8-1 win. In the mens doubles Mike Howell/Roy Prosser (Wa) beat Alan Cooke/John Nash 10, -19, 20. Ches 3rds, another new team, also got off to a good start with a 7-2 win over Herts 4th team. But six events needed a decider including Peter Jones (Ch) 21, -20, 21 win over George Tyler. Hunts 1st team, on demotion, received Beds 2nds. Four events were decided narrowly in 3rd games but it was the visitors who got a 6-3 win. Beds 3rd team was also successful with a 6-3 win over Hunts 2nds.

Vets 3B Div:- Kent IV. 6. Berks IV. 3, Herts III. 4. Hants IV. 5. Berks II. 7. Dorset III. 2. Hants III. 9 Sussex IV. 0. Newcomers Kent 4th team did well to get a 6-3 win over Berks 4th team. Barry Grimwade and Bruce Bengé (K) won their four singles events but lost the mens doubles. Against newcomers Hants 4th team were successful with a

5-4 win over Herts 3rd team. C. Prendergast was involved in three of the Hants wins. Berks 2nds, on demotion went into a 3-nil lead and won 7-2 against Dorset 3rds. The Dorset team won the two doubles. Hants 3rd team was dominant with a 9-nil win over Sussex 4th team with just two events needing a decider.

Vets 3C Div:- Northants III. 3. Devon III 6. Devon II. 4. Wilts III. 5. Berks III. 4 Gloucs II. 5. Herts V. 7 Herefords 2. Devon have two new teams in Vets Section. Devon 3rds did well on their visit to Northants to beat their 3rd team 6-3. Six events went to a decider. Devon 2nds did not fare so well losing 5-4 to visitors Wilts 3rds. Tony Mileham (Wi) won his two matches. Gloucs 2nds did well on their visit to reading to get a 5-4 win over Berks 3rds. A vital event was the mixed doubles when John Fannin/Sheila Matthews on 19, -13, 21. Four events were decided narrowly in 3rd games but Herts 5th team beat Hereford 7-2. The closest match was Brian Gale's 15, -21, 23 win over Pat Meredith.

See the Stars at Birmingham



Sweden's Jan Ove Waldner



England's Lisa Lomas

**The European Table
Tennis Championships
25th March - 4th April 1994
THE NATIONAL INDOOR ARENA**

One of the premier events

THE East Yorkshire Junior Open Select Championships played at the Spa Royal Hall, Bridlington, on 2nd and 3rd October 1993, further enhanced its reputation as one of the premier events on the Junior calendar. *Writes Craig Milner*

With an entry which maintained the Junior numbers from previous years, it was interesting to note all the top 17 ranked Junior girls entered the tournament.

Being one of the first events of the year it is always an early indication for the coming season and the signs are that this year's Junior boys competitions could be the most wide open for many seasons.

With the withdrawal of top seeded Steven Meedings, through injury, and 2nd seed Andrew Wilkinson falling in the 2nd round to Ali Subhan, the way was open for some of the less fancied players. After local favourite Michael James was defeated by Vince Avery, at the quarter final stage, 21-12 18-21, 27-25, in the match of the tournament, only Terry Young of the top four seeds could boost a place in the semi final. His opponent there was the unseeded Jun Tsuji from Shropshire, who had taken full advantage of Meedings' absence to make good progress in the top quarter of the draw, and continued his good form to oust Young in two straight games. In the other semi Ben Johnson, from Berkshire, overcame Avery to take his place in the final, but after two close games could not contain Tsuji who ran away with the third game, 21-11.

The Junior girls singles ran according to form with Nicola Deaton and Sally Marling reaching the final in convincing style, brushing aside the challenges of Gemma Schwartz and Jennifer Coleman in the semi finals. On this occasion Nicola came out on top in a high quality final in which neither girl took complete control.

There was a local victory in the Junior Boys doubles when Michael and Simon James, from Bridlington gained a comfortable win over Ben Johnson and Philip Neal.

Sally Marling and Gemma Schwartz combined for their third junior doubles title in four years, this time defeating Nicola Deaton and Debbie Pestka (a replacement for another injury victim, Michelle Martin).

On the previous day the Cadet singles had followed a similar



Nicola Deaton winner of the Girls Singles title

pattern to the Juniors, with the girls being dominated by the top two seeds Tracy Davies and Debbie Pestka, Debbie winning a close final 21-18 in the third game. The boys event was much more open, eventually being taken by 2nd seed Ali Subhan, from Reading, who had a relatively easy route to the final, beating Ben Linnecar in his semi. In the final his opponent was Northumberland's Gareth Brown, who had beaten top seed Gareth Herbert in the quarters, and another higher seed Christian Thompson in the semi. It looked as though his run may have continued in the final when he recovered from an 8-1 deficit to take the first game 21-18, however with strong attacking shots on both wings Subhan took control in the next two games to emerge triumphant. Then showed his obvious delight by immediately relaying the good news by phone from courtside. He had more to phone about in the doubles, when alongside Christian Thompson they defeated another Berkshire/Kent duo in Gareth Herbert and Scott Friday. The girls doubles went according to seeding with the Peniel pairing of Tracy Davies and Verity Cleminson defeating Debbie Pestka and Alice Howard.

Scott Friday was the second winner to retain their title when he was victorious in the Under 12 boys singles over Richard Mann. Whilst Cheshire girl Karen Lockwood was a double winner taking the Under 12 and Class 2 Cadet girls titles, beating Linda Brown and Trudie Bloor respectively.

This year's entries included 21 members of the Scottish National Development squad and their main success came in the Class 2 Cadet boys, where they provided three of the semi finalists, with only Gregory Lee of Lancashire stopping a clean sweep. However two Scots progressed to the final with Stuart Wilson defeating his compatriot Adriano Marchetti.

On both days the Mayor and Mayoress of East Yorkshire Borough Council, Mr and Mrs John Ireland attended the finals, presenting prizes and spending time circulating, talking to competitors. They were extremely impressed with the sportsmanship displayed throughout, especially in the Junior and Cadet boys finals.

RESULTS

JUNIOR BOYS SINGLES

Semi Finals	Jun Tsuji	bt	Terry young	19, 22
	Ben Johnson	bt	Vince Avery	21, 14
Final	Jun Tsuji	bt	Ben Johnson	-18, 17, 11

JUNIOR GIRLS SINGLES

Semi Finals	Nicola Deaton	bt	Gemma Schwartz	16, 15
	Sally Marling	bt	Jennifer Coleman	10, 13
Final	Nicola Deaton	bt	Sally Marling	19, 21

JUNIOR BOYS DOUBLES

	Michael James	bt	Ben Johnson	8, 14
	Simon James	bt	Philip Neal	

JUNIOR GIRLS DOUBLES

	Sally Marling	bt	Nicola Deaton	15, 6
	Gemma Schwartz		Debbie Pestka	

CADET BOYS SINGLES

Semi Finals	Gareth Brown	bt	Christian Thompson	-16, 18, 18
	All Subhan	bt	Ben Linnecar	10, 17
Final	All Subhan	bt	Gareth Brown	-18, 15, 10

CADET GIRLS SINGLES

Semi Final	Tracy Davis	bt	Verity Cleminson	12, 15
	Debbie Pestka	bt	Emma Smith	13, 14
Final	Debbie Pestka	bt	Tracy Davies	-14, 17, 18

CADET BOYS DOUBLES

	Ali Subhan	bt	Scott Friday	17, 19
	Christian Thompson		Gareth Herbert	17, 19

CADET GIRLS DOUBLES

	Tracy Davies	bt	Alice Howard	18, -18, 13
	Verity Cleminson		Debbie Pestka	

UNDER 12 BOYS SINGLES

	Scott Friday	bt	Richard Mann	17, 12
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UNDER 12 GIRLS SINGLES

	Karen Lockwood	bt	Linda Brown	8, 9
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CLASS 2 CADET BOYS SINGLES

	Stuart Wilson	bt	Adriano Marchetti	16, 20
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CLASS 2 CADET GIRLS SINGLES

	Karen Lockwood	bt	Trudie Bloor	-15, 10, 5
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Coaches training weekend in Milton Keynes

The Leading Edge
by Pauline Steel

THE Regional Staff Coaches and Assistant Staff Coaches met for a training weekend at the Friendly Hotel, Milton Keynes on 25th and 26th September 1993. The current emphasis is on coach education and to this end two National Coaching Foundation workshops had been arranged by our supreme, Jill Parker. Sixteen coaches were in attendance including our vice chairperson Gail McCulloch, and Jill and Don were on hand to organise and update.

The first workshop involved presentation skills and we had all been asked to spend time in advance preparing a brief on a given subject to present to the group. Excuses for lack of preparation abounded including "I did not know until 9pm yesterday that I was attending" and "I've been abroad for two weeks." One would think we had been asked to give blood the way nervousness and apprehension took a grip. However, guinea-pig Derrick (open the window), Marples gave a typically gutsy performance to get us on our way and everyone joined in to



Gail McCulloch

Forthcoming Coaching Courses

13/14 November

Assistant Coaches Course

Venue: Southlands Leisure Centre, Middlesbrough

Coach: Dave Hewitt

Contact: Rosemary Leach, Tel: 0267 233699

Liz Benson Tel: 0270 767559

13/20 November

Sport Leader, Teacher and Assistant Course

Venue: Bewbush Leisure Centre, Crawley

Coach: Dave Berniman 0273 680397

Regional Coaching Chairman: Roy Pugh 0843 221934

20/27 November

Sport Leader, Teacher and Assistant Course

Venue: Idscall Sports Centre, Coppice Green Ln, Shifnal, Shrops

Coach: Jill Harris. Tel: 0922 612675, also Reg. C. Chairman

Contact: Victoria Wilkinson. Tel: 0743 254032

24 November / 18 December

Sport Leader, Teacher and Assistant Course

Venue: Compton Park Act. Centre, Paget Rd, Wolverhampton

Coach: Jill Harris Tel: 0922 612675

Contact: Sandra Roden: Tel: 021-446 4659

27/28 November

Assistant Coaches Course

Venue: Mike Heaffey Centre, Stanmore, Middx

Coach: Reg Rockall

Contact: Rosemary Leach Tel: 0270 233699

Liz Benson Tel: 0270 767559

11/12 December

Sport Leader, Teacher and Assistant Course

Venue: Waterfront Leisure Centre, High Street, Woolwich, SE18

Coach: Reg Rockall 081-341 9081 (Also R.C. Chairman)

provide an interesting and informative session.

Dinner in the evening was a magnificent meal which took rather longer than expected causing Tim Holder's practical physiological session to have a rather late start. Tim kept is entranced (or was it hypnotised) until near midnight though one or two of the more sturdy participants still managed to procure and quaff a pint or two (water of course).

Sunday morning and our Jogger Rose early for his pre-breakfast get lose in Milton Keynes (it's easy) 10 mile jaunt. This in preparation for today's coaching children workshop. Another very interesting lecture and debate lasting all morning.

At lunch we were advised of the decision to reduce the number of (meal) courses to avoid late evenings delays. This caused uproar with accusations of a dictatorship (Parkers rule ok!)

After our abbreviated 'snack' we settled down again for Don's sports specific presentation covering a report on the European Youth Championships amongst other current topical issues and de briefs.

Many thanks to Jill for organising a splendid weekend, this was the fourth get-together of the group and the camaraderie and debating level that improved with each gathering. A rewarding and beneficial weekend in a really welcoming, comfortable and 'Friendly' Hotel.

Career Development Course for Sportswomen supported by the Sports Council.

Myself and Sally Weston (Sussex county player) recently attended the above named course at Loughborough University. The objectives were:

- 1) To increase awareness of self as the foundation of success and of developing leadership potential.
- 2) To support the development of skills such as self diagnosis, effective communication and needs and wants, dealing with conflict and negotiation, goal setting, planning for continued self-development and of coping strategies.
4. To develop key communication skills in coaches, aimed at optimizing the growth of these skills in the performer.
5. To initiate the growth of these skills of the implications and application of the course content within the participant's governing body.

The first part of the course was introductory, finding out about people and the sports they represented: Table Tennis, Netball, Badminton, Sailing, Orienteering, Cricket, Soccer, Volleyball, Rowing, Judo.

On Saturday we had a lecture on self assessment with the view that understanding ourselves would help to understand the needs of others (i.e. coach and performer situations). The whole day was spent discussing push (assertiveness) and pull (responsiveness). How assertive can become aggressive and responsive can become submissive if you allow it to. We finished the day pairing with someone who we did not know to find out how open we are in our personalities. This was an interesting exercise because of the questions we were advised to ask it enabled us to learn from one another, comparing our different sports and coming up with similar situations and explaining how we would deal with them. The evening was spent discussing the different areas of our make up what people do or do not know about us, what we do not know about ourselves which taps into our potential.

On Sunday we moved into the performance area for women competitors and their coaches. An interesting factor was when asked "How many hats do you wear in any one day". The ladies owned up to many but the men in the group had very few, this showed womens own perception of themselves, which could be reasons for performance levels not becoming 100% due to outside factors. We worked on breaking down the word confidence into many components and the heading self belief came through as very important together with mental toughness. The final talk was about emotional swings which women seem to have to deal with more than men. Do you recognise it and can you handle the situation when it occurs during your sporting performance. It can range from a panic to a drone situation.

I felt the course was very rewarding and I hope that I can relay some of what I have learned to other women in table-tennis



T A B L E T E N N I S

DEVELOPMENT

FOUNDATION GRANT AID ETTA £500,000

(Mike Lewis V/C Development)

NEW table tennis centres are set to benefit from major capital expenditure grants from the Foundation for Sport and the ARTS (FSA).

It is well known that increased quantity and quality of facilities for table tennis are long overdue, and that a surge in the popularity of the sport of table tennis will be more easily achieved given more profile for our sport which essentially boils down to where it is played.

The ETTA are regularly being advised by member leagues and clubs about loss of playing venues which often inevitably leads to shrinking numbers and hence the decline in the ETTA membership.

SUCCESSFUL BID

Early this summer came the outstanding news that an ETTA's bid for grant aid to the Foundation for Sport and the Arts had been successful and that, "Grant Aid in the sum of £500,000 is to be set aside and earmarked for individual Foundation grants to the regional table tennis centres upon the recommendations of the Association."

The funds will therefore be granted to Table Tennis centres throughout the country to assist with capital building costs.

Partially as a result of the 'Focus Sport' initiative the ETTA is already aware of some 30 projects (all at different stages), to create new table tennis centres. We therefore anticipate no shortage of schemes applying for a share of the £500,000 which has been grant aided for this financial year. We are of course keen to hear of new projects of which we are not yet aware.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To assist the ETTA in ensuring the grant aid is used in the best interests of table tennis, an application form is now available together with "Essential Criteria." An ETTA facilities panel will assess all application's and recommend to the ETTA Management Committee projects for funding. Management Committee recommendations will be considered by the FSA who will make final decisions and grant aid accordingly.

Any person (or body) who has a table tennis centre project for which funding is required should in the first instance contact the appropriate Regional Development Officer and/or Regional Chairman to discuss the project. Application forms are available from these contacts or from the ETTA office in Hastings.

FACILITIES OFFICER

In addition to offering this grant aid via the F.S.A., the ETTA are also in the process of recruiting an experienced full time Facilities Officer whose role will be to advise and act as a catalyst to enable value for money projects to be quickly established.

This officer will be available to members with projects, in an advisory capacity from initial discussions to completion of facility projects.

This is an extremely exciting time for table tennis giving an opportunity for significant progress to project the sport forward. The ETTA are delighted to be able to offer this opportunity and assistance to its members.

Further Information From

DICCON C GRAY

(ETTA NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER)

TEL: (0424) 722525 FAX: (0424) 422103

Fair play award of Luxembourg

IT doesn't always pay to play fair. Or does it. Take the case of Luxembourg's Christian Schaus and Daniel Wintersdorf who accepted a ten minute break in their game against Norway so their opponents could fix their rackets with glue instead of replacing them as they should have done.

Unfortunately for the two Luxi players they lost their concentration and the match. However, their sportsmanship was recognised and they were awarded with a Fair Play award from the ETTU. *Writes Jim Beckley.*

Unlucky Chen

Unlucky Chen Xinhua. The 32 year Yorkshireman and former Chinese World Cup Star, was eliminated in the first round at the European Masters Cup in Hanover although all three players in that group lost one match.

After beating Croatia Zoran Primorac 3-1, he then lost to Olympic Champion Jan Ove Waldner 3-0 and although the Swedish player also went on to lose 3-1 to Primorac that one match was enough to put Chen down and out.

German ace Jorg Roskopf moved smoothly through his group and went on to win the tournament beating Peter Karlsson in the final collecting \$40,000.



Chen Xinhua



Jorg Roskopf



China's Ma Wenge, World No. 4

WORLD RANKINGS

MEN

1. K Waldner JO Sweden
2. Gattien J-P France
3. Saive J-M Belgium
4. Ma, W China
5. Kim TS Korea
6. Wang T China
7. Persson J Sweden
8. Roskopf K Germany
9. Li GS PRK
10. Grubba A Poland
14. Chen X England

WOMEN

1. Deng Y China
2. Qiao China
3. Hyun JH Korea
4. Li BH PRK
5. Gao J China
6. Chen Z China
7. Chen J TPE
8. Chai Pw HKG
9. YU SB PRK
10. Jing JH Sin
45. Lomas L England

RESULTS

EUROPEAN WOMENS LEAGUE - SUPER DIVISION

France 1	Netherlands 4	Romania 4	Slovenia 1
England 4	Sweden 1	Belgium 4	Croatia 1

EUROPEAN MASTERS CUP

Quarter Finals: Gattien bt Waldner 3-2 Roskopf bt Franz 3-1
Saive bt Grubba 3-2 Karlsson bt Primorac 3-1

Semi Finals: Roskopf bt Gattien 3-1, Karlsson bt Saive 3-2

Final: Roskopf bt Karlsson 3-1

EUROPEAN CLUB CUP OF CHAMPIONS - ROUND ONE

SC Schwechat (Austria) 1 BFL Grove (Eng) 4

RESULTS

JOOOLA EML SUPER DIVISION - 2ND ROUND

POL - SWE 4:3				ENG - NED 4:1			
Szafranec - Karlsson	-10	-16		Chen Xinhua - de Bruin	15	10	
Skierski - von Scheele	23	-14	17	Prean - Keen	-18	20	-13
Blaszczyk - Nilsson	-17	20	15	Syed - Heister	19	03	
Skierski/Karlsson				Prean/Keen			
Blaszczyk - von Scheele	-15	-14		Cooke Heister	15	15	
Skierski - Karlsson	-18	15	-15	Chen Xinhua - Keen	17	17	
Blaszczyk - von Scheele	-17	19	19				
Szafranec - Nilsson	-17	13	24				
GER - AUT 4:1				BEL - FRA 4:2			
Roskopf - Schlager	19	14		Saive JM - Chila	-16	-13	
Franz - Ding Yi	17	-13	18	Poppinka - Gattien	-08	-20	
Prause - Quian Qianli	-18	-19		Saive Ph- Legout	11	15	
Roskopf/Schlager/				Saive JM/Gattien			
Fetzner - Qian Qianli	-17	14	14	Cabrera - Eloi	10	-15	07
Roskopf - Ding Yo	-16	12	15	Saive JM - Gattien	-20	19	22
				Poppinka - Legout	-17	17	16

Getting tough

The ETTU are getting tough on teams failing to get their results in on time to me. From now on all teams who don't send in their score-cards within the three day limit are liable to fines of 100 Swiss francs, at the time of going to Press that was about £50.

Flagged

Umpires would do well to make sure they keep a copy of the latest regulations with them. At least that's the advice to officials involved with the European Club Cup of Champions. A close check on whether the highest ranked player in each team has been nominated in the correct order has been flagged up by the ETTU.

Movement

Israel seems to be the country most Russian players would like to go to. The most recent movements of players to Israel has been from the former Soviet Union. Altogether five players have decided to settle there.

Two players from Belarus and one player each from Russia, Uzbekistan and Tadjikstan have committed their future to Israel. Nearer home John Buit moved from the ETTA to the Welsh TTA.

Calendar

NOVEMBER

11-14 Austrian Open Linz
18-21 Croatia Open Zagreb
24-28 Swedish Open Karlskrona

DECEMBER

3-6 Finish Open Helsinki
17-19 Portuguese Youth Open Lisbon

Edge Over

OUR suggestion about calling an edge-ball as "Off" seems to have driven some readers near to apoplexy. Remarkably, the objections to the suggestion all include some such phrases as "There is never any doubt about" or "There were no arguments whether" ... "the ball touched the edge." "It is easily detectable, if not by sight then by sound." If we had thought that, then the subject would not have been raised in the first place. We started from the premise that it does happen that a slight touch of the edge on the far side of the table can be, and sometimes is, missed by an umpire. This can lead to a loss of confidence in the umpire. But it does give an opportunity, as was interestingly pointed out by one correspondent, for a display of sportsmanship by a player. We have seen this in the World Championships in Birmingham, when Bengtsson gave away a point by indicating that the ball had touched the table, and obviously many times since. Some people wanted to retain the element of good luck inherent in an edge-ball. We had changed good luck to bad luck. *Writes Fred Groom and Jack Randall.*

The next argument was that it could be difficult to judge whether a ball had hit the surface of the table or just had a slight edge component, ie raising the question was it just on or just off. We would say that players in fact are not unready to accept an umpire's interpretation of what happened, but more likely to be upset if there is no interpretation because the occurrence was not seen. We do agree that if the edge-ball were also noted, then there would be no need of any interpretation - obviously preferable, but is it real life? There is a majority of readers who think it is.

Our thanks go to Andy Seward and Ron Fosker for taking the time to send us their comments.

Law Changes

A number of changes in the Laws of T.T. came into force this season. These are highlighted in the new ITTF book 'Rules 1993/1995' which is the 6th edition of this handbook. The Laws form section 2 as opposed to section 3 in the previous handbook.

1) Some of the wording changes are to clarify things e.g. Law 2.2.1. points out that the clamps attaching the net to the table form part of the net assembly.

2) Law 2.3.3. says that the ball may be white, yellow or orange. In fact, many of the nominally yellow balls have been orange.

3) Incorporated in Law 2.4.5. is the requirement that the blade of the racket must be black on one side and bright red on the other. Note that this does not mean that both sides must be

rubber covered - only the side used for striking the ball. The other side may be covered with any material or merely coloured appropriately.

4) Law 2.10.1.1 deletes the word 'volley' out of the definition of a let service i.e. if the ball in service touches the net and is stopped by the receiver including by anything he wears or carries, over the table, it is a let because of the 'obstruction'. If a similar ball passes over the table without touching the receiver's hand, clothing or racket, because there is no obstruction and now such thing as a volley.

The paragraph on p8 in the October (no 217) issue of the TT magazine could be misleading. Now there is no such

thing as a volley, all you have to look out for is was it, or was it not, obstruction.

It is gratifying to see that one of our points up for discussion has found favour with the powers that be: the ideal of simplifying the Laws by getting rid of the Volley (of the October 92 issue and subsequent comments in December '92 and March/April 93.

5) Law 2.11.1.5. says that a player loses a point if the ball touches the table twice before he can strike it. The old law said touches his court twice, where of course it could spin back over the net and touch his opponent's court.

6) Law 3.2.1.3. points out that glue with liquid solvents will not be allowed after 1.6.94.

7) Law 3.2.2.2. allows for the ball being orange.

8) Law 3.2.2.4. defines the priority and dimensions of the players' numbers.

9) Law 3.2.2.10. says what to do when opponents are dressed alike.

10) Laws 3.3.2.1.; 3.3.2.2.; 3.3.2.7. and 3.3.2.8. allow for 2 assistant umpires.

11) Law 3.4.6.2. says that now, in individual events, there can be only one designated adviser.

12) Law 3.4.7.3. now gives that umpire the power to give 2 further penalty points for a second offence.

13) Laws 3.4.7.6. and 3.4.7.7. details the use of coloured cards in penalty situations.

The rest of the changes are outside the jurisdiction of the umpire.

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Pen Pal Wanted

FIRST of all I would like to say how are you? My name is Lloyd Mangange, I am a boy aged 14 years doing form three at Mutare Boys High School. I am a Table Tennis player for our national team in the under 16 boys. I am the second seed in our country, I should say I am a good player. The reason I am writing this letter to you is that would you please find me a Table Tennis player of any age whom I can communicate with, I would like to share ideas and information about how we operate in our country and so on. Would you please try and find me a player, thank you.

I hope to be receiving from you soon.

*Your in table Tennis,
Lloyd Mangange, 3
4 Carrington Road,
Darlington, Mutuare*

Complaint

I TAKE "T/T News" regularly, having long since finished with T/T myself

My only complaint is that tournaments I should like to see are over by the time I get the magazine!

Can't you do something about that?

Also, what about a few more tournaments in the West of England? We do exist, you know!

*Mr. R. Murphy
Bristol*

Ranking Interest

HAVING recently collected some £415 in levies from a Junior tournament, I'm troubled to hear so much protest and controversy of the current Ranking scheme. Indeed, it was suggested to me that certain top ranked players didn't enter the 'Cotswold' because it was considered not to be in their 'ranking' interest. I confess these complexities of the Ranking scheme are beyond me, but, if there is even an element of truth in the above, does it not beg the question that a more simplified scheme be formulated, which does not require us to be Canadian candidates for Mensa.

It so happens, I chanced upon a piece by old friend Leslie Woollard, editor of 'Table Tennis' in December issue 1951. "There is a little cloud on the horizon of some players who are beginning to speculate whether the paper perfection of grading mechanics is so admirable in practice, but there are entertaining stories of some players who calculate the effect on their grading before deciding whether they will be available for any match. Theories have even been propounded to suggest that player could 'work' his

matches to safely maintain or improve his position. It is difficult to believe that there can be any truth in such stories, but it indicates an attitude of mind so contrary to T.T. traditions and good sportsmanship, that anyone with any affection for the spirit of the game will unite in seeing that it does not arise." Apparently, it was ever so.

Jack Reeves., Gloucester

Wheelchair problems

THE ITTF Equipment Committee sympathises with Nicholas Turner who, at least when he wrote his March letter (Mailbox Section), could not manoeuvre his wheelchair under the ends of most tables. A couple of years ago someone - not a wheelchair player - brought this possible problem to our attention, and we thought enough about it to make some enquiries. In particular we checked with an association of wheel-chair players, and were told that there was no difficulty. As a result, we took no action. Furthermore, I officiated at the US Wheelchair Championships recently, and found that no one there was inconvenienced.

But on the assumption that Mr Turner is not the only player disadvantaged because of the tables, there is after all a problem, and we shall be glad to look further into it. In fact we'd have done it earlier than this, and must apologise to Mr Turner for the delay, which was occasioned by our virtually complete preoccupation with the glue problem.

Obviously we could examine every approved table, determine which ones are suitable for wheelchair players, and announce the results. Let's not; that sounds too much like work. I'd prefer to start from the other end, namely Mr Turner and other wheelchair players who are, after all, the experts in this field. We'll welcome any input: Which tables are acceptable and which are not? Please send the information - brand and model - to me at Washington NH 03280-0462, USA, or Fax to 1-603-495-1093. If there really are tables that are unsuitable for wheelchair play, we'll be glad to discuss it with their manufacturers.

*J. Rufford Harrison
ITTF, Washington, USA*

Involved

I want table tennis to thrive, but as the very moment when the possibilities are greatest, I feel intensely frustrated that circumstances prevent me playing my fullest part. Unable to see quick results, I am daunted by the immensity of the task and the paucity of people willing and able to tackle it: restrained by the need to try to make a living and to fulfil too many commitments. WC Fields said, "If at first you don't succeed, try

again. Then give up. No use being a damn fool about it." And it does sometimes seem fool hardy to carry on - too easy to escape the hassle.

Eager and willing to pleasure and with so much to be done, one can quickly take on too much and lose one's clarity of vision. You end up not doing what you are best at. Not doing things properly and letting people down, a target for glib criticism from those who do nothing. And then there is a personnel cost, a social cost, a cost in terms of income lost and career stymied. A loss of enjoyment and enthusiasm. A resentment. And a following of being something of a hypocrite - talking and writing alot but actually doing little of value.

And yet ... now is a great time to be involved. Exciting challenges. With a grandiose development strategy ('Focus Sport') in place and operative, and the European Championships coming next year, the stage is set at the national level to really put table tennis 'on the map'. The pervading atmosphere led from the top is encouraging. (How does Alan Ransome keep up his workrate, good humour and zest?!) There are many examples of this: - National Council Meetings are now positive, amicable affairs respectful of strong differences of opinion (I find myself valuing some John Prean contributions, whatever his views!), and a revitalised National Coaching Meeting increases optimism of raising playing standards.

For myself, I still want to be involved. However, for the moment I shall try to take on less but do it better. And try not to feel guilty about writing on what needs to be done - exhortations from the sideline! - because this needs to be done also. For instance, there are still too few people to do things in the grass roots - the first priority must be to recruit, train and support more helpers. More and better facilities are acquired. Each league and large club should formulate it's own development/recruitment plan and coaching strategy. All clubs should participate in the "Join the Table Tennis Club Campaign", develop school links, adopt a welcoming approach to newcomers and run 'open house' practice sessions. And underlying this to keep things going, new blood is vital in the administrative humdrum. I won't go on. The point is that more people must get involved.

So, please readers, do what you can to promote the game. Your

help is required. But not more than you can manage.

*Ken Muhr,
Stony Stratford.*

Successful

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the running of a most successful Chinese training camp held in Gillingham Kent, over the two weeks of August. In particular I would like to thank Mr Reg Thompson, Camp Organizer and Mrs Linda Ritter who was the camp Co-Ordinator, although Linda had a very difficult task to do, I would like to say I think she did a remarkable job. I would also like to say a word of thanks to both Alan Homes and Gary Halls who assisted with the coaching.

As I attended the camp for both weeks I made quite a lot of new friends from all over England.

I would like to finish my letter by addressing all those who took part in the two week camp.

I had a very enjoyable time, and enjoyed the company of you all at the camp. I would like to wish you all the very best in the future, and I hope to see you all again sometime.

*Sean McAnaey
(Northern Ireland Table Tennis)*

Solution

During the recent Peniel tournament I noticed that nine players, who won their Saturday Group matches, were unable to attend on the Sunday. One solution, apart from the unpleasant one of deducting points, might be to play a preliminary first round the day before, for those players who are unable to attend on the Sunday. Though having had a Doubles partner not attend on the Sunday to play a Doubles after losing his Group matches a few years ago, it is rather a debatable point of what can be done.

*John C. Fairweather
Woking, Surrey*

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.

News from the Counties

AVON Bob Murray

TWO wins and two losses from the opening series of county matches.

The Senior Is got off to an excellent start with a 7-3 victory over Berkshire II's at Nailsea. The ladies once again proved the mainstay of the side with Michele Cohen and Helen Perrott both winning their two singles. It was nice to see Andy Creed back in the side after a season's lay off through injury and he picked up one of his singles along with Hugh Dalton and Chris Holley who was also making a welcome return to county duty.

A below strength Senior IIs went down 8-2 away to Somerset. One win each from Mark Butler and Debbie Booy were all we had to show for the evening's efforts but I understand that both John Beer and Kelly Harris made promising county debuts.

The veterans fixture against Devon was always going to be a close result and so it proved. Devon reversed last season's score with a 5-4 victory. One singles win each from Gary Baldwin, Bob Murray and John Higgs plus a doubles success for Gary and Bob was not quite enough to take the points. Linda Porter, like Gary a first year Vet, played well without success in her matches.

The Junior side had the best result of the day returning from Gloucestershire with an 8-2 victory. Two wins each by Alex Sheppard, Graham Long and Jon Thorn were supplemented by one each from Lizzie McDonald and Jason Orlik.

County Rankings

Following the first season of county matches a new set of county rankings has been produced. Leading positions are as follows:-

Men

1. Andy Creed
2. Gary Baldwin
3. Chris Holley
4. Hugh Dalton
5. Paul Hooper
6. Mark Butler
7. Clive Ellison
8. Dov Katz
9. Barry Fudge
10. John Beer

Ladies

1. Michele Cohen
2. Helen Perrott
3. Debbie Booy
4. Carey Webb-Barrett
5. Dina Sandford

Veteran Men:-

1. Gary Baldwin
2. Bob Murray

"County Notes" is for the publicity of county activities. The accuracy of what is published is the responsibility of the County Associations, as the Editor cannot possibly know what "facts" may be incorrect. Copy containing libelous or personally abusive matter or "political" comment will not be published.

3. John Higgs
4. Mike Kimber
5. Ernie Brown
6. Dave Price

Veteran Ladies

1. Linda Porter
2. Muriel Lewis
3. Jo Etherington
4. June Watts
5. Bridget Parkhurst

Junior Boys

1. Alex Sheppard
2. Graham Long
3. Jon Thorn
4. Tom Orlik
5. Martin Smith
6. Paul Adams*
7. Matthew Loughran*
8. Brian Smith*
9. Leigh Iles*
10. Paul Hynam

Junior Girls

1. Lizzie McDonald*
2. Jessica Orlik*
3. Gemma Loughran*
4. Katie Worlick*

* Indicates Cadet



Berkshire No. 1 Junior and England No. 3 Gemma Schwartz

Entered in the County Championship this season are: 1 Senior Team, 2 Junior Team and 3 Vets Teams.

Why is the county so short of additional good ladies at both senior and junior level to stop us entering more than one team in each category. More effort and assistance is required from all the Leagues within Bedfordshire, not just the few who do all the work.

Regional Trials

Our juniors and cadets gave us our best result in the South West preliminary trials for many years.

Jessica Orlik and Gemma Loughran both qualified in the cadet girls section while Graham Long and Tom Orlik will definitely line up in the final trials in the junior boys section but Alex Sheppard could only make the reserve list.

However, it is in the cadet boys section where we achieved unparalleled success. Paul Adams, Paul Hynam, Leigh Iles have all qualified, many as group winners and the future of Bristol and Avon table tennis looks rosy as these and many others come off Bernard Nash's production line.

BEDFORDSHIRE Alex Murdoch

DURING the summer we had the AGM of the county with the majority of committee standing again for the coming season. Thanks to them all for their continued support - without these people we would not be able to run our county teams.

Ranking Lists as follows

Senior Men

1. Ian Collier
2. Jimmy Walsh
3. Mike Levene
4. Norman Swift
5. Kevin Copperwheat
6. Brian Mayfield
7. David Hyde
8. Keith McConnell
9. Paul Birch
10. Gary Turner

Senior Ladies

1. Jean McCrae
2. Sandra Harper
3. Mary Jarrett
4. Audrey Robinson
5. Anita Copperwheat
6. Val Murdoch
7. Nichola Walsh
8. Jean Mayson
9. Martine Whittaker
10. Jenny Sanders

Junior Boys

1. Robert Dynes
2. Philip Morley
3. Chris Francis
4. Andrew Pearson
5. James Packman

6. Lee Anker
7. Graham Babcock
8. Adrian Hunt
9. Nicholas Hart
10. Andrew Hart

Mens Vets

1. Brian Mayfield
2. David Hyde
3. Charlie Major
4. Paul Birch
5. Roy Whiffen
6. Keith Thompson
7. Ivan Brown
9. Bill Astbury
9. Harvey Cross
10. Alex Murdoch

Ladies Vets

1. Jean McCrae
2. Audrey Robinson
3. Anita Copperwheat
4. Val Murdoch
5. Jean Mayson
6. Joyce McSweeney
7. Dolly Harmer

Junior Girls

1. Martine Whittaker
2. Jenny Sanders
3. Nichola Leeder
4. Nichola Tarrant

We wish all players at all levels the best of success and enjoyment for the coming season.

Please note no Ranking complaints found in this County report

At the recent Eastern Region junior trials, Bedfordshire were represented by 10 juniors. Congratulations to Martine Whittaker, Lee Anker and Graham Babcock who will go through to the next rounds.

BERKSHIRE John Cunningham

Sorry for the lack of a Berkshire report in September, a report was sent complete with photographs, where it finished up I don't know?

However, seconds went down 7.3 to Avon first despite a brace of wins from Ben Johnson. Johnson was one of three juniors called up by team manager Sylvia Bruton, the others were Terry Young and Kay Leslie.

Newbury player Darren Jones also made his debut joining Gill Galloway

PLEASE NOTE

Would County correspondents please note that in future would they please send their copy for County Notes to:
John Wood, 5 The Brackens
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts HP2 5JA.

taking time out from tennis. Allan Bruton tells me that the match between young Johnson and the Avon number one Andy Creed was a real cracker going to an exciting third rubber. To quote Allan, the match was an all action, absorbing, tactical and totally brilliant contest, just going to the junior Ben Johnson. Sylvia Bruton was well pleased with her young side, with enough talent shining through to auger well for the future.

The cadets and juniors should certainly do well this season, with the likes of Reading players Ben Johnson, Gemma Schwartz and Ali Subhan, Maidenhead ace Terry Young and Sloughs Gareth Herbert.

On the league front, early days, but late signing John Souter proved to be the key to a good 6-4 win for Kingfisher 'A' in the first match of the Reading League, his maximum was a major setback for last years champions Our Lady of Peace 'A'.

The 'Going for Growth' Southern Region Conference was held this weekend in Marlow. I understand that it was a worthwhile event with about 70 in attendance. Those that I have spoken to were very impressed with the input of Alan Ransome.

Berkshire Junior and Cadet Trials

Stars of the Future

Some stars of the future tested their early season form at the Berkshire junior table tennis trials.

The under 17 boys' event at AWE Aldermaston was attended by fewer than the ideal number of 16. However, the standard of play was excellent. The Pountney brothers, aged 12 and nine, acquired themselves very well and look to be exciting prospects for the future. Praveen Reddy took the title with a convincing performance that bodes well for his appearances for Berkshire juniors this season.

The final order in the tournament was: 1 Praveen Reddy (Reading), 2 Robert Pountney (R), 3 Stuart Wise (Newburn), 4 Richard Truesdale (N), 5 Jon Willis (R), 6 Philip Davies (Maidenhead), 7 Gareth Soden (Bracknell), 8 Andrew Grantham (B), 9 Pavan Rajah (N), 10 Paul Pountney (R), 11 Gregory Boast (N).

The girls' event and the under 14 boys' event were held at Altwood School, Maidenhead. No fewer than 27 boys attended which gave organisers a few headaches. Life was made even harder for officials by the numerous closely matched players, giving rise to a large number of ties that needed resolving in the group results.

The girls' tournament finished in this order: 1 Kim Matthews (M), 2 Julia Morton (B), 3 Sara Maher (M), 4 Lisa Puke (R), 5 Claire Maher (M), 6 Joanna Rolfe (M), 7 Emma Donovan (B), 8 Vicky Leer (R).

The under 14 boys' final order was: 1 Matthew Buzzard (B), 2 Rajiv Rajah (N), 3 Sukhdeep Gill (M), 4 Alistair Richardson (R), 5 Dalvir Rana (M), 6

Matthew Thomas (N) 7 Shivan Campbell-Platt (R), 8 Robert Hudson (N), 9 Luke Sadler (N), 10 Guy Abel (N), 11 Jonathan Shally (N), 12 Andrew Stearnes (B), 13 Conroy Arkill (N), 14 Chris West (M), 15 Alexander Ashley (N), 16 Martin Poan (N), 17 Dean Wise (R), 18 Christopher Crowe (R), 19 Owen Wild (R), 20 Muche Richardson (R), 21 Alex Lewis (N), 22 David Wild (R), 23 Michael Wild (R), 24 Tom Hughes (B), 27 Matthew Stearnes (B).

The Berkshire committee will use these results at their next meeting to put together new junior and cadet ranking lists. Leading the current Berks ranking lists are several top England juniors. If their form matches expectations this season, Berkshire will mount a very strong challenge for the county junior premier division championship.

CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

Cumbria may languish in the lower reaches of the county championship, but they have some of the most promising players in the country.

The selectors' biggest battle is getting the best players to turn out for the county. Many, like 14th nationally-ranked junior boy Kevin Hodgson, prefer to go for big tournaments and the National League.

The county did manage for the opening of the county championship season, however, to include leading cadets Tristan Swan (29th in the national cadet rankings) and Catherine Corkhill (12th girl cadet).

They may have been slightly out of their depth, but not entirely and showed tremendous potential. Tristan, for example, took Andy Hare, number three for 9-1 winners Warwickshire 2nd, to three games, and Catherine only lost the second game of her set with Dawn Bromley 21-19.

Whitbarrow Village time share complex, near Penrith, are again hosting the county as sponsors for the second season running, and the next match there is on Saturday November 20th against Staffs 3rd, 2.30pm.

Cumbria v Warwickshire 2nd (Cumbria names first): Mark Temple (Carlisle) lost to Colin Green 21-17, 19-21, 19-21; lost to Ian Furgason 21-10., 15-21, 7-21. Stephen Dixon (Kendal) lost to Furgason 19-21, 21-14, 17-21; lost to Andy Hare 21-23, 16-21, Tristan Swan (Barrow) lost to Hare 13-21, 21-19, 11-21; lost to Green 15-21, 9-21. Catherine Corkhill (Barrow) lost to Dawn Bromley 9-21, 19-21; lost to Nicola Meddings 18-21, 15-21. Claire Lague lost to Meddings 18-21, 22-10, 17-21; beat Bromley 21-16, 21-7.

A big boost towards breeding more Barrow success stories is the opening of the new table tennis centre at Park View School for coaching and general play.

Hodgson and Neil Yardley and Alan Fay got Vickers off to a good start with a 10-0 win over Millom Former Pupils A as the Barrow season opened.

DERBYSHIRE

Colin Deaton

Derbyshire have commenced the season with two fine wins defeating Cheshire 7-3 and Lancashire 9-1 in Division 2a of the National County Junior Championships.

We amalgamated our two junior teams for this season into one team and this good start will have given our youngsters some confidence. Representing Derbyshire in these two matches were David Purdy, Michael Isherwood, Matthew Worthing, Sarah Mile and Abigail Gingeles. With both Purdy and Isherwood being so far unbeaten in their singles.

Our Seniors open their weekend play off matches with the thought of Alan Cooke in the team, although it appears as though we shall be denied the services of Nicola Deaton who will be on international duty in the prestigious Cleveland Junior Open.

What a pity we are unable to field our strongest team as there can be no denying, a Derbyshire side at full strength will be a hard nut to crack.

The Counties only British League Team Uxbridge of Burton have also got off to a flying start, winning their first two games 6-2 and 7-1 respectively. In fact, the Burton League and the general table tennis scene in this area continues to thrive.

This season, they have commenced a junior league for the very first time which comprises of ten teams with two players in a team.

On the development side, they have introduced table tennis to about 300 children and hope to start shortly, a series of 'Champions' coaching sessions.

During the month of September, the Burton League were hosts to a party from Lingen in Germany. This German club are twinned with Burton and has been in existence for eleven years.

The Derby and District League too are introducing our sport to the youngsters by virtue of some beginners courses in schools. One school in particular has purchased three new tables and have weekly coaching sessions under the guidance of a top qualified coach.

Much of this nucleus of young players being introduced to our game in this area is due to the drive and enthusiasm of the East Midland Regional Development Officer Harold Taylor and I am sure that the dedicated Harold will be the first to admit this needs to be maintained.

Once again, they will be staging the annual Derbyshire Closed Championships, which are to be held at the Mackworth Tertiary college on Sunday 6 February 1994. A good entry is anticipated.

Another active league within our county is the Matlock and District League. Although they operate with only two divisions, they, in addition, have a Junior League consisting of 10 teams which is an increase on last year.

Most of the Junior teams are a product of the coaching sessions, held at the Cromford Community Centre,

with one school fielding no fewer than five teams and other efforts of recruiting are being pursued at all levels.

The next big sponsored event is CP Holdings Masters which has top players competing from both Matlock and the Chesterfield leagues including Geoff Gill, Marl Gould, John Davies and Tony Gregory.

Whilst they are most keen to develop a player from their area to represent the county side they do point out that they do have a league magazine called 'Love All'.

Chesterfield continue to rule the roost as far as the top players on the county are concerned. With six divisions to their credit, they continue to produce several England ranked juniors.

Coaching throughout Chesterfield is under the guidance and watchful eye of Derrick Marples who still believes in the fact that quality is more important than quantity.

How interesting it was to note that Russian defender and European ranked star Ellina Timmina is playing in the Chesterfield League. The popular player is to play for Chesterfield in the National Rose Bowl Competition. Their first match is against Blackpool at the end of November.

Finally, Nicola Deaton kept the Derbyshire flag flying by winning the East Yorkshire 2 Star Select at Bridlington. She went through the entire tournament without conceding a game and another most interesting feature is the number of young Derbyshire Juniors who are now travelling to play in these various Junior Open events.

"Have Bat Will Travel" seems to be the applicable cliché, I hope it continues.

DEVONSHIRE

John Vincent

This year the County is running nine teams, 3 Seniors, 3 Juniors and 3 Veterans, with seven of the teams being self financing. Our players are determined to improve their standard of play by paying their way at representative level.

South West Junior Preliminary Trials

Congratulations to the following in reaching the last 8 of the Regional Trials:-

Junior Boys

1. Peter Thomas (North Devon)
2. Robert Svensson (Torrington)
3. Gareth Burfton (Plymouth)

Junior Girls

1. Joanna Barraclough (Plymouth)
2. Elizabeth May (Plymouth)
3. Lucy Perry (Crediton)

Cadet Girls

1. Joanna Barraclough
2. Lucy Perry

COUNTY NOTES - 3

Our top players Adrian Vincent and Lynsey Heyward (Juniors) and Robert Svensson (Cadet) were exempt from these trials due to their high national ranking.

Junior County

Both our second and third teams played Glamorgan II in Swansea. Our seconds drew 5-5 with Robert Svensson taking 2, Peter Thomas 2, Gareth Bufton 1 and Elizabeth May 1.

Our thirds fought hard but lost 7-3 Garry Brooking playing at number 1 did very well to win two. Daniel Adams on his debut took one.

Veterans Rankings

Men

1. Mike Shirt
2. Paul Freeman
3. Les Cole
4. Graham May
5. Brian Pengelly
6. Phil Reeves
7. Mike Putland
8. Roger Annis
9. Kevin Rice
10. Peter Nicholson
11. Richard Avent

Ladies

1. Penny Perry
2. Pay Lyon
3. Madelaine Pitman
4. Stella Williams

Congratulations to the following coaches in obtaining their awards recently:-

Coach - John Vincent
Asst. Coach - Cedric Foster, Elaine Short, Jonathan May, Roy Baraclough, John Underwood
Teacher - Linda Harper.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE Alf Pepperd

It was decided by the County T.T. Association as far back as last Spring that something had to be done to improve the overall standards of T.T. play throughout Glo-shire in the Junior and Cadet field.

With the rather abysmal results gained by our youngsters in the September South West Regional Trials, when only Ann Humble from Hignam gained a place for the final trials at Plymouth on November 6th in the Girls Cadets section and Daniel Nelmes of Hempsted qualified as a Cadet Boy, this sad state of affairs has more recently been brought to the Counties attention.

Are the youngsters really to blame overall for their lack of success? No of course not, throughout the whole of the 1992/93 season both the County and the Gloucester City League were without the services of an official coach and that factor alone spelt out a considerable element of disaster.

However, I am pleased to report that the Gloucestershire T.T.A. far from going to sleep on the matter, have already organised Round Robin Tournaments for Cadets and Juniors on roughly a four to five weekly basis, so

far at the time of writing sessions have taken place at Maidenhill School at Stonehouse and also at Deerpark School, Cirencester, the next event is scheduled for St. Benedicts School in Arle Road, Cheltenham.

What basically is the idea behind these series of get togethers? I think that the general idea over a period of time is to collect data on all the players that attend and get together a top squad of youngsters whom perhaps might be worthy of having specialist coaching made available in the not too distant future.

Other Counties are producing players of a much higher standard than ours, and I feel that to attain some of those higher standards, we in Gloucestershire must do something positive perhaps what I have already mentioned is but a start, we shall see, only time will tell, coupled with patience and a continued interest in our Juniors, who after all represent the future of our sport. Take care of them now and perhaps they will take of T.T. later.

Darren Griffin the Counties official No. 1 has sought a transfer (and got it) from his old team - Cheltenham Saracens in the 1st Div. North of the British League to now play Premier Division for Bathwick Tyres. In the same team is Cheltenham's former all England Veteran singles champion of a few years ago Dave Harvey.

And finally, the County (Closed) Senior Championships will take place on Sunday 5th of December, the venue is at "The New Sports Complex" and Leisure Centre at Cheltenham.

The Junior Championships will be held on the 28th November and the venue: St. Benedicts School, Arle Road, Cheltenham.

HAMPSHIRE Brian Lamerton

Saturday, September 18th saw Hampshire Table Tennis Association create a record when they fielded seven teams in the Championships and five victories may well have been a record as well.

The Junior 'A' side which won promotion last season and then lost all their boys because of age were expected to have a tough ride this season but although going down 8-2, against Kent there was much promise. Gareth Scadden in fact won the matches opening set; the other win was achieved by Lorna Dutch who is still a cadet but also performed well for the senior second string later in the day. Greg Burns and Nicholas Hutchings suffered a little from nerves in their first match at this level but showed that there is better to come. The Junior 'B' travelled to Middlesex with an inexperienced team and won by 8 sets to 3 (How the mighty have fallen); full credit to Dalbir Chaggar, Mark Wilshire, Lucan Chan, Wanda Hutchinson and Sonia Pointer.

The Senior 'B's' opponents in their 8-2 victory were neighbours Dorset (always a satisfactory win this!); Graham Pointer was outstanding and

Andovers Jeremy Wilson acquitted himself well in his first match at this level. After all the talk at the A.G.M. as to whether we should enter a 4th Veteran team they duly justified themselves by defeating their Hertfordshire visitors by 5 sets to 4. The Veterans 2nd and 3rd teams each whitewashed their opponents but despite three wins by Chris Shelter the 'A's' went down to Kent by the odd set in nine. All this without the Senior 'A' side, Hampshires eighth team who opened their account later. Hampshire are in fact hosting a block fixture in Southampton in February; 13 matches in two fun packed days; don't check my arithmetic (that means that you will!) but I estimate that average length of games will yield something in excess of ten thousand points that weekend. Umpires, you have been warned!

The Hampshire inter town leagues show a remarkable increase in the numbers of teams that finished last season; from 37 to 47 with increases at all levels, Senior, Juniors, Cadets & Veterans.

Congratulations to Juniors Gareth Scadden and Wanda Hutchinson who have qualified for the final Regional Trials together with Cadet Chris Butt who was unbeaten when the preliminary trials were played in Southampton.

HERTFORDSHIRE John Wood

Hertfordshire's Inter-League season started with the juniors performing at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre and coming out on top after the first Sunday of this tournament were Barnets' three youngsters Stephen Taylor, Mark Easton and Michelle Budden.

Barnets also have the only undefeated player amongst their ranks namely Stephen Taylor, who is following in the footsteps of his father John, and brother Duncan.

Watford and Hertford, who are in joint second sport with North Herts, still have to face Barnets on the second Sunday of the tournament, on the 6th March 1994, so on paper they still have a chance of the title, but in reality Barnets are red hot favourites to retain the Junior Inter-League trophy.

Hertfordshire Junior Inter League

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Barnets	3	3	0	16	5	3
Watford	3	2	1	15	6	2
N. Herts	3	2	1	14	7	2
Hertford	3	2	1	12	9	2
St. Albans	3	0	3	4	17	0
Hemel	3	0	3	1	20	0

FRANK HUTCHINGS

It is with deep regret that we have to announce that Frank Hutchings died suddenly on 21st September 1993. Frank had been involved with the Centre since its inception in the 1960's,

and had always been its Treasurer. His work in maintaining the Centre's accounts was very much behind the scenes, and, apart from the day-to-day keeping of the accounts, involved VAT Returns, calculation of stocktake values and preparation of the Annual Accounts, all of which required a considerable amount of his time and was entirely voluntary. He had also been involved with the maintenance of the Centre, in particular the electrical and heating aspects, and liaised with various organisations over matters affecting the running of the Centre.

Frank had been involved with the Barnets & District Table Tennis League for very many years and had held several positions on their Committee, including Treasurer and Chairman, and was President at the time of his death. He had been a member of Potters Bar Table Tennis Club for more years than most of us care to remember, and had been their Treasurer for several years.

Our sympathies are extended to his widow, Jackie, and to his children, Hazel, Dawn and John, and grandson Kieran.

The funeral took place at Golders Green Crematorium on Monday, 27th September 1993, at 2.15pm. Both the Centre and League sent floral tributes on behalf of their committees and members.

LANCASHIRE Stan Clarke

The County trials held over the weekend of 4/5th September resulted in the following ranking lists for the coming season:

Men

1. Sean Gibson, Chorley
2. Jonathan Taylor, Denton
3. Andrew Eden, Mawdsley
4. Steve Scrowcroft, Manchester
5. Tony Taylor, Manchester
6. Darren Howarth, Droylsden
7. Nigel Eckersley, Macclesfield
8. Graham Clarke, Haslington
9. Paul Hutchings, Liverpool
10. Norman Thewlis, Littleborough
11. Howard Whewell, Rossendale
12. Nigel Boydell, Leigh

Women

1. Andrea Holt, Ramsbottom
2. Maris Thornley, Chorley
3. Paula French, Liverpool
4. Lindsay Thornton, Bury
5. Tamar Connolly, Blackpool
6. Janette Hutchings, Liverpool
7. Amanda Winskill, Bury
8. Brenda Buoeoy, Liverpool

Junior Boys

1. Kevin Dolder, St Helens
2. Darryl Meredith, Oldham
3. Glen Payne, Kearsley
4. James McGrath, Skelmersdale
5. David Wilde, Oldham
6. Tony Johnstone, Blackpool
7. Martin Sturzaker, Preston
8. Robert Priel, Blackpool
9. Gregory Lee, Horwich
10. Ben Thorber, Burnley
11. Stuart Toole, St. Helens

12. Michael Moir, Blackburn
13. David Pilkington, Blackburn
14. Andrew Rushton, Worsley

Junior Girls

1. Lindsay Thornton, Bury
2. Kim Roberts, Blackpool
3. Alison Parker, Blackpool
4. Suzanne Geldard, Burnley
5. Kirsten Williams, Blackpool
6. Jayne Schofield, Oldham
7. Andrea Flintoff, Blackpool
8. Julie Rushton, Blackpool
9. Haley Swierkowski, Nelson
10. Katy Parker, Preston

Veteran Men

1. Phillip Bowen, Flixton
2. David Newton, Burnley
3. Brian Clements, Eccles
4. Phillip Blake, Blackburn
5. Bill Russell, Bolton
6. Barry Croke, Preston
7. Tony Rigby, Preston
8. Derek Whatmough, Bolton
9. Keith Jackson, Blackburn
10. Roger Whewell, Rossendale
11. Fred Bainbridge, Liverpool

Veteran Women

1. Sylvia Graham, Liverpool
2. Olwyn Burrough, Blackpool
3. Mabel Neary, Southport
4. Lesley Smallwood, Formby

The Senior second team opened their season with two away matches against Staffordshire 2nd and 3rd teams at Stoke on Saturday 18th September. The team of Darren Howarth, Graham Clarke, Paul Hutchings, Lindsay Thornton and Tamar Connolly won a close fought match against Staffs 2nd team by 6 sets to 4 but totally dominated Staffs 3rd team with a 10 sets to 0 victory. Special mention to Graham Clarke who was undefeated in his four trips to the table and a very special mention to Lindsay Thornton making her senior county debut at the age of twelve. She lost only one set over the two matches and that to the dangerous Josie Bongers. If Lindsay can continue to progress as she is at present she seems certain to become another in the long line of top class women players to come from the County in over recent years.

LEICESTERSHIRE Derek Buff

The Elbow Tankard (Summer League) was completed on time again this season mainly due to the well organised system that Bob Cravon-Griffiths has introduced. It certainly works well. First of the semi finals was between Ironmen and Kingfishers. Ian Weatherby snatched the works team a dramatic victory just as Kingfisher were making a comeback. At four all Ironmen took three out of four in the doubles to lead 7-4, and then they extended their lead to 9-4 as Terry Wale beat Dave Roche. Kingfishers then came back as Richard Grumley won. When it came to the last match Mick Meredith (Kingfishers) needed to win his two games against Weatherby. Meredith took the first to

make it 10-9 to Ironmen, but Ian Weatherby then made good of his handicap and clinched the all important last game 21-14. So the Ironmen were through.

In the second semi, holders Good Bad and Ugly (Knighton Park) were up against United (Oadby). Dave Small was the holders key man getting five from his six games. Again the doubles proved to be very important GBU won three of the four. The holders went through 12-8.

Ironically the two finalist were from the same group in the early stages.

The Good Bad and Ugly retained the trophy as they beat the Ironmen 11-5 it was a bit one sided this match, but in the group matches Ironmen beat the champions.

The Park side went straight into a 6-0 lead as Dave Small, Alan Passingham and Mike Gillett won comfortably. The Ironmen could not get back after being hit for six, and the winners just romped away.

Scores: Dave Small won 4 out of 4 Alan Passingham and Mike Gillett won 3 from 4 each.

The Intertowns tournament has managed to get played at least the junior event anyway. Four teams were represented, two from Hinckley and two from Leicester. Credit must go to Hinckley for sending two teams as their second string were youngsters with little experience, but nevertheless put up a good performance, well done lads.

Matches were played on a round robin basis and the outcome was as follows:

- Leicester 1st team w2 from 2
- Leicester 2nd team w1 and lost 2
- Hinckley 1st team w2 from 2
- Hinckley 2nd team lost 2.

So Leicester and Hinckley firsts went into the final and a good match we had. It was neck and neck after the sixth match and in the seventh Matthew Hobday put the Hinckley side into the lead as he beat Chris Tuckwell. Then in the eight between Stuart Palmer (L) and Alex Blaney (H) Alex had the chances to wrap it up for Hinckley, but Stuart pulled it back for Leicester winner 23-21 in the third.

The final game was between Alex Tuckwell (L) and Daniel Marriott (H) Alex was too strong for Daniel and took the match for Leicester winning 21-16, 21-17 and the match ended 5-4.

For Leicester Stuart Palmer and Alex Tuckwell took two each, and Chris Tuckwell got the one. Man of the Match went to Hinckley's Matthew Hobday who recorded a maximum. Thanks to Harry Ward for his work on the day.

The new season is now two weeks old and already there have been one or two shocks. Perhaps the most notable has been the defeat of Loughborough Kingfishers Mark Illingsworth in Division One he lost to Steve White. Well done Chalkie.

Mark has had an incredible record, and was unbeaten in Division One for the past two seasons. He did not miss many matches either. This has been a really remarkable feat and congratulations to him as well.

The Rushey Mead complex has entered two teams into the league this season these lads are from the session

at Soar Valley. Their team in Division eight this season after promotion in their first season, have started with a win and a draw. Well done to these lads as well.

LINCOLNSHIRE Kath Fisher

A new club has been formed at Tetney near Grimsby with the help of the E.T.T.A. Scheme and the Grimsby League. With two new tables, two nets, balls and five surrounds, they started in July 1992 with just coaching. As it developed they added another table kindly donated by Colin Grey, and starting this season six teams will play from there in the Grimsby League. Some are new players some old and some returning to the game after four years (always good news). Four of the new ones have only played for 20 weeks but are keen to get started, so they are starting at the deep end and looking forward to the experience.

The County Junior team had a reasonable start to the season with all teams in the league playing on a single venue day at Kesteven Centre, Grantham in the first match after being 4-3 down they came back to beat Warwickshire II 6-4, just lost 6-4 to Warwickshire I and drew with Oxford 5-5. The girls had a very good day, Nicola Massingham getting 100%, Rachel Lewis on her debut for the County did very well winning 4/6. Gary Tresadern, Daryl and Mark David the boys also played their part, the day went well and everyone seemed to have a good time. Anyone interested in going to watch or help at the next event it's on November 20th at the same venue.

MIDDLESEX Lorna Taylor

The Senior II team won their first match of the season beating Berkshire 6-4, David Goode and Simon Rockall each winning their singles and Neil Charles and Kitti Kottasz contributing on each. The Veterans 1st team lost 6-3 to Gloucestershire; however, the 2nd team gained an 8-1 win at home against Oxford 2. Our team consisted of Norman Slifkin, John Smith, Maurice Isaacs and Lorna Slifkin. The new junior II team came up against Hampshire 2, but unfortunately suffered an 8-2 defeat, Sarah Horsnell the most experienced of the team, was the only scorer. Phillip Tucker and Vicky Annaam both made their county debuts in this match and this has hopefully given them a taste of competitiveness at this level. The other young team members were James and Oliver Wakelem who played their second ever county matches and who coincidentally played the same team as last year.

Again they just missed out on winning their first match for their county.

Congratulations to Jason Sugrue,

who has recently returned from China after intensive coaching, for becoming number three cadet in England (September lists).

The following ranking list as of September 1993 are as follows:-

Senior Men

1. N Tyler
2. G Sandley
3. J Souter
4. C Wilson
5. R Hyacinth
6. D Goode
7. N Charles
8. T Cutler
9. D Tan
10. N McKoy
11. S Rockall
12. D Topiwala
13. C Papantoniou
14. S Homer
15. P Simmonds

Senior Women

1. S Kubelka
2. L Keast
3. S Williams
4. A Smith
5. M Glusic
6. R Knight
7. K Kottasz
8. E Kottasz
9. M Heffernan
10. L Souter
11. K Baker
12. E Blanch
13. J Solley
14. J Weare
15. C O'Leary
16. J Jablon

Junior Boys

1. S Jablon
2. J Sugrue*
3. A Jeyarajay
4. M Michaelides
5. M Wiltshire
6. S Zeffert
7. P Tucker
8. R Lazarus
9. J Wakelem*
10. D Wakelem*

Junior Girls

1. J Weare
2. C O'Leary
3. S Horsnell
4. N Parmar
5. V Avraam
6. K O'Callaghan
7. S O'Neill
8. S Anderson
9. K Lindsay

Veteran Men

1. C Boothby
2. W Mascarenhas
3. W Brookman
4. A Taylor
5. J Smith
6. N Slifkin
7. M Isaacs
8. M Sharp
9. I Mablin
10. R Sydney
11. P Safranek
12. G Ailward
13. G Hawkins
14. A Boyle

Veteran Women

1. S Raymond
2. M Sawyer

3. K Nunn
4. L Slikkin
5. L Lloyd
6. B Blanch
7. M Prowen
8. F Wade
9. D Stannard

Players annotated * are also Cadets.

NORFOLK

Ray Hogg

Kings Lynn and Fakenham have joined the East Anglian Veterans league main 6 teams which should have some different opposition to the usual. Too late now for this season, but other leagues who may be interested keep it in mind for next season. Also don't forget the Senior League as well. Possible tournament for unranked Juniors in the new year.

County Junior trials were held 1-2 September as all weekends seem to be taken up with tournaments or Regional assessments. Some 25 turned up and groups were formed and all details were recorded for future reference as some juniors new to us showed great promise for the future. Try as they may there seems little hope of a great breakthrough in the schools so our coaches are going out to various village halls where Juniors gather to see what there is on offer. Eleven of our top Juniors got up very early and travelled to Huddersfield for the Kirklees and I hear acquitted themselves very well. They fear no one and are having a competition between themselves as to who will be the highest ranked nationally at the end of the season. Katie Green who lives just over the border of Suffolk has opted to join Norfolk and will be a great asset coming in at number 1 as in Junior Div 1A it is going to be tough.

British League - Northwich Todd Foxwood still has two teams with the squad for this season showing a mixture of talent, age and youth. The first team will be for those who are considered the better players and the second team must include two younger players for experience.

The law on red/black rubbers is in and how it will affect certain players remains to be seen - it will be a pity if those who have been the backbone of the game locally without playing representative matches are forced out of the game.

The County treasurer tells me that with a jumble sale and the charity stall in Norwich we have raised £310 for the County funds which were at an all time low. Apart from Sue Allen, Pat Ross and myself (all veterans) and Claire Vasco, Katie Edwards, Lindsay Chaplin, (Juniors) no one else helped or showed any interest, even to the point of ringing up and asking how we got on. I am sure congratulations will be offered at the County meeting and suggestions as to how the money be spent. It makes you wonder sometimes whether it is all worth it, but I expect it will be done again next year.

Had our first committee meeting of

the season with only the Vice Chairman, Sec., Treas., and one league rep. present. Even with four apologies for absence that leaves about ten who I have yet to hear from. Treasurer reported that by fund-raising during the close season with the minimum amount of help some £300 had been raised which gives a buffer to start things off. With the £2 per player per match charge we will be watching closely to see whether that has the required effect. Another reminder that the Closed will be at Lynnsport Sat/Sun February 19-20th 1994 and a good turnout is a MUST otherwise this may be the last one after 46 years.

The East Anglian League seems to be coming back after some years in the doldrums particularly in the veterans section which now has Kings Lynn and Fakenham and from the comments of the first matches played a good time was had by all. Other leagues may wish to enter next season in which case ring me for information.

County juniors are playing regularly in the British League 3rd division and in a recent match the gap between Mick Broughton and the three juniors was vast. Mick won his two matches easily and the juniors struggled to make any impression on the oppositions experience.

We are having trouble with baseball caps as we umpires maintain they look out of place when worn during a County or British League match.

Suggestions that they get their hair cut is greeted with amusement.

Just obtained all the figures from the leagues and it appears that total numbers of teams show little difference from last season.

NORTHANTS

Dennis Millman

Still looking back to last season, one of the highlights was the visit of a rejuvenated Desmond Douglas to Rushden Sports Centre, where he took a full and active part in a well attended Open Day, culminating in an easy Douglas win in a Round Robin also featuring local opponent Graeme McKim and Andy Trott.

He also faced a challenge from top disabled representative Geoff Paint, who astounded the spectators with his expertise from a mainly stationary wheelchair, but Douglas was not so successful when he and McKim fell eleven shots short of the world speed hitting record by Lisa Lomas and Jackie Bellinger.

Steve Brown's Higham Band B, finally got their hands on a Kettering trophy when Brown, Mark Nannery and David Elliott all played superbly to beat Town A in the Borough Trophy Final, while in the Reznor (UK) Ltd., Doubles Challenge, Banbury regained the ascendancy, with Chris Millman - in Wellingborough's winning side last year - but now having moved to the Banbury area, becoming the first player to end on the winning side in successive years.

The current season started early

with Northants Juniors making an early impression with a trio of 7-3 county championship successes against Leicestershire, Cheshire 2nds and Lancashire 2nds. Sally Russell, beginning her final season in the junior ranks, won all six of her games, with Ruth Hickman and Joe Trippett taking five and Paul Adams four.

However, in the Bat Workshop Junior Top Ten, Sally, after winning her first seven matches fell narrowly to both Adams and Trippett in the later stages and so having got the better of his regular team-mate Paul Adams, it was Trippett, who although defeated earlier by Colin Judd, finally received the Bat Workshop Trophy.

Final Placings: 1. Joe Trippett, 2. Paul Adams, 3. Sally Russell, 4. Colin Judd, 5. Paul Thomas, 6. Andrew Thomas 7. Henry Arthur 8. Stuart Pond 9. Stephen Woolston 10. Ruth Hoddle.

In the first series of veteran county championship matches, the firsts met the Seconds but suffered initial shocks when Gordon Shaw beat Keith Jones to gain revenge for an expedite reverse in last season's Macs Supermarkets County Closed Veterans Singles, and then Dave Marsh comfortably accounted for Brian D'Hooghe.

With Mike Pond leading Michael Edwards 15-10 in the third it looked as if the seconds would go three up, but Edwards regained control to win 21-18 and so put the firsts back in contention. Shaw and Marsh also threatened to win the doubles but when Edwards/D Hooghe took this 30-28, 24-22, the die was cast and the first reeled off the remaining rubbers for a seven two success, with Edwards and Margaret Maltby both unbeaten.

Brian Dangerfield, Ray Kingston - on his first veteran outing - and Alan Ashberry all won once for the Veteran Thirds against Devon counterparts, but Devon took five of the six games requiring deciders and went on to win six three.

Levi's Westfield are now the sole Northants side in the Friendly Hotels British League, but despite the inclusion of Graeme McKim, who has moved over from the now defunct Well Connected, Levi's have made their usual erratic start with one win and two defeats.

Looking ahead the resignation of Coaching Administrator Gordon Oke leaves the county with a gaping void that needs to be filled quickly if the many new initiatives within the county are not to be thwarted.

However, the new style Macs Supermarkets County Computer Ranking System, the Westfield Invitation League, the Ram Sports Challenge Trophy, the Wellingborough Junior League and Kettering's GRP Designs Trophy should provide more than enough interest and excitement to make 1993-94 a memorable season.

NORTHUMBERLAND

Aubrey Drapkin

North Shields YMCA, champions of the National Power Northumbria Winter and Summer Leagues, have started the

new winter season where they left off in the summer with a 10-0 victory over the Washington side, Glebe. Ian Robertson, Andrew Wilkinson and Martin Young showed that Shields were, once again, being a force to be reckoned with this year. Their main challengers are, once again, likely to be Joynsons Table Tennis Club and Blaydon Youth Club.

Unfortunately, the season started on a tragic note when Allen Jarvis of the St. Charles club collapsed and died after winning all three of his sets in a hard fought game against Blaydon Youth Club B team. Deepest sympathy is extended to his family.

The county veteran team opened the new season with a 6-3 victory away at Nottingham where Maurice Cheek won both of his singles and also partnered Dave Armstrong to success in the doubles. Pat Tindale and Pauline Long got one set each and then combined to take the mixed doubles.

Veteran Ian Robertson has already shown that he is still a force to be reckoned with when playing for Sedgefield in the Friendly Hotels British League. Pressed into service in the Premier Division he won all of his three sets away to Bathwick Tyres to help Sedgefield to victory and then in the following match won an important set to, again, ensure that Sedgefield picked up two points against St. Neots.

Looking to the future it is pleasing to see that Andrew Wilkinson, at the time of writing, is ranked at No. 3 in the National Junior list.

SOMERSET

Andy Sewart

There are times when it appears that the table tennis season is trying to compete with the football season - start early, finish late. The local British League team played the matches by mid-September and all of our county teams played their first match before any of the local Leagues started. The county results duly reflected this oddity.

Performance of the month went to the seniors in their 8-2 win over Avon 2. The selectors opted for youth and inexperience ... and were totally vindicated. The new Mens trio of Phil Payne, Adam Gallop and Rob Millard have but a handful of county appearances between them but all performed with determination and resolve.

Phil showed that the game can be played with subtlety, touch and disguise, and remains ice-cool as he weaves his magic spell around his attacking opponents. The same adjectives cannot be used to describe the style of Rob Millard. There is no doubt that Rob has made great strides over the past two years and his uncompromising attack can only improve further under the watchful eye of his coach and mentor, Brian Etherington. His debut for the seniors confirmed this progress as he nervously won his first match and comfortably won his second. If he can keep his feet on the ground, he could be a fixture in the County team for many years. The

same could be said about Adam Gallop. His keenness to return from Durham University to his home county to play shows admirable commitment. It is to be hoped that the County can remain a magnet to him in the years to come.

For the record, Tina Sadler was elevated to the top Ladies position in the rare absence of Mel Carey and Yeovil's Lin Addicott made her debut at No. 2, winning one of her matches. Overall, an encouraging day.

The juniors travelled to Swansea to play three matches in a group system but in the event only played two. There will no doubt be an inquest. With Rob Millard no longer eligible for the Juniors, the team was always going to find the opposition tough in Division 1 and the initial two defeats came as no surprise. It is to be hoped that the experience gained in playing these better players will however improve our own players.

Next month, news of the Veterans teams in Somerset and the start of the newly-formed Inter League Competition.

SURREY

Terry Vance

Missing Trophies. If any players past or present could look in their trophy cabinets or attics to see if they have any of the missing perpetual trophies (those that are presented annually) that we have failed to trace I would be very pleased to hear from them on 081-390 4068. I am sure this also applies to the majority of counties and leagues.

The Surrey Junior Championships took place on Sunday 26th September 1993 at Sutton Youth Centre and the results (with both Glenda Ashison and Darren Blake recording their hatricks on the day) are:

U17 BS Darren Blake bt Stephen Lampkin; U17 GS Glenda Ashison bt Sarah Lane ; U14 BS Gerald Ashison bt Adam Laws; U14GS Anna McNamara bt Victoria Lampkin; U12BS Manoj Tulsiani bt Douglas Speed; U12GS Katy Hart bt Johanna Lambert; U17 BD Darren Blake/Stephen Lampkin bt James Furner/Lal Tulsiai; U17GD Glenda Ashison/Rachel Forster bt Sarah Lane/Anna McNamara; U14BD Michael Hill/Adam Laws bt Douglas speed/Manoj Tulsiani; U14 GD Victoria Lampkin/Anna McNamara bt Katy Hart/Claire Lane; Mixed Douglas Darren Blake/Glenda Ashison bt Stephen Lampkin/Rachel Forster.

The prizes were presented by Ron Crayden, President of Surrey and were admirably organised by Margot Fraser.

The first County results have been received and we won 2 and lost 1. The Junior 2nd team beat Berkshire 2nd 7-3 with Michael Hill and Anna McNamara playing out of their skins. In the morning the Junior 3rd team lost to the same opposition 9-1 with Tom Wilkins providing the only win. The Vets 3rd team won 7-2 against Wiltshire with

Ron Langheim winning his 2 singles, John Calcutt winning his 3 events and Jenny Gillam winning her 2 events.

WARWICKSHIRE

Pete Walden

The first County Championship matches of the season saw our Junior 'A' side get off to a flying start in division 2a. Playing at the superb South Kesteven Table Tennis Centre in Grantham, Lincolnshire, they despatched the home county side by 6-4 before storming to a 8-2 win against neighbours Leicestershire. The star performance came from young Alan Hewitt, who is still only 14; Alan scored three wins in four outings in his debut games in a county team. Edward Lynn, Ryan Stockham and Emma Churchley also notched three wins in their four games, whilst Liz Haynes chipped in with two wins from four to round off a good day's work these very promising junior players.

The Junior 'B' side did not fare quite as well as the 'A' side, going down by the score of 4-6 in all three of the matches. This particular team though, consists entirely of players who are under 15, so they are invariably playing against older and more experienced opponents.

The Birmingham League kicks off with nine divisions in the 3-a-side league, and three divisions in the 4-a-side league. Unfortunately, there is no longer a separate Womens League. In the 3-a-side league, Premier Champions Colebridge 'A' will be looking to hold onto their title, whilst Handsworth Victoria will be trying to go one better this time round.

The Birmingham Committee have decided not to run the Midland Open this season mainly because a suitable date could not be found. Let's hope its return is made a priority for season 1994-95.

Junior Ranking Lists:

Boys

1. Steve Meddings
2. Edward Lynn
3. Ryan Stockham
4. Alan Hewitt
5. Arun Chauhan
6. Daniel Belcher
7. Vikas Bakshi
8. Mark Van Hoorebeck
9. Hardip Sajjan
10. Nick Adams

Girls

1. Emma Churchley
2. Elizabeth Haynes
3. Suzy Allen
4. Lleryn Brocklehurst
5. Helen Turner
6. Juliet Mander
7. Gillian Matthews

WORCESTERSHIRE

Steve Horton

Results of the County Junior Trials are as follows:

Boys

1. David Stephen (Kidderminster)
2. Richard Painter (Kidderminster)
3. Mark Norwood (Kidderminster)
4. Robin Sedman Smith (Kidderminster)
5. Tom Evans (Kidderminster)
6. Alex Hill (Dudley)
7. Lewis Cook (Dudley)
8. Dennis Lewis (Dudley)
9. James Gommersall (Worcester)
10. Tim Morris (Worcester)
11. Ian Gittins (Kidderminster)
12. Ioan Rees (Bromsgrove)
13. Anthony Ellis (Dudley)
14. Chris Auty (Bromsgrove)
15. Russell Evans (Bromsgrove)

Girls

1. Zoe Evans (Kidderminster)
2. Stephanie Price (Dudley)
3. Jennie Ponsford (Kidderminster)
4. Clare Garness (Worcester)
5. Laura Vaughn (Worcester)
6. Louise Evans (Bromsgrove)
7. Katie Hughes (Bromsgrove)
8. Jenny Burchill (Dudley)

Kidderminster have done well this year and occupy the top spot in both boys and girls rankings. There were no senior trials again this year, but a ranking list has been formulated based upon league, county and tournament performance - this will appear in my next report.

The clash between Senior 1st and 2nd teams took place at Jims Gym in Lye on 18th September. Two changes were made in the 2nd team line-up due to availability problems. In came Lewis Siket at No. 2 and Adrian Tottey at No. 3 Adrian played very well on his return and collected two excellent wins. Eric Hardman and Trevor Washington in three sets. However, these were the only 2 wins for the second team as they were outclassed and beaten 8-2.

The veteran team, away to Leicester in Division 1a, got off to a bad start losing the opening two games which could have gone either way - in fact four games were lost in close 3 setters. Leicester emerge as 6-3 winners with our wins coming from Mervyn Wood who beat No. 2 Steve White, a Mervyn and Roy Norton doubles and an unexpected victory for Janet Hunt over Eileen Shaler (all in straight sets.)

This season sees an additional team in the county league. The full line-up for this season is Bromsgrove, Evesham, Kidderminster, Dudley 'A', Dudley 'B', Malvern and Worcester. A tough competition is expected this year.

YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

Following the Kirklees Junior - reported in last months notes - the young players have continued to hold centre stage in our County's t.t activities with the Preliminary Ranking Trials at York attracting a massive 119 players (not including the fifteen exempt by virtue of their national ranking), and over a

hundred competing in the first Junior/Cadet Yorkshire League weekend, also at York.

It was particularly pleasing to see youngsters from the small leagues such as Airedale, Wharfedale, Bridlington, Halifax, Keighley and Scarborough entered. Fifteen of the 22 affiliated Leagues entered players, and all those named will have representatives at the Regional Trials.

And the future looks promising with such 12 year old Tim Simpson (Doncaster) qualifying in the Cadet event and then, having been invited back to the Junior session, finishing in 13th place. He, along with the even younger Jamie Marshall (10), must be one to watch for the future. Add Darren Ashall (Wakefield), exempt from both Junior and Cadet trials, and we could have a picture of things to come.

The Yorkshire League turnout also broke the three figure barrier (and that without including two or three teams who let their County, their opponents and themselves down by failing to put in an appearance without giving any notification) and, after a hectic day's play, only nine teams remain undefeated with three more series of matches to go.

Still to have their colours lowered are Bradford and Huddersfield (Junior Boys Premier), Doncaster and Leeds (Junior Boys Division 1), Bradford and Selby (Junior Girls), Huddersfield (Cadet Boys Division 1), Keighley (Cadet Boys Division 2) and Leeds (Cadet Girls).

And the rising stars are beginning to make their mark in a higher sphere with Richard Potter (Leeds v Warrington) Mike James (Derwent v Wellingborough), Sally Marling (Humberside v Sunderland) and Richard Smith (Leeds v Stockport) all recording maximums in the senior Friendly Hotels British League competition.

The turn of the seniors came when Huddersfield staged the opening series of Yorkshire League matches in the Mens Premier Division and Bradford showed their strength as they fielded no less than three sides in the top division.

The men from the wool city overcame a strong Huddersfield trio 8-2, while Sheffield, runners-up twelve months ago, beat Hull by the same score, and the destination of the championship could be decided in January when Bradford and Sheffield meet, with a key factor the fitness of Sheffield skipper Andrew Horsfield.

He has a shoulder injury and is unlikely to be back in action before Christmas, and this will be a blow, not only to Sheffield, but also to the County side.

Before I close on a light-hearted note, a mention is in order for Kate Goodall, named in the squad for the open Ladies European League match of the season. Kate did not get the call on the day but, at 18 years of age, her time is to come.

And to finish with the recent England v Belgium international at Rothwell. A 3-2 victory for England, but a major victory for it when Chen Xinhua and Jean-Michel Saive put on an exhibition which brought an enthusiastic crowd to their feet and would have upstaged the famous Secretin - Purkart show. Enough said!'

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

WOMENS BRITISH LEAGUE

Bletchley Leisure Centre,
Milton Keynes
Sat/Sun 6/7 November 1993
FOR DETAILS:-
Chris Lewis 0272 730788

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Premier Division
13/14 November 1993
South Kesteven TTC,
Trent Road, Grantham
Details: Geoff Taylor
Tel: 0203 678632

ENGLISH JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday/Sunday 4/5 December 1993
PARKLANDS LEISURE CENTRE, Wigston Road, Oadby, Leicester Tel: 0533 720789
Saturday: Junior events start 9am Finals 6.30pm Sunday: Cadet events start 9am Finals 5pm
ENTRY FORMS ETTA OFFICE - SPECTATORS WELCOME

NATIONAL JUNIOR TRIALS

18/19 DECEMBER 1993
Whitchurch Sports Centre,
Bamford, Whitchurch, Bristol
Tel: 0275 838505

ENGLISH JUNIOR MASTERS

29/30 December 1993
*Milton Keynes TTC, Kingston
Centre, Milton Keynes*
Tel: Bill Clarke 0908 282156

COTSWOLD JUNIOR 2 STAR SELECT TOURNAMENT

Saturday/Sunday 29/30th January 1994

CHELTENHAM RECREATION CENTRE

Girls and Boys Junior, Cadet and Under 12 • Girls and Boys Class 2 Junior and Cadet
All events will have groups of four for initial rounds

ORGANISER: MR. J. REEVES, 21 MARTINDALE ROAD, GLOUCESTER, GL3 2DN
Tel: 0452 713840. Closing date for entries 23/12/93

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS E N G L A N D V J A P A N

29 December 1993 - Venue to be advised

30 December 1993 - Polkyth Leisure Centre, Carlyon Road, St. Austell, Cornwall Tel: 0726 615 85

1 January 1994 - Venue to be advised

4 January 1994 - South Kesteven Table Tennis Centre, Trent Rd, Grantham Tel: Ian McDonald 0476 592553

5 January 1994 - Venue to be advised